

Driving Fatalities in the Energy Sector



FAST FACTS

Did You Know?

In the last 10 years, almost 50% of workplace fatalities in the oil and gas industry were driving related. That's 49 lives lost.

Peak Times for Driving Fatalities

Transportation fatalities have a unique distribution over a typical day with three distinct spikes:

- Start of the workday, 6 to 7 am
- Just before lunch, 11 am to noon
- End of the workday, 4 to 5 pm

Driving Fatalities by Occupation

Data on fatal accidents in the energy sector by occupation indicates the single largest group — about one-third — are transport truck drivers.

In large part, this is because this group logs so many driving hours. More importantly, it suggests an increased likelihood for driving fatalities to occur when travelling to and from the work site than during on-site duties that involve driving.

Source: WCB Alberta data as of Q2 2021

ESC Resources

- Course: [Oilfield Driver Awareness](#)
- Guideline: [Journey Management | A Program Development Guideline](#)
- Webinar: [Prepare for Winter Driving](#)
- Safety Bulletin: [Winter Tires](#)



PROACTIVE DRIVING

Proactive driving is anticipating hazards and taking action to reduce or avoid danger before it occurs, particularly in winter driving conditions. Proactive driving involves three key components:

Visibility | See and be seen. Scan the driving environment, paying attention to the planning, seeing and action zones (see image below).



Source: Energy Safety Canada's Oilfield Driver Awareness Participant Manual

Space | Adjust following distance, lane position and speed for a cushion of space around your vehicle and to allow adequate braking time in icy conditions.

Visual Lead Time | Give yourself time to respond to hazards ahead of you. Look at least 12-15 seconds ahead in urban areas and 20-25 seconds in rural areas.



PUT IT TO WORK!

Before you head out on your next trip:

- Consider the time of day and how it impacts the likelihood of an accident.
- Review the concepts of proactive driving.
- Drive with a co-worker or mentor and critique each other's proactive driving techniques.