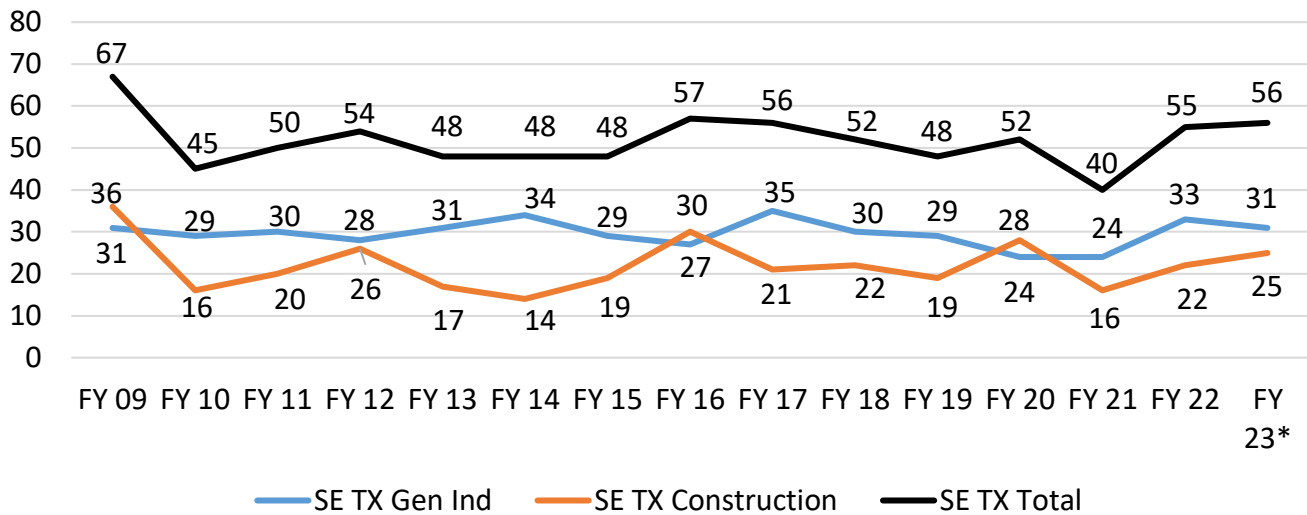


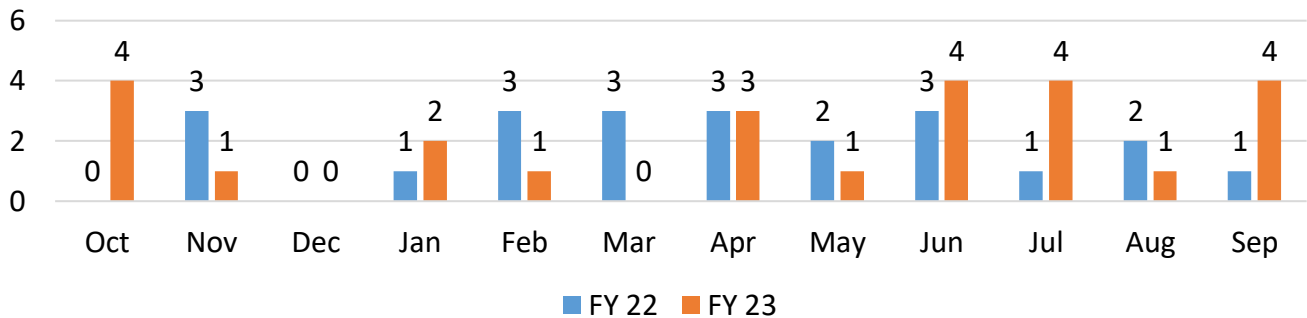
FY 2023 Southeast Texas Construction Fatality/Catastrophe* Incidents** (v1 Oct 2023)

Based on records as of October 2, 2023, there were 56 fatality/catastrophe incidents in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 compared to 55 the previous year. These incidents don't include any reported natural causes, sole proprietor, roadway vehicle, drug, Covid-19, volunteers, suicides, non-OSHA covered entities, or workplace violence related deaths. Overall incidents increased by one, with a decrease in general industry and an increase in construction.

