

Vol. 9 No. 49

October 2005

### Are our workplaces safe? ... Cases of Occupational Injuries (Second of a Series)



This issue of the LABSTAT Updates is the second 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 second issue focuses on the number of cases of occupational injuries with and without workdays lost. A **case without workdays lost** is where the injured person required only first aid or medical treatment on the day of the accident and was able to perform again, on the day after the accident, the normal duties of work in the job or position occupied at the time of the occupational accident. On the other hand, a **case with workdays lost** is where an injured person was absent from work, starting the day after the accident. The category classifies occupational injuries into fatal, permanent and temporary incapacity cases. (See definitions of terms on page 3.)

In 2003, there were 58,720 injuries in establishments covered by the survey. Around 60 percent required only first aid while the rest resulted to workdays lost.

### Seven out of ten occupational injuries in manufacturing

Non-agricultural establishments employing 20 or more workers reported 58,720 cases of work related injuries in 2003. (Table 1)

Across major industries, manufacturing had the biggest number of occupational injuries at 40,498 or

around 69 percent of total. Manufacture of food products accounted for the highest share among the manufacturing sub-industries at 31.5 percent (12,748 cases). Manufacturing of wearing apparel followed at 11.4 percent (4,630). The least number of occupational injuries

at 8 cases were noted in manufacture of coke, refined petroleum and other fuel products. There were no cases of injuries reported in manufacture of articles of bamboo, cane, rattan, cork and the like; manufacture of plaiting materials.

A far second to manufacturing was wholesale and retail trade industries which reported 6,637 injuries or 11.3 percent of all-industry total. A little more than half of these

(51.5%) occurred in retail trade except of motor vehicles and motorcycles, repair of personal and household goods and 35.4 percent (2,350) in wholesale trade and commission trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles.

The smallest number of injury cases among the major industry groups was observed in financial intermediation at 109.

### **Around 60 percent of injuries required first aid only**

Survey results also indicated that 35,454 cases or about 60 percent of the 58,720 total injuries did not incur workdays lost.

Although manufacturing accounted for the bulk of the cases, 64.4 percent (26,094) of its total cases did not result to absences from work.

Private education services had the highest proportion of cases without workdays lost at 81.1 percent (567 out of 699). In contrast, financial

intermediation, which had the least number of injuries, reported the highest proportion of injuries with workdays lost at 91.7 percent (100 out of 109).

For the remaining major industry groups, the proportions of injuries without workdays lost varied from 33.2 percent (transport, storage and communication, 776 out of 2,335) to 61.5 percent (mining and quarrying, 96 out of 156).

### **Almost all injuries with workdays lost resulted to temporary incapacity**

Injuries at the workplaces resulting to workdays lost were estimated at 23,265 cases including 170 fatalities. Of these, 22,964 (98.7 percent) resulted to temporary incapacity and 131 to permanent incapacity.

All injuries with workdays lost in the major industry groups of health and social work except public medical, dental and other health services (96); and other community, social and personal service activities (546) resulted to temporary incapacity cases. Total occupational injuries in these industry groups were 169 and 1,243, respectively.

Expectedly, high proportions of temporary incapacity cases were noted in the minor or sub-industries.

Permanent incapacity cases accounted for less than one percent (0.6%) of all injuries with workdays lost. Majority of these were in manufacturing at 58.0 percent (76). Manufacture of paper and paper products accounted for 28 cases, manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products, n.e.c., 20 cases and manufacture of fabricated metal products except machinery and equipment, 13 cases.

The 170 fatal cases likewise represented a negligible share of 0.7 percent to total injuries with workdays lost. Of these, 48 were documented in wholesale and retail industries; in particular 22 in the sale, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles including retail sale of automotive fuel.

Transport, storage and communication claimed 36 fatalities, of which 23 occurred in supporting and auxiliary transport activities including those of travel agencies.

Nine of the 24 fatalities in manufacturing due to injuries were

reported in manufacture of food products. Of the 25 injury-related deaths in electricity, gas and water supply, 24 occurred in the sub-industry of electricity, gas, steam and hot water supply.

Real estate, renting and business activities; and hotels and restaurants reported 14 and 10 work-related deaths, respectively.

Other fatal cases were observed in private education services (2), financial intermediation (2), construction (4) and mining and quarrying (5).

