

# Safety+Health<sup>®</sup>

December 2024

an **nsc** publication



## Inside

- Tips for 'selling' safety to leadership
- **PRODUCT FOCUS:** Cold weather protection
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# 2024 OSHA'S TOP 10

The most frequently cited standards for fiscal year 2024 | *By Kevin Druley, associate editor*

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**OSHA'S TOP 10 LIST** of the most frequently cited standards for fiscal year 2024 doesn't offer any surprises, including the appearance of Fall Protection – General Requirements at the top for the 14th straight time.

Still, "all these standards we're talking about are relevant to protecting workers," said Scott Ketcham, director of OSHA's Directorate of Enforcement Programs, who added that violations "have led to tragedies that are preventable."

Ketcham presented the preliminary list – which represents OSHA Information System data from Oct. 1, 2023, to Sept. 5 – during the 2024 NSC Safety Congress & Expo in Orlando, FL.

Here, we expand on the presentation with additional preliminary data from OSHA. We've also got a list of the year's largest employer fines and an exclusive Q&A with Ketcham.



## FALL PROTECTION – GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

**STANDARD:** 1926.501

**TOTAL VIOLATIONS:** 6,307

**FISCAL YEAR 2023  
RANKING:** 1  
(7,188 VIOLATIONS)

This standard outlines where fall protection is required, which systems are appropriate for given situations, the proper construction and installation of safety systems, and the proper supervision of employees to prevent falls. It's designed to protect employees on walking-working surfaces (horizontal or vertical) with an unprotected side or edge above 6 feet.

### TOP 5 SECTIONS CITED:

- 1. 1926.501(b)(13):** Each employee engaged in residential construction activities 6 feet or more above lower levels shall be protected by guardrail systems, safety net systems or personal fall arrest systems unless another provision in paragraph (b) of this section provides for an alternative fall protection measure. – 4,724 violations
- 2. 1926.501(b)(1):** Each employee on a walking-working surface (horizontal and vertical surface) with an unprotected side or edge that is 6 feet or more above a lower level shall be protected from falling by the use of guardrail systems, safety net systems or personal fall arrest systems. – 702
- 3. 1926.501(b)(10):** Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b) of this section, each employee engaged in roofing activities on low-slope roofs with unprotected sides and edges 6 feet or more above lower levels shall be protected from falling by guardrail systems; safety net systems; personal fall arrest systems; or a combination of warning line system and guardrail system, warning line system and safety net system, warning line system and personal fall arrest system, or warning line system and safety monitoring system. – 354
- 4. 1926.501(b)(11):** Each employee on a steep roof with unprotected sides and edges 6 feet or more above lower levels shall be protected from falling by guardrail systems with toeboards, safety net systems or personal fall arrest systems. – 275
- 5. 1926.501(b)(4):** "Holes." – 128



## HAZARD COMMUNICATION

STANDARD: 1910.1200

TOTAL VIOLATIONS: 2,888

FISCAL YEAR 2023  
RANKING: 2  
(3,227 VIOLATIONS)

This standard addresses chemical hazards – both those chemicals produced in the workplace and those imported into the workplace. It governs the communication of those hazards to workers.

### TOP 5 SECTIONS CITED:

1. **1910.1200(e)(1):** Employers shall develop, implement and maintain at each workplace a written hazard communication program that at least describes how the criteria specified in paragraphs (f), (g) and (h) of this section for labels and other forms of warning, Safety Data Sheets, and employee information and training will be met. – 1,076 violations
2. **1910.1200(h)(1):** Employers shall provide employees with effective information and training on hazardous chemicals in their work area at the time of their initial assignment and whenever a new chemical hazard the employees have not previously been trained about is introduced into their work area. Information and training may be designed to cover categories of hazards (e.g., flammability, carcinogenicity) or specific chemicals. Chemical-specific information must always be available through labels and Safety Data Sheets. – 747
3. **1910.1200(g)(8):** The employer shall maintain in the workplace copies of the required Safety Data Sheets for each hazardous chemical, and shall ensure they are readily accessible during each work shift to employees when they are in their work area(s). – 328
4. **1910.1200(f)(6):** Workplace labeling. Except as provided in paragraphs (f)(7) and (f)(8) of this section, the employer shall ensure each container of hazardous chemicals in the workplace is labeled, tagged or marked. – 296
5. **1910.1200(g)(1):** Chemical manufacturers and importers shall obtain or develop a Safety Data Sheet for each hazardous chemical they produce or import. Employers shall have a Safety Data Sheet in the workplace for each hazardous chemical which they use. – 189



## LADDERS

STANDARD: 1926.1053

TOTAL VIOLATIONS: 2,573

FISCAL YEAR 2023  
RANKING: 3  
(2,950 VIOLATIONS)

This standard covers general requirements for all ladders.

