

FY 18 Houston Area Construction Falls* (Apr 2, 2019)

Overall in FY 18, there were a total of 13 fatalities and 120 serious injuries reported related to falls in the workplace. This is compared to 23 fatalities and 96 serious injuries in FY 17.

Let's all participate in this year's National Safety Stand Down to Prevent Falls so we can continue working towards eliminating fall hazards and incidents in the workplace.

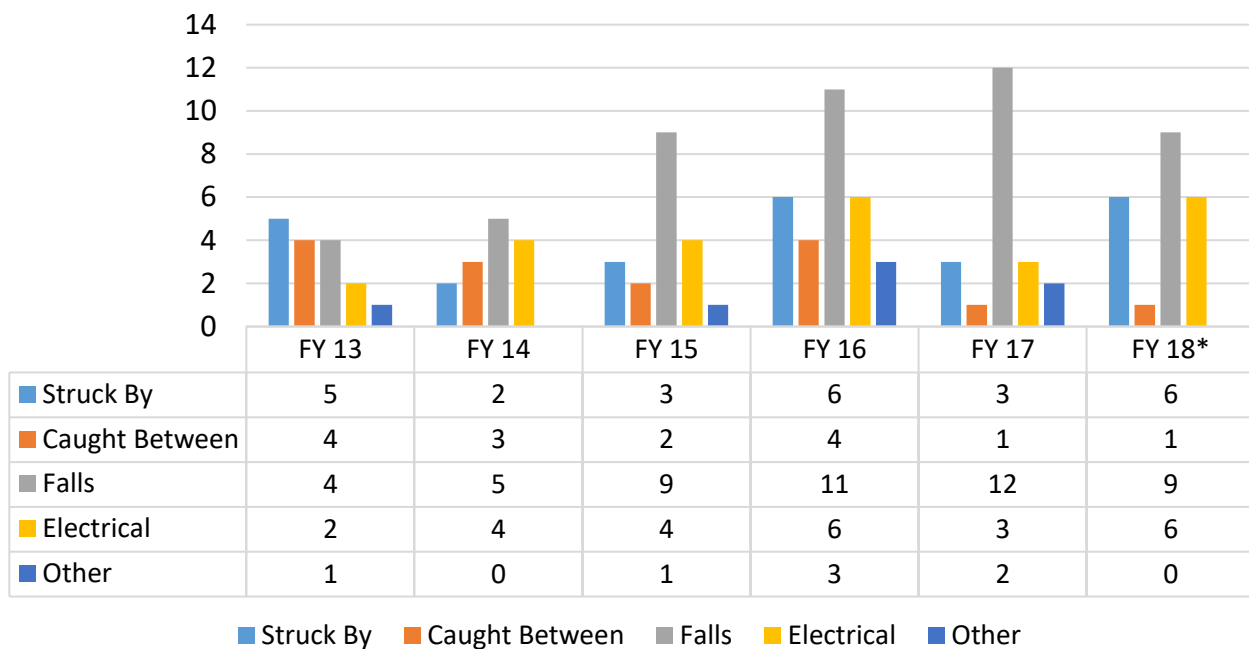
<https://www.osha.gov/StopFallsStandDown/>

