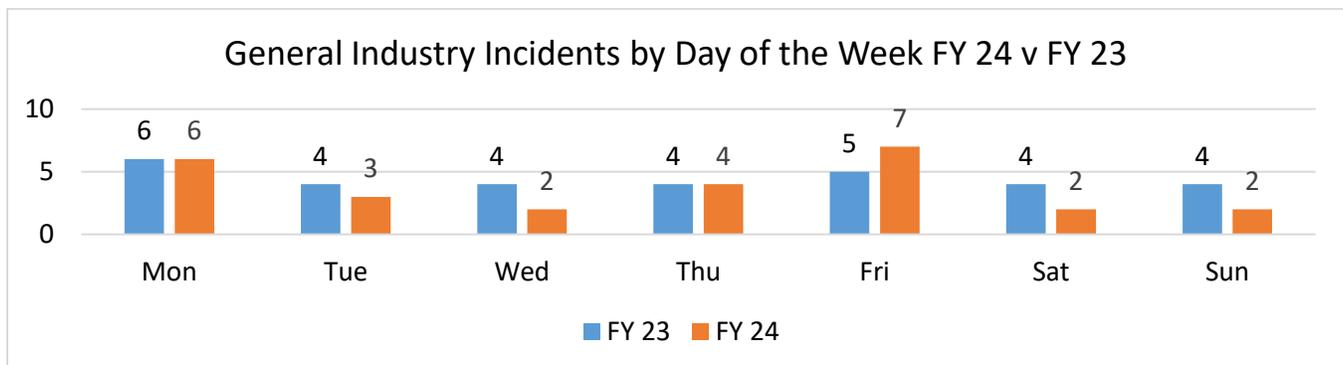
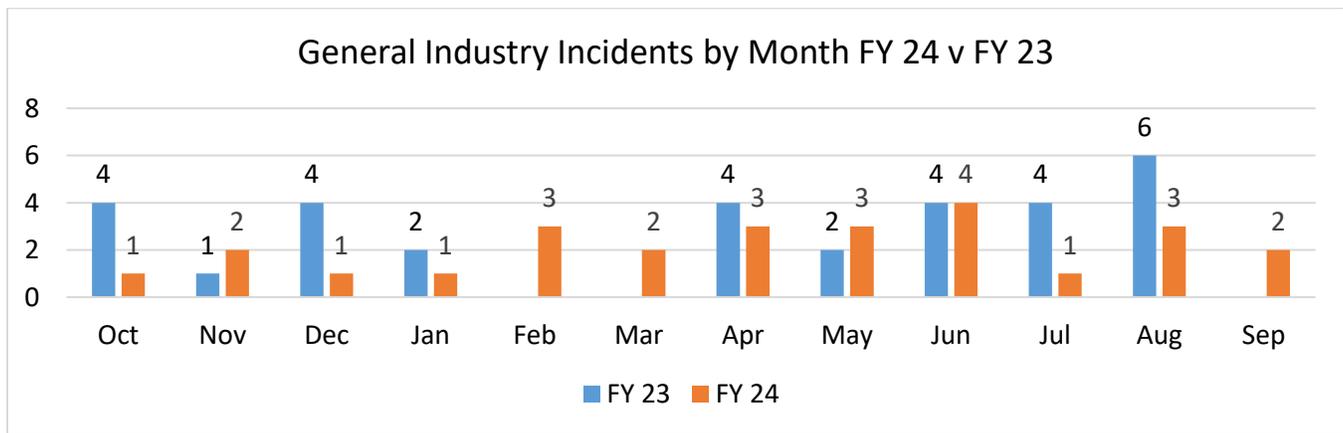
