

## A Year in Review: OSHA Inspections and Safety Training

By: Construction Safety Council

As the year draws to a close, it is appropriate to reflect upon 2019 and provide a positive perspective on industry trends and lessons learned.

A review of OSHA records demonstrates that the agency responsible for ensuring safe and healthful workplaces was active throughout the year. Nationwide, more than 33,000 inspections were conducted, with 18 of those at electrical and wiring companies located in northeastern Illinois.

Although union contractors represented 44% of these local safety visits, none of the citations issued by OSHA were for violations observed at union jobsites. Two employers were cited for multiple instances of non-compliance with fall protection safety requirements, resulting in employees being exposed to unnecessary risks. In fact, failure to provide protection to those who work at heights was the most common citation issued by OSHA across all construction industries.

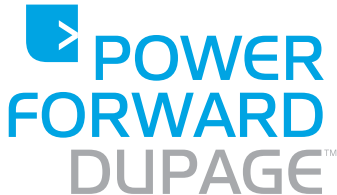
In order to reduce the number job hazards and the incidence of injuries, PowerForward DuPage partners with the Construction Safety Council to provide educational programs that ensure the well-being of its contractor workforce.

During 2019, the Council delivered dozens of training sessions to hundreds of employees in a regular schedule of monthly courses. The training topics included electric shock, arc blast, lockout/tagout, PPE, NFPA 70E standards, and other curricula that is not electrical-related. This instruction is essential for businesses that are committed to a safety program that not only satisfies OSHA regulations, but also protects workers daily.

As a whole, safety performance indicators in the construction industry are trending upwards. Employers and employees are working together, more than ever, to keep each other safe, while also sustaining a busy workload. It is important for both groups to stay current with the equipment, tools, and technologies that enhance jobsite productivity and efficiency.

Contractors are encouraged to renew their commitment to safety training during 2020. Several course options are available from the Construction Safety Council to PowerForward DuPage – at a time and location that are both accessible and affordable. Make it a New Year’s resolution to **Work Smart, Build Safe!**

*A complete schedule of electrical safety training programs is available at [www.buildsafe.org](http://www.buildsafe.org)*



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The Construction Safety Council, in partnership with NECA-IBEW 701 Safety Committee, would like to remind you to Work Smart, Build Safe!



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