



## Are our workplaces safe? Severity Rates and Average Days Lost of Temporary Incapacity Cases (Eighth of a Series)

*This issue of the LABSTAT Updates is the eighth 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. To take into account differences in employment and total hours worked, several measures are used to allow for meaningful comparisons between different reference periods and economic activities. Statistics on these measures provide indications on the safety performance and effectiveness of accident preventive measures at the workplace.*

*This eighth issue focuses on the severity rates and average days lost of injuries resulting to cases of temporary incapacity. (See footnotes of statistical tables for definition of terms.) In 2003, there were 22,964 cases of occupational injuries resulting to temporary incapacity. National severity rate and average days lost of temporary incapacity cases were 27.31 and 6.79, respectively.*

### Lowest severity rate in air transport

Temporary incapacity cases which made up almost all of the injury cases with workdays lost (98.7% of 23,265) in 2003 recorded a national severity rate of 27.31. (Table 1)

Severity rates higher than the all-industry figure were noted in five

major industry groups: electricity, gas and water supply (63.22); transport, storage and communication (45.13); mining and quarrying (42.88); manufacturing (38.63); and construction (31.79).

In contrast, the seven other industry groups posted rates lower than the national rate. These were private education services (3.53); financial intermediation (6.36); health and social work except public medical, dental and other health services (8.43); other community, social and personal service activities (9.75); wholesale and retail trade (13.82); real estate, renting and business activities (14.95); and hotels and restaurants (26.16).

Triple-digit severity rates of temporary incapacity were noted in the sub-industries particularly in mining and quarrying and

manufacturing. These were 124.24 in recycling (manufacturing); 116.73 in manufacture of coke, refined petroleum and other fuel products; 115.27 in manufacture of plastic products; 104.24 in manufacture of tobacco products; and 101.66 in manufacture of machinery and equipment, n.e.c. Severity rate in non-metallic mining and quarrying was 113.90.

On the other hand, very low severity rates were registered in activities auxiliary to financial intermediation (0.24) and in air transport (0.27).

### **Longest duration of workdays lost per injury in metallic ore mining and quarrying**

In 2003, each case of injury resulting to temporary incapacity incurred an average of 6.79 workdays lost.

Five of the major industry groups posted average days lost below the national average. These were: other community, social and personal service activities (2.23); wholesale and retail trade (4.56); construction; (5.44); manufacturing (6.02); and hotels and restaurants (6.22).

The rest of the industry groups reported average workdays lost per injury that were 1.6 to 2.9 times longer than the national average. Mining and quarrying had the highest average at 19.49 followed by real estate, renting and business activities at 18.76. Financial intermediation (13.79); transport, storage and communication (12.98); health and social work except public medical, dental and other health services

(11.85); private education services (11.48); and electricity, gas and water supply (11.01) also posted double-digit average days lost.

Sub-industries with considerably longer duration of workdays lost per case were incurred in metallic ore mining and quarrying (36.90); banking institutions except central banking (34.03); manufacture of coke, refined petroleum and other fuel products (33.25); and recycling (30.00).

Air transport (one day); insurance and pension funding except compulsory social security (1.71); recreational, cultural and sporting activities (2.13); and manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers (2.98) recorded absences of less than three days per case of temporary incapacity.

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**TABLE 1 - Severity Rates and Average Days Lost of Cases of Occupational Injuries Resulting to  
Temporary Incapacity in Non-Agricultural Establishments Employing 20 or More  
Workers by Industry, Philippines: 2003**