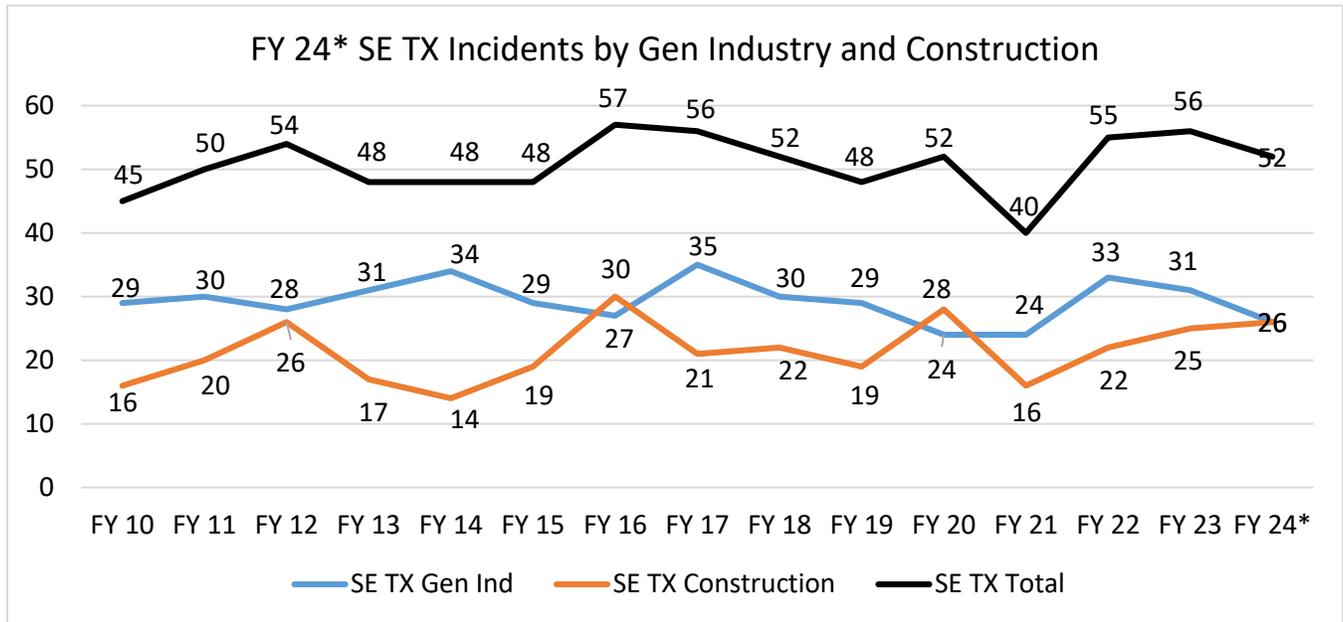
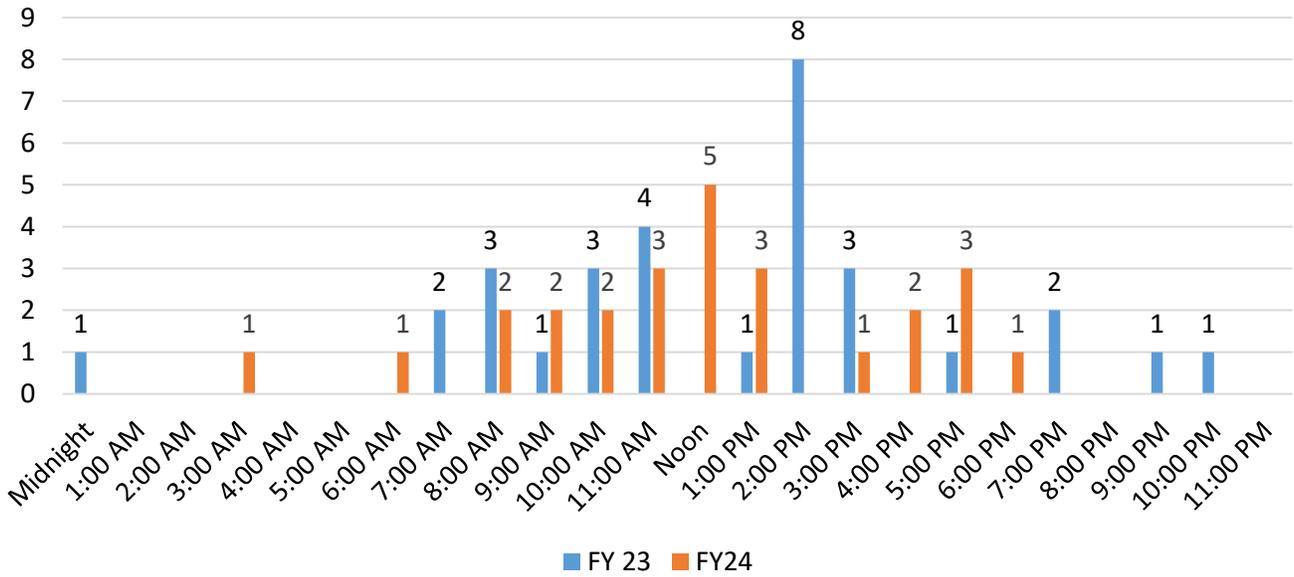


