

# Unionized Construction Work is Safe Work



BUILDING TRADES UNIONS IN ONTARIO'S ICI CONSTRUCTION SECTOR ARE

# 31% SAFER

WHEN COMPARED TO NON-UNION FIRMS

Source: Institute for Work & Health. 2020. Updating a Study of the Union Effect on Safety in the ICI Construction Sector

## THE UNION EFFECT

Unionization is associated with:



# 29%

LOWER

Incidence of Critical  
Injury Claims



# 25%

LOWER

Incidence of Musculoskeletal  
Injury Claims



# 31%

LOWER

Incidence of Lost-time  
Injury Claims

\*In analyses without statistical adjustment in comparison to non-union firms. Statistical adjustments do not significantly alter the Union Safety Effect.

## WHY CHOOSE UNION?

Unionization is associated with:



### SAFETY FIRST

Unparalleled focus on worker safety  
results in lower rates of injuries  
requiring time away from work



### TRAINING

Over 100 joint union-employer  
training centres delivering trade  
and safety training



### PARTNERSHIPS

Unions and contractors working  
together to enhance safety and  
construction practices

## ABOUT THE RESEARCH



### 7 YEARS

WSIB\* claims data  
from 2012 - 2018



### 60,425

construction  
firms assessed

# 1.7

### MILLION

cumulative FTE  
employees

# 39

### WSIB

construction sector  
groupings

\*The Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) administers a single-payer workers' compensation insurance program for the Province of Ontario.



Institute  
for Work &  
Health



Ontario Construction Secretariat

**STUDY CONFIRMS  
A UNION SAFETY  
EFFECT EXISTS!**

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