



Government
of South Australia

SafeWork SA

Managing Risk of Falls in Residential Construction Campaign Report 2021

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Executive summary

Falls from heights can have a devastating impact physically, emotionally and financially to workers, as well as their families, friends, businesses and the wider community.

Working at heights can be done safely if builders, contractors and workers plan the job well, have good supervision in place, use the right safety equipment and do not take risks.

Risk of injury or death from a fall can be prevented through the use of properly built scaffolds, installing edge protection and void covers, using work platforms instead of ladders, and fall arrest systems that are attached to an appropriate anchor point with a correctly adjusted lanyard.

Between 1 March and 31 August 2021, SafeWork SA undertook a compliance campaign focusing on Managing Risk of Falls in Residential Construction (the campaign).

The campaign was undertaken as a result of a recommendation made in the [Safe Work Method Statements Campaign 2020 audit report](#). The report identified serious safety concerns in the residential construction sector with managing work health and safety (WHS) hazards and risks associated with a fall from height.

The objectives of the campaign were to:

- measure compliance in the residential construction sector against managing risk of fall regulations, and
- ensure that person(s) with management and control of the workplace met their shared work health and safety obligations and responsibilities.

SafeWork SA Inspectors conducted 96 site visits and 146 compliance audits during the campaign. These focused on 88 contractors, 50 persons with management and control of the workplace (typically a builder) and eight builders. The audits included 34 construction projects where a principal contractor was in management and control of the workplace.

The site visits identified 135 elevated workplaces. Audits of these workplaces resulted in 235 statutory notices being issued in response to non-compliance. 102 prohibition notices and 83 improvement notices were associated with a failure to manage the risk of a fall. A further seven prohibition notices and 41 improvement notices were issued for other non-compliances identified on site.

The most common areas of non-compliance identified that resulted in a statutory notice being issued for failing to manage the risk of a fall related to:

- the provision and maintenance of safe scaffolds
- working in the vicinity of an edge over which a person could fall
- working in the vicinity of an opening (void) through which a person could fall

- failure to prepare a Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) where there was a risk to a person falling more than 3 metres
- failure of the person with management and control of the workplace to consult, co-operate and co-ordinate activities with the contractor undertaking the work at height
- the unsafe use of portable ladders.

The most common areas of other non-compliance identified that resulted in a statutory notice being issued related to:

- toilet facilities not being maintained in good working order or in a hygienic condition
- poor housekeeping creating a risk of slips, trips and falls
- workplaces not being secured from unauthorised access.

During the 96 site visits conducted, 59% of builders stated they had a process in place to monitor contractor performance. However, SafeWork SA identified only 26% of activities undertaken at height had controls in place to minimise the risk of a fall. Of the 34 construction projects visited, only 18% of principal contractors had arrangements in place for ensuring compliance at the workplace when contractors were working at height.

Of the builders spoken to, 72% said they had consulted, co-operated and co-ordinated activities with the contractor on the hazards, risks and control measures necessary in managing risk of falls.

There is a disparity between the arrangements being made by the person with management and control of the workplace and the significant risk the contractor faces when working at height at their workplaces. This clearly demonstrates that builders need to work more closely with contractors on the controls necessary to minimise the risk of a fall and monitor contractor performance against the arrangements made.

Scaffolds are erected to assist in accessing areas at height and to aid safety on a worksite. Incorrect installation, unauthorised alterations and use can make a worksite more hazardous.

A total of 53 scaffold types were audited at 45 worksites with only 19% meeting compliance. The audit revealed there were a number of serious safety concerns identified that required significant improvement, particularly in the area of base design and use.

The campaign identified the five trades most at risk of a fall from height:

Trade	Audits	Compliance	Most common risk
Cladder/Brick layer	16	0%	Working on non-compliant scaffolds
Carpenter/Steel frame	14	7%	Only administrative control used i.e. portable ladders
Plasterers/renderers	13	23%	Voids and non-compliant scaffolds
Electrical/Solar installer	8	25%	No controls in place while working on a pitched roof
Roofer	19	42%	No edge protection in place

Trends identified during the campaign resulted in SafeWork SA publishing new guidance information to assist duty holders in managing the risk of falls. These include:

- [installing prefabricated roof trusses](#)
- [installing roof battens](#)
- [scaffolds - Access and egress in residential construction.](#)

The campaign highlighted a number of safety risks associated with working at height which are detailed further in the [Summary of audit findings](#) section of this report.

These findings show that there is a high level of non-compliance in the residential construction sector with regard to WHS regulations. Improvement is required to safeguard workers.

It is recommended that SafeWork SA:

- communicates the outcome of the campaign to internal and external stakeholders
- develops guidance material on managing the risk of falls when installing solar panels
- develops guidance material on managing scaffolds
- collaborates with the Master Builders Association (MBA) and Housing Industry Association (HIA) to develop a sample SWMS for the installation of roof trusses
- conducts a review of the data collected in 2021 to identify Working at Height trends in the construction industry and publish the information on the SafeWork SA website

- conducts unannounced follow-up audits in 2022 with a greater focus on contractor management.

Introduction

SafeWork SA's primary function is to regulate the work health and safety (WHS) laws in South Australia through a combination of education and compliance activities.

SafeWork SA regulates compliance with the Work Health and Safety Act (2012) (SA) (the Act) and the Work Health and Safety Regulations (2012) (SA) (the Regulations) and can require Persons Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBUs) to rectify safety breaches through the issuing of statutory notices, expiations or prosecution.

Falls are a major cause of death and serious injury in Australian workplaces. Fall hazards exist where work is carried out at height, for example stacking shelves, working on a roof, unloading a large truck or accessing silos. Falls can also occur at ground level by falling into holes, trenches or service pits.

Duty holders are required to ensure that safety measures are in place where there is risk of a fall. Risk of a fall means a circumstance that exposes a worker while at work, or other person while at or in the vicinity of a workplace, to a risk of a fall that is reasonably likely to cause injury to the worker or other person. This includes circumstances in which the worker or other person is:

- in or on an elevated workplace from which a person could fall, or
- in the vicinity of an opening through which a person could fall, or
- in the vicinity of an edge over which a person could fall, or
- on a surface through which a person could fall, or
- in any other place from which a person could fall.

The building and construction industry is one of the most important industries for economic growth in South Australia. It is also one of the most high-risk, which is why improving health and safety in this industry is a national priority under the [Australian Work Health and Safety Strategy 2012–2022](#). Whilst improvement in the industry's national workplace injury and disease rates is evident, there is still opportunity to reduce the rate and costs associated with workplace injury and disease in this sector.

The Construction industry is the leading industry for risk and injuries associated with working at height. The objective of this campaign was to ensure that all duty holders associated with work carried out at height in the residential construction sector understood their obligations in managing the risk of a fall.

Subcontracting is a major feature in the residential construction sector and the contracting out of WHS duties by builders can have negative health and safety effects on a contractor's

workers. Subcontracting can encourage a culture where the objective is to get the job finished as quickly as possible with minimum attention to safety, hence, management of subcontractors was a key feature in this campaign

Background

In October 2020, SafeWork SA released the [Safe Work Method Statement 2020 Audit Report](#). The report identified serious safety concerns in the residential construction sector for managing the work health and safety hazards and risks associated with a fall.

A review of SafeWork SA's database for working at heights in 2020 identified that workers in the residential construction sector sustained the most injuries and were at most risk of a fall from height.

The 2020 data was used to compile the [Fall from heights – Construction 2020 Health and Safety Snapshot](#).

In 2020, 52 serious injuries and 196 non-compliances were recorded against the construction industry. An analysis of the data identified that 69% of serious injuries and 61% of non-compliances were in the residential construction sector.

