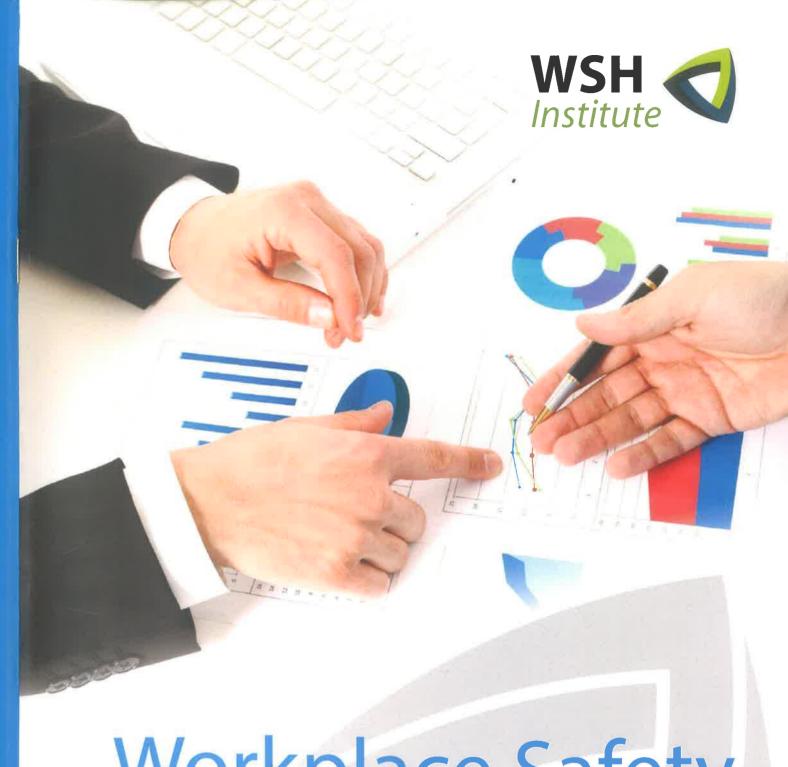
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The Observatory for WSH Landscape (OWL) is a function of Workplace Safety and Health Institute. OWL aims to observe, analyse and communicate changes in the workforce, workplace and working life to researchers, policy makers and industries in Singapore and Asia.



Workplace Safety and Health Report 2014

**National Statistics** 

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## **NOTATIONS**

- : Nil or negligible

n.a.: Not applicable/Not available

\* : Estimated rates. The employment data excludes self-employed persons.

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## **KEY FACTS**

WORKPLACE FATAL INJURY RATE REDUCED TO 1.8 PER 100,000 EMPLOYED PERSONS; WORKPLACE MAJOR AND WORKPLACE MINOR INJURY RATES INCREASED TO 20.0 PER 100,000 EMPLOYED PERSONS AND 383 PER 100,000 EMPLOYED PERSONS RESPECTIVELY IN 2014

From 2014, Ministry of Manpower made changes to the criteria for work-related accident and the following changes are reflected in the WSH Statistics Report:

- a. Included work-related traffic injuries
- b. Reclassified work-related back injuries due to ergonomic risks from workplace minor injuries to work-related musculoskeletal disorders, an occupational disease; and
- c. Expanded the number of workers to include all workplaces covered under the WSH Act.

As such, the workplace injury rates for 2014 are not strictly comparable with the previous years. For purpose of comparison, the 2013 numbers were adjusted from previously published data to include these changes, but not prior to 2013 as data are not available.

Table 1.1: Number of workplace injuries and occupational diseases, 2013 and 2014

	2014	2013
Workplace Injuries	13,595 (565)	12,453 (552)
Fatal Injuries	60 (6)	73 (14)
Major Injuries	672 (57)	640 (51)
Minor Injuries	12,863 (502)	11,740 (487)
Occupational Diseases (OD)	992	887

Note: Figures in parentheses refer to the number of work-related traffic injuries.

Table 1.2: Key safety and health indicators, 2013 and 2014

Per 100,000 employed persons

	2014	2013
Workplace Injury Rate	405	384
Fatal Injury rate	1.8	2.3
Major Injury rate	20.0	19.8
Minor Injury rate	383	362
Accident Frequency Rate <sup>2</sup>	1.7	1.6
Accident Severity Rate <sup>3</sup>	84	93
Occupational Diseases Incidence Rate <sup>4</sup>	29.5	27.4

1 Workplace Injury Rate No. of Fatal and Non-Fatal Workplace Injuries No. of Employed Persons
2 Accident Frequency Rate (AFR) = No. of Workplace Accidents Reported No. of Man-hours Worked x 1,000,000
3 Accident Severity Rate (ASR) = No. of Man Days Lost To Workplace Accidents No. of Man-hours Worked No. of Occupational Diseases No. of Occupational Diseases x 100,000
No. of Employed Persons x 100,000

While the number of workplace fatal injury cases has seen a decrease, the number of workplace major and workplace minor injury cases have increased in 2014. 672 workers sustained workplace major injuries and 12,863 workers met with workplace minor injuries in 2014.

In addition to reporting lagging indicators like workplace injury rates and occupational disease incidence rates, this report has included leading indicators from proactive activities. The proactive activities include workplace Medical and Hygiene surveillance which monitor health risks from exposures to physical and toxic or harmful substances at work, and Business under Surveillance (BUS), which guides poor performing companies to improve their WSH management system.

Overview of the 2014 statistics on workplace safety and health are:

#### **WORKPLACE INJURIES**

- 60 (6) workers were fatally injured, a rate of 1.8 per 100,000 employed persons.
- 672 (57) workers sustained workplace major injuries, a rate of 20.0 per 100,000 employed persons.
- 12,863 (502) workers sustained less severe injuries (i.e. minor injuries), a rate of 383 per 100,000 employed persons.
- 678,951 (47,025) man-days were lost, a rate of 84 man-days lost per million man-hours worked (i.e. accident severity rate).
- 1.7 incidents occurred for every million man-hours worked (i.e. accident frequency rate).

#### **OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES**

- 992 occupational disease (OD) cases were confirmed in 2014, an incidence rate of 29.5 per 100,000 employed persons.
- Leading OD was noise-induced deafness with 594 cases.
- Second most common OD was work-related musculoskeletal disorders (WRMSD) with 315 cases, with inclusion of back injury cases due to ergonomic risks.

#### **SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMMES**

- 19 companies entered the surveillance phase under the Business under Surveillance (BUS) programme in 2014.
- 139,685 workers from 2,217 workplaces were monitored under the Medical Surveillance programme.
- Under Hygiene Surveillance Programme, 423 workplaces were under the noise monitoring programme and 1,085 chemicals monitoring results were received for the chemical monitoring programme.

# Workplace Safety and Health Institute, Singapore

# **OVERVIEW OF TRENDS**

#### **WORKPLACE INJURIES**

For 2014, the overall number of reported<sup>5</sup> injuries<sup>6</sup> increased by 9.2% compared to 2013 (Figure 1). Manufacturing sector had the highest overall injury rate since 2011, followed by Construction sector (Figure 2).

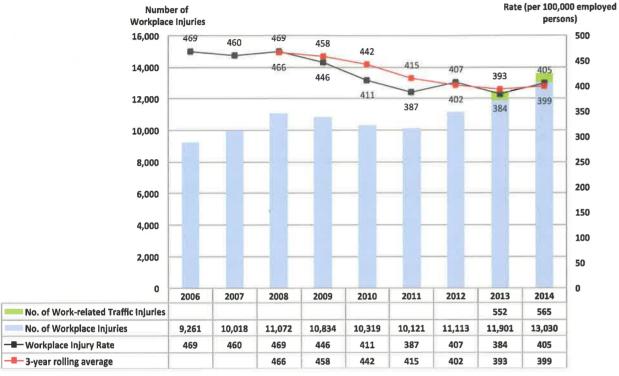


Figure 1: Workplace injury rate, 2006-2014



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> A workplace injury is any personal injury or death resulting from a workplace accident. Please refer to the annex for the types of workplace injuries covered.

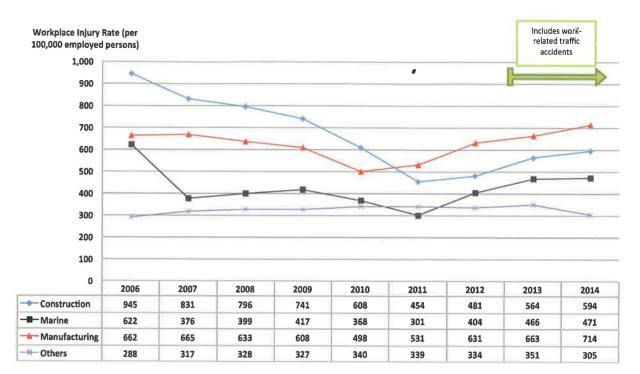


Figure 2: Workplace injury rate by industry, 2006-2014

#### **WORKPLACE FATAL INJURIES**

There was a decrease in the number of workplace fatal injuries from 73 in 2013 to 60 in 2014 (Table 1.1). Workplace fatal injury rate decreased to 1.8 per 100,000 employed persons compared to 2.3 per 100,000 employed persons in 2013 (Figure 3). Overall, the workplace fatal injury rate has been decreasing since 2006.

Among the workplace fatal injuries, there were 6 work-related traffic fatal injuries in 2014, a decrease of 57% compared to 2013.

