

SAFETY AND HEALTH IN THE WORKPLACE

... Types of Injury, Parts of the Body Injured, Causes and Agents of Injury (Second of a Four-part Series)

This series of LABSTAT Updates present statistical briefs on cases of occupational injuries and diseases that affected workers in private sector establishments in 2009. The statistics were based on the results of the 2009/2010 BLES Integrated Survey (BITS) conducted in 2010 by the Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics (BLES) in coordination with the DOLE Regional Offices.

The BITS is a nationwide survey covering 6,780 non-agricultural establishments with 20 or more workers in 65 industry groups. It also generates statistics on employment of specific groups of workers; occupational shortages and surpluses; practices on balancing work and family responsibilities; working time arrangements; and occupational safety and health practices that can be used as basis for policy and program formulation and evaluation.

Specifically, this issue discusses the results of the survey regarding the types of injury, parts of the body injured, causes and agents of occupational injuries that resulted to workdays lost of workers in establishments in 2009 compared with those in 2007. The metadata and the statistical tables of the survey are posted on the BLES website. (The earlier series of LABSTAT Updates on occupational injuries and diseases were entitled "Are our workplaces safe?")

Superficial injuries and open wounds - the most common type of occupational injuries

- Superficial injuries and open wounds were the most common type of occupational injuries in 2009, accounting for 51.1% of all cases. This proportion was not different from the 51.6% in 2007. (Table 1)
- These types of injuries were more prevalent in the manufacturing industry at 65.8% in 2007 and 62.2% in 2009, followed distantly by wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods at 10.2% and 11.4% during the period, respectively.
- Dislocations, sprains and strains ranked second at 11.6% in 2007 and 11.8% in 2009.
- Burns, corruptions, scalds and frostbites came in third at 10.1% both in 2007 and 2009.
- Most of these two types of injuries, as well as the other types, were also most common in manufacturing.

More than half of injuries affected upper extremities

- More than half (56.5%) of cases of occupational injuries with workdays lost in 2009 affected upper extremities of the body, higher by 6.4 percentage points than the 50.1% reported in 2007. (Table 2)
- Majority of occupational injuries affecting these body parts were reported in manufacturing at 68.7% in 2007 and 61.8% in 2009.
- Least share of injuries affecting upper extremities was in financial intermediation in 2007 and in other community, social and personal service activities in 2009 at 0.1% each year.
- Lower extremities were the second most commonly affected body parts accounting for 25.3% and 18.1% of total occupational injuries in 2007 and 2009, respectively.
- Similarly, manufacturing accounted for the largest share of occupational injuries affecting these body parts both in 2007 and 2009.
- The lowest share of injuries in lower extremities was noted in private health services at 0.3% in 2007 and in other community, social and personal service activities at 0.1% in 2009.
- The distribution of other parts of the body affected by occupational injuries were as follows:

<i>Parts of Body Injured</i>	2007	2009
TOTAL	20,386	17,713
<i>Head</i>	12.9	13.9
<i>Neck</i>	1.3	1.3
<i>Back</i>	3.6	5.0
<i>Trunk or Internal Organs</i>	3.2	2.6
<i>Multiple Body or Multiple Sites Equally Injured</i>	3.7	2.6

More than a quarter of injuries in 2009 caused by stepping on, striking against or struck by objects, excluding falling objects

- More than a quarter (4,620 or 26.1%) of injuries in 2009 was caused by stepping on, striking against or struck by objects - a significant drop of 25.1% from the 6,167 cases recorded in 2007. (Table 3)
- Of this cause of injury, manufacturing reported the highest share at 59.9% in 2007 and 57.3% in 2009. This was followed by transport, storage and communications at 11.6% in 2007 and 9.6% in 2009.
- Caught in or between objects ranked as the second most common cause of injuries at 19.3% in 2007 and 21.3% in 2009.
- This was most prevalent also in manufacturing at 78.6% and 73.1%, respectively.
- The rest of the industry groups posted injuries attributed to this cause ranging from 0.1% to 6.7% in 2007 and 0.03% to 12.1% in 2009.