### TOP 5 SECTIONS CITED:

1. **1926.1053(b)(1):** When portable ladders are used for access to an upper landing surface, the ladder side rails shall extend at least 3 feet above the upper landing surface to which the ladder is used to gain access; or, when such an extension is not possible because of the ladder's length, then the ladder shall be secured at its top to a rigid support that will not deflect, and a grasping device, such as a grab rail, shall be provided to assist employees in mounting and dismounting the ladder. In no case shall the extension be such that ladder deflection under a load would, by itself, cause the ladder to slip off its support. – 1,763 violations
2. **1926.1053(b)(4):** Ladders shall be used only for the purpose for which they were designed. – 204
3. **1926.1053(b)(13):** The top or top step of a stepladder shall not be used as a step. – 171
4. **1926.1053(b)(22):** An employee shall not carry any object or load that could cause the employee to lose balance and fall. – 93
5. **1926.1053(b)(16):** Portable ladders with structural defects, such as, but not limited to, broken or missing rungs, cleats or steps; broken or split rails; corroded components; or other faulty or defective components, shall either be immediately marked in a manner that readily identifies them as defective, or be tagged with "Do Not Use" or similar language, and shall be withdrawn from service until repaired. – 69



## RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

STANDARD: 1910.134

TOTAL VIOLATIONS: 2,470

FISCAL YEAR 2023  
RANKING: 7  
(2,493 VIOLATIONS)

This standard directs employers on establishing or maintaining a respiratory protection program. It lists requirements for program administration; worksite-specific procedures; respirator selection; employee training; fit testing; medical evaluation; respirator use; and respirator cleaning, maintenance and repair.

### TOP 5 SECTIONS CITED:

1. **1910.134(e)(1):** The employer shall provide a medical evaluation to determine the employee's ability to use a respirator, before the employee is fit-tested or required to use the respirator in the workplace. The employer may discontinue an employee's medical evaluations when the employee is no longer required to use a respirator. – 508 violations
2. **1910.134(c)(1):** In any workplace where respirators are necessary to protect the health of the employee or whenever respirators are required by the employer, the employer shall establish and implement a written respiratory protection program with worksite-specific procedures. The program shall be updated as necessary to reflect those changes in workplace conditions that affect respirator use. – 366
3. **1910.134(f)(2):** The employer shall ensure an employee using a tight-fitting facepiece respirator is fit-tested prior to initial use of the respirator, whenever a different respirator facepiece (size, style, model or make) is used and at least annually thereafter. – 312
4. **1910.134(c)(2):** Where respirator use is not required. – 251
5. **1910.134(k)(6):** The basic advisory information on respirators, as presented in appendix D of this section, shall be provided by the employer in any written or oral format, to employers who wear respirators when such use is not required by this section or by the employer. – 144



## LOCKOUT/TAGOUT

STANDARD: 1910.147

TOTAL VIOLATIONS: 2,443

FISCAL YEAR 2023  
RANKING: 6  
(2,539 VIOLATIONS)

This standard outlines minimum performance requirements for the control of hazardous energy during servicing and maintenance of machines and equipment.

### TOP 5 SECTIONS CITED:

1. 1910.147(c)(4): Energy control procedure. – 738 violations
2. 1910.147(c)(7): Training and communication. – 477
3. 1910.147(c)(6): Periodic inspection. – 377
4. 1910.147(c)(1): The employer shall establish a program consisting of energy control procedures, employee training and periodic inspections to ensure that before any employee performs any servicing or maintenance on a machine or equipment where the unexpected energizing, startup or release of stored energy could occur and cause injury, the machine or equipment shall be isolated from the energy source and rendered inoperative. – 210
5. 1910.147(d): Application of control. The established procedures for the application of energy control (the lockout or tagout procedures) shall cover the following elements and actions and shall be done in the following sequence. – 203



## POWERED INDUSTRIAL TRUCKS

STANDARD: 1910.178

TOTAL VIOLATIONS: 2,248

FISCAL YEAR 2023  
RANKING: 5  
(2,550 VIOLATIONS)

This standard covers the design, maintenance and operation of powered industrial trucks, including forklifts and motorized hand trucks. It also covers operator training requirements.

### TOP 5 SECTIONS CITED:

1. 1910.178(l)(1): Safe operation. – 531 violations
2. 1910.178(l)(4): Refresher training and evaluation. – 305
3. 1910.178(l)(6): The employer shall certify that each operator has been trained and evaluated as required by this paragraph (l). The certification shall include the name of the operator, the date of the training, the date of the evaluation and the identity of the person(s) performing the training or evaluation. – 286
4. 1910.178(q)(7): Industrial trucks shall be examined before being placed in service, and shall not be placed in service if the examination shows any condition adversely affecting the safety of the vehicle. Such examination shall be made at least daily. Where industrial trucks are used on a round-the-clock basis, they shall be examined after each shift. Defects when found shall be immediately reported and corrected. – 172
5. 1910.178(p)(1): If at any time a powered industrial truck is found to be in need of repair, defective or in any way unsafe, the truck shall be taken out of service until it has been restored to safe operating condition. – 153



## FALL PROTECTION – TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

STANDARD: 1926.503

TOTAL VIOLATIONS: 2,050

FISCAL YEAR 2023  
RANKING: 8  
(2,109 VIOLATIONS)

This standard addresses training requirements for employers in regard to fall protection.

