

Electrical-related fatalities and injuries at work



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Fatalities come from
**electrocution
and/or burns.**



Between 2015 and 2024,
there were **50** electrocution
fatalities, of which
46% occurred in
the workplace.



**Victims of
fatalities were
almost all male,**
between 20-39 years of age.

Occupational



Electrical incidents are often
fatal – those who do survive have
immediate consequences that
often require medical intervention.

There is increasing evidence that
**long-term neuropsychological and
social consequences** exist among
patients after electrical injury, and
are similar to those exposed to
low- and high-voltage injuries.



Between 2015 and 2024,
electrical tradespeople
(including electrical apprentices)
accounted for **26% of all
occupational electrical-
related fatalities.**

In the last five years, electrical
fatalities at work occurred
most commonly in industrial
settings. A **significant portion of
those fatalities** occurred when
doing **repair and maintenance,
landscaping, and construction
type of activities.**



The **construction and services
sectors** contribute to the highest
number of WSIB lost-time
electrical injury claims.

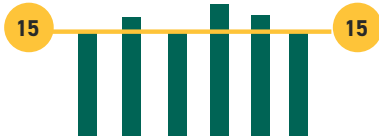


Information here is derived from the
Electrical Safety Authority's 2024 Ontario
Electrical Safety Report. For more information,
please visit <https://esasafe.com/oedr>

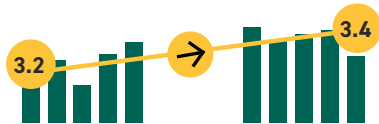
Harm Reduction Priorities



Worker Safety



The overall worker safety five-year rolling average has **remained unchanged**, with 15 critical injuries and fatalities reported in both the 2015–2019 and 2020–2024 periods.



The electrical trade worker safety five-year rolling average has **increased slightly** when comparing the periods 2015–2019 and 2020–2024.



As required by Rule 2-007 of the Ontario Electrical Safety Code (O. Reg. 164/99), an owner, contractor or operator of a facility must report any serious electrical incident to the Electrical Safety Authority within 48 hrs of occurrence.

ESA's work on worker safety

REACTIVE



Attend and review electrical workplace incidents when they are reported to ESA; to work with safety partners when necessary

PROACTIVE



Use the **Harm Life Cycle** approach to monitor, identify and assess electrical harms and risks in Ontario



Conduct **risk-based** inspections that follow the Ontario Electrical Safety Code



Continue ESA's **Don't Work on Energized Equipment** campaigns



Review and participate in redeveloping **codes and standards**



Provide **electrical safety awareness** to those in trade colleges and apprenticeships



Learn more about Electrical-related fatalities and injuries at work at <https://esasafe.com>



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Target powerline safety campaigns to specific construction sectors (haulage, arborists)



Promote safety messages to our contractor community, LDCs and partners using traditional and digital/social media



Integrate **electrical safety education** into ESA's available training courses, such as the pre-Master's course and other safety and technical training courses



Work with our **safety partners**, including advisory councils, to communicate safety trends and identify emerging areas of focus