Slips, Trips, and Falls Stats and Facts

FACTS

1. Spills, ice, snow, rain, loose mats, rugs, and stepladders are some of the common causes of slips, trips, and falls.
2. Poor lighting and clutter can cause injuries such as sprains, strains, bruises, bumps, fractures, scratches, and cuts.
3. The three leading causes of work-related injuries treated in an emergency department were contact with objects and equipment, overexertion and bodily reaction, and falls, slips and trips without a fall.
4. A worker doesn’t have fall from a high level to suffer fatal injuries. Construction workers are most at risk for fatal falls from height – more than seven times the rate of other industries – but falls can happen anywhere, even at a “desk job.”
5. NSC data for 2016 includes falls from height and falls on the same level, by industry:

- Construction: 24,700 injuries, 384 deaths
- Manufacturing: 22,040 injuries, 49 deaths
- Wholesale trade: 10,250 injuries, 21 deaths
- Retail trade: 29,830 injuries, 29 deaths
- Transportation and Warehousing: 23,490 injuries, 46 deaths
- Professional and business services: 22,090 injuries, 111 deaths
- Education and health services: 43,660 injuries, 18 deaths
- Government: 63,350 injuries, 44 deaths

STATS

- Falls from portable ladders (step, straight, combination and extension) are one of the leading causes of occupational

fatalities and injuries.

- 27% of the 900,380 nonfatal work injuries resulting in days away from work in 2018 were related to slips, trips, and falls.
- Fall fatalities are nearly equally divided between men and women. However, more women will experience a slip-and-fall accident. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, falls accounted for 5% of the job-related fatalities for women compared to 11% for men.
- Falls from elevation (approximately 40% of compensable fall cases, approximately 10% of occupational fatalities).
- Slips, trips, and falls (STFs) account for the majority of general industry accidents.
- About 65 percent of all work days or 95 million work days are lost due to slips, trips, and falls.