

Report for the Labour-Management Network April 2024

Monthly Statistics

Reporting Month	Fatalities	Critical Injuries	Total
February 1 – February 29, 2024	0	28	28
February 1 – February 28, 2023	2	22	24

Fatality & Critical Injury Year-to-Date Overview – Construction

Reporting Months	Fatalities	Critical Injuries	Total
January 1 – February 29, 2024	0	47	47
January 1 – February 28, 2023	3	59	62

Helping you achieve compliance on construction projects and window cleaning operations

[General requirements](#)

[Access to and egress from a work area](#)

[Excavations](#)

[Fall protection and roofing re-shoring](#)

[Equipment](#)

[Electrical hazards](#)

[Hygiene](#)

[Forms, formwork, falsework, and](#)

[Housekeeping, fire protection, public way protection, traffic control, and hot tar or bitumen tankers or kettles](#)

[Asbestos on construction projects](#)

[Diving operations](#)

[Window cleaning operations](#)

Disclaimer: This information has been prepared to assist workplace parties in understanding their rights and duties under the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) and its regulations. This information does not constitute legal advice. To determine your rights and duties under the OHSA, please contact your legal counsel or refer to the legislation.

Section 1 – Senior Manager's Comment

Although the number of fatalities in the construction industry fluctuates year over year, it averages about 22 fatalities per year over the past 10 years. This number stays pretty consistent with a few outliers, but it doesn't reflect the amount of work happening in the construction industry.

Recently the construction program undertook a study of fatalities and critical injuries compared to the number of workers (or full-time-equivalents positions) active in the construction industry since 1999.

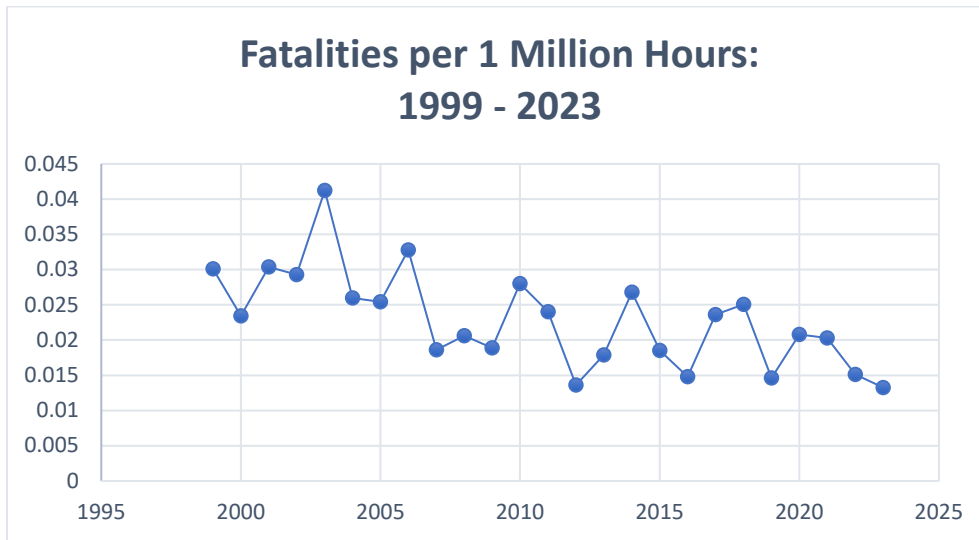
What we found was that although the average number of fatalities stays roughly the same, the number of workers engaged in construction has approximately doubled since 1999 (from just under 300,000 workers to just under 600,000 workers). Given the number and scale of projects currently underway this may not be surprising to you, however, it effectively means that the industry has cut the number of fatalities in half. We should be proud of this!

Critical injuries are a little more difficult to analyze, but show overall steady improvement. Of note, there are some significant blips in the graphs below which are easily explained: Between 2016 and 2017 there was a change in interpretation as to what is considered a critical injury. This change saw broken ankles and wrists included. As a result, we saw a dramatic increase in reportable injuries, primarily due to same level slips, trips and falls. The second increase was in 2021 where the notices and reports requirements were harmonized between all sectors into Ontario regulation 420/21 which we believe led to increased awareness of the critical injury reporting requirement and saw more injuries reported. Regardless, the data shows a pretty consistent continual reduction in critical injuries.

