

Workplace Incident Fatalities Investigated in 2007

Year to date, numbers as of December 31, 2007

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 Workplace Health and Safety typically investigates.

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.
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.



Industry Sector	Year-to-date 2007	Year-to-date 2006 ¹
Agriculture and Forestry	3	2
Business, Personal and Professional Services	2	0
Construction and Construction Trades	11	15
Manufacturing and Processing	4	7
Mining and Petroleum Development	5	6
Public Administration, Education and Health Services	2	0
Transportation, Communication and Utilities	3	3
Wholesale and Retail Trade	3	2
Unspecified	0	0
TOTAL	33	35

Date of Incident	Description		
	AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY		
January 6	A 68-year old male worker, employed as a logger, was crushed between a feller buncher and a transport trailer as the buncher was being unloaded from the trailer.		
January 8	A 35-year old male worker, employed as a logger, was operating a grapple skidder when a dead log came through the cab, striking the worker in the head.		
April 13	A 64-year old male worker's clothing was caught on the sprocket of an unguarded roller of a conveyor for a compost machine. The worker was pulled into the conveyor and fatally injured.		
BUSINESS, PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES			
February 18	A 54-year old female worker, employed as a restaurant worker, tripped over a milk/cream case on the floor while carrying several trays from a cooler to a baker's table on January 10, 2007. The worker sustained a fractured leg and died in hospital on February 18, 2007. Incident was not reported to WHS until February 26, 2007.		
July 12	A 22-year old male worker, employed as a mechanical bull operator, was operating a mechanical calf-roping ride when it was prematurely released, resulting in a handle springing forward and striking worked in the back of the head.		
CONSTRUCTION AND CONSTRUCTION TRADE SERVICES			
January 15	A 31-year old male worker, employed as an electrician, was relocating electrical outlets and switches at an office remodeling work site. He contacted 347 volt live wires on an electrical switch and was electrocuted.		

 $^{^{1}}$ Based on calendar year to date

Date of Incident	Description
February 27	A 39-year old male worker, employed as a rigger, was assembling a rig with other workers. The crane operator lifted the grass hopper arm with the crane and workers attached the arm to the doghouse. One worker then unhooked the rigging sling from the grass hopper arm. The crane operator started to move the sling and it caught on the grass hopper arm. The grass hopper arm dislodged from the doghouse and fell on the worker.
March 7	A male worker, employed as a pipe layer, was driving east on a haul road. As the worker approached a single-lane bridge, a log truck was also approaching the bridge from the opposite direction. The worker drove his truck passenger side wheels into a snow bank, the driver's side of the truck caught the side rail of the bridge and flipped over landing on its roof in the river. The worker was partially ejected from the vehicle and his head struck a rock on the bank of the river.
April 24	A 33-year old male worker, and a 27-year old male worker, employed as an electrician and a scaffolder were putting the roof on a large oil storage tank when the roof came down on the workers.
May 10	A 22-year old male worker, employed as a labourer, became entangled in the tail pulley of a gravel crusher while attempting to perform routine maintenance on the conveyor belt running over the tail pulley.
June 22	A 33-year old male worker, employed as a labourer, was fatally injured when a gravel truck got stuck in the mud at a residential construction site. A second truck was brought in and pulled the truck out by attaching a towing strap to the front ends of both trucks. The strap was removed from the second truck and it left the scene. The worker was apparently removing the strap from the first truck when the truck driver moved forward without knowing the worker was in front. The driver could not see the worker and drove over him.
August 17	A 52-year old male worker, employed as an electrician, was servicing and maintaining analyzing equipment and fell down a set of stairs.
September 11	A 49-year old male worker, employed as a black paper and wire installer, was working with another worker installing tube and clamp scaffolding to complete external work on a new house under construction. The worker was trying to climb on to a 3.2 metre tall level from a 2.3 metre tall section when he fell, struck a cross bar below and landed on the ground.
October 4	A 31-year old female worker, employed as a scraper operator, leveling soil at a subdivision under construction. The site supervisor met with two operators away from their machines. One operator (female) indicated she needed to go to the washroom. The other worker (male) returned to his machine and proceeded to load the bowl of his machine and move the dirt form one location to another. On his second load, he observed that his co-worker was not in her machine, which was still parked. As he circled the drop off site to dump the second load he noticed something in the soil which turned out to be the body of the female operator.
October 24	A 47-year old male worker, employed as a pipework insulator, was last seen by other workers walking on a catwalk 10.6 metres above floor level in a large industrial building. The insulator fell a short time after he was last seen, either from the catwalk or from scaffolding 4 metres above the catwalk, through an opening in a steel floor, onto a zoom boom parked in the building and then onto the concrete ground floor.