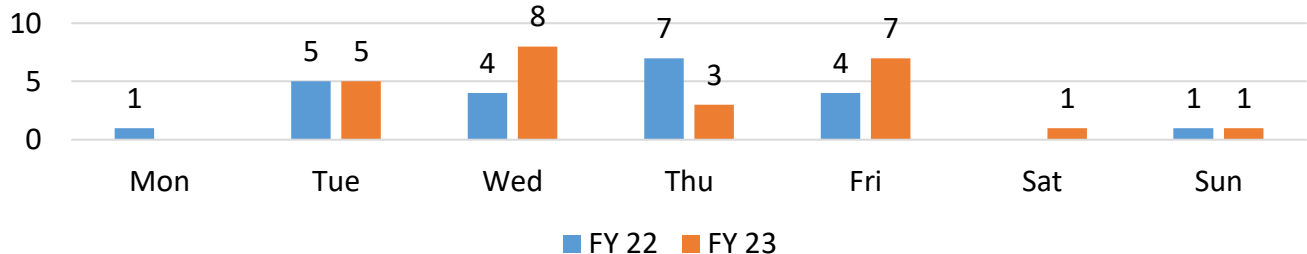
FY 23* SE TX Incidents by Gen Industry and Construction



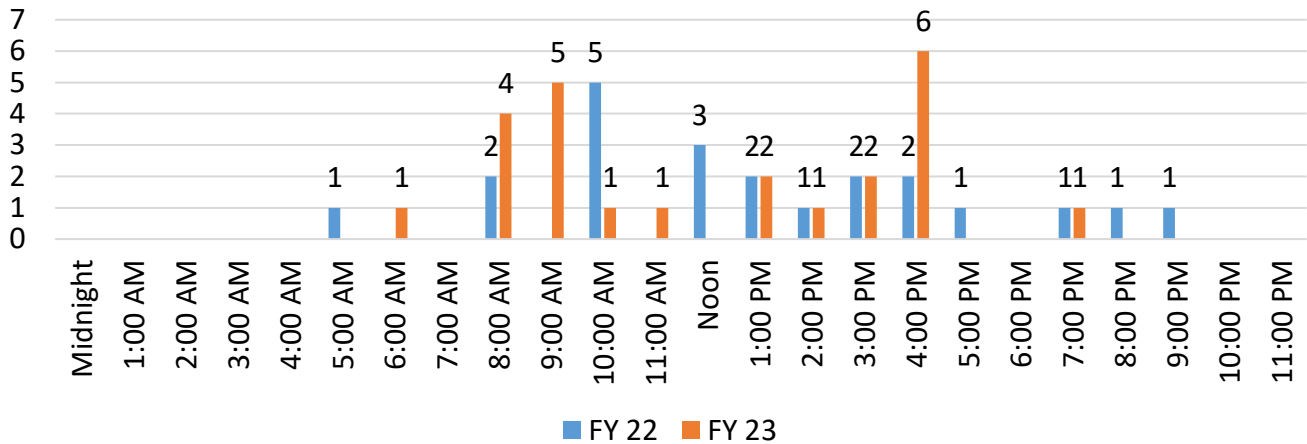
Construction Incidents by Month FY 22 v FY 23