The top three occupations most at risk of a fall, including apprentices, were:

- carpentry, with 15 serious injuries and 35 non-compliances. Of these, 86% of serious injuries were below 3 metres and 68% of non-compliance identified were between 2 and 3 metres.
- roofing, with 7 serious injuries and 18 non-compliances. Of these, 71% of serious injuries were below 3 metres and 61% of non-compliance identified were between 2 and 3 metres.
- electrician/solar panel installers, with three serious injuries and 21 non-compliance. All (100%) serious injuries were between 2 and 3 metres, with 52% of non-compliance identified above 3 metres.

The [Health and Safety Snapshot of 2020](#) data relating to falls and risk of falls from heights in construction was published by SafeWork SA prior to this campaign being undertaken.

Scope

Between 1 March and 31 August 2021, SafeWork SA undertook a compliance campaign focused on Managing Risk of Falls in Residential Construction.

The objective of the campaign was to ensure that duty holders were complying with their obligations under WHS laws.

The campaign focused on ensuring:

- that the risks associated with [working at height](#) were controlled
- that duty holders were following the [hierarchy of controls](#) to prioritise higher-level control measures and not relying on administrative controls only
- where work involved a risk of a person falling more than 3 metres, a [Safe Work Method Statements](#) (SWMS) had been prepared and was being followed
- that [scaffolds](#) were maintained in a safe condition
- the safe use of [ladders](#)
- that [contractor management](#) was taking place to ensure the person(s) with management and control of the workplace shared work health and safety obligations and responsibilities with the contractor
- that [principal contractors](#) had arrangements in place for ensuring compliance with the managing risk of fall regulations.

The campaign audit targeted three kinds of duty holders:

- person undertaking the work
- person with management or control of the workplace
- principal contractor.

Person undertaking the work

The campaign audit focused on ensuring that the person undertaking the work was:

- managing the risks associated with working at height
- following a prepared SWMS (where the work involved a risk of a person falling more than 3 metres)
- working, where necessary, from an appropriate scaffold that was in a safe condition
- safely using portable ladders

Person with management or control of the workplace

The campaign audit focused on ensuring that the person with management or control of the workplace was meeting compliance obligations by:

- identifying the hazards and risks associated with working at height

- consulting with contractors on the hazards, risks and control measures necessary in managing the risk of falls
- following the hierarchy of controls to prioritise higher-level control measures and not relying on administrative controls only
- having a process in place to monitor contractor performance and record any non-conformances, with corrective actions taken
- ensuring that scaffolds had been erected by a competent person, written confirmation had been received that the scaffold complied with AS1576, regular inspection of the scaffold was being undertaken and that controls were in place to prevent unauthorised access to the scaffold while the scaffold was unattended
- communicating to contractors that any repairs or alterations to the scaffold must be done by a competent person.

Principal contractor

The campaign audit focused on ensuring that the principal contractor:

- had received a copy of the SWMS
- had made arrangements for the collection and assessment, monitoring and review of SWMS at the workplace
- was ensuring compliance with managing risk of falls regulations.

When auditing a site, SafeWork SA Inspectors used a checklist to ensure a consistent approach across all sites. The checklist also required the Inspector to record the occupation and the common types of elevated workplaces in residential construction, such as live edges, roof and voids.

The Operational Guide: Managing Risk of Falls in Residential Construction Campaign 2021 outlined the process, set the expectation for the compliance program and provided operational information to SafeWork SA employees. Inspectors were instructed to enforce requirements and to take immediate action to mitigate any safety risks identified while on site.

An inspection register was created for each audit to record findings and actions taken.

A full breakdown of audit results can be found at [Summary of audit findings](#).

Summary of findings

Duty holder audits

SafeWork SA Inspectors attended 96 workplaces and completed 146 compliance audits. The duty holders audited consisted of:

- 38 contactors who were engaged by a homeowner
- 50 contactors who were engaged by a PCBU
- 8 builders who were undertaking the work.

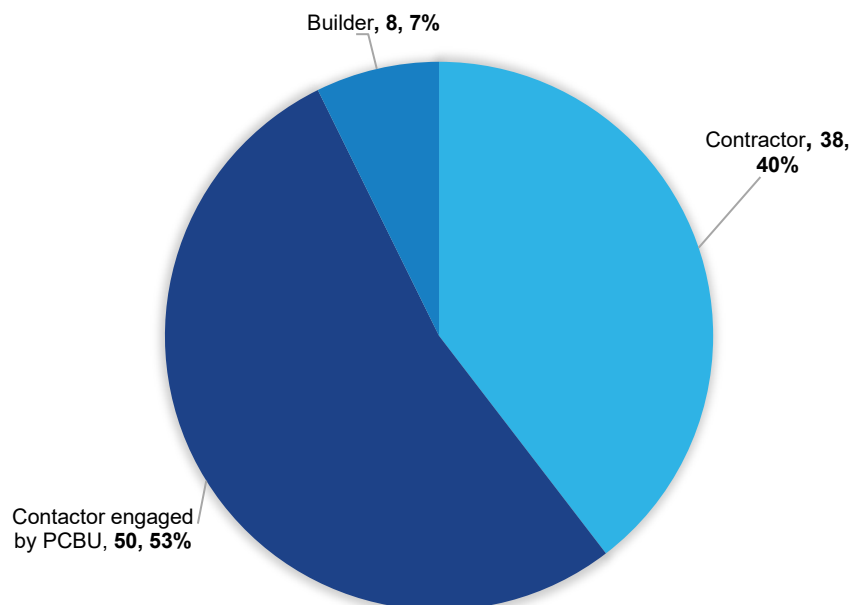
The compliance rate for each duty holder in managing risk of falls were as follows:

- 24% compliance when the contractor had the responsibility to manage the risk of falls
- 32% compliance when the contractor was engaged by a PCBU who had WHS obligations to ensure the work at height was undertaken safely
- 0% compliance when the builder's workers were undertaking the work at height.

Of the 34 construction projects audited, only 18% of principal contractors had arrangements for ensuring compliance at the workplace with managing risk of falls.

Duty holder types audited are displayed in Figure 1.

FIGURE 1: DUTY HOLDER AUDIT TYPES



Elevated workplace hazards

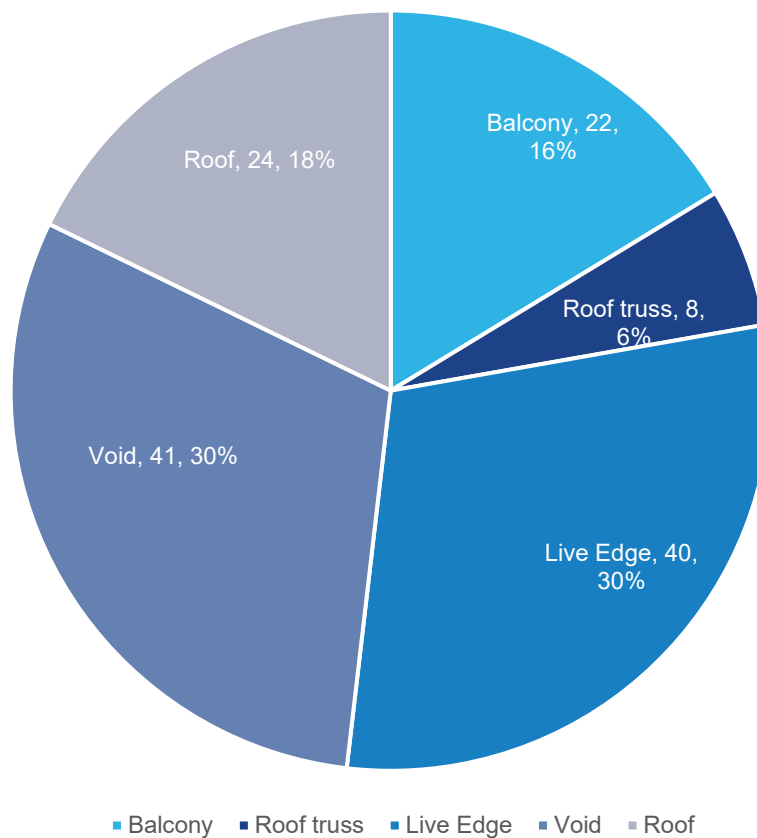
SafeWork SA Inspectors identified 135 elevated workplace hazards that required controls in place to minimise a risk of a fall.

