

# 2016 Combustible Dust Incident Report (North America)



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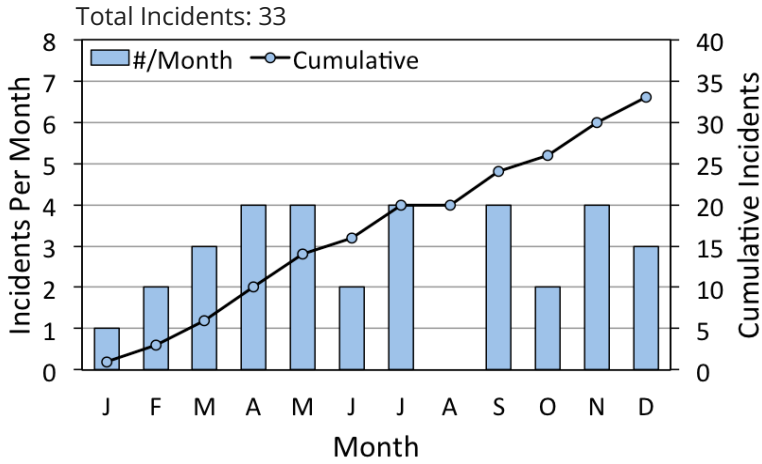
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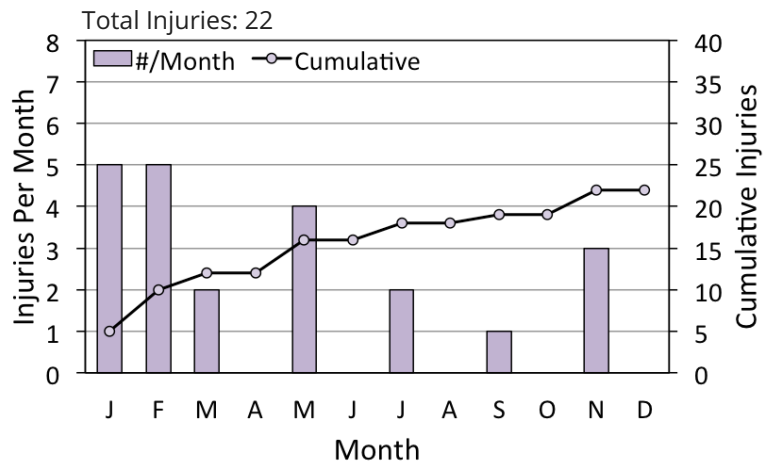
# Summary



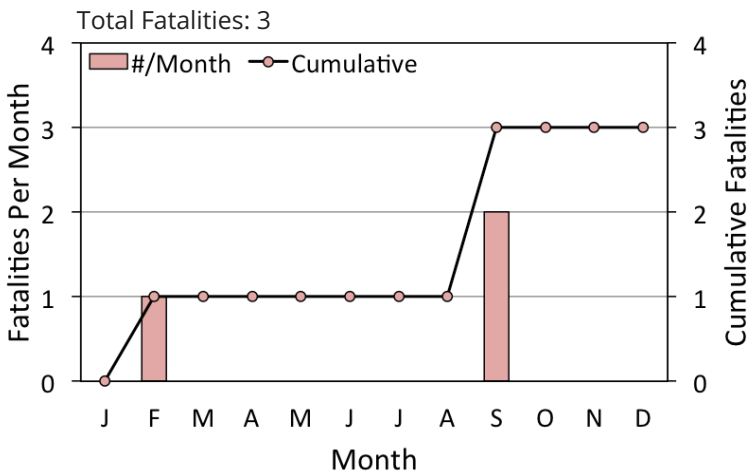
Largest Offenders

Dust:	Grain Dust
State:	Minnesota/Iowa
Industry:	Food Processing
Equipment:	Dust Collectors

**Note on Methods:** This report was compiled using the News feature of google search and the keywords "Dust Explosion" and "Combustible Dust". Any articles appearing in the first 10 pages of google results for each month were recorded.



