Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development

Occupational Health and Safety Branch - Construction Health and Safety Program

Report for the Labour-Management Network
May 2026

Monthly Statistics

Reporting Month	Fatalities	Critical Injuries	Total
March 2026	**1**	**34**	**35**

Fatality & Critical Injury Overview

Reporting Months	Fatalities	Critical Injuries	Total
Year to Date 2026	**3**	**99**	**102**

Resources to help you achieve compliance on construction projects and window cleaning operations

General requirements
Access to and egress from a work area
Asbestos on construction projects
Diving operations
Electrical hazards
Equipment
Excavations
Fall protection and roofing
Forms, formwork, falsework, and re-shoring
Housekeeping, fire protection, public way protection, traffic control, and hot tar or bitumen tankers or kettles
Hygiene
Window cleaning operations
Workplace Hazard Alerts I Ontario.ca

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

It's looking to be a busy year for legislative change as our Minister is spearheading health and safety harmonization across the provinces and territories. Already we've seen changes with respect to mobile elevating work platforms and hard hats. Work is underway on standards for construction entry level training and supervisor training. This is important work and may require changes to happen. It is an exciting time to be working in this field.

Construction Health and Safety Awareness week begins next week, and I was reflecting on what to say. I looked at the enforcement stats below and realized that in March alone, inspectors found over 450 contraventions that required stop work orders at the 1200+ projects they visited. It speaks to a lack of awareness on the part of supervisors being accountable and the importance of health and safety reps, JHSCs and WTC members speaking up for their members. Stop work orders address hazards that are immediately dangerous to workers, so it isn't that 450+ orders got written, it's that there were potentially 450 circumstances where workers were endangered. Please take next week and refocus on being aware that accepting a fault equals accepting that workers can be injured on a project. It should always be unacceptable.

Sincerely,

Chris Boccinfuso

A/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

May: Steps for Life

Each spring across Ontario, Steps for Life events raise awareness about the community impacts of workplace tragedies. These five-kilometre charity walks support Threads of Life, a Canadian charity committed to supporting people affected by workplace injury, illness or death, and preventing future tragedies from occurring.

Learn more or register for a walk

For the latest **What's New** – MLITSD articles, see: What's New!

Section 3 – Court Bulletin(s)

Construction Company Fined $60,000 After Workplace Fatality

Convicted: Hendrik Jan Van Ginkel Construction, 324943 Norwich Road, Norwich, Ontario.

Location of Workplace: A dairy farm located at 155532 15th Line, Thamesford, Ontario.

Description of Offence: A worker was fatally injured after falling from the roof of a barn under construction. The company failed to ensure the worker was using fall protection when exposed to the hazard of falling more than three metres, contrary to section 26.1(2) of Ontario Regulation 213/91 as required by section 25(1)(c) of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.

Date of Offence: December 7, 2023

Date of Conviction: March 5, 2026

Penalty Imposed:

- Following a guilty plea in the Ontario Provincial Offences Court in in Woodstock, the company was fined $60,000 by Justice of the Peace Anne-Marie Tymec; Crown Counsel was Graeme Adams.
- 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 7, 2023, the company was constructing a barn on a farm in Thamesford.

- A worker contracted by the company was installing strapping across roof trusses on the barn. They were positioned approximately 30 feet above ground level, above the truss framing.
- While performing this work, the worker fell through the truss framing to the ground below and sustained fatal injuries.
- The worker was not using any method of fall protection at the time of the incident, despite fall protection equipment being available onsite.
- The company did not assign a supervisor or provide formal safety talks on this project, and although it had a written policy, no formal fall protection procedures were implemented at the time of the incident.
- Following the incident, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development issued orders, including stop work orders, requiring the company to implement fall protection measures and develop a rescue plan, which were complied with.