Obviously, there is still room for improvement, but I am very happy to report that the construction industry as a whole has made their projects safer places to work.

I'd like to congratulate the health and safety leaders within the industry who have made this a priority and continue to develop innovative solutions to address long standing hazards, processes and attitudes.

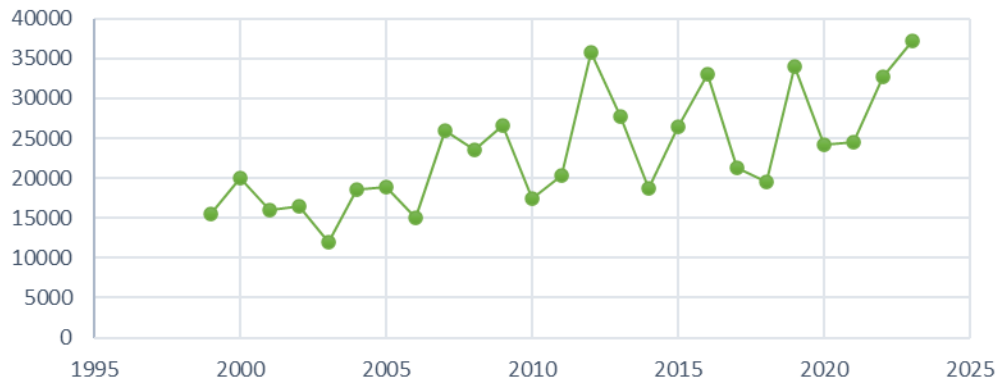
Please continue your hard work, it is working!!



