

**E N E R G Y
S A F E T Y
C A N A D A**

Occupational Fatalities in the Oil and Gas Industry (AB & SK)

2011 - 2025 Data

APRIL 8, 2026

This report analyses occupational fatalities within Energy Safety Canada’s funding sectors in the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan, including a year-over-year comparison of the fatality rate (number of fatalities per 100,000 person-years). This report addresses all categories of occupational fatalities including workplace incidents, work-related transportation accidents and chronic occupational diseases from exposure to harmful substances.

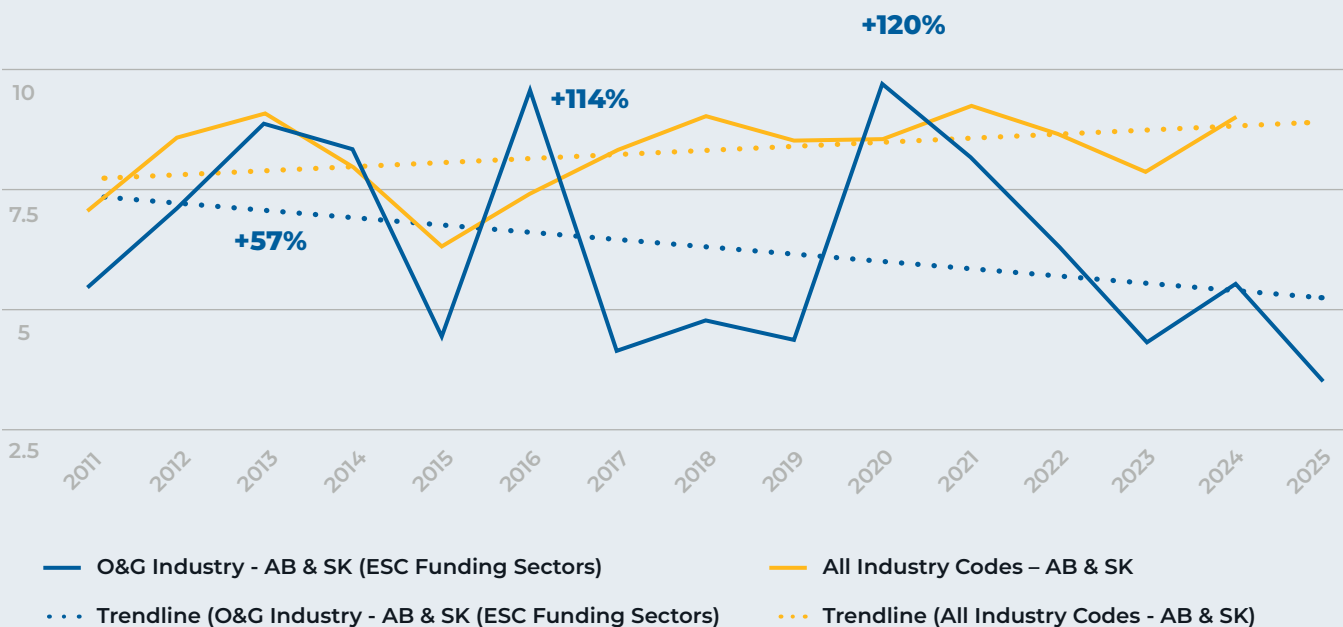
01 // Occupational Fatality Rate and Trend

In the oil and gas industry in Alberta and Saskatchewan, 171 people died on the job between 2011 and 2025, with 44 of these fatalities happening in the most recent five years.

Figure 1 shows notable increases in the oil and gas fatality rate following years of industry contraction. The oil and gas fatality rate is also compared to the overall fatality rate for all industry codes within Alberta and Saskatchewan (provincial average). Fatality rate within ESC’s funding sectors in AB and SK has been trending down since 2011.

