



FALLS FROM HEIGHTS

SAFEWORK NSW - TOWARDS ZERO

UPDATED JUNE 2018

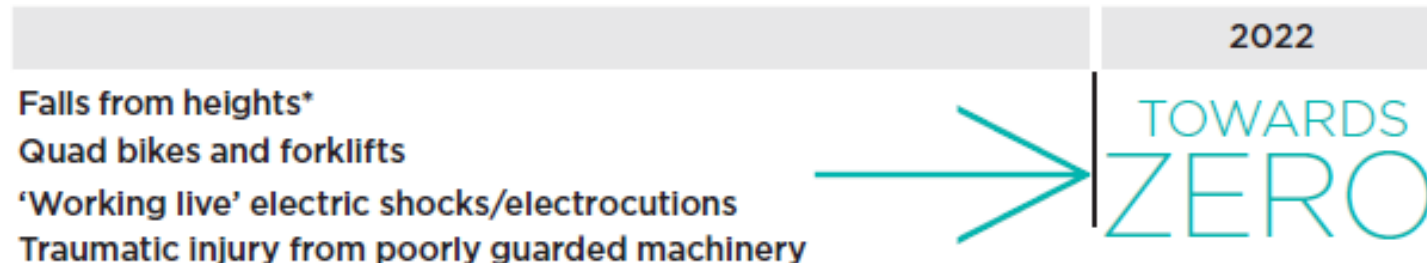


LET'S TALK SAFETY

WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY (WHS) ROADMAP 2022



By 2022 no-one should be seriously injured or killed in NSW due to the following high risks:



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FALLS FROM HEIGHTS INCIDENTS

General observations:

- Tripling of FFH incidents notified to us from 2013 - 2016
- More than half of all FFH incidents are construction industry
- FFH is the number 1 killer on NSW construction sites
- Vast majority of people falling are male
- Age range of people falling is evenly spread, however, majority of fatalities occur for people aged 45 and over.

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FALLS FROM HEIGHTS INCIDENTS

Top 10 construction related occupations for FFH injured workers:

1. **Builder/carpenters**
2. **Formworkers**
3. **Roofers**
4. **Labourers**
5. **Painters**
6. Gyprockers
7. Plumbers
8. Bricklayers
9. Renderers
10. Electricians.

Note: The above included 12 apprentices (electrical, plumbing, carpentry)

SafeWork NSW category 1 and 2 incidents - 1/7/2014 to 30/6/2017

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FALLS FROM HEIGHTS INCIDENTS