One out of four injuries due to machines and equipment

- One out of every four (24.8%) cases of occupational injuries reported in 2009 was due to machine and equipment operations, slightly lower than the 26.9% reported in 2007. (Table 4)
- Materials and objects used emerged as the second most common agents of injuries in 2007 (23.4%) and 2009 (21.4%).
- Injuries caused by use of hand tools ranked third with 17.5% of all cases in 2007 and 19.4% in 2009.

- The distribution of other agents of work-related injuries were as follows:

<i>Agent of Injury</i>	2007	2009
TOTAL	20,386	17,713
<i>Buildings, Structures</i>	5.9	6.1
<i>Prime Movers</i>	2.9	2.1
<i>Distribution Systems</i>	1.8	1.4
<i>Conveying/Transport/ Packaging Equipment or Vehicles</i>	9.7	9.6
<i>Chemical Substances</i>	6.8	4.2
<i>Human, Animals, Plants, etc.</i>	1.6	5.1
<i>Others</i>	3.5	5.8

FOR INQUIRIES

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TABLE 1 - Cases of Occupational Injuries with Workdays Lost in Non-Agricultural Establishments Employing 20 or More Workers by Major Industry Group and Type of Injury, Philippines: 2007 and 2009

Major Industry Group	Total	Superficial Injuries and Open Wounds	Fractures	Dislocations, Sprains and Strains	Traumatic Amputations	Concussion and Internal Injuries	Burns, Corrosions, Scalds and Frostbites	Acute Poisoning and Infections	Foreign Body in the Eye	Other Injury
2007	20,386	10,517	1,839	2,366	234	694	2,065	750	1,565	356
Mining and Quarrying	95	61	25	-	-	-	2	-	7	-
Manufacturing	12,427	6,918	645	978	147	560	1,242	591	1,085	260
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	731	382	115	52	25	28	43	4	22	60
Construction	837	314	112	110	10	4	67	85	133	2
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles, Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods	1,658	1,073	129	182	1	7	44	22	195	3
Hotels and Restaurants	1,877	466	457	277	42	23	536	28	35	13
Transport, Storage and Communications	1,701	732	177	556	5	63	80	13	66	8
Financial Intermediation	48	16	21	11	-	-	-	-	-	-
Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities	325	164	84	32	3	7	17	8	6	6
Private Education Services	436	269	35	116	-	-	7	-	6	2
Health and Social Work Except Public Medical, Dental and Other Health Services	67	20	29	5	-	1	6	-	2	2
Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities	185	102	9	46	-	-	21	-	6	-
2009	17,713	9,045	1,356	2,085	194	589	1,781	655	1,558	451
Mining and Quarrying	127	51	32	4	4	13	9	-	11	5
Manufacturing	9,845	5,630	638	910	129	345	872	100	995	225
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	561	242	50	44	15	25	128	1	8	46
Construction	791	341	107	115	12	29	56	6	124	1
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles, Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods	1,811	1,032	119	352	20	36	76	13	115	49
Hotels and Restaurants	1,102	475	31	98	5	18	431	-	34	10
Transport, Storage and Communications	1,333	602	103	202	4	85	119	100	117	2
Financial Intermediation	147	64	39	33	-	1	1	-	-	7
Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities	1,112	473	212	192	5	30	50	20	116	14
Private Education Services	197	99	12	22	-	3	13	12	33	2
Health and Social Work Except Public Medical, Dental and Other Health Services	651	34	10	108	-	3	3	399	4	89
Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities	35	1	2	4	1	-	21	3	3	-

Note: Details may not add up to totals due to rounding.

Source of data: Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics, BLES Integrated Survey (2007/2008 and 2009/2010).