Date of Incident	Description	
MANUFACTURING, PROCESSING AND PACKING		
January 2	A 55-year old male worker, employed as a logger, had finished loading his log truck and was found by a co-worker unconscious on the ground close to the truck's grapple. The worker later died as a result of injuries.	
January 20	A 47-year old male worker, employed as a plant operator, was assisting a truck driver hook up a trailer. He was run over by the tractor unit.	
August 3	A 42-year old male worker, employed as a welder, was working with other workers using an overhead crane to rotate an 8,600 kg vessel onto its legs. The vessel was set on the floor. The worker moved towards the vessel to readjust the slings for repositioning. The crane hook was then to be lowered; although it moved to the side. The vessel was pulled across the floor, pinning the worker between two vessels.	
December 12	A 42-year old male worker was assisting two electricians replacing a contractor unit in a 4160 volt circuit breaker panel. The contractor unit contacted the 4160 volt live supply section due to a broken weld. The worker contacted the live contactor and was electrocuted.	
	MINING AND PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT	
February 2	A 27-year old male worker, employed as a well test supervisor, was assisting coworkers to retrieve wireline tools stuck in a pipe joint. As they were ramming the tools inside the joint, unexpected pressure released, expelling the tools from the pipe joint and striking the worker in the abdomen area.	
March 14	A 46-year old male worker, employed as a boilerman, was working alone and was found unconscious at 7:00 am when the day shift workers arrived.	
August 18	A 53-year old male worker, employed as an oilfield consultant, was directing the pressure testing operation at an abandoned well site using a coiled tubing rig and a packer. Several pressure tests using compressed air had been completed. The worker was standing next to an elbow reading a pressure gauge when the elbow exploded.	
September 4	An 80-year old male worker, employed as a shop hand, was wiring a light box from a ladder, when he fell and struck his head on the concrete floor.	
December 28	A 28-year old male worker, employed on a drilling crew, was in the process of moving a rig. Workers were closing the hydraulically opened clam shell lid for a storage container when the lid became stuck. The worker went around the container to see why the lid was jammed. The clam shell lid collapsed striking the worker in the head.	
	PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	
March 11, 2007	A 31-year old male worker, employed as a medic, was guiding a truck driver who was reversing a tank truck with an attached pup when the worker was pinned between the pup and another piece of equipment.	
July 18	A 51-year old female worker, employed as a labourer, was struck by the rear wheels of a logging truck that exited from a business onto a public roadway.	

Date of Incident	Description	
TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATION AND UTILITIES		
March 21	A 41-year old male worker, employed as a journeyman power lineman, received a fatal electric shock. A "digger derrick" was raised and came into contact with a live 8000 volt overhead power line. The worker, who was on the ground, came into contact with the truck and received a fatal electrical shock.	
September 21	A 51-year old male worker, employed as an operator, was pinned between a truck and trailer and another truck.	
November 2	A 43-year old male worker, employed as a truck driver, was in the process of helping load an empty 400 lb oil storage tank onto a flat bed truck and got pinned between the tank and the truck.	
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE		
March 14	A 67-year old male worker, employed as a driver, was securing load straps when one of the straps became trapped and stuck on top of the load. The worker climbed onto the load, presumably to clear the strap. He was found by another worker on the ground beside the vehicle unconscious. The incident occurred on March 5, 2007, but was not reported to Workplace Health and Safety until March 15, 2007, after the employer had been contacted by the injured worker's family and informed that he had died March 14, 2007.	
October 12	A 41-year old male worker, employed as a pump tech, got his coverall's caught in a progressive cavity pump test bench shaft, severing his arm. The worker subsequently died of his injuries.	
October 29	A 47-year old male worker was in the process of priming a carburetor for a gasoline powered truck. The truck backfired and the worker's clothes caught fire. The worker was in intensive care since the incident. The worker died on November 14, 2007.	