Key Findings

- Small employers (<20 employees) accounted for 37.5% of employment but were responsible for 57% of all fatalities.
- Small employers — especially those which hire immigrant workers and self-employed workers — lag far behind in terms of adopting even essential elements of good safety cultures and management practices.
- State and local governments could improve construction safety by mandating skills qualifications for licensed contractors and workers; adopting occupational safety and health requirements for construction permits; and making greater use of criminal prosecution where it is obvious that basic requirements for safety and health have been ignored.