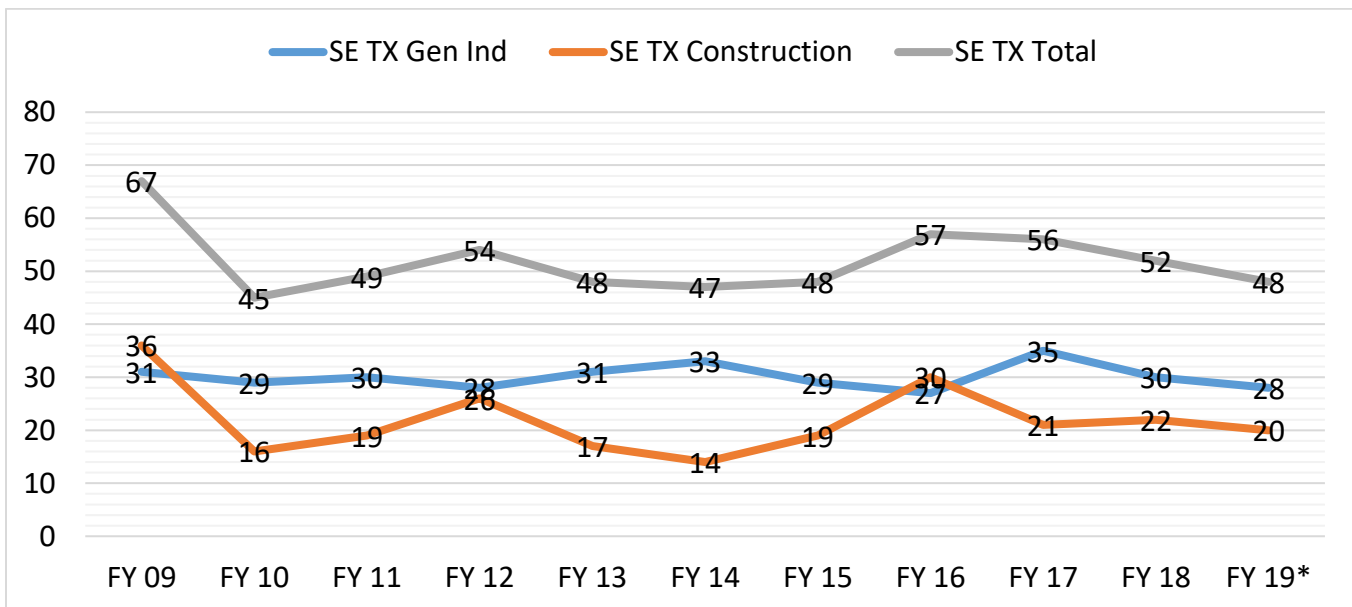


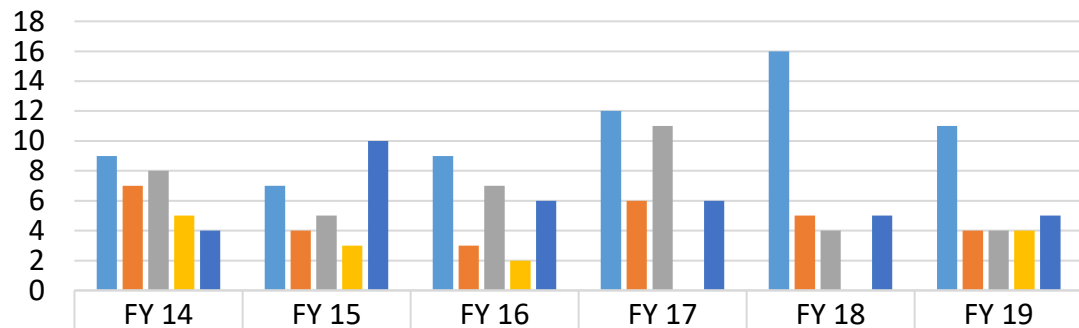
FY 2019 Southeast (SE) Texas General Industry Fatality/Catastrophe Estimates* (v1 Oct 2019)

Based on records as of October 1, 2019, there were 48 total incidents in FY 2019 compared to 52 incidents the previous year. These incidents don't include any reported sole proprietor, auto accident, drug related, or workplace violence related deaths. Incidents in both general industry and construction declined. There were eleven fatal workplace violence incidents, four non-OSHA jurisdiction incidents, and three suicides reported which are covered in a separate flyer.