FIG 1. OCCUPATIONAL FATALITY RATE TREND IN ALBERTA AND SASKATCHEWAN

FATALITY RATE PER 100,000 PERSON



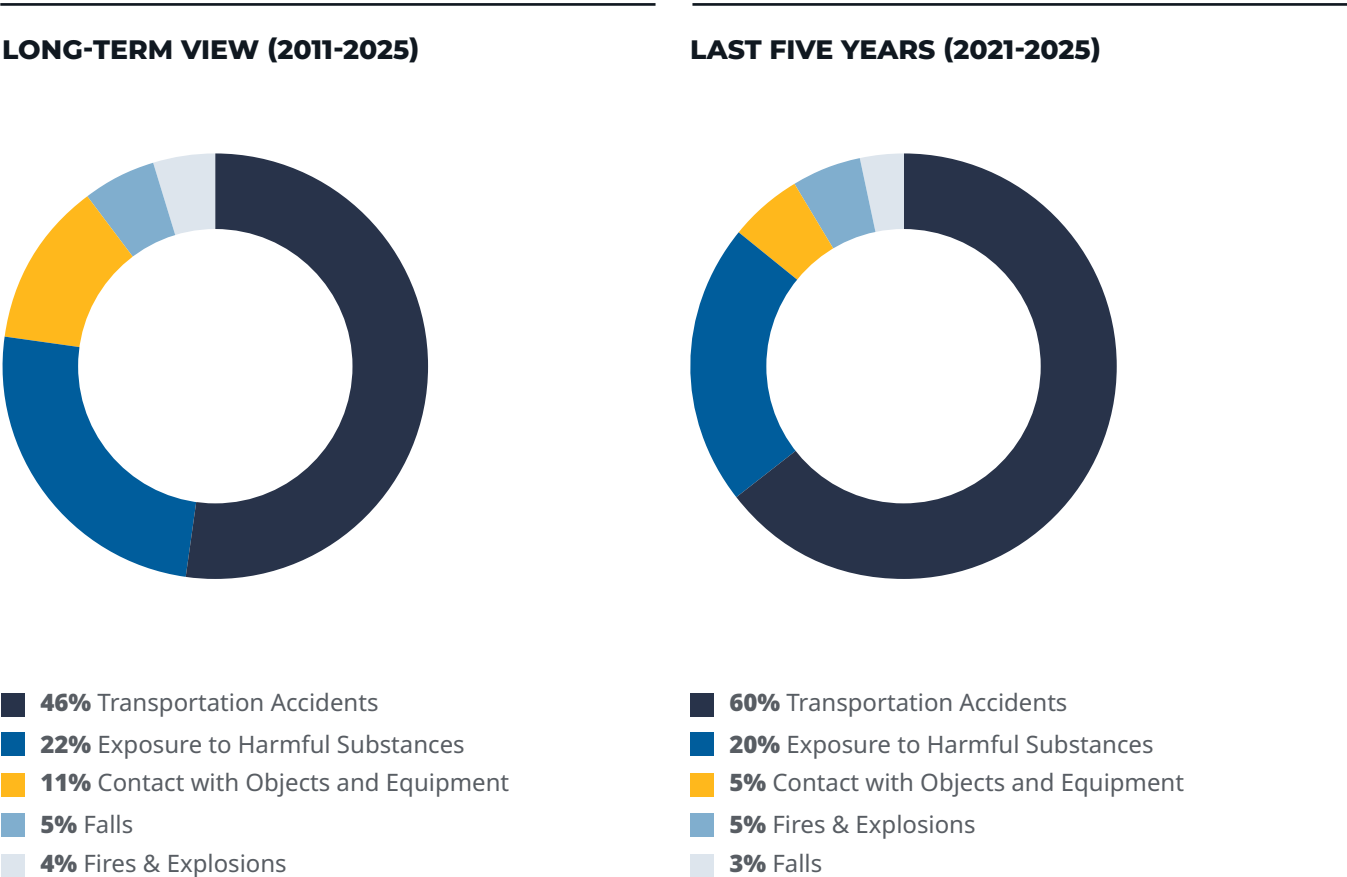
“All Industry Codes” data retrieved from AWCBC.

02 // Event or Exposure Types

Occupational injuries are classified based on a standardized set of definitions. In Figure 2, fatalities are grouped by category of accident type. Transportation accidents are the largest cause of death in the oil and gas industry, with a significant proportional increase in the last five years. Exposure to harmful substances is the category with the second highest number of fatalities.

These two categories combined account for **80% of all fatalities in the last five years**.