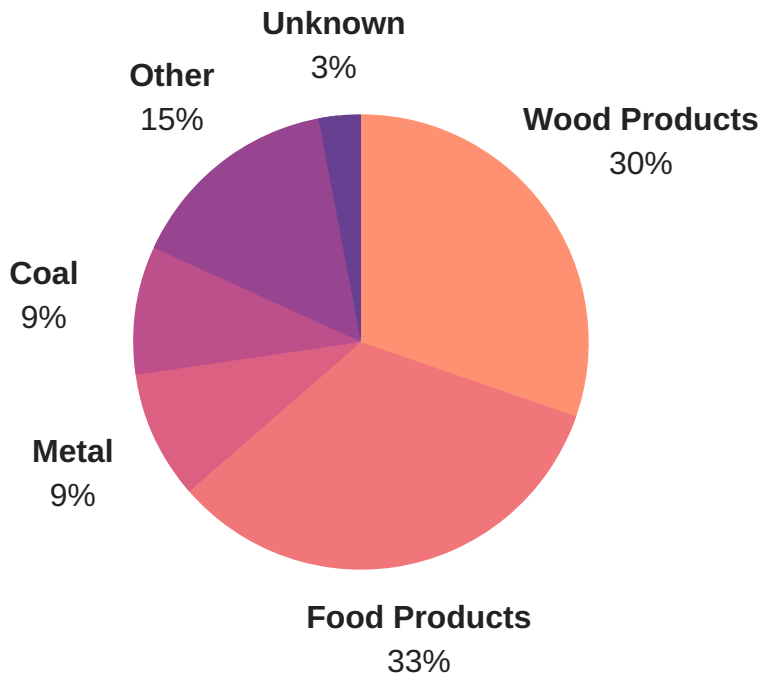
**Note on Completeness:** Due to reliance on third-party news agencies, incomplete articles, and google search, the author makes no warranties or guarantees on the accuracy or completeness of information given in this document.



"It is tragic that despite wide industry awareness of these hazards, that some employers remain unaware of the common hazards of combustible dust."  
 - Christi Griffin, OSHA's area director in the Atlanta-West Office

# Materials & Industries

## Combustible Materials



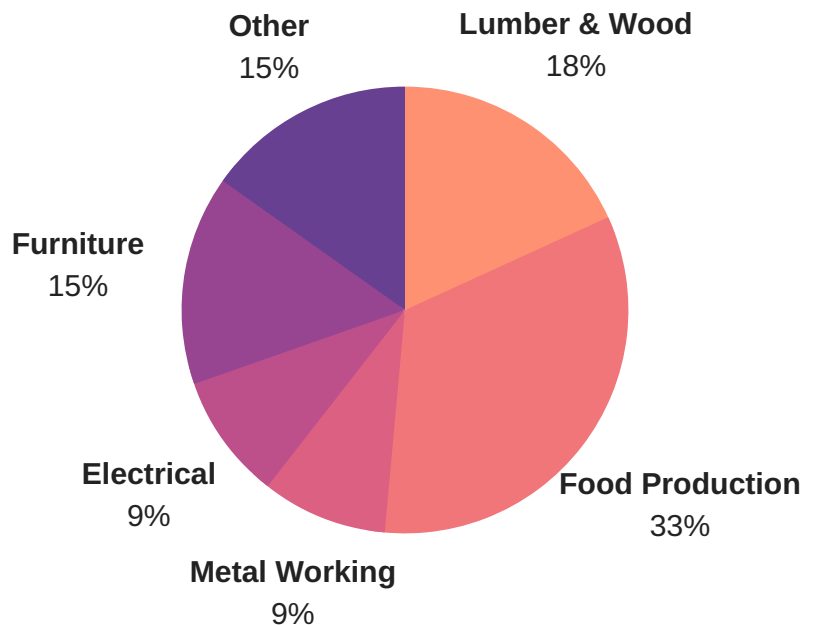
"Officials said investigators determined that an industrial circulation fan had failed and released a sulfur dust cloud that exploded and sparked the fire."