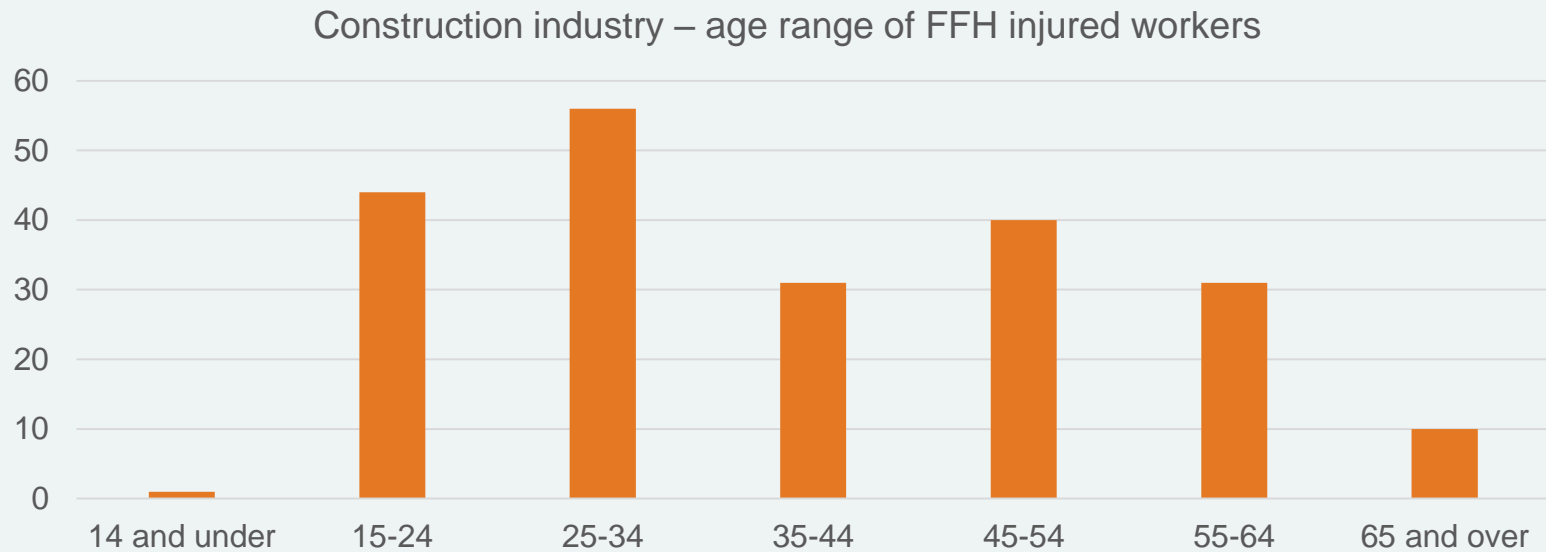
Top 10 things construction workers fell off or through:

1. **Scaffold**
2. **Ladder**
3. **Roof – off or through (including skylight)**
4. Formwork
5. Penetration or Void
6. Floor (edge, joists, through)
7. Work platform
8. Balcony
9. Plant (mostly cranes)
10. Ceiling (joist, through).

SafeWork NSW category 1 and 2 incidents - 1/7/2014 to 30/6/2017

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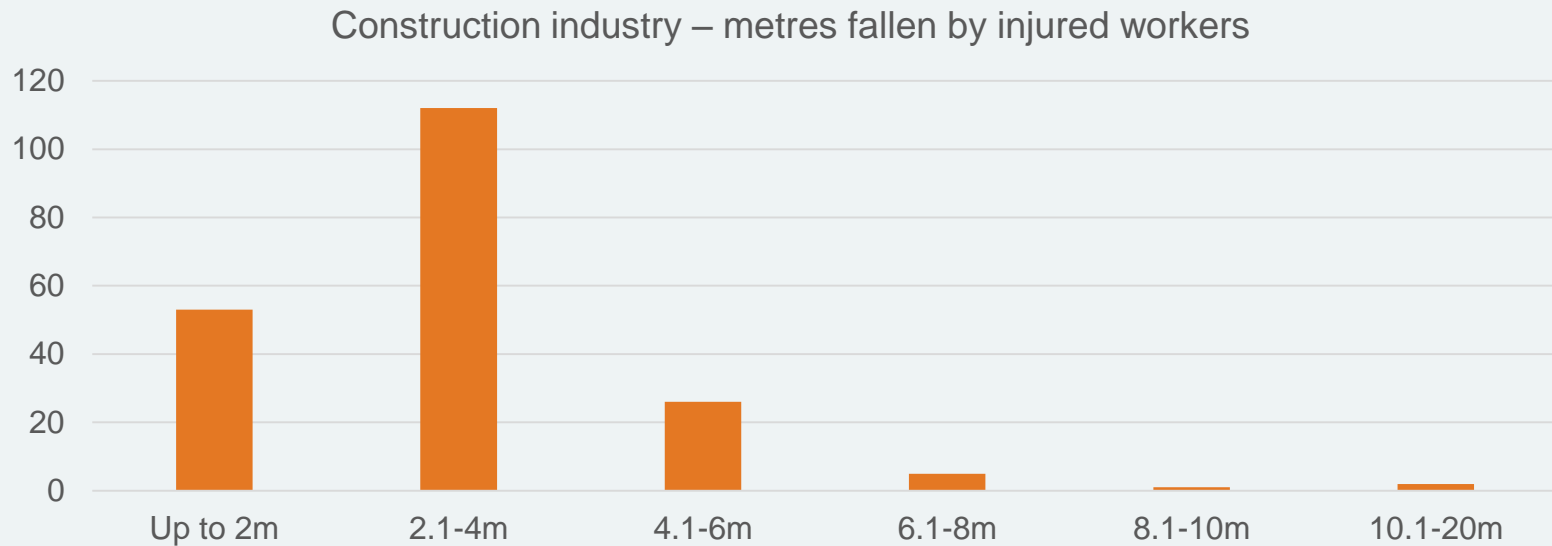
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SafeWork NSW category 1 and 2 incidents - 1/7/2014 to 30/6/2017

