



Health and Safety Snapshot

Fall from heights - Construction

A few facts on the construction industry

Residential Construction

38 serious injuries (65%)
170 non-compliances (80%)

Commercial Construction

18 serious injuries (30%)
36 non-compliances (17%)

Civil Construction

3 serious injury (5%)
7 non-compliances (3%)

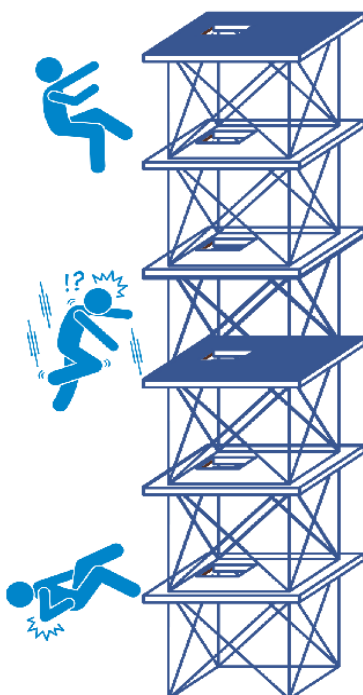
In 2022:

- there were 77 serious injuries reported to SafeWork SA, a decrease of 25% on the previous year
- 61% of these were in the construction industry, the highest of all industries
- there were 263 non-compliances identified across all industries with the construction industry accounting for 86%
- workers in the residential sector continue to sustain the most injuries and were at most risk of a fall from heights within the construction industry.

Within the construction industry:

- 74% of serious injuries occurred below 3 metres
62% of serious injuries below 2 metres were from a ladder
- 60% of serious injuries between 2 and 3 metres were associated with ladders and roof work.

Risk of fall requiring compliance action



ABOVE 6 METRES

5% associated with roof work, scaffolds

6 METRES

27% associated with roof work including roof truss installation, scaffolds, wall frames, ladders

32%

of non-compliances were associated with high risk construction work requiring a Safe Work Method Statement

ABOVE 3 METRES

59% associated with roof work including roof truss installation, wall frames, scaffolds, ladders

ABOVE 2 METRES

9% associated with excavations, ladders, scaffolds

1 METRE

No non-compliance's identified below 1 metre.

Injury and risk

Top 6 activities - injury + risk of injury



First fix carpentry including steel frame

93

12 serious injuries with 50%
being and apprentice
81 non-compliances



Working on a Roof

71

11 serious injuries
60 non-compliances



Working from a scaffold

68

7 serious injuries
61 non-compliances



Finishing trades

61

9 serious injuries
52 non-compliances



Ladder use

40

19 serious injuries
21 non-compliances



Working near a stair void

26

2 serious injuries
24 non-compliances

1 in 5

serious injuries were to apprentices

Reducing the risk of a Fall

Injuries caused by falls are more likely to be life-threatening than most other types of injuries. Duty holders can, in accordance with the hierarchy of control:

