

Leading safety metrics cheat sheet: Safety observations



A documented observation report is

Produced by a direct, formal observation of a worksite (including engagement of workers)

To identify the presence of controls, behaviours and/or the use of safe work procedures.

Executed by someone who has

Training and knowledge on the purpose and process for safety observations.

Familiar with the work observed (not necessarily an expert) and industry standard controls.

Not part of that work crew or their direct supervisor.



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You only count safety observations

where you meet
the minimum
criteria.



Your **QUALITY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM** must ensure any observation counted had:

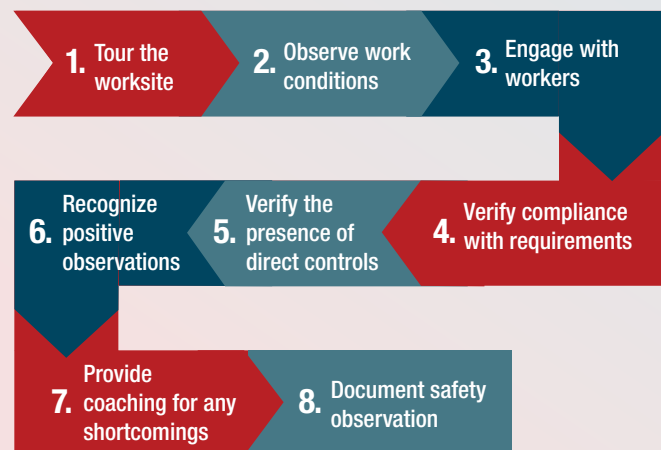
- An observer knowledgeable in safety observations and the work observed who did this safety observation.
- An observer on site to witness work and engage in conversations.
- An observer identify the presence of controls, especially controls for life-threatening hazards.

You can include safety observations as part of inspections, worksite tours, worker engagements, audits and so on if they meet the quality criteria.

TO GET STARTED:

1. Create a program to train observers and track the quality of completed observation reports.
2. Include coaching and follow up training to improve the quality of observations.

The Construction Safety Research Alliance model for safety observations:



THE FORMULA FOR THE METRIC:

of successful safety observations
X 200,000 hours

of person hours worked

Use the **Construction Safety Research Alliance** tools to help with your coaching program.

csra.colorado.edu/field-guides



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