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.

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 1: Demographic factors of participants</th>
<th>Avg.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age (years)</td>
<td>36.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years in construction</td>
<td>14.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years with the current employer</td>
<td>6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of construction employers in previous 3 years</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of projects worked in previous 3 years</td>
<td>10.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Safety climate is measured by management commitment, supervisor safety perception, co-worker safety perception, safety knowledge, 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.

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