

Workplace Incident Fatalities Accepted by the Workers Compensation Board in 2011

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 2011 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 Trade Services	Includes the construction of houses, apartments, industrial plants, roads, bridges and pipelines, and specialized construction trades (e.g., plumbing, painting, roofing, and bricklaying).
Manufacturing, Processing and Packaging	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 centres, and sale and service of automobiles and equipments.

Industry Sector	Year-to-date 2011	Year-to-date 2010
Agriculture and Forestry	1	3
Business, Personal and Professional Services	0	0
Construction and Construction Trades	21	9
Manufacturing and Processing	1	5
Mining and Petroleum Development	1	5
Public Administration, Education and Health Services	3	2
Transportation, Communication and Utilities	7	6
Wholesale and Retail Trade	4	4
Federal Government	0	0
TOTAL	38	34
Delayed Fatalities ¹	5	9

Date of Acceptance	Description	
Agriculture and Forestry		
Jan 2011	A truck went off road and a worker was attempting to get truck out of snow. Snow fell on the worker and he was suffocated.	
Business, Personal and Professional Services		
Construction and Construction Trade Services		
Jan 2011	A worker fell from ladder.	
Jan 2011	A crane truck worker was thrown from vehicle while operating flipped and the truck landed on him.	
Jan 2011	A worker was struck by fallen joist while on a hoist.	
Feb 2011	A worker was crushed between equipment and fuel tank.	
Mar 2011	A worker succumbed to smoke while attempting to retrieve work vehicle in burning garage.	
Mar 2011	A worker was run over by bulldozer.	
Apr 2011	A worker was run over by a welder truck when stopped to talk to coworkers.	

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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 worksite hazards or exposures.

Date of Acceptance	Description		
Apr 2011	A worker fell from ladder and landed on his head.		
Apr 2011	A worker had a heart attack.		
May 2011	A worker was struck by a falling tree while riding a quad on a work-site.		
Jun 2011	A worker fell into a manure spreader and was run through the blades.		
Aug 2011	A worker was hit in the stomach by pressure hose while working on a rig.		
Aug 2011	A worker fell 60 ft from quonset hut while building frame.		
Sep 2011	A worker was run over by grader.		
Sep 2011	A worker slipped off truck while loading a picker truck. The basket fell on him and hit his head.		
Sep 2011	A worker climbed power pole to attach a lifting single to facilitate removal of the pole by helicopter. The pole collapsed with the worker on it.		
Oct 2011	A worker was pinned between a front end loader and a pickup truck.		
Oct 2011	A worker was crushed while inside the lift which was hit by structural steel.		
Nov 2011	A worker was crushed by fallen bucket.		
Nov 2011	A worker was crushed by conveyor/stacker.		
Nov 2011	A worker was crushed under counterweights of a pumpjack.		
	Manufacturing, Processing and Packaging		
Nov 2011	A worker was struck in the face by shackle.		
	Mining and Petroleum Development		
Oct 2011	A worker was crushed by seismic equipment.		
	Public Administration, Education and Health Services		
Feb 2011	A worker was found deceased on living room floor when co-worker arrived for next shift.		
Aug 2011	A worker drove quad into water and drowned.		
Aug 2011	A worker was thrown off horse and died at scene.		
	Transport, Communication and Utilities		
Feb 2011	A worker had cardiac arrest and fell from truck which lead to fractured skull then passed away from brain injury.		
Mar 2011	A worker had a heart attack while driving his truck in the USA.		

Date of Acceptance	Description		
Mar 2011	Overturned tanker trailer was being pulled out by a winch truck. Part on truck snapped off and hit a worker in the head.		
Apr 2011	A worker had a heart attack.		
May 2011	A worker was exposed to release of hydrogen sulphide gas which lead him to fatality.		
Aug 2011	A worker was electrocuted.		
Nov 2011	A worker was crushed by a tractor-trailer in the loading warehouse by the entry doors.		
Wholesale and Retail Trade			
Jan 2011	Parked vehicle was caught by wind and dragged the worker into a ditch.		
Aug 2011	A worker was struck by semi-truck in the loading dock and died from his injuries.		
Sep 2011	A worker was electrocuted.		
Dec 2011	A worker was caught between two moving parts of a fork lift.		
	Delayed Fatalities		
Apr 2011	A worker was on a platform in air shaft when the platform caved in. The worker had paraplegia.		
Apr 2011	While the worker was working on a scaffold the brace gave way causing the scaffold and the worker to fall to the ground. The worker had quadriplegia and sequelae.		
May 2011	A worker was assaulted in parking lot of the hotel and had severe brain injury. He died from complications resulting from compensable injury.		
May 2011	Hay bale fell on top of the worker. He died of complications of paraplegia.		
Jun 2011	A worker initially had leg crush injury and had numerous surgeries for the injury. The worker died from multiple drug toxicity.		