1994 PSIC	Industry	Severity Rate	Average Days Lost
	<b>Total</b>	<b>27.31</b>	<b>6.79</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>MINING AND QUARRYING</b>	<b>42.88</b>	<b>19.49</b>
C10	Metallic Ore Mining	33.44	36.90
C11	Non-Metallic Mining and Quarrying	113.90	9.54
<b>D</b>	<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>38.63</b>	<b>6.02</b>
D15 excl.			
D155	Manufacture of Food Products	59.12	6.47
D155	Manufacture of Beverages	55.57	4.73
D16	Manufacture of Tobacco Products	104.24	5.99
D17	Manufacture of Textiles	57.17	5.32
D18	Manufacture of Wearing Apparel	11.54	4.92
D191	Tanning and Dressing of Leather; Manufacture of Luggage and Handbags	7.60	4.38
D192	Manufacture of Footwear	22.39	10.93
D201	Manufacture of Wood, Wood Products and Cork except Furniture	42.68	5.36
D202	Manufacture of Articles of Bamboo, Cane, Rattan, Cork and the Like; Manufacture of Plaiting Materials	-	-
D21	Manufacture of Paper and Paper Products	46.64	8.71
D22	Publishing, Printing and Reproduction of Recorded Media	20.92	7.18
D23	Manufacture of Coke, Refined Petroleum and Other Fuel Products	116.73	33.25
D24	Manufacture of Chemicals and Chemical Products	32.30	4.51
D251	Manufacture of Rubber Products	76.58	9.41
D252	Manufacture of Plastic Products	115.27	10.98
D261	Manufacture of Glass and Glass Products	39.34	11.48
D262	Manufacture of Cement	32.30	3.87
D269	Manufacture of Other Non-Metallic Mineral Products, n.e.c.	48.77	4.13
D27	Manufacture of Basic Metals	96.38	6.21
D28	Manufacture of Fabricated Metal Products, except Machinery and Equipment	74.77	4.82
D29	Manufacture of Machinery and Equipment, n.e.c.	101.66	11.21
D30	Manufacture of Office, Accounting and Computing Machinery	9.72	6.14
D31	Manufacture of Electrical Machinery and Apparatus, n.e.c.	19.23	4.96
D32	Manufacture of Radio, TV and Communication Equipment and Apparatus	7.80	4.16
D33	Manufacture of Medical, Precision and Optical Instruments, Watches and Clocks	19.60	7.18
D34	Manufacture of Motor Vehicles, Trailers and Semi-Trailers	28.85	2.98
D35	Manufacture of Other Transport Equipment	47.48	5.39
D36	Manufacture and Repair of Furniture	39.37	4.47
D37	Recycling	124.24	30.00
D39	Manufacturing, n.e.c.	8.97	4.27
<b>E</b>	<b>ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER SUPPLY</b>	<b>63.22</b>	<b>11.01</b>
E40	Electricity, Gas, Steam and Hot Water Supply	74.01	11.30
E41	Collection, Purification and Distribution of Water	19.31	7.86
<b>F45</b>	<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>31.79</b>	<b>5.44</b>

**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.

3. Severity rate is computed as follows: (Days lost due to temporary incapacity/Total hours actually worked)  
X 1,000,000 hours of exposure.

4. Average days lost is computed as follows: Days lost due to temporary incapacity/Occupational injuries  
resulting to temporary incapacity.

**TABLE 1 - Severity Rates and Average Days Lost of Cases of Occupational Injuries Resulting to  
Temporary Incapacity in Non-Agricultural Establishments Employing 20 or More  
Workers by Industry, Philippines: 2003 (Cont'd.)**

1994 PSIC	Industry	Severity Rate	Average Days Lost
<b>G</b>	<b>WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE; REPAIR OF MOTOR VEHICLES, MOTORCYCLES AND PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS</b>	<b>13.82</b>	<b>4.56</b>
G50	Sale, Maintenance and Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles, Retail Sale of Automotive Fuel	18.07	4.82
G51	Wholesale Trade and Commission Trade, Except Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	18.25	7.35
G52	Retail Trade, Except of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles, Repair of Personal and Household Goods	10.77	3.43
<b>H55</b>	<b>HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS</b>	<b>26.16</b>	<b>6.22</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION</b>	<b>45.13</b>	<b>12.98</b>
I60	Land Transport, Transport Via Pipelines	52.64	15.72
I61	Water Transport	43.59	14.07
I62	Air Transport	0.27	1.00
I63	Supporting and Auxiliary Transport Activities; Activities of Travel Agencies	70.05	12.73
I64 excl. I6411	Post and Telecommunications except National Postal Activities	6.36	4.70
<b>J</b>	<b>FINANCIAL INTERMEDIATION</b>	<b>6.36</b>	<b>13.79</b>
J65 excl. J65100	Banking Institutions except Central Banking	8.64	34.03
J66	Non-Bank Financial Intermediation	4.94	4.57
J67	Insurance and Pension Funding, Except Compulsory Social Security	1.60	1.71
J68	Activities Auxiliary to Financial Intermediation	0.24	4.00
<b>K</b>	<b>REAL ESTATE, RENTING AND BUSINESS ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>14.95</b>	<b>18.76</b>
K70	Real Estate Activities	37.35	17.18
K71	Renting of Machinery and Equipment Without Operator, Personal and Household Goods	-	-
K72	Computer and Related Activities	-	-
K73	Research and Development	13.16	16.50
K74	Miscellaneous Business Activities	13.90	19.24
<b>M81</b>	<b>PRIVATE EDUCATION SERVICES</b>	<b>3.53</b>	<b>11.48</b>
<b>N85 excl. N8511</b>	<b>HEALTH AND SOCIAL WORK EXCEPT PUBLIC MEDICAL, DENTAL AND OTHER HEALTH SERVICES</b>	<b>8.43</b>	<b>11.85</b>
<b>O</b>	<b>OTHER COMMUNITY, SOCIAL AND PERSONAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>9.75</b>	<b>2.23</b>
O90	Sewage and Refuse Disposal, Sanitation and Similar Activities	-	-
O92	Recreational, Cultural and Sporting Activities	11.16	2.13
O93	Other Service Activities	6.14	4.62

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X 1,000,000 hours of exposure.

4. Average days lost is computed as follows: Days lost due to temporary incapacity/Occupational injuries  
resulting to temporary incapacity.

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