This included circumstances in which the worker or other person was:

- in or on an elevated workplace from which a person could fall, or
- in the vicinity of an opening through which a person could fall, or
- in the vicinity of an edge over which a person could fall, or
- on a surface through which a person could fall, or
- in any other place from which a person could fall.

Elevated workplace hazard types identified are displayed in Figure 2.

FIGURE 2: ELEVATED WORKPLACE HAZARD TYPE



Occupations

SafeWork SA Inspectors recorded the type of occupation that was undertaking the work at height and identified that only 26% of activities undertaken at height had controls in place to minimise the risk of a fall.

The five trades identified as most at risk of a fall from height were:

- external cladder/brick layer at 0% compliance
- carpenter/steel frame installer at 7% compliance
- plasterer/renderer at 23% compliance
- electrical/solar panel installer at 25% compliance
- roofer at 42% compliance.

External cladder/brick layers and plasterer/renderer were most commonly at risk of a fall due to the scaffold not being maintained in a good condition.

Carpenters and steel frame installers were afforded no consideration by the builder as to how the risk of a fall would be managed. Only portable ladders were available for these trades. When working on the first level or installing roof trusses, no edge or void protection was in place.

SafeWork SA developed information to assist carpenter and steel frame installers on:

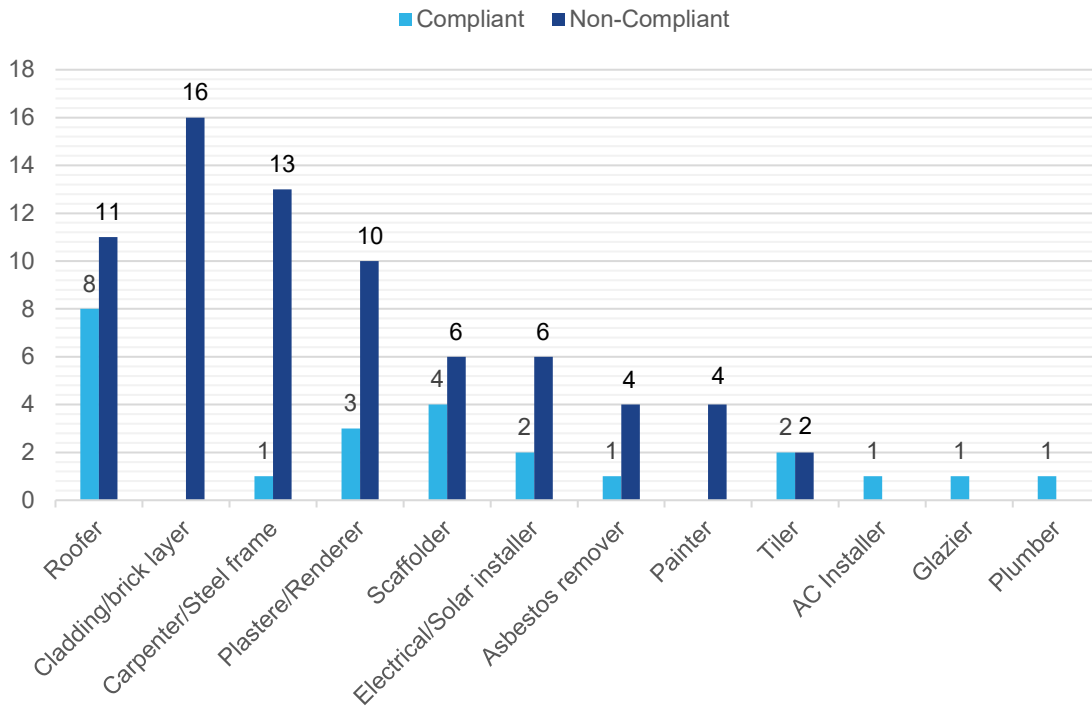
- [installing prefabricated roof trusses](#)
- [installing roof battens](#).

Electrical/solar panel installers were found to be working on a first or second storey pitched roof without any controls in place to minimise a risk of a fall.

Roofers typically worked with edge protection but a majority were found to be working on a pitched roof without controls in place to minimise a fall.

All occupational types recorded are displayed in Figure 3.

FIGURE 3: OCCUPATION



Statutory notices – Managing risk of falls

SafeWork SA issued 185 notices associated with falls management, consisting of 102 Prohibition notices and 83 Improvement notices.

Prohibition Notices were issued where immediate rectification of safety breaches was required. These breaches, which were sufficiently serious to require work to stop, related to:

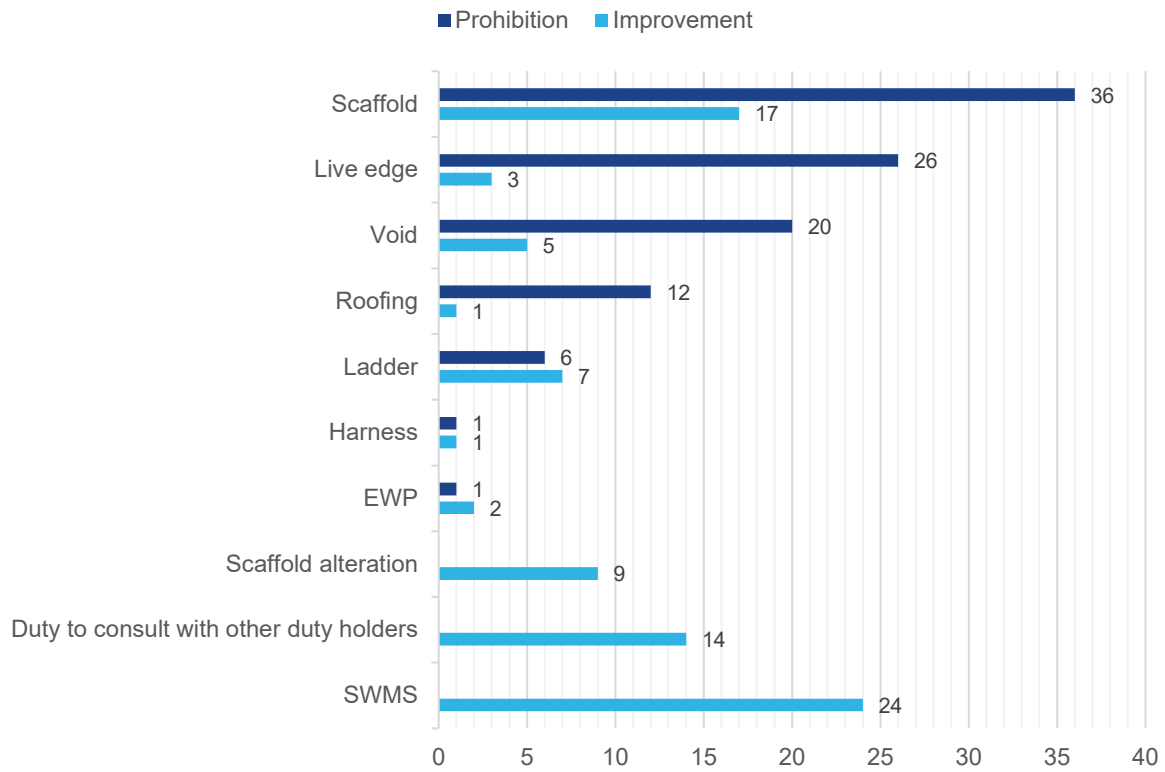
- scaffolds – lack of edge protection, safe access and missing components integral to the safety of the scaffold.
- live edge – lack of edge protection on balconies and floor levels or no controls in place when undertaking first fix carpentry or steel frame installation.
- voids – staircase and atriums not protected and gaps identified on the scaffold work platform.
- roofing – no edge protection or other systems in place to minimise a risk of a fall on a pitched roof.
- ladders – A-frame ladders used to access elevated workplace or ladders used inappropriately.