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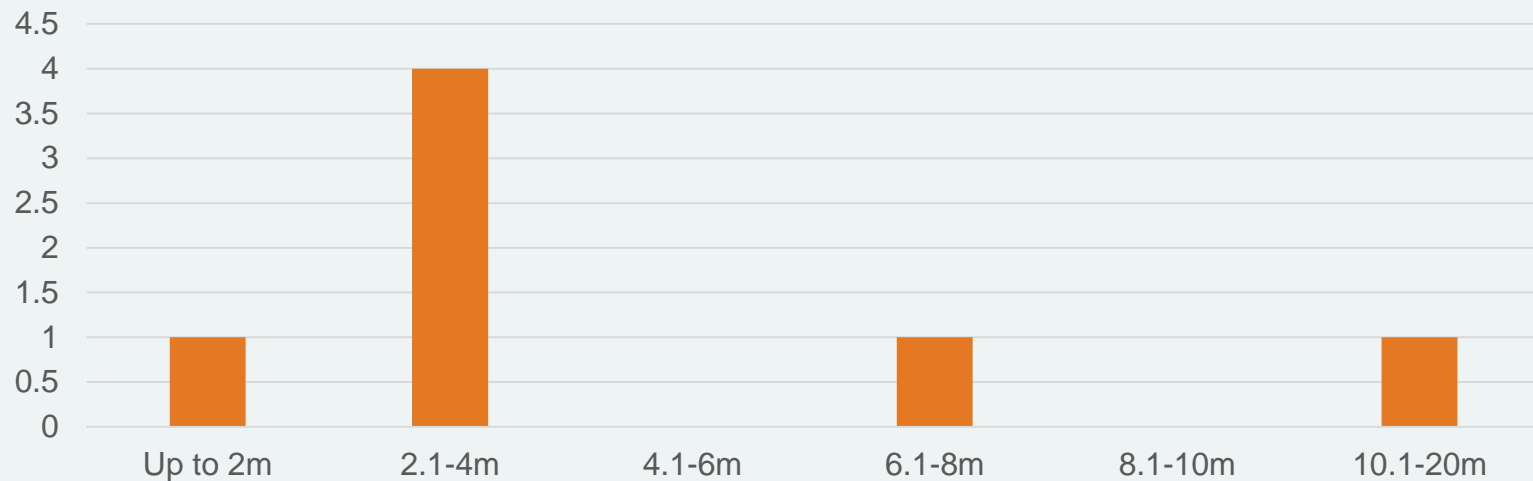


SafeWork NSW category 1 and 2 incidents - 1/7/2014 to 30/6/2017

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FALLS FROM HEIGHTS INCIDENTS

Construction industry – metres fallen by fatalities (where noted)