1999 - 0.0301 Fatalities for every 1,000,000 hours worked

2023 - 0.0133 Fatalies for every 1,000,000 hours worked

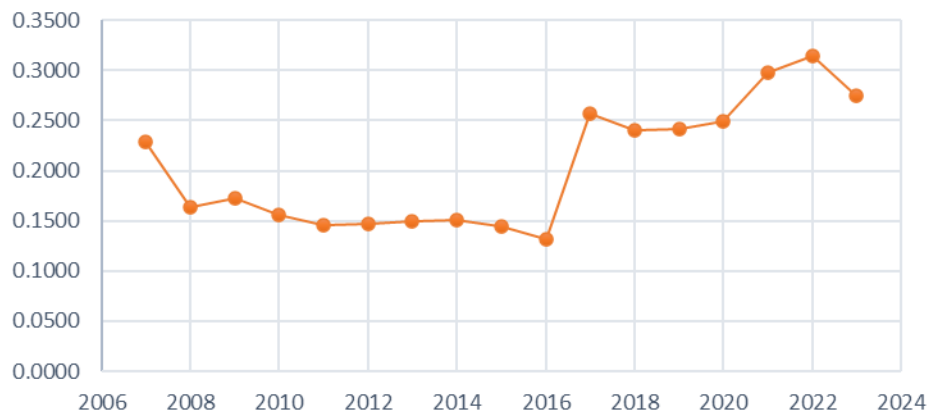
Fatalities per Employment: 1999 - 2023



1999 - 1 Fatality for every 15,589 workers employed

2023 - 1 Fatality for every 37,250 workers employed

Critical Injuries per 1 Million Hours: 2007 - 2023

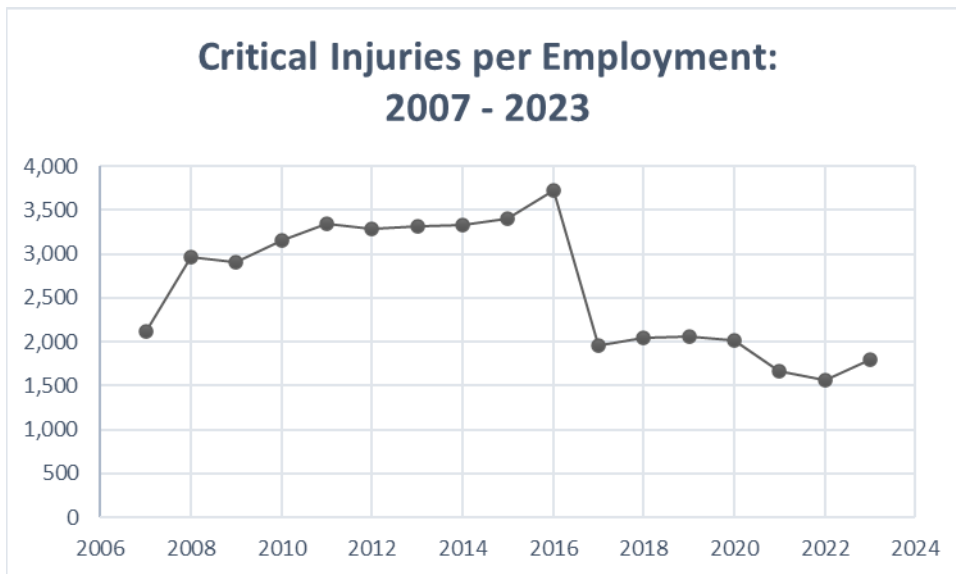


2007 - 0.2283 Critical Injuries for every 1,000,000 hours worked

2016 - 0.1312 Critical Injuries for every 1,000,000 hours worked

2017 - 0.2568 Critical Injuries for every 1,000,000 hours worked

2023 - 0.2754 Critical Injuries for every 1,000,000 hours worked



2007 - 1 Critical Injury for every 2,117 workers employed

2016 - 1 Critical Injury for every 3,406 workers employed

2017 - 1 Critical Injury for every 1,961 workers employed

2023 - 1 Critical Injury for every 1,795 workers employed

Sincerely, Brian Barron

Senior Manager

Construction Health and Safety Program

Occupational Health and Safety Branch

Ontario Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

Section 2 – What's New

[Solar Eclipse](#)

On, April 8, 2024, a solar eclipse will be visible throughout Eastern Canada, including parts of Southern Ontario. While the eclipse will be temporary and short, it is important that anyone working outdoors during this time be aware of the risks and take precautions to minimize the risk of injury.

[Working outdoors during a solar eclipse](#) | [Protect yourself and your workers during a solar eclipse](#)

[National Day of Mourning](#)

April 28th is the National Day of Mourning to remember and honour those who have been killed, injured, became ill, or otherwise harmed because of work or the workplace, and includes families and friends affected by the same.

There will be many in-person and virtual events throughout the province as well as the rest of the Country. Organizations are encouraged to enable their workers the time to participate in which ever way that is best suited for each individual.

Organizations are also encouraged to take time to reflect on their own health and safety practices, performance, and overall commitment to the protection against harm to workers, working toward making days like these no longer necessary.

[Minerva: Nominations are open for the Canada's Safest Employers Awards](#)

The Canada's Safest Employers Awards will be held this year on October 19, 2024. This annual awards program recognizes outstanding health and safety professionals and companies for their achievements, leadership and innovation over the past 12 months. Within this program, the Minerva Award for Rising Star of the Year recognizes leaders of the future with a demonstrated commitment to the integration of health and safety. You can nominate someone for this award until April 19, 2024.

[Learn more](#)

For the latest what's **new** – MLITSD articles, see: [What's New!](#)

Section 3 – Court Bulletins

London Roofer Fined \$75,000 After Worker Fall

Convicted: H&N Roofing & Sheet Metal Limited, 29 Bayview Court, London, Ontario, a company that provides roofing services to the construction industry.

Location of Workplace: A commercial building project at 255 Queens Avenue, London, Ontario.

Description of Offence: A worker was injured after falling 15 feet through an HVAC opening in a roof. H&N Roofing & Sheet Metal Limited failed to ensure the worker was protected by appropriate fall protection and wearing protective headwear, as required by sections 26.1(2) and 22 of [Ontario Regulation 213](#). This is contrary to section [25\(1\)\(c\)](#) of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.

Date of Offence: December 18, 2020

Date of Conviction: February 6, 2024

Penalty Imposed:

- Following a trial in Provincial Offences Court in London, H&N Roofing & Sheet Metal Limited was fined \$70,000 for contravening section 26.1(2) and \$5,000 for contravening section 22 of [Ontario Regulation 213](#) by Justice of the Peace Frank Leddy; Crown Counsel was Katie Krafchick.
- The court also imposed a 25 per cent victim fine surcharge as required by the *Provincial Offences Act*. The surcharge is credited to a special provincial government fund to assist victims of crime.

