OSHA
Frequently Cited Standards

In 2018, there were more than 78,000 OSHA inspections at both the state and federal levels. These resulted in more than 125,000 violations with potential fines of about $229,000,000.¹

The Top 10 Most Frequently Cited OSHA Standards for 2018²

1) **Fall Protection**
   Citations were generally for failing to provide protection from falling objects, not using fall protection equipment correctly, and not having available fall protection for employees working at heights above six feet.

2) **Hazard Communication**
   Citations ranged from not having a written program, failing to have Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for chemicals in the workplace, incomplete employee training, and labeling mistakes.

3) **Scaffolding**³
   Citations were for lack of portable ladders to access the scaffold platforms, loading scaffolds beyond their capacity, and not protecting employees from fall hazards while working at heights of 10 feet or higher.

4) **Respiratory Protection**
   Citations stemmed from lack of a written program, failing to conduct fit tests, not having a medical evaluation on employees who have to wear respirators, and lack of worksite-specific training for employees.

5) **Lockout/Tagout**
   Citations were generally issued for failing to use locks and tags as needed, lack of a written program, and not removing employees from the area during maintenance and service of machines or equipment.

6) **Ladders**
   Citations for lack of training on requirements like proper load capacity, stability, and correct ladder choice for the job.

7) **Powered Industrial Trucks**
   Citations included lack of operator training and unsafe forklifts, which include motorized hand trucks.

8) **Fall Protection Training Requirements**
   Citations were given for lack of training, verification of compliance, inadequate knowledge of the standard, and fall protection measures.

9) **Machine Guarding**
   Citations included lack of protection for point-of-operation, blades, nip points, and other machinery parts that pose a hazard.

10) **Eye and Face Protection**
    Citations were issued for failure to ensure employees were using eye protection when eye or face hazards were present, and ensuring employees with prescription lenses wear appropriate fitting eyewear.

¹ https://enforcedata.dol.gov/views/oshaLab.php
³ Construction Standard instead of General Industry (according to OSHA)

This brochure is for general information and risk prevention purposes only and should not be considered legal advice. This is not provided as a substitute for any regulatory or OSHA standards that may apply. The information herein is accurate as of January 2019 and is subject to change. Qualified counsel should be sought for questions specific to your circumstances.