

Construction isn't like other workplaces.

OSHA'S PROPOSED HEAT RULE

OSHA has proposed a nationwide heat standard intended to protect employees working in high temperatures. The proposal includes requirements for heat planning, worker training, access to water and shade, and mandatory rest breaks under certain conditions. As OSHA evaluates the rule, it's important to consider how construction jobsites operate differently than many other industries.



Heat safety requires flexibility - not one-size-fits-all mandates.



Heat Safety is Already Part of Construction Culture

AVERAGE ACTIVE JOBSITES

CONSTRUCTION MANAGES

5X

MORE JOBSITES THAN OTHER INDUSTRIES

That means construction is already managing 5X the heat safety plans!

The overwhelming majority say these plans include:



Providing Drinking Water



Encouraged or Required Water Breaks



Established Shade or Cooling Areas



Adjusting Work Schedules



Regular Training



Monitoring Worker Symptoms

Contractors reported managing an average of 43 active jobsites during hot weather, far more than the 9 assumed of other industries. *2026 AGC Heat Safety Survey*

A "15-MINUTE" BREAK



≈ 45 MINUTES

TOTAL TIME AFFECTED

To safely shut down work and reach designated cooling areas, many contractors have to climb down from scaffolding, out of trenches, or navigate away from busy highways - turning a 15-minute break into a nearly **45-minute endeavor.**

AGC supports strong safety standards that protect construction workers, while recognizing that the unique, dynamic nature of construction requires flexibility in how those standards are applied.

We are committed to working with OSHA to advance practical, effective approaches that keep our industry safe.



Whether you're developing policy or managing jobsites, **stay informed** with AGC's latest heat safety resources.

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