TABLE 2 - Cases of Occupational Injuries with Workdays Lost in Non-Agricultural Establishments Employing 20 or More Workers by Major Industry Group and Part of Body Injured, Philippines: 2007 and 2009

Major Industry Group	Total	Head	Neck	Back	Trunk or Internal Organs	Upper Extremities	Lower Extremities	Multiple Body or Multiple Sites Equally Injured
2007	20,386	2,626	263	739	643	10,212	5,158	745
Mining and Quarrying	95	17	2	9	8	24	31	5
Manufacturing	12,427	1,670	147	240	428	7,016	2,440	487
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	731	85	15	15	12	187	357	59
Construction	837	169	-	42	88	264	261	13
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles, Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods	1,658	201	1	105	5	867	465	13
Hotels and Restaurants	1,877	141	34	170	15	696	753	68
Transport, Storage and Communications	1,701	187	40	126	71	723	503	51
Financial Intermediation	48	-	-	-	-	10	17	21
Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities	325	109	21	6	14	54	107	14
Private Education Services	436	11	3	24	-	212	178	8
Health and Social Work Except Public Medical, Dental and Other Health Services	67	5	-	-	4	38	15	5
Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities	185	30	-	1	-	121	32	2
2009	17,713	2,460	239	878	468	10,007	3,204	457
Mining and Quarrying	127	27	2	8	9	39	32	11
Manufacturing	9,845	1,321	105	360	216	6,189	1,535	121
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	561	54	21	37	7	212	182	48
Construction	791	139	10	41	25	357	206	13
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles, Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods	1,811	166	47	87	50	1,053	394	15
Hotels and Restaurants	1,102	47	1	14	8	874	154	5
Transport, Storage and Communications	1,333	271	29	78	73	521	352	9
Financial Intermediation	147	12	-	1	-	83	48	2
Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities	1,112	138	11	162	15	529	229	28
Private Education Services	197	47	2	2	7	99	39	1
Health and Social Work Except Public Medical, Dental and Other Health Services	651	220	9	88	59	38	32	204
Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities	35	20	-	1	-	12	2	-

Note: Details may not add up to totals due to rounding.

Source of data: Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics, BLES Integrated Survey (2007/2008 and 2009/2010).

TABLE 3 - Cases of Occupational Injuries with Workdays Lost in Non-Agricultural Establishments Employing 20 or More Workers by Major Industry Group and Cause of Injury, Philippines: 2007 and 2009

Major Industry Group	Totals	Falls of Persons	Struck by Falling Objects	Stepping on, Striking Against or Struck By Objects, Excluding Falling Objects	Caught in or Between Objects	Over-exertion or Strenuous Movement	Exposure to or Contact with Extreme Temperatures	Exposure to or Contact with Electric Current	Exposure to or Contact with Harmful Substance or Radiation	Others
2007	20,386	1,787	2,088	6,167	3,943	1,494	1,534	480	1,414	1,478
Mining and Quarrying	95	11	47	22	11	-	5	-	-	-
Manufacturing	12,427	743	1,307	3,697	3,098	688	865	197	1,003	828
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	731	205	41	97	51	111	7	129	27	63
Construction	837	93	139	241	91	35	8	60	149	21
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles, Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods	1,658	164	179	596	265	323	35	32	26	37
Hotels and Restaurants	1,877	185	154	516	174	70	540	26	99	113
Transport, Storage and Communications	1,701	175	118	715	125	174	54	17	29	294
Financial Intermediation	48	14	-	10	-	-	-	-	4	19
Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities	325	114	22	65	13	13	6	8	47	36
Private Education Services	436	52	21	155	86	63	2	7	6	44
Health and Social Work Except Public Medical, Dental and Other Health Services	67	12	23	11	2	6	2	-	9	1
Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities	185	20	36	43	26	10	10	4	16	21
2009	17,713	1,707	1,331	4,620	3,772	1,512	1,644	367	506	2,255
Mining and Quarrying	127	11	44	20	26	8	3	6	-	11
Manufacturing	9,845	721	818	2,646	2,759	699	881	100	289	932
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	561	120	39	129	82	11	9	82	12	77
Construction	791	164	103	243	94	39	40	39	57	12
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles, Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods	1,811	170	46	368	458	388	39	6	18	318
Hotels and Restaurants	1,102	113	41	270	66	32	452	42	16	71
Transport, Storage and Communications	1,333	100	99	445	142	191	138	36	15	168
Financial Intermediation	147	18	3	-	2	3	-	-	-	121
Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities	1,112	239	123	395	128	30	66	35	18	79
Private Education Services	197	25	12	90	11	11	12	14	17	4
Health and Social Work Except Public Medical, Dental and Other Health Services	651	24	3	11	3	100	2	1	61	445
Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities	35	4	-	3	1	-	1	6	2	18