FY 19* SE TX Fatalities/Catastrophes by Gen Industry and Construction



FY 19* SE TX Gen Industry Incidents by Focus 4



	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17	FY 18	FY 19
Struck By	9	7	9	12	16	11
Caught Between	7	4	3	6	5	4
Falls	8	5	7	11	4	4
Electrical	5	3	2	0	0	4
Other	4	10	6	6	5	5

Struck By Caught Between Falls Electrical Other

FY 19* SE Texas General Industry Fatality/Catastrophe Incidents

Asphyxiation

- Two employees were found unresponsive inside a hydro-mulch tank used for spray seeding. One employee opened the hatch and was overcome and fell in and another employee entered the tank to assist and he also was overcome.

Caught between

- Employee was preparing bulk wood feed stock pulp to be loaded onto rail cars and was pinned between two 4,000 pound units of the bulk pulp and was crushed.

Caught between stationary and moving equipment or objects

- Employee was putting a forklift back onto a trailer used to transport the forklift to pick up recycled materials. He got off the lift and walked back to raise the ramp of the trailer when the forklift started rolling down the ramp. He tried to stop the forklift and was pinned between the lift and another trailer. He was able to free himself, but later died of his injuries.
- Employee was caught between a trailer and a landfill trailer tipper when a driver backed the trailer into him.

Drowning

- Employee drove company vehicle around a barricade and into high water and drowned.

Electric shock

- Employee was changing out fluorescent lamps inside a restaurant sign cabinet. He contacted electrical equipment that was not de-energized and was shocked, falling approximately 6' to the base of the sign, striking his head on the floor. He was knocked unconscious and was not breathing. He was placed in a medically induced coma and later died of his injuries.

Electrocution

- Employee was attempting to reset a deep fryer and crawled underneath a steel fry table to reach behind the deep fryer to reset the machine. She contacted an energized line and was electrocuted.
- A furnace operator was loading an electric furnace with material. A few minutes later he was found electrocuted near the coils by another employee.

Electrocution lightning

- Employee was walking during his lunch break when lightning struck him and a nearby tree.

Entangled in running equipment or machinery

- Employee was working on machine that was not locked out, preparing to weld. The employee tripped the motion sensors and it started an operation cycle while the employee was in the machine, crushing him.

Explosion of vapors, gases, or liquids

- During initial start-up of a new rotary kiln unit to convert used tires to tire derived fuel, the unit experienced a sudden explosion with a fireball from the kiln. Two employees were engulfed by the fire ball and reportedly burned between 30 and 50 percent of their bodies. One employee remains hospitalized and in recovery; the other employee died due to his injuries.

Exposure to heat environmental

- A landscaping crew finished work for the day and were leaving their final jobsite. One of the crew members stated that he felt ill and co-workers gave him water and advised him to rest. After resting, the employee got into the work truck with his co-workers. On their way to their work center, the employee requested something cold to drink and they stopped at a gas station. After taking a few sips, the employee began to vomit as the crew arrive at their work center. The foremen for the crew called 911 and CPR was given until first responders arrived. Upon arrival, EMTs began their treatment and took the employee to the hospital where he was pronounced dead soon after. His core temperature was 109 degrees.

Fall lower level

- Employee climbed a tree to do some trimming work. The branch he was standing on broke and he fell approximately 15' and hit the ground. He died at the hospital from multiple blunt force trauma injuries.
- Employee was trimming trees at apartment complex and tried to cut down a branch. The branch detached from the tree and fell catching his rope and pressed the employee against the trunk of the tree. In an effort to free himself, the employee released the rope and fell approximately 30' to the ground, suffering fatal injury.