SafeWork SA developed information to assist persons with management and control of a scaffold to provide safe access to elevated workplaces:

➤ [Scaffolds - Access and egress in residential construction.](#)

A breakdown of the reasons for issuing a notice is displayed in Figure 4.

FIGURE 4: REASON FOR ISSUING NOTICE

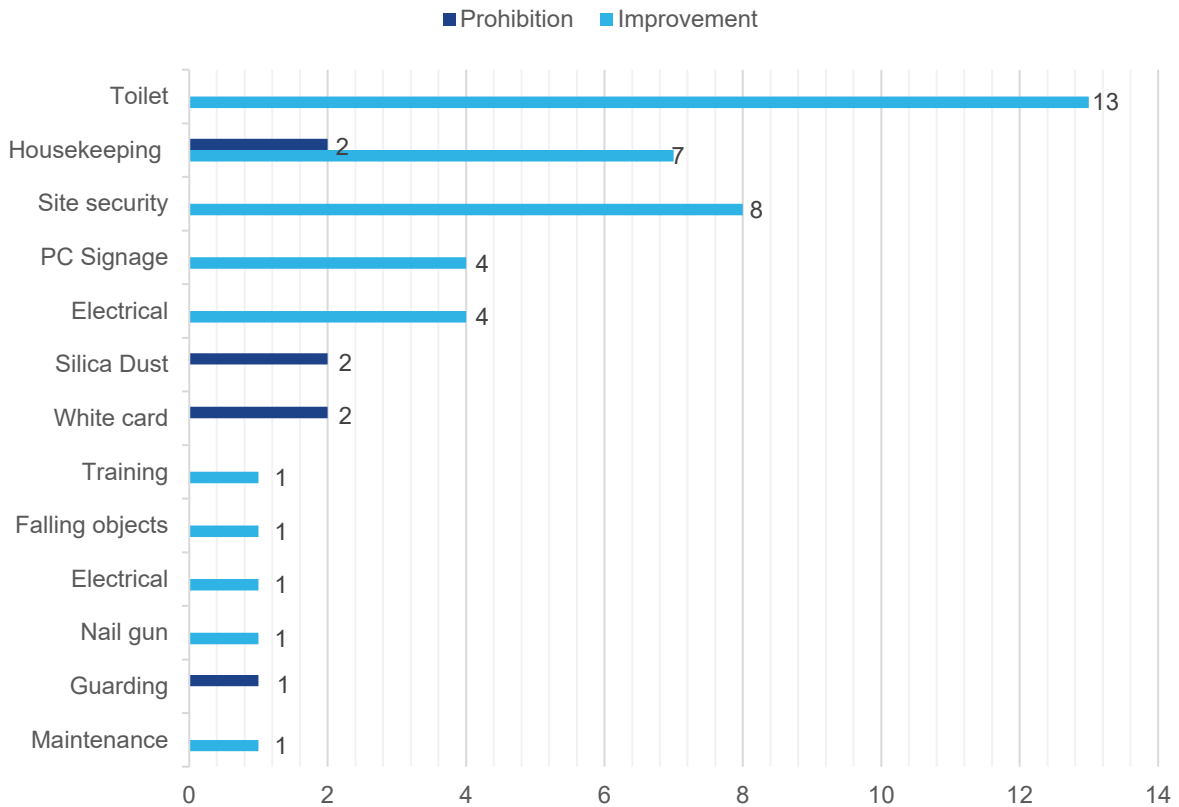


Statutory notices – Other non-compliances

SafeWork SA issued 7 prohibition notices and 41 improvement notices associated with other non-compliances identified on site.

A breakdown of the reasons for issuing a notice is displayed in Figure 5.

FIGURE 5: REASON FOR ISSUING NOTICES



Trends

Scaffolds

Scaffolds are often erected to assist in accessing areas at height and to aid safety on a worksite. Incorrect installation, unauthorised alterations and use can make a worksite more hazardous.

SafeWork SA Inspectors attended 96 workplaces and identified 53 scaffold types used at 45 workplaces. Only 19% of those scaffolds met compliance with the approved code of practice: *AS/NZS 1576: Scaffolding*.

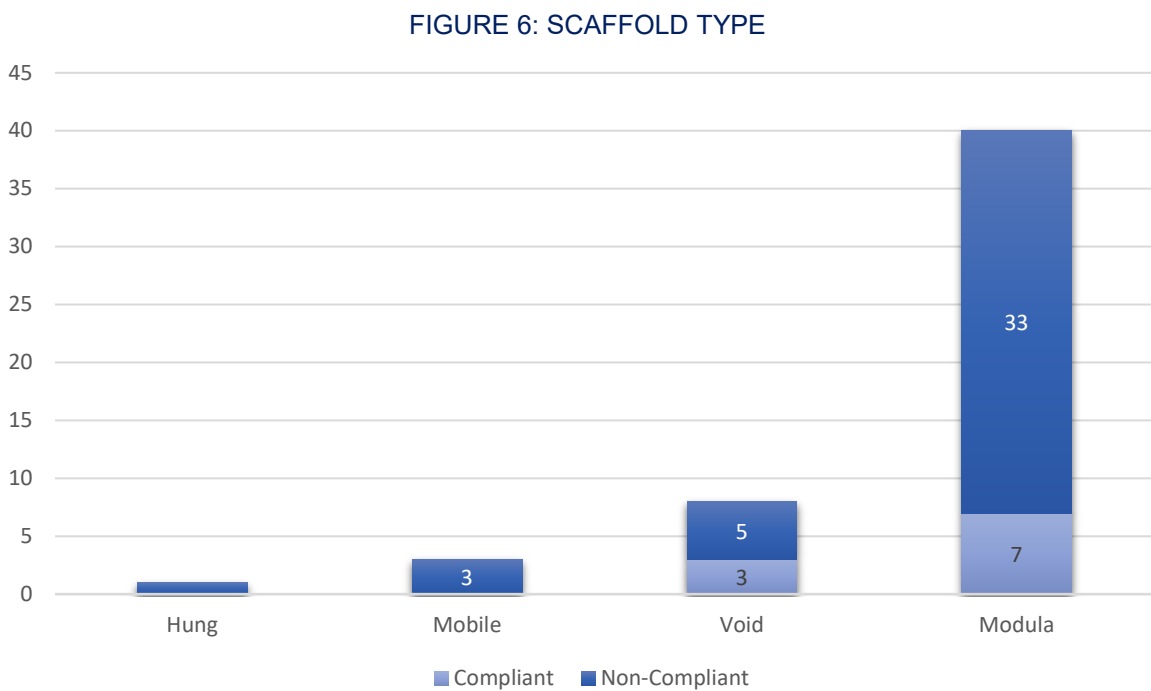
The campaign revealed there were a number of serious safety concerns identified that required significant improvement, particularly in the area of base design and use.

The key safety areas identified included:

- obstructed access to and from the ladder with workers having to climb over or through guardrails
- openings in edge protection or work platform at points of access to working platforms were not protected with a gate or hatch

- no safe entry and exits provided on every working platform
- unauthorised alterations to the scaffold
- missing edge protection at the open sides and ends of platforms
- platforms not installed on a flat plane with lap boards not installed correctly
- gaps between the structure and the platform edge were greater than 225mm
- no clear access on working platform.

