

Section 6.—Employment Injuries and Workmen's Compensation

Fatal Employment Injuries.—Data on fatal employment injuries, compiled by the federal Department of Labour, are obtained from provincial Workmen's Compensation Boards, from the Board of Transport Commissioners and other government authorities, and from press reports. Of the 1,263 fatal injuries to industrial workers that occurred during 1965, 332 were the result of the victims being struck by objects—73 by landslides or cave-ins, 56 by falling trees or limbs, 29 by materials falling from stockpiles or loads, and the remainder by other objects. Collisions, derailments, wrecks, etc., were responsible for 276 fatalities, falls and slips for 244, and 121 fatalities were included in the classification "caught in, on or between objects, vehicles, etc." There were 92 deaths caused by inhalation, absorption, ingestion and industrial diseases, 86 by conflagration, temperature extremes, explosions, 60 by contact with electric current, five by over-exertion, strain, etc., and nine by striking against or stepping on objects. The remainder were the result of miscellaneous accidents.

31.—Fatal Employment Injuries, by Industry, 1962-65

Industry	Numbers				Percentages of Total			
	1962	1963	1964	1965*	1962	1963	1964	1965*
Agriculture.....	62	49	72	50	5.5	4.0	5.4	4.0
Forestry.....	127	122	155	105	11.2	9.9	11.7	8.3
Fishing and trapping.....	12	34	37	40	1.0	2.8	2.8	3.1
Mining, quarrying and oil wells.....	151	163	161	164	13.3	13.2	12.2	13.0
Manufacturing.....	216	222	235	213	19.0	18.0	17.8	16.9
Construction.....	204	234	252	263	18.0	19.0	19.1	20.8
Transportation, communication and other utilities.....	209	210	237	279	18.4	17.0	18.0	22.1
Trade.....	58	61	62	64	5.1	4.9	4.7	5.1
Finance, insurance and real estate.....	2	1	2	3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Service.....	16	28	55	35	1.4	2.3	4.2	2.8
Public administration.....	78	109	52	47	6.9	8.8	3.9	3.7
Totals.....	1,135	1,233	1,320	1,263	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Workmen's Compensation.*—In all provinces legislation is in force providing for payment of compensation to workmen who are injured by accident arising out of and in the course of their employment or who are disabled as a result of a specified industrial disease. To be entitled to benefits, a workman must be employed in an industry covered by the Act at the time of the injury. Compensation is not payable, however, where the disability lasts less than a stated number of days (varying from one to four in the provincial Acts), or if the injury is due to the workman's own misconduct. A workman who is entitled to compensation has no right of action against his employer for injury sustained during employment.

The Acts provide for a compulsory system of collective liability on the part of employers. Industries covered are divided into classes or groups, according to hazard. Employers are required to contribute to the Accident Fund at a rate fixed in accordance with the accident experience of the class or group. Each class is liable for the costs of all accidents occurring in that class.

The laws apply to enumerated employments but the range of industries covered by each Act is very wide. The principal exceptions are farm workers (who are not covered except in Ontario), domestic servants, casual workers, employees of financial, insurance and professional undertakings, employees of non-profit religious or charitable organizations, and workers in certain service industries in most provinces, for example, barber shops and

* More detailed information is given in the Department of Labour publication *Workmen's Compensation in Canada, A Comparison of Provincial Laws*.