FIG 2. TOP FIVE EVENTS OR EXPOSURE TYPES BY PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL COUNT (COVID EXCLUDED)



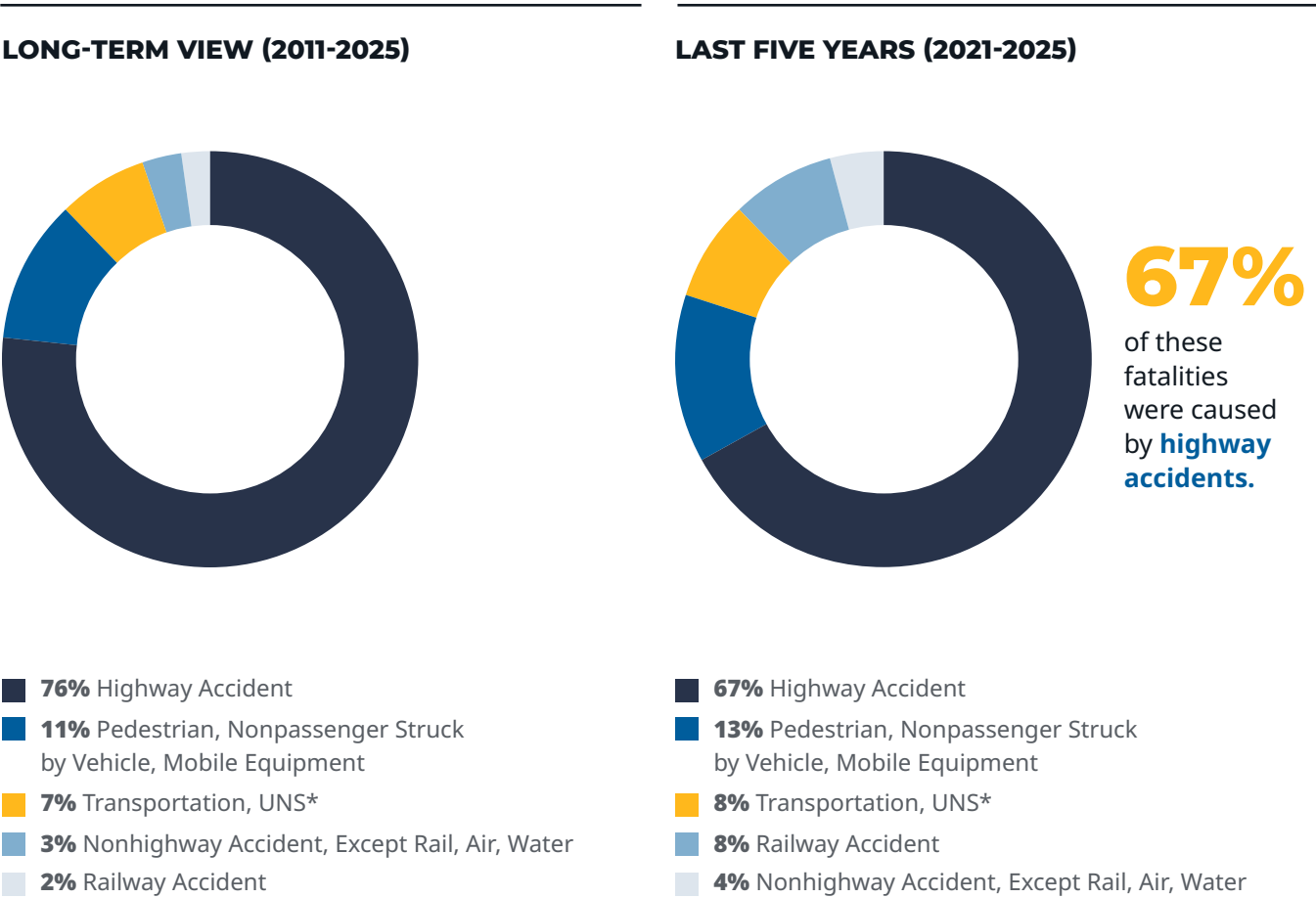
03 // Top Five Event or Exposures – Sub-Categories

The five largest types of accidents are broken into sub-categories.
COVID-related fatalities are excluded.

3.1 TRANSPORTATION ACCIDENTS

This category covers events involving transportation vehicles, powered industrial vehicles, or powered mobile industrial equipment, and the injury or illness is due to a collision or other type of traffic accident, a loss of control, or a sudden stop, start, or jolting of a vehicle, regardless of the location where the event occurred. Cases classified in this division include pedestrians, roadway workers, and other non-passengers struck by vehicles or powered industrial equipment, on or off the roadway, when at least one vehicle was in regular operation and the impact was caused by a traffic accident or forward/backward travel of the vehicle.¹

FIG 4. TRANSPORTATION ACCIDENTS SUB-CATEGORIES



*UNS (Unspecified)

3.2 EXPOSURE TO HARMFUL SUBSTANCES

This category applies to cases in which fatality results from contact with, or exposure to, a condition or substance in the environment. ¹