### TOP 5 SECTIONS CITED:

1. 1926.503(a)(1): The employer shall provide a training program for each employee who might be exposed to fall hazards. The program shall enable each employee to recognize the hazards of falling and shall train each employee in the procedures to be followed in order to minimize these hazards. – 1,351 violations
2. 1926.503(b)(1): The employer shall verify compliance with paragraph (a) of this section by preparing a written certification record. The written certification record shall contain the name or other identity of the employee trained, the date(s) of the training, and the signature of the person who conducted the training or the signature of the employer. If the employer relies on training conducted by another employer or completed prior to the effective date of this section, the certification record shall indicate the date the employer determined the prior training was adequate rather than the date of actual training. – 489
3. 1926.503(a)(2): The employer shall ensure each employee has been trained, as necessary, by a competent person. – 109
4. 1926.503(c)(3): Inadequacies in an affected employee's knowledge or use of fall protection systems or equipment indicate that the employee has not retained the requisite understanding or skill. – 94
5. 1926.503(c): "Retraining." When the employer has reason to believe that any affected employee who has already been trained does not have the understanding and skill required by paragraph (a) of this section, the employer shall retrain each such employee. – 6



**SCAFFOLDING**

STANDARD: 1926.451

TOTAL VIOLATIONS: 1,873

FISCAL YEAR 2023  
RANKING: 4  
(2,835 VIOLATIONS)

This standard covers general safety requirements for scaffolding, which should be designed by a qualified person and constructed and loaded in accordance with that design. Employers are bound to protect construction workers from falls and falling objects while working on or near scaffolding at heights of 10 feet or higher.

**TOP 5 SECTIONS CITED:**

1. **1926.451(g)(1):** Each employee on a scaffold more than 10 feet above a lower level shall be protected from falling to that lower level. – 528 violations
2. **1926.451(c)(2):** Supported scaffold poles, legs, posts, frames and uprights shall bear on base plates and mud sills or other adequate firm foundation. – 267
3. **1926.451(b)(1):** Each platform on all working levels of scaffolds shall be fully planked or decked between the front uprights and the guardrail supports. – 224
4. **1926.451(e)(1):** When scaffold platforms are more than 2 feet above or below a point of access, portable ladders; hook-on ladders; attachable ladders; stair towers (scaffold stairways/towers); stairway-type ladders (such as ladder stands); ramps; walkways; integral prefabricated scaffold access; or direct access from another scaffold, structure, personnel hoist or similar surface shall be used. Cross braces shall not be used as a means of access. – 210
5. **1926.451(g)(4):** Guardrail systems installed to meet the requirements of this section shall comply with the following provisions (guardrail systems built in accordance with Appendix A to this subpart will be deemed to meet the requirements of paragraphs (g)(4)(vii), (viii) and (ix) of this section). – 101



**PERSONAL PROTECTIVE AND LIFESAVING EQUIPMENT – EYE AND FACE PROTECTION**

STANDARD: 1926.102

TOTAL VIOLATIONS: 1,814

FISCAL YEAR 2023  
RANKING: 9  
(2,064 VIOLATIONS)

This standard addresses appropriate personal protective equipment for workers exposed to eye or face hazards, such as flying particles and chemical gases or vapors.

**SECTIONS CITED:**

1. **1926.102(a)(1):** The employer shall ensure each affected employee uses appropriate eye or face protection when exposed to eye or face hazards from flying particles, molten metal, liquid chemicals, acids or caustic liquids, chemical gases or vapors, or potentially injurious light radiation. – 1,793 violations
2. **1926.102(a)(2):** The employer shall ensure each affected employee uses eye protection that provides side protection when there is a hazard from flying objects. Detachable side protectors (e.g., clip-on or slide-on side shields) meeting the pertinent requirements of this section are acceptable. – 14
3. **1926.102(a)(3):** The employer shall ensure each affected employee who wears prescription lenses while engaged in operations that involve eye hazards wears eye protection that incorporates the prescription in its design, or wears eye protection that can be worn over the prescription lenses without disturbing the proper position of the prescription lenses or the protective lenses. – 4
4. **1926.102(b)(1):** Protective eye and face protection devices must comply with any of the following consensus standards: – 2
5. **1926.102(a)(5):** Protectors shall meet the following minimum requirements: – 1



**MACHINE GUARDING**

STANDARD: 1910.212

TOTAL VIOLATIONS: 1,541

FISCAL YEAR 2023  
RANKING: 10  
(1,635 VIOLATIONS)

This standard covers guarding of machinery to protect operators and other employees from hazards, including those created by point of operation, ingoing nip points, rotating parts, flying chips and sparks.