Scaffold types identified are displayed in Figure 6.



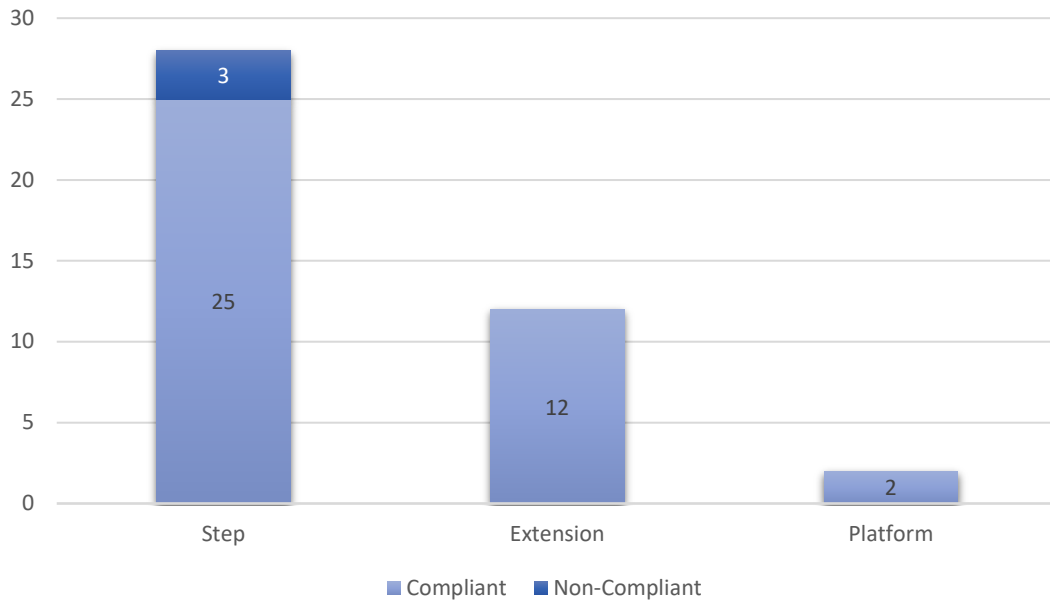
Portable ladder type and use

Portable ladders are one of the least stable but most commonly used tools for working at heights. Incorrect selection, set up and use of ladders can result in falls.

SafeWork SA Inspectors attended 96 workplaces and identified 42 ladders with only three being in poor condition. All portable ladders identified during the audit had a minimum load rating of 120kg and were labelled as suitable for Industrial Use.

Ladder types identified are displayed below in Figure 7.

FIGURE 7: PORTABLE LADDER TYPE



Of the 42 ladders observed in use:

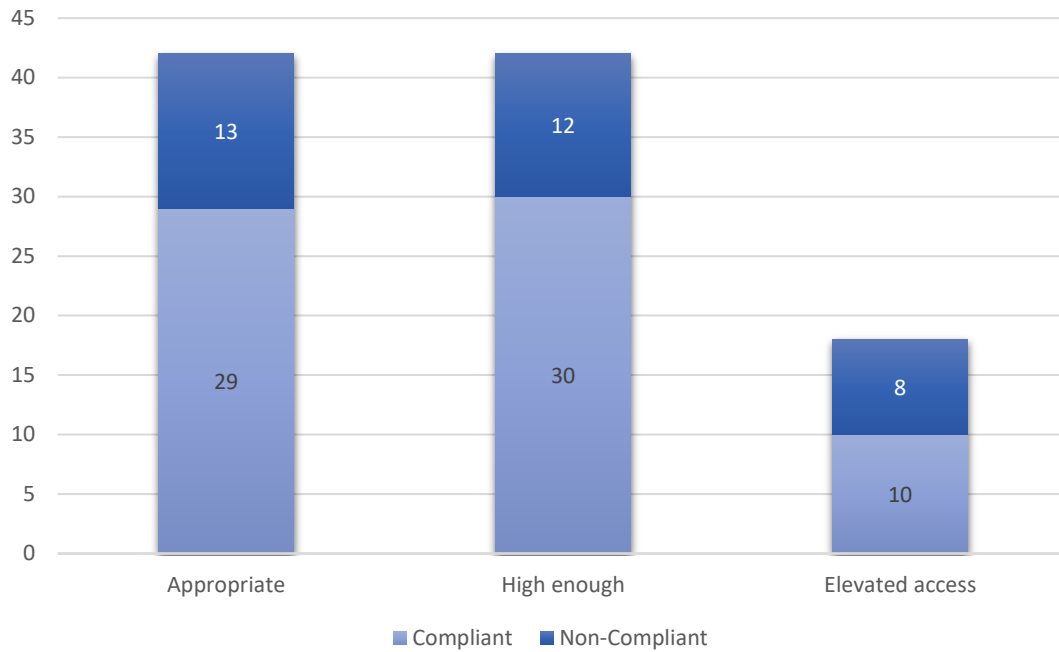
- 69% were being used appropriately for the work being undertaken
- 71% were high enough so that users did not have to over-reach.

SafeWork SA Inspectors identified 18 portable ladders used to access elevated workplaces. Of these:

- 14 were extension ladders and 4 were A-frame step ladders
- 10 of the 14 step ladders were set-up correctly (1:4/grounded/tied at top/1 m above the landing)
- all A-frame step ladders used to access an elevated workplace were prohibited due to instability.

A breakdown of ladder use is displayed in Figure 8.

FIGURE 8: PORTABLE LADDER USE



Person undertaking the work

Managing risk of falls

During the 96 audits conducted, 88 contractors were audited. Of these, 50 were contractors engaged by a PCBU and 38 were contractors engaged by a home owner. Eight audits were undertaken on the employees of a builder.

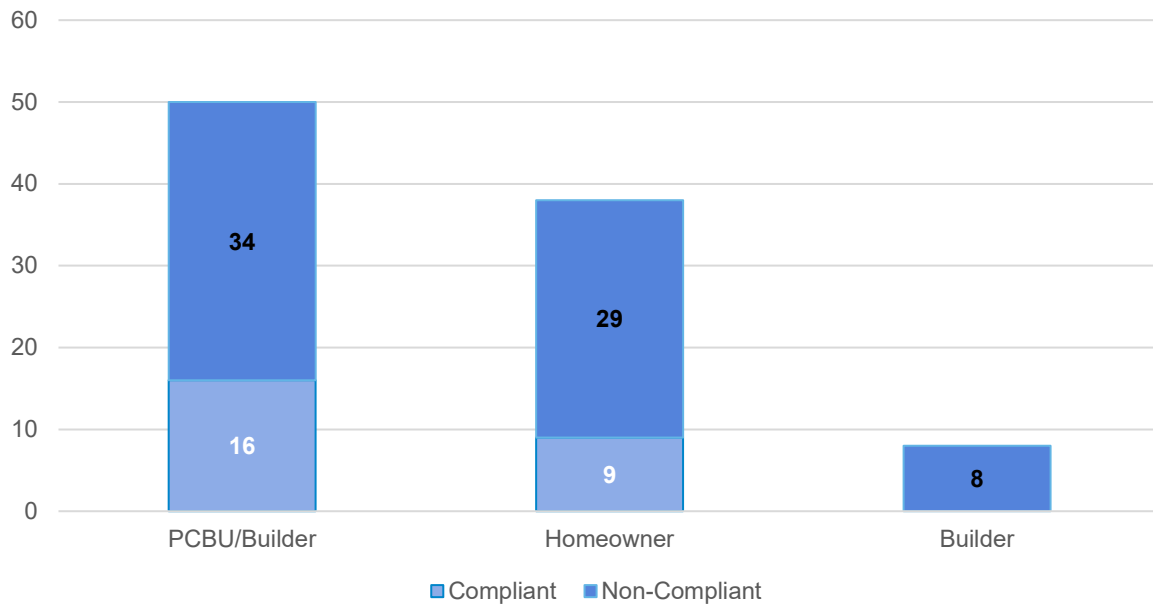
Of the contractors audited, 76% did not have adequate control measures in place to minimise the risk of a fall when engaged by a home owner, compared to 68% having inadequate controls in place when engaged by a PCBU. None of the builders audited were found to be compliant.

