

**MINISTRY OF LABOUR  
CONSTRUCTION HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAM  
CRITICALS  
WESTERN REGION  
2009**

NOTE: The Occupational Health and Safety Act defines "**critically injured**" as an injury of serious nature that,

- a) places life in jeopardy;
- b) produces unconsciousness;
- c) results in substantial loss of blood;
- d) involves the fracture of a leg or arm but not a finger or toe;
- e) involves the amputation of a leg, arm, hand or foot but not a finger or a toe;
- f) consists of burns to a major portion of the body; or
- g) causes the loss of sight in an eye.

January 19, 2009 – A worker sustained a critical injury when he **fell** approximately 22 feet from a residential roof in Burlington. The worker slipped and fell while clearing snow from the roof.

January 26, 2009 – An employee of a roofing company was **struck by** a vehicle in Oakville. The worker sustained critical injuries.

January 27, 2009 – A worker sustained critical injuries when **struck** in the right eye by a nail that rebounded when struck by his hammer. The incident occurred at a residential project in Milton.

January 28, 2009 – A worker lost consciousness due to carbon monoxide poisoning while using a gas-powered trowel to finish a concrete floor in the basement of a new house being built in Kitchener.

February 18, 2009 – A worker **fell** 7 -8 feet from a ladder at a residential project in Guelph and sustained a fractured right leg.

February 19, 2009 – A worker sustained a broken right arm after tripping on uneven frozen earth and falling to the ground at a commercial project in Ancaster.

February 24, 2009 – A worker in an elevating work platform sustained critical injuries when he was crushed between the platform and an open web steel joist at an industrial project in Kitchener.

February 25, 2009 – A worker sustained critical **burns** when the electrical panel he was working on exploded. The incident occurred at a commercial project in Windsor.

March 4, 2009 – A worker sustained critical injuries when he **fell** 11.5 feet from the roof of a new house under construction in Oakville.

March 12, 2009 – A worker sustained a broken right leg after slipping on ice at a residential project in Cambridge.

April 1, 2009 – A worker sustained a broken right lower leg when he slipped of a ramp to the a new house under construction in Milton.

April 30, 2009 – A worker was declared legally blind in his right eye after a piece of steel got caught in it. The worker was installing a fibre gasket with self tapping screws. The worker did not report it and did not receive medical attention right away allowing an infection to set in. The incident happened at an ICI project in Thorold

May 2, 2009 – Two workers were knocked unconscious at a residential project in Burlington when the block firewall they had just constructed was blown down onto them by the wind.

May 3, 2009 – A worker sustained a broken right leg when he **fell** 22 feet while getting onto a ladder from the roof of a residential re-shingling project in Hamilton

May 4, 2009 – A worker sustained a broken lower left leg when he **fell** 11 feet while installing siding on a gable of a residential project in Kitchener.

May 5, 2009 – A worker sustained a broken right leg while in a trench. A large piece of clay rolled off of the spoil pile at the top of the excavation and into the trench striking the worker's leg. It was a sewer/watermain project in Waterloo.

May 11, 2009 – A worker sustained a broken left lower leg when he fell 8'2" off of a foundation wall while measuring the beam pockets. The wall was on a residential project in Kitchener.

May 12, 2009 – A worker lost consciousness when he **fell** 8 feet at a residential project in Cambridge. The worker was installing siding from the roof of the project when he fell.

May 13, 2009 – A young worker was knocked unconscious when he **fell** 20 feet while on a residential re-roof project in Georgetown. The worker also sustained two broken wrists, a broken ankle, a concussion and other internal injuries

May 14, 2009 – A worker **fell** 9 feet while washing windows at a residential house in Elora. The worker was knocked unconscious and suffered severe head injuries.

May 25, 2009 – A worker was knocked unconscious when a six foot high by 24 foot long wall form fell on him. The worker was removing wall ties when the form fell over. The worker sustained no other injuries.

May 28, 2009 – A worker was knocked unconscious when he **fell** 8 feet from a ladder. The worker was unrolling a roll of roofing felt along the eave of a residential re-roofing project in Fort Erie when he fell.