**TOP 5 SECTIONS CITED:**

1. **1910.212(a)(1):** Types of guarding. One or more methods of machine guarding shall be provided to protect the operator and other employees in the machine area from hazards such as those created by point of operation, ingoing nip points, rotating parts, flying chips and sparks. – 1,008 violations
2. **1910.212(a)(3):** Point of operation guarding. – 398
3. **1910.212(b):** Anchoring fixed machinery. Machines designed for a fixed location shall be securely anchored to prevent walking or moving. – 61
4. **1910.212(a)(2):** General requirements for machine guards. Guards shall be affixed to the machine where possible and secured elsewhere if for any reason attachment to the machine is not possible. The guard shall be such that it does not offer an accident hazard in itself. – 50
5. **1910.212(a)(5):** Exposure of blades. When the periphery of the blades of a fan is less than 7 feet above the floor or working level, the blades shall be guarded. The guard shall have openings no larger than one-half inch. – 14

These tables are based on OSHA Information System data from Oct. 1, 2023, to Sept. 5, 2024.

# Which industries had the most citations?

Here are the five industries, listed by North American Industry Classification System code.

## FALL PROTECTION – GENERAL REQUIREMENTS (1926.501)

238160 – Roofing Contractors  
238130 – Framing Contractors  
236220 – Commercial and Institutional Building Construction  
238170 – Siding Contractors  
236115 – New Single-Family Housing Construction

## HAZARD COMMUNICATION (1910.1200)

327991 – Cut Stone and Stone Product Manufacturing  
238160 – Roofing Contractors  
238140 – Masonry Contractors  
721110 – Hotels (except Casino Hotels) and Motels  
332710 – Machine Shops

## LADDERS (1926.1053)

238160 – Roofing Contractors  
238130 – Framing Contractors  
238170 – Siding Contractors  
236220 – Commercial and Industrial Building Construction  
236115 – New Single-Family Housing Construction

## RESPIRATORY PROTECTION (1910.134)

327991 – Cut Stone and Stone Product Manufacturing  
337110 – Wood Kitchen Cabinet and Countertop Manufacturing  
238140 – Masonry Contractors  
811121 – Automotive Body, Paint, and Interior Repair and Maintenance  
332999 – All Other Miscellaneous Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing

## LOCKOUT/TAGOUT (1910.147)

332710 – Machine Shops  
326199 – All Other Plastics Product Manufacturing  
321113 – Sawmills  
321920 – Wood Container and Pallet Manufacturing  
332999 – All Other Miscellaneous Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing

## POWERED INDUSTRIAL TRUCKS (1910.178)

493110 – General Warehousing and Storage  
238130 – Framing Contractors  
327991 – Cut Stone and Stone Product Manufacturing  
332710 – Machine Shops  
332999 – All Other Miscellaneous Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing

## FALL PROTECTION – TRAINING REQUIREMENTS (1926.503)

238160 – Roofing Contractors  
238130 – Framing Contractors  
238170 – Siding Contractors  
238350 – Finish Carpentry Contractors  
238140 – Masonry Contractors

## SCAFFOLDING (1926.451)

238140 – Masonry Contractors  
238130 – Framing Contractors  
238160 – Roofing Contractors  
238170 – Siding Contractors  
236220 – Commercial and Institutional Building Contractors

## PERSONAL PROTECTIVE AND LIFESAVING EQUIPMENT – EYE AND FACE PROTECTION (1926.102)

238160 – Roofing Contractors  
238130 – Framing Contractors  
238140 – Masonry Contractors  
238170 – Siding Contractors  
238350 – Finish Carpentry Contractors

## MACHINE GUARDING (1910.212)

332710 – Machine Shops  
332999 – All Other Miscellaneous Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing  
326199 – All Other Plastics Product Manufacturing  
332312 – Fabricated Structural Metal Manufacturing  
332322 – Sheet Metal Working Manufacturing

## NSC highlights the ‘injuries behind the fines’

Immediately after the presentation of OSHA's Top 10 most cited standards by Scott Ketcham, director of the agency's Directorate of Enforcement Programs, during the 2024 NSC Safety Congress & Expo in Orlando, FL, Mark Chung, executive vice president of safety leadership and advocacy at the National Safety Council, and Ken Kolosh, the council's statistics manager, presented "The Injuries Behind the Fines."

NSC President and CEO Lorraine M. Martin said it's critical to highlight the factors associated with the Top 10. "By examining injury, illness and fatality data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics in tandem with OSHA's findings, we can better understand safety outcomes and ultimately find impactful solutions to keep workers safe."

Kolosh emphasized that the BLS data presented isn't a one-to-one relationship – that it's provided for illustrative purposes, not benchmarking. He said the injury and fatality events "are provided as examples that may be associated with the violation."

Using the Top 10 list, Chung said the BLS data shows that falls accounted for 865 workplace fatalities in 2022. Of those, 700 were the result of a fall to a lower level.

Other reported causes of death in 2022, per BLS:

Transportation incidents: **2,066**

Workplace violence: **849**

Overdose: **525**

Exposure to electricity: **145**

Forklift, order picker, platform truck – powered: **73**

Caught in running equipment or machinery during maintenance or cleaning: **54**

Caught in running equipment during normal operation: **35**

**Top 10 standards cited as "serious,"  
fiscal year 2024**

OSHA defines a "serious" violation as "one in which there is a substantial probability that death or serious physical harm could result, and the employer knew or should have known of the hazard."