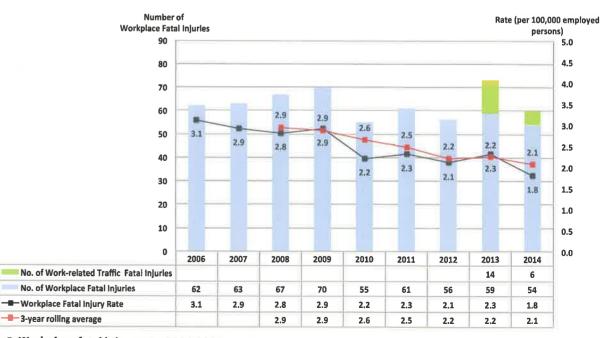


Figure 3: Workplace fatal injury rate, 2006-2014

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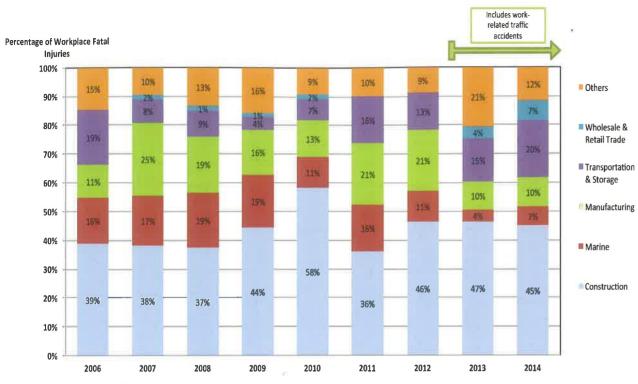


Figure 4: Proportion of fatal Injuries by industry, 2006-2014

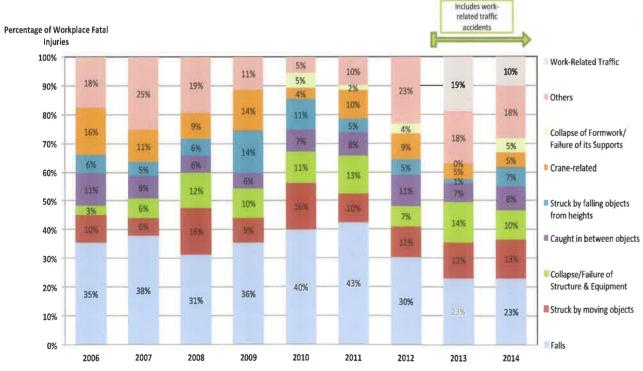


Figure 5: Proportion of workplace fatal Injuries by incident type, 2006-2014

#### Note

Others include Drowning, Electrocution, Exposure to/contact with extreme temperatures, Fires & Explosion, Exposure to/contact with harmful substances, Physical Assault and Suffocation.

#### **WORKPLACE MAJOR INJURIES**

Workplace major injuries increased from 640 (19.8 per 100,000 employed persons) in 2013 to 672 (20.0 per 100,000 employed persons) in 2014 (Figure 6). The number of workplace major injuries has increased by 21% since 2011.

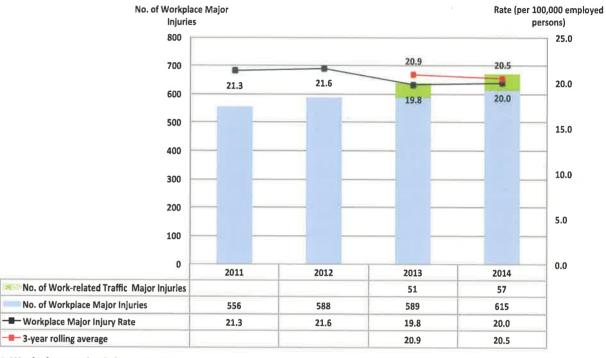


Figure 6: Workplace major injury rate, 2011-2014

#### **WORKPLACE MINOR INJURIES**

Compared to 2013, there was a 10% increase in workplace minor injuries, from 11,740 (362 per 100,000 employed persons) in 2013 to 12,863 (383 per 100,000 employed persons) in 2014 (Figure 7). There was a 35% increase in the number of workplace minor injuries since 2011.

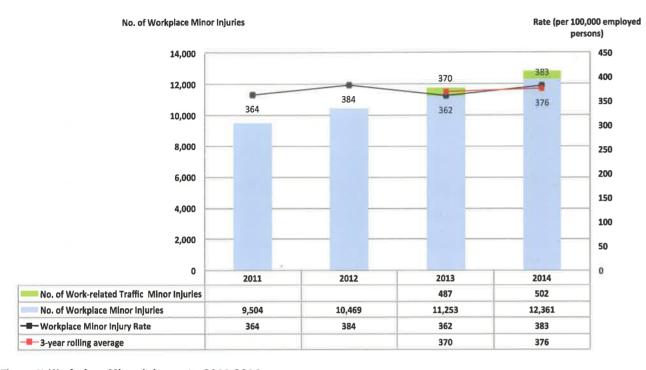


Figure 7: Workplace Minor injury rate, 2011-2014

A total of 678,951 man-days were lost from workplace injuries, a decrease of 6.4% from 2013. The accident frequency rate (AFR), which measures how often work incidents occur, was 1.7 incidents per million man-hours worked in 2014. The accident severity rate (ASR) was 84 man-days lost for every million hours worked in 2014. Detailed industry breakdown of the AFR, ASR and man-days lost data can be found in Tables A-1 and A-2 in Annex A.

#### **OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES**

For occupational diseases (OD)<sup>7</sup>, the number of cases confirmed was 992 in 2014, up from 887 in 2013. For 2014, OD incidence was 29.5 confirmed cases per 100,000 employed persons, an increase compared to 27.4 in the previous year (Figure 8). The increase was contributed mainly by back injury cases due to ergonomic risks.

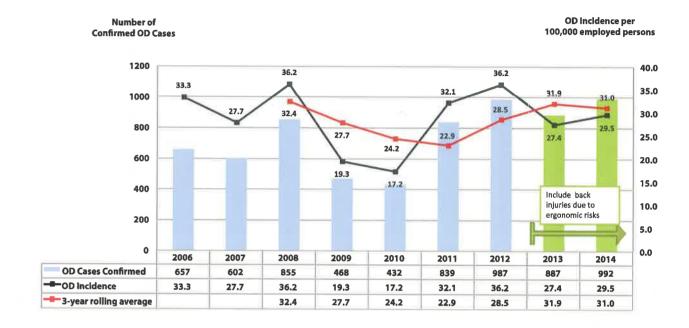
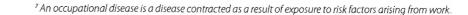


Figure 8: Occupational disease incidence rate, 2006-2014



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Workplace Safety

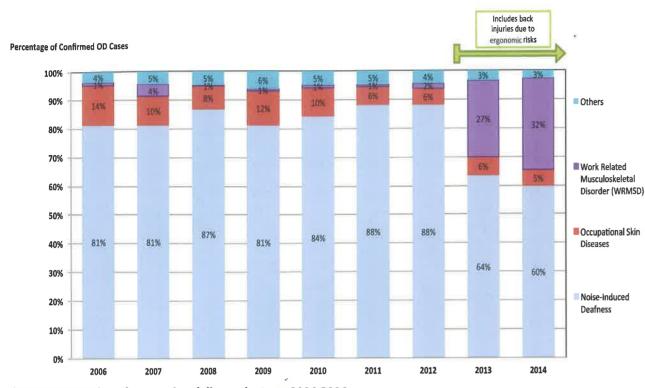


Figure 9: Proportion of occupational disease by type, 2006-2014

#### **SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMMES**

The number of companies placed into the Business under Surveillance (BUS) programme has increased following a review of the entry criteria in 2014.

The number of workers and workplaces covered under the Medical Surveillance programme has increased to 139,685 and 2,217 respectively. Please refer to Figures 16 and 17.

# **ACCIDENTS AT WORK**

#### **WORKPLACE FATAL INJURIES**

# 60 WORKPLACE FATAL INJURIES (INCLUDING 6 WORK-RELATED TRAFFIC FATAL INJURIES) IN 2014, ALMOST HALF (45%) OF THE WORKPLACE FATAL INJURIES WERE FROM CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

There were 60 workplace fatal injuries in 2014, a decrease from 73 workplace fatal injuries in 2013. Workplace fatal injury rate decreased to 1.8 per 100,000 employed persons compared to 2.3 per 100,000 employed persons in 2013 (Table 1.3 & Table 1.4).

#### **WORKPLACE FATAL INJURIES BY SECTOR**

#### CONSTRUCTION

While the workplace fatal injury rate in the Construction sector fell from 7.2 per 100,000 employed persons in 2013 to 5.5 per 100,000 employed persons in 2014, it remained the top contributor in 2014 with 27 workplace fatal injuries or 45% of all workplace fatal injuries, down from 34 in 2013 (Table 1.3). It posted the highest workplace fatal injury rate amongst the three traditionally higher risk sectors<sup>8</sup> (Table 1.4).

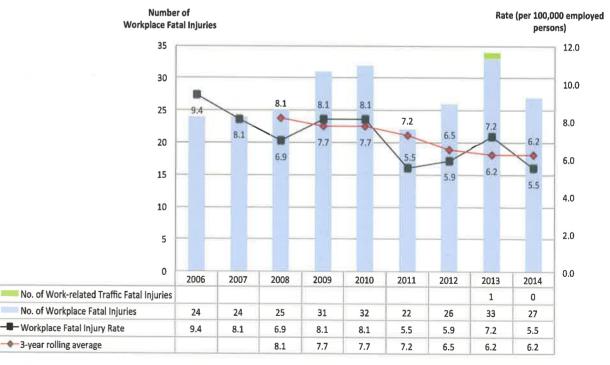


Figure 10: Workplace fatal injury rate for Construction sector, 2006-2014

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The three traditionally higher risk sectors are Construction, Marine & Manufacturing.

#### MARINE

For the Marine<sup>9</sup> sector, there were 4 workplace fatal injuries in 2014, compared to 3 in 2013 (Table 1.3). The workplace fatal injury rate saw an increase from 2.7 per 100,000 employed persons in 2013 to 3.8 per 100,000 employed persons in 2014 (Table 1.4).

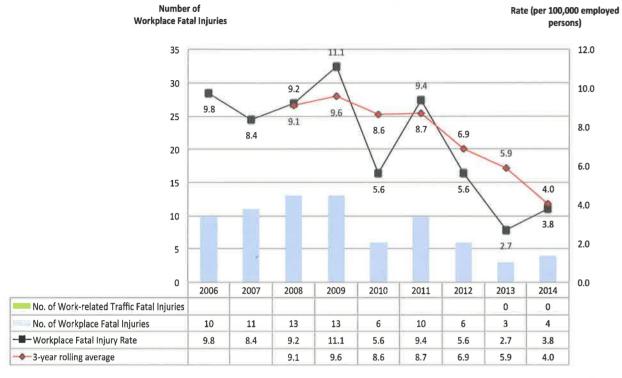


Figure 11: Workplace fatal injury rate for Marine sector, 2006-2014

Works carried out in the anchorage are also included.

#### **MANUFACTURING**

The Manufacturing sector saw a further reduction in its workplace fatal injury number and rate. There were 6 workplace fatal injuries for 2014, down from 7 in 2013 (Table 1.3). The workplace fatal injury rate saw a decrease from 1.6 per 100,000 employed persons in 2013 to 1.4 per 100,000 employed persons in 2014 (Table 1.4).