June 5, 2009 – A worker was knocked unconscious when he **fell** 11'2" when the roof jack he was working from failed at a residential re-roofing project in Simcoe. The worker sustained massive head injuries a broken clavicle, broken ribs and a collapsed lung.

June 12, 2009 – A worker was knocked unconscious when he grabbed the hook of a crane that was touching a 4.8kV overhead line. The worker was attempting to help another worker unhook the crane from a cofferdam panel at a civil project in Port Dover. Both workers and the crane operator were unaware that the crane was in contact with the line.

June 16, 2009 – A worker was knocked unconscious when the ladder he was moving made contact with a 4.8kV overhead power line. The worker was in the process of setting up the ladder for a residential roof repair in Paris when he made contact.

June 30, 2009 – A worker broke his arm when he fell 12 feet at a residential roofing project in Woodslee.

July 1, 2009 – A worker broke his right forearm when it was pinned between the tongue framing of a trailer and the underside of the dump box from the dump truck that the trailer was attached to at a residential project in Grimsby. The worker unhooked the trailer from the dump truck as the bulldozer, that was on the trailer, was exiting the trailer. The weight of the bulldozer caused the trailer to pivot on its wheels forcing the tongue of the trailer to rise crushing the workers arm.

July 10, 2009 – A young worker broke his leg when he **fell** 20 feet to the ground at a residential roofing project in Belle River. The young worker and another worker were working on the roof from roof jacks when one of the roof jacks failed causing the board they were standing on the fall off the roof. Both workers sustained injuries, however only one of them was considered critical.

July 14, 2009 – A self employed worker suffered paralysis from his chest down caused by a broken back along with broken ribs, right wrist and scapula at a project in Mildmay.

July 28, 2009 – A worker broke his lower right arm while pumping concrete for a new inground spa in Oakville. The worker was in the process of testing the consistency of the concrete by sticking his arm in the agitator of the pump truck when his arm was caught up in the mechanism.

July 28, 2009 – A worker broke his lower left leg when he slipped coming back from lunch at an ICI project in Guelph

August 1, 2009 – A worker lost consciousness when he **fell** 11.5 feet to the ground at a residential roofing project in Niagara Falls. The worker was not wearing fall protection.

August 6, 2009 – A worker broke his upper left leg when he **fell** from a six foot high baker's scaffold. The worker was in the process of climbing a ladder on the scaffold when his knee gave out causing him to fall at an ICI project in St. Thomas.

August 13, 2009 – A worker sustained a broken upper left leg and right ankle when he **fell** 9 feet. The worker was walking on formwork that had been erected for 6 days when the corner he stepped on lifted causing the panel to shift and the worker fell through to the ground.

August 20, 2009 - A young worker broke his upper leg and both ankles when he **fell** 20 feet from a roof. The worker was reproofing an industrial building with steel roofing when one of the existing sheets that had just been unscrewed was blown and hit the worker at the edge causing him to fall.

August 22, 2009 – A worker broke his lower leg and ankle while operating an elevating work platform at an ICI project in Hamilton. The worker was attempting to drive the elevating work platform over a washed out section of road when he hit a bump catapulting him up in the bucket. When he landed back in the bucket he sustained the injuries.

August 31, 2009 – A worker lost consciousness when he rolled his excavator down a 4ft high embankment while removing a road at a project in Silver Lake.

September 4, 2009 – A worker lost consciousness when he **fell** 111 inches through the basement stair opening. The worker was in the process of guiding roof trusses suspended by a crane when he stepped on an unsupported floor covering over the first floor stair opening.

September 14, 2009 – A worker suffered a broken arm when he **fell** 12 feet while applying stucco to a residential project in Burlington. The worker was working from an upside down ladder when it slid out.

September 15, 2009 – A worker suffered severe burns to 25% of his body when the house he was working in experienced an explosion. The worker was in the process of refinishing hard wood floors in an existing residence when the product he was using ignited at a project in Fort Erie.

September 23, 2009 – A worker lost consciousness when he **fell** 20feet at a residential project in Strathroy. The worker was in the process of installing roof trusses over the garage when they let go knocking him to the ground.