National Safety Stand-Down

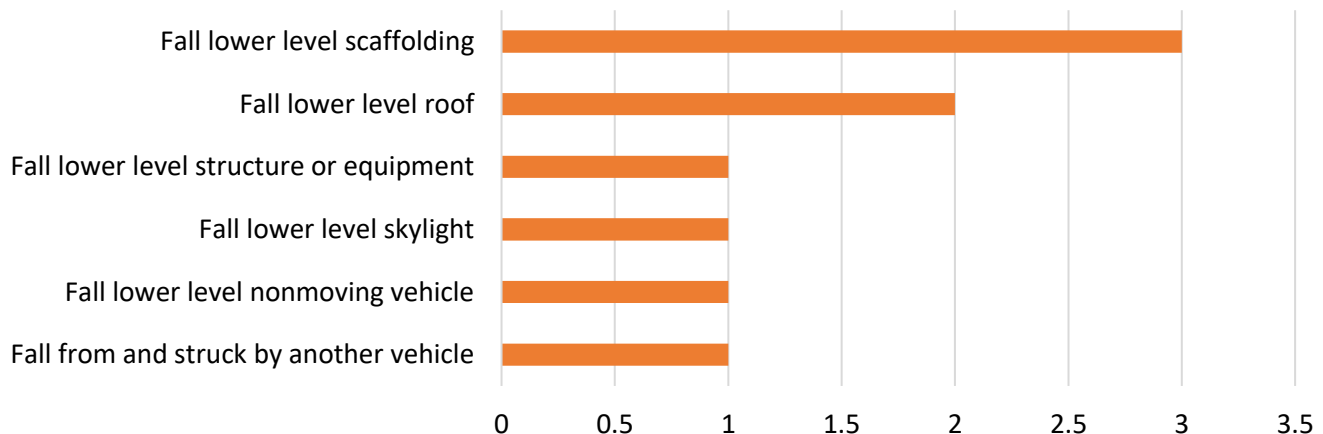
To Prevent Falls in Construction

MAY 6-10, 2019

FY 18 Houston Area Construction Incidents by Focus 4



FY 18 Houston Area Construction Fall Fatalities by Event



FY 18 Houston Area Construction Fall Fatalities by NAICS

NAICS	Industry	Incidents
238160	Roofing Contractors	2
238220	Plumbing, Heating, and Air-Conditioning Contractors	2
238310	Drywall and Insulation Contractors	1
237310	Highway, Street, and Bridge Construction	1
238170	Siding Contractors	1
238120	Structural Steel and Precast Concrete Contractors	1
238140	Masonry Contractors	1

FY 18 Houston Area Construction Fall Fatality Narratives

Fall from and struck by another vehicle

- A group of three vehicles were in a temporary traffic zone installing pavement button highway markers. Employee was working from a hydraulic lift of the first vehicle when vehicle two misjudged the first vehicle having to stop, because the second vehicle had fallen behind in the vehicle convoy. The second vehicle attempted to swerve to avoid striking the first vehicle. The worker attempted to jump from the lift of the truck, and was struck by the second vehicle.

Fall lower level nonmoving vehicle

- A contractor had just finished loading his pickup truck with an HVAC system that he was going to install. The helper turned to walk back into the warehouse when he heard a thud. The helper turned around and saw the contractor lying on the ground with head injuries.

Fall lower level roof

- A roofing contractor was working to remove and replace the shingles on an existing residential home when he fell from the roof and sustained a head injury. The following day he was pronounced dead.
- A crew of employees were power washing the roof of a building in preparation of making roof repairs. Employees heard a loud noise and found that one of them had fallen to the lower roof.

Fall lower level scaffolding

- Employee was working from a scaffold applying stucco and descended the scaffold using the cross braces. He fell and hit his head, suffering serious head injuries.
- Worker was on the second floor of a single family house installing the ceiling sheet rock using an indoor scaffold. He fell to the bottom floor from the scaffold and was fatally injured.
- Three employees were installing home wrap to the north side of a newly built residential dwelling from a set of pump jack scaffolding. The scaffolding had two work platforms placed between three poles. One of the platforms came off of the support bracket, causing two of the employees to fall approximately 24'. One employee died. The other employee was taken to a local hospital and treated for internal bruising.

Fall lower level skylight

- An employee was on the roof of a commercial building to repair an air conditioner. While on the roof he was stung by a wasp, so he came down from the roof to get some wasp spray. It is believed that when the employee returned to the roof to spray the wasps, they came out of the air conditioner and he started backing up. As he backed away, he fell through a skylight and hit the floor 18 feet below.

