



SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

TOP 10 OSHA VIOLATIONS – 2019-20

Every year, OSHA publishes their list of the most common OSHA violations from the previous year (October of the previous year through September of the current year). The preliminary list from 2019-2020 is as follows:

	Standard	Number of Violations (preliminary numbers)
1.	Fall Protection – General Requirements (1926.501)	6,010 violations
2.	Hazard Communication (1910.1200)	3,671 violations
3.	Scaffolding (1926.451)	2,813 violations
4.	Lockout/Tagout (1910.147)	2,606 violations
5.	Respiratory Protection (1910.134)	2,450 violations
6.	Ladders (1926.1053)	2,345 violations
7.	Powered Industrial Trucks (1910.178)	2,093 violations
8.	Fall Protection – Training Requirements (1926.503)	1,773 violations
9.	Machine Guarding (1910.212)	1,743 violations
10.	PPE – Eye and Face Protection (1926.102)	1,411 violations

The top ten categories have stayed the same from 2018, though Lockout/Tagout and Respiratory Protection switched places. The total number of violations above reflect a decrease of around 15% overall from 2018 numbers.

Following is one of the largest fines of 2019-2020 that was due to exposures which could also pertain to school employees:

Retail Store – 6 total violations (Willful, Repeat, and Other) - \$477,089 total fined for citations involving exit, storage, and fire hazards

Additionally, violations related to **COVID-19** are on the rise. From the start of the pandemic through October 8, 2020, 85 establishments were cited by OSHA for coronavirus violations, resulting in \$1,222,156 in proposed penalties. These citations include failures regarding:

- Providing medical evaluation, respirator fit testing, and training on the proper use of respirators and PPE
- Implementing a written Respiratory Protection Plan
- Reporting on an injury, illness, or death
- Recording an injury or illness on OSHA recordkeeping forms
- Complying with the General Duty Clause of the Occupational Health and Safety Act of 1970

All employees should act as safety ambassadors who contribute to a safe working environment for themselves and their colleagues. If you are part of a safety committee, you can support your agency by making sure the safety programs mentioned here are current and complied with.

Helping to keep our member's employees safe! This Safety Spotlight brought to you by: