

# TEXAS MUTUAL SAFETY ALERT



TRENDS 2017

As a service to our policyholders, Texas Mutual shares common workplace injuries reported to our claims department. Our goal is to help you ensure these types of incidents do not happen in your workplace. Find tips and suggested e-Learning training courses below to help keep your employees safe on the job.

If you have questions, we encourage you to call our safety services support center at **844-WORKSAFE (967-5723)** between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. CST.

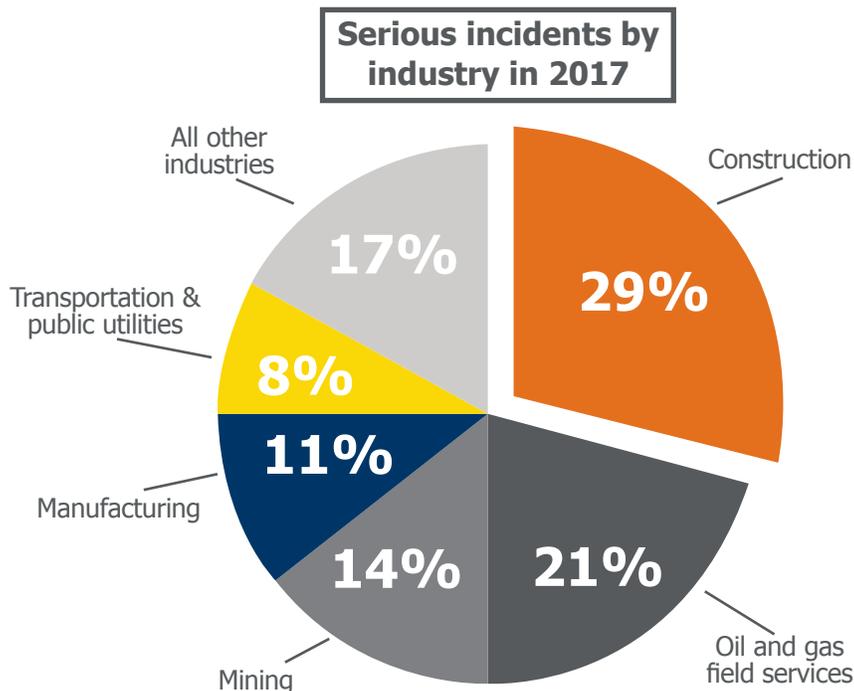
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## 2017 INCIDENT ALERT

At the beginning of each year, we often find ourselves looking back on the previous 12 months for highlights, lessons learned and challenges overcome. This is a pivotal moment in the safety industry. It's the perfect opportunity to identify incident and near-miss trends, improve on hazard abatement, communicate with employees and grow as a team.

To kick off 2018, we took a deeper look at the serious claims reported to Texas Mutual in 2017. The chart to the right shows the industries that experienced the most serious injuries. Keep reading to find helpful information and tips on three significant trends from 2017.



## CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

### Most serious claims occurred in the construction industry.

The construction industry reported almost 30 percent of the more serious claims. There were three predominant causes of injury in construction:

- **Slips, trips and falls.** Many of these incidents can be prevented by proper housekeeping practices, correct use of fall protection and ladder safety. Remember to always inspect all equipment prior to use and report any damage to your supervisor immediately.
- **Struck-bys.** When working around elevated or stacked materials, always make sure that they are secured. Wear proper personal protective equipment, such as a hard hat and safety glasses to prevent injury from flying objects.
- **Motor vehicle accidents.** Remember to buckle up, adjust your driving to current road conditions and utilize the free online defensive driving course through Texas Mutual.



### e-Learning course suggestions:

Driving Large Vehicles and Heavy Machinery

Personal Protective Equipment

Floor and Walkway Safety and Auditing

## OIL AND GAS FIELD SERVICES

### Most claims in the oil and gas field services involved a motor vehicle accident.

We found that more than 50 percent of the serious claims in oil and gas field services were a result of a motor vehicle accident. In most cases, the driver lost control of the vehicle. The highest number of claims in this industry occurred between 7-8 a.m.

- **Losing control.** Obey the speed limit and slow down according to traffic, road and visibility conditions. If you are a passenger, don't be afraid to be a back seat driver. Speak up if the driver is on a cell phone, speeding, tailgating or if you feel unsafe in any way.
- **Driver fatigue.** It's important to make sure that you get enough rest, eat a well-balanced meal and show up to work alert and focused. Find a good routine that allows you to ward off signs of fatigue.



### e-Learning course suggestions:

Alert Driving

Heavy Equipment Safety Introduction

## NEW EMPLOYEES

### New employees were more likely to get seriously injured.

Workers employed less than six months were involved in more than 30 percent of the serious incidents in 2017. Employers need to establish a thorough new employee orientation and employees should never complete tasks they do not feel entirely comfortable with.

The highest number of these claims involved two types of injury causes:

- **Motor vehicle incidents.** Make sure that your company has a thorough motor vehicle safety program in place. This should involve pulling motor vehicle reports, pre-trip vehicle inspections and thorough driver training.
- **Slips, trips and falls.** Don't underestimate the value of safety in seemingly simple tasks such as climbing a ladder. First and foremost, use the proper ladder for the task. Ensure the ladder is on stable ground and maintain three points of contact while you climb (one hand and two feet or two hands and one foot).



### e-Learning course suggestions:

Driving Preparation  
Safety and Health - Basic  
Ladder Safety

## GET FREE SAFETY RESOURCES

Texas Mutual policyholders have access to thousands of free training materials in our multimedia safety resource center, including 200 free e-Learning online training courses. With e-Learning, you can assign safety courses to your employees to help train them and keep them safe.

To access the free materials, log in to your [texasmutual.com](http://texasmutual.com) account and select safety resources. If you need helping accessing the safety resource center or you have a workplace safety question, call us toll-free at **844-WORKSAFE (967-5723)**.