Background:

- On December 18, 2020, workers from H&N Roofing & Sheet Metal Limited were on the fifth-storey roof of a commercial building.
- They were doing roofing work around an opening in the roof that had been cut for a new air handling unit. The opening, which had been cut by another company on the project, was

approximately four feet by eight feet. The only item covering the opening at the time of the incident was Styrofoam insulation.

- One of the workers near the opening lost their footing, slipped and fell 15 feet through the opening to a concrete floor below. The worker had not been wearing any fall protection or head protection.
- By failing to ensure that the worker was adequately protected against falls and wearing a safety helmet, the company contravened sections 26.1(2) and 22 of [Ontario Regulation 213](#), contrary to section [25\(1\)\(c\)](#) of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.

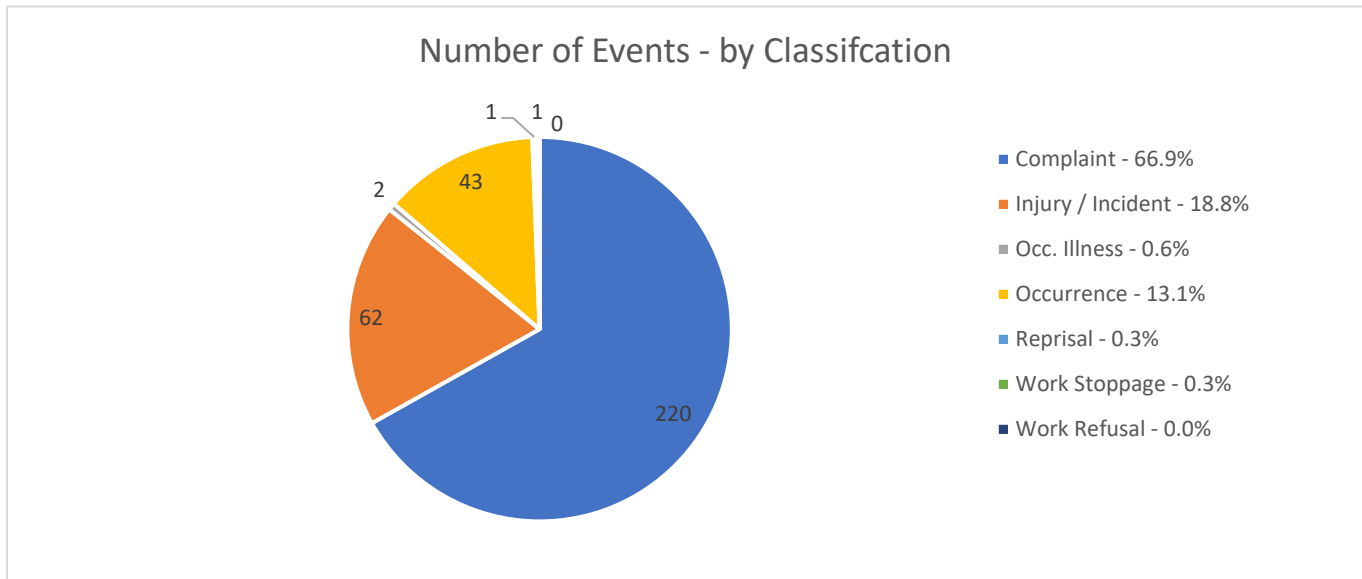
Considerations from a Root Cause point of view:

1. *Were workers aware of the opening cut out by another company?*
2. *Was there a handover or coordination meeting to identify one company had made the opening?*
3. *Was an assessment completed prior to the work that would have identified the lack of adequate covering.*
4. *Why was a proper floor covering not secured and marked?*
5. *What was the scope of the company who cut the opening?*

Court Bulletins can be found here: <https://news.ontario.ca/en>

Section 4 – Enforcement Trends – February 2024

MLITSD Construction Inspectors conducted 1,513 field visits at 1,196 workplaces during the month of February 2024. They responded to 329 **events*** throughout the province during that month and issued **283 Stop Work Orders****. Of those, 228 were issued during a pro-active inspection and 55 were issued during an investigation stemming from an event.



*Events consist of complaints, work refusals, critical injury, fatality, an occurrence, or injury as prescribed

**A stop work order is issued where imminent danger is observed at the time of inspection requiring the work to be stopped until the appropriate remedial action can be taken to make the situation safe for workers to work.

