

# Report for the Labour-Management Network, August 2020



## Reporting Month Statistics

Reporting Month	Fatalities	Critical Injuries	Total
June 1 - 30, 2020	0	25	25

Reporting Month	Fatalities	Critical Injuries	Total
June 1 - 30, 2019	2	31	33

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

Injury Type	2020 January 1 – June 30	2019 January 1 – June 30
Fatal	8	5
Critical	121	148

**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.

### Provincial Coordinator's Comment

In the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, construction sites took precautions and public health recommendations seriously. We saw constructors implement active and passive screening programs on sites, workers took hand hygiene seriously and most workplace parties tried to physically distance where possible or employed some form of masking when not. As time has gone on though, I have heard and personally observed workers working in close proximity or just standing around talking with no attempt to physically distance or employ any form of masking control.

Most of the province is entering stage 3 of the reopening plan, and this can be directly attributed to how seriously we took the precautions in the early stages of the pandemic. Now is not the time to relax our efforts in stopping the spread of this virus.

Screening, hand hygiene, physical distancing and worker instruction and training are still the primary safe guards that need to be in place on every project. This is critical to our continued success. Screening programs and adequate washroom and clean up facilities are non-negotiable on all construction sites. However, physical distancing remains a challenge in construction. Many tasks on projects require two or more workers due to the materials and techniques used. This is where risk assessments become necessary to determine the correct level of worker protection.

Some projects have elected to adopt a universal masking policy as a form of source control. **Please note: universal masking does not negate the need for screening and hygiene measures, nor is it a substitute for physical distancing.** While in some situations this could be appropriate, in others, it may not. Where workers are working outside in an open-air environment and physical distancing cannot be maintained, non-medical masking or face coverings may be appropriate as the mask will contain or capture droplets of the workers wearing the mask. A risk assessment may identify tasks where PPE may be the choice of control such as tasks that require high physical exertion, highly dusty/dirty environments or

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interactions with owners of projects not wearing any form of mask. PPE would include a mask that is rated for at least droplet exposure but would also need to address any other respiratory hazards as well as eye protection. Eye protection is often included with the wearing of a mask for PPE and is required as the virus can spread through the transmission of droplets to any mucous membrane. Additional considerations could include potential interactions with the public as well as working in communities with a higher-than-average rate of infection. All these considerations need to be considered when conducting each risk assessment at a workplace.

Please take these precautions seriously. Our continued success depends on everyone's diligence in stopping the spread.

Sincerely,

Brian Barron

Provincial Coordinator (A)  
Construction Health and Safety Program  
Occupational Health and Safety Branch

Ontario Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

## Section 2 – What's New

### [Ontario releases guide on how to develop a workplace safety plan](#)

The Ontario government has provided employers with a new general workplace guide, which will help them develop a safety plan to better protect workers, customers and clients. The downloadable toolkit offers tips on how to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 as more people get back on the job during the reopening of the province.

[Read more](#)

### [Ontario launches online training to promote safe workplaces](#)

As the province safely and gradually reopens, the Ontario government is investing \$3 million to provide free online health and safety training to job seekers for the first time. These virtual courses will make it easier for job seekers to get essential qualifications, while practising physical distancing and preventing the spread of COVID-19.

[Read more](#)

### [Ontario updates occupational exposure limits to hazardous chemicals](#)

On July 1 new or revised occupational exposure limits or listings for 36 chemical substances came into force under Regulation 833 (Control of Exposure to Biological or Chemical Agents) of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* (OHSA).

[View substance list](#) | [View all occupational exposure limits](#)

For more what's **new** – Ministry of Labour articles, see: [What's New!](#)

## Section 3 – Court Bulletins

**\*\*\*As the courts have been closed, there are no new bulletins\*\*\***

## Section 4 – Critical Injuries

### Critical Injuries

#### Year-to-Date Overview and Comparison - Construction Sector

Injury Type	2020 June 1 – 30	2020 January 1 – June 30
Critical	25	121

Injury Type	2019 June 1 – 30	2019 January 1 – June 30
Critical	31	148

*NOTE: These figures represent preliminary data and are not to be considered official statistics from the Ministry of Labour, 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, Training and Skills Development.*

### REPORTING MONTH: June 1 - 30, 2020 (25)

### Monthly Summary Report: Critical

*NOTE: 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 actually occurred at the workplace.*

# Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

Occupational Health and Safety Branch

Construction Health and Safety Program



SECTOR	REPORTED CAUSE	FALL	STRUCK BY	ELECTRICAL CONTACT	EXCAVATION COLLAPSE	OTHER	MONTH	YEAR
RESS		3	3		1		7	26
INST		1	1				3	10
RESM		1	2				3	28
INDU		2					2	8
ROAD			2				2	5
EXCA								1
COMM		2					2	19
MINP								1
NECC								2
RAIL		1	1				2	7
POWP								1
GRAD								1
SHIP								1
SHAF								1
CAIS								1
GAS			1				1	2
ETTL								1
HYDR		1					1	2
PAVE								1
SEWW	1					1	1	
BRID	1					1	1	
TUNN	1					1	1	
<b>MONTH</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>122</b>
<b>YEAR</b>		<b>78</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>		