FY 2024 Southeast Texas General Industry Fatality/Catastrophe* Incidents** (v1 Oct 2024)

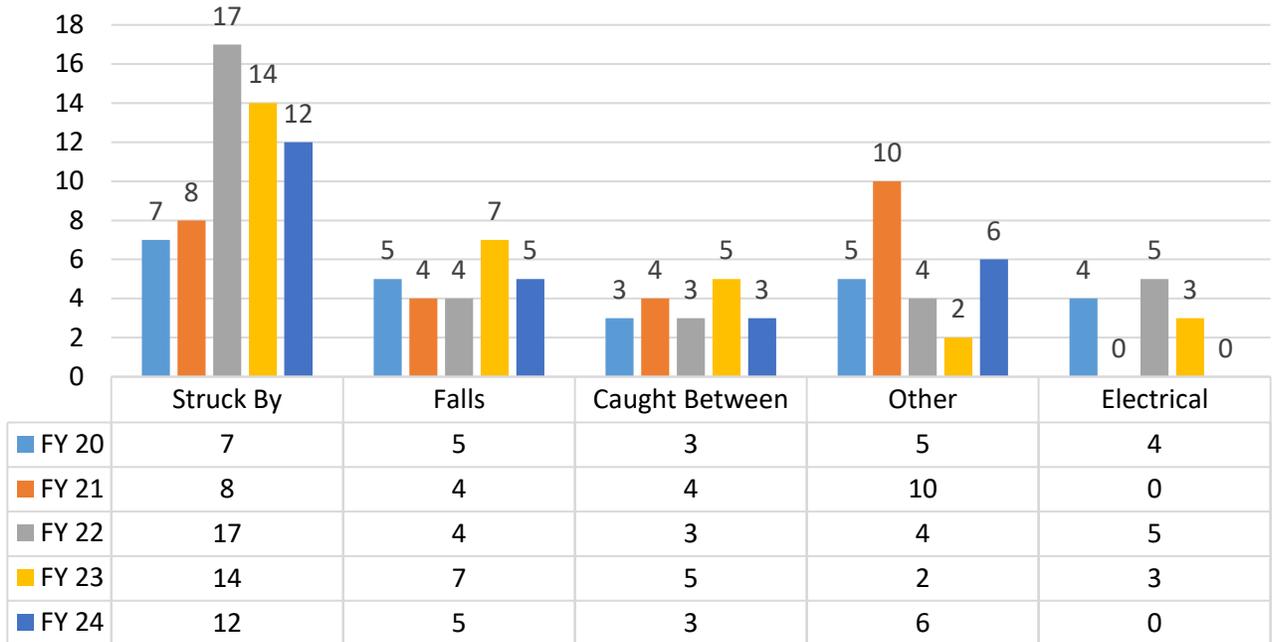
Based on records as of October 2, 2024, there were 52 fatality/catastrophe incidents in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 compared to 56 the previous year. These don't include any reported natural causes, sole proprietor, roadway vehicle, drug, Covid-19, volunteers, suicides, non-OSHA covered entities, or workplace violence related deaths. Overall incidents decreased by four, with a decrease in general industry and an increase in construction.