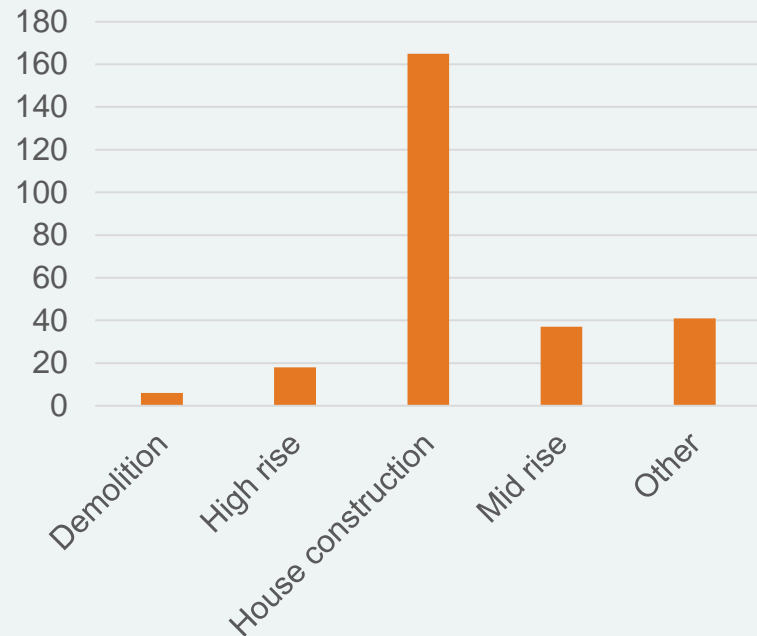
SafeWork NSW category 1 and 2 incidents - 1/7/2014 to 30/6/2017

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FALLS FROM HEIGHTS BLITZ

- Over 600 visits undertaken so far (between 1 Nov 2017 and 31 May 2018)
- Unannounced site visits
- We analysed the non-compliance observed at visits in Nov/Dec 2017:
 - Most sites visited were house construction
 - “Other” included maintenance, installation, commercial, factory, school etc.

Blitz: type of sites visited across NSW in Dec/Nov

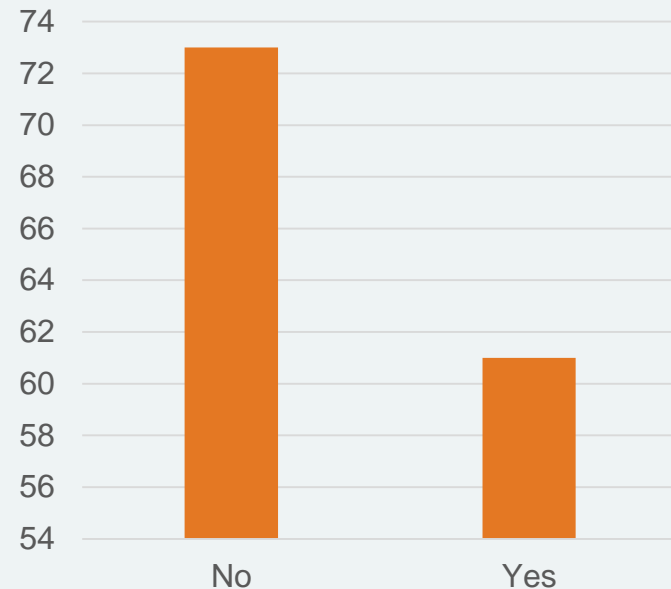


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FALLS FROM HEIGHTS BLITZ

- Metro sites were 2-3 times more non-compliant than the regions.
- Averaged across the state, highest non-compliance was with scaffolds:
 - 54% sites missing ledges, planks or hop ups
 - 28% inadequate access/egress
 - 19% not adequately supported on ground, or not tied in to building.

Blitz: Was scaffold complete with no missing ledges, planks or hop ups?



