

Year to date, numbers as of December 31, 2012

Workplace Incident Fatalities

Workplace Incident fatalities are cases where a worker dies at a work site, or as a result of injuries sustained at a work site. This is the type of fatality that Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) typically investigate.

The numbers reflected in this report detail the workplace incidents accepted by the Workers' Compensation Board – Alberta in 2012 and not incidents investigated by OHS.

Industry Descriptions

| Industry Sector | Description |
|--|--|
| Agriculture and Forestry | Includes greenhouses and market gardens, feed lots, timber management, logging and related woodlands operations including the trucking of logs. |
| Business, Personal and Professional Services | Includes building and grounds maintenance, financial services, restaurants, hotels and recreation facilities, security services, and professional services such as engineering. |
| Construction and Construction Trades | Includes the construction of houses, apartments, industrial plants, roads, bridges and pipelines, and specialized construction trades (e.g. plumbing, painting, roofing, and bricklaying). |
| Manufacturing and Processing | Involves manufacturing beyond the raw product: includes saw mills, pulp mills, food and beverages, metal fabrication, petrochemicals, and oil refineries. |
| Mining and Petroleum Development | Includes underground and open pit mining, oil sands mining and processing, operation of oil and gas wells, drilling and servicing of wells, and related services in the oil fields. |
| Public Administration, Education and Health Services | Includes the provincial government, all forms of local government, universities, colleges, business schools, libraries, hospitals and long term care facilities. |
| Transportation, Communication and Utilities | Includes public transportation (air, rail, bus), trucking, radio, television, live theatre, electricity, natural gas and garbage collection. |
| Wholesale And Retail Trade | Includes food and beverage stores, department stores, home improvement centers, and sale and service of automobiles and equipment. |

| Industry Sector | 2012 Number of Fatalities (year-to-date) | 2011 Number of Fatalities (year-to-date) |
|--|---|---|
| Agriculture and Forestry | 1 | 1 |
| Business, Personal and Professional Services | 0 | 0 |
| Construction and Construction Trades | 11 | 21 |
| Manufacturing and Processing | 4 | 1 |
| Mining and Petroleum Development | 7 | 1 |
| Public Administration, Education and Health Services | 9 | 3 |
| Transportation, Communication and Utilities | 5 | 7 |
| Wholesale and Retail Trade | 5 | 4 |
| TOTAL | 42 | 38 |
| Delayed Fatalities ¹ | 9 | 5 |

| Date of Acceptance | Description |
|---|--|
| Agriculture and Forestry | |
| Jan 2012 | A worker was helping to feed animals, got out of the loader from loading silage, when silage wall fell on top of worker, crushing him. |
| Construction and Construction Trades | |
| Feb 2012 | A worker collapsed while removing rock from a screener. The worker had a heart attack. |
| Feb 2012 | A worker fell eight feet down stairs while pushing a cart of drywall. |
| Feb 2012 | A worker fell off of a roof; the worker's safety harness was too long. |
| Mar 2012 | A side boom rolled and crushed a worker. |
| Apr 2012 | A worker was struck by an industrial chain while doing equipment maintenance. |
| May 2012 | A power panel fell and crushed a worker. |

¹ Delayed or latent workplace incident fatalities include workers involved in a workplace incident or exposure that did not become a fatality until a much later date, often years later. From 2002, these incidents are to be categorized under the original incident. Previously, these workers have been classified and recorded as occupational disease fatalities. Delayed fatalities have not been included in the year-to-date total as they do not reflect present work site hazards or exposures.

