

Workplace Incident Fatalities Investigated in 2017

Year to date, numbers as of December 22, 2017

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.
Wholesale and Retail 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.

¹Based on Workers' Compensation Board –Alberta Industry Sector Classification

Year-to-Date Comparison ² 2017 2016

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Industry Sector	2017	2016
Agriculture and Forestry	4	2
Business, Personal and Professional Services	1	1
Construction and Construction Trades	13	10
Manufacturing and Processing	2	1
Mining and Petroleum Development	1	2
Public Administration, Education and Health Services	1	1
Transportation, Communication and Utilities	2	1
Wholesale and Retail Trade	2	2
Unspecified	0	0
TOTAL	26	20

Date of Incident	Description	
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY		
August 16	A worker sustained fatal injuries in a processing plant after being crushed between the hydraulic ram and the stationary end stop assembly of a bale compression system.	
August 17	A worker was loading cattle into a stock trailer at a feedlot operation when one of the animals turned and tried to escape the trailer. The worker was pinned against a gate sustaining fatal injuries.	
November 10	A worker was partially engulfed in a 3-4 metre deep excavation when soil sloughed off the excavation wall trapping him. He sustained fatal injuries.	
December 18	A worker was loading logs onto his truck using the grapple hook assembly when one log slipped out of the claw and struck the worker causing fatal injuries.	
BUSINESS, PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES		
April 19	A worker cleaning window glass in a commercial building lost his balance and fell from a height of less than 3 m and sustained fatal traumatic head injuries.	
CONSTRUCTION AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES		
January 1	A snowplow operator was clearing snow on a highway when the vehicle was involved in a single-vehicle roll over.	
May 31	A worker was standing on the hood of a tractor removing a piece of equipment when he fell to the concrete floor below and sustained a head injury.	
June 2	A worker was removing concrete when an adjacent 12' x 6' concrete wall fell onto the worker.	

² Based on calendar year to date

Date of Incident	Description	
July 24	A worker fell from a roof approximately 12.4 metres in height.	
September 12	Workers were removing load barriers when a passing vehicle hit the trailer causing the load to reverse and strike the worker.	
September 19	A worker assisting a forklift operator was run over by it.	
September 21	A worker who stuck his head out of the window while reversing accidentally activated a joystick of the skid steer causing the bucket arm to go up and contact his neck and head.	
September 25	A volunteer using chainsaw to remove blown down trees on a trail was inadvertently struck in the head.	
October 2	A worker was collecting air sample cassettes in a containment when he was observed to be in respiratory distress. He left the containment and collapsed due to cardiac arrest.	
October 12	A worker climbed off an elevated work platform onto roof trusses during construction fell and fell over 6 metres to the concrete floor below.	
October 20	The wall of a trench being surveyed by a worker collapsed and buried the worker.	
October 26	A worker was fatally injured when he fell from the operator control station of the paver he was driving and run over.	
November 29	A worker was struck by trapped pressure when he opened the top hatch of a sandblasting hopper and received serious injuries when he fell. The worker died later of his injuries.	
MANUFACTURING AND PROCESSING		
June 6	Workers were troubleshooting lumber stacker hydraulics when the anchor pin on the hoisting system failed and released the hoisting chain. The chain struck a worker in the neck and upper chest, knocking him unconscious and later he died.	
November 25	Two workers were using a gantry crane to move slabs of precast concrete. They moved one slab and set it down against a support rack. A few minutes after the slab was placed, it tipped and crushed one of the workers who sustained fatal injuries.	
MINING AND PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT		
August 3	A worker was positioned over a well head while completing a pressure test. The test pipe struck the worker in the face, resulting in fatal injuries.	
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES		
June 13	A worker was performing maintenance on a lawnmower elevated by a jackstand. The mower fell and crushed the worker.	

TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, AND UTILITIES		
February 1	While unloading lumber using a front end loader, the load collapsed onto the worker, causing fatal injuries.	
December 19	A worker was overcome by carbon monoxide gas while in the change/lunch room.	
Wholesale and Retail Trade		
October 6	A worker pursuing a moving vehicle after a fuel theft was struck and suffered a fatal injury.	
October 16	A worker struck by the bucket of a compact track loader while constructing a fence, sustained fatal injuries.	