Overview

Construction workers move frequently from jobsite to jobsite, yet little is documented about length of stay on-site and its associations with worker characteristics. The research team surveyed 989 workers employed on four large commercial construction projects to investigate associations between worker characteristics — including race, ethnicity, trade and reported musculoskeletal pain — and length of stay on-site.

Key Findings

- Approximately 56% of workers remained on the worksite for at least one month.
- Fifty-seven percent of Non-Hispanic white workers spent more than one month on the job site, while only 43% of Hispanic workers did.
- Seventy percent of plumbers and pipefitters, 63% of sheet metal workers and 62% of electricians spent more than one month on the jobsite, while only 39% of heavy equipment operators, piledrivers and elevator constructors did.
- Workers who spent less than a month on the site before moving on were somewhat more likely to report musculoskeletal pain overall, and more than twice as likely to report musculoskeletal pain occurring in a single specific body part.

Length of time spent working on a commercial construction site and the associations with worker characteristics