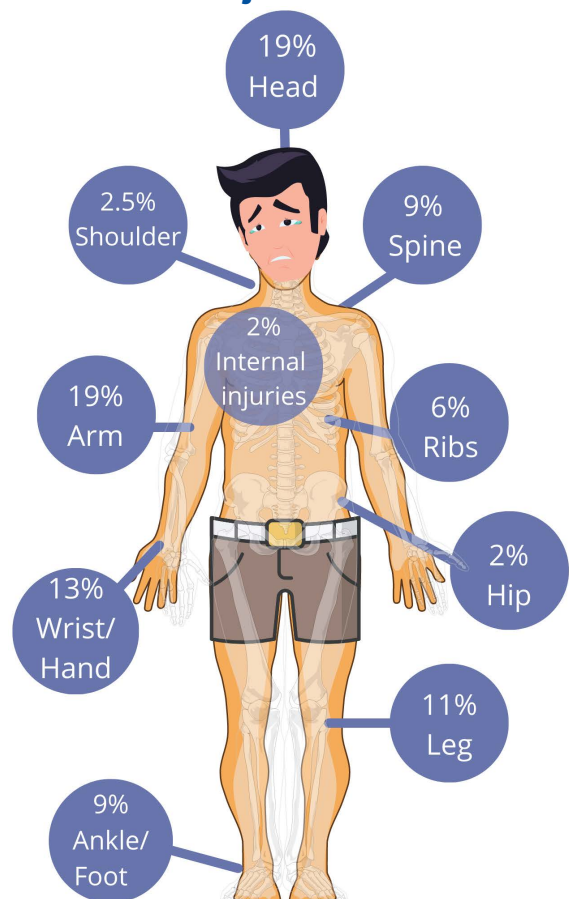
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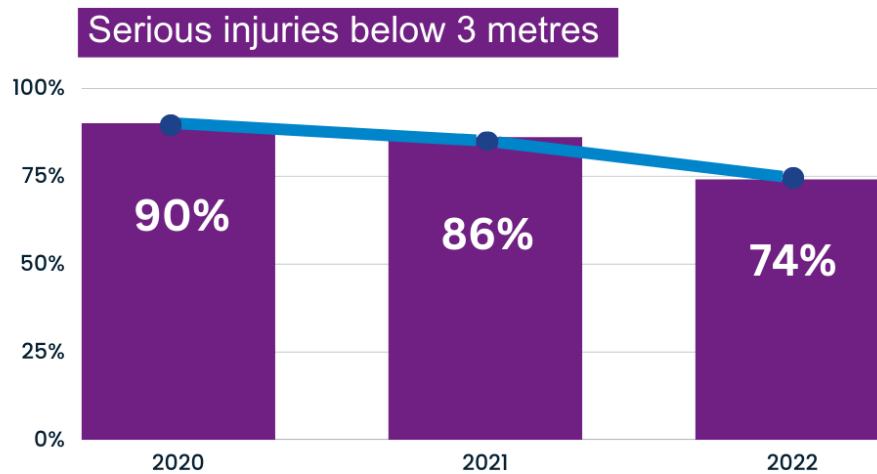
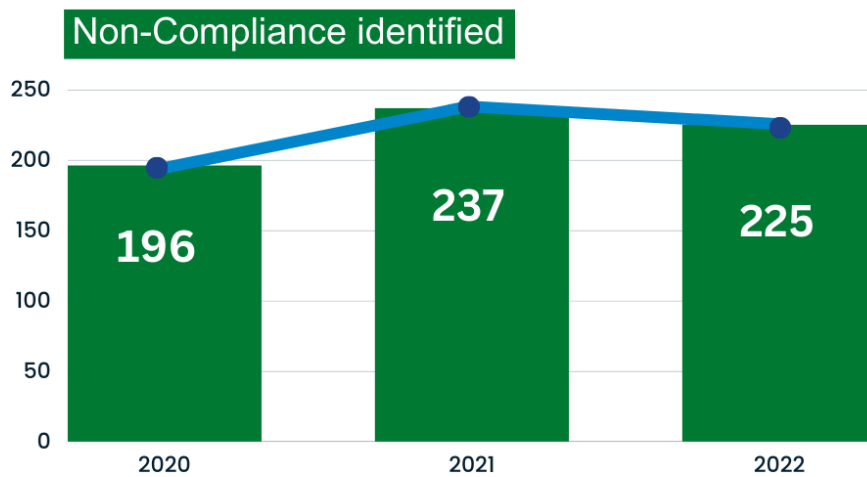
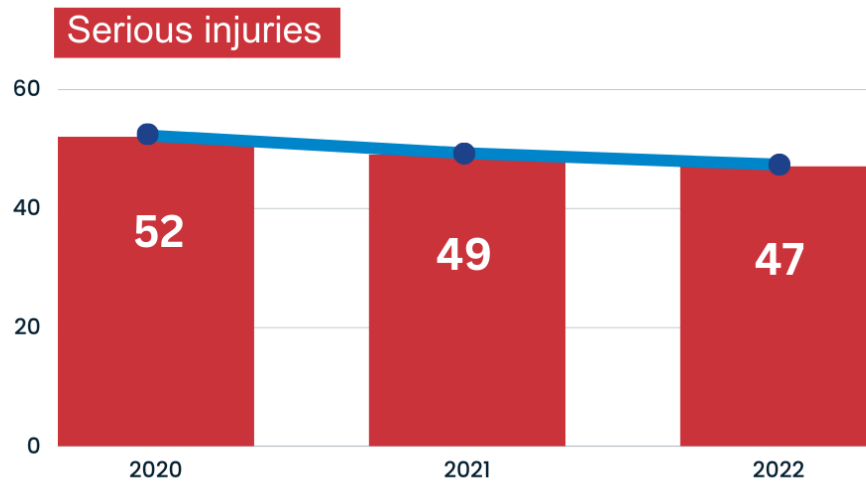
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effective

- Eliminate the risk by, where practicable, doing all or some of the work on the ground or from a solid construction.
- Use a passive fall prevention device such as scaffolds, perimeter screens, guardrails, safety mesh or elevating work platforms.
- Use a positioning system, such as a travel-restraint system, to ensure employees work within a safe area.
- Use a fall arrest system, such as a harness, catch platform or safety nets, to limit the risk of injuries in the event of a fall.
- Use a fixed or portable ladder.
- Implement administrative controls

Injuries



Construction industry comparisons 2020-2022



Construction industry comparisons 2020-2022

