OSHA Overview

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Occupational Safety and Health Administration
St. Louis Area Office
Disclaimer

- This information has been developed by an OSHA Compliance Assistance Specialist and is intended to assist employers, workers, and others as they strive to improve workplace health and safety. While we attempt to thoroughly address specific topics, it is not possible to include discussion of everything necessary to ensure a healthy and safe working environment in a presentation of this nature. Thus, this information must be understood as a tool for addressing workplace hazards, rather than an exhaustive statement of an employer’s legal obligations, which are defined by statute, regulations, and standards. Likewise, to the extent that this information references practices or procedures that may enhance health or safety, but which are not required by a statute, regulation, or standard, it cannot, and does not, create additional legal obligations. Finally, over time, OSHA may modify rules and interpretations in light of new technology, information, or circumstances; to keep apprised of such developments, or to review information on a wide range of occupational safety and health topics, you can visit OSHA’s website at www.osha.gov.
OSHA and its state partners, coupled with efforts of employers, safety & health professionals, unions and advocates, have helped dramatically reduce workplace injuries and illnesses.

Worker fatalities in America are down—on average, from 38 workers a day in 1970 to 15 a day in 2022.

Worker injuries and illnesses are down—from 10.9 incidents per 100 workers in 1972 to 2.7 per 100 in 2022.
Fatal Work Injuries

5,486 workers died from occupational injuries in 2022.

Number of fatal work injuries, 2013–22

Hover over chart to view data.
Fatal work injuries by event

Chart 3. Fatal work injuries by major event or exposure, 2018-22

Source: BLS National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 2022
Key findings from the 2022 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

- The fatal work injury rate was **3.7** fatalities per 100,000 FTE
- A worker died every **96** minutes
- Black or African American fatalities accounted for **13.4% (734)** of all fatalities in 2022 but represented 33.4% (175) fatalities from homicides.
- Suicides: **267** (13.1% increase)
- Workers in transportation and material moving occupations experienced a series high of **1,523** fatal injuries
- Transportation incidents remained the most frequent type of fatal event in 2022 with **2,066** fatal injuries (37.7% of all fatalities)
1,069 construction-related fatalities 2022:

- Falls to lower level: 395 (36.9%)
- Struck-by object: 149 (13.9%)
- Electrocutions: 62 (5.7%)
- Caught-in/between: 40 (5%)
Employer Responsibilities

- Provide a workplace free of known safety and health hazards.
- Train workers in a language they understand.
- Prominently display the OSHA poster, “Job Safety and Health: It’s the Law.”
- Many employers with more than 10 workers are required to keep a record of serious work-related injuries and illnesses.
Reporting Fatalities and Severe Injuries

- All employers are required to notify OSHA when an employee is killed on the job or suffers a work-related hospitalization, amputation, or loss of an eye.

- A fatality must be reported within 8 hours.

- An in-patient hospitalization, amputation, or eye loss must be reported within 24 hours.

How to Report:
- (800) 321-OSHA
- osha.gov/report
- SLAO (314) 425-4249

www.osha.gov/report.html
Enforcement (Types of Inspections)

**Programmed Inspections**
- High-hazard workplaces and recalcitrant owners and employers
- Based on neutral criteria
- Local, regional and national special emphasis programs

**Unprogrammed Inspections**
- Initiated in response to:
  - Imminent danger situations
  - Fatalities and catastrophes
  - Worker complaints
  - Referrals
Top 10 Most Cited Standards

FY 2022

1. Fall Protection: General Requirements
   1926.501
   5,915 violations

2. Hazard Communication
   1910.1200
   2,639 violations

3. Ladders
   1926.1053
   2,449 violations

4. Respiratory Protection
   1910.134
   2,412 violations

5. Scaffolding
   1926.451
   2,251 violations

6. Control of Hazardous Energy (Lockout/Tagout)
   1910.147
   2,139 violations

7. Powered Industrial Trucks
   1910.178
   1,896 violations

8. Fall Protection: Training Requirements
   1926.503
   1,762 violations

9. Personal Protective and Lifesaving Equipment: Eye and Face Protection
   1926.102
   1,572 violations

10. Machine Guarding
    1910.212
    1,469 violations
Top 10 Violations in Construction FY 2023

1. Fall Protection – General Requirements (1926.501)
2. Ladders (1926.1053)
3. Scaffolding (1926.451)
4. Fall Protection – Training (1926.503)
5. Eye and Face Protection (1926.102)
6. Head Protection (1926.100)
7. General Safety and Health Provisions (1926.20)
8. Specific Excavation Requirements (1926.651)
9. Aerial lifts (1926.453)

https://www.osha.gov/pls/imis/citedstandard.html
## OSHA Penalty Levels: 2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Violation</th>
<th>New Maximum</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serious and</td>
<td><strong>$16,131 per violation</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other-Than-Serious</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posting Requirements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willful or Repeated</td>
<td><strong>$161,323 per violation</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to Abate</td>
<td><strong>$16,131 per day</strong> beyond the abatement date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[www.osha.gov/penalties](http://www.osha.gov/penalties)
Criminal sanctions are outlined in the OSH Act

To obtain a conviction, a prosecutor must establish certain conditions beyond a reasonable doubt
Enforcement (Current Actions)

- Updated Severe Violator Enforcement Program
  - Strengthens enforcement, improves compliance, reduces injuries and illnesses
  - Includes all hazards and OSHA standards, focuses on repeat offenders in all industries

- Trenching
  - 39 fatalities in 2022, compared to 15 in 2021
  - Implemented enhanced enforcement initiative in July 2022
  - Will issue criminal referrals when and where appropriate
Enforcement (Current Actions continued)

- **Heat NEP**
  - Launched Heat NEP in April 2022.
  - Allows inspectors to preemptively inspect in more than 70 industries.
  - More than 2,100 federal heat NEP inspections since launch.