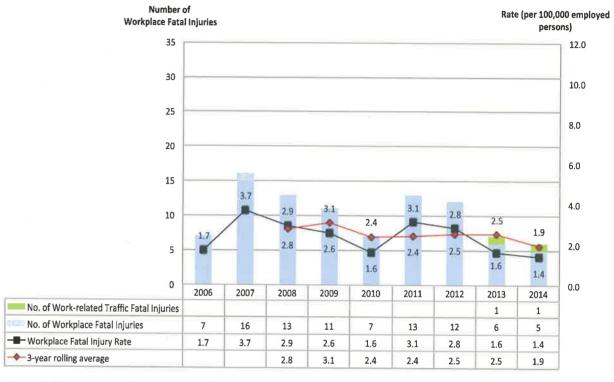


Figure 12: Workplace fatal injury rate for Manufacturing sector, 2006-2014

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The marine sector includes the following activities:

Shipbuilding and Ship Repair

Marine Surveying Services (other than classification societies)

Salvaging of distressed vessels and cargo

Workplace Safety and Health Institute, Singapore

#### TRANSPORTATION & STORAGE

For Transportation & Storage sector, the number of workplace fatal injuries increased slightly from 11 cases in 2013 to 12 cases in 2014 (Table 1.3). The workplace fatal injury rate rose from 4.9 per 100,000 employed persons in 2013 to 5.1 per 100,000 employed persons in 2014.

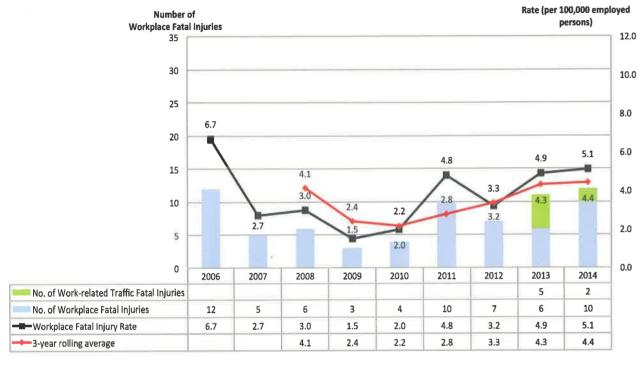


Figure 13: Workplace fatal injury rate for Transportation & Storage sector, 2006-2014

#### **OTHERS**

Water Supply, Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities, Retail Trade, Activities Auxiliary to Financial Service and Insurance Activities, Travel Agencies and Tour Operators Activities and Security & Investigation Activities sectors which had no workplace fatal injuries in 2013, saw a total of 7 workplace fatal injuries in 2014 (Table 1.3).

Agriculture & Related Services Activities, Food & Beverage Service Activities, Real Estate Activities, Architectural & Engineering Activities, Rental & Leasing Activities, Education, Gambling & Betting sector, Repair & Maintenance of Vehicles and Other Personal Service Activities Sectors which had a total of 13 workplace fatal injuries in 2013, had no workplace fatal injury in 2014 (Table 1.3).

#### **WORK-RELATED TRAFFIC FATAL INJURIES BY SECTOR**

In 2014, the Transportation & Storage sector was the main contributor of work-related traffic fatal injuries with 2 fatal injuries, a 60% decrease compared to 2013. Manufacture of Non-metallic Mineral Products, Retail Trade, Activities Auxiliary to Financial Service and Insurance Activities and Security & Investigation Activities sectors each had 1 fatal case (Table 1.3).

Table 1.3: Number of workplace fatal injuries by industry, 2013 and 2014

Industry	2014	2013
All Sectors	60 (6)	73 (14)
Construction	27	34 (1)
Marine	4	3
Manufacturing	6 (1)	7 (1)
Manufacture of Food Products	2	2 (1)
Metalworking	2	1
Manufacture of Computer, Electronic and Optical Products	1	0
Manufacture of Non-metallic Mineral Products	1 (1)	1
Tanning & Dressing of Leather	0	2
Manufacture of Other Transport Equipment	0	1
Agriculture & Related Services Activities	0	1
Water Supply, Sewerage & Waste Management and Remedia-	1	0
tion Activities		
Wholesale & Retail Trade	4 (1)	3 (2)
Wholesale Trade	2	3 (2)
Retail Trade	2 (1)	0
Transportation & Storage	12 (2)	11 (5)
Logistics & Transport <sup>10</sup>	9	6 (2)
Food & Beverage Service Activities	0	3 (3)
Activities Auxiliary to Financial Service and Insurance Activities	1 (1)	0
Real Estate Activities	0	2
Architectural & Engineering Services	0	1
Rental & Leasing Activities	0	1
Travel Agencies and Tour Operators Activities	1	0
Security & Investigation Activities	2 (1)	0
Cleaning & Landscape Maintenance Activities	2	2
Education	0	1 (1)
Gambling & Betting Activities	0	1
Repair & Maintenance of Vehicles	0	2
Other Personal Service Activities	0	1 (1)

Figures in parentheses refer to the number of work-related traffic injuries.

Supporting services to air transport

Warehousing and Storage

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The logistics and transport sector includes the following activities:

Supporting services to land transport (exclude car management services, taxi booking services, towing services)

Supporting services to water transport (exclude marine surveying services, salvaging distressed vessels & cargo)

# Workplace Safety and Health Institute, Singapore

#### **WORKPLACE FATAL INJURIES BY INCIDENT TYPES AND INCIDENT AGENTS**

#### **FALLS REMAINED THE LEADING INCIDENT TYPE**

The top incident types which accounted for 50% of total workplace fatal injuries in 2014 were (Table 1.5):

- Falls (Falls from Heights (FFH)<sup>11</sup>) (10 fatal injuries, 17%)
- Struck by Moving Objects (8 fatal injuries, 13%)
- Collapse/ Failure of Structure & Equipment (6 fatal injuries, 10%)
- Work-related Traffic (6 fatal injuries, 10%)

Falls from Heights (FFH) was the leading incident type in 2014, with 10 cases. Majority fell from physical workplaces such as structures, roofs and formwork.

Struck by Moving Objects saw 8 workplace fatal injuries in 2014. 75% of these workplace fatal injuries were hit by moving vehicles such as trucks inside workplace premises. The cases were from Construction and Logistics & Transport sectors.

There was a decrease in the number of workplace fatal injuries due to Collapse/ Failure of Structure & Equipment, from 10 workplace fatal injuries in 2013 to 6 workplace fatal injuries in 2014. 83% of these workplace fatal injuries were due to collapse/ failure of structures. These cases were from the Construction sector.

3 out of the 6 work-related traffic fatal injuries in 2014 involved motorcycles. These cases were from Activities Auxiliary to Financial Service and Insurance Activities, Security & Investigation Activities and Transportation & Storage sectors.

Other than the above, there were 4 workplace fatal injuries due to Struck by Falling Objects from heights in 2014, compared to just 1 workplace fatal injury in 2013. Half of the cases were from the Construction sector.

<sup>11</sup> Falls from heights (FFH) includes fall from roof, fall from mobile work platform, fall from scaffold, fall from ladder, fall from structure and fall into depths.

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Table 1.5: Number of workplace fatal injuries by incident type and incident agent, 2013 and 2014

Incident Type	Incident Agent	2014	2013
Total Workplace Fata	al Injuries	60	73
Falls	Total	14	17
Falls from	Total	10	14
Heights	Physical Workplace - Structures	4	5
	Physical Workplace - Roofs	2	3
	Means of Access - Ladders	2	2
	Physical Workplace - Formwork	1	3
	Means of Access - Scaffold	1	0
	Lifting Equipment - Cranes	0	1
Slips, Trips &	Total	4	3
Falls 12	Moving Vehicles - Boat, Lorry, Forklifts	3	1
	Means of Access - Stairs or Steps	1	0
	Physical Workplace - Floor/Level Surfaces	0	1
	Animals, Plants and Insects	0	1
Struck by	Total	8	9
Moving Objects	Moving Vehicles - Prime Mover, Lorry, Truck, Forklift, Car	6	6
,	Lifting Equipment - Others	1	0
	Pressurised Equipment - Pressurised Piping/Accessories	3	0
	Industrial Machines	0	1
	Lifting Equipment - Piling Machines	0	1
	Lifting Equipment - Lifts & Hoists	0	1.
Collapse/Failure	Total	6	10
of Structure &	Physical Workplace - Structures	5	3
Equipment	Lifting Equipment - Mobile Work Platform	1	0
	Moving Vehicles - Prime Mover, Forklift	0	2
	Physical Workplace - Formwork	0	1
	Lifting Equipment - Lifting appliances/gears	0	1
	Means of Access - Scaffold	0	1
	Animals, Plants and Insects	0	1
	Furniture & Fittings	0	1
Work-related	Total	6	14
Traffic	Motorcycle	3	6
	Taxi	1	1
	Industrial Trucks - Cement Mixer	1	0
	Large Goods Vehicles (LGVs) - Lorry, Truck	1.	5
	Car	0	1
	Van	0	1

(continued) Table 1.5: Number of workplace fatal injuries by incident type and incident agent, 2013 and 2014

Incident Type	Incident Agent	2014	2013
Total Workplace Fata	l Injuries	60	73
Caught in/	Total	5	5
between Objects	Moving Vehicles - Truck, Forklift, Prime Mover	3	4
	Lifting Equipment - Mobile Work Platform	1	0
	Metal Items	1	0
	Lifting Equipment - Piling Machines	0	1
Struck by Falling	Total	4	1
Objects From	Industrial Machines	1	0
Heights	Metal Items	1	0
	Moving Vehicles - Forklift	1	0
	Physical Workplace - Formwork	1	0
	Goods/Cargo	0	1
Crane-related	Total	3	4
	Lifting Equipment - Cranes	3	4
Collapse of	Total	3	0
Formwork/Failure of its Supports	Physical Workplace - Formwork	3	0
Drowning	Total	2	1
Electrocution	Total	2	5
	Electrical Equipment	2	3
	Industrial Machines	0	2
Exposure to/	Total	2	0
contact with extreme temperatures	Hot scalding liquid/Steam	2	0
Fires & Explosion	Total	2	2
	Explosives/Flammable Substances	2	0
	Pressurised Equipment - Pressurised Piping/Accessories	0	1
	Industrial Machines	0	1
Exposure to/	Total	1	0
contact with harmful substances	Corrosives	1	0
Physical Assault	Total	1	0
•	Human Factors	1	0
Suffocation	Total	1	1
	Dust, Gas, Liquid and Chemicals	1	1
Exposure to/	Total	0	1
contact with biological materials	Animals, Plants and Insects	0	1
Other Incident	Total	0	3
Types	Other Incident Agents	0	3

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Slips, Trips and Falls includes Slips and Trips on same level/Fall from vehicle/stairs/steps/machines/other locations.

