

Federal Railroad Administration
Office of Safety - Headquarters
Employee on Duty Fatality Investigation Assignments
January - December, 2005

1. January 7, 2005-Friday-Norfolk Southern (NS), Waynesburg, Pennsylvania
A 61-year-old conductor suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.
2. January 10, 2005-Monday- Union Pacific (UP), Buena Vista, Arkansas
A 53-year-old conductor was struck and killed by lite engines that were running down the main track to the head end of his train, that was standing on the siding, to deliver a locomotive unit.
3. January 19, 2005-Wednesday-Union Pacific (UP), Caliente, Nevada
A machinist suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.
4. January 26, 2005-Wednesday- Pacific Harbor Lines (PHL), Los Angeles, California
A 52-year-old conductor was struck and killed by his own cut of cars when he lined switches, thought the cars were going to one track, turned his back, and the cars came down the track he was fouling.
5. February 4, 2005-Friday-Norfolk Southern (NS), Morrisville, Pennsylvania
A 57-year-old conductor-in-training suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.
6. February 15, 2005- Tuesday-Union Pacific (UP), Council Bluffs, Iowa
A 46-year-old sheet metal worker was killed when the railroad business car fuel tank he was grinding on, exploded.
7. February 18, 2005-Friday-Norfolk Southern (NS), Rockport, Ohio
A 56-year-old track gang foreman suffered an apparent heart attack and died while changing his clothes.
8. February 21, 2005-Monday-Metro North Commuter RR (MNCW), GC-Terminal, New York
A locomotive engineer failed to show up to operate his assigned train from Grand Central Terminal. He was later found in the "Bunk Room" dead of an apparent heart attack.
9. February 21, 2005-Monday-Amtrak (ATK), Aberdeen, Maryland
A 34-year-old electric traction worker died of injuries he sustained when he was electrocuted while working on power lines February 17.
10. March 4, 2005-Friday- BNSF Railway (BNSF), Tours, Mississippi
A locomotive engineer suffered an apparent heart attack and died while sitting on the lead locomotive of his train.

11. March 15, 2005-Tuesday-Norfolk Southern (NS), Spriggsboro, Indiana
A 52-year-old track gang foreman suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.
12. April 5, 2005-Tuesday-Kansas City Southern (KCS), Sharon Springs, Kansas
A 52-year-old track inspector suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.
13. April 6, 2005-Wednesday-Norfolk Southern (NS), Selma, Alabama
A 48-year-old brakeman, part of a road crew, was assisting in and working with the local yard assignment in putting his train away. During a shove move, the brakeman was struck and killed by the leading end of a cut of cars the local yard assignment was moving.
14. April 11, 2005- Monday-Union Pacific (UP), Ogden, Utah
A switchman was riding on a car that was located at other than the leading end of a shove move and giving radio commands to the RCL operator who was controlling the locomotive being used to shove the cars into a track. Radio communication ceased, the move stopped and the switchman was found dead adjacent to the track being shoved.
15. April 13, 2005-Wednesday- BNSF Railway (BNSF), Perry, Oklahoma
A 48-year-old maintenance of way employee, assigned to a Surfacing Gang and operating his own personal vehicle, was struck by an on-coming vehicle and killed while enroute to the work location.
16. April 26, 2005- Tuesday-Union Pacific (UP), Oakridge, Oregon
A 50-year-old bulldozer operator suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.
17. May 9, 2005- Monday-Union Pacific (UP), Elko, Nevada
A 61-year-old conductor suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.
18. May 13, 2005-Friday-Delray Connecting Railroad (DCRR), Detroit, Michigan
A 24-year-old conductor died of injuries he sustained when the car he was riding on derailed and he was crushed between the car and a cement abutment.
19. June 17, 2005- Friday-CSX Transportation (CSX), Albany, New York
A 57-year-old stevedore suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.
20. February 1, 2005- Tuesday-Indiana Harbor Belt Railway (IHBR), Hammond, Indiana
A carman suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties. (Late report)

21. June 24, 2005-Friday- BNSF Railway (BNSF), Hereford, Texas

A 47-year-old maintenance of way employee, working with his track foreman, was struck and killed by a passing train while he was assisting the foreman in measuring a crossing scheduled to upgrades.

22. January 12, 2005- Wednesday-Dakota Minnesota & Eastern (DM&E), Desmet, So. Dakota

A railroad employee suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties. (Late report)

23. July 5, 2005-Tuesday- BNSF Railway (BNSF), Emporia, Kansas

A 26-year-old trainman, was crushed between the car he was riding and cars on an adjacent track. The trainman was riding the point of a nine car cut and, before he could stop the move, diverted through the facing point end of a crossover switch and into other cars in the plant.

24. July 18, 2005-Monday- Union Pacific Railroad (UP), Memphis, Tennessee

A brakeman was riding the point of a two car cut to a spot within a plant when the car he was riding was struck by a truck at a private crossbuck only crossing within the plant. As a result, the brakeman was killed.

25. July 22, 2005-Friday- Alabama & Tennessee Railway (ATN), Ragland, Alabama

A 57-year-old conductor was riding the point of a ten car cut to a spot within a plant when the car he was riding derailed into a wall and, as a result, he was crushed to death.

26. August 4, 2005- Thursday-CSX Transportation (CSX), Walbridge, Ohio

A 50-year-old lead machinist suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.

27. August 15, 2005-Monday- Arkansas & Missouri Railroad (AM), Rogers, Arkansas

A brakeman was directing a car to a spot within a plant when he was crushed to death between the car and a close clearance obstruction.

28. September 8, 2005-Thursday- BNSF Railway (BNSF), Cicero, Illinois

A 50-year-old fork lift operator, suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.

29. September 20, 2005-Thursday- BNSF Railway (BNSF), Savannah, Illinois

A 59-year-old locomotive engineer, suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.

30. October 3, 2005- Monday-Belt Railway Company of Chicago (BRC), Bedford Park, Illinois

A remote control operator was sitting in the cab of a locomotive when he suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.

31. October 5, 2005-Wednesday- Union Pacific Railroad (UP), Laramie, Wyoming
A roadway surfacing gang tamper operator was struck and killed by a passing train on the adjacent track while he was apparently preparing his equipment for overnight shutdown.
32. October 13, 2005-Thursday- Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway (EJ&E), Gary, Indiana
A railroad employee, while riding in a van to his job site, suffered an apparent heart attack and died.
33. November 16, 2005- Wednesday-CSX Transportation (CSX), Lugoff, South Carolina
During an industrial switching operation and while the conductor was getting car numbers, the brakeman, after requesting slack from the engineer, was found crushed between the knuckles of the two cars he was trying to uncouple.
34. November 16, 2005-Wednesday- BNSF Railway (BNSF), Creston, Iowa
A 56-year-old conductor, suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.
35. November 22, 2005-Tuesday- CSX Transportation (CSX), Mulliken, Michigan
A 57-year-old conductor, suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.
36. December 4, 2005-Sunday- BNSF Railway (BNSF), Burlington, Iowa
A brakeman, riding the side of a car into an area posted as “close clearance” was killed when he was crushed between the car he was riding and a steel walkway support beam.