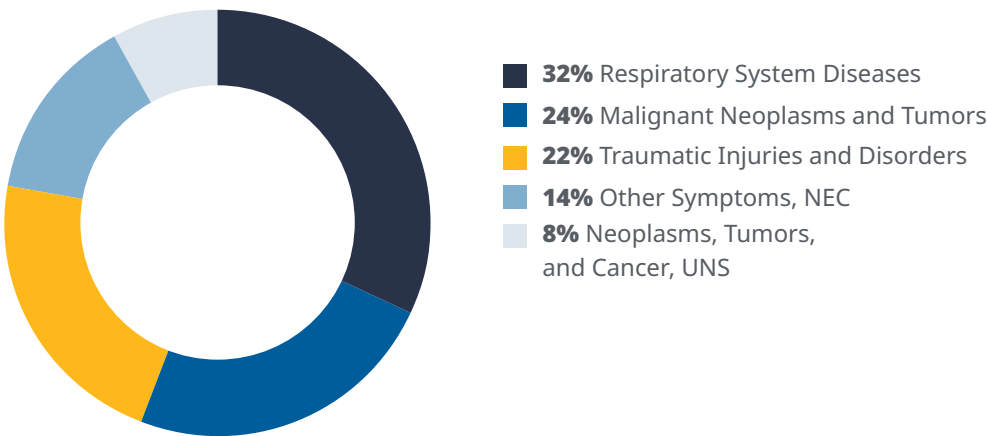
80%

of these fatalities were caused by **occupational diseases**, like asbestosis, mesothelioma or other systemic disorders.

The remainder were mostly **traumatic injuries**, or **chemical and electrical burns**.

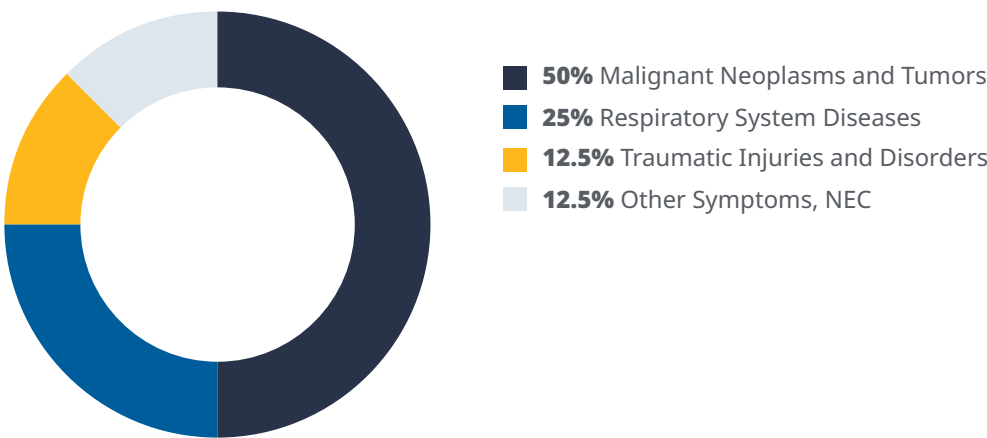
FIG 5. EXPOSURE TO HARMFUL SUBSTANCES, NATURE OF INJURY

LONG-TERM VIEW (2011-2025)



LAST FIVE YEARS (2021-2025)

The category of **Malignant neoplasms and tumors** had a significant proportional increase in the last five years while all the other categories had proportional decreases.



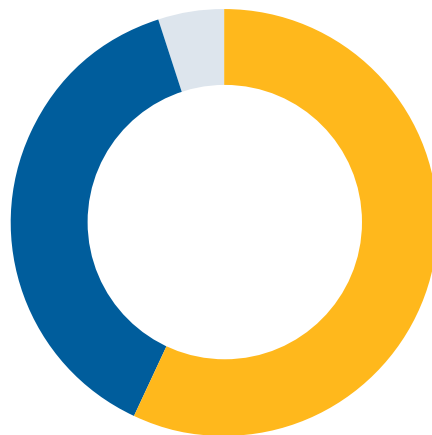
Source: ¹ CSA Standard Z795

03 // Top Five Event or Exposures cont.

3.3 CONTACT WITH OBJECTS AND EQUIPMENT

This category applies to occupational fatalities caused by contact between the injured person and the source of injury, except when contact was due to a fall, transportation accident, fire, explosion, assault, or violent act.¹

FIG 6. CONTACT WITH OBJECTS SUB-CATEGORIES (2021-2025)



57% of fatalities resulted from the **worker being struck by an object**, most often a falling object.