Table 1.6: Number of workplace fatal injuries by industry and incident type, 2014

Industry	All	Construction	Marine	Manufacturing	Water Supply, Sewerage & Waste Managem- ent Remediat- ion Activities	Wholesale & Retail Trade
Total	60	27	4	6	1	4
Falls	14	8	0	2	0	0
Falls from Heights	10	8	0	0	0	0
Slips, Trips & Falls	4	0	0	2	0	1
Struck by Moving Objects	8	3	1	0	1	1
Collapse/Failure of Structure & Equipment	6	4	0	0	0	1
Work-related Traffic	6	0	0	1	0	1
Caught in/between objects	5	2	0	0	0	0
Struck by Falling Objects From Heights	4	2	1	1	0	0
Crane-related	3	2	0	0	0	0
Collapse of Formwork/Failure of its Supports	3	3	0	0	0	0
Drowning	2	0	1	0	0	0
Electrocution	2	1	0	0	0	0
Exposure to/contact with extreme temperatures	2	0	0	2	0	0
Fires & Explosion	2	2	0	0	0	0
Exposure to/contact with harmful substances	1	0	0	0	0	0
Physical Assault	1	0	0	0	0	0
Suffocation	1	0	1	0	0	0

(continued) Table 1.6: Number of workplace fatal injuries by industry and incident type, 2014

Industry	Transportati- on & Storage	Logistics & Transport	Activities Auxiliary to Financial Service and Insurance Activities	Travel Agencies and Tour Operators Activities	Security & Investigation Activities	Cleaning & Landscape Maintenance Activities
Total	12	9	1	1	2	2
Falls	2	2	0	0	0	1
Falls from Heights	1	1	0 -	0	0	1
Slips, Trips & Falls	1	1	0	0	0	0
Struck by Moving Objects	2	2	0	0	0	0
Collapse of Formwork/Failure of its Supports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Work-related Traffic	2	0	1	0	1	0
Caught in/between objects	3	3	0	0	0	0
Struck by Falling Objects From Heights	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crane-related	1	1	0	0	0	0
Collapse/Failure of Structure & Equipment	1	1	0	0	0	0
Drowning	1	0	0	0	0	0
Electrocution	0	0	0	1	0	0
Exposure to/contact with extreme temperatures	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fires & Explosion	0	0	0	0	0	0
Exposure to/contact with harmful substances	0	0	0	0	0	1
Physical Assault	0	0	0	0	1	0
Suffocation	0	0	0	0	0	0

# NUMBER OF WORKPLACE MAJOR INJURIES INCREASED BY 5% OVER 2013, CONSTRUCTION

672 workers (20.0 per 100,000 employed persons) sustained workplace major injuries<sup>13</sup> in 2014, compared to 640 workers (19.8 per 100,000 employed persons) in 2013 (Table 1.7 & 1.8). 80,804 man-days were lost as a result of these incidents.

#### **WORKPLACE MAJOR INJURIES BY SECTOR**

SECTOR WAS THE TOP CONTRIBUTOR

The three traditional higher risk sectors accounted for 371 (55%) of the workplace major injuries reported (Table 1.7).

Construction sector worsened, with 202 cases (41.2 per 100,000 employed persons) in 2014, up from 176 cases (37.1 per 100,000 employed persons) in 2013. Increased workplace major injury rate was also seen in the Wholesale & Retail Trade and to a lesser degree in the Logistics & Transport, Financial & Insurance Activities, Real Estate Activities and Administrative & Support Service Activities sectors compared to 2013.

Marine sector saw a reduction in workplace major injury rate to 27.2 per 100,000 employed persons from 35.6 per 100,000 employed persons in 2013. Workplace major injury rates decreased for the Water Supply, Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities (62.1 per 100,000 employed persons in 2013 to 60.6 per 100,000 employed persons in 2014), Accommodation & Food Service Activities from 16.9 per 100,000 employed persons in 2013 to 11.6 per 100,000 employed persons in 2014, Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities (9.0 per 100,000 employed persons in 2013 to 6.8 per 100,000 employed persons in 2014) and Health Activities sectors (11.1 per 100,000 employed persons in 2013 to 6.9 per 100,000 employed persons in 2014).

#### **WORK-RELATED TRAFFIC MAJOR INJURIES BY SECTOR**

In 2014, Construction, Manufacturing and Wholesale & Retail Trade sectors were the main contributors of work-related traffic major injuries with a total of 38 out of 57 cases (Table 1.7).

<sup>13</sup> Refer to Annex F for definition.

Table 1.7: Number of workplace major injuries by industry, 2013 and 2014

Industry	2014	2013
All Sectors	* 672 (57)	640 (51)
Construction	202 (14)	176 (12)
Marine	29 (3)	39 (3)
Manufacturing	140 (10)	140 (6)
Metalworking	51 (4)	55 (2)
Manufacture of Food, Beverages & Tobacco	20 (1)	21 (1)
Manufacture of Petrochemical Products	10 (1)	12
Manufacture of Computer, Electronic and Optical Products	10 (1)	3
Other Manufacturing Industries	10 (1)	6
Water Supply, Sewerage & Waste Management and	10 (1)	10 (2)
Remediation Activities		
Wholesale & Retail Trade	44 (14)	30 (3)
Wholesale Trade	28 (10)	22 (3)
Retail Trade	16 (4)	8
Transportation & Storage	39 (5)	43 (9)
Logistics & Transport	30 (1)	28 (5)
Accommodation & Food Service Activities	27 (2)	38 (5)
Accommodation	4	7 (1)
Food & Beverage Service Activities	23 (2)	31 (4)
Financial & Insurance Activities14	10	6
Real Estate Activities	14	12
Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities	16 (1)	20 (4)
Administrative & Support Service Activities	13 (3)	11 (3)
Community, Social & Personal Services	35 (3)	49 (3)
Education	10	15 (2)
Repair & Maintenance of Vehicles	7 (1)	11
Health Activities	6 (1)	9 (1)
Other Personal Service Activities	4	7

Note: Figures in parentheses refer to the number of work-related traffic injuries.

Workplace Safety and Health Institute, Singapore

Table 1.8: Workplace major injury rates by industry, 2013 and 2014

Per 100,000 employed persons

Industry	2014	2013
All Sectors	20.0	19.8
Construction	41.2	37.1
Marine	27.2	35.6
Manufacturing	32.6	32.6
Metalworking	41.3	45.0
Manufacture of Food, Beverages & Tobacco	47.6	52.6
Manufacture of Petrochemical Products	18.3	21.3
Manufacture of Computer, Electronic and Optical Products	11.3	3.3
Other Manufacturing Industries	49.8	31.4
Water Supply, Sewerage & Waste Management and	60.6	62.1
Remediation Activities		
Wholesale & Retail Trade	8.9	6.3
Wholesale Trade	8.6	7.0
Retail Trade	9.4	5.0
Transportation & Storage	16.7	19.0
Logistics & Transport	30.8	30.1
Accommodation & Food Service Activities	11.6	16.9
Accommodation	11.4	20.1
Food & Beverage Service Activities	11.6	16.4
Financial & Insurance Activities	5.1	3.2
Real Estate Activities	14.6	13.6
Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities	6.8	9.0
Administrative & Support Service Activities	6.5	5.9
Community, Social & Personal Services	4.7	6.9
Education	n.a.	n.a.
Repair & Maintenance of Vehicles	n.a.	n.a.
Health Activities*	6.9	11.1
Other Personal Service Activities	n.a.	n.a.

Table 1.9: Types of workplace major injury, 2013 and 2014

Workplace Major Injury Types	2014	2013
Total	672	640
Crushing, Fractures and Dislocations	354	341
Amputations	129	132
Hypothermia/Burns, with more than 20 MC days	73	83
Multiple Injuries	57	42
Exposure to Electric Current	24	12
Concussion, with more than 20 MC days	23	25
Blindness	5	3
Asphyxia/Drowning	4	0
Paralysis	2	1
Deafness	11	11

#### **WORKPLACE MAJOR INJURIES BY INJURY TYPES**

Crushing, Fractures and Dislocations were the leading types of injury, accounting for 53% of all workplace major injuries. This was followed by Amputations, with 129 workers suffering from complete loss or loss of use of any member/part of a member of the injured person's body in 2014. The number of Hypothermia/Burns cases with more than 20 MC days decreased from 83 cases in 2013 to 73 cases in 2014 (Table 1.9).

#### WORKPLACE MAJOR INJURIES BY INCIDENT TYPES AND INCIDENT AGENTS

The top three incident types, accounting for 57% of workplace major injuries were (Table 1.10):

- Falls (Falls from Heights (FFH) (88 injuries, 13%), Slips, Trips and Falls (171 injuries, 25%))
- Caught in/between Objects (69 injuries, 10%)
- Work-related Traffic (57 injuries, 8%)

Falls (Falls from Heights (FFH), Slips, Trips and Falls) was the leading incident type for workplace major injuries, contributing 39%. The top incident agent associated with 'Slips, Trips and Falls' was Physical Workplace - Floor/Level Surfaces. The top incident agent for Falls from Heights was Means of Access - Ladders. For Caught in/between Objects, the top incident agent was Industrial Machines. 81% of the Caught in/between Objects cases resulted in amputations. For Work-related Traffic major injuries, crushing, fractures and dislocations contributed to 61% of the injuries.