At 64 of the worksites audited, Inspectors checked that temporary work platforms (planks/ply) and void covers were secured and found that 72% met compliance.

On five occasions, Inspectors observed harnesses being used in the fall restraint configuration. All users of these harnesses were found to have been trained. Only one harness was not maintained.

Engagement types are displayed in Figure 9.

FIGURE 9: PERSON UNDERTAKING THE WORK



SWMS - work that involves a risk of a person falling more than 3 metres

During the campaign, 50 contractors were found to be undertaking high risk construction work (HRCW) that involved a risk of a person falling more than 3 metres. Of these, 26 contractors were engaged by a PCBU and 24 engaged by a home owner.

It was identified that 52% of contractors did not prepare a HRCW SWMS prior to commencing the work. Of the 24 contractors that did prepare a HRCW SWMS, 37% of the SWMS documents did not meet compliance with the regulations and 58% of contractors were not following the control measures listed in the SWMS.

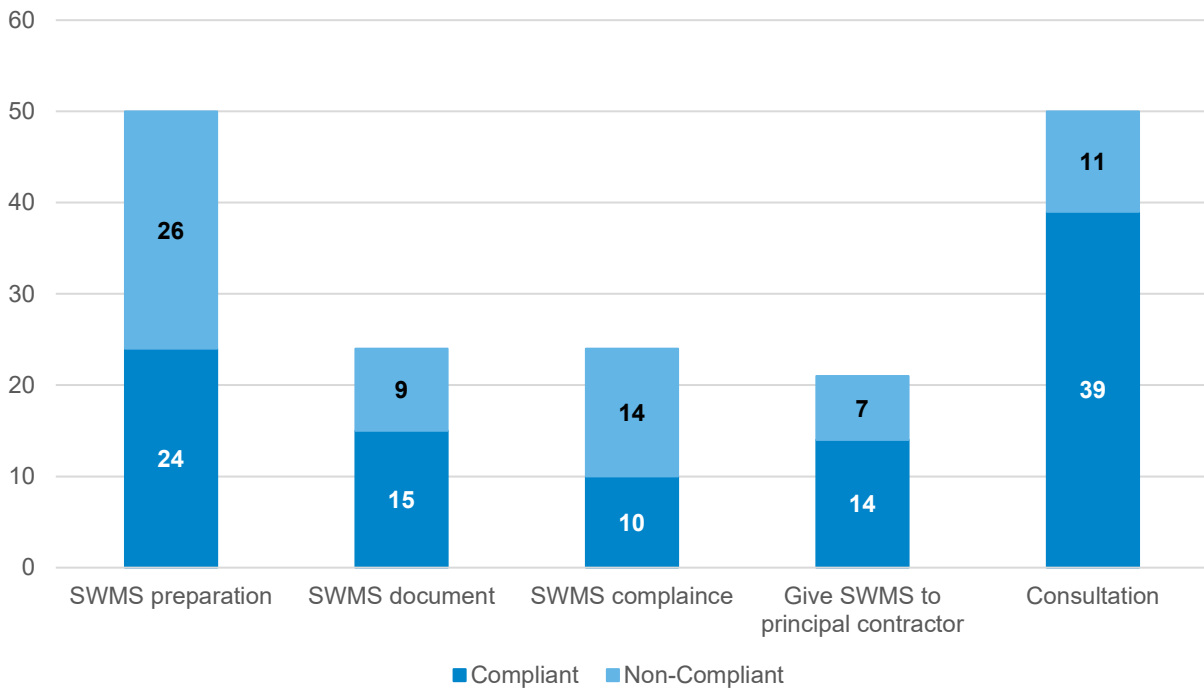
When asked, 79% of workers said they were consulted in the development of the SWMS. This demonstrates a misunderstanding of the intent of a HRCW SWMS, as 76% of work undertaken at height was non-compliant.

On 21 occasions, the work being carried out above 3 metres was on a construction project. Of the contractors audited, 66% had given a copy of the HRCW SWMS to the principal contractor as required by the regulations.

The highest rate, at 66%, of a HRCW SWMS not being prepared prior to work commencing related to contractors being engaged by a home owner. This is compared to 38% not being prepared when engaged by a PCBU.

A breakdown on SWMS is displayed in Figure 10.

FIGURE 10: SWMS



Scaffold use

During the campaign, 53 scaffold types were found to be being used by contractors to undertake their work at height. Only 19% of these scaffolds met compliance with the approved code of practice: *AS/NZS 1576: Scaffolding*.

Of the scaffolds checked, 49% had unimpeded access to the elevated workplace. A majority of modular scaffolds had an external ladder to access the working platform with a handrail across the access point.

AS/NZS 1576: Scaffolding requires the gap between the building/structure and the scaffold to be less than 225mm with the vertical openings to be less than 300 mm to reduce the risk of people or materials falling through. Of the scaffolds checked, 55% met this requirement.

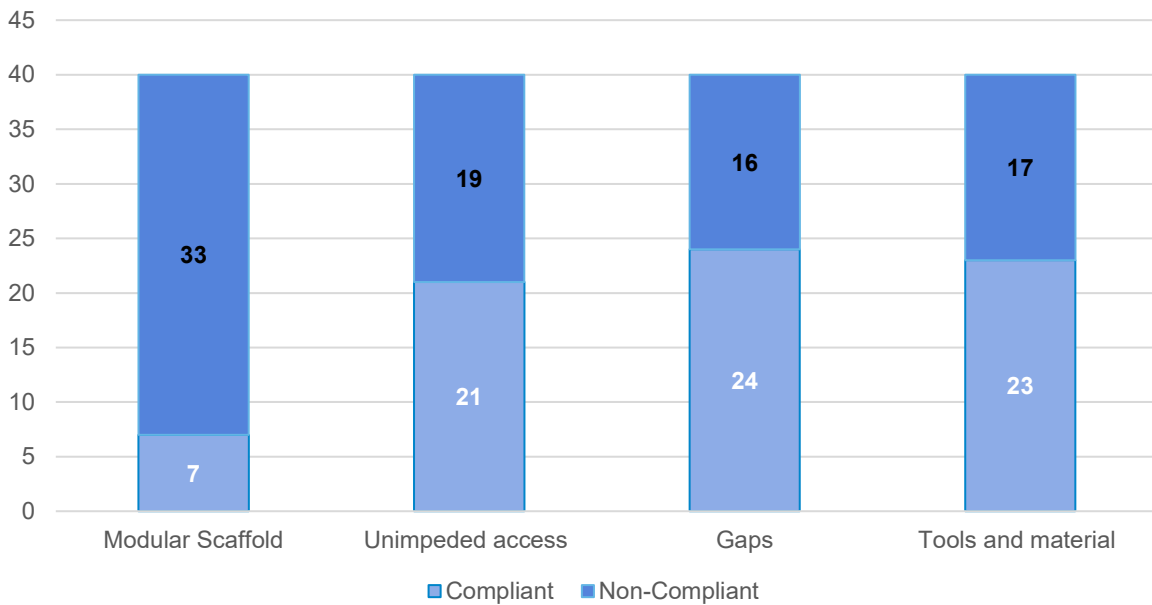
Due to the high rate of ladders used to access working platforms, a safe system of work needed to be in place to get tools and material to the elevated workplace. Only 49% of scaffold users had a system in place.

