

Workplace Incident Fatalities Accepted by the Workers' Compensation Board in 2014

Year to date, numbers as of December 31, 2014

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 2014 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	2014 Number of Fatalities (year-to-date)	2013 Number of Fatalities (year-to-date)
Agriculture and Forestry	3	1
Business, Personal and Professional Services	1	0
Construction and Construction Trades	17	18
Manufacturing and Processing	3	6
Mining and Petroleum Development	8	5
Public Administration, Education and Health Services	2	6
Transportation, Communication and Utilities	6	3
Wholesale and Retail Trade	7	2
TOTAL	47	41
Delayed Fatalities ¹	12	11

Date of Acceptance	Description	
Agriculture and Forestry		
March 2014	A worker died from heart disease.	
March 2014	A worker fell off a man lift while unloading a trailer and died.	
December 2014	A worker was crushed by a falling tree.	
Business, Personal and Professional Services		
January 2014	A worker drove a company vehicle to a job site, parked it and the vehicle exploded.	
Construction and Construction Trades		
January 2014	A worker was positioned near a skid steer loader that was being used to transport two 100lb compressed breathing air cylinders. The operator started to reverse the machine and drove over the worker.	
March 2014	A track hoe operator was driving at the bottom of a borrow pit when the track hoe broke through the ice and sank.	

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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 work site hazards or exposures.

Date of Acceptance	Description	
May 2014	A worker fell from a basket on a crane to the ground.	
June 2014	While working on a passenger bus, a component fell on the worker causing fatal injuries.	
July 2014	A worker was fixing brakes on a company truck when the truck fell off the jack, crushing and fatally injuring worker.	
July 2014	A worker became entangled in a conveyor and suffered fatal injuries.	
July 2014	A worker crawled under a crusher and was caught in the conveyer belt.	
August 2014	A worker fell while removing trusses and suffered fatal injuries.	
September 2014	A worker was walking alongside a loaded forklift when the load became unstable and landed on the worker.	
September 2014	A worker was standing on the back of a truck when the worker fell and suffered a head injury.	
September 2014	A worker was found underneath an air exchange unit during an install.	
November 2014	While climbing a ladder, a worker fell, sustaining fatal injuries.	
November 2014	A worker was standing on a catwalk and while loosening a tie down winch, the winch let loose and hit the worker in the head causing fatal injuries.	
November 2014	A worker was crushed under a brick wall.	
November 2014	A worker fell off a ladder and sustained fatal injuries.	
November 2014	A worker was found unresponsive after being struck by an excavator at the work site.	
December 2014	While shoveling snow off a roof, a worker turned and fell, sustaining fatal injuries.	
Manufacturing and Processing		
February 2014	A worker was picking up wood strips and was run over by a truck backing up.	
August 2014	Steel rods fell on a worker and the worker died as a result of injuries.	
September 2014	Steam and water were released from a pipe causing severe burns to a worker.	
Mining and Petroleum Development		
January 2014	A worker was hit by winch on right side of body at a rig site.	

Date of Acceptance	Description	
January 2014	A worker went out to check a leak on a pipeline, but didn't return. Workers went looking and found the worker unresponsive in a pool of sand and water.	
April 2014	A worker was crushed by falling material from a hanging box.	
April 2014	A worker collapsed while working on an electrical panel. Appears to be an electrocution.	
May 2014	A worker was attacked by a bear.	
June 2014	While working on a D9 dozer the sump pan fell and hit the worker in the head.	
October 2014	A worker was struck in the face by a dislodged hydraulic hose cover plate.	
December 2014	A worker was sitting in a company truck when a large haul mine truck backed over it.	
Public Administration, Education and Health Services		
July 2014	While at an employer established function a worker choked on food and later passed away in hospital.	
October 2014	A worker collapsed after fighting a fire.	
	Transportation, Communication and Utilities	
April 2014	A worker was crushed while unloading a trailer with a forklift.	
April 2014	A worker fell from a truck and died due to a head injury.	
August 2014	A worker suffered a cardiac episode while unloading grain at an elevator	
September 2014	While working on a sanding truck blade, the blade fell and hit the worker in the chest. The worker subsequently passed away.	
October 2014	While hooking up a tow truck a worker was struck from behind by a vehicle.	
December 2014	A worker was crushed between two vehicles after pulling off onto the shoulder.	
Wholesale and Retail Trade		
January 2014	A worker suffered a head injury.	
March 2014	Worker was attacked at work and fatally injured.	
March 2014	Worker was attacked at work and fatally injured.	
April 2014	A worker died in a snowmobile incident.	
May 2014	A worker suffered a heart attack precipitated by work.	
July 2014	While working on a vehicle, the vehicle fell and crushed the worker.	

Date of Acceptance	Description		
December 2014	A worker died in a bobcat accident.		
	Delayed		
May 2014	A 48-year-old former food vendor died from medical complications resulting from permanent injuries sustained in a fall in the workplace.		
June 2014	A 65-year-old former machine shop supervisor died from aggravation of ulcerative colitis, a result of a change in work duties.		
August 2014	A 37-year-old drywall worker died from medical complications resulting from a workplace injury.		
August 2014	An 86-year-old former railway worker died from medical complications arising from permanent injuries as a result of a workplace injury.		
October 2014	A 53-year-old former framer died from sepsis as a direct consequence of a worksite accident.		
October 2014	A 79-year-old former driller died from multiple respiratory complications directly related to a worksite accident.		
November 2014	A 35-year-old policeman died from complications related to a leg injury which occurred at work the previous month.		
November 2014	A 57-year-old warehouse worker died from medical complications relating to a work related injury approximately 20 years earlier.		
December 2014	A 78-year-old former construction worker died from medical complications related to a fall at work.		
December 2014	A 49-year-old former labourer died from medical complications related to an injury at work.		
December 2014	A 77-year-old former concrete worker died from medical complications related to a fall at work.		
December 2014	A 44-year-old former elevator repairman died from severe pneumonia related to a workplace injury.		