Table 1.10: Number of workplace major injuries by key incident type and key incident agent, 2013 and 2014

Incident Type	Incident Agent	2014	201
Total Workplace Ma	jor Injuries	672	640
Falls	Total	259	250
Slips, Trips &	Total	171	157
Falls	Physical Workplace - Floor/Level Surfaces	66	64
	Means of Access - Stairs or Steps	26	11
	Moving Vehicles	25	36
Falls from	Total	88	93
Heights	Means of Access - Ladders	30	35
	Physical Workplace - Structures	17	12 <sup>4</sup>
	Means of Access - Scaffold	9	21
Caught in/	Total	69	82
between	Industrial Machines	26	38
Objects	Moving Vehicles	12	7
	Lifting Equipment Including Cranes	8	21
Work-related	Total	57	51
Traffic	×		
Struck by	Total	56	68
Falling Objects	Metal Items (excluding knives/needles)	12	19
	Goods/Cargo	8	9
	Furniture and Fittings	7	6
Struck by	Total	53	40
Moving Objects	Moving Vehicles	17	20
	Lifting Equipment Including Cranes	8	4
	Industrial Machines	7	5
Cut/Stabbed by	Total	35	27
Objects	Industrial Machines	23	17
	Industrial Hand Tools	6	10
	* Knives and Needles	4	0
Exposure	Total	35	39
to Extreme	Hot scalding liquid/Steam	22	26
Temperatures	Moving Vehicles	3	3
	Pressurised Equipment	2	0
	Welding Equipment	2	0
Exposure to	Total	32	14
Electric current	Electrical Installation	17	12
	Industrial Machines	7	1
	Industrial Hand Tools	2	0
	Lifting Equipment Including Cranes	2	0

Table 1.11: Top 3 incident types for workplace major injuries by industry, 2014

A Laboratory	Top 3 Incident Types			
Industry	1 st	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3rd	
All Sectors	STF	FFH	CIBO	
Construction	FFH	STF	CIBO	
Marine	STF	CIBO, FFH	SBFO	
Manufacturing	STF	CIBO	SBFO	
Metalworking	CIBO	STF	SBMO	
Manufacture of Food, Beverages & Tobacco	STF	CSBO	ETEC, FFH, SBFO	
Manufacture of Petrochemical Products	ETHS	STF	CIBO, ETET, FE, SAO, WR	
Manufacture of Computer, Electronic and Optical Products	CIBO, ETEC	OESM	FE, WRT	
Other Manufacturing Industries	ETET	ETEC	CIBO, OESM, STF, SBFO, WRT	
Water Supply, Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities	STF	CSBO	FE, SBFO, SBMO, WRT	
Wholesale & Retail Trade	WRT	STF	FFH	
Wholesale Trade	WRT	STF	ETET, FFH	
Retail Trade	STF	WRT	FFH	
Transportation & Storage	STF	SBMO, WRT	SBFO	
Logistics & Transport	STF	SBFO, SBMO	CIBO	
Accommodation & Food Services	STF	ETET	CSBO, SBMO	
Accommodation	CIBO, CSBO, ETET, FFH	-	***	
Food & Beverage Service Activities	STF	ETET	SBMO	
Financial & Insurance Activities -	FFH, STF	SD	CIBO, OESM `	
Real Estate Activities	ETEC, FE, STF	ETET, FFH	SOO	
Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities	STF	CIBO, ETET	ETEC, OESM, SAO, SBFO WRT	
Administrative & Support Service Activities	STF	WRT	CIBO	
Community, Social & Personal Services	STF	ETEC, WRT	CSBO, ETET, FFH, PA, SAO, SBFO, SBMO	
Education	STF	CSBO, ETEC, FFH, SAO	>	
Repair & Maintenance of Vehicles	SBFO	CSBO, ETEC, STF, SBMO, WRT		
Health Activities	FE, PA, OSEM, SAO, SBMO, WRT	- 8	9	
Other Personal Service Activities	ETEC, ETET, SD, STF	8	-	

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CIBO	Caught In/Between Objects	FE	Fires & Explosion	SBFO	Struck by Falling Objects
CSBO	Cut/Stabbed by Objects	FFH	Falls (Falls from Heights)	SBMO	Struck by Moving Objects 13
ETEC	Exposure to Electric Current	OESM	Over-exertion and Strenuous	500	Stepping on Objects
ETET	Exposure to Extreme Temperature		Movements	SD	Suffocation/Drowning
ETHS	Exposure to Hazardous	PA	Physical Assault	STF	Falls (Slips, Trips and Falls)
	Substances	SAO	Strike Against Objects	WRT	Work-related Traffic

<sup>15</sup> This includes flying fragments but excludes falling objects.

#### **WORKPLACE MINOR INJURIES**

# WORKPLACE MINOR INJURIES SAW AN INCREASE OF 10% OVER 2013; 25% INCREASE FOR THE TRANSPORTATION & STORAGE SECTOR

Workplace minor injuries include all other reportable injuries that did not result in death or major injuries. Workplace minor injuries increased from 11,740 cases in 2013 (362 per 100,000 employed persons) to 12,863 cases (383 per 100,000 employed persons) in 2014 (Table 1.12 & 1.13).

#### **WORKPLACE MINOR INJURIES BY SECTOR**

The three traditionally higher risk sectors accounted for 48% of workplace minor injuries. Manufacturing sector remained the highest contributor to the number of workplace minor injuries with the workplace minor injury rate increasing from 629 per 100,000 employed persons in 2013 to 680 per 100,000 employed persons in 2014 (Table 1.12 and 1.13). Construction sector recorded 8.8% increase in workplace minor injuries and its rates increased from 520 per 100,000 employed persons in 2013 to 547 per 100,000 employed persons in 2014. The number of workplace minor injuries for Marine sector was on par with 2013, but the corresponding rate increased from 428 per 100,000 employed persons in 2013 to 440 per 100,000 employed persons in 2014.

Other sectors such as Water Supply, Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities, Wholesale & Retail Trade, Logistics & Transport, Accommodation & Food Service Activities, Information & Communications, Financial & Insurance Activities and Health Activities saw an increase in workplace minor injury rates (Table 1.13).

#### **WORK-RELATED TRAFFIC MINOR INJURIES BY SECTOR**

In 2014, Construction, Transportation & Storage and Administrative & Support Service Activities sectors were the main contributors of work-related traffic minor injuries with 48% (Table 1.12).

Table 1.12: Number of workplace minor injuries by industry, 2013 and 2014

Industry	2014	2013
All Sectors	12,863 (502)	11,740 (487)
Construction	2,686 (79)	2,468 (70)
Marine	469 (39)	469 (12)
Manufacturing	2,992 (43)	2,697 (43)
Metalworking	1,289 (19)	1,218 (15)
Manufacture of Food, Beverages & Tobacco	460 (10)	403 (7)
Manufacture of Computer, Electronic & Optical Products	201 (3)	155 (2)
Water Supply, Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation	141 (8)	118 (18)
Activities		
Wholesale & Retail Trade	631 (45)	577 (60)
Wholesale Trade	350 (37)	308 (46)
Retail Trade	281 (8)	269 (14)
Transportation & Storage	1,062 (79)	847 (87)
Logistics & Transport	649 (37)	501 (27)
Accommodation & Food Service Activities	920 (43)	878 (45)
Accommodation	228 (2)	228 (1)
Food & Beverage Service Activities	692 (41)	650 (44)
Information & Communications16	52 (4)	40 (7)
Financial & Insurance Activities	123 (5)	116 (5)
Real Estate Activities	284 (16)	286 (17)
Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities	383 (26)	381 (15)
Legal, Accounting & Management Activities	148 (13)	176 (7)
Architectural & Engineering Activities	179 (11)	163 (8)
Administrative & Support Service Activities	406 (81)	380 (70)
Office Administrative, Office Support & Other Business Support Activities	143 (19)	163 (21)
Cleaning & Landscape Maintenance Activities	122 (9)	114 (9)
Security and Investigation Activities	98 (44)	65 (29)
Community, Social & Personal Services	1,043 (25)	930 (32)
Health Activities	320 (12)	269 (10)
Education	189 (5)	177 (5)
Other Personal Service Activities	157 (1)	154 (4)
Repair & Maintenance of Vehicles	124 (6)	105 (8)

Note: Figures in parentheses refer to the number of work-related traffic injuries.

<sup>16</sup> Information and Communication includes publishing activities, motion picture, video and television programme production, sound recording & music publishing activities, radio & television broadcasting activities, telecommunications.

Per 100,000 employed persons

Industry	2014	2013
All Sectors	383	362
Construction	547	520
Marine	440	428
Manufacturing	680	629
Metalworking	1,044	996
Manufacture of Food, Beverages & Tobacco	1,095	1,010
Manufacture of Computer, Electronic & Optical Products	226	173
Water Supply, Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation	855	733
Activities		
Wholesale & Retail Trade	128	121
Wholesale Trade	108	98
Retail Trade	166	168
Transportation & Storage	456	374
Logistics & Transport	720	539
Accommodation & Food Service Activities	395	392
Accommodation	650	653
Food & Beverage Service Activities	350	343
Information & Communications 16	44	35
Financial & Insurance Activities	63	62
Real Estate Activities	297	324
Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities	163	171
Legal, Accounting & Management Activities	131	165
Architectural & Engineering Activities	276	253
Administrative & Support Service Activities	202	203
Office Administrative, Office Support & Other Business Support Activities	n.a.	n.a.
Cleaning & Landscape Maintenance Activities	244	241
Security and Investigation Activities	n.a.	n.a.
Community, Social & Personal Services	140	130
Health Activities*	368	332
Education	n.a.	n.a.
Other Personal Service Activities	n.a.	n.a.
Repair & Maintenance of Vehicles	n.a.	n.a.

#### WORKPLACE MINOR INJURIES BY INCIDENT TYPES AND INCIDENT AGENTS

# FALLS (SLIPS, TRIPS AND FALLS) REMAINED THE MAIN AREA OF CONCERN FOR WORK-PLACE MINOR INJURIES

The top three incident types that accounted for 51% of workplace minor injuries in 2014 were (Table 1.14):

- Falls (Slips, Trips and Falls (STF)) (2,962 injuries, 23%)
- Struck by Moving Objects (SBMO) (1,965 injuries, 15%)
- Cut/Stabbed by Objects (CSBO) (1,623 injuries, 13%)

STF which was the top incident type for workplace minor injuries were common in many sectors including Water Supply, Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities, Wholesale & Retail Trade, Logistics & Transport, Information & Communications, Financial & Insurance Activities, Real Estate Activities, Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities, Administrative & Support Service Activities, Health Activities, Education, Other Personal Service Activities sectors and Repair & Maintenance of Vehicles (Table 1.15). The injuries were mainly seen in workers who were exposed to wet or contaminated surfaces. The top incident agent for STF in 2014 was Physical Workplace - Floors/Level Surfaces, accounting for 48% of STF injuries (Table 1.14).

SBMO, which continued to be one of the leading incident types, accounted for 15% of the total workplace minor injuries in 2014. It was also the top incident type for the three traditional higher risk sectors. 24% of SBMO injuries were caused by work involving industrial hand tools.

CSBO was commonly seen in Manufacturing, Wholesale & Retail Trade, Accommodation & Food Service Activities, Financial & Insurance Activities, Real Estate Activities, Legal, Accounting & Management Activities, Office Administrative, Office Support & Other Business Support Activities, Cleaning & Landscape Maintenance Activities and Other Personal Service Activities sectors. The top incident agent for CSBO was knives and needles, accounting for 26% of CSBO injuries.