September 28, 2009 – A worker sustained a serious injury to his arm resulting in a substantial loss of blood while working at a residential project in Brantford. The worker was in the process of trimming floor joists with a skil saw when the sleeve of his sweatshirt became entangled cutting his arm.

October 1, 2009 – A worker lost consciousness when he **fell** 13 feet at a residential roofing project in Port Stanley.

October 8, 2009 – A worker sustained a broken leg and ankle when he fell over 20 feet at a residential project in Maryhill. The worker was in the process of unloading a delivery of shingles when he fell.

October 9, 2009 – A worker was knocked unconscious when he slipped on wet ground while carrying a concrete form at an institutional project in Guelph.

October 16, 2009 – A worker's chest was impaled with a piece of wood at a project in the Town of the Blue Mountains. The worker was in the process of feeding 1" pine planks into a table saw when the cut off strip shot out of the blade area and into the workers chest injuring his heart.

October 22, 2009 – A worker was knocked unconscious when the back of a loader swung around and hit him. The loader was in the process of picking up a log on a project in Chatham when the incident occurred.

October 22, 2009 – A worker was knocked unconscious when he fell 6 feet from a ladder. The worker was in the process of descending a ladder when the ladder broke in half causing the worker to hit his head on the sidewalk below at a project in London.

October 26, 2009 – A worker had his leg crushed between the counterweights of a tower crane at an ICI project in Guelph. The worker was in the process of receiving two counter weights of the tower crane being dismantled when one of the weights made contact with the ground and swung around crushing his leg between the two 10,000 pound weights. The workers leg was later amputated.

October 28, 2009 – A worker sustained a broken right leg when he fell 12 feet at a residential project in London. The worker was in climbing the ladder when he fell.

October 29, 2009 – A worker was knocked unconscious when the bakers scaffold he was working on collapsed. The worker was performing drywall work when the work platform collapsed causing him to strike his face on the ground at an ICI project in Stratford.

November 2, 2009 – A worker broke his left arm when the forklift he was using overturned pinning his arm. The worker was working at a wind turbine project in Ridgetown

November 4, 2009 – A worker lost consciousness and sustained a broken pelvis and shoulder when he tripped on a piece of tar paper and fell off a roof at a project in Guelph.

November 05, 2009 – A worker lost consciousness when the tip of his finger was cut off between the dump box and the gate of a dump truck at an commercial project in Chatham.

November 5, 2009 – A worker lost consciousness and sustained serious head injuries when an implement shed in the framing stages collapsed at a farm project in Ancaster.

November 11, 2009 – A worker lost consciousness when the scissor lift he was working on fell apart and tipped over. The scissor lift was stopped by an auger. The work was at an ICI project in Chatham-Kent.

December 2, 2009 – A worker broke his right forearm when he fell 7 to 8 feet off of a ladder at a residential project in London. The worker was in the process of of kicking mud off of his boots while on the ladder at the time of the fall.

December 4, 2009 – A worker lost consciousness when he hyper extended his wrist while lowering a racking system at an ICI project in Sarnia.

December 7, 2009 – A worker lost consciousness when he fell 12 feet from an awning he was installing at a commercial project in Cambridge.

December 8, 2009 – A worker broke his right leg when a glass rack fell over onto him at an ICI project in Kitchener.

December 9, 2009 – A worker broke his lower leg and ankle when he fell 2 feet from a ladder on a residential project in Niagara Falls. The worker was in the process of pushing a 5/8” piece of plywood onto a platform from the ladder when he lost his balance and fell.

December 18, 2009 – A worker was knocked unconscious when he fell 6 feet from a ladder mounted on a sign truck. The worker was in the process of climbing the ladder with a tool box in hand when he fell at the ICI project in Milton.

December 21, 2009 – A worker was knocked unconscious when he was hit by ice that fell off one of the excavation walls at the entrance to an underground civil project in Niagara falls.

**Total to-date – 62**

<b>Critical</b>							
Year	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Total	44	53	46	42	44	52	47

Note: These statistics are not official. For official Ministry of Labour statistics consult Ministry of Labour Report to PLHMC.