

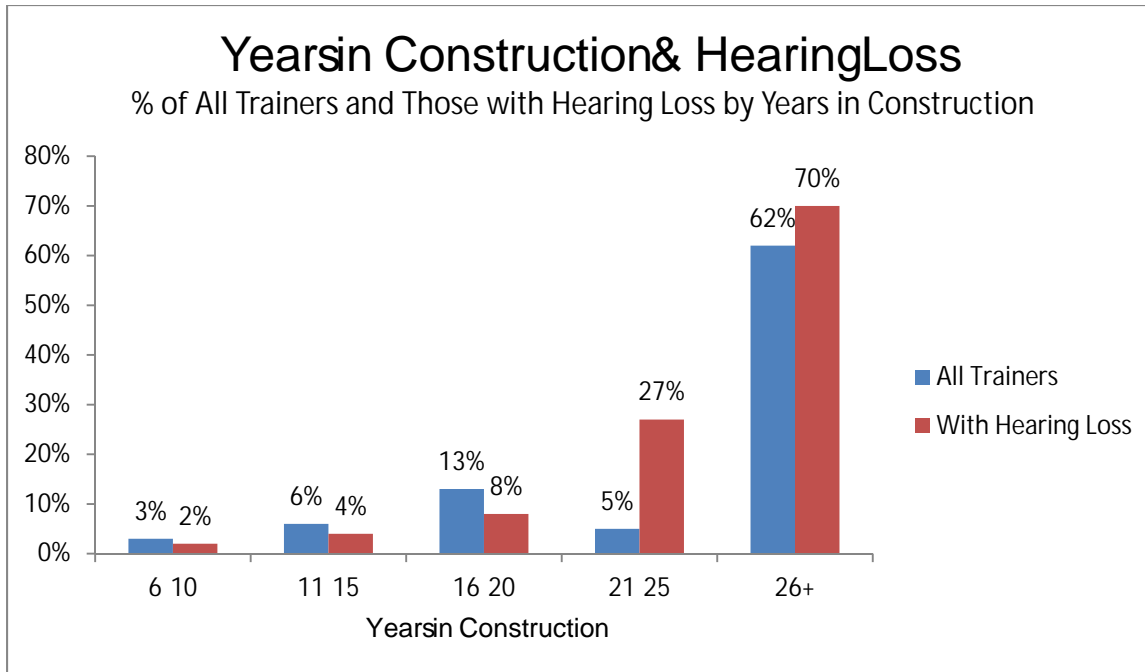
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Results: Noise Survey of Construction Safety & Health Trainers (2015)

According to NIOSH, hearing loss is one of the most common work-related illnesses in the U.S. In the construction industry, up to half of all construction workers¹ suffer from some level of

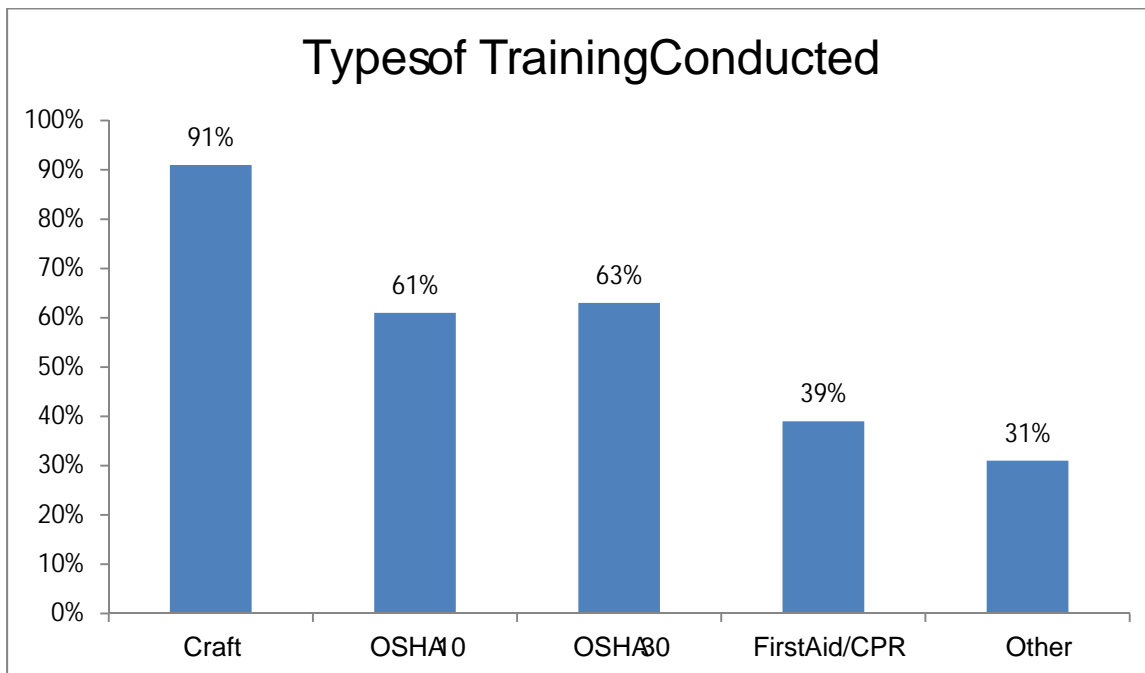
Demographics

The survey participants had 28.7 years of experience in the construction industry on average



Types of Training Provided

Trainers were asked to select the types of training they conduct from a list. The majority of the trainers said they conduct craft-related (skills) training, (91%/214), 63% (147) OSHA 30 training, 61% (144) OSHA 10 training, 39% First Aid/CPR (91), and 31% (73) listed another type, such as fall protection, hazard communication, rigging and signaling, MSHA, N.Y. City scaffold requirements, and computers.



Four out of five trainers (81%/191) said they provide training on how to prevent noise-induced hearing loss. The majority of the trainers (96%/184) provide this training to apprentices, 75%

Protecting Trainers, Students and By-standers

When asked what steps are taken in their training centers to protect students, instructors and others present when these tasks are being performed (an open-ended question), the majority (69%/145) only mentioned using hearing protection, 11% (23) said hearing protection and isolating the work, and the remaining trainers (18%/37) said hearing protection and some other step – such as putting up warning signs, limiting a person’s time on a task, isolating the person performing the task, or putting up barriers.

Sources of Training Materials

Trainers were given a list of common sources for training materials and asked to select those

training; having trainers set an example by using hearing protection; and raising awareness of the risk by demonstrating noise levels.

Taken together, the biggest challenges are convincing workers of the hazard, raising awareness of noise sources, and getting workers to apply what they learned.

When these results were reviewed with a group of 60 trainers during the 2015 CPWR Trainer Enhancement Program, participants offered several specific actions to address the challenges:

- x Add noise-related training materials to the packets of materials that CPWR sends out for the OSHA 500 502, 10 hour, and 30 hour training programs.
- x Send regular notices and reminders -- *“once is not enough.”*
- x Include regular reminders in the unions’ magazines, newsletters, Facebook posts, and Twitter feeds.

Following up on these suggestions and stepping up efforts to provide trainers with short, easy-to-use instructional materials that focus on the training gaps identified in this survey could lead to greater awareness of the noise hazard and use of controls both by trainers and their trainees.