#### **WORKPLACE MINOR INJURIES BY INJURY TYPES**

The top three types of injury that accounted for 81% of all workplace minor injuries were (Table 1.16):

- Cuts and Bruises (5,101 injuries, 40%)
- Crushing, Fractures and Dislocations (3,128 injuries, 24%)
- Sprains and Strains (2,146 injuries, 17%)

Table 1.15: Top 3 incide. sypes for workplace minor injuries by industry, 2014

	Top 3 Incident Types			
Industry	1st	2nd	3rd	
All Sectors	STF	SBMO	CSBO	
Construction	SBMO	STF	SBFO	
Marine	SBMO	STF	CIBO	
Manufacturing	SBMO	CSBO	STF	
Metalworking	SBMO	CIBO	CSBO	
Manufacture of Food, Beverages & Tobacco	CSBO	STF	CIBO	
Manufacture of Computer, Electronic and Optical Products	STF	SBMO	CIBO, OESM	
Nater Supply, Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities	STF	SBMO	CIBO	
Wholesale & Retail Trade	STF	CSBO	SBFO, SBMO	
Wholesale Trade	STF	SBMO	WRT	
Retail Trade	STF	CSBO	SBFO	
Fransportation & Storage	STF	SBMO	OESM	
Logistics & Transport	STF	SBMO	CIBO	
Accommodation & Food Services	CSBO	STF	ETET	
Accommodation	STF	CSBO	OESM, SBFO	
Food & Beverage Service Activities	CSBO	STF	ETET	
nformation & Communications	STF	SBMO	OESM, SBFO	
Financial & Insurance Activities	STF	CSBO, SBFO	SBMO	
Real Estate Activities	STF	CSBO	SBMO	
Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities	STF	SBMO	SBFO	
Legal, Accounting & Management Activities	STF	OESM	CSBO	
Architectural & Engineering Activities	STF	SBMO	SBFO	
Administrative & Support Service Activities	STF	WRT	SBMO	
Office Administrative, Office Support & Other Business Support Activities	STF	WRT	CSBO, SBMO	
Cleaning & Landscape Maintenance Activities	STF	SBMO	CSBO	
Security and Investigation Activities	WRT	STF	SBMO	
Community, Social & Personal Services	STF	OESM	SBMO	
Health Activities	STF	OESM	SBMO	
Education	STF	OESM	SBFO	
Other Personal Service Activities	STF	CSBO	SBFO	
	STF	SBMO	CIBO	

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CIBO	Caught In/Between Objects	SBFO	Struck by Falling Objects
CSBO	Cut/Stabbed by Objects	SBMO	Struck by Moving Objects <sup>17</sup>
ETET	Exposure to Extreme Temperature	STF	Falls (Slips, Trips and Falls)
OESM	Over-exertion and Strenuous Movements	WRT	Work-related Traffic

<sup>17</sup> This includes flying fragments but excludes falling objects.

Workplace Minor Injury Types	2014	2013
Total	12,863	11,740
Cuts and Bruises	5,101	4,719
Crushing, Fractures and Dislocations	3,128	2,884
Sprains & Strains	2,146	1,894
Burns	437	378
Multiple Injuries	292	259
Puncture Wound	257	236
Bites and Stings	72	73
Concussion	66	69
Others	1,364	1,228

# OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES

#### NUMBER OF CONFIRMED OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES WENT UP BY 12%, WORK-RELATED MUSCULOSKELETAL DISORDER (WRMSD) SAW A 33% INCREASE

992 cases (29.5 cases per 100,000 employed persons) of occupational diseases (OD) were confirmed in 2014, up from 887 cases (27.4 cases per 100,000 employed persons) in 2013 (Table 1.17 & 1.18). The increase in OD cases was due to the increase in work-related musculoskeletal disorder (WRMSD) cases which saw a 33% increase (Table 1.19).

#### OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES BY SECTOR

Manufacturing continued to record the highest number of OD cases, accounting for 36% of total ODs confirmed in 2014 (Table 1.17). 65% of the ODs confirmed in this sector were from Metalworking. Metalworking also posted the highest incidence of OD cases (187.9 per 100,000 employed persons), followed by Marine at 141.7 cases per 100,000 employed persons.

Accommodation & Food Service Activities sector had a nearly two fold increase with 35 cases in 2014 compared to 18 cases in 2013. 74% of ODs confirmed in this sector came from Food & Beverage Services.

Table 1.17: Number of confirmed occupational disease cases by industry, 2013 and 2014

Industry	2014	2013
All Sectors	992	887
Construction	140	96
Marine	151	129
Manufacturing	356	331
Metalworking	232	214
Manufacture of Petrochemical Products	25	27
Manufacture of Computer, Electronic and Optical Products	22	19
Electricity, Gas & Air Conditioning Supply	5	3
Water Supply, Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation	2	6
Activities		
Wholesale Trade & Retail Trade	32	27
Transportation & Storage	75	59
Logistics & Transport	29	34
Accommodation & Food Service Activities	35	18
Accommodation	9	6
Food & Beverage Service Activities	26	12
Information & Communications	4	2
Financial & Insurance Activities	20	- 12
Real Estate Activities	8	15
Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities	41	78
Architectural & Engineering Activities	32	64
Administrative & Support Service Activities	19	17
Community, Social & Personal Services	68	62
Health Activities	25	20
Repair and Maintenance of Vehicles	15	7
Other Personal Service Activities	12	18

Per 100,000 employed persons

Industry	2014	2013
madstry	2011	2013
All Sectors	29.5	27.4
Construction	28.5	20.2
Marine	141.7	117.6
Manufacturing	82.9	77.1
Metalworking	187.9	175.0
Manufacture of Petrochemical Products	45.9	48.0
Manufacture of Computer, Electronic and Optical Products	24.8	21.2
Electricity, Gas & Air Conditioning Supply	n.a.	n.a.
Water Supply, Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation	12.1	37.3
Activities		
Wholesale Trade & Retail Trade	6.5	5.7
Transportation & Storage	32.2	26.1
Logistics & Transport	29.8	36.6
Accommodation & Food Service Activities	15.0	8.0
Accommodation	25.6	17.2
Food & Beverage Service Activities	13.2	6.3
Information & Communications	3.4	1.8
Financial & Insurance Activities	10.2	6.4
Real Estate Activities	8.4	17.0
Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities	17.4	35.1
Architectural & Engineering Activities	49.3	99.5
Administrative & Support Service Activities	9.5	9.1
Community, Social & Personal Services	9.1	8.7
Health Activities*	28.7	24.7
Repair and Maintenance of Vehicles	n.a.	n.a.
Other Personal Service Activities	n.a.	n.a.

#### BY TYPE OF OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE

Noise-induced deafness (NID) was the leading OD in 2014 with 594 cases or 60% of the total OD cases confirmed. 98% of the NID cases were diagnosed at the early stage of the disease. 14 workers suffered from severe hearing loss (Table 1.19). Work-related musculoskeletal disorders (WRMSD) was the second leading occupational disease (Table 1.19).

Table 1.19: Number of confirmed occupational diseases by type, 2013 and 2014

	2014	2013
Total	992	887
Noise Induced Deafness	594	564
NID (E) - Early	580	544
NID (A) - Advanced	14	20
Work-related Musculoskeletal Disorders	315	237
Back injuries due to ergonomic risks	302	214
Tendinitis	4	11
Musculoskeletal Disorder of the Back	3	3
Nerve Disorder such as Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, Cubital Tunnel Syndrome	2	2
Trigger Finger/Thumb	2	2
Cervical Spondylosis	1	1
Others	1	4
Occupational Skin Disease	54	56
Eczema	52	52
Others	2	4
Barotrauma	8	7
Aural	4	3
Sinus	4	4
Compressed Air Illness	7	5
CAI Type 1	6	5
CAI Type 2	1	0
Cancers	5	2
Mesothelioma <sup>18</sup>	5	2
Occupational Lung Disease	5	9
Silicosis	3	0
Occupational Asthma	1	8
Tuberculosis (pulmonary)	1	1
Excessive Absorption of Chemicals	2	4
Lead	2	4
Infectious Disease	1	0
Chemical Poisoning	0	3
Lead	0	2
Solvent	0	1
Others	1	0
Upper Respiratory Tract Irritation	1	0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>Mesothelioma is a cancer involving the lining of the internal organs

#### **NOISE-INDUCED DEAFNESS (NID)**

#### MANUFACTURING SECTOR CONTINUED TO HAVE HIGHEST NUMBER OF NID CASES

The Manufacturing sector continued to have the highest number of NID cases. It saw a slight increase of 4.7%, from 275 in 2013 to 288 in 2014 (Table 1.20). 69% of these cases were from Metalworking. Architectural & Engineering Activities saw a drop of 54% from 61 in 2013 to 28 in 2014.

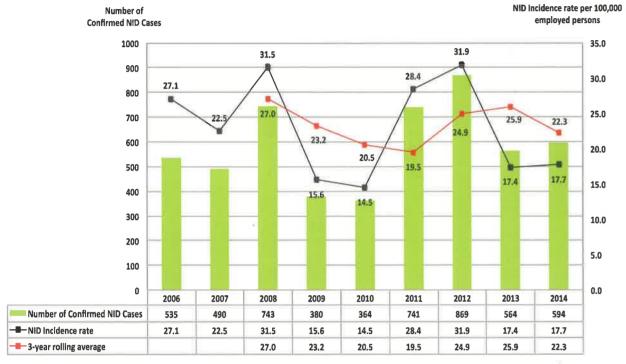


Figure 14: Noise-Induced Deafness incidence rate, 2006-2014

Table 1.20: Number of confirmed NID cases by industry, 2013 and 2014

Industry	2014	2013
All Sectors	594	564
Construction	79	48
Marine	139	122
Manufacturing	288	275
Metalworking	200	200
Manufacture of Petrochemical Products	22	23
Manufacture of Other Transport Equipment	16	14
Electricity, Gas & Air Conditioning Supply	5	2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	4	5
Transportation & Storage	22	16
Logistics & Transport	10	16
Information & Communications	0	1
Financial & Insurance Activities	8	10
Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities	29	62
Architectural & Engineering Activities	28	61
Administrative & Support Service Activities	5	10
Community, Social & Personal Services	15	11
Repair & Maintenance of Vehicles	10	3
Health Activities	2	0
Other Personal Service Activities	1	7

Table 1.21: NID incidence rates by industry, 2013 and 2014

Per 100,000 employed persons

Industry	2014	2013
All Sectors	17.7	17.4
Construction	16.1	10.1
Marine	130.4	111.2
Manufacturing	67.0	64.1
Metalworking	161.9	163.5
Manufacture of Petrochemical Products	40.4	40.9
Manufacture of Other Transport Equipment	68.7	58.8
Electricity, Gas & Air Conditioning Supply	n.a.	n.a.
Wholesale & Retail Trade	8.0	1.1
Transportation & Storage	9.4	7.1
Logistics & Transport	10.3	17.2
Information & Communications	0.0	0.9
Financial & Insurance Activities	4.1	5.3
Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities	12.3	27.9
Architectural & Engineering Activities	43.1	94.9
Administrative & Support Service Activities	2.5	5.3
Community, Social & Personal Services	2.0	1.5
Repair & Maintenance of Vehicles	n.a.	n.a.
Health Activities*	2.3	0.0
Other Personal Service Activities	n.a.	n.a.