54% of all Part 1 tickets issued by MLITSD Construction Inspectors in February 2024, were in relation to either a **lack, or inadequate use, of fall protection equipment**. A disturbing trend this month is that the second most amount of Part 1 tickets issued were related to lack of protective headwear, accounting for 25%.

NOTE: Other contraventions where Part 1 Tickets were issued include all other requirements within O. Reg 213/91

Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development

Occupational Health and Safety Branch, Construction Health and Safety Program



Section 5 – Critical Injuries

Year-to-Date Overview and Comparison - Construction Sector

Injury Type	2024 February	2024 January 1 – February 29
Critical	28	47

Injury Type	2023 February	2023 January 1 – February 28
Critical	37	59

NOTE: These figures represent preliminary data and are not to be considered official statistics from the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. Official statistics will be issued quarterly by the Program Analysis, Evaluation and Outcomes Unit of the Occupational Health and Safety Branch of the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. Data are subject to change due to updates in the enforcement database. Only events reported to the ministry are included here. Except for fatalities, event categories in the ministry's data set are based on what was assigned at the time of the initial report to the ministry. The reported event category may not represent what occurred at the workplace.

February 2024

February 2024 CRITICALS	RESS	INST	RESM	INDU	ROAD	EXCA	COMM	NECC	RAIL	POWP	ETTL	HYDR	SEWW	BRID	TUNN	TELE	WIND	MARE	PAVE	GAS	MINP	PIPE	CAIS	TOTAL	
Falls from Heights	2		3	1			1																	7	
Falls From Equipment																									0
Falls from Ladders	1		4				2																		7
Same level slips and trips	1		1										1									1			4
Struck by equipment	1			1																					2
Struck by material			2	2								1													5
collapse of structure																									0
Electrical Contact																									0
Excavation Collapse																									0
Other, including multiple factors, i.e. fall resulting from scaffold being struck by equipment.	2		1																						3
TOTAL	7	0	11	4	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	28

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Year to Date 2024

Year to Date 2024	CRITCA	RESS	INST	RESM	INDU	ROAD	EXCA	COMM	NECC	RAIL	POWP	ETTL	HYDR	SEWW	BRID	TUNN	TELE	WIND	MARE	PAVE	GAS	MINP	PIPE	CAIS	TOTAL
Falls from Heights		6		4	1			1																	12
Falls From Equipment																									0
Falls from Ladders		3		4				2																	9
Same level slips and trips		2		4	3									1									1		11
Struck by equipment		2			1																				3
Struck by material		1		3	2								1			1									8
collapse of structure																									0
Electrical Contact																									0
Excavation Collapse																									0
Other, including multiple factors, i.e. fall resulting from scaffold being struck by equipment.		2		2																					4
TOTAL		16	0	17	7	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	47

NOTE: The YTD numbers have been adjusted to account for dual reporting on the same injury in the January 2024 report. Effected numbers include:

- RESS – one less Falls from Height – Reported in January as 5; actual number is 4
- RESM – one less Same Level Slips and Trips – Reported in January as 4; actual number is 3
- RESM – one less Struck by Material – Reported in January as 2; actual number is 1

Critical Injury Summary – February 2024

	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
1	February 2, 2024	Mississauga	Single Family Housing	Landscaper	Excavator ran over worker's foot causing fracture to left ankle	Struck by - Equipment
2	February 3, 2024	Milton	Single Family Housing	Worker	Fractured left ankle due to fall from stairs where handrail had been removed	Fall – From Height
3	February 5, 2024	Mississauga	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Worker	Loss of consciousness due to fall into deep hole	Fall – From Height

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	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
4	February 7, 2024	Burlington	Single Family Housing	Worker	Critical injury as a result of a fall from the roof	Fall – From Height
5	February 7, 2024	Ottawa	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Drywaller	Worker suffered loss of consciousness when struck by falling drywall	Struck by - Material
6	February 7, 2024	Mississauga	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Worker	Worker suffered loss of consciousness after a fall from ladder	Fall – From Ladder
7	February 7, 2024	Whitby	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Worker	Worker suffered fractured wrist after a fall from a ladder	Fall – From Ladder
8	February 7, 2024	Whitby	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Pipefitter	Worker fell after losing balance while carrying material ascending a ladder	Fall – From Ladder
9	February 7, 2024	East York	Hydro	Rigger	Fractured right wrist when struck by the load being lifted	Struck by – Material
10	February 8, 2024	Ottawa	Institutional Building Construction	Worker	Worker suffered fractured wrist after falling through open panel	Fall – From Height