Note: Details may not add up to totals due to rounding.

Source of data: Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics, BLES Integrated Survey (2007/2008 and 2009/2010).

TABLE 4 - Cases of Occupational Injuries with Workdays Lost in Non-Agricultural Establishments Employing 20 or More Workers by Major Industry Group and Agent of Injury, Philippines: 2007 and 2009

Major Industry Group	Total	Buildings, Structures	Prime Movers	Distribution Systems	Hand Tools	Machines, Equipments	Conveying/ Transport/ Packaging Equipment or Vehicles	Material/ Objects	Chemical Substances	Human, Animal, Plants, etc.	Others
2007	20,386	1,195	592	369	3,576	5,486	1,977	4,765	1,382	33	712
Mining and Quarrying	95	7	2	-	30	15	2	40	-	-	-
Manufacturing	12,427	463	130	226	2,163	3,962	655	3,261	967	7	452
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	731	68	149	31	81	70	150	57	13	48	63
Construction	837	180	42	-	124	101	45	202	88	1	54
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles, Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods	1,658	81	100	95	417	426	161	332	9	32	5
Hotels and Restaurants	1,877	184	76	3	209	349	460	253	236	29	77
Transport, Storage and Communications	1,701	72	54	13	393	459	367	292	26	18	8
Financial Intermediation	48	1	-	-	-	-	37	-	-	10	-
Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities	325	63	11	-	10	49	34	131	12	-	15
Private Education Services	436	33	25	-	132	15	43	140	2	33	14
Health and Social Work Except Public Medical, Dental and Other Health Services	67	2	-	-	1	17	6	15	10	10	5
Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities	185	41	1	1	16	23	16	44	19	4	20
2009	17,713	1,082	379	245	3,432	4,401	1,707	3,782	749	91	1,024
Mining and Quarrying	127	11	7	3	19	13	17	33	4	-	22
Manufacturing	9,845	411	148	140	1,955	2,983	856	2,208	482	9	414
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	561	22	106	12	73	73	116	78	20	33	30
Construction	791	194	34	58	126	82	26	180	61	18	12
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles, Motorcycles and Personal and Household Goods	1,811	86	2	3	485	354	156	506	34	49	137
Hotels and Restaurants	1,102	62	8	7	294	315	24	183	66	24	120
Transport, Storage and Communications	1,333	77	17	22	212	236	233	321	25	18	172
Financial Intermediation	147	8	-	-	-	17	78	3	1	11	30
Real Estate, Renting and Business Activities	1,112	175	54	-	214	237	137	165	27	81	24
Private Education Services	197	16	-	-	47	9	13	78	24	4	4
Health and Social Work Except Public Medical, Dental and Other Health Services	651	17	3	1	5	69	53	20	3	4	56
Other Community, Social and Personal Service Activities	35	4	1	-	2	5	-	9	1	-	3

Note: Details may not add up to totals due to rounding.

Source of data: Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics, BLES Integrated Survey (2007/2008 and 2009/2010).