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## Processing Industries

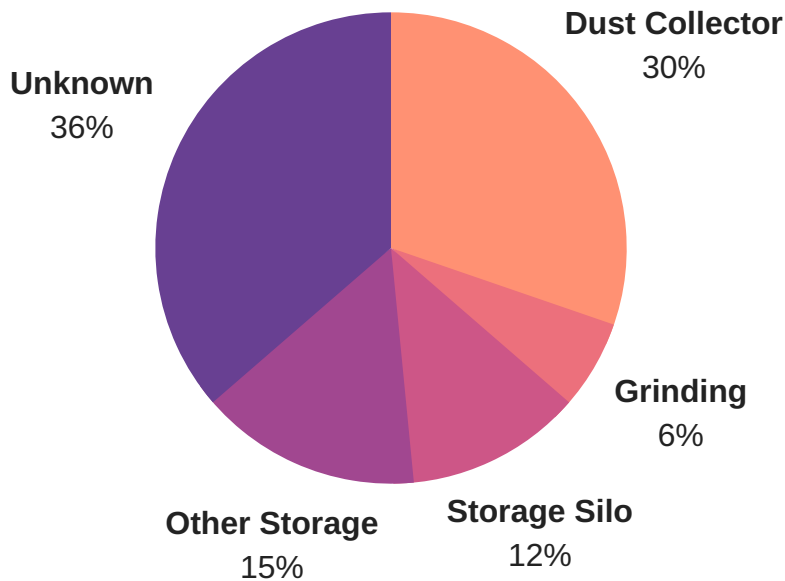
"City Utilities believes it was a buildup of carbon monoxide gas and coal dust in the bunker that caused the explosion."

"The blast likely occurred when an undetermined ignition source detonated dust from the production of fish meal, often used as feed for other fish."



# Equipment & Causes

## Equipment



"He was injured while attempting to put out a fire in a smoking sawdust collection unit outside the building. The sawdust ignited due to oxygen getting into the smoking unit."

"They hit a nail within one of those pallets, caused a spark, there was a large sawdust pile next to where they were doing this work."

"The explosion occurred when the man was cleaning inside a plastic, 1000-gallon water tank used to hold Roundup, an herbicide produced by Monsanto, the previous year. The farm's owners told police that the man was scraping dried excess Roundup just before the blast."

"The mill was filling a large metal grain bin, and some of the smoldering embers got into the bin."

"When we got there, the fire was almost out because of the sprinklers," Nailon said, "but the rafters appeared to be burning. It turned out to be an accumulation of dust up on the rafters that was still burning."

# Incident Data

#	Date	Company	Location	State	Fuel	Inj.	Fat.
1	Jan. 26	Nut Island Headworks	Boston	MA	Sulfur	5	0
2	Feb. 7	JCG Farms	Rockmart	GA	Grain	5	1
3	Feb. 20	MGP Ingredients	Atchison	KS	Protein/Starch	0	0
4	Mar. 9	West Fraser WestPine MDF	Quesnel	BC*	Wood	0	0
5	Mar. 15	NBHX Trim	Alpine Township	MI	Unknown	0	0
6	Mar. 17	Central Valley Agriculture	Hinton	IA	Grain	2	0
7	Apr. 5	High Quality Organics	Reno	NV	Oregano	0	0
8	Apr. 8	Unknown	Streamwood	IL	Aluminum	0	0
9	Apr. 12	Christensen Farms	Iowa Falls	IA	Grain	0	0
10	Apr. 14	International Paper	Richland	MS	Cardboard	0	0
11	May 4	Unknown	Thatcher	AZ	Herbicide	1	0
12	May 5	Bio Wood Processing	Faribault	MN	Wood	0	0
13	May 10	Cemex	Apple Valley	CA	Fuel mixture	2	0
14	May 23	Forest Products Supply	Maplewood	MN	Wood	1	0
15	Jun. 6	City Utilities	Springfield	MO	Coal	0	0
16	Jun. 28	McCauley Bros.	Woodford County	KY	Grain	0	0
17	Jul. 8	Rio's Auto Recycling	Salt Lake City	UT	Wood	1	0
18	Jul. 11	Maine Wood Pellet Co.	Athens	ME	Wood	0	0
19	Jul. 25	Whitewater Gunpowder Facility	Grand Junction	CO	Black Powder	1	0
20	Jul. 26	Syngaro	Baltimore	MD	Waste	0	0
21	Sep. 6	Unknown	Ixonia	WI	Grain	1	0
22	Sep. 12	Unknown	Abbotsford	BC*	Wood	0	0
23	Sep. 22	Westward Seafoods	Dutch Harbor	AK	Fishmeal	0	0
24	Sep. 26	Tate & Lyle	Francesville	IN	Grain	0	2
25	Oct. 20	Unknown	North Arlington	NJ	Metal	0	0
26	Oct. 24	Innovative Ag Services	Alden	IA	Grain	0	0
27	Nov. 2	Golden Valley Electric	Fairbanks	AK	Coal	0	0
28	Nov. 13	Schlangen's Custom Cabinets	Eden Valley	MN	Wood	3	0
29	Nov. 15	Furniture Wood Incorporated	Vardaman	MO	Wood	0	0
30	Nov. 16	Vaughan-Bassett Chip Core	Galax	WV	Wood	0	0
31	Dec. 13	Federal-Mogul Powertrain	Blacksburg	VA	Metal	0	0
32	Dec. 21	City Utilities	Springfield	MO	Coal/CO	0	0
33	Dec. 28	Unknown	Russell	KS	Grain	0	0