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	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
11	February 12, 2024	Scarborough	Commercial Building Construction	Electrician	Fracture to leg as a result from a fall descending a ladder	Fall – Ladder
12	February 13, 2024	Markham	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Mason	Worker fell through planks of scaffold to ground, resulting in fractured leg	Fall – From Height
13	February 13, 2024	Grimsby	Institutional Building Construction	Skid Operator	Fractured arm while bracing himself from a sudden stop of the skid	Struck by - Equipment
14	February 13, 2024	Oakville	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Worker	Worker suffered fractured elbow after a fall ascending a ladder	Fall – From Ladder
15	February 14, 2024	Huntsville	Sewer/Watermain Construction	Worker	Multiple fractures to right ankle after tripping and falling down a set of stairs	Trip
16	February 14, 2024	Toronto	Commercial Building Construction	Drywaller	Fractured wrist as a result from falling from a baker's scaffold	Fall – From Height
17	February 14, 2024	Toronto	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Labourer	Worker suffered fractured wrist as a result of becoming	Fall – Same Level

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	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
					caught in rebar and falling to the ground	
18	February 16, 2024	Welland	Industrial Building Construction	Iron Worker	Worker struck by falling material while cutting steel L beam	Struck by - Material
19	February 21, 2024	Toronto	Industrial Building Construction	Labourer	Worker suffered fractured foot after losing control of material being passed from one level to another below	Struck by - Material
20	February 21, 2024	Ottawa	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Worker	Worker suffered loss of consciousness after falling approx. 3m	Fall – From Height
21	February 22, 2024	Toronto	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Worker	Worker injured knee while attempting to escape from a falling wall	Struck by - Material
22	February 22, 2024	Hamilton	Single Family Housing	Drywaller	Loss of consciousness, leading to a fall	Loss of Consciousness
23	February 23, 2024	Geraldton	Mining Plant Construction	Labourer	Worker lost consciousness after slipping on ice	Slip – Same Level

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	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
					while exiting his vehicle	
24	February 23, 2024	Newtonville	Single Family Housing	Welder	Worker suffered loss of consciousness likely brought on by fumes	Noxious Fumes
25	February 23, 2024	Toronto	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Worker	Loss of consciousness	Unknown
26	February 23, 2024	Clearwater Bay	Commercial Building Construction	Worker	Worker fell while transferring from a beam to a ladder, resulting in a fractured wrist	Fall – From Ladder
27	February 26, 2024	Mono	Single Family Housing	Worker	Worker set up ladder on ice, causing the ladder to slip and the worker to fall, resulting in fractured leg	Fall – From Ladder
28	February 27, 2024	Mississauga	Single Family Housing	Supervisor	Supervisor tripped over chain, causing him to fall down a few stairs, resulting in fractured left foot	Trip – Same Level

SECTOR DESCRIPTION	SHORT DESC
Asbestos Removal - Type 1	ASB1
Asbestos Removal - Type 2	ASB2
Asbestos Removal - Type 3	ASB3
Bridge Construction	BRID
Cable	CABL
Caisson	CAIS
Cofferdam	COFF
Commercial Building Construction	COMM
Diving Construction	DCON
Diving Environmental	DENV
Diving Industrial	DIND
Diving Mining	DMIN
Electrical Towers & Transmission Lines	ETTL
Excavation	EXCA
Gas Service Connection	GAS
Excavation - Grading	GRAD
Hydro	HYDR
Industrial Building Construction	INDU
Institutional Building Construction	INST
Marine Construction	MARE
Mining Plant Construction	MINP
Moving of a Building/Structure	MOVE
NEC – Construction (NEC: not elsewhere captured)	NECC
NEC – Diving (NEC: not elsewhere captured)	NECD
Asphalt Paving	PAVE
Pipeline	PIPE
Hydroelectric Power Plants & Rel	POWP
Railway	RAIL
Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	RESM
Single Family Housing	RESS
Highway & Road Construction	ROAD
Sewer/Watermain Construction	SEWW
Shaft Construction	SHAF
Shipbuilding & Repair	SHIP
Subway	SUBW
Telephone	TELE
Trenching	TREN
Tunnel	TUNN
Well Drilling	WELL

Window Cleaning Services	WIND
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