

## INEXPERIENCED WORKER & WORKPLACE INJURIES

An inexperienced worker is defined as having limited knowledge or experience of a particular situation or activity. Inexperienced workers are more likely to be injured on the job than experienced workers:

### **Risk factors**

Inexperienced workers are more likely to be injured due to a lack of experience, safety training, and risk aversion. They may also be employed in industries with higher injury hazards, such as cell tower operations and construction.

### **Common injuries**

Inexperienced workers are more likely to be struck by or striking objects, which can lead to broken bones, concussions, and spine injuries.

### **Frequency of injuries**

According to an OSHA survey, workers with less than five years of experience account for 43% of reported workplace injuries. A report by the National Safety Council found that new workers account for more than a third of work-related injuries.

### **Emergency medical treatment**

According to the CDC, more than 50,000 young workers are so severely injured at work each year that they need emergency medical treatment.

### **To help keep inexperienced workers safe, employers can:**

- Provide technical and safety training
- Ensure new workers use personal protective equipment (PPE) safely
- Ensure new workers are trained to use emergency stations safely
- Ensure new workers are fit-tested for hearing protection
- Ensure new workers are trained on hand protection and skin health
- Ensure new workers are trained on safe storage of chemicals
- Ensure new workers comply with first aid
- Ensure new workers are trained on energized work permits

