

N.C. Department of Labor  
Occupational Safety and Health Division  
October 2020–September 2021

## Top 25 Most Frequently Cited “Serious” Violations Construction Standards\*

| Standard Violated   | Total Violations | Serious Violations | Serious Percent | Willful Violations | Repeat Violations | Other Violations | Brief Description                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1926.501(b)(13)     | 414              | 331                | 80              | 0                  | 83                | 0                | Fall protection—Residential construction—Employees protected 6 feet or more above lower level                                                                             |
| 1926.102(a)(1)      | 244              | 204                | 84              | 0                  | 39                | 1                | Personal protective equipment—Eye and face protection—General requirements                                                                                                |
| 1926.1053(b)(1)     | 143              | 136                | 95              | 0                  | 6                 | 1                | Ladders—Use—Must extend 3 feet above landing or be properly secured to access upper landing                                                                               |
| 1926.503(b)(1)      | 176              | 122                | 69              | 0                  | 4                 | 50               | Fall protection—Written certification of training                                                                                                                         |
| 1926.20(b)(2)       | 109              | 103                | 94              | 0                  | 3                 | 3                | General safety and health provisions— Accident prevention—Frequent and regular inspections by competent person                                                            |
| 1926.100(a)         | 106              | 103                | 97              | 0                  | 3                 | 0                | Personal protective equipment—Head protection—General requirements                                                                                                        |
| 1926.503(a)(1)      | 77               | 74                 | 96              | 0                  | 3                 | 0                | Fall protection—Training program                                                                                                                                          |
| 1926.1053(b)(13)    | 56               | 53                 | 95              | 0                  | 0                 | 3                | Ladders—Use—Top step not used as a step                                                                                                                                   |
| 1926.1053(b)(4)     | 41               | 35                 | 85              | 0                  | 1                 | 5                | Ladders—Use—Used for the purpose for which designed                                                                                                                       |
| 1926.1060(a)        | 30               | 29                 | 97              | 0                  | 0                 | 1                | Stairways and ladders—Training program                                                                                                                                    |
| 1926.501(b)(10)     | 24               | 24                 | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | Fall protection—Low-slope roofs— Employees protected 6 feet or more above lower level                                                                                     |
| 1926.1051(a)        | 23               | 23                 | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | Stairways and ladders—Stairway or ladder provided where break in elevation of 19 inches or more                                                                           |
| 1926.20(b)(1)       | 23               | 23                 | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | General safety and health provisions—Accident prevention program                                                                                                          |
| 1926.501(b)(1)      | 22               | 22                 | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | Fall protection—Unprotected sides and edges— Employees protected 6 feet or more above lower level                                                                         |
| 1926.454(a)         | 23               | 21                 | 91              | 0                  | 0                 | 2                | Scaffolds—Training requirements                                                                                                                                           |
| 1926.501(b)(14)     | 23               | 21                 | 91              | 0                  | 2                 | 0                | Fall protection—Wall openings—Employees protected 6 feet or more above lower level                                                                                        |
| 1926.501(b)(11)     | 24               | 20                 | 83              | 0                  | 4                 | 0                | Fall protection—Steep roofs—Employees protected 6 feet or more above lower level                                                                                          |
| 1926.451(g)(1)(vii) | 22               | 19                 | 86              | 1                  | 2                 | 0                | Scaffolds—Fall protection—Employees protected by personal fall arrest/guardrail system                                                                                    |
| 1926.502(d)(17)     | 19               | 19                 | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | Personal fall arrest systems—Attachment point location of body belts and body harnesses                                                                                   |
| 1926.300(c)         | 19               | 18                 | 95              | 0                  | 1                 | 0                | Tools—Hand and power—Personal protective equipment provided and maintained when necessary                                                                                 |
| 1926.451(b)(2)      | 18               | 16                 | 89              | 0                  | 0                 | 2                | Scaffolds—Platforms and walkways at least 18 inches wide                                                                                                                  |
| 1926.453(b)(2)(v)   | 16               | 16                 | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | Scaffolds—Aerial lifts—Extensible and articulating boom platforms—Body belts and lanyards worn/used                                                                       |
| 1926.451(f)(7)      | 16               | 15                 | 94              | 0                  | 0                 | 1                | Scaffolds—Scaffold erection, moving, dismantling or alteration shall be done under supervision and direction of competent person and by experienced and trained employees |
| 1926.451(c)(2)      | 15               | 15                 | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | Scaffolds—Criteria for supported scaffolds—Poles, legs, posts, frames, and uprights shall bear on base plates and mud sills or other adequate firm foundation             |
| 1926.21(b)(2)       | 14               | 14                 | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | Safety training and education—Employer responsibility—Instruction in the recognition and avoidance of unsafe conditions                                                   |

