



# Safety Net(work)

Produced by Department of Administration Bureau of State Risk Management

May 2020  
Volume 7, Number 5

## Safety Spotlight:

National Electrical Safety  
Month

## Five Minutes for Safety:

National Physical  
Fitness & Sports  
Month

## Quote of the Month:

“Give me six hours to chop down a tree and I will spend the first four sharpening the ax.”

-Abraham Lincoln

## Workers Comp

Claims	Claims
<u>FY19 YTD</u>	<u>FY20 YTD</u>

2,360	2,039
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Lost Time	Lost Time
<u>FY19 YTD</u>	<u>FY20 YTD</u>

574	433
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Every **20 minutes** an older adult dies from a fall in the United States. Many more are injured.

Take a stand to prevent falls

**STEADI** Stopping Elderly Accidents, Deaths & Injuries



## In This Issue:

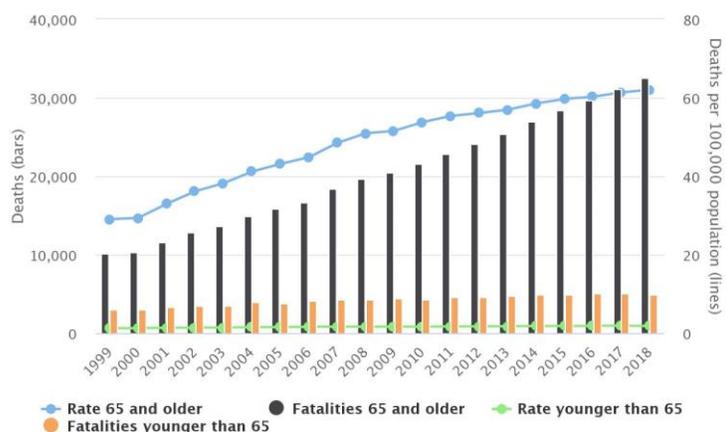
Older Adult Falls Rising  
Electrical Safety -  
While Working From Home

## Older Adult Falls Rising

Since 1921, The National Safety Council (NSC) has been reporting [Injury Facts®](#) on preventable injuries and deaths in the [workplace](#), [on our roads](#) and in [our homes and communities](#).

The NSC reports as our population ages, the prevalence of falls among older adults is increasing (Ctrl + left click graph below). According to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), more than one in four older adults report a fall each year. In 2018, 32,522 older adults aged 65 and older died from [preventable falls](#), and nearly 3 million were treated in emergency departments. Over the past ten years, the number of older adult fall deaths has increased 59%, while emergency department visits have increased 36%. At the same time, the number of fall deaths among individuals younger than 65 increased 13% but the emergency department visits have decreased 21%.

Preventable fall deaths and death rates, United States, 1999–2018



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Everyday Health provides [nine simple home improvements](#) to keep you and your loved ones safe from dangerous falls. Additionally, please reference the [Slip, Trip and Fall Prevention Manual](#) document listed under Safety Manager and Coordinator Resources on the [Department of Administration Safety & Loss Control web page](#) for additional guidance.

# Electrical Safety - While Working From Home

## Consumer Safety

United States Consumer  
Product Safety Commission

## Contact Us

<https://doa.wi.gov>

## E-Mail

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As part of 2020 National Electrical Safety Month, ESFI released a series of “[Smart Home](#)” [campaign materials](#). A good reminder on [Electrical safety while working from home](#) is provided for those that have a home office or work from home. ESFI recommends following these electrical safety tips to keep you and your home safe from electrical hazards (double click image to open PDF):



An average of 51,000 electrical home structure fires occur each year, claiming almost 500 lives, injuring more than 1,400 people, and causing more than \$1.3 billion in property damage (National Fire Protection Association, 2003-2007). In addition, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission reports that nearly 400 people are electrocuted in the U.S. each year.

1. Avoid overloading outlets.
2. Unplug appliances when not in use to save energy and minimize the risk of shock or fire.
3. Regularly inspect electrical cords and extension cords for damage.
4. Extension cords should only be used on a temporary basis.
5. Never plug a space heater or fan into an extension cord or power strip.
6. Never run cords under rugs/carpets, doors, or windows.
7. Plug in smartly. Make sure cords do not become tripping hazards.
8. Keep papers and other potential combustibles at least three feet away from space heaters and other heat sources.
9. Make sure you use proper wattage for lamps/lighting.
10. Make sure your home has smoke alarms. Test them monthly, change batteries yearly, and replace the unit every 10 years.

Wherever you work, it's always important to be safe.