SafeWork SA developed the following information to assist duty holders in meeting their work health and safety responsibilities:

- [Scaffolds - Access and egress in residential construction.](#)

A breakdown on modular scaffolds is displayed in Figure 11.

FIGURE 11: MODULAR SCAFFOLDS



Person with management or control of the workplace

Managing risk of falls

Of the 96 audits completed, 58 worksites were under the management and control of a PCBU, typically a builder.

When builders were asked whether they had a process for identifying the hazards and risks associated with working at height for the build, 69% of builders said they had a process in place.

When builders were asked whether they followed the hierarchy of controls to prioritise higher-level control measures such as scaffolds or work platforms, 79% of builders said they had considered the hierarchy of controls.

Contractor management is an important aspect of residential construction as the builder has a shared WHS responsibilities and are required to work with the contractor to ensure the health and safety of persons working at height. When asked, 72% of builders said they had consulted, co-operated and co-ordinated activities with the contractor on the hazards, risks and control measures necessary in managing the risk of falls.

Overall, 59% of builders said they had a process in place to monitor contractor performance, and record any non-conformances and corrective actions taken.

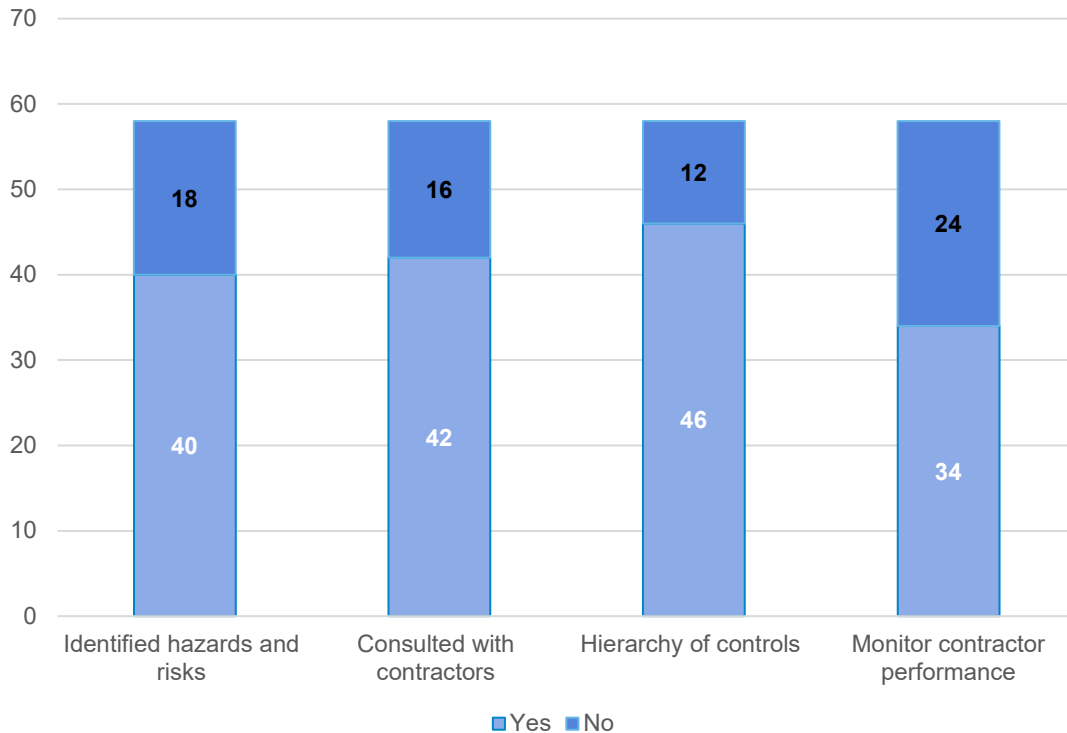
The 58 worksite audits that were under the management and control of a builder identified that 72% of contractors were at risk of a fall.

The disparity between the arrangements being made by the person with management and control of the workplace and the significant risk the contractor faces when working at height

at their workplace clearly demonstrates that builders need to monitor their contractors to ensure arrangements are being followed.

A breakdown on builders managing risk of falls is displayed in Figure 12.

FIGURE 12: MANAGING RISK OF FALLS



Scaffolds

Of the 58 audits completed on a builder, 40 worksites had 48 scaffolds in place to minimise a risk of a fall consisting of:

- 37 modular scaffolds
- 10 void scaffolds
- 1 mobile scaffold.

All (100%) of the scaffolds were erected by a person holding a high risk work licence in scaffolding, with 78% of builders receiving written confirmation that the scaffold was compliant to the approved code of practice: AS1576: Scaffolding.

Of these, 80% had controls in place to prevent unauthorised access to the scaffold while the scaffold was unattended.

The unauthorised altering of a scaffold by untrained or unlicensed contractors is common in residential construction and can lead to poor safety outcomes for persons working on the scaffold.

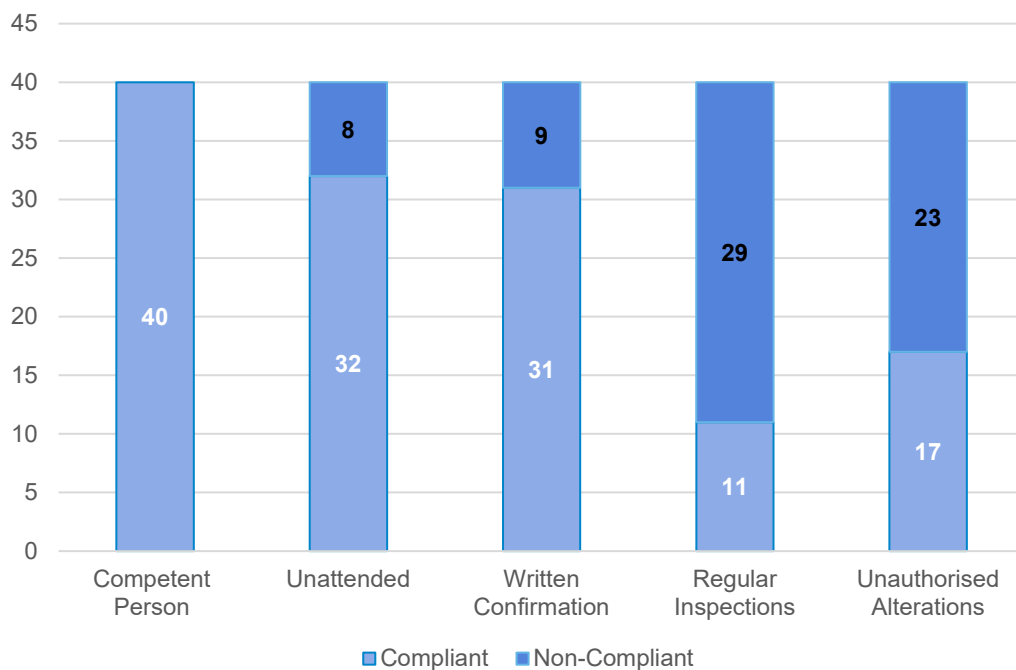
When looking to see if builders had a process in place for the regular inspection of the scaffold, 35% of builders did not undertake regular inspections.

Only 42% of builders had communicated with their contractors that any repairs or alterations to the scaffold must be done by a competent person.

The above failures and the need to have robust systems in place to manage scaffolds aligns to the reasons why a high number of prohibition and improvement notices were issued on scaffolds during the campaign.

A breakdown on scaffolds under the management and control of a builder is displayed in Figure 13.

