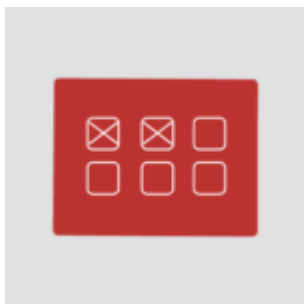


2026 OHS Fines Scorecard (April 15 to May 15)



Fine volume continues to lag on a year-to-basis. From April 15 to May 15, there were 11 significant Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) fines of \$25,000 or more reported in Canada. Four reporting periods into the year, there have been 38 such fines, as compared to 68 through the same period in 2025.

Fine amounts rebounded to something approaching more normal levels during the period. Total fine dollars for the month were just a shade under \$1.4 million, the second highest of the year. The average fine amount for the period was \$127,100, nearly double the \$66,000 average of last month. But that's still a far cry from 2025 when after four reporting periods total OHS fine dollars stood at \$11.678 with an average fine of \$171,735.

Table 1. OHS Fines in 2026 At A Glance (through April 15)

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Source: Bongarde

Six-Figure OHS Fines

Historically, roughly half of all the significant OHS fines governments report in the press are for \$100,000 or more. This year's ratio remains below these long-term patterns. Thus, five of the 11 significant fines reported this month were in the six figures. Of the year's 38 reported fines, only 15 have been six-figure amounts.

British Columbia accounted for three of this month's six-figure fines, including the second highest fine of the year—a \$460,000 penalty against an excavating firm for an incident in which a retaining wall collapsed and fell into a trench, killing one worker and seriously injuring another. But that case is an outlier to the extent that it was handed down by a judge after a trial finding the company guilty of two counts of C-45 criminal negligence. By contrast, the vast majority of OHS fines reported in BC are administrative monetary penalties handed out by WorkSafeBC without a trial.

Overall, BC continues to hand out the biggest OHS fines in Canada, accounting for four of the five top fines of 2026.

Table 2. Top OHS Fines of 2026

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Source: *Bongarde*

The other two six-figure OHS fines during the period came from Ontario and Manitoba. Consistent with historic patterns, Ontario has generated the most six-figure fines of any province, accounting for eight of the 15 reported in 2026. The discrepancy in year-over-year fine dollar amounts (and to some degree, fine numbers) that we discussed above is attributable largely to Alberta. A perennial leader in six-figure fines, Alberta has yet to report a single OHS fine of \$100,000 or more in 2026. Why the Alberta volcano has been so uncharacteristically dormant remains a mystery.

Table 3. 6-Figures OHS Fines in 2026 By Jurisdiction

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Source: Bongarde

Overall OHS Fines

British Columbia accounted for seven of the 11 significant OHS fines reported this month. Manitoba, New Brunswick, Ontario, and Saskatchewan reported one fine apiece during the period.

Table 4. OHS Fines Reported March 15, to April 15, 2026 (\$25,000 or more)



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* Company convicted by a judge after a criminal trial

Source: Bongarde