#### WORK-RELATED MUSCULOSKELETAL DISORDERS (WRMSD)

#### SECOND LEADING OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE; TRANSPORTATION & STORAGE SECTOR WAS THE TOP CONTRIBUTOR

About 17% of the cases were from the Transportation & Storage sector (Table 1.22), followed by Manufacturing sector contributing 16% of the cases. Most of these cases were involved in manual handling activities such as carrying, lifting, pulling and pushing.

Table 1.22: Number of confirmed WRMSD cases by industry, 2013 and 2014

Industry	2014	2013
All Sectors	315	237
Construction	39	26
Marine	9	5
Manufacturing	50	34
Metalworking	24	9
Manufacture of Food, Beverages & Tobacco	8	3
Manufacture of Computer, Electronic and Optical Products	6	4
Wholesale & Retail Trade	23	20
Wholesale Trade	13	14
Retail Trade	10	6
Transportation & Storage	53	39
Air Transport	24	18
Logistics & Transport	19	14
Accommodation & Food Service Activities	28	15
Food & Beverage Service Activities	20	9
Accommodation	8	6
Information & Communications	4	1
Financial & Insurance Activities	8	2
Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities	11	13
Administrative & Support Service Activities	9	7
Community, Social & Personal Services	41	35
Health Activities	16	14
Other Personal Service Activities	8	7

#### OCCUPATIONAL SKIN DISEASES (OSD)

54 cases of occupational skin diseases (OSD) were confirmed in 2014, accounting for 5.4% of total OD cases confirmed (Table 1.19). The most common causative agent was wetwork and occlusion, followed by exposure to oils (Table 1.24).

Table 1.23: Number of confirmed OSD cases by industry, 2013 and 2014

Industry	2014	2013
All Sectors	54	56
Construction	6	8
Marine	0	2
Manufacturing	16	19
Metalworking	7	5
Manufacture of Rubber and Plastic Products	3	0
Manufacture of Computer, Electronic & Optical Products	2	4
Electricity, Gas & Air Conditioning Supply	0	1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	5	2
Transportation & Storage	0	3
Logistics & Transport	0	3
Accommodation & Food Service Activities	7	3
Financial & Insurance Activities	4	0
Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities	0	3
Architectural & Engineering Activities	0	2
Administrative & Support Service Activities	3	0
Community, Social & Personal Services	12	14
Health Activities	7	5
Other Personal Service Activities	3	4

Table 1.24: Top 5 Causative Agents of Occupational Skin Diseases, 2014

Causative Agents	No. of Cases
Wetwork and Occlusion	12
Oils	9
Solvents	7
Cement	5
Coolant	2

#### **OTHER OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES**

There were 7 cases of compressed air illness (CAI) and 8 cases of barotrauma as compared to 2013 when there were 5 cases of CAI and 7 cases of barotrauma. The majority of the CAI and barotrauma cases were from the tunnelling projects in the construction sector.

There were 5 cases of mesothelioma in 2014 from exposure to asbestos, an increase from 2 cases in 2013.

There were 5 cases of Occupational Lung Disease in 2014, down from 9 cases in 2013. Of these, 3 were cases of silicosis (arising from quarry work in the past), 1 of occupational asthma and another of pulmonary tuberculosis. The 2 cases of excessive absorption of lead arose from a scrap metal recycling plant. One case of meliodosis was confirmed in a construction foreman who was exposed to ground/soilwater in the course of work.

# SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMMES

Proactive surveillance of high risk workplaces enables preventive measures to be taken early so as to prevent WSH injuries and ill health. Business Under Surveillance (BUS<sup>19</sup>) programme focuses on improvement of WSH management systems. Hygiene<sup>20</sup> and Medical<sup>21</sup> surveillance programmes monitor workers' exposure and health effects from exposure to selected list of hazards under the Workplace Safety and Health (General Provisions) Regulations and the Workplace Safety and Health (Medical Examinations) Regulations respectively.

#### **BUSINESS UNDER SURVEILLANCE**

Since the start of the programme in 2007, more than 300 companies have been placed under the programme. Companies on the BUS programme include companies with serious accidents; companies issued with Stop Work Orders (SWO) for poor WSH management, or accumulated a substantial number of demerit points. Companies exit the programme when their WSH standards have improved to a level whereby they can effectively manage their WSH risks.

In 2014, 19 companies entered the surveillance phase of BUS programme (Figure 15). 89.5% were from the construction industry and the remaining from other industries. For the 13 companies which exited surveillance in 2014, the duration they were in the programme ranged from 5 to 18 months, with an average of 10 months.

Since the inception of BUS, 1 company which exited BUS had successfully achieved a WSH award.

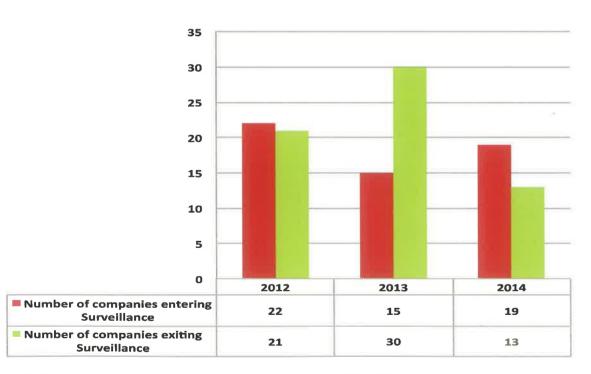


Figure 15: Number of companies entering and exiting surveillance, 2012-2014

#### **MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE**

Workplaces with hazards listed in the Schedule of the WSH (Medical Examinations) Regulations are required to send their exposed workers for pre-placement and regular medical examinations.

As at 2014, 139,685 workers from 2,217 workplaces were covered under the Medical Surveillance programme, an increase from 129,122 workers from 2,099 workplaces in 2013.

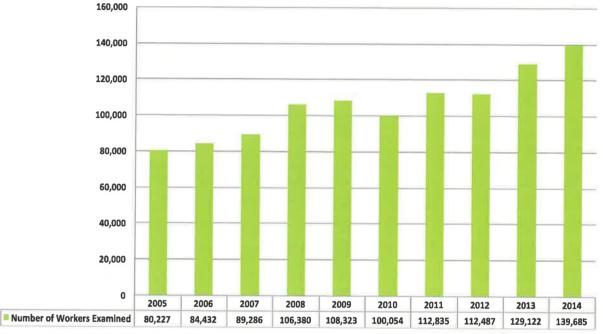


Figure 16: Number of workers under medical surveillance, 2005-2014

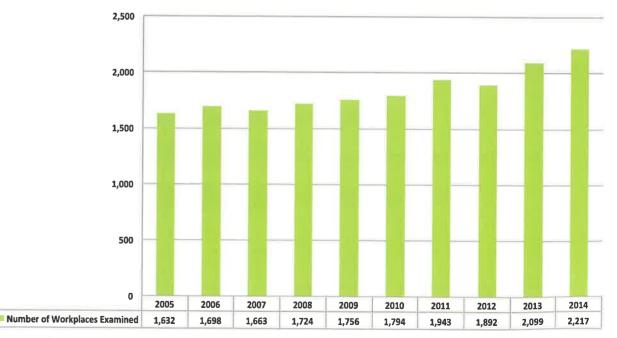


Figure 17: Number of workplaces under medical surveillance, 2005-2014

<sup>19</sup> Refer to Annex B and website http://mom,gov.sg/workplace-safety-health/programmes/Pages/regulatory-programmes.aspx#bus for information on BUS programme

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Hygiene Surveillance determines the exposure levels of persons to airborne substances and compliance with the Permissible Exposure Levels (PELs). Refer to Appex C for more information

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Medical Surveillance is the clinical examination and/or conduct of laboratory tests on workers who are exposed to specific hazards for early detection and prevention of potential ill health. Examinations are conducted by Designated Workplace Doctors (DWDs), Refer to Annex C for more information.

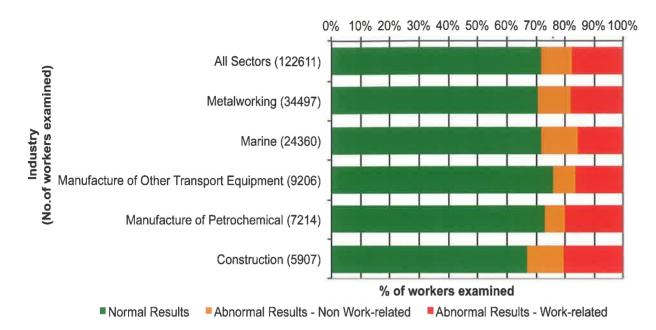


Figure 18: Results of medical monitoring<sup>22</sup> for noise exposure for Top 5 industries, 2014

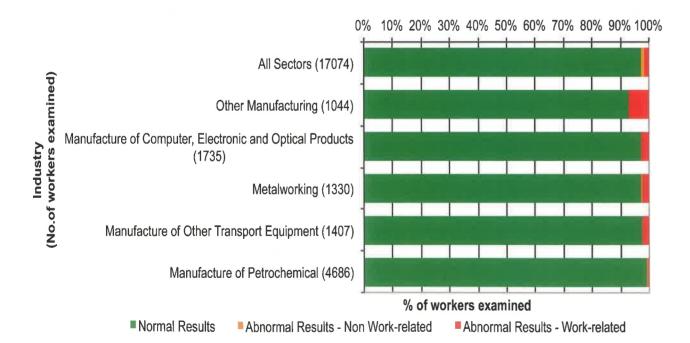


Figure 19: Results of medical monitoring<sup>22</sup> for chemical exposure for Top 5 industries, 2014

#### <sup>22</sup> Based on submissions received from Designated Workplace Doctors

#### HYGIENE SURVEILLANCE

Workplaces with excessive noise, as defined under the WSH (Noise) Regulations, and toxic substances as listed in the First Schedule in the WSH (General Provisions) Regulations, are required to conduct regular industrial hygiene monitoring to monitor their workers' exposure to noise and chemicals respectively.

