

Tools for Life – Weekly Health & Safety Meeting



Home Healthy - Home Safe

Date: May 2-6, 2022

Safety Standup Week #2

Fall Prevention Stats

Falls from heights in construction are one of OSHA's 'Fatal-Four.' Have you ever had a close call with a fall, or heard about someone you know who experienced a fall from heights? Fatalities caused by falls from elevation continue to be a leading cause of death for construction employees, accounting for **226** of the **799 (or 29%)** of construction fatalities recorded in 2021 (Fatality Inspection Data/OSHA).

How High is DEADLY?

You might not be very high off the ground, but if you fall, it may still be deadly. Height is not always the deciding factor whether someone may live or die after a fall. 16.9% of all fatal falls were from heights of 10 ft. or less.

Death from Falls:

- Structural Steel Erection-7%
- To a lower level, 6' or less-6%
- **From roofs -31%**
- From ladders-24%
- Scaffolding-15%

Height of falls in feet	% of Deaths
30'	23.5%
26'-29'	9.6%
21'-25'	14.6%
16'-20'	15.2%
11'-15'	20.2%
6'-10'	15.6%

Cost:

- According to Liberty Mutual, non-fatal falls cost **\$2.5 billion annually**.
- According to a study by OSHA, the average cost of a fall from elevations by carpenters was \$97,000. \$106,000 for roofers.
- A Washington roofing Contractor was fined **1.2 million** in **2021** for multiple reports of roofers working with no fall protection.

How far and fast can you fall?

Time elapsed (seconds)	Distance Fallen (feet)	Approx. speed at impact	Example
1	16	10 mph	Roof of your house
2	62	30 mph	As long as a bowling lane
3	138	50 mph	Cable Bridge (185 ft)
4	242	70 mph	Big Ben in London
5	366	85 mph	Statue of Liberty

Discussion Points / Question:

1. Did you realize that 15% of deaths from falls are from less than 10 ft. high?
2. How many times have you used a ladder that was a little too short, or outreached further than you should have, even if it was at home? Its not worth it, get the right tool for the job. Your family will thank you for it.