

Federal Railroad Administration  
Office of Safety - Headquarters  
Employee on Duty Fatality Investigation Assignments  
January - December, 2004

1. January 5, 2004-Monday- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Murray, Missouri  
A 46-year-old locomotive engineer suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.
2. January 10, 2004-Saturday- Norfolk Southern (NS), Grandville, Illinois  
A 51-year-old carman suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.
3. January 14, 2004-Wednesday- Norfolk Southern (NS), Kankakee, Illinois  
A 40-year-old conductor was struck and killed by a cut of cars being shoved by his own train.
4. January 20, 2004-Tuesday- Norfolk Southern (NS), Painted Post, New York  
A 56-year-old crane operator died when he slipped and fell from the side of a gondola car as he was dismounting his equipment which was mounted on the car.
5. January 29, 2004-Thursday- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Dona Ana, New Mexico  
A 61-year-old maintenance of way employee suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.
6. February 2, 2004-Monday- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Winslow, Arizona  
A 47-year-old bridge and building employee slipped on ice, fell, struck his head and died as he left a local restaurant.
7. February 7, 2004-Saturday- Union Pacific (UP), Longview, Texas  
A 59-year-old conductor suffered an apparent heart attack and died while deadheading to his final point of release.
8. February 29, 2004-Sunday- Amtrak/Union Pacific (UP), Walnut Ridge, Arkansas  
A 66-year-old dinning car attendant was found dead of an apparent heart attack as the Amtrak train was passing through town limits and operating over UP trackage.
9. March 6, 2004-Saturday- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Edgerton, Kansas  
A 56-year-old conductor was found dead of an apparent heart attack by his engineer who had been receiving radio instructions from him to back up to the conductor's location.
10. March 10, 2004-Wednesday- Metro North Commuter Railroad (MNCW), Stamford, CT.  
A 46-year-old conductor, with 27 years of experience, was killed when he was struck by his equipment during switching operations.

11. April 3, 2004-Saturday- Canadian National Railway (CN), New Lisbon, Wisconsin  
A 58-year-old locomotive engineer died of an apparent heart attack while pulling into a siding to meet an on-coming train. The conductor radioed the dispatcher for emergency help.
12. April 20, 2004-Tuesday- Amtrak (ATK), Flagstaff, Arizona  
An on-board services employee was found dead of an apparent heart attack while on duty aboard ATK train No. 3-19.
13. May 13, 2004-Thursday- Michigan Southern Railroad (MSO), Sturgis, Michigan  
A 38-year-old conductor was riding the end of a car during a back up move when he fell from the car and was run over by his own train.
14. May 18, 2004-Tuesday- Norfolk Southern (NS), Elwood, Indiana  
A 35-year-old brakeman was struck and killed by a tractor trailer truck while he was riding the side of a rail car during a switching operation.
15. May 26, 2004-Wednesday- Long Island Railroad (LIRR), New York, New York  
A 35-year-old maintenance of way employee was killed while working with a boom truck operator unloading tie plates and other track material.
16. June 9, 2004-Wednesday- New Jersey Transit (NJT), Hoboken, New Jersey  
A 53-year-old car inspector was killed when he was struck by the wheels of a non-revenue passenger train consist as it was being operated through Hill Yard.
17. July 6, 2004-Tuesday- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Denver, Colorado  
A 55-year-old switchman suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.
18. July 27, 2004-Tuesday- CSX Transportation (CSX), Mobile, Alabama  
A 48-year-old bridge-tender was found dead, in the vicinity of the river bridge he had been called to operate, after an extended search by the Coast Guard.
19. August 17, 2004-Tuesday- CSX Transportation (CSX), Robinson, South Carolina  
A 53-year-old track inspector was killed when the company truck he was driving struck the rear of a school bus on SR 151. A few occupants of the bus were treated and released from a local hospital.
20. September 2, 2004-Thursday- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Clovis, New Mexico  
A 26-year-old switchman died when he fell from the leading end of a tank car as it derailed during a switching move.
21. September 9, 2004-Thursday- Norfolk Southern (NS), Andover, Virginia  
A 54-year-old conductor suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.

22. September 20, 2004-Monday-Ann Arbor Railroad (AA), Saline, Michigan  
A 44-year-old brakeman died when he was crushed between a piece of track equipment and the rail car he was handling.
23. October 4, 2004-Monday- Norfolk Southern (NS), Harrisburg, Pennsylvania  
A 58-year-old conductor was struck and killed by a shove move being performed by another crew when he stepped in front of the leading end of the move.
24. October 4, 2004-Monday- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Topeka, Kansas  
a 57-year-old machinist died as a result of an injury he sustained September 29 when he was struck in the face by an object that was ejected from a hydraulic press.
25. October 7, 2004-Thursday- Union Pacific (UP), Springfield, Illinois  
A student trainman was killed when the cars he was walking beside derailed, fell on their side and crushed him.
26. October 7, 2004-Thursday- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Teague, Texas  
A 60-year-old trainman was killed when the cars that he was between moved. His was the only crew working at the yard at the time.
27. October 20, 2004-Wednesday-Metro North (MNCW), Dover Plains, New York  
A 41-year-old on duty maintenance of way employee was killed in a highway vehicle collision. The railroad employee was struck by another vehicle that crossed the median and struck his vehicle head-on.
28. November 1, 2004-Monday- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Bowdoin, Montana  
A 47-year-old conductor was struck and killed by a passing train when the conductor tried to get off his standing train and cross over in front of the approaching train to observe the opposite side of the passing train.
29. November 12, 2004-Wednesday- Metro North Commuter Railroad (MNCW), New York, NY  
A 49-year-old plumber/pipe fitter, with 14 years of experience, suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.
30. December 17, 2004-Friday- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Radium, Colorado  
A 47-year-old conductor was struck and killed by a passing train when he tried to get off his standing train and cross over in front of an approaching UP train to observe the opposite side of the passing train.
31. December 25, 2004-Saturday- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Gillette, Wyoming  
A 53-year-old conductor suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.