| Date of Acceptance | Description |
|---|--|
| Jul 2012 | A worker died from injuries related to previous shoulder injuries. |
| Sep 2012 | A worker fell through an opening in a water reservoir and drowned. |
| Oct 2012 | While hooking up sleep shacks, a worker appeared to have touched something and was shocked. |
| Oct 2012 | A worker fell from scaffolding striking his head. |
| Nov 2012 | While jacking down a unit, it fell forward and landed on the worker. |
| Manufacturing and Processing | |
| Jan 2012 | A worker fell at work and hit their head on cement. |
| Mar 2012 | A worker was crushed when the concrete truck he was driving rolled. |
| Jul 2012 | A worker was caught in a lathe and died of severe head trauma. |
| Nov 2012 | The passenger in a welding truck died after the truck swerved to miss a deer and rolled. |
| Mining and Petroleum Development | |
| Jan 2012 | A worker was overcome by H2S gas while working around a wellhead installing a landing joint. The worker collapsed and an ambulance was called. |
| Feb 2012 | A worker was struck in the head when a valve exploded. |
| Mar 2012 | A worker was hit in the leg by a ruptured steam line, causing severe bleeding and died in hospital. |
| May 2012 | A worker was shovelling snow around the rig site and collapsed – cardiac. |
| Oct 2012 | A rig handling arm fell off side and struck a worker in the head. |
| Nov 2012 | A worker was crushed between a track hoe and an excavator. |
| Dec 2012 | A worker died after being pulled into a conveyor. |
| Public Administration, Education and Health Services | |
| May 2012 | A worker died after being attacked by a resident of a group home. |
| Jun 2012 | A worker was shot while performing armored car services. |

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|--|---|
| Jun 2012 | A worker was shot while performing armored car services. |
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| Jun 2012 | While working under a hydraulic trailer ramp, a worker was crushed when the ramp came down. |
| Aug 2012 | A Peace Officer was responding to a complaint and sustained injuries which resulted in a fatality. |
| Oct 2012 | A worker fell in an elevator shaft. |
| Nov 2012 | After fighting a fire, a volunteer firefighter went home. The worker passed away at home the next day due to a possible cardiac issue. |
| Dec 2012 | Walking out of classroom after a day of learning a worker collapsed. The worker's death was caused by a fall (precipitated possibly by seizure). |
| Transportation, Communication and Utilities | |
| Feb 2012 | A worker was hit by a car while doing pilot car duties. |
| May 2012 | A worker was run over by a large truck that was backing up while moving a rig. |
| Jun 2012 | A worker was sleeping in the cab of a semi-truck waiting to be dispatched to the next call when the engine caught on fire. The worker was overcome by the fire. |
| Jul 2012 | A worker was crushed by a bobcat. |
| Aug 2012 | A worker was hit by a cable winch line and was fatally injured. |
| Wholesale and Retail Trade | |
| Feb 2012 | A worker was crushed between equipment. |
| Feb 2012 | A worker died when an explosion of a tire rim occurred. |
| Mar 2012 | A worker slipped and fell on ice, spraining knee (precip trauma) and died of medical causes. |
| Oct 2012 | A worker fell from a ladder. |
| Oct 2012 | A worker was pinned between a forklift and a building while filling up the forklift. |
| Delayed Fatalities | |
| Jan 2012 | A 56-year-old former plasterer died of respiratory arrest and cerebral hypoxemia related to a prior fall that resulted in incomplete quadriplegia. |

| Date of Acceptance | Description |
|---------------------------|---|
| Mar 2012 | A 69-year-old former iron worker died as a result of medical complications from injuries sustained in a workplace fall in 1983. |
| Apr 2012 | A 59-year-old former pipefitter died from atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease following surgery related to a fall at work approximately three years previously. |
| Apr 2012 | A 58-year-old former oilfield truck driver died of medical complications related to hydrogen sulfide gas exposure in 1989. |
| July 2012 | A 52-year-old former oilfield worker died as a result of complications following surgery related to a work-related injury approximately 28 years earlier. |
| Aug 2012 | A 75-year-old former security guard died of renal failure and other medical complications related to a 1961 accident that resulted in quadriplegia. |
| Sep 2012 | A 48-year-old former tree-feller died of medical complications related to a 1990 injury. |
| Oct 2012 | A 69-year-old former construction worker died of multisystem organ failure, following years of peripheral vascular disease related to medical complications attributed to a workplace injury in 1959. |
| Dec 2012 | A 72-year-old former truck driver/labourer died of complications from multiple injuries sustained when he was run over by a large truck approximately 12 ½ years previously. |