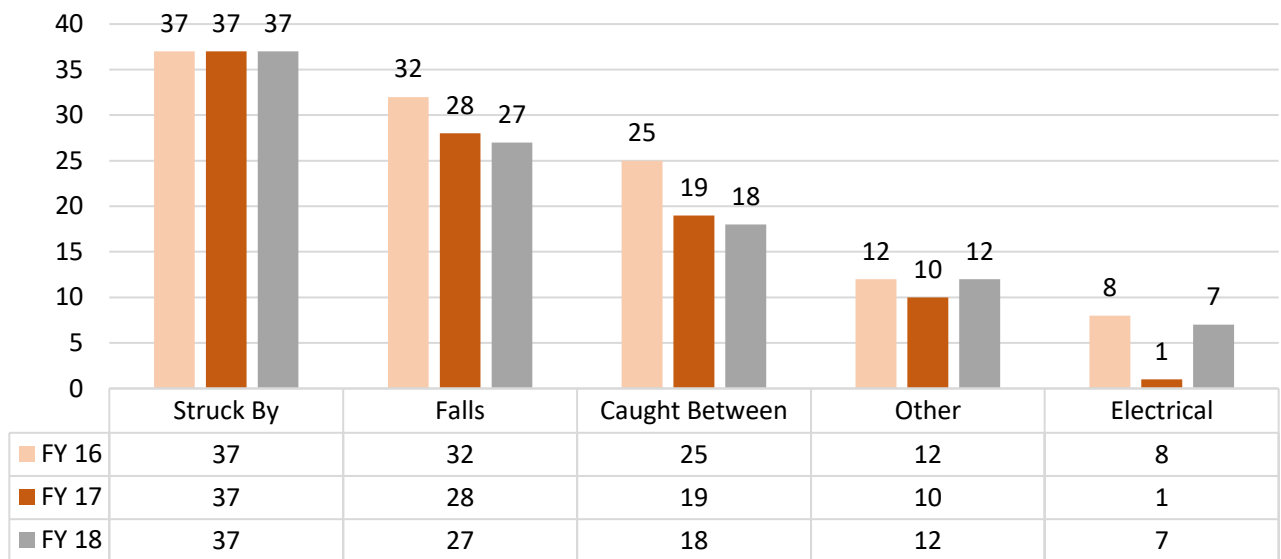
Fall lower level structure or equipment

- Connection crew were in the process of installing a precast wall on the 11th floor of a building. The precast member was not aligning properly and one of the workers was told to go to 10th floor to remove a brace so that precast wall could easily slide in place. Before he could reach the brace the precast wall began to align into place. A connection crew member closest to edge of the building heard a noise from behind him coming from the boom lift. He turned around and saw that the worker was not in the basket. He went to edge of the floor and looked down to see the worker had fallen 105' to the ground.

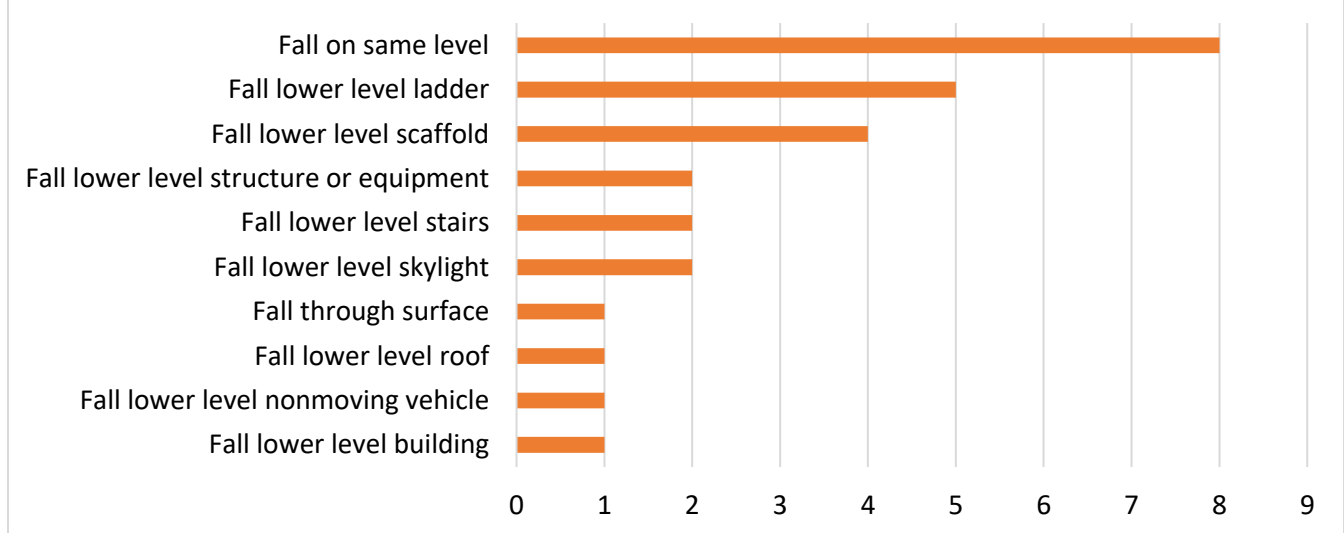
Serious Incident Reports (SIRs)