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

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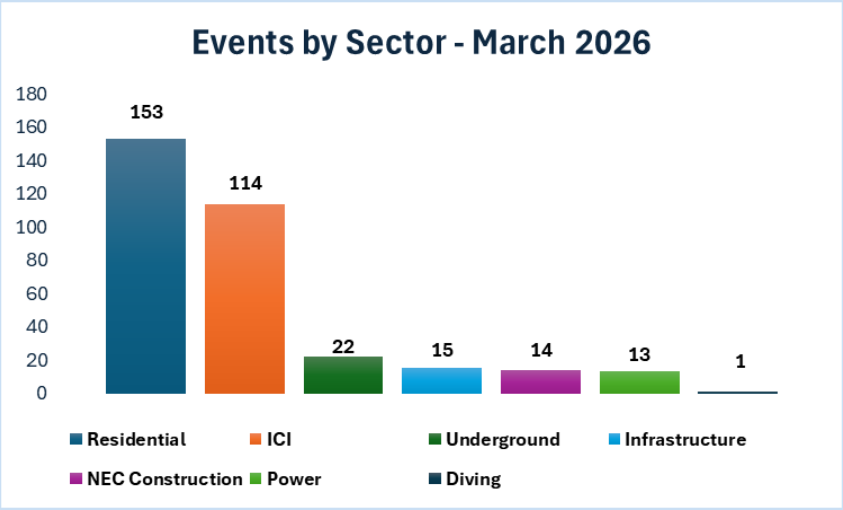
Section 4 – Enforcement Results and Trends – March 2026

MLITSD Construction Inspectors conducted **2,160** field visits to **1,283** workplaces during the month of March 2026 resulting in **3,606** total enforcement actions, which includes **277** Stop Work Orders accompanied by **452** Time Unknown Orders.

Most common enforcement actions under O.Reg.213/91

Fall Protection	411	
PPE (excl. Section 26)	374	
Housekeeping	207	
Emerg. Mgmt.	166	
Stairs	159	
Scaffolding	159	
Access / Egress	131	
Ladders	129	
Fire Safety	126	
Equipment, General	118	
Sub-Total	**1,980**	**72.1%**
NOP and Registration Forms	287	10.4%
Sub-Total	**2,267**	**82.5%**
All Other Sections	481	17.5%
TOTAL	**2,748**	**100%**



Events by Classification (not including BOSTA)	
Complaints	232
Injuries/Incidents	62
Occurrences	34
Occupational Illness	1
Work Refusal	0
Work Stoppage	0
Reprisal	1

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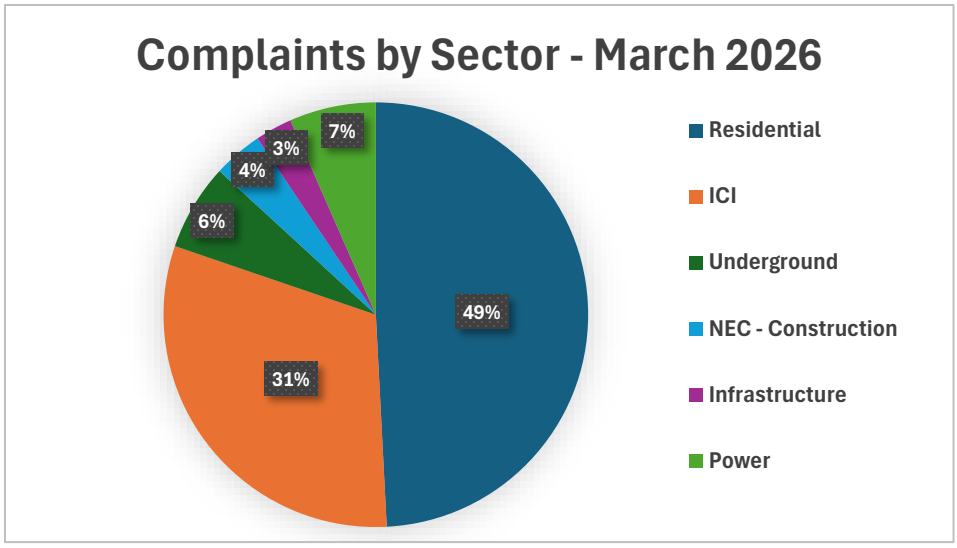

