

Section 8.—Industrial Accidents and Workmen's Compensation

Subsection 1.—Fatal Industrial Accidents

Statistics of fatal industrial accidents have been compiled by the Dominion Department of Labour since 1903. The data are now obtained from provincial Workmen's Compensation Boards, the Board of Transport Commissioners and various other government authorities, from departmental correspondents, and from press reports.

18.—Fatal Industrial Accidents in Canada, by Industries, 1942-45

Industry	Numbers of Fatal Accidents				Percentages of Total Fatal Accidents			
	1942	1943	1944	1945 ¹	1942	1943	1944	1945 ¹
Agriculture.....	107	99	109	112	7.0	6.8	9.1	8.6
Logging.....	170	151	137	164	11.2	10.3	11.4	12.5
Fishing and trapping.....	34	49	34	20	2.2	3.3	2.8	1.5
Mining, non-ferrous smelting and quarrying.....	199	213	158	185	13.1	14.5	13.1	14.1
Manufacturing.....	315	310	271	256	20.7	21.2	22.6	19.6
Construction.....	227	154	100	125	15.0	10.5	8.3	9.5
Electric light and power.....	21	16	17	24	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.8
Transportation and public utilities.....	318	334	264	286	20.9	22.8	21.9	21.9
Trade.....	44	59	53	49	2.9	4.0	4.4	3.8
Service.....	84	79	59	83	5.5	5.4	4.9	6.3
Miscellaneous.....	1	1	1	5	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4
Totals.....	1,520	1,465	1,203	1,309	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

¹ Subject to revision.

Causes of Fatal Accidents.—The largest number of fatal accidents to employees in 1945, 425 were caused by moving trains, vehicles, etc. Falling objects caused 191 fatalities, and falls of persons 195. Other fatal accidents included: 179 caused by dangerous substances, 26 by hoisting apparatus, 41 by striking against or being struck by objects, 27 by prime movers and 31 by handling objects. Included in the category "other causes" were 153 fatalities of which 97 were due to industrial disease, strain, etc. The number of accidents, fatal and non-fatal, dealt with by the provincial Workmen's Compensation Boards are shown in Subsection 2.

Subsection 2.—Workmen's Compensation*

In all provinces, except Prince Edward Island, legislation is in force providing for compensation for personal injury to a workman by accident arising out of and in the course of employment, or by a specified industrial disease, except where the workman is disabled for less than a stated number of days. To ensure payment of such compensation, each provincial Act provides for an accident fund, administered by a Board, to which employers are required to contribute at a rate determined by the Board, in accordance with the hazards of the industry. A workman to whom these provisions apply has no right of action against his employer for injury from an accident during employment. In Ontario and Quebec, public authorities, railway and shipping companies, and telephone and telegraph companies are individually liable for compensation, as determined by the Board, and pay a proportion of the expenses of administration. A Dominion Act provides for compensation for accidents

* Fuller information concerning the provincial Workmen's Compensation Acts is given in a pamphlet issued annually by the Department of Labour of Canada.