Fall lower level nonmoving vehicle

- The fork lift operator was putting a couch in an elevated storage rack, he went to adjust the couch on the rack and fell from the elevated position. The operator fell approximately 32 feet to concrete surface. He was pronounced at the scene.

Fall on same level

- While on delivery route the employee leaned against a vehicle trying to stand up when he collapsed striking his head and later died from blunt trauma of head with skull fracture and brain injuries.

Medical complications

- An employee with preexisting heart condition underwent wrist surgery for a prior work related accident and passed away post-surgery.

Struck by falling object or equipment

- Three employees were fabricating large metal vessels used in the oil and gas industry. An overhead crane operator and a vessel fitter were attempting to mate a 16,000-lb base section to a vessel using an overhead crane with 2 hoists, a nylon basket sling, and a remote control. The base section fell off the sling and landed on the vessel fitter. A welder working on a different vessel next to the base section was caught between the base section and the vessel. The welder suffered blunt force trauma to the chest area and died at the scene. The vessel fitter suffered blunt force trauma to the upper torso and died on the way to the hospital.
- A truck driver was struck by steel stock falling off of the tractor trailer bed which crushed his pelvis and lower extremities.
- Employee was struck-by a crane outrigger while attempting to tie it down with straps on a flatbed trailer.

Struck by falling trees

- Employee was moving a rope hanging from an upper section of a tree being cut down. The rope was tied around the tree approximately 35' above the ground. An employee that was tied off to the rope had cut the

section of tree without knowing the decedent was below. The cut section was approximately 8' long and 12" in diameter. The falling section struck the employee in the head and upper torso and he died.

Struck by flying object

- During a transfer of isobutylene a housing on a line ruptured and an explosion and fire occurred. The fire spread to a dry storage area. One employee was fatally injured from flying debris and two other employees were airlifted to the hospital with thermal burns.

Struck by powered vehicle

- A flagging employee was clearing flagging signs on a two-lane highway. As he was loading the signs a pickup truck hit him. He was pronounced dead at the scene.
- Employees were doing survey work alongside the north bound lanes of I-45 when an 18 wheeler truck driver lost control of his vehicle and struck an employee causing fatal injuries.
- An employee was attempting to measure the height of the lower power line to see if he could fit his truck underneath when he stepped onto the road and a vehicle struck him.
- Employee was run over by a tractor trailer truck while walking on the street near the work site.
- Employee moving a high pile of shaved metal with a forklift and struck an employee, fatally injuring him.

Struck by swinging load or equipment

- Two employees were attempting to use two overhead cranes to lift and rotate a 63' steel beam. Each employee controlled their own overhead crane. During the procedure, the steel beam swung and struck the employee who was standing approximately 5' from the beam. He was taken to the hospital and placed on life support and later passed away.

Overall Fatality Observations

- Landscaping is having a particularly bad year with six incidents.
- Nine of the twenty fatal incidents in construction, 45%, were related to falls
- Electrocutions in construction and forklift related, like the previous year, were major incident areas with five incidents each.
- There were two fatalities due to lightning this year while there were only three in the past ten years.
- When looking at mobile equipment, there were four cases in construction involving two aerial lifts and overhead power lines and two tip-overs, one involving a scissor lift and the other a rough terrain forklift.
- There were five cases, four in general industry and one in construction, where the worker was struck by a vehicle while working near or in the roadway.
- There hadn't been an electrical related fatality in general industry in the previous two years, however there were four in FY 19 including one of the two lightning strikes.

*Disclaimer: Preliminary information - Fatalities and Catastrophes 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. Narratives are rewritten and edited and may not reflect the final results of an investigation. Motor vehicle incidents not in a workzone are not included. Workplace violence and sole proprietors are tracked separately (OSHA does not have jurisdiction over sole proprietors). The numbers and information are for accident prevention purposes and trending and not intended to be a statistical study or evaluation. For questions contact the Houston North OSHA Office, Jim Shelton, CAS, at shelton.james@dol.gov