- 57% Struck by Object
- 38% Caught in or Compressed by Equipment or Object
- 5% Contact with Objects and Equipment, UNS

3.4 FALLS

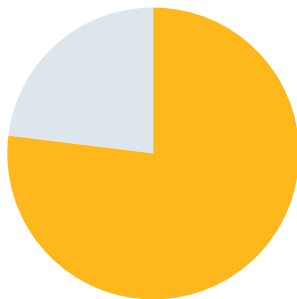
Falls are events in which the injury is produced by impact between the injured person and the source of injury when the motion producing contact was generated by gravity.¹

FIG 7: FALLS SUB-CATEGORIES (2021-2025)

77%

of these fatalities were due to a **fall from height**.

23% Fall on same level



3.5 FIRES & EXPLOSIONS

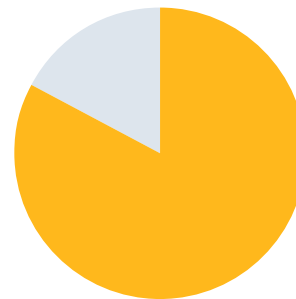
Cases in which the injury or illness resulted from an explosion or fire. Included are cases in which the person fell, jumped, inhaled a harmful substance, or struck or was struck by an object as a result of an explosion or fire.¹

FIG 8: FIRES & EXPLOSIONS SUB-CATEGORIES (2011-2025)

82%

of these fatalities were due to **explosion**.

18% Fire—unintended or uncontrolled



Source: 1 CSA Standard Z795

Definitions

FATALITY An occupational fatality is defined as the death of a worker resulting from a work-related incident or exposure that is accepted by the WCB for compensation.

FATALITY RATE The measure of frequency with which fatalities occur. It represents the count of occupational fatalities per one hundred thousand person-years.

FATALITY RATE - ALL INDUSTRY CODES

The The Fatality Rate for all industry codes within Western Canada were obtained from the Association of Workers' Compensation Boards of Canada (AWCBC) (<http://awcbc.org/>)

FATALITY TYPE The type of accident, also called event or exposure, as per *CSA Standard Z795 - Coding of Work Injury or Disease Information*. It defines the way an injury or disease was caused or inflicted.

NEC Acronym for "Not Elsewhere Classified". This code is used when the type of fatality doesn't match any other defined sub-type.

PERSON-YEARS (PY) Estimated number of full-time equivalent workers (2,000 work hours). It is derived from the employer's reported insurable earnings (assessable payroll) and the industry's average wage.

UNS Abbreviation for "Unspecified". This code is used when there is insufficient information about the fatality type to assign a more detailed description.

Energy Safety Canada's Funding Sectors: The fatality claims data for the following oil and gas industry codes within two provinces (Alberta and Saskatchewan) is aggregated for the report analysis

ALBERTA

#	Industry Code Description	Code
1	Drilling-Oil/Gas Wells	9600
2	Drilling-Rathole/Rig Anchor	9904
3	Drilling-Shot Hole	9201
4	Field Production Operations	6305
5	Mud Logging Services	9900
6	NDT Testing Including Visual Inspect	51502
7	Oil & Gas-Upstream	6300
8	Oil Field Maintenance/Construction	6304
9	Oilfield Downhole Services	9911
10	Oilfield Services-Christmas Tree	9921
11	Oilfield Services-Sump Pit	9927
12	Oilsands Operation	6600
13	Pipeline Transmission-Oil/Gas	51501
14	Refine-Crude/Used Oil	36500
15	Remove/Treat-Hazardous Waste	36502
16	Seismic Survey	9200
17	Sulphur Process	6501
18	Trucking Service-Oilfield	50720
19	Vacuum Removal-Wet/Dry Waste	6306
20	Well Casting Services	9915
21	Well Servicing with Service Rigs	9903

SASKATCHEWAN

#	Rate Code Name	Code
1	Operation of Oilwells	D32
2	Oilwell Servicing	D41
3	Service Rigs and Water Well Drilling	D51
4	Seismic Drilling	D52

DATA DISCLAIMER

While every reasonable effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the data used in this report, data should be read as indicative of scope rather than exact figures. The variable nature of WCB claims management may be reflected in the data shown. Please contact PMetrics@EnergySafetyCanada.com for any concerns or questions regarding this report.