	STANDARD	TOTAL VIOLATIONS
1	Fall Protection – General Requirements (1926.501)	4,932
2	Ladders (1926.1053)	2,210
3	Hazard Communication (1910.1200)	1,929
4	Lockout/Tagout (1910.147)	1,927
5	Respiratory Protection (1910.134)	1,746
6	Scaffolding (1926.451)	1,736
7	Personal Protective and Lifesaving Equipment – Eye and Face Protection (1926.102)	1,524
8	Powered Industrial Trucks (1910.178)	1,488
9	Fall Protection – Training Requirements (1926.503)	1,301
10	Machine Guarding (1910.212)	1,295

These tables are based on OSHA Information System data from Oct. 1, 2023, to Sept. 5, 2024.

**Top 10 standards cited as "willful,"  
fiscal year 2024**

OSHA defines a "willful" violation as one "committed with an intentional disregard of or plain indifference to the requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Act and requirements."

	STANDARD	TOTAL VIOLATIONS
1	Fall Protection – General Requirements (1926.501)	203
2	Lockout/Tagout (1910.147)	40
3	Excavations – Requirements for Protective Systems (1926.652)	32
4	Fall Protection – Training Requirements (1926.503)	16
	Excavations – Specific Excavation Requirements (1926.651)	16
6	Personal Protective and Lifesaving Equipment – Eye and Face Protection (1926.102)	15
	Toxic and Hazardous Substances – Asbestos (1926.1101)	15
8	Ladders (1926.1053)	14
9	Scaffolding (1926.451)	12
10	Toxic and Hazardous Substances – Respirable crystalline silica (1910.1053)	11

**Citation Solutions:** The following *Safety+Health* advertisers offer products and services to help you avoid violations of OSHA's Top 10 most cited standards.

**FALL PROTECTION – GENERAL REQUIREMENTS (1926.501)**

Avetta	National Association of Safety Professionals
Board of Certified Safety Professionals	Safety Rail Co.
Honeywell PPE	Skedco Inc.

**HAZARD COMMUNICATION (1910.1200)**

Avetta	National Association of Safety Professionals
Board of Certified Safety Professionals	OSHEPRO

**LADDERS (1926.1053)**

Avetta	Honeywell PPE
Board of Certified Safety Professionals	National Association of Safety Professionals

**RESPIRATORY PROTECTION (1910.134)**

Avetta	National Association of Safety Professionals
Board of Certified Safety Professionals	TSI Inc.
Honeywell PPE	

**LOCKOUT/TAGOUT (1910.147)**

Avetta	National Association of Safety Professionals
Board of Certified Safety Professionals	OSHEPRO

**POWERED INDUSTRIAL TRUCKS (1910.178)**

Avetta	National Association of Safety Professionals
Board of Certified Safety Professionals	

**FALL PROTECTION – TRAINING REQUIREMENTS (1926.503)**

Avetta	Honeywell PPE
Board of Certified Safety Professionals	National Association of Safety Professionals

**SCAFFOLDING (1926.451)**

Avetta	National Association of Safety Professionals
Board of Certified Safety Professionals	

**PERSONAL PROTECTIVE AND LIFESAVING EQUIPMENT – EYE AND FACE PROTECTION (1926.102)**

Ansell	National Association of Safety Professionals
Avetta	OLFA North America
Board of Certified Safety Professionals	OSHEPRO
Cintas Corp.	Portwest
Honeywell PPE	

**MACHINE GUARDING (1910.212)**

Avetta	OSHEPRO
Board of Certified Safety Professionals	Sentric Safety Group
National Association of Safety Professionals	

# Top 10 list of most cited standards by OSHA region, fiscal year 2024

## OSHA REGION 10 (AK, ID, OR, WA)

*Now part of the San Francisco Region*

1. Hazard Communication (1910.1200)
2. Powered Industrial Trucks (1910.178)
3. Fire Protection – Portable Fire Extinguishers (1910.157)
4. Electrical – General Requirements (1910.303)
5. Fall Protection – General Requirements (1926.501)
6. Exit Routes and Emergency Planning – Maintenance, Safeguards and Operational Features for Exit Routes (1910.37)
7. Electrical – Wiring Methods (1910.305)
8. Ladders (1926.1053)
9. Machine Guarding (1910.212)
10. Medical Services and First Aid (1910.151)

## OSHA REGION 8 (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY)

*Now the Denver Region*

1. Fall Protection – General Requirements (1926.501)
2. Respiratory Protection (1910.134)
3. Ladders (1926.1053)
4. Powered Industrial Trucks (1910.178)
5. Fall Protection – Training Requirements (1926.503)
6. Machine Guarding (1910.212)
7. Hazard Communication (1910.1200)
8. General Safety and Health Provisions (1926.20)
9. Excavations – Specific Excavation Requirements (1926.651)
10. Scaffolding (1926.451)

