

Can we measure how an individual worker's safety performance affects his likelihood of occupational injuries?

Individual safety performance in the construction industry: Development and validation of two short scales

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Peter Y. Chen, Konstantin P. Cigularov.
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Overview

Occupational safety researchers have identified two distinct components of safety performance: safety compliance, which consists in adherence to safety rules on the jobsite (e.g. wearing a hardhat), and safety participation, which describes voluntary activities that help improve safety on the job (e.g., attending a voluntary safety meeting.) In this study, researchers developed and validated a 10-question survey tailored to the construction industry for use in testing the effects of each component of safety performance.

Key Findings

- Workers who reported higher safety compliance or higher safety participation reported lower numbers of occupational injuries.
- Workers who reported higher safety compliance or higher safety participation were less likely to report experiencing job-related pain. In contrast to some previous research findings, safety compliance exhibited a significantly more powerful effect than safety participation.
- By providing short, reliable and valid measure of safety performance appropriate for use in construction safety research, this work will make future construction safety research easier.

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See abstract:

<http://bit.ly/1iEOlh0>

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