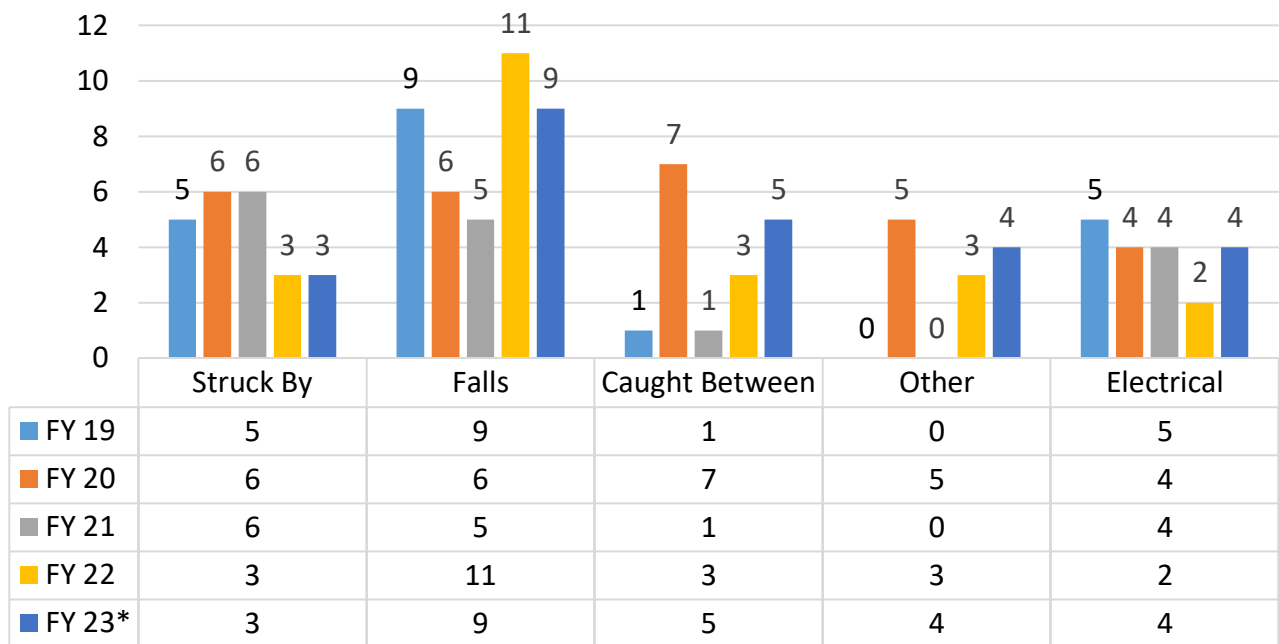
Construction Incidents by Day of the Week FY 22 v FY 23



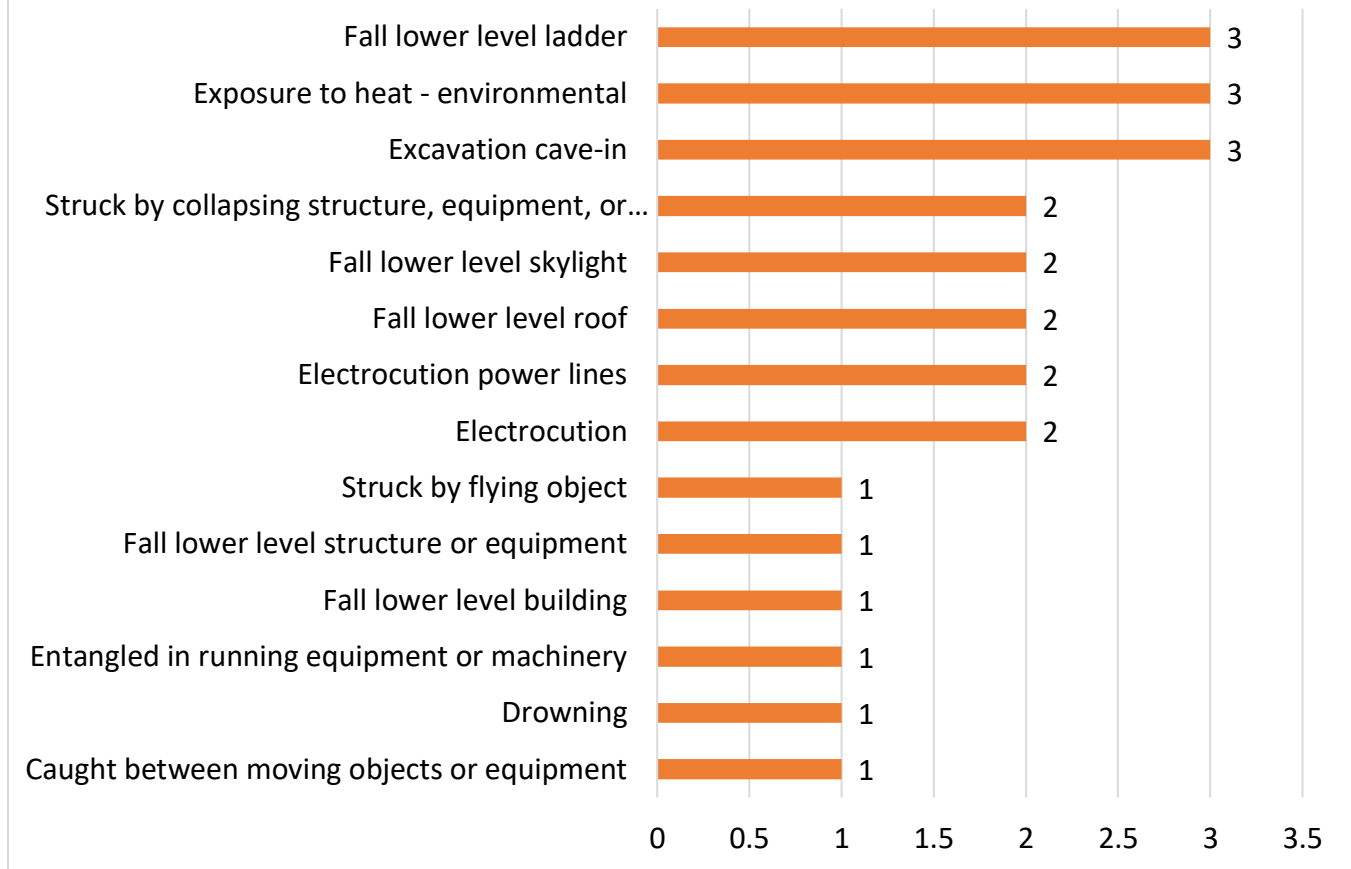
Construction Incidents by Hour FY 22 v FY 23



