

Section 7.—Industrial Accidents and Workmen's Compensation

Subsection 1.—Fatal Industrial Accidents

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

31.—Fatal Industrial Accidents, by Industry, 1950-53

(Includes Newfoundland since Apr. 1, 1949)

Industry	Numbers				Percentages of Total			
	1950	1951	1952	1953 ^a	1950	1951	1952	1953 ^a
Agriculture.....	60	102	102	119	4.7	7.2	7.0	8.8
Logging.....	160	181	177	167	12.5	12.8	12.2	12.4
Fishing and trapping.....	42	21	21	36	3.3	1.5	1.5	2.7
Mining, non-ferrous smelting and quarrying.....	173	191	212	188	13.6	13.5	14.6	14.0
Manufacturing.....	247	232	236	243	19.3	16.4	16.3	18.1
Construction.....	160	215	247	228	12.5	15.2	17.0	16.9
Electric light and power.....	62	31	43	34	4.9	2.2	3.0	2.5
Transportation and public utilities.....	199	243	254	180	15.6	17.2	17.5	13.4
Trade.....	54	53	48	60	4.2	3.7	3.3	4.5
Finance.....	—	5	1	4	—	0.3	0.1	0.3
Service.....	120	141	108	86	9.4	10.0	7.5	6.4
Totals.....	1,277	1,415	1,449	1,345	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Causes of Industrial Fatalities.—Preliminary figures indicate that, during 1953, 386 fatal accidents to gainfully employed persons were the result of being "struck by tools, machinery, moving vehicles and other objects". Within this group 63 deaths were caused by falling trees and branches, 50 by automobiles and trucks, 29 by landslides and cave-ins, and 28 by objects falling or flying in mines and quarries. Collisions, derailments, wrecks, etc., were responsible for 311 industrial fatalities. Automobiles and trucks were involved in 140 of these accidents, tractors in 54, watercraft in 49, aircraft in 40, steam railways in 21, animal-drawn vehicles in four and other agencies in three. Falls and slips were responsible for 230 deaths in industry and of these 212 were falls to different levels, including 80 resulting from falls into rivers, lakes, sea or harbours. Deaths of 27 workers were caused by falls from scaffolds and stagings, 22 by falls from buildings, roofs and towers, and 18 by falls from ladders and stairs. There were 91 deaths caused by workers being caught in, on or between parts of machinery or other agencies. Contact with electric current caused 74 deaths in industry including 65 workers who came in contact with electric wires, etc., and nine who were killed by lightning.