## OSHA REGION 9 (AS, AZ, CA, GU, HI, MP, NV)

*Now the San Francisco Region*

1. Electrical – General Requirements (1910.303)
2. Hazard Communication (1910.1200)
3. Respiratory Protection (1910.134)
4. Fire Protection – Portable Fire Extinguishers (1910.157)
5. Electrical – Wiring Methods (1910.305)
6. Machine Guarding (1910.212)
7. Scaffolding (1926.451)
8. Powered Industrial Trucks (1910.178)
9. Fall Protection – General Requirements (1926.501)
10. Medical Services and First Aid (1910.151)

## OSHA REGION 6 (AR, LA, NM, OK, TX)

*NM, OK and TX now the Dallas Region (AR and LA now in the Birmingham Region)*

1. Fall Protection – General Requirements (1926.501)
2. Ladders (1926.1053)
3. Scaffolding (1926.451)
4. Personal Protective and Lifesaving Equipment – Eye and Face Protection (1926.102)
5. Respiratory Protection (1910.134)
6. Fall Protection – Training Requirements (1926.503)
7. Electrical – Wiring Methods (1910.305)
8. Lockout/Tagout (1910.147)
9. Hazard Communication (1910.1200)
10. Powered Industrial Trucks (1910.178)

**THIS DATA IS ORGANIZED BY OSHA REGIONS** as they were structured during the federal government's fiscal year 2024, which ended Sept. 30.

As of Oct. 1, OSHA has restructured its regional operations. The regions are now named for their home-office location.

Why the change? We asked Scott Ketcham, director of OSHA's Directorate of Enforcement Programs. His response:

"OSHA realigned its regional offices to enhance the agency's resiliency and ensure our resources are directed effectively. It became clear that the location of work and workers has shifted over the decades since OSHA and its regions were established. Under the new structure, OSHA can provide better customer service, as our offices will be closer to communities in need of services and there will be a stronger enforcement presence in the southeastern part of the country.

"By realigning our regions, we can further OSHA's mission and improve the effectiveness and quality of the agency's services to the public."



**OSHA REGION 5 (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI)**

*Now the Chicago Region*

1. Fall Protection – General Requirements (1926.501)
2. Lockout/Tagout (1910.147)
3. Powered Industrial Trucks (1910.178)
4. Hazard Communication (1910.1200)
5. Fall Protection – Training Requirements (1926.503)
6. Ladders (1926.1053)
7. Machine Guarding (1910.212)
8. Respiratory Protection (1910.134)
9. General Safety and Health Provisions (1926.20)
10. Personal Protective and Lifesaving Equipment – Eye and Face Protection (1926.102)

**OSHA REGION 1 (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT)**

*Now the Boston Region*

1. Fall Protection – General Requirements (1926.501)
2. Respiratory Protection (1910.134)
3. Fall Protection – Training Requirements (1926.503)
4. Hazard Communication (1910.1200)
5. Ladders (1926.1053)
6. Powered Industrial Trucks (1910.178)
7. Inspections, Citations and Proposed Penalties – Abatement Verification (1903.19)
8. Lockout/Tagout (1910.147)
9. Scaffolding (1926.451)
10. General Safety and Health Provisions (1926.20)

**OSHA REGION 7 (IA, KS, MO, NE)**

*Now the Kansas City Region*

1. Fall Protection – General Requirements (1926.501)
2. Hazard Communication (1910.1200)
3. Ladders (1926.1053)
4. Personal Protective and Lifesaving Equipment – Eye and Face Protection (1926.102)
5. Powered Industrial Trucks (1910.178)
6. Lockout/Tagout (1910.147)
7. Respiratory Protection (1910.134)
8. Electrical – Wiring Methods (1910.305)
9. Machine Guarding (1910.212)
10. Scaffolding (1926.451)

**OSHA REGION 2 (NJ, NY, PUERTO RICO, VIRGIN ISLANDS)**

*Now the New York City Region*

1. Fall Protection – General Requirements (1926.501)
2. Scaffolding (1926.451)
3. Ladders (1926.1053)
4. Hazard Communication (1910.1200)
5. Respiratory Protection (1910.134)
6. Lockout/Tagout (1910.147)
7. Powered Industrial Trucks (1910.178)
8. Personal Protective and Lifesaving Equipment – Eye and Face Protection (1926.102)
9. Fall Protection – Training Requirements (1926.503)
10. Electrical – General Requirements (1910.303)

**OSHA REGION 4 (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN)**

*Now the Birmingham and Atlanta Regions*

1. Fall Protection – General Requirements (1926.501)
2. Personal Protective and Lifesaving Equipment – Eye and Face Protection (1926.102)
3. Hazard Communication (1910.1200)
4. Fall Protection – Training Requirements (1926.503)
5. Ladders (1926.1053)
6. Respiratory Protection (1910.134)
7. Powered Industrial Trucks (1910.178)
8. Lockout/Tagout (1910.147)
9. Scaffolding (1926.451)
10. Machine Guarding (1910.212)