FY 23* SE TX Construction Incidents by Focus Four



FY 23 Construction Incidents by Event



FY 23** SE TX Construction Fatality/Catastrophe Incident Narratives

Caught between moving objects or equipment

- A crew was pouring concrete at a residential jobsite while an employee was cleaning up debris around a front-end loader. The operator turned the wheel of the loader and the employee was caught between the metal steps of the loader and the front tire suffering multiple internal injuries.

Drowning

- Three crew members were crossing the Brazos River in an area of about 3' deep on a sandbar using a safety rope when a strong current knocked all three men in the water. Two of the crew members came up, however, the third crew member did not. Life vests were not worn by the employees.

Electrocution

- Employee was modifying a scaffold for an electrical contractor. Other employees observed a spark and saw him fall to his knees. Another employee kicked an object out of his hand while others pulled him away from it by the lanyard on his body harness. He was observed foaming at the mouth and gasping for air. He was transported to the hospital and pronounced deceased.
- Employee was standing on a ladder troubleshooting light fixtures at a J-box and touched a live/exposed wire and was electrocuted and fell off the ladder.

Electrocution power lines

- Employee was in the process of installing gutters at a residential home. He was lifting a 4" 30' aluminum downspout and made contact with a power line. He was electrocuted through the hands and feet.
- Employee was ground guiding a excavator operator who came into contact with overhead power lines which shocked the employee on the ground.

Entangled in running equipment or machinery

- A three person work crew were drilling 12' pier holes for a footing for large concrete pads. The operator of the auger was in the process of drilling a pier hole with a 30" auger bit when he lost sight of his helper. The operator began drilling into the pier hole. While drilling, the operator felt the auger act differently, and stopped all operations, and looked into the pier hole. The operator discovered that his helper was down 6'-7' inside of the hole and was severely injured by the auger bit. The operator called 911 immediately, but the helper subsequently succumbed to his injuries at the worksite.

Excavation cave-in

- Employees were working in a trench as part of a utility project to tie in water lines to an upcoming community being constructed. The trench collapsed on one side causing an employee to be pinned. He was transported to the hospital by private vehicle where he was admitted for treatment. He was taken for surgery and passed away in the surgical ICU.
- Employee was working in an excavation on a compactor when the excavation collapsed and pinned him against the machine.
- Employee was installing geotextile fabric to reinforce concrete pipe joints inside of an approximately 12' excavation and was buried between the concrete pipe and the caved-in wall of the excavation.

