

## Are our workplaces safe? ... *Parts of the Body Injured* (Fourth of a Series)

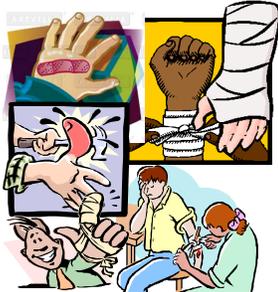
This issue of the LABSTAT Updates is the fourth in the series of statistical releases on occupational injuries that occurred in 2003. The inquiry is part of a nationwide survey called BLES Integrated Survey (BITS) conducted in coordination with the DOLE Regional Offices. The 2003/2004 BITS, undertaken last year, had a sample size of around 6,000 non-agricultural establishments employing 20 or more workers. It aimed to provide an integrated data set on employment patterns, industrial relations practices and occupational injuries.

The principal purpose of statistics on occupational injuries is for planning and setting priorities for preventive efforts. Changes in the patterns and occurrences of occupational injuries guide policymakers, program planners, employers and workers in identifying persistent and new areas of risk at the workplace and in evaluating safety performance and effectiveness of current accident preventive measures. The statistics are also useful in developing training materials and programs for accident prevention and providing basis for identifying areas for future research.

This series of LABSTAT Updates identifies the economic activities where occupational injuries occurred in 2003, their extent, severity and the way in which they occurred. This fourth issue focuses on the parts of the body injured. (See definitions of terms on page 2.)

In 2003, there were 23,265 cases of occupational injuries with lost workdays. More than 40 percent of these affected upper extremities of workers.

### Four out of ten injuries were on upper extremities



upper extremities of the body.

More than 70 percent (7,374) of injuries to this body part were observed in manufacturing primarily in its three sub-industries of food products (1,883);

The 2003 inquiry on work-related injuries reported that 10,366 (44.6%) of the 23,265 total cases with workdays lost affected the

plastic products (561); and wearing apparel (538).

Hotels and restaurants (648 out of 1,195); transport, storage and communication (596 out of 1,558); construction (443 out of 1,114); and real estate, renting and business activities (214 out of 566) were the other major industry groups which also recorded upper extremities as most affected by injuries.

Lower extremities were the second most frequent part of the

body injured in the establishments surveyed at 28.8 percent (6,695). Around 61 percent (4,051) of these injuries was again noted in manufacturing and mostly in manufacture of food products (1,081).

Lower extremities of the body were the most frequently affected by injuries in electricity, gas and water supply (302 out of 805); private education services (50 out of 132); health and social work except public medical, dental and other health services (48 out of 96); financial intermediation (38 out of 100); and mining and quarrying (25 out of 60).

The third most common part of body injured was the head (3,875 or 16.7% of total cases with workdays lost). A substantial portion of head injuries were attributed to manufacturing (1,699 out of 14,254); wholesale and retail trade (1,108 out of 2,690) and other community, social and personal service activities (227 out of 546).

Manufacture of food products (393); manufacture of basic metals (156); manufacture of fabricated metal

products, except machinery and equipment (141); manufacture of radio, television and communication equipment and apparatus (128); and manufacture of plastic products (119) were the manufacturing sub-industries where most of the cases of head injuries were recorded.

Wholesale and retail trade which was second to manufacturing in terms of injuries with workdays lost reported that head injuries accounted for 41.2 percent of its total work-related injuries. Most of these injuries in this industry group were in retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles, repair of personal and household goods (862).

Lesser number of injuries affected the neck (170), trunk or internal organs (484), whole body or multiple sites equally injured (683) and back (992). These injuries combined comprised 10 percent of the total cases with workdays lost.

Most of the injuries to these body parts were observed in manufacturing particularly in manufacture of food products.