#### DEFINITION OF TERMS

**Fatal Case** - refers to a person fatally injured as a result of an occupational accident whether death occurs immediately after the accident or within the same reference year as the accident.

**Permanent Incapacity** - case where an injured person was absent from work for at least one day, excluding the day of the accident, and (i) was never able to perform again the normal duties of work in the job or position occupied at the time of the occupational accident, or (ii) will be able to perform the same job but his/her total absence from work is expected to exceed a year starting the day after the accident.

**Temporary Incapacity** - case where an injured person was absent from work for at least one day, excluding the day of the accident, and (i) was able to perform again the normal duties of work in the job or position occupied at the time of the occupational accident, or (ii) will be able to perform the same job but his/her total absence from work is expected not to exceed a year starting the day after the accident, or (iii) did not return to the same job but the reason for changing the job is not related to his/her inability to perform the job at the time of the occupational accident.

---

For Inquiries:

Regarding this report contact LABOR STANDARDS STATISTICS DIVISION at 527-3489/527-9325

Regarding other statistics and technical services contact BLES Databank at 527-3577

Or write to BLES c/o Databank, 3/F DOLE Bldg. Gen. Luna St., Intramuros, Manila 1002

FAX 527-9325

E-mail: [lssd@manila-online.net](mailto:lssd@manila-online.net)

Website: <http://www.manila-online.net/bles>

[bleslssd@bles.dole.gov.ph](mailto:bleslssd@bles.dole.gov.ph)

<http://www.bles.dole.gov.ph>

---

**TABLE 1 - Cases of Occupational Injuries in Non-Agricultural Establishments Employing 20 or More Workers  
by Industry and Incapacity for Work, Philippines: 2003**

1994 PSIC	Industry	Total	With Lost Workdays					Without Lost Workdays
			Total	Fatal	Non-Fatal			
					Total	Permanent Incapacity	Temporary Incapacity	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>58,720</b>	<b>23,265</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>23,095</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>22,964</b>	<b>35,454</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>MINING AND QUARRYING</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>96</b>
C10	Metallic Ore Mining	48	21	1	20	-	20	27
C11	Non-Metallic Mining and Quarrying	108	39	4	35	-	35	69
<b>D</b>	<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>40,498</b>	<b>14,403</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>14,379</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>14,303</b>	<b>26,094</b>
D15 excl.								
D155	Manufacture of Food Products	12,748	3,723	9	3,714	4	3,710	9,025
D155	Manufacture of Beverages	2,182	664	1	663	1	661	1,518
D16	Manufacture of Tobacco Products	436	351	-	351	-	351	85
D17	Manufacture of Textiles	2,009	871	1	870	1	869	1,138
D18	Manufacture of Wearing Apparel	4,630	799	-	799	-	799	3,831
D191	Tanning and Dressing of Leather; Manufacture of Luggage and Handbags	97	26	-	26	-	26	71
D192	Manufacture of Footwear	204	52	-	52	-	52	152
D201	Manufacture of Wood, Wood Products and Cork except Furniture	369	253	2	251	-	251	116
D202	Manufacture of Articles of Bamboo, Cane, Rattan, Cork and the Like; Manufacture of Plaiting Materials	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D21	Manufacture of Paper and Paper Products	627	329	4	326	28	298	297
D22	Publishing, Printing and Reproduction of Recorded Media	184	148	-	148	-	148	35
D23	Manufacture of Coke, Refined Petroleum and Other Fuel Products	8	4	-	4	-	4	4
D24	Manufacture of Chemicals and Chemical Products	2,457	718	1	717	1	715	1,739
D251	Manufacture of Rubber Products	217	129	-	129	-	129	88
D252	Manufacture of Plastic Products	1,225	802	-	802	3	799	423
D261	Manufacture of Glass and Glass Products	206	38	-	38	-	38	168
D262	Manufacture of Cement	128	97	-	97	-	97	32
D269	Manufacture of Other Non-Metallic Mineral Products, n.e.c.	951	511	-	511	20	491	440
D27	Manufacture of Basic Metals	1,588	777	-	777	1	776	811
D28	Manufacture of Fabricated Metal Products, except Machinery and Equipment	1,917	1,132	-	1,132	13	1,119	784
D29	Manufacture of Machinery and Equipment, n.e.c.	1,093	412	-	412	-	412	682
D30	Manufacture of Office, Accounting and Computing Machinery	402	149	-	149	-	149	253
D31	Manufacture of Electrical Machinery and Apparatus, n.e.c.	1,447	361	-	361	-	361	1,086
D32	Manufacture of Radio, TV and Communication Equipment and Apparatus	1,864	599	-	599	2	597	1,265
D33	Manufacture of Medical, Precision and Optical Instruments, Watches and Clocks	446	117	-	117	-	117	329
D34	Manufacture of Motor Vehicles, Trailers and Semi-Trailers	823	462	4	459	-	459	361
D35	Manufacture of Other Transport Equipment	389	155	2	152	1	151	234
D36	Manufacture and Repair of Furniture	1,740	648	-	648	-	648	1,092
D37	Recycling	9	9	-	9	-	9	-
D39	Manufacturing, n.e.c.	103	67	-	67	-	67	37
<b>E</b>	<b>ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER SUPPLY</b>	<b>1,329</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>524</b>
E40	Electricity, Gas, Steam and Hot Water Supply	1,183	738	24	714	5	710	445
E41	Collection, Purification and Distribution of Water	146	67	1	65	-	65	79