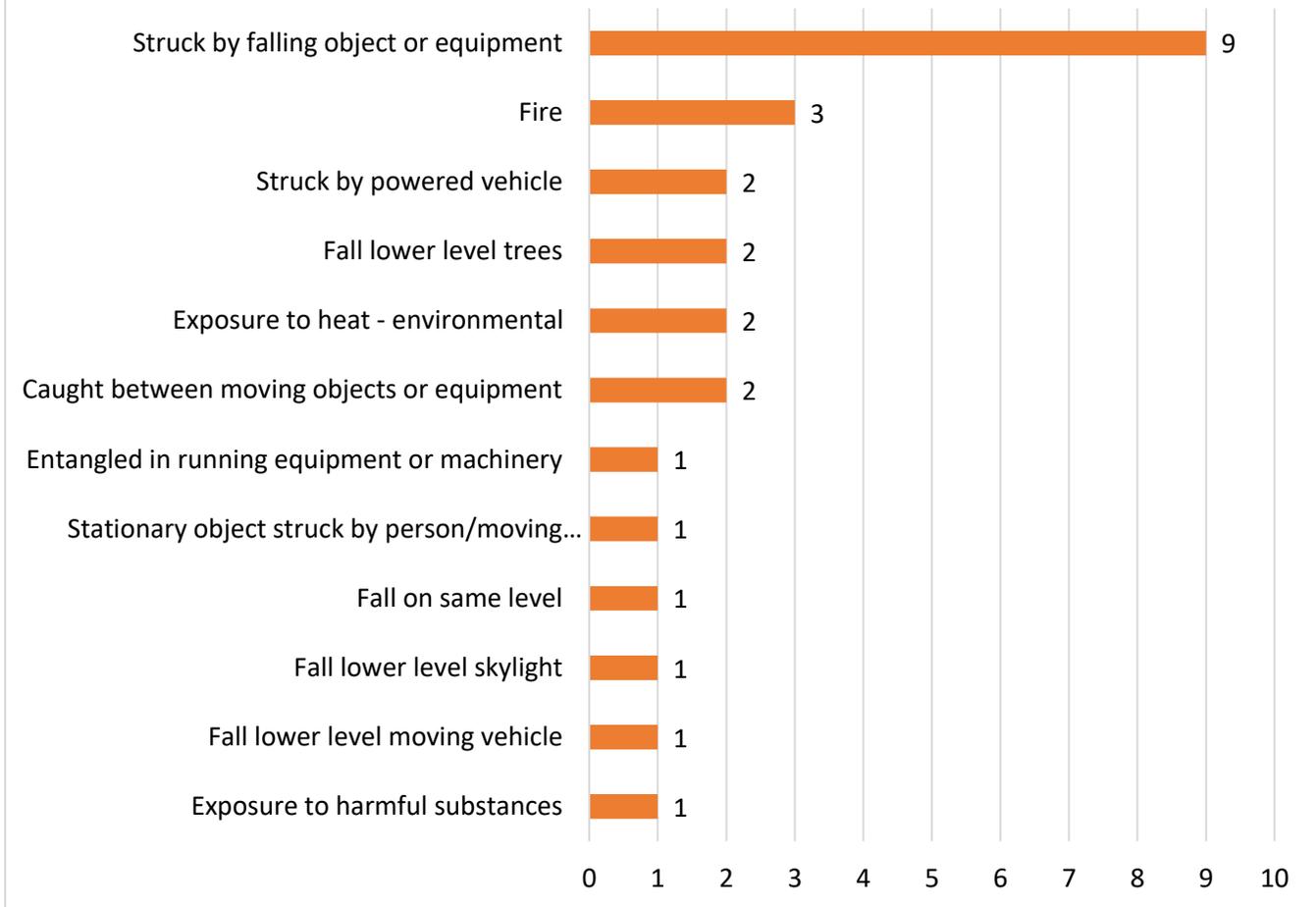
General Industry Incidents by Hour FY 24 v FY 23



FY 24 SE TX General Industry Incidents by Focus Four



FY 24 General Industry Incidents by Event



FY 24* ** SE TX General Industry Fatality/Catastrophe Incident Narratives

Caught between stationary and moving equipment or objects

- Employee was pinned between an 18- wheeler truck and the loading dock and was pronounced dead at hospital after transport.
- Employee was working as a commercial driver collecting trash from dumpsters at various locations when he did not engage the air brake of his truck, prior to exiting the vehicle to opening the gates to the dumpster enclosure. The truck moved forward pinning them between the gate and dumpster.