Exposure to heat – environmental

- Iron worker was conducting a crane assembly assessment. He came down from the tower, sat and drank water. He then went to the restroom but never came out. He asked for help while in the porta-potty and was brought out by co-workers who attempted to render aid as well as to contact the site EMT. The EMT provided medical support and then contacted the site paramedics where he was then transported to a hospital. Suspected heat related illness.
- Employee pouring concrete and collapsed from the heat. He was taken to the hospital and died in the emergency room.
- Employee became dizzy and collapsed while working on a roof. Internal temperature of 110F. Possible heat stress. Internal temperature of 110F.

Fall lower-level building

- Employee was reaching through an opening from the third floor of a newly built multi-family dwelling to remove windows from the forks of a rough terrain forklift. While reaching through the opening, he lost his balance and fell approximately 22' to the ground below. He suffered blunt force trauma to the head and neck.

Fall lower-level ladder

- Employee and a helper were working at a middle school under construction installing light fixtures. They were told all the power had been turned off to the room. The employee made a grunt/groan sound and fell from approximately the fourth rung of the ladder and struck their head on the floor.

- Employee was working on an 8' ladder installing sheet metal ductwork and was found on the floor lying face down. It's believed he fell off the ladder.
- Employee was working from a ladder at an approximate height of 20' trimming trees at a residence. He walked backwards off the ladder and fell to the ground landing on his head. The employee was not wearing a harness or hardhat.

Fall lower-level roof

- An employee was on the top of a two-story roof of a commercial building installing a thermostat wire to an air conditioning unit. He was unwinding the wire while walking backwards and inadvertently fell backwards to the ground after tripping on a short parapet wall.
- Employee fell from a second story apartment complex while performing roofing activities. The employee was transported to the hospital for treatment following the incident and was placed on a ventilator. The family removed him from the ventilator three days later and he was pronounced deceased.

Fall lower-level skylight

- Employee fell 18' through an unmarked skylight to the concrete surface below while removing metal roofing panels during a demolition project.
- Two employees accessed the roof of a warehouse to perform work on an A/C unit. One employee was exiting the roof area to retrieve additional tools and as he was exiting, he stepped on a skylight and fell through. He landed on the concrete floor approximately 18' below and suffered head injuries.

Fall lower-level structure or equipment

- Employee was working at an industrial construction site and walked across a section of grating that had not been secured and he fell approximately 70' from the tower platform and died on impact.

Struck by collapsing structure, equipment, or material

- Employees were framing the second floor of residential home under construction when a severe thunderstorm producing hail, rain, and high winds entered the area. The employees took shelter on the first floor of the home to escape the rain and hail. While sheltered, the structure collapsed on top of 9 employees. 911 was called. Two employees were pronounced deceased on scene and seven employees were treated and sent to area hospitals.
- Employees were working inside a building which included demolishing concrete masonry walls, when the roof above collapsed onto an employee, killing him. Other employees in the area sustained injuries, resulting in them being sent to the hospital.

Struck by flying object

- Employee was working as a contract painter at a residence. The homeowner had a shotgun propped against a wall which fell and discharged, striking them in the abdomen.

In FY 23, the following fatality/catastrophe incidents were reported in SE TX



*Fatality and Catastrophe (3 or more workers injured in the same event) 'incidents' counted each fiscal year are compared using a core number. Many incidents are reported the SE TX OSHA offices that may be natural causes or 'recordable' because they are a work-related incident but may not be 'reportable' such as traffic accidents that are not in a construction workzone. Sole proprietors and non-federal government entities (in Texas) aren't covered by Federal OSHA. Covid-19, suspected drug related deaths and suicides were not included. Exceptions to recording of a work-related incident includes 'injury or illness solely the result of personal grooming, self-medication for a non-work-related condition, or is intentionally self-inflicted' and unpaid volunteers are not employees for recordkeeping purposes. Workplace violence is not included. The goal since 2009 has been to track the same types of incidents to get a rough comparison on whether core incidents increased or decreased.

Disclaimer: Preliminary information – The OSHA Fiscal Year (FY) runs from Oct 1 through September 30. 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. SE TX data is edited to determine a count of fatalities/catastrophes under OSHA jurisdiction and may change over time as records are updated. **Narratives are based on the first report of injury and are edited for readability and may not reflect the final results of an investigation. Some incidents may end up not being work related. Once medical determination is made the information will be updated. The information in this flyer is for accident prevention purposes and trending and is 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