

Slip and fall risk assessments

Slips, trips, and falls are one of the leading causes of workplace injuries, driving up operational costs and contributing to higher insurance premiums and lost productivity. EMC Insurance's loss control experts can help identify hazards and provide practical solutions to improve safety.

The high cost of slips and falls

Slips and falls aren't just minor accidents—they can have a major impact on both people and businesses. Here's a closer look at the impact:

- **18%** of nonfatal injuries are caused by falls¹
- **No. 1** cause of workplace injuries for employees aged 55 and older²
- **11%** of sprains, strains, and tears result from falls on the same level³
- **12%** of injuries that lead to time off work are due to slips and falls on the same level³
- **14 days:** The median recovery time for fall-related injuries, four days longer than the average for other incidents³
- **\$22.5 billion:** The annual cost of slip and fall injuries, with each injury averaging over \$49,000³
- **Over 44,000** lives are lost annually in homes and communities due to slips and falls, with this number rising as population ages²



Common locations for falls

- Areas with heavy traffic
- Cluttered walkways
- Doorways
- Ladders
- Ramps
- Stairs
- Uneven surfaces
- Unguarded heights
- Unstable work surfaces
- Wet areas

Factors that affect likelihood of slips and falls

Increases likelihood

- Changes in elevation greater than ¼"
- Clutter or items below knee height on floor
- Cords across pedestrian pathways
- Distractions while walking, such as phone use
- Floors with poor traction or slippery residue
- Poorly marked curbs, stairs, or ramps
- Water or liquid on the floor

Decreases likelihood

- Appropriate cleaning methods
- Barricades directing pedestrians along safe paths
- Handrails on stairs with more than four steps
- Regularly rotated and well-maintained floor mats
- Removal of cords or clutter from walking areas
- Slip-resistant shoes
- Visibly contrasting edge treatments on stairs

Contact EMC Insurance today

Our loss control experts are available to schedule a slip and fall risk assessment at your facility. Reach out to your independent insurance agent, local EMC loss control representative, or email losscontrol@emcins.com.



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¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/injury/fastfacts.html>

² <https://www.nsc.org>

³ <https://www.bls.gov/iif/soii-data.htm#dafw>