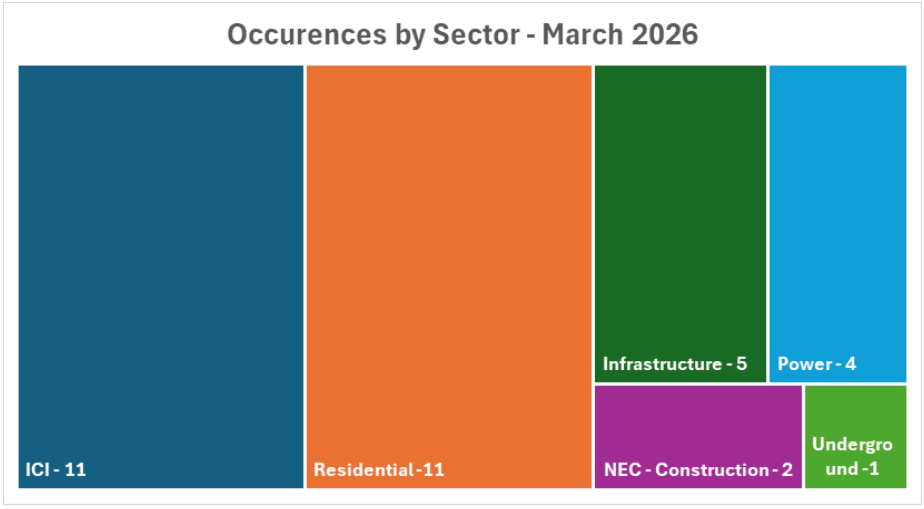

OHSA S.53 - Occurrence means:

Accident, premature or unexpected explosion, fire, flood or inrush of water, failure of any equipment, machine, device, article or thing, cave-in, subsidence, rockburst, or other prescribed incident occurs at a project.

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Section 5 – Critical Injuries & Fatalities:

Year-to-Date Overview and Comparison

Fatal Injuries	March 2026	Year to Date 2026
	1	**3**
	March 2025	Year to Date 2025
	1	5

Fatalities – Year to Date 2026

Year to Date 2026 FATALS	RESM	NECC	Total
Falls from Ladders	1		1
Other, including multiple factors, i.e. fall resulting from scaffold being struck by equipment.		2	2
TOTAL	**1**	**2**	**3**

Fatality Summary – March 2026

	Date of Incident	Municipality (Where incident occurred)	Sector (Refer to Sector Description Table)	Occupation (Of Injured Person)	Details (As reported at the time of incident)	Category (Initial Cause as reported)
3	**March 18, 2026**	**Erieau**	**Diving**	**Diver**	**Worker asphyxiated during a dive.**	**NEC - Construction**
2	February 20, 2026	Spencerville	Residential Building Construction	Siding Installer	Worker fell from a ladder on Feb. 20, 2026, and succumbed to their injuries	Fall – From Ladder

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	Date of Incident	**Municipality** (Where incident occurred)	**Sector** (Refer to Sector Description Table)	**Occupation** (Of Injured Person)	**Details** (As reported at the time of incident)	**Category** (Initial Cause as reported)
					on Feb 24, 2026	
1	January 26, 2026	Hamilton	Ship Building and Repair	Skid Steer Operator	Worker drowned after the skid steer he was operating to clear snow was submerged in water.	NEC - Construction

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Critical Injuries	March 2026	Year to Date 2026
As defined in S.1(1) of O.Reg. 420/21 – Notices and Reports Under Sections 51 to 53 of the Act – Fatalities, Critical Injuries, Occupational Illnesses and Other Incidents	**34**	**99**
	March 2025	Year to Date 2025
	28	71

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.

Critical Injuries – March 2026

March 2026 CRITICALS	RESS	INST	RESM	INDU	ROAD	EXCA	COMM	RAIL	POWP	ETTL	SEWW	MINP		TOTAL
Falls From Equipment			1				1							**2**
Falls from Ladders	1	2	1				1							**5**
Same level slips and trips	2	2	1	2	1						1	1		**10**
Struck by equipment					1			1						**2**
Struck by material			1	2				2		1				**6**
Other, including multiple factors, i.e. fall resulting from scaffold being struck by equipment.		1	3	1		2			1		1			**9**
TOTAL	**3**	**5**	**7**	**5**	**2**	**2**	**2**	**3**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**1**		**34**