**OSHA REGION 3 (DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, WV)**

*Now the Philadelphia Region*

1. Hazard Communication (1910.1200)
2. Fall Protection – General Requirements (1926.501)
3. Respiratory Protection (1910.134)
4. Lockout/Tagout (1910.147)
5. Fall Protection – Training Requirements (1926.503)
6. Scaffolding (1926.451)
7. Machine Guarding (1910.212)
8. Ladders (1926.1053)
9. Electrical – General Requirements (1910.303)
10. General Safety and Health Provisions (1926.20)

## Top 10 penalties

The list of OSHA's highest proposed monetary penalties in fiscal year 2024 comprises those stemming from a single incident or related incidents in which one or more employers are alleged to have failed to adhere to safe work practices. These failures put workers at risk for injuries and death. The following information was gathered from press releases issued by federal OSHA between Oct. 1, 2023, and Sept. 30, as well as data provided by the agency's communications team. (Note: Dollar amounts may be reduced as part of a settlement agreement or litigation.)

### \$2.5 MILLION

**EMPLOYER:** MDLG Inc. (operating as Phenix Lumber Co.)

**LOCATION:** Phenix City, AL (OSHA Region 4)

**BUSINESS TYPE:** Sawmill

**INSPECTION TRIGGER:** Fatality

**EVENT:** A 67-year-old sawmill supervisor climbed on top of an auger to access a hard-to-reach area to unclog a woodchipper and was fatally caught in the machinery. The worker stepped onto the pan of the auger, which had been restarted, and lost his footing.

**MAJOR CITATIONS:** The company was cited for 15 willful violations, five serious violations and one repeat violation.

*"Phenix Lumber's willful disregard for the well-being of their employees leaves another family to grieve the loss of their loved one. This must stop. This worksite has become all too familiar to OSHA. Phenix and its owners have a legal responsibility to follow federal safety laws that are meant to prevent the exact hazards that cost this employee's life." – Kurt Petermeyer, OSHA regional administrator in Atlanta*

### \$1.9 MILLION

**EMPLOYER:** Wagner Construction Inc.

**LOCATION:** Minot, ND (OSHA Region 8)

**BUSINESS TYPE:** Water and sewer line construction

**INSPECTION TRIGGER:** Planned

**EVENT:** The agency discovered that the company exposed workers to numerous trenching hazards during a project that included a residential water main replacement.

**MAJOR CITATIONS:** OSHA cited Wagner Construction for 16 repeat violations and one serious violation.

*"Wagner Construction failed to keep their promises to the U.S. government and its employees by ignoring one of the construction industry's most lethal hazards. With the substantial increase in the number of construction projects in North Dakota and across the nation, employers like Wagner Construction must take all necessary steps to make sure employees are safe on jobsites." – Jennifer Rous, OSHA regional administrator in Denver*

### \$1.3 MILLION

**EMPLOYER:** Florence Hardwoods LLC

**LOCATION:** Florence, WI (OSHA Region 6)

**BUSINESS TYPE:** Sawmill

**INSPECTION TRIGGER:** Fatality

**EVENT:** An untrained 16-year-old worker became trapped in a stick conveyor machine while attempting to address an issue.

The worker sustained crushing injuries to the chest and abdomen before being rescued. He was transported to the hospital and died two days later.

**MAJOR CITATIONS:** Florence Hardwoods was cited for 16 serious, eight willful and four repeat violations.

*"It is incomprehensible how the owners of this company could have such disregard for the safety of these children. Their reckless and illegal behavior tragically cost a boy his life, and actions such as theirs will never be tolerated." – Doug Parker, OSHA administrator*

### \$1,038,918

**EMPLOYER:** Giant Construction Corp.

**LOCATION:** Barrigada, Guam (OSHA Region 9)

**BUSINESS TYPE:** Water and sewer line construction

**INSPECTION TRIGGER:** Planned

**EVENT:** The company neglected to provide the necessary safety equipment to employees working in trenches deeper than 5 feet.

**MAJOR CITATIONS:** OSHA cited Giant Construction for nine willful and two serious violations. It was the sixth time since 2014 the agency has cited the company.

*"Giant Construction Corp. has shown a flagrant disregard for the safety of its employees and put workers at risk of serious and potentially fatal injuries. The significant penalties assessed after this inspection send a clear signal to Giant Construction Corp. and other employers that OSHA will not tolerate such callous attitudes when employees are endangered." – Roger Forstner, OSHA area office director in Honolulu*

### \$1,019,096

**EMPLOYER:** Florenza Marble & Granite Corp.

**LOCATION:** Chicago (OSHA Region 5)

**BUSINESS TYPE:** Cut stone and stone product manufacturing

**INSPECTION TRIGGER:** Referral

**EVENT:** An agency inspection to conduct air sampling at the company uncovered significant dust in the workplace and improper use of respirators. OSHA found that Florenza was exposing workers to unsafe levels of silica dust – as much as six times more than permissible limits – and further learned of multiple workers, including a father and son, needing lung transplants related to silicosis, an incurable lung disease.

