Ladder Inspection Stats and Facts

FACTS

1. **Damaged or Worn Components:** Cracks, splits, or missing parts in ladder rails, rungs, or feet can compromise structural integrity, leading to potential collapses.
2. **Loose or Missing Hardware:** Loose nails, screws, bolts, or nuts can cause instability, increasing the risk of falls.
3. **Corrosion and Rust:** Metal ladders exposed to moisture may develop rust, weakening the ladder and posing safety hazards.
4. **Warped or Twisted Rails:** Distorted ladder rails can affect balance and stability during use.
5. **Defective Locks and Spreaders:** Faulty locking mechanisms or spreaders can result in unexpected ladder movement or collapse.
6. **Worn Non-Slip Feet:** Damaged or missing non-slip feet can cause the ladder to slip on smooth surfaces.
7. **Missing Identification Labels:** Absence of labels can lead to misuse or overloading beyond the ladder’s capacity.

STATS

- OSHA’s 2023 data reported that 22% of ladder-related violations involved inadequate inspections, contributing to 4,000 fall injuries annually in construction and maintenance.
- WorkSafeBC noted in 2022 that 10% of ladder fall incidents in British Columbia were linked to uninspected or defective ladders, with 15% involving missing anti-slip feet.
- The CDC’s 2023 NIOSH Fall Safety Report estimated that 30% of ladder falls in warehousing were due to undetected defects, preventable with proper pre-use inspections.
- Statistics Canada’s 2021 Workplace Safety Survey found that 8% of workers in high-risk industries lacked access to ladder inspection training, correlating with higher fall rates.
- A 2022 Journal of Safety Research study indicated that 25% of ladder injuries were linked to failure to tag or remove defective ladders, per OSHA 1926.1053 standards.
- CCOHS reported in 2023 that workplaces with documented ladder inspection programs reduced fall incidents by 20%, aligning with CSA Z11 guidelines.
- A 2024 EHS Today analysis found that 12% of ladder-related injuries (approximately 2,500 cases) involved uninspected ladders, addressable through

ANSI A14-compliant checks.