



UNIONIZED CONSTRUCTION IS SAFER

NEW REPORT COMING TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

Unionized Construction Work is Safe Work

In 2015, the Institute for Work & Health (IWH) in partnership with the OCS, conducted a study that found unionized companies in Ontario's ICI construction sector had a lower incidence of loss-time injury claims than non-unionized contractors, making them 23% safer.

An updated study, which will be released on January 12, 2021, has reaffirmed the union safety effect and found that lost-time injury claims to the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) are **31% lower** on unionized construction jobs than they are in a non-union environment.

The new study analyzed WSIB data from more than 50,000 companies representing 1.7 million cumulative workers in the ICI sector between 2012 and 2018 finding that the "union effect" has strengthened over the past five years.

"The data doesn't lie and reaffirms what we have always suspected."

- Robert Bronk, OCS Chief Executive Officer

The study also found that claims for severe injuries are 29% lower on union jobs. Although the study did not identify the reasons for the union safety effect, various other researchers have noted that enhanced occupational health and safety (OHS) training in the unionized sector leads to safer working conditions. Other non-OHS factors contributing to the union safety effect could be higher journeyman-to-apprentice ratios and less worker turnover and longer job tenure.

The full version of the research report will be released on **Tuesday January 12** and will be available for download on the OCS website.

Want to learn more? Register to join Dr. Lynda Robson, IWH Scientist, on January 12, 2021 for a free **virtual presentation** as she will discuss how the latest findings support the "union safety effect", and how findings vary by company size and types of construction.

[Click here](#) to register for the IWH Speaker Series.