FIGURE 13: SCAFFOLDS



Principal contractor

Of the 58 audits completed on a builder, 34 worksites were a construction project that involved construction work valued at \$450,000 or more. This requires a principal contractor to have management or control of the workplace where the construction work is taking place.

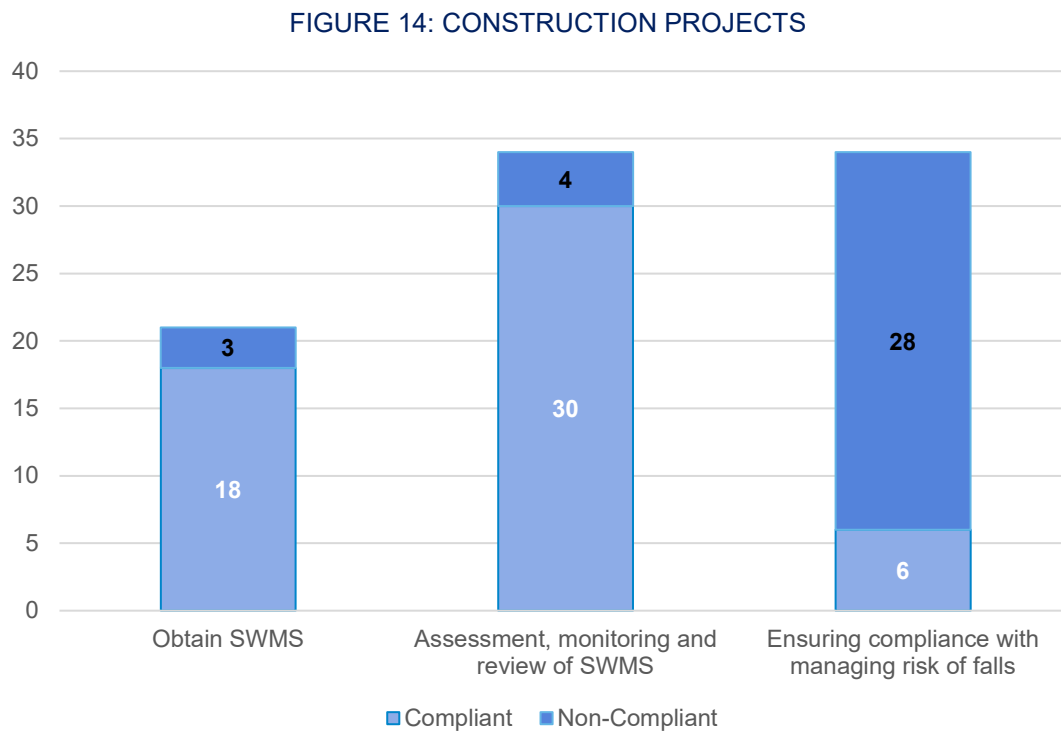
On a construction project, a principal contractor must take all reasonable steps to obtain a copy of SWMS relating to high risk construction work (HRCW) before the HRCW commences. Of the 21 construction projects that had work that involved a risk of a person falling more than 3 metres, 86% of principal contractors received the SWMS from the contractor.

As part of the WHS management plan, a principal contractor must have arrangements in place for the collection and assessment, monitoring and review of SWMS at the workplace. Of the principal contractors audited, 88% had arrangements in place.

A principal contractor also has further duties relating to specific regulations such as managing the risk of falls. Where contractors are undertaking work at height, the principal contractor must put in place arrangements for ensuring compliance at the workplace. Only 18% of principal contractors had arrangements in place, resulting in:

- 71% of contractors at risk of a fall
- 76% of scaffolds not meeting compliance.

A breakdown on construction projects is displayed in Figure 14.



Recommendations

It is recommended that SafeWork SA:

- communicates the outcome of the campaign to internal and external stakeholders
- develops guidance material on managing the risk of falls when installing solar panels
- develops guidance material on managing scaffolds
- collaborates with the MBA and HIA to develop a sample SWMS for the installation of roof trusses

- conducts a review of the data collected in 2021 to identify working at height trends in the construction industry and publish the information on the SafeWork SA website
- conducts unannounced follow-up audits in 2022 with a greater focus on contractor management.

Further information

For further information and advice on complying with legislative requirements, visit the SafeWork SA website at safework.sa.gov.au or call SafeWork SA on 1300 365 255.

You can also request a visit from our [advisory service](#), who can provide practical advice based on your workplace's industry, size, risk and complexity. Our advisors can visit your workplace to help you understand your work health and safety responsibilities, as well as provide practical support to improve your systems, practices and general approach to safety.

Summary of audit findings

Appendix A - Person undertaking the work

Managing of risk of fall	Audits	Compliant	Non-Compliant	Percentage of compliance
Risks associated with working at height are controlled	96	25	71	26%
Temporary work platforms (planks/ply) and void covers secured	64	46	18	72%
Harness maintained and anchored appropriately	5	4	1	80%
Workers trained in harness use	5	5	0	100%
Where fall arrest is being used, have emergency procedures been tested	0	0	0	N/A

SWMS – work that involves a risk of a person falling more than 3 metres	Audits	Compliant	Non-Compliant	Percentage of compliance
Is a SWMS available	50	24	26	48%
Is the SWMS compliant with regulation 299	24	15	9	63%
Are the controls listed in the SWMS being followed	24	10	14	42%
Have workers been consulted in the development of the SWMS	24	19	5	79%
For a construction project, has a copy of the SWMS been given to the principal contractor	21	14	7	67%

Use of Scaffold	Audits	Compliant	Non-Compliant	Percentage of compliance
Does the scaffold comply with AS1576: Scaffolding	53	10	43	19%
Is there safe and unimpeded access to the elevated workplace	53	26	27	49%
Is the gap between the building/structure and the scaffold less than 225 and vertical openings less than 300 mm to reduce the risk of people or materials falling through	49	27	22	55%
Are there safe systems in place to get tools and material to the elevated workplace	53	26	27	49%

Use of portable ladders	Audits	Compliant	Non-Compliant	Percentage of compliance
Is the ladder in good condition and rated for commercial use	42	39	3	93%
Is the ladder appropriate for the work being undertaken	42	29	13	69%
Are the ladders high enough so that users do not have to over-reach	42	30	12	71%
Are access ladders set up correctly (1:4/grounded/tied at top/1 metre above the landing)	18	10	8	56%

Appendix B - Person with management or control of the workplace

Management of risk of fall	Audits	Yes	No	Percentage of compliance
Has the builder identified the hazards and risks associated with working at height for the build	58	40	18	69%
Has the builder consulted with contractors on the hazards, risks and control measures necessary in managing the risk of falls	58	42	16	72%
Has the builder followed the hierarchy of controls to prioritise higher-level control measures and not relied on administrative controls only i.e. procedures, ladder use etc.	58	46	12	79%
Does the builder have a process in place to monitor contractor performance and record any non-conformances and corrective actions taken	58	34	24	59%

Scaffold	Audits	Compliant	Non-Compliant	Percentage of compliance
Has the scaffold been erected by a competent person	40	40	0	100%
Has written confirmation been received stating that the scaffold is compliant to AS1576	40	31	9	78%
Is there a process in place for the regular inspection of the scaffold	40	26	14	65%
Has the builder communicated to contractors that any repairs or alterations to the scaffold must be done by a competent person	40	17	23	43%
Are there controls in place to prevent unauthorised access to the scaffold while the scaffold is unattended	40	34	6	85%

Principal Contractor	Audits	Compliant	Non-Compliant	Percentage of compliance
Has the principal contractor received a copy of the SWMS	21	18	3	86%
Does the principal contractor have arrangements in place for the collection and assessment, monitoring and review of SWMS at the workplace	34	30	4	88%
Does the principal contractor have arrangements in place for ensuring compliance with managing the risk of falls	34	6	28	18%