Entangled in running equipment or machinery

- Employees were in the process of grinding a stump using a stump grinder. Prior to grinding the stump, a rope was wrapped around a 6' bush and around the waist of the decedent so they can move it out of the way to grind the stump. When the grinding began, the stump grinder got a hold of the rope, pulling them onto the 20" grinding wheel head first. The employee died at the scene.

Exposure to harmful substances

- Employee was working cleaning a tank that had acetic acid and collapsed. Possible carbon monoxide asphyxiation.

Exposure to heat – environmental

- Employee was a solar installer and arrived at work at 6:30am and started feeling nauseated and vomiting at approximately 9:00am. They were treated on site by the company medic team from 12:30pm till 3:30pm when he left the site and went home. He was found deceased at his residence by co-workers at approximately 5:00pm. Suspected heat related illness.
- The employee and the crew of four began work at 8:30 AM cutting tree branches. Working throughout the day, at 4:45PM the crew came off break and began the "chip brush" process, gathering cut limbs and feeding them into the chipper. As they finished pushing a limb through the chipper, they turned and saw him on the ground, unresponsive. Emergency medical services were summoned and they were taken to the hospital where he was pronounced dead. Suspected heat related illness.

Fall lower level moving vehicle

- Employee was standing at the back of the truck to reach for, and remove, the air lock between the truck and the trailer. The trucked driver pulled the truck forward and the employee lost their balance and fell out of the back of the truck. He fell between two rear tires on the driver side and was run over.

Fall lower level skylight

- Employee fell through a skylight while doing roof work on metal building.

Fall lower level trees

- Employee died while falling from a tree trimming operation of an estimated height of 40'. They experienced a kick back in the chain saw and the chain saw came out of the tree branch striking and cutting his fall harness rigging rope. He died at the scene.
- A tree trimming crew was at a residential location. The crew was hired to trim and remove a tree in the front of the home. One worker was at height cutting sections of the tree when they fell approximately 30'. They were taken to the hospital and pronounced deceased upon arrival.

Fall on same level

- Employee died in November, 2023, from a pulmonary embolism. It's believed the pulmonary embolism was related to a work related fall several months before. They had fallen after tripping over a phone cord at the automotive parts service counter. They originally only sought occupational therapy consisting of lower massages for two months. He was still having pain and had an x-ray performed in September of 2023. At this time, it was determined that they had a lower leg fracture and leg was set in a cast. This was first time that employer was aware of the fracture. He continued to work in administrative functions until November, 2023, when he died.

Fire

- There was a fire in the ship's engine room and two employees died and one was injured responding to the fire.
- Employee was in the process of removing slag from the hot pit. Prior to entering the hot pit, permission to enter must be given. The operators allowed them to enter the hot pit to pick up slag and prep the hot pit for the next pick up. When they were back dragging the hot pit, a fire started on the left side of the wheel loader underneath the operator's cab. The cab was consumed with smoke and fire killing the operator.

- Grinding work was being performed on aluminum sleeves for concrete pilings when vapors from contaminated soil ignited from the grinding sparks causing a flash fire. The burn victims have been released from hospital, two with 1st degree burns, and one with 2nd degree burns.

Stationary object struck by person/moving vehicle/equipment

- Employee was driving a golf cart and drove into the side of a detached box tractor trailer. The employee was pronounced deceased on scene.

