

## BRIEF

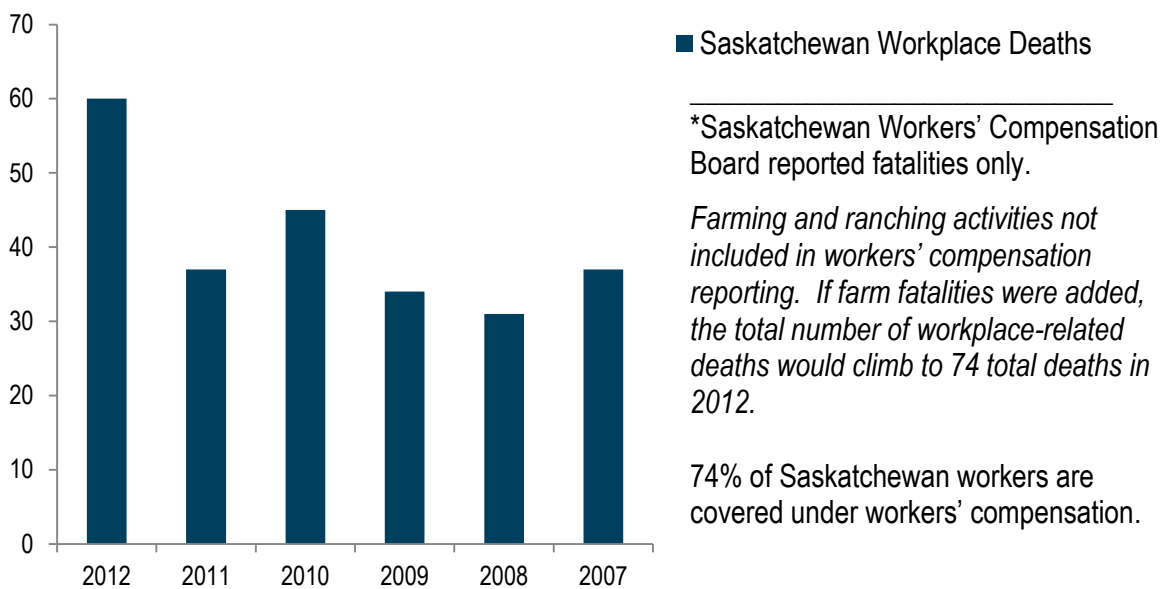
# Saskatchewan Workplace Deaths 2012



April 18, 2013

Last year, 60 people died on the job in Saskatchewan making 2012 the worst year for workplace deaths in more than 30 years. If farm fatalities were added, the total number of workplace-related deaths would climb to 74 in 2012.<sup>i</sup> As a result, Saskatchewan has the second worst rate of workplace-related injuries nationwide.<sup>ii</sup>

## Saskatchewan workplace deaths by year



## What is workers' compensation? Is everyone covered?

Each province and territory in Canada has its own exclusive Workers' Compensation Board/Commission (WCB). Workers' Compensation Boards are funded by employer premiums. Employers are charged a certain dollar amount per \$100 of payroll. About 74% of Saskatchewan workers are covered by workers' compensation.<sup>iii</sup>

The money collected from employers goes into a fund, generally known as the Accident Fund. In general, monies from this fund go toward:

- (a) providing wage loss benefits to workers injured on the job who are unable to work due to a work injury;
- (b) providing medical aid and rehabilitation to workers injured on the job; and
- (c) the general administration of the Workers' Compensation Board/Commission.

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## **Do I have a right to refuse unsafe work? YES!**

You have a right to refuse unusually dangerous work. If work that was refused is assigned to you, remember that you have a right to know why the work was refused by a fellow worker and advised that you also have a right to refuse unusually dangerous work (See appendix).

## **Are Saskatchewan workplaces inspected? How often?**

Saskatchewan workplaces are inspected on average once every ten years.<sup>iv</sup>

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<sup>i</sup> Pacholik, Barb. (9 April 2013). The Leader-Post. <http://www.leaderpost.com/news/workplace+deaths+recorded+Sask+during+2012/8218374/story.html>

<sup>ii</sup> Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board's 2012 Annual Report tabled in the Legislature on April 9, 2013

<sup>iii</sup> Walker, Allan. 2008. Saskatchewan Institute for Public Policy. Briefing Note: Workplace Health Changes and Challenges.

<sup>iv</sup> Ibid.