#### DEFINITION OF TERMS

**Head** - includes scalp, skull, brain and cranial nerves and vessels; ear(s); eye(s); tooth/teeth; other specified parts of the facial area; head, multiple sites affected

**Neck** - includes spine and vertebrae in the neck

**Back** - includes spine and vertebrae in the back

**Trunk or internal organs** - include rib cage (ribs including sternum and shoulder blades); other parts of thorax, including internal organs; pelvic and abdominal area, including internal organs; external genitalia; trunk, multiple sites affected

**Upper extremities** - include shoulder and shoulder joints; arm, including elbow; wrist; hand; thumb; other finger(s); upper extremities, multiple sites affected

**Lower extremities** - include hip and hip joint; leg, including knee; ankle; foot; toe(s); lower extremities, multiple sites affected

**Whole body and multiple sites equally injured** - systemic effect (for example, from poisoning or infection); this classification is to be used if several different parts of the body were equally injured/affected

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**TABLE 1 - Cases of Occupational Injuries With Lost Workdays in Non-Agricultural Establishments Employing 20 or More Workers  
by Industry and Part of the Body Injured, Philippines: 2003**

1994 PSIC	Industry	Total	Head	Neck	Back	Trunk or Internal Organs	Upper Extremities	Lower Extremities	Whole Body or Multiple Sites Equally Injured
	<b>Total</b>	<b>23,265</b>	<b>3,875</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>992</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>10,366</b>	<b>6,695</b>	<b>683</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>MINING AND QUARRYING</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>-</b>
C10	Metallic Ore Mining	21	1	-	1	2	8	8	-
C11	Non-Metallic Mining and Quarrying	39	4	2	2	3	11	17	-
<b>D</b>	<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>14,254</b>	<b>1,699</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>7,374</b>	<b>4,051</b>	<b>334</b>
D15 excl.									
D155	Manufacture of Food Products	3,723	393	23	100	108	1,883	1,081	135
D155	Manufacture of Beverages	664	50	-	7	6	166	397	37
D16	Manufacture of Tobacco Products	351	51	-	7	3	189	99	2
D17	Manufacture of Textiles	871	89	4	7	26	403	342	1
D18	Manufacture of Wearing Apparel	799	62	1	11	4	538	141	41
D191	Tanning and Dressing of Leather; Manufacture of Luggage and Handbags	26	-	-	-	-	25	1	-
D192	Manufacture of Footwear	52	7	-	2	-	39	4	-
D201	Manufacture of Wood, Wood Products and Cork except Furniture	253	15	-	-	9	109	109	12
D202	Manufacture of Articles of Bamboo, Cane, Rattan, Cork and the Like; Manufacture of Plaiting Materials	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D21	Manufacture of Paper and Paper Products	329	41	-	11	6	194	75	2
D22	Publishing, Printing and Reproduction of Recorded Media	148	-	-	-	-	98	43	7
D23	Manufacture of Coke, Refined Petroleum and Other Fuel Products	4	-	-	-	-	4	-	-
D24	Manufacture of Chemicals and Chemical Products	718	80	1	3	14	448	171	-
D251	Manufacture of Rubber Products	129	2	1	11	18	74	15	9
D252	Manufacture of Plastic Products	802	119	6	15	9	561	82	11
D261	Manufacture of Glass and Glass Products	38	4	-	-	1	18	14	2
D262	Manufacture of Cement	97	22	2	3	-	58	11	2
D269	Manufacture of Other Non-Metallic Mineral Products, n.e.c.	511	54	1	199	12	107	136	1
D27	Manufacture of Basic Metals	777	156	10	32	16	296	268	1
D28	Manufacture of Fabricated Metal Products, except Machinery and Equipment	1,132	141	1	2	9	425	553	1
D29	Manufacture of Machinery and Equipment, n.e.c.	412	96	2	2	4	210	95	4
D30	Manufacture of Office, Accounting and Computing Machinery								
D31	Manufacture of Electrical Machinery and Apparatus, n.e.c.	361	48	1	7	4	267	34	-
D32	Manufacture of Radio, TV and Communication Equipment and Apparatus	599	128	1	6	20	319	82	43
D33	Manufacture of Medical, Precision and Optical Instruments, Watches and Clocks	117	15	2	-	5	70	26	-
D34	Manufacture of Motor Vehicles, Trailers and Semi-Trailers	462	56	1	-	3	339	47	16
D35	Manufacture of Other Transport Equipment	155	15	1	-	-	77	60	2
D36	Manufacture and Repair of Furniture	648	45	-	17	16	425	144	1
D37	Recycling	9	-	-	-	-	9	-	-
D39	Manufacturing, n.e.c.	67	9	-	-	4	27	23	4
<b>E</b>	<b>ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER SUPPLY</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>33</b>
E40	Electricity, Gas, Steam and Hot Water Supply	738	130	10	78	28	196	268	30
E41	Collection, Purification and Distribution of Water	67	4	-	-	19	8	34	2