In-patient hospitalizations, amputations, or loss of an eye that occurs within 24 hours of the incident must be reported to OSHA within 24 hours.

FY 18 Houston Area Construction SIRs by Focus Four



FY 2018 Houston Area Fall SIRs by Event



FY 2019 Houston Area Fall SIRs by NAICS

NAICS	Industry	Incidents
238110	Poured Concrete Foundation and Structure Contractors	4
236210	Industrial Building Construction	4
236220	Commercial and Institutional Building Construction	2
238140	Masonry Contractors	2
238160	Roofing Contractors	2
238210	Electrical Contractors and Other Wiring Installation Contractors	2
238220	Plumbing, Heating, and Air-Conditioning Contractors	2
237110	Water and Sewer Line and Related Structures Construction	2
238310	Drywall and Insulation Contractors	2
238320	Painting and Wall Covering Contractors	1
237120	Oil and Gas Pipeline and Related Structures Construction	1
237130	Power and Communication Line and Related Structures Construction	1
237990	Other Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	1
238290	Other Building Equipment Contractors	1

FY 2018 Houston Area Fall SIR Narratives

Fall lower level building

- Employee was removing trash from the first floor and slipped, falling through a wall opening. He suffered multiple internal injuries.

Fall lower level ladder

- Loading materials into a hopper using a front end loader, employee fell from the ladder fracturing his right ankle.
- The superintendent was climbing an extension ladder to look at a roof where his company had completed work. The ladder was tied off at the top. The bottom of ladder had been placed on some plastic sheeting. As he was climbing the ladder, the bottom of the ladder slipped, causing the superintendent to fall 15' from the ladder. He suffered a broken elbow and pelvis.
- An employee was using a 10' step ladder with a bad rear horizontal section to pull wire. The ladder became unstable and the worker fell from the third rung of the ladder, breaking his leg.
- Employee was using a fixed ladder to take copper piping to the roof. He missed a rung on the ladder and fell approximately 6 feet, fracturing his neck, back and pelvis.
- Painter at residential site was working from a damaged 32' extension ladder missing footings. While he was reaching, the ladder slipped out from under him and he fell 14' fracturing his hip, pelvis, and humerus bone.

Fall lower level nonmoving vehicle

- An operator was in process of climbing onto digger derrick operator's seat when he lost his balance falling 6-8' to ground. He sustained compression fracture to lower back.

Fall lower level roof

- Employee was on the roof installing fiber optic cabling and fell approximately 20' off the roof. He sustained fractures to both hips, multiple broken bones, and a broken collarbone.

Fall lower level scaffolding

- An employee fell from a scaffold and broke his left wrist and left knee.

- An employee was working at elevation in a structure, fitting support brackets on instrument air piping. He was traversing the structure with the intention of going to the ground when he fell 25' - 30' and struck the ground. The employee was tied off, but his fall protection disengaged about 1/2 way down and he hit the ground. The worker had been tied off to a vertical scaffold member. He fractured his left forearm, multiple fractured ribs, and skull and a hematoma.
- Employee was climbing down the scaffold ladder and around the second tier of the scaffold when he fell from the ladder, fracturing his hip.
- Employee was climbing a ladder on a scaffold while carrying another section of ladder in his hand. The section of ladder being carried got caught on the scaffold and caused him to lose his balance and fall approximately 8 feet. He suffered cerebral injury, bruising, internal bleeding, loss of feeling in legs, and paralysis.