Inj. - Injuries

Fat. - Fatalities

\* Canadian Province

# Equipment, Causes, and References

#	Date	Reported Equipment	Reported Cause	Reference Articles
1	Jan. 26	Fan	Malfunctioning Fan	Link 1
2	Feb. 7	Hammer mill	Dust accumulation	Link 1, Link 2, Link 3, Link 4
3	Feb. 20	Baghouse	Air filter buildup	Link 1
4	Mar. 9	Dust Collector	No Details	Link 1, Link 2
5	Mar. 15	Dust collector box	Faulty machinery	Link 1
6	Mar. 17	Grain dump site	No Details	Link 1, Link 2
7	Apr. 5	Grinding hopper	No Details	Link 1, Link 2
8	Apr. 8	No Details	No Details	No Reliable Link
9	Apr. 12	No Details	No Details	Link 1
10	Apr. 14	No Details	No Details	Link 1, Link 2, Link 3
11	May 4	Inside dry liquid tank	Electrostatic ignition	Link 1
12	May 5	No Details	No Details	Link 1, Link 2
13	May 10	No Details	No Details	Link 1
14	May 23	Dust collector	Dispersion with extinguisher	Link 1
15	Jun. 6	Dust collector	No Details	Link 1
16	Jun. 28	Grain silo	Bad bearing	Link 1
17	Jul. 8	Wood pallets	Spark from cutting	Link 1, Link 2
18	Jul. 11	Dust hopper & pipes	Bad bearing	Link 1
19	Jul. 25	No Details	No Details	Link 1
20	Jul. 26	No Details	No Details	Link 1
21	Sep. 6	No Details	No Details	Link 1
22	Sep. 12	Wood silo	Dispersion with fire house	Link 1, Link 2
23	Sep. 22	No Details	No Details	Link 1, Link 2
24	Sep. 26	Grain elevator	Mechanical failure	Link 1, Link 2, Link 3, Link 4
25	Oct. 20	No Details	No Details	Link 1
26	Oct. 24	Grain Silo	No Details	Link 1
27	Nov. 2	No Details	No Details	Link 1
28	Nov. 13	Dust Collector	Burning ember	Link 1, Link 2
29	Nov. 15	Dust Collector	No Details	Link 1
30	Nov. 16	Baghouse	Malfunctioning motor	Link 1
31	Dec. 13	Metal hopper	Burning metal ember	Link 1
32	Dec. 21	Coal bunker	Buildup of CO in bunker	Link 1
33	Dec. 28	Grain bin	Equipment malfunction	Link 1

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