



New Roofs Done Right presentation at October general meeting

Description

13 years ago our family moved to North Avondale. Not long after, we realized the roof needed repairs and we couldn't afford to keep the beautiful clay tiles. We hired a company to replace them. Neither my husband nor I were home during the day when they did the work.

During COVID, we were working from home and then could see work being done in several of the roofs in our neighborhood. About the same time, I learned about the terrible statistics that show that falls from roofs lead in the number of fatalities and serious injuries among construction workers.

The rate of Hispanic workers who die from falling is usually 50% higher than their non-Hispanic peers. Most of the roof work being done in north Avondale, probably like it was done in my own house, did not seem to use any fall protection equipment.

Homeowners like me are likely unaware that they are the ones who can make a difference and avoid terrible consequences in cases of a fall from a roof when negotiating a contract for roof work.

For this reason, I volunteered to organize a talk at the NANA general meeting by a colleague who is an expert on fall prevention, and an approachable and engaging speaker.

His talk will be at the NANA general meeting on October 10. The meeting starts at 6:30pm and the presentation follows the NANA business meeting. I hope you will attend and bring your questions about what you can do to promote safe working conditions as well as your liability in case of a serious injury or fatality from unsafe practices.

For more information see <https://www.cpwr.com/wp-content/uploads/publications/Roofs-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

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KEY FINDINGS FROM RESEARCH

Fall Fatalities in Residential Construction

Fatal falls in the U.S. residential construction industry

Xiuwen Sue Dong, Xuanwen Wang, Julie A. Largay, Jan Platner, Erich Stafford, Chris Trahan Cain, and Sang D. American Journal of Industrial Medicine, May 2014 (published online ahead of print).

Overview

Falls from height remain the most common cause of workplace fatalities among residential construction workers in the United States. Using data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries and Current Employment Statistics, CPWR researchers examined patterns and trends of fall fatalities in the U.S. residential construction between 2003 and 2010. The findings suggest that fall safety within the residential construction industry lags behind commercial construction and construction in industrial settings.

Key Findings

- Between 2003 and 2010, 1,917 workers died in the U.S. residential construction industry, of which nearly half (45.3%) of the fatalities were from falls.
- In the residential roofing industry, 80.2% of fatalities were from falls.
- Workers in residential construction who were 55 years and older, female, Hispanic, or employed in establishments with 10 or fewer employees had a higher proportion of fatal falls compared to their nonresidential counterparts.
- Falls from ladders accounted for 23.0% of fatal falls in residential construction compared to 12.7% in nonresidential construction.
- Approximately one-third of fatal falls in residential construction occurred among self-employed workers – nearly three times the proportion found in nonresidential construction.

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See abstract:

<http://bit.ly/1DUJzbU>

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