

# Presocratic computation

(January 2025)

On January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, upon succeeding the 46<sup>th</sup> [Presocrat](#), the newly induced 47<sup>th</sup> U.S. Presocrat declared:

*The **United States**, I mean, think of this, spent more money than ever spent on a project before and lost **38,000 lives** in the building of the Panama Canal.*

Doing obediently as directed, the author of this short study thought of it.

He found that there had been two phases in the Panama Canal construction, (a.) the French phase from 1881 to 1889, and (b.) the U.S. phase onwards, until the Canal opened in 1914.

## a. The French phase:

The labor force numbered about 40,000, nine-tenths of whom were Afro-Caribbean workers from the West Indies.

The **death toll** from 1881 to 1889 was estimated at **over 22,000**, of whom as many as **5,000** were French citizens.

## b. The U.S. phase:

At the peak of construction, there were 40,000 workers, of which the great majority were West Indian laborers, particularly from Barbados.

**Total deaths for all nationalities** in the U.S. phase has been reported at **5,609-5,855**.

For the years 1907 to 1913, in which employee fatalities were reported by race, there were **4,668** total fatalities, of which **900** (19%) were classified as “White” and **3,788** (81%) classified as “Colored”.

A substantial number of White workers were non-Americans.

In 1908, of the **185** White employees who died, **81** were from the United States.

A total of about **350 White Americans died** building the canal.