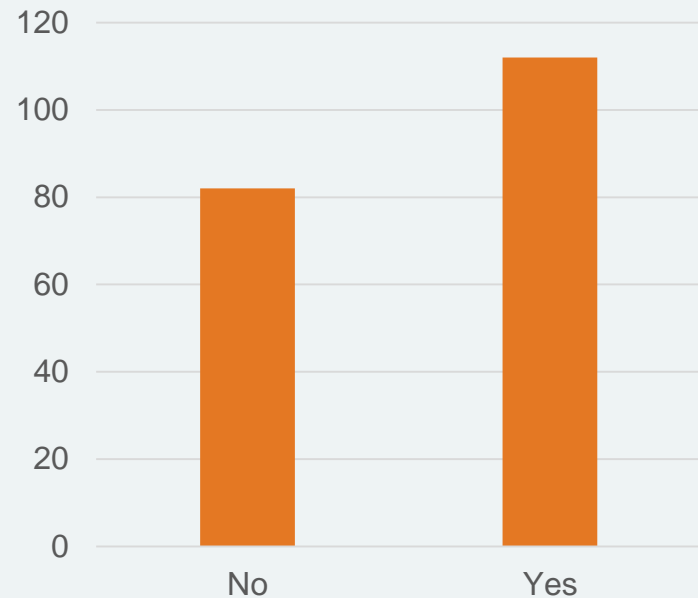
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FALLS FROM HEIGHTS BLITZ

Other observations:

- 42% sites inadequate edge protection for edges or voids
- 15% ladders set up incorrectly eg not 1:4, not appropriately grounded or tied
- 28% sites no SWMS for high risk work undertaken
- 23% sites no site induction records
- 12% no site meetings or tool box talks.

Blitz: Was there adequate edge protection in place for edges or voids?

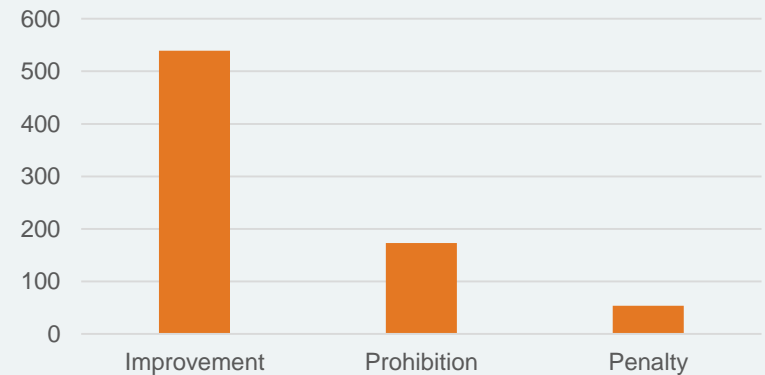


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FALLS FROM HEIGHTS BLITZ

- Over 750 notices issued between 1 Nov 2017 to 31 May 2018
- Including 54 on-the-spot fines
- Most notices issued for falls, followed by electrical and SWMS
- Metro issued the majority of on-the-spot fines.

Blitz: Notices issued by type
(1 Nov 17 to 31 May 18)



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FALLS ONLY NOTICES SINCE 1/11/17

- On-the-spot fines introduced on 1 November 2017
- SafeWork NSW has taken a zero tolerance approach to workers exposed to falls from heights risks – including outside of blitz visits
- Educating employers and industry to lift compliance and achieve best practice
- Taking compliance and remedial action where appropriate.

**All notices issued related to FFH between 1 Nov 2017 – 31 May 2018
(within and outside of blitz visits)**

| Improvement | Prohibition | Penalty | Total |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------|
| 776 | 518 | 151 | 1445 |

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UPCOMING SAFEWORK ACTIVITIES

- Continuing our zero tolerance of FFH risks on work sites
- Dedicated project on scaffolding
- Research to understand the issues better – roofs, ladders, scaffolds
- Working together with industry leaders and groups
- Development of best practice guidance materials
- Communications with industry and workers
- Directed engagements – working closely with companies who are poor performers
- Development of FFH strategy to 2022
- Development Construction sector strategy to 2022.

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QUESTIONS



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