- **Falls NEP**
  - Prevent falls for people working at heights in all industries – including tree trimming, utility line work and window cleaning.
  - Allows inspections whenever they observe someone working at heights.
Heat Rulemaking

- Potential standard addresses indoor and outdoor work environments.
- Applies to general industry, construction, maritime and agriculture.
- OSHA will hold SBREFA panels in 2023 to gather views on potential effects on small businesses.
Improved Tracking of Workplace Injuries and Illnesses (1)

What’s new:

– Establishments with 100 or more employees in specific high-hazard industries must submit more detailed information from Form 300 – Log of Work-related Injuries and Illnesses Incident Report.

– Establishments must include their legal company name when making electronic submissions.

– More injury data publicly available – personally identifiable information will not be published.
Personal Protective Equipment Fit Rulemaking

- Issued NPRM on July 17, 2023, to revise PPE standard in construction that requires PPE must fit workers properly.

- Improperly fitting PPE is particularly important for construction workers of various sizes, including some women.

- Revision would make construction standard consistent with general industry and maritime standards.
National Emphasis Programs

www.osha.gov/enforcement/directives/nep

- Amputations (Hazardous Machinery)
- Hexavalent Chromium
- Combustible Dust
- Lead
- Trench
- Process Safety Management
- Primary Metals
- Shipbreaking
- Silica
- Heat
- Falls
- Warehousing
Region VII Emphasis Programs

www.osha.gov/enforcement/directives/lep

- Top 50 Workplace – Health Hazard (All Offices)
- Workplaces with Noise Hazards (All Offices)
- Falls, Scaffolds, and Electrocutions from Overhead Power Lines in Construction (All Offices)
- Powered Industrial Trucks and Other Material or Personnel Handling Motorized Equipment (All Offices)
- Fertilizer Grade Ammonium Nitrate (FGAN) and Agricultural Anhydrous Ammonia Facilities (All Offices)
- Electrical Hazards in General Industry (St. Louis)
- Grain Handling (Kansas and Nebraska)
- Meat Processing in General Industry (Nebraska)
- Oil & Gas industry (Kansas)
- Commercial and Residential Construction Following a Severe Weather Event (Kansas & Nebraska)
- Federal Agencies (Iowa)
Continued Focus

- Construction
- Grain Handling
- Healthcare
- Oil & Gas Industry
- Package and Parcel delivery
- Small Business
- Temporary Workers
- Warehousing
- Young and Teen Workers
Employees have the right to:

- Report **unsafe conditions and injuries** to management or OSHA
- Assist an **OSHA investigation**
- Request **Training**
- Request **PPE**

[www.osha.gov/workers](http://www.osha.gov/workers)
Many OSHA standards require training.

Employers must train workers in a language they understand.

Outreach Training 10- and 30-hour courses – basic hazard awareness classes delivered by OSHA-authorized trainers.

OSHA Training Institute Education Centers – deliver training to public and private sectors in all industries. www.osha.gov/otiec

Susan Harwood Training Grants – awarded to non-profit organizations to develop training programs. www.osha.gov/harwoodgrants
On-Site Consultation Program

- No cost to employers
- Separate from enforcement and confidential
- Identifies workplace hazards
- Advice on compliance with OSHA standards
- Helps employers establish safety and health programs
- More than 670,000 workers removed from hazards in FY 2021
Compliance Assistance Specialists
OSHA Helping Employers

• Provide general information about OSHA’s standards and compliance assistance resources

• Available for seminars, workshops, and speaking events

• **St. Louis Area Office**
  Maryanne Heuer, CSP, CHST
  (314) 410-2413 / (314) 296-1387
  heuer.maryanne.t@dol.gov

• **Kansas City Area Office**
  Elizabeth Morales
  (816) 502-0311
  morales.elizabeth@dol.gov

www.osha.gov/dcsp/compliance_assistance/cas.html
Safely Building a Better America

This construction infrastructure safety and health webpage is intended to be a resource for contractors and other employers working on improving and building our nation’s infrastructure. It is also intended to be a resource for workers, their families, and their representatives. At OSHA our mission is to ensure that workplaces are safe and healthy, and we believe that mission requires all workplaces to make safety and health a core value. This is especially important for the critical work being undertaken through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).
FY 2024 Outreach Events

- Stand-Up 4 Grain Safety Week – March 25-29, 2024
- National Work Zone Awareness Week – April 15-19, 2024
- Heat Illness Prevention – May 24, 2024
- Fall Prevention Campaign – May 6-10, 2024
- Trench Safety Stand Down – June 17-24, 2024
- Safe + Sound Campaign – August TBD, 2024
- Suicide Prevention Awareness Week – September 8-12, 2024
Mental health, workplace stress and suicide are real, work-related hazards.

Suicide is among the leading causes of death among working-age adults in the U.S.

Suicide rate among construction workers is 3 ½ times higher than the general population.

Get help now.
If you’re having trouble coping with work-related stress, talk with someone who can help.

- Call the new three-digit dialing code 988 or find online chat at 988lifeline.org/chat
- Para obtener información en español, llame al 1-888-628-9454 o visite el sitio web
OSHA and Mental Health

- Published a suicide awareness publication in English and Spanish on what to do if a co-worker may be at risk of suicide.
- Mental health was the focus of this year’s Safe + Sound Campaign.
- Developed partnerships and alliances to help workers and employers prevent suicides.
- Training, guidance, other resources available on OSHA’s page on workplace stress osha.gov/workplace-stress.
Questions?

For more information, contact:

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