

CONSTRUCTION HAZARD INFORMATION

In 2016, there were **991 fatal injuries** and **203,500 estimated nonfatal injuries and illnesses** among construction workers (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics). Finding and fixing hazards ensures workers go home safe and sound every day. Use the information below to find and fix hazards in your company.

CORE ELEMENTS OF SAFETY AND HEALTH PROGRAMS

1. Management Leadership



2. Worker Participation



3. Finding & Fixing Hazards



TOP OSHA CITATIONS Construction

1. Duty to have Fall Protection—Residential Construction (*Fall Protection*, [1926.501\(b\)\(13\)](#))
2. Portable ladders (*Stairways and Ladders*, [1926.1053\(b\)\(1\)](#))
3. Fall protection training (*Fall Protection*, [1926.503\(a\)\(1\)](#))
4. Unprotected sides and edges (*Fall Protection*, [1926.501\(b\)\(1\)](#))
5. Eye and face protection (*Personal Protective and Life Saving Equipment*, [1926.102\(a\)\(1\)](#))

Source: OSHA Information System (OIS), 2011-2018, NAICS 23

TOP INJURY EVENTS Construction

Fatal Events

- Falls to lower level
- Roadway motor vehicle incidents
- Struck by object or equipment

Nonfatal Events

- Struck by object
- Fall to lower level
- Fall on same level
- Overexertion in lifting or lowering
- Slips, trips without fall

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2016, NAICS 23

RESOURCES ON FIXING HAZARDS

General Construction Tools

- [Recommended Practices for Safety and Health Programs in Construction](#) (OSHA). Framework to address safety and health issues on diverse construction sites.
- [Women in Construction](#) (OSHA). Unique safety and health hazards for women in construction.

Heat Stress

- [Heat Illness](#) (OSHA). Strategies to prevent heat-related illness at work.

Personal Protective Equipment

- [Personal Protective Equipment for Women: Addressing the Need](#) (Ontario Women's Directorate/Industrial Accident Prevention Association). PPE for women in non-traditional jobs.
- [PPE for Workers Checklist](#) (NAWIC). Examples of PPE for different types of work.

Ergonomics

- [Simple Solutions: Ergonomics for Construction Workers](#) (NIOSH). Tips for avoiding work-related musculoskeletal disorders.

SHOW YOUR COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

This Safe + Sound Week, host activities and events that promote a successful safety and health program. Below are some ideas for how you can get started.

- Lead a safety scavenger hunt! Inspect equipment, surfaces, and other areas of your worksite to look for potential safety and health issues.
- Host a workplace PPE fashion show! Show off your safety goggles, work boots, noise protection, and more! Use this show as an opportunity to inspect PPE and identify any unsafe gear.
- Form a safety committee made up of workers and management to identify and resolve safety and health concerns.
- Record and share messages from leadership that discuss the importance of safety and health programs in the workplace. Examples and real-life experiences are always helpful.
- Implement weekly or monthly safety talks with your workers to discuss workplace hazards such as heat illness, fall protection, and ergonomics.
- Initiate a safety stand-down and provide a hands-on training to workers that focuses on recognizing workplace hazards and who to contact when they spot a hazard.
- Break into teams of workers and conduct a “safety swap”: participants swap worksites with co-workers on another construction site for a few minutes at the beginning of the shift. Then everyone meets afterward to list the hazards they identified and brainstorm ideas to address them together.
- Implement a weekly wellness challenge, such as a group walk or a healthy eating option. After all, being safe and healthy should be more than a one-time event!
- Hand out rewards/recognition to workers observed working safely; perhaps entering their names for a weekly or monthly drawing.
- Host a safety and wellness celebration for workers and leadership at the end of Safe + Sound Week. Identify those using best practices to control hazards and those who successfully participated in the wellness campaign. Leadership can kick off the celebration and recognize workers who model safe practices with prizes or a lunch to discuss safety ideas with managers, or start a “Safety Hall of Fame” with photos of the winners.

Visit the [Safe + Sound Week](#) webpage for other examples of [activities](#) and [events](#) that successfully demonstrate the three core elements of safety and health programs: management leadership, worker participation, and finding and fixing hazards.