

Workplace Incident Fatalities Investigated in 2011

Year to date, numbers as of December 31, 2011

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 typically investigates.

Industry Descriptions¹

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.
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.
Manufacturing and Processing	Involves manufacturing beyond the raw product: includes saw mills, pulp mills, food and beverages, metal fabrication, petrochemicals, and oil refineries.
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).
Transportation, Communication and Utilities	Includes public transportation (air, rail, bus), trucking, radio, television, live theatre, electricity, natural gas and garbage collection.
Retail and Wholesale Trade	Includes food and beverage stores, department stores, home improvement centres, and sale and service of automobiles and equipment.
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.
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.



Based on Workers' Compensation Board - Alberta Industry Sector Classification

Year-to-Date Comparison ² 2011 2010

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Industry Sector	2011	2010
Agriculture and Forestry	0	0
Business, Personal and Professional Services	0	1
Construction and Construction Trades	17	16
Manufacturing and Processing	1	1
Mining and Petroleum Development	1	7
Public Administration, Education and Health Services	2	3
Transportation, Communication and Utilities	4	2
Retail and Wholesale Trade	3	2
Unspecified	0	1
TOTAL	28	33

Date of Incident	Description		
	CONSTRUCTION AND CONSTRUCTION TRADE SERVICES		
January 27	A 23 year-old male worker, employed as an iron worker constructing a new school, was in the basket of an aerial work platform securing joists when a joist released and struck the worker.		
February 7	A 58 year-old male worker was fatally injured when a Sideboom pinned the worker between counterweights and a fuel tank.		
February 11	A 63 year-old male worker fell through a floor hole opening into the basement while working at a residential home construction site.		
March 31	A 55 year-old male worker was operating a fitting truck. He and the driver of a welding truck stopped to clean mud out of the tires. The worker was walking back to his truck, when the welding truck backed up and ran over him.		
April 27	At his place of employment, in the warehouse in the back of the store, a 54-year-old male worker fell from his ladder and struck his head. He was taken to Lac La Biche hospital where he was pronounced deceased.		
April 30	Workers were steaming a gas production line (steam wand applied outside of line). Possible ice fog (chunk) in the line. At some point there was a release of H2S gas and three workers were overcome by H2S. Workers were transported to hospital for treatment. One male worker was deceased at the scene.		
May 14	A 51 year-old male worker was on a quad. A strong wind knocked over a tree, striking the employee.		
July 31	A 55 year-old male worker was working on a well pad, and a piece of equipment came loose, striking the worker in the chest. Worker passed away early in the morning of August 1.		
August 4	A 33 year-old male worker, and owner of company, was installing insulation and sheeting on a steel building when he fell approximately 20 meters from the roof; he was working inside of the building. Worker was pronounced deceased at the scene.		

² Based on calendar year to date

Date of Incident	Description		
September 10	A crew was in the process of removing a temporary pole for a power line. As a worker climbed the pole to remove guy wires and attach a sling, the pole fell over, landing on the worker. Emergency responders transported the worker to hospital by ambulance, where he was pronounced dead.		
September 19	A worker was grading secondary highway 682, and had pulled onto Range Road 54. The worker apparently left the grader he was operating, when he was fatally struck by the same grader.		
September 20	A worker was loading a man basket onto a flatbed trailer. The worker fell and the basket fell on the worker.		
September 27	A worker was operating a bobcat with a bucket attachment. The bucket arm was raised, and the worker was crushed.		
September 30	A worker became pinned between the pick-up truck he'd been operating and a front- end loader that was backing up. The worker was transported to the Royal Alexandra Hospital with serious injuries and later passed away.		
October 18	Workers were placing I-beams on a skeletal structure. The two ironworkers were each in their own lift (Genie lift). For a reason unknown at this time, an I-beam fell, striking one lift, causing it to tip over. The worker in that lift fell approximately 50 feet and was fatally injured.		
November 7	A worker was removing excess gravel from a conveyer when his arm got caught in the machine. The worker was pulled into the conveyer rollers, resulting in fatal injuries.		
November 25	A worker was performing maintenance on a pump jack brake assembly at an oil lease. While working in close proximity to the pump jack unit he was crushed under the counterweights (part of the pump jack structural assembly). The worker was pronounced deceased at the scene and was transported to the Rocky Mountain hospital.		
	MANUFACTURING AND PROCESSING		
November 17	A worker was preparing straps to lift a concrete box from its base when he was struck by a shackle (steel ring used as a connector between cables and straps) that was suspended from a crane. The worker was transported to hospital, where he was pronounced deceased.		
MINING AND PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT			
September 30	Two workers, an equipment operator and a helper were operating a low-impact seismic track drilling unit. They were traversing a hill. It appears that the unit hit a rock, flipped, and landed on the operator. The helper was thrown out of the unit. The operator was pronounced deceased at the scene; the helper was taken to hospital and has since been released.		
	PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES		
February 13	A 41 year-old female worker was employed and acting in her capacity as a care giver at the time of her death.		
August 18	A 27 year-old female worker was involved in a quad incident. She was deceased at the scene.		
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION AND UTILITIES			
March 5	While clearing snow a worker stopped the Caterpillar D6 bulldozer she was operating, stepped out of the cab and onto the machine's tracks. The bulldozer moved forward dragging her underneath and causing fatal injuries.		

Date of Incident	Description	
March 5	Workers were using a heavy-duty tow truck winch to pull a trailer out of a ditch. The cable broke, swung back and struck a 59 year-old male worker in the head. The worker was transported to hospital in serious condition and has since passed away.	
August 30	While doing utility upgrades and conducting a residential tie-in, a worker came into contact with an overhead electrical line. He was retrieved by his co-workers, transported to hospital where he was pronounced deceased.	
November 2	A worker was run over by the rear wheels of the truck portion of a truck trailer unit. He was pronounced deceased at the scene. The truck was seized for a mechanical inspection.	
RETAIL AND WHOLESALE TRADE		
August 18	One of the unloaders from the receiving team went out on the pad at the loading docks to take off the glad lock (a device which prevents the trailer from moving away from the dock). A driver of a semi backed up. The 24 year-old male worker was pinned/crushed.	
September 11	A worker was electrocuted while installing additional electrical cables in the residential camp's main power distributor.	
December 29	A worker was caught between two moving parts of a forklift. He was taken to hospital where he was pronounced deceased.	