Critical Injuries – Year to Date 2026

Year to Date 2026 CRIT	RESS	INST	RESM	INDU	ROAD	EXCA	COMM	NECC	RAIL	POWP	ETTL	HYDR	SEWW	MINP		TOTAL
Falls from Heights	1		4				2	1				1				**9**
Falls From Equipment	2	1	1				3			1						**8**
Falls from Ladders	2	2	4				4									**12**
Same level slips and tri	4	3	7	9	1	1	2	2		1	1		2	1		**34**
Struck by equipment					2	1			1							**4**
Struck by material	1	3	3	3			1		2	1	1	1				**16**
Other, including multiple factors, i.e. fall resulting from scaffold being struck by equipment.	1	1	3	4	1	2	1	1		1			1			**16**
							0									
TOTAL	**11**	**10**	**22**	**16**	**4**	**4**	**13**	**4**	**3**	**4**	**2**	**2**	**3**	**1**		**99**

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	Date of Incident	Municipality (Where incident occurred)	Sector (Refer to Sector Description Table)	Occupation (Of Injured Person)	Details (As reported at the time of incident)
Fall – Same Level (10)					
1	March 1, 2026	Dubreuilville	Mining Plant Construction	Labourer	Worker suffered broken wrist after falling while walking backwards.
2	March 3, 2026	Etobicoke	Industrial Building Construction	Worker	Worker suffered broken leg after slipping on ice.
3	March 6, 2026	Richmond Hill	Single Family Housing	Drywaller	Worker suffered broken ankle after tripping and a landing.
4	March 17, 2026	Toronto	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Worker	Worker suffered broken leg after falling while descending a ramp.
5	March 19, 2026	Barrie	Industrial Building Construction	Worker	Worker suffered broken arm after tripping over a tarp.
6	March 19, 2026	Ottawa	Single Family Housing	Operator	Worker tripped over retracting hose while refueling the excavator.
7	March 20, 2026	Orillia	Institutional Building Construction	Worker	Worker suffered fracture to spine after slipping on ice.
8	March 24, 2026	Ottawa	Highway & Road Construction	Worker	Worker suffered a broken foot after slipping on roadway.
9	March 25, 2026	Ottawa	Institutional Building Construction	Foreman	Worker suffered broken ankle after tripping in poured concrete.

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	Date of Incident	**Municipality** (Where incident occurred)	**Sector** (Refer to Sector Description Table)	**Occupation** (Of Injured Person)	**Details** (As reported at the time of incident)
10	March 30, 2026	Thornhill	Sewer / Watermain Construction	Worker	Worker suffered broken arm after falling on stairs to the site trailer.
NEC – Construction (9)					
1	March 9, 2026	Markham	Institutional Building Construction	Worker	Worker suffered a broken leg after getting into an altercation with another worker.
2	March 12, 2026	Carleton Place	Sewer / Watermain Construction	Worker	Worker lost consciousness after being struck by hose he was disconnecting.
3	March 16, 2026	Milton	Excavation	Worker (1)	Worker lost consciousness after entering a sewer.
4	March 16, 2026	Milton	Excavation	Worker (2)	Worker lost consciousness after entering sewer attempting to rescue the first.
5	March 16, 2026	Kitchener	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Labourer	Worker suffered broken ankle after jumping off loading dock of the building under construction.
6	March 17, 2026	Toronto	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Operator	Worker lost consciousness.
7	March 25, 2026	Tiverton	Hydroelectric Power Plants & Rel	Forklift Operator	Worker suffered fractured leg/kneecap after contacting the forks while attempting to kick them into place.

