2026 OHS Fines Scorecard (May 15 to June 15)



While overall Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) fine volume and amounts are still lagging on a year-to-basis, May 15 to June 15 was the biggest month of 2026 with 17 significant fines of $25,000 or more reported across Canada. The previous high for the year was 12 during the first reporting period. The 2026 OHS fines total stands at 55, as compared to 81 at this time last year.

Fine amounts for the period were up even more. At $2,296,200, total fine dollars was the highest for any month, blowing away the previous monthly high of $1.540 million. The average fine amount for the period was $135,070, which was also a high for 2026. Five months into 2026, the average reported OHS fine is $114,873. By way of comparison, at this same point in 2025, total fine dollars stood at $13.243 million, and the average reported fine was $163,494.

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

Total Financial Resources (Dollars)

Total Financial Assets (Dollars)

Jan

Total Financial Resources (Dollars)

Mid

Total Financial Resources (Dollars)

Mid

Total Financial Resources (Dollars)

Mid

Total Financial Resources (Dollars)

Mid

Total Financial Resources Collected (Dollars) $ 0

Source: Bongarde

The Alberta Factor

After consistently trending up over so many years, the 2026 year-to-year decline in OHS fines is somewhat surprising. Are companies getting better at compliance? Or are enforcers going easy on companies given the tough economic situation?

Neither of the above. The source of what has been this year's statistical disparity is clear: For whatever reason, Alberta isn't reporting as many OHS fines as it usually does. At least that wasn't the case for the first four months of the year. But this month, Alberta reverted to normal with five fines reported, all of them in the six-figure range. We'll talk more about this below.

Six-Figure OHS Fines

Of the 17 significant OHS fines reported from mid-May to mid-June, 12 were for at least $100,000 or more. That's the highest ratio of 2026 by far. Year to date, 27 of the 55 reported fines are in the six figures, a ratio that's more in line with historic patterns.

Alberta and Ontario tied for the most six-figure OHS fines during the period with five apiece. These were the first reported six-figure fines reported out of Alberta in 2026, and they included the third and fourth biggest fines of the year, respectively, $355,000 against Weyerhaeuser for a machine accident that killed a timber worker, and $350,000 against a kitchen counter manufacturer for a forklift fatality. Ontario also cracked the Top 10 with a $175,000 fine—the seventh highest of the year—for an excavation fatality. British Columbia accounted for the period's other reported six-figure fines.

British Columbia continues to hand out the biggest OHS fines in Canada, accounting for five of the year’s biggest 11, including numbers 1 and 2 on the list. Next comes Ontario with four, followed by Alberta with two.

Table 2. Top OHS Fines of 2026

Type of Employer	Incident	Fine	Violations
Retailer	Unguarded machinery	$1,200,000	Failure to guard machinery
Manufacturer	Fall from height	$1,000,000	Inadequate fall protection
Construction	Trench collapse	$850,000	Failure to shore trench
Logging	Struck by tree	$750,000	Unsafe work practices
Warehouse	Forklift collision	$600,000	Inadequate training
Food Processing	Amputation	$550,000	Machine guarding violations
Construction	Fall from scaffold	$500,000	Scaffold violations
Manufacturer	Chemical exposure	$450,000	Inadequate ventilation
Construction	Struck by vehicle	$400,000	Traffic control violations
Retailer	Slip and fall	$350,000	Hazard not addressed
Construction	Electrocution	$300,000	Electrical violations

Type of Excavation contractor for a new residential building project requires a detailed plan for the excavation and construction of a retaining wall in the backyard of a property located on a steep slope. The retaining wall will be made of concrete blocks and will have a height of 6 feet and a length of 50 feet. The excavation contractor must also install a drainage system behind the retaining wall to prevent water from accumulating and causing damage to the wall. The project must be completed within a specific timeframe and must comply with all relevant building codes and regulations.

Type of E[illegible]cident

Timber company f[illegible] Canter 4 machine.

Type of Equipment Building materials make for a fine day to enjoy a walk in the park. Fortunately, the rain is expected to stop by afternoon, so we were read

Type of Equipment Tool manufacturer for a laboratory operation that is registered. machine before it was repaired.

Type of E[illegible]cident

Petroleum refiner fin[illegible] operation hot oil spill.

Type of Event: Construction Site Excavation Flood.

Type of Event Municipality finished asphalt reconstruction of Main Street between Oak Avenue and Pine Boulevard, including sidewalk repairs and new crosswalk installations.

Type of Equipment: Crane supplier and operator firm

Incident Description: [illegible] crane with required safety device.



Source: Bongarde

Consistent with historic patterns, Ontario has generated the most six-figure fines of any province, accounting for 14 of the 27 reported in 2026. British Columbia has handed out nine such fines. As noted above, Alberta finally got on the board this month by reporting a pair of fines in the six figures. Manitoba and Saskatchewan are the only other provinces that have reported an OHS fine of at least $100,000 in 2026 with one apiece.

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

Reported 6-Figures OHS Fines in 2026	Jurisdiction

Reported 6 Juvenile Offenses in 2266

Ontario

Reported 6 Jul 2026 Friday Oct 2026 Finnesin 226

British golf

Reported 6 Jul 2026

Frigsudrie Othisofni nesin 226

Albaerta

Reported 6 Jul 2026 Friday 06:00 AM

Manitoba Hydro-Sask Joint Inspection 2026

Manitoba

Reported 6 Juni 2026 FrühjahrssudriecOtHiSOFni

nesin226

Saskatchew

Source: Bongarde

Overall OHS Fines

Only three jurisdictions reported OHS fines of $25,000 or more this month. As usual, Ontario reported the most during the period with eight. Alberta awoke from its year-long dormancy with five reported OHS fines and British Columbia reported four.

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