**MAJOR CITATIONS:** The company was cited for 11 serious and 10 willful violations. Willful violations included those for failure to both establish a baseline of workers' medical health to monitor silica exposure and perform medical surveillance to monitor exposure.

*"Our compliance officers found silica dust levels nearly six times higher than permissible levels, and the owner made little or no effort to protect his employees from exposure. To make matters worse, [owner Brad] Karp was indifferent to his employees' suffering and refused to accept any responsibility for protecting them, even after two insurance carriers dropped the company for its egregious defiance of workplace safety standards."*  
– Bill Donovan, OSHA regional administrator in Chicago

## \$1,017,248

**EMPLOYER:** Adrian Construction Group LLC

**LOCATION:** Franklin Lakes, NJ (OSHA Region 2)

**BUSINESS TYPE:** Framing contractor

**INSPECTION TRIGGER:** Planned

**EVENT:** As part of an inspection conducted under an OSHA Local Emphasis Program on falls in construction, an agency inspector observed violations for lack of fall protection, failure to ensure the use of eye protection, unsafe scaffolding and failure to provide hard hats for overhead hazards.

**MAJOR CITATIONS:** OSHA cited Adrian Construction for six willful and four serious violations. The company also was placed in OSHA's Severe Violator Enforcement Program.

*"Adrian Construction, under the ownership of Adrian Perea, continues to show a blatant disregard for the safety of their employees. Placing them on the list of severe violators will intensify our scrutiny of their operations."* – Doug Parker, OSHA administrator

## \$810,703

**EMPLOYER:** Qualawash Holdings LLC (operating as Quala Services)

**LOCATION:** La Porte, TX (OSHA Region 6)

**BUSINESS TYPE:** Tank cleaning contractor

**INSPECTION TRIGGER:** Fatality

**EVENT:** A 53-year-old worker died from possible carbon monoxide poisoning and/or asphyxiation while cleaning a bulk liquid waste tank that had contained acetic acid. OSHA found that Qualawash didn't ensure atmospheric testing was completed on the tank before the worker entered. The employer received citations for the same violations in 2020 after two workers died under similar circumstances the previous year.

**MAJOR CITATIONS:** Qualawash was cited for eight repeat and seven serious violations. Among the serious violations were those for not providing an attendant when workers entered permit-required confined spaces and overexposing workers to carbon monoxide.

*"Had Quala Services acted responsibly and made the safety reforms as required in 2020, another employee would not have lost their life. This employer's complete disregard for its employees' safety is unacceptable. Complying with safety and health standards is not optional. OSHA will use all of its tools to ensure employers follow the law."* – Larissa Ipsen, OSHA area director in Houston

## \$551,719

**EMPLOYER:** CJ TMI Manufacturing America LLC

**LOCATION:** Robbinsville, NJ (OSHA Region 2)

**BUSINESS TYPE:** Frozen food manufacturer

**INSPECTION TRIGGER:** Referral

**EVENT:** An OSHA investigation determined that a worker amputation was a result of the company exposing employees to lockout/tagout hazards.

**MAJOR CITATIONS:** OSHA cited the employer for three willful, two serious and one repeat violation. The agency placed CJ TMI in its Severe Violator Enforcement Program in 2021.

*"This company continues to leave its workers vulnerable to hazardous conditions that threaten their safety. These hazards must be addressed immediately to prevent another incident."*  
– Paula Dixon-Roderick, OSHA area director in Marlton, NJ

## \$536,965

**EMPLOYER:** Legacy Cooperative

**LOCATION:** Hemingford, NE (OSHA Region 7)

**BUSINESS TYPE:** Grain cooperative

**INSPECTION TRIGGER:** Complaint

**EVENT:** The employer allowed the buildup of more than one-eighth inch of combustible grain dust in crucial housekeeping areas, including in the bottom belt tunnel and around elevator legs. These overlooked risks for fire and explosions, as well as failure to maintain dust collection systems, resulted in multiple violations.

**MAJOR CITATIONS:** Legacy Cooperative was cited for 16 serious and two willful violations, including those for not regularly inspecting equipment, exposing workers to fall hazards from unguarded stairway holes and a lack of handrails, and failing to close electrical openings.

*"Grain dust fires and explosions are a well-known industry hazard, which makes Legacy Cooperative's failure to control dust where a belt's friction could easily cause ignition inexcusable. Employers must develop companywide safety procedures to mitigate known grain handling dangers and ensure workers are trained to recognize hazards."* – Matthew Thurlby, OSHA area director in Omaha, NE

## \$536,262

**EMPLOYER:** Jindal Tubular USA LLC

**LOCATION:** Bay Saint Louis, MS (OSHA Region 4)

**BUSINESS TYPE:** Iron and steel pipe and tube manufacturer

**INSPECTION TRIGGER:** Fatality

**EVENT:** One worker died and another sustained multiple fractures to both legs when a steel pipe rolled over them as they built a pipe stack. The stack collapsed after the workers removed the chock block.

**MAJOR CITATIONS:** OSHA cited Jindal Tubular for 13 serious and three repeat violations. The employer has been cited for 32 major violations since 2019.