Notes: 1. Details will not add up to totals due to rounding of figures.  
2. A dash (-) entry implies zero (0) or no case/s reported.

**TABLE 1 - Cases of Occupational Injuries With Lost Workdays in Non-Agricultural Establishments Employing 20 or More Workers by Industry and Part of the Body Injured, Philippines: 2003 (Cont'd.)**

1994 PSIC	Industry	Total	Head	Neck	Back	Trunk or Internal Organs	Upper Extremities	Lower Extremities	Whole Body or Multiple Sites Equally Injured
F45	<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>1,114</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>22</b>
G	<b>WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE; REPAIR OF MOTOR VEHICLES, MOTORCYCLES AND PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS</b>	<b>2,690</b>	<b>1,108</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>826</b>	<b>96</b>
G50	Sale, Maintenance and Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles, Retail Sale of Automotive Fuel	429	140	-	2	5	95	163	23
G51	Wholesale Trade and Commission Trade, Except Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	617	106	5	42	2	262	186	12
G52	Retail Trade, Except of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles, Repair of Personal and Household Goods	1,644	862	1	26	2	215	477	61
H55	<b>HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS</b>	<b>1,195</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>648</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>4</b>
I	<b>TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION</b>	<b>1,558</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>117</b>
I60	Land Transport, Transport Via Pipelines	478	46	22	5	7	199	124	75
I61	Water Transport	125	11	-	11	8	39	46	9
I62	Air Transport	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
I63	Supporting and Auxiliary Transport Activities; Activities of Travel Agencies	808	72	17	91	23	345	238	22
I64 excl.	Post and Telecommunications except National								
I6411	Postal Activities	144	1	-	22	1	11	99	11
J	<b>FINANCIAL INTERMEDIATION</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>5</b>
J65 excl.									
J65100	Banking Institutions except Central Banking	33	2	-	-	1	11	19	-
J66	Non-Bank Financial Intermediation	41	23	2	-	2	-	14	-
J67	Insurance and Pension Funding, Except Compulsory Social Security	25	4	1	1	9	-	5	5
J68	Activities Auxiliary to Financial Intermediation	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	0
K	<b>REAL ESTATE, RENTING AND BUSINESS ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>50</b>
K70	Real Estate Activities	128	32	3	4	2	29	58	2
K71	Renting of Machinery and Equipment Without Operator, Personal and Household Goods	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
K72	Computer and Related Activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
K73	Research and Development	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
K74	Miscellaneous Business Activities	434	83	12	24	8	185	74	49
M81	<b>PRIVATE EDUCATION SERVICES</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>6</b>
N85 excl.									
N8511	<b>HEALTH AND SOCIAL WORK EXCEPT PUBLIC MEDICAL, DENTAL AND OTHER HEALTH SERVICES</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>3</b>
O	<b>OTHER COMMUNITY, SOCIAL AND PERSONAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>3</b>
O90	Sewage and Refuse Disposal, Sanitation and Similar Activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
O92	Recreational, Cultural and Sporting Activities	523	215	9	67	-	97	132	3
O93	Other Service Activities	22	11	-	1	1	8	1	-

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2. A dash (-) entry implies zero (0) or no case/s reported.

Source of data: Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics, BLES Integrated Survey.