IMPROVING YOUR SAFETY CLIMATE CAN REDUCE UNSAFE INCIDENTS

81% of respondents reported at least one occurrence of work-related physical symptom or injury in the *previous 3 months*.

Safety climate
refers to shared
perceptions of
employees about
their organization's
commitment to safety
and their own
attitudes toward
safety

Table 1 shows some characteristics of the 837 construction workers who responded to the survey in 2015 / 2016.

Table 1: Demographic factors of participants	
	Avg.
Age (years)	36.7
Years in construction	14.2
Years with the current employer	6.2
No. of construction employers in previous 3 years	2.2
No. of projects worked in previous 3 years	10.1

As shown on the right, as safety climate improved from weak to strong, unsafe incidents decreased by 50%.

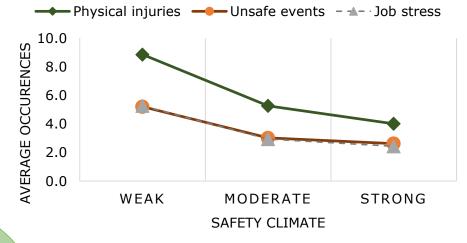
Safety climate is

management commitment, supervisor safety perception, co-worker safety perception,

safety knowledge,

measured by

work pressure, and role overload



A strong commitment to safety by management and supervisors can improve the safety climate and reduce unsafe incidents.

Work pressure is strongly linked to unsafe incidents.

Produced by Civil Engineering, University of Toronto



 A Research Minute #1702 is produced by: Dr. Brenda McCabe
 Department of Civil Engineering
 University of Toronto
 Toronto, ON, Canada
 M5S 1A4

For more details about this research, see:

Chen, Y, McCabe, BY, and Hyatt, D, 2017, "The impact of individual resilience and safety climate on safety performance and psychological stresses of construction workers: a case study in the Ontario construction industry", Journal of Safety Research, 61, 167–176.

Copies of the Research Minute or journal publication are available at http://civil.engineering.utoronto.ca/staff/professors/brenda-mccabe/factors-affecting-safety-performance-of-construction-workers/
Or by request from brenda.mccabe@utoronto.ca

416-946-3505

This report was part of the doctoral research undertaken by Yuting (Tina) Chen, PhD Civil Engineering University of Toronto

The research was supported by Ontario Ministry of Labour Research Opportunities Program (ROP) grant 13R-047. We would like to thank all of the construction companies, production and safety managers, supervisors, workers, and site personnel for their support, engagement, and participation.