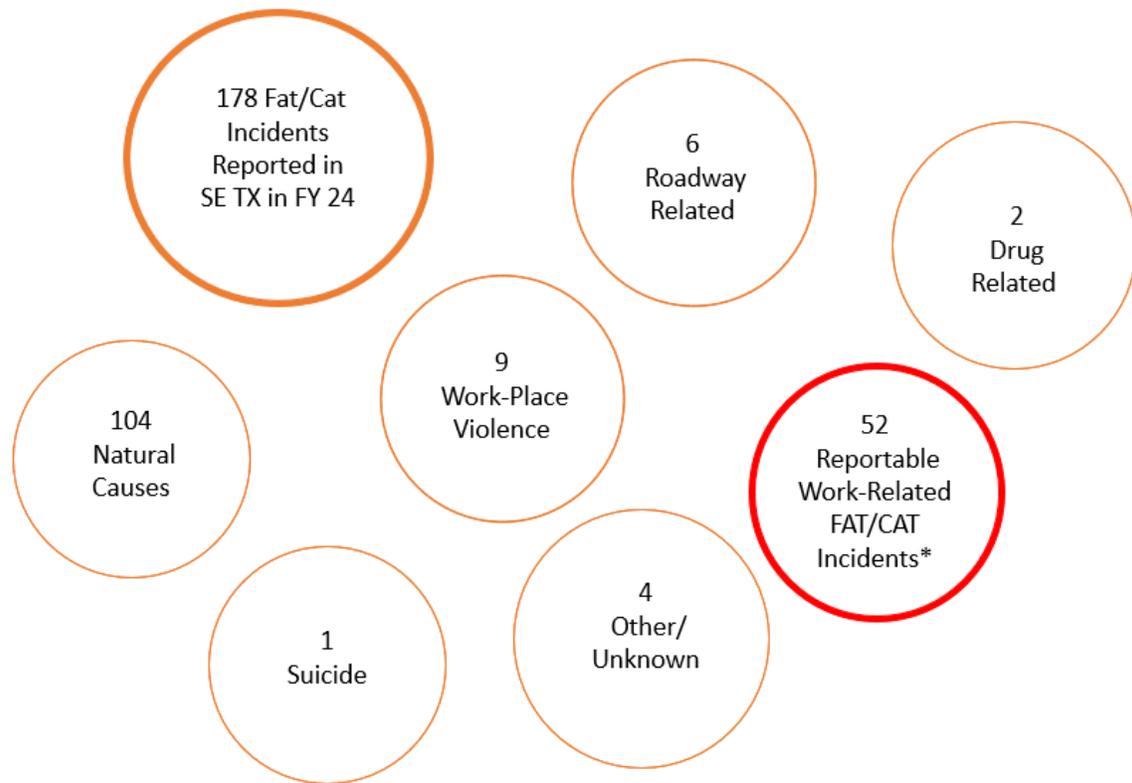
Struck by falling object or equipment

- Employee was working as a helper assisting a coworker on repairing the hydraulic system of a tow truck lift. The lift fell and struck them on the head and the coworker on the back. He was pronounced dead on scene and the coworker was transported to the hospital and is expected to survive.
- Employee was rigging a steel structure, called a gabion, while it was sitting on a trailer. He was rigging the structure so it could be moved with a telehandler. The gabion was to be installed as part of a sign in front of a new neighborhood. He started to manually pull up on the gabion so he could place his rigging straps, but this caused the gabion to shift and fall on top of him. He died from crushing injuries.
- A cement truck driver was parked sitting in the cab when a crane become unstable due to a severe weather event and fell on top of the concrete truck. The passenger of the cement truck was hospitalized expected to survive.
- Employee was conducting a lift with an overhead crane when the material came loose and fell on top of them.
- Employee was working inside a shipping container unlatching a load when a glass panel fell and pinned him to the wall of the container crushing his chest. Another employee was hospitalized for injuries to his shoulder.
- Employees were placing a work platform onto the rear section of a workover rig. While preparing to stow the platform, a metal chain attached to the catline broke. The work platform fell and struck the employee in the back of the neck pinning him between the platform and ground. He was pronounced dead at the scene.
- Employee was mowing grass in a dried out retention pond. Employee got off his tractor and crawled underneath the bat wings of brush hog. The brush hog wing came down on employee and he died at the scene.
- The employee was walking by a stack of pipes when several of the pipes fell off the stack striking them and causing fatal injuries.
- The decedent was in a tree (wearing a harness but no helmet), cutting a limb. Once cut, the limb fell in the wrong direction, landing on top of them and forcing him to the ground. He was transported to the hospital and pronounced deceased.

Struck by powered vehicle

- A tow truck driver had just finished hitching a vehicle to his truck in the right lane of a highway when a van attempted to avoid him, struck a vehicle in the left lane, but failed to maintain his lane and struck him.
- Employee cleaning the trunk of a pickup truck was struck by another pickup truck after the foot of another employee slipped off the brake and the truck failed to stop.

In FY 24, 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. 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