**N.C. Department of Labor**  
**Occupational Safety and Health Division**  
 October 2020–September 2021  
**Top 25 Most Frequently Cited “Serious” Violations**  
**General Industry Standards\***

| Standard Cited       | Total Violations | Serious Violations | Serious Percent | Willful Violations | Repeat Violations | Other Violations | Brief Description                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1910.212(a)(1)       | 75               | 69                 | 93              | 2                  | 4                 | 0                | Machine guarding—Types of guarding                                                                                                     |
| 1910.147(c)(4)(i)    | 64               | 57                 | 89              | 2                  | 5                 | 0                | Control of hazardous energy—Lockout/tagout—Energy control procedures                                                                   |
| 1910.147(c)(6)(i)    | 51               | 42                 | 82              | 0                  | 4                 | 5                | Control of hazardous energy—Lockout/tagout—Periodic inspection at least annually                                                       |
| 95.129(01)           | 39               | 38                 | 97              | 1                  | 0                 | 0                | General Duty Clause                                                                                                                    |
| 1910.212(a)(3)(ii)   | 34               | 31                 | 91              | 1                  | 2                 | 0                | Machine guarding—Point of operation guarding                                                                                           |
| 1910.133(a)(1)       | 28               | 25                 | 39              | 0                  | 0                 | 3                | Personal protective equipment—Eye and face protection— General requirements                                                            |
| 1910.147(c)(7)(i)(A) | 24               | 24                 | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | Control of hazardous energy—Lockout/tagout—Authorized employee training on hazard recognition                                          |
| 1910.1200(h)(1)      | 86               | 23                 | 27              | 0                  | 4                 | 59               | Hazard communication—Information and training                                                                                          |
| 1910.28(b)(1)(i)     | 21               | 19                 | 90              | 1                  | 1                 | 0                | Fall Protection—Unprotected sides and edges—Employees protected 4 feet or more above lower level                                       |
| 1910.178(l)(1)(i)    | 20               | 19                 | 95              | 0                  | 0                 | 1                | Powered industrial trucks—Operator training                                                                                            |
| 1910.1200(e)(1)      | 85               | 18                 | 21              | 0                  | 1                 | 66               | Hazard communication—Written program                                                                                                   |
| 1910.132(d)(1)       | 23               | 16                 | 70              | 0                  | 0                 | 7                | Personal protective equipment—Workplace equipment—Workplace hazard assessment                                                          |
| 1910.132(a)          | 18               | 16                 | 89              | 0                  | 0                 | 2                | Personal protective equipment—General requirements— Provided when necessary                                                            |
| 1910.215(a)(4)       | 16               | 16                 | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | Machine guarding—Abrasive wheel machinery—Work rests                                                                                   |
| 1910.178(l)(4)(iii)  | 28               | 15                 | 54              | 0                  | 0                 | 13               | Powered industrial trucks—Operator training—Evaluation of operator performance at least once every three years                         |
| 1910.215(b)(9)       | 15               | 15                 | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | Machine guarding—Abrasive wheel machinery— Exposure adjustment                                                                         |
| 1910.219(d)(1)       | 15               | 15                 | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | Mechanical power-transmission apparatus—Pulleys—Guarding                                                                               |
| 1910.212(b)          | 15               | 14                 | 93              | 0                  | 0                 | 1                | Machine guarding—Anchoring fixed machinery                                                                                             |
| 1910.219(c)(2)(i)    | 13               | 13                 | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | Mechanical power-transmission power—Guarding apparatus—Guard horizontal shafting                                                       |
| 1910.178(q)(7)       | 23               | 12                 | 52              | 0                  | 0                 | 11               | Powered industrial trucks—Maintenance—Examined before placed in service                                                                |
| 1910.151(c)          | 16               | 12                 | 75              | 0                  | 0                 | 4                | Medical and first aid—Eyewash and emergency showers—Suitable facilities for quick drenching or flushing of eyes and body               |
| 1910.1200(g)(8)      | 65               | 11                 | 17              | 0                  | 0                 | 54               | Hazard Communication—Safety data sheets—Copies of safety data sheets maintained and readily accessible in each workplace               |
| 1910.242(b)          | 13               | 11                 | 85              | 0                  | 1                 | 1                | Hand and portable power tools—Compressed air for cleaning—Chip guard and personal protective equipment with pressure reduced to 30 psi |
| 1910.219(e)(3)(i)    | 11               | 11                 | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | Mechanical power-transmission apparatus—Vertical and inclined belts—Guarding                                                           |
| 1910.243(c)(1)       | 11               | 11                 | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | Hand and portable powered tools—Portable abrasive wheels—General requirements                                                          |

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## Top 10 Most Frequently Cited “Serious” Violations Public Sector\*

| Standard Violated  | Total Violations | Serious Violations | Serious Percent | Willful Violations | Repeat Violations | Other Violations | Brief Description                                                                |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1910.212(a)(1)     | 6                | 6                  | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | Machine guarding—Types of guarding                                               |
| 95.129(01)         | 6                | 6                  | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | General Duty Clause                                                              |
| 1910.215(b)(9)     | 4                | 4                  | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | Machine guarding—Abrasive wheel machinery—Exposure adjustment                    |
| 1910.134(e)(1)     | 6                | 3                  | 50              | 0                  | 0                 | 3                | Personal protective equipment—Respiratory protection—Medical evaluation          |
| 1910.147(c)(6)(i)  | 5                | 3                  | 60              | 0                  | 0                 | 2                | Control of hazardous energy—Lockout/tagout—Periodic inspection at least annually |
| 1910.253(b)(2)(ii) | 5                | 3                  | 60              | 0                  | 0                 | 2                | Oxygen-fuel gas welding and cutting—Cylinder storage requirements                |
| 1910.147(c)(4)(i)  | 3                | 3                  | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | Control of hazardous energy—Lockout/tagout—Energy control procedures             |
| 1910.215(a)(4)     | 3                | 3                  | 100             | 0                  | 0                 | 0                | Machine guarding—Abrasive wheel machinery—Work rests                             |
| 1910.1200(e)(1)    | 9                | 2                  | 22              | 0                  | 0                 | 7                | Hazard communication—Written program                                             |
| 1910.1200(e)(1)(i) | 6                | 2                  | 33              | 0                  | 0                 | 4                | Hazard communication—Written program—Hazardous chemical list                     |