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 in Non-Agricultural Establishments Employing 20 or More Workers by Industry and Incapacity for Work, Philippines: 2003 (Cont'd.)**

1994 PSIC	Industry	Total	With Lost Workdays					Without Lost Workdays
			Total	Fatal	Non-Fatal			
					Total	Permanent Incapacity	Temporary Incapacity	
<b>F45</b>	<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>1,768</b>	<b>1,114</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1,110</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1,109</b>	<b>654</b>
<b>G</b>	<b>WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE; REPAIR OF MOTOR VEHICLES, MOTORCYCLES AND PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS</b>	<b>6,637</b>	<b>2,690</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>2,642</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>2,623</b>	<b>3,948</b>
G50	Sale, Maintenance and Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles,							
	Retail Sale of Automotive Fuel	868	429	22	407	-	407	439
G51	Wholesale Trade and Commission Trade, Except Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	2,350	617	3	614	-	614	1,734
G52	Retail Trade, Except of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles. Repair of Personal and Household Goods	3,419	1,644	23	1,621	18	1,602	1,775
<b>H55</b>	<b>HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS</b>	<b>2,757</b>	<b>1,195</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1,186</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,186</b>	<b>1,562</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION</b>	<b>2,335</b>	<b>1,558</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>1,522</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1,509</b>	<b>776</b>
I60	Land Transport, Transport Via Pipelines	663	478	4	474	1	473	185
I61	Water Transport	128	125	9	117	9	108	3
I62	Air Transport	133	3	-	3	-	3	131
I63	Supporting and Auxiliary Transport Activities; Activities of Travel Agencies	1,118	808	23	785	3	782	311
I64 excl. I6411	Post and Telecommunications except National Postal Activities	291	144	1	143	-	143	147
<b>J</b>	<b>FINANCIAL INTERMEDIATION</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>9</b>
J65 excl. J65100	Banking Institutions except Central Banking	35	33	-	33	-	33	2
J66	Non-Bank Financial Intermediation	41	41	2	39	-	39	-
J67	Insurance and Pension Funding, Except Compulsory Social Security	26	25	-	25	-	25	1
J68	Activities Auxiliary to Financial Intermediation	7	1	-	1	-	1	6
<b>K</b>	<b>REAL ESTATE, RENTING AND BUSINESS ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>1,022</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>456</b>
K70	Real Estate Activities	128	128	-	128	9	120	-
K71	Renting of Machinery and Equipment Without Operator, Personal and Household Goods	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
K72	Computer and Related Activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
K73	Research and Development	4	4	-	4	-	4	-
K74	Miscellaneous Business Activities	883	434	14	420	1	419	450
<b>M81</b>	<b>PRIVATE EDUCATION SERVICES</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>567</b>
<b>N85 excl. N8511</b>	<b>HEALTH AND SOCIAL WORK EXCEPT PUBLIC MEDICAL, DENTAL AND OTHER HEALTH SERVICES</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>O</b>	<b>OTHER COMMUNITY, SOCIAL AND PERSONAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>1,243</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>697</b>
O90	Sewage and Refuse Disposal, Sanitation and Similar Activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
O92	Recreational, Cultural and Sporting Activities	1,105	523	-	523	-	523	582
O93	Other Service Activities	138	22	-	22	-	22	115

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.

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