#### NOISE EXPOSURE LEVELS

423 workplaces were under the noise monitoring programme, mainly from the metalworking industry. Overall, more than 75% of the workplaces monitored had workers who were exposed to excessive noise, i.e., above an equivalent sound pressure level of 85dBA over an 8-hour workday.

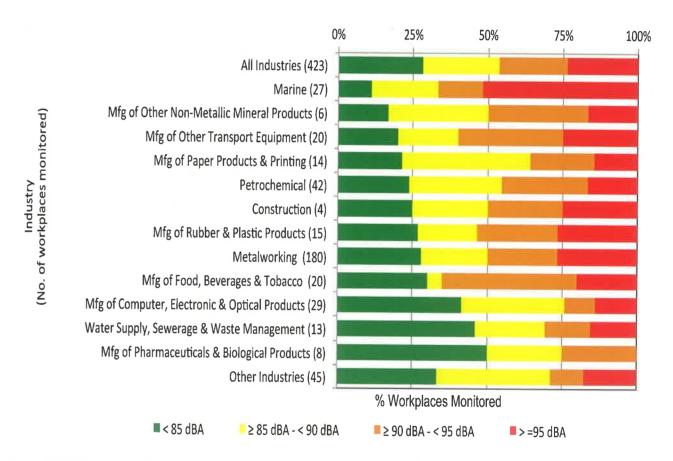


Figure 20: Noise exposure by industry, 2014

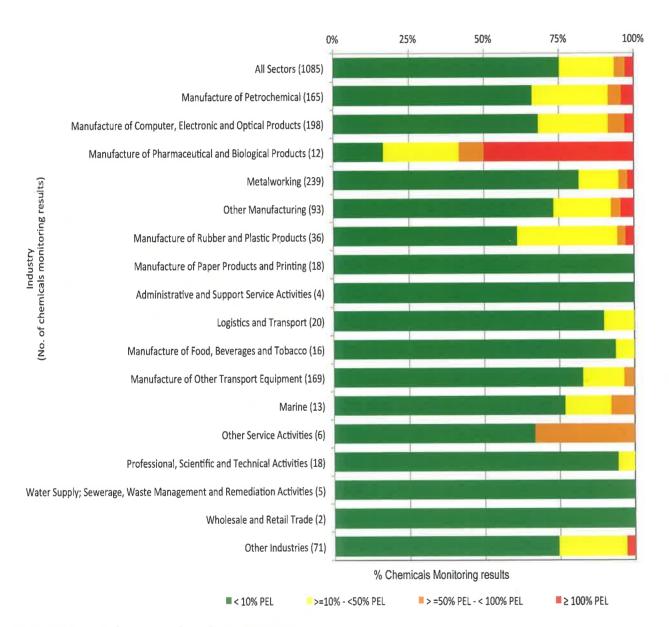


Figure 21: Chemical exposures by industry, 2012-2014

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**ANNEX A** 

Table A-1: Accident Frequency Rate (AFR) and Accident Severity Rate (ASR) in selected sectors, 2013 and 2014

Per million man-hours worked

Industry	AFR		ASR	
industry -	2014	2013	2014	2013
All Sectors	1.7	1.6	84	93
Construction	2.1	2.0	183	210
Marine	1.6	1.6	135	107
Manufacturing	2.8	2.6	98	106
Manufacture of Food, Beverages & Tobacco	4.7	4.4	224	265
Metalworking	4.0	3.8	115	115
Manufacture of Computer, Electronic and Optical Products	1.0	0.7	45	15
Water Supply, Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities	3.8	3.3	364	84
Wholesale & Retail Trade	0.6	0.6	35	31
Wholesale Trade	0.5	0.5	27	38
Retail Trade	0.8	0.8	49	15
Transportation & Storage	2.0	1.7	168	161
Logistics & Transport	2.9	2.4	286	213
Accommodation & Food Services	1.8	1.8	33	60
Accommodation	2.7	2.8	51	34
Food & Beverage Service Activities	1.7	1.6	29	66
Information & Communications	0.2	0.2	5	3
Financial & Insurance Activities	0.3	0.3	19	7
Real Estate Activities	1.3	1.5	23	83
Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities	0.7	0.8	14	29
Legal, Accounting & Management Activities	0.6	0.8	12	17
Architectural & Engineering Activities	1.2	1.0	21	62
Administrative & Support Service Activities	0.9	0.8	75	55
Community, Social & Personal Services	0.7	0.6	12	30
Health Activities*	1.7	1.6	32	27

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Permissible Exposure Levels (PELs) refer to airborne concentrations of substances and represent conditions under which it is believed that nearly all workers may be repeatedly exposed day after day without adverse health effects.

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# <sup>24</sup> According to the U.S National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)'s table of scheduled charges, a fatal injury is equivalent to the loss of 6,000 man-days, The Ministry of Manpower adopts a similar coding schedule,

#### **BUSINESS UNDER SURVEILLANCE**

The Business under Surveillance (BUS) programme consists of two phases – Assessment and Surveillance.

The Assessment phase involves rigorous and methodical review on companies that are of concern to ascertain the effectiveness of their Risk Management programme as well as the strength of their WSH Management Systems.

Companies that fail the Assessment phase would then be placed under the Surveillance phase. During the Surveillance phase, the Occupational Safety and Health Division (OSHD) of Ministry of Manpower (MOM) works closely with the senior management and WSH personnel of these BUS companies to carry out a gap analysis and to develop outcome-based action plans.

OSHD then conducts frequent inspections to verify the progress of the companies' implementation of their action plans and closely monitors the companies' WSH performance. BUS companies can only exit from the programme upon successful implementation of their Action Plan, achieved satisfactory audit outcomes, and have plans to build a strong WSH culture within the company.

and Health

# **ANNEX C**

#### HYGIENE AND MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE

#### **HYGIENE SURVEILLANCE**

Measuring the exposure levels of specific workplace chemical hazards provide a good indication on whether the conditions in the work environment are within the Permissible Exposure Levels (PEL), as stipulated under the WSH (General Provisions) Regulations. Companies with chemical exposures exceeding 10% PEL are required to monitor the exposure levels at least annually, conducted by a competent person.

Under the WSH (Noise) Regulations, workplaces with 10 or more workers who are exposed to excessive noise, are required to monitor their workers' noise exposure at least once every three years, or earlier when there are changes to the processes. The monitoring must be conducted by a competent person using calibrated equipment to ensure accuracy of results.

Industrial hygiene data from assessments conducted by Ministry of Manpower (MOM), as well as results submitted by companies with in-plant monitoring, is maintained within a National Database for Noise and Chemical Exposure. This enables MOM to proactively identify high-risk workplaces, evaluate trends in exposure levels and advise employers on control measures and appropriate monitoring programmes.

#### MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE

The Medical Surveillance Programme serves to monitor workers' exposure to specific hazards and to identify early and possibly reversible changes in health effects. The programme aims to prevent overt occupational diseases through early detection of cases with excessive occupational exposure to specific health hazards. It involves monitoring of workers' health and implementation of measures to minimise the risks. High-risk workplaces would be monitored more rigorously to ensure control measures are put in place.

This monitoring assesses the "internal dose" of the worker and the effects from exposure by determining:

- The concentrations of the chemicals or their metabolites in biological samples (measuring the absorption or body burden) indirectly via blood, urine, end-exhaled air.
- The indicators of health effect related to the internal dose so as to identify early and reversible changes, such as degree of hearing loss, effects on liver and kidney.

Central to the Medical Surveillance Programme is the WSH (Medical Examinations) Regulations which prescribe a list of 19 hazards requiring medical examinations which can only be conducted by Designated Workplace Doctors (DWDs) registered with MOM. In addition, Occupational Safety and Health Division (OSHD) of the MOM may also recommend the implementation of medical surveillance programmes for non-prescribed hazards if the health risk is significant and where biological indicators are available. Some of these hazards include toluene, trinitrotoluene, xylene, fluoride and hexane.

Based on the findings of the medical examinations, workers who are medically unfit or who are over-exposed to chemicals are suspended, either on a temporary or permanent basis. The objective is to ensure that all exposed workers remain healthy and fit for work while exposed to the hazards. Medical monitoring is conducted once every six months for lead and organophosphate, and annually for all other hazards.

# **ANNEX D**

#### **SOURCE OF DATA**

Data on workplace and work-related traffic injuries and occupational diseases were collated from incident reports made by employers, occupiers and medical practitioners in fulfilment of their obligations under the Workplace Safety and Health Act and Workplace Safety and Health (Incident Reporting) Regulations.

Medical and Hygiene Surveillance data were collated from reports submitted by companies to OSHD, MOM as well as industrial hygiene data from assessments conducted by OSHD, MOM. Business Under Surveillance information was obtained from OSHD, MOM.

Employment data used in the computation of workplace and work-related traffic fatal, injury and occupational disease incidence rates and data of the average weekly hours worked used in the estimation of man-hours worked were extracted from records within the Ministry of Manpower.

# **ANNEX E**

#### **DATA COVERAGE**

The types of workplace and work-related traffic injuries and occupational diseases covered in the reported statistics include the following:

- Workplace and work-related traffic injuries sustained by employees and resulting in more than three days of medical leave, regardless of whether these were consecutive days;
- Workplace and work-related traffic injuries sustained by employees and resulting in at least 24 hours of hospitalisation;
- Workplace and work-related traffic incidents resulting in the death of employees and self-employed persons;
- Workplace and work-related traffic incidents resulting in the injury of self-employed persons who have to be taken to the hospital for treatment; and
- Occupational diseases listed in the Second Schedule of the Workplace Safety and Health Act and Work Injury Compensation Act.



Workplace Safety

and Health Institute, Singapore

#### **CONCEPTS & DEFINITIONS**

**Incident Type** refers to the type of event which resulted in the injury of a victim. Where the event involves a chain of incidents, the incident type should be the one that triggered the chain of other incidents.

**Incident Agent** refers to the object or physical environment, which due to its hazardous nature/condition, leads to the occurrence of a particular type of incident. It is related to the incident, not injury.

**Major Injuries** refer to non-fatal injuries which are more severe in nature. Major injuries are defined using a combination of factors, including the nature of injury, part of the body injured, incident type and duration of medical leave. These include:

- amputation
- blindness
- deafness
- paralysis
- crushing, fractures and dislocations: head, back, chest and abdomen, neck, hip and pelvis
- exposure to electric current
- acute illness requiring medical treatment or loss of consciousness from exposure to chemical and/or biological agents
- asphyxia/drowning
- hypothermia
- burns with more than 20 days of medical leave
- concussion with more than 20 days of medical leave

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