

Do Workers in Different Construction Trades Perceive Safety Climate the Same Way?

Overview

The use of safety climate measures for need assessment and interventions has become increasingly popular. Typically, safety climate scores are determined by asking workers to evaluate statements like “the general contractor safety personnel step in to stop unsafe operations” or “my foreman thinks that safety is more important than productivity.” But workers in different trades encounter very different levels of risk and characteristic hazards: do they all respond in the same way to a standard safety climate survey instrument? Thus, it is important to ensure that respondents use similar frames of reference while completing a safety climate measure. Researchers analyzed safety climate surveys submitted by 4,725 workers employed in 10 different construction trades on a single large construction project in Las Vegas, Nevada, and found that although the different trades reported on average significantly different levels of safety climate, they used the same frame of reference when responding to the measure.

For more information, contact:
Konstantin P. Cigularov: kcigular@odu.edu
See abstract:
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0001457512003818>

©2013, CPWR ... The Center for Construction Research and Training, research and training arm of the Building and Construction Trades Department, is uniquely situated to serve construction workers, contractors, practitioners and the scientific community. This card was made possible by a cooperative agreement with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, NIOSH (OH00000001). The contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official views of NIOSH.