	Date of Incident	Municipality (Where incident occurred)	Sector (Refer to Sector Description Table)	Occupation (Of Injured Person)	Details (As reported at the time of incident)
8	March 30, 2026	North York	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Forklift Operator	Worker suffered head and broken ankle after being ejected from the forklift and pinned under it.
9	March 30, 2026	Peterborough	Institutional Building Construction	Rigger	Worker suffered broken ankle after jumping from a ladder to avoid contact from an uncontrolled load.
Struck By – Material (6)					
1	March 6, 2026	Atikokan	Electrical Towers & Transmission Lines	Form Worker	Worker suffered broken ankle while cutting a piece of foundation, contacting his foot.
2	March 17, 2026	Port Colborne	Industrial Building Construction	Forklift Operator	Worker suffered broken leg when an unsecured load fell from the forks, contacting his leg.
3	March 20, 2026	Etobicoke	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Drywaller	Worker lost consciousness after being struck in the head.
4	March 24, 2026	Scarborough	Industrial Building Construction	Worker	Worker suffered fractured hand after attempting to stop a valve from falling from a cart.
5	March 24, 2026	Mississauga	Railway	Worker	Worker suffered multiple fractured fingers after getting hand caught.
6	March 27, 2026	Bowmanville	Railway	Worker	Worker suffered life threatening injuries after being

	Date of Incident	**Municipality** (Where incident occurred)	**Sector** (Refer to Sector Description Table)	**Occupation** (Of Injured Person)	**Details** (As reported at the time of incident)
					struck in the chest by a large wood pylon.
Fall – From Ladder (5)					
1	March 10, 2026	Toronto	Commercial Building Construction	Electrician	Worker fell from a ladder while installing cables, resulting in a broken arm.
2	March 14, 2026	Toronto	Institutional Building Construction	Welder	Worker suffered critical injury after falling from top step of a step ladder.
3	March 20, 2026	Brampton	Institutional Building Construction	Worker	Worker suffered loss of consciousness after falling from a ladder.
4	March 23, 2026	Pickering	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Worker	Worker suffered fractures to both ankles and one wrist after falling from a ladder.
5	March 27, 2026	Bracebridge	Single Family Housing	Worker	Worker suffered broken wrist after misstep on a ladder and falling to the ground.
Struck By – Equipment (2)					
1	March 5, 2026	Ajax	Excavation - Grading	Worker	Worker suffered fracture to arm after being struck by the excavator as the bucket swung.
2	March 9, 2026	Toronto	Railway	Form Worker	Worker suffered multiple fractured fingers after his hand was caught between forms.
Fall – From Equipment (2)					

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	Date of Incident	**Municipality** (Where incident occurred)	**Sector** (Refer to Sector Description Table)	**Occupation** (Of Injured Person)	**Details** (As reported at the time of incident)
1	March 6, 2026	Windsor	Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	Pipefitter	Worker suffered a broken ankle after falling from the flatbed while attempting to unload pipe.
2	March 10, 2026	Hamilton	Commercial Building Construction	Labourer	Worker fell of stage while walking backwards, resulting in life threatening injuries.

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Sector Classification	Sub-Sector Description	Code
Residential	Apartment and Other Multiple Housing	RESM
	High Rise (10+ storeys)	RESM
	Low-Rise (less than 4 storeys)	RESM
	Medium Rise (4 to 9 storeys)	RESM
	Residential Construction	RESM
	Single Family Housing	RESS
ICI	Commercial Building Construction	COMM
	Industrial Building Construction	INDU
	Institutional Building Construction	INST
Underground	Caisson	CAIS
	Cofferdam	COFF
	Excavation	EXCA
	Pipeline	PIPE
	Sewer / Watermain	SEWW
	Shaft Construction	SHAF
	Subway	SUBW
	Trenching	TREN
	Tunnel	TUNN
	Well Drilling	WELL
Infrastructure	Asphalt Paving	PAVE
	Bridge Construction	BRID
	Excavation – Grading	GRAD
	Highway and Road Construction	ROAD
	Railway	RAIL
Power	Cable	CABL
	Electrical Towers and Transmission Lines	ETTL
	Gas Service Connection	GAS
	Hydro	HYDR
	Hydroelectric Power Plants	POWP
Diving	Construction	DCON
	Environmental	DENV
	Film and Television	DFTV
	Industrial	DIND
	Mining	DMIN
	Scientific	DSCI
Marine	Marine Construction	MARE
	Shipbuilding and Repair	SHIP
NEC – Construction	Asbestos – Type I	ASB1
	Asbestos – Type II	ASB2
	Asbestos – Type III	ASB3
	Mining Plant Construction	MINP
	Moving of a Building / Structure	MOVE
	Telephone	TELE
	Window Cleaning Services	WIND