Fall lower level skylight

- Employee fell 15' through skylight while performing roofing work. He sustained multiple fractures of the face and skull and a laceration on the right hand.
- Employee was working on a residential home replacing shingles and roofing paper. He tripped on roofing paper and fell 15-20' through a sky light cutout hole to the concrete floor.

Fall lower level stairs

- An employee walking down the stairs, missed a step and fractured her left ankle.
- Employee was bringing trash down a stairwell when he stumbled and fell down five steps landing on his head suffering a brain hemorrhage, fracture to cheekbone, and swelling on right side of head and eye.

Fall lower level structure or equipment

- Employee was standing on gooseneck trailer unloading material when he lost his balance and fell approximately 4' landing on the ground on his side. He fractured five ribs and was hospitalized for respiratory therapy treatment to prevent pneumonia.
- Employee assembling a crane was accessing the super structure of the outrigger to get a better view and fell 9' to the ground.

Fall on same level

- While removing bolts from a pipe flange, an employee lost his balance and fell to the same level, hitting his right side/abdomen and fracturing his rib.
- Employee was moving a 16' fiberglass extension ladder along the side of a building when his foot was caught on 2" x 2" wooden stake protruding from the ground, causing him to fall. When he fell, the other foot got tangled in between the first and second rungs of the ladder. He sustained a compound fracture of the right tibia and fibula above the ankle.
- Employee sustained serious injury to his head and face when he tried to jump over a concrete channel box and fell, receiving concussion and facial contusion.
- Employee was working on underground utilities looking for a leak in a water main by walking on the pipe when he slipped and hit his head on the trench box and his back also hit the pipe. Fall to same level.
- Surveying a construction site the employee tripped over a wooden stake and fell, breaking his left hip.
- Employee slipped and fell bumping his head and sustaining a concussion.
- Employee was washing out a cement mixer and slipped, fracturing his right tibia.



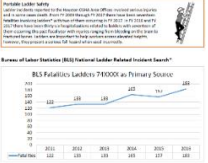

- The employee was installing metal jacketing onto a 12" plumbing line. He was on a slope and lost his footing and rolled his ankle underneath him, dislocating and fracturing the right ankle.

Fall through surface

- Employee was working in the attic of a home installing HVAC equipment. He stepped onto an un-decked section of the attic and fell through the ceiling to the floor approximately 12' below, fracturing several ribs and his left forearm. His right wrist was injured and he had lacerations on his face above his left eye and on his lower lip and inside the mouth.

PLAN ahead to get the job done safely
PROVIDE the right equipment
TRAIN everyone to use the equipment safely

RESOURCES

	<p>OSHA Fall Stand Down Webpage https://www.osha.gov/StopFallsStandDown/ Resources, and tools to help have a successful fall stand down</p>
	<p>CPWR Stop Construction Falls http://stopconstructionfalls.com/ <u>Lots</u> of resources and tools useful for a fall stand down. You can order free 2019 hard hat stickers for your workers too</p>
	<p>Houston North Ladder Flyer shelton.james@dol.gov Ladder safety information and Houston ladder specific incidents</p>
	<p>NIOSH Preventing Falls in Construction Campaign https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/construction/stopfalls.html Resources and tools related to fall prevention and also some great infographics on different fall hazards that can be downloaded. Pretty nice. I stopped working on this flyer to download every one of them</p>

*Fatalities, catastrophes, and SIRs are logged or recorded in various mediums and reports generated using various criteria. Late reporting, natural causes which may have generated an initial report, fatalities transferred to other jurisdictions, and other factors may affect the overall numbers over time. Houston specific data is edited to determine a count of fatalities/catastrophes under OSHA jurisdiction and may change over time as records are updated. Incidents were editing e.g. cases such as natural causes, epilepsy cases, automobile accidents as best as possible. Narratives are rewritten/edited for brevity and may not reflect the final results of an investigation. Data in many cases is used 'as is'. The information is for accident prevention purposes and trending and is not intended to be a statistical study or evaluation. For questions email Jim Shelton at the HNAO at: shelton.james@dol.gov