**Critical Injuries:**

**Totals: June 1-30, 2020 (25)**

# Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

Occupational Health and Safety Branch



Construction Health and Safety Program

	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Age	Details (as reported to MOL)	Reported Cause
1	01-Jun-20	Toronto	RAIL			Worker suffered fractured knee after fall from scaffold	FALL
2	02-Jun-20	Scarborough	RESS			Worker suffers lacerations due to contact with circular saw blade	STUCK BY
3	02-Jun-20	Toronto	RESM			Worker tripped on step and fractured left knee	FALL
4	05-Jun-20	Blind River	ROAD			Worker's leg caught between two pieces of material causing fracture to right leg	STRUCK BY
5	09-Jun-20	Scarborough	RAIL			Worker suffers fracture to leg when struck by dislodged material	STRUCK BY
6	09-Jun-20	Ottawa	COMM			Worker fell from baker scaffold causing fracture to left arm	FALL

# Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

Occupational Health and Safety Branch



Construction Health and Safety Program

	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Age	Details (as reported to MOL)	Reported Cause
7	09-Jun-20	Ottawa	RESS			Worker suffered broken leg when accessing excavation to retrieve PPE	FALL
8	09-Jun-20	Niagara	RESS			Worker suffered fractures to legs when stairs they were using detached from structure	FALL
9	09-Jun-20	North York	INDU			Worker tripped at a project and suffered a fracture to wrist	FALL
10	10-Jun-20	Mississauga	ROAD			Worker struck by vehicle on project suffers fracture to foot	STRUCK BY
11	10-Jun-20	Dorchester	SEWW			Worker suffered fractured femur during fall from ladder	FALL

# Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

Occupational Health and Safety Branch



Construction Health and Safety Program

	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Age	Details (as reported to MOL)	Reported Cause
12	11-Jun-20	Vaughan	INST			Worker tripped causing fractures to wrist and elbow	FALL
13	16-Jun-20	Markham	RESS			Worker critically injured during excavation collapse	EXCAVATION COLLAPSE
14	17-Jun-20	Clarksburg	RESS			Worker suffers multiple fractures to hand when caught between equipment and materials	STRUCK BY
15	18-Jun-20	Moore	INDU			Worker fractures right arm after tripping at project	FALL
16	18-Jun-20	North York	BRID			Worker slipped on gravel causing fracture to fibula	FALL
17	18-Jun-20	Kincardine	GAS			Supervisor suffers fracture to right knee when struck by materials	STRUCK BY

# Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

Occupational Health and Safety Branch



Construction Health and Safety Program

	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Age	Details (as reported to MOL)	Reported Cause
18	18-Jun-20	Scarborough	HYDR			Worker tripped causing fracture to wrist	FALL
19	22-Jun-20	Port Hope	RESS	Roofer		Worker fell from roof causing fracture to left leg	FALL
20	22-Jun-20	North York	RESM			Worker suffers loss of consciousness after being struck by hoisted materials	STUCK BY
21	23-Jun-20	Etobicoke	TUNN			Worker slipped from transport causing fracture to right elbow	FALL
22	23-Jun-20	Ottawa	INST			Worker's left foot is fractured when materials tipped over striking worker	STUCK BY
23	26-Jun-20	North York	COMM			Worker fell while dismantling stairs causing fracture to right leg	FALL

# Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

Occupational Health and Safety Branch



Construction Health and Safety Program

	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Age	Details (as reported to MOL)	Reported Cause
24	26-Jun-20	Aurora	RESS			Worker struck by equipment causing fracture to left leg	STRUCK BY
25	30-Jun-30	Toronto	RESM			Worker fell from ladder causing materials to strike worker, fracturing ankle	STRUCK BY

## Section 5 – Fatal Injuries

Fatal Injuries

Year-to-Date Overview and Comparison - Construction Sector

Injury Type	2020 June 1 – 30	2020 January 1 – June 30
Fatal	0	8

Injury Type	2019 June 1 – 30	2019 January 1 – June 30
Fatal	2	5

Monthly Summary Report – Fatal June 1 – 30, 2020 – (0)

Total Year-to-Date Fatal Injuries: January 1 – June 30, 2020 (8)

SECTOR	RE P O R T	FALL	STRUCK BY	ELECTRICAL CONTACT	EXCAVATION COLLAPSE	MONTH	YEAR
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# Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

Occupational Health and Safety Branch



## Construction Health and Safety Program

RESS						4
COMM						1
EXCA						1
INDU						1
RESM						1
<b>MONTH</b>						<b>8</b>
<b>YEAR</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>				

	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Age	Details (as reported to MOL)	Reported Cause
1	8-Jan-20	C.West	RESS	Private Contractor	46	Worker fell from ladder while installing security camera	FALL
2	20-Jan-20	C.West	RESS	Gas Fitter	62	Worker fell from ladder while installing gas line at residential project	FALL
3	10-Feb-20	Pickering	RESM	Carpenter	33	Worker struck by collapsing formwork	Struck By
4	28-Feb-20	Toronto	EXCA	Labourer	32	Worker struck by falling piece of equipment during repair	Struck By

# Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

## Occupational Health and Safety Branch



### Construction Health and Safety Program

5	04-Mar-20	Markham	RESS	Carpenter	55	Worker fell from ladder	FALL
6	04-Mar-20	Toronto	RESS	Roofer	25	Worker fell from roof	FALL
7	06-Mar-20	Windsor	COMM	Labourer	55	Worker struck by limb during tree removal at project	STRUCK BY
8	13-Mar-20	Toronto	INDU	Labourer	55	Worker crushed while on elevating work platform	STRUCK BY

All new entries (current month and reconciled data) appear in **bold**.

NOTE: Some detail will inevitably be missing from the PLMHSC Report. The document is intended to provide an initial overview, not a comprehensive report. Annual data reporting approved by the Director should be used by stakeholders if they wish to see all data available to the Ministry related to an event.

# Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

## Occupational Health and Safety Branch

### Construction Health and Safety Program



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	NECC
NEC - Diving	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