

Section 6.—Fatal Industrial Accidents.

Statistics of fatal industrial accidents have been compiled by the Dominion Department of Labour since 1903, the data being obtained from provincial Workmen's Compensation Boards, the Board of Railway Commissioners for Canada and various other governmental authorities, from departmental correspondents and from press clippings. Table 4 shows the number of fatal industrial accidents reported to the Department during each year from 1926 to 1930 inclusive. The number of fatalities in each of the different industries is also shown as a percentage of the total number. Preliminary figures show 1,607 fatal industrial accidents in 1930.

4.—Fatal Industrial Accidents in Canada by Industries, 1926-1930.

Industry.	Number of Fatal Accidents.					Per cent of Total Accidents.				
	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930. ¹	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930. ¹
Agriculture.....	151	162	194	156	121	11.6	11.4	11.6	8.8	7.5
Logging.....	126	164	176	235	168	9.7	11.6	10.5	13.3	10.4
Fishing and trapping.....	71	125	43	54	35	5.5	8.8	2.5	3.1	2.2
Mining, non-ferrous smelting and quarrying.....	154	168	260	234	257	11.8	11.9	15.5	13.2	16.0
Manufacturing.....	184	153	201	250	189	14.1	10.8	12.0	14.2	11.8
Construction.....	159	189	256	298	312	12.2	13.4	14.9	16.9	19.4
Electric light and power ²	-	-	-	-	40	-	-	-	-	2.5
Transportation and public utilities.....	351	322	387	366	316	26.9	22.8	23.1	20.7	19.7
Trade.....	26	27	64	58	54	2.0	1.9	3.8	3.3	3.4
Service.....	68	104	102	114	115	5.2	7.3	6.1	6.4	7.1
Miscellaneous.....	13	1	-	1	-	1.0	0.1	-	0.1	-
Totals.....	1,303	1,415	1,677	1,766	1,607	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

¹Figures subject to revision.

²Previously included under Transportation and Public Utilities.

Causes of Fatal Accidents.—The classification of fatal accidents in 1930 according to causes shows that the largest number, 427, came under the category "by moving trains, vehicles, etc." This includes all accidents due to cars or engines, including mine and quarry cars, and to automobiles and other power vehicles and horse drawn vehicles, as well as accidents caused by moving implements (both those impelled by power and those drawn by horses), by moving watercraft and by aircraft. The largest number of accidents thus caused, 121, appear under the heading covering persons being struck or run over by, or crushed by or between, cars and engines, 66 of these victims being engaged on steam railways. Also, 97 were caused by automobiles and other power vehicles and implements, 97 were in connection with watercraft (15 being in fishing and trapping and 37 in water transportation); 31 were due to derailments and collisions (20 in steam railways); 25 were caused by animal-drawn vehicles and implements (13 of which were in agriculture, accidents primarily caused by animals being classified elsewhere); 26 were caused by persons falling from or in cars or engines, 16 by mine and quarry cars; and 15 fatalities occurred in aircraft.

Next in order as a cause of fatalities came falls of persons, 307 in number, including 120 falls into pits, shafts, harbours, rivers, etc. (some of which resulted in drowning), 77 falls from elevations, 28 due to collapse of support, 27 falls from loads, etc., 16 from ladders, 9 into holds of vessels, 9 due to falls on the level, 9 into tanks, vats, kilns, etc., 8 down stairs and inclines, and 4 due to falls on sharp objects.