

SAFETY AND HEALTH IN THE WORKPLACE

. . . Measures of Safety Performance (Last of a series)

This series of LABSTAT Updates present statistical briefs on cases of occupational injuries and diseases that affected workers in establishments in 2013. The statistics came from the 2013/2014 Integrated Survey on Labor and Employment (ISLE), formerly BLES Integrated Survey (BITS), conducted in 2014 by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) in coordination with the PSA Regional Offices.

The ISLE is a nationwide survey covering 8,399 establishments with 20 or more workers in 69 industry groups. It also generates statistics on employment of specific groups of workers; occupational shortages and surpluses; training of workers; productivity improvement and gainsharing practices; occupational safety and health practices; occupational injuries and diseases; and labor cost of employees that can be used as basis for policy and program formulation and evaluation.

Specifically, this last issue on the module "Occupational Injuries and Diseases" discusses the measures of safety performance – frequency rates, incidence rates, and severity rates; and average days lost of temporary incapacity cases of occupational injuries by industry covering the period 2013 compared with 2011. The metadata and the statistical tables of the survey are posted at the PSA website. (The earlier series of LABSTAT Updates on occupational injuries and diseases were entitled "Are our workplaces safe?")

Agriculture, forestry and fishing had the highest frequency rate of cases of occupational injuries with workdays lost in 2011 and 2013

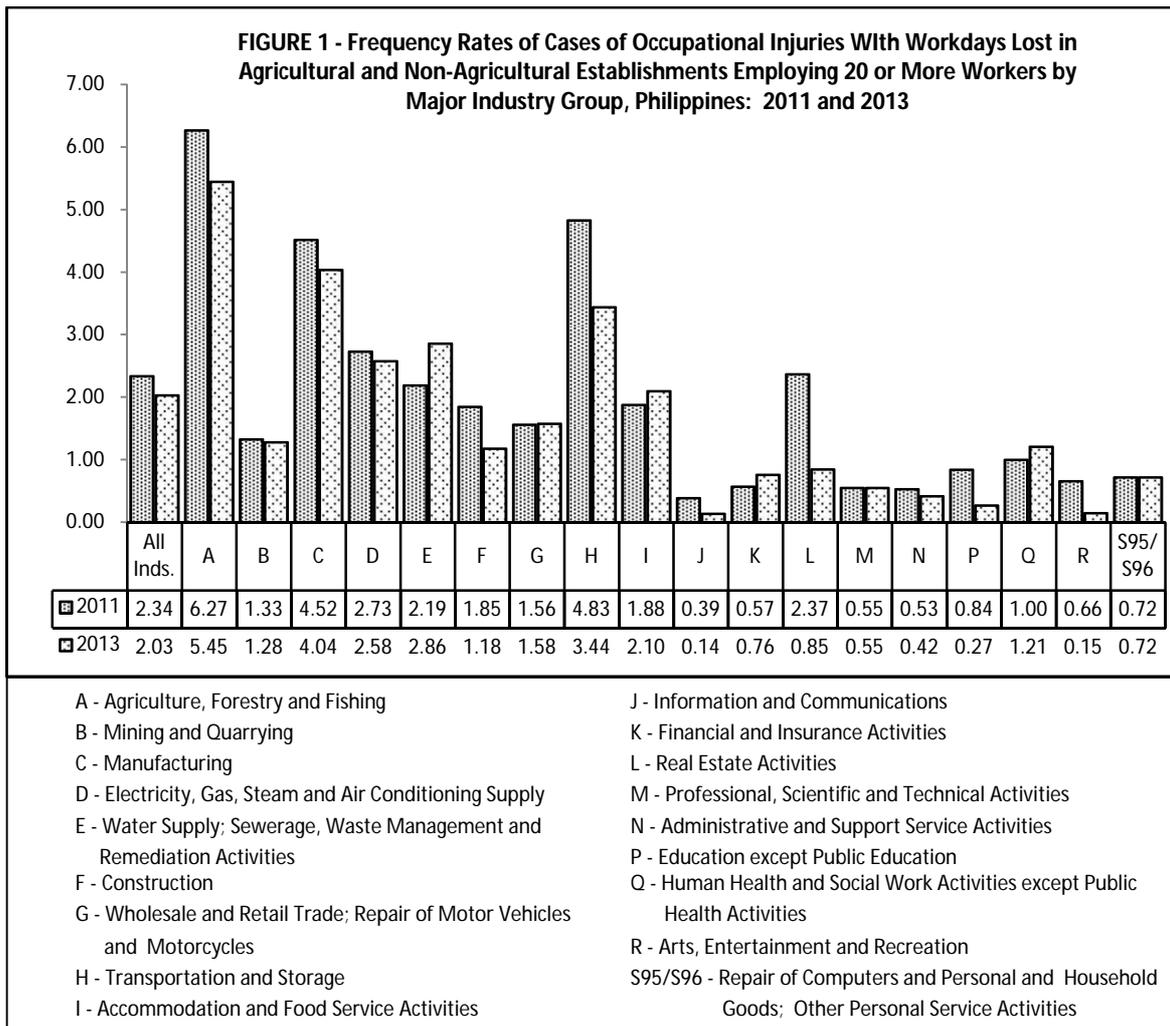
- The frequency rate of cases of occupational injuries with workdays lost in 2013 was posted at 2.03, lower by 0.31 percentage point than the 2.34 frequency rate in 2011. This means that in both years there were only two cases of occupational injuries with workdays lost per 1,000,000 employee-hours of exposure. (Table 1)
- By category of incapacity, temporary incapacity cases recorded a frequency rate of 1.99 in 2013, lower by 0.30 percentage point than the 2.29 rate in 2011.
- On the other hand, the frequency rate of permanent incapacity cases was reduced by only 0.01 percentage point from 0.03 in 2011 to 0.02 in 2013.
- Meanwhile, the frequency rate of total fatal cases slightly increased by 0.01 percentage point from 0.02 in 2011 to 0.03 in 2013.

TABLE 1- Frequency Rates of Cases of Occupational Injuries with Workdays Lost by Category, Philippines: 2011 and 2013

| Category | 2011 | 2013 | Difference |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Total | 2.34 | 2.03 | -0.31 |
| Fatal | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.01 |
| Non-Fatal | 2.32 | 2.01 | -0.31 |
| Permanent Incapacity | 0.03 | 0.02 | -0.01 |
| Temporary Incapacity | 2.29 | 1.99 | -0.30 |

Source of data: Philippine Statistics Authority, Integrated Survey on Labor and Employment.

- By major industry group, six industry groups in 2013 posted frequency rates higher than the all-industry frequency rate of 2.03. (Figure 1)
- Agriculture, forestry and fishing registered the highest frequency rate at 5.45, lower by 0.82 percentage point than 6.27 in 2011.
- Manufacturing followed at 4.04, a decrease of 0.48 percentage point from 4.52 in 2011.
- Transportation and storage ranked third with a frequency rate of 3.44, lower by 1.39 percentage points from 4.83 in 2011.
- Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities followed with a frequency rate of 2.86, higher compared to 2.19 in 2011.
- Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply came next with a frequency rate of 2.58, a little lower by 0.15 percentage point from 2.73 in 2011.
- The sixth industry that posted higher frequency rate than the all-industry rate was accommodation and food service activities at 2.10, higher by 0.22 percentage point from 1.88 in 2011.
- Meanwhile, frequency rates lower than the all-industry frequency rate ranged from 0.14 in information and communications to 1.58 in wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles.



Source of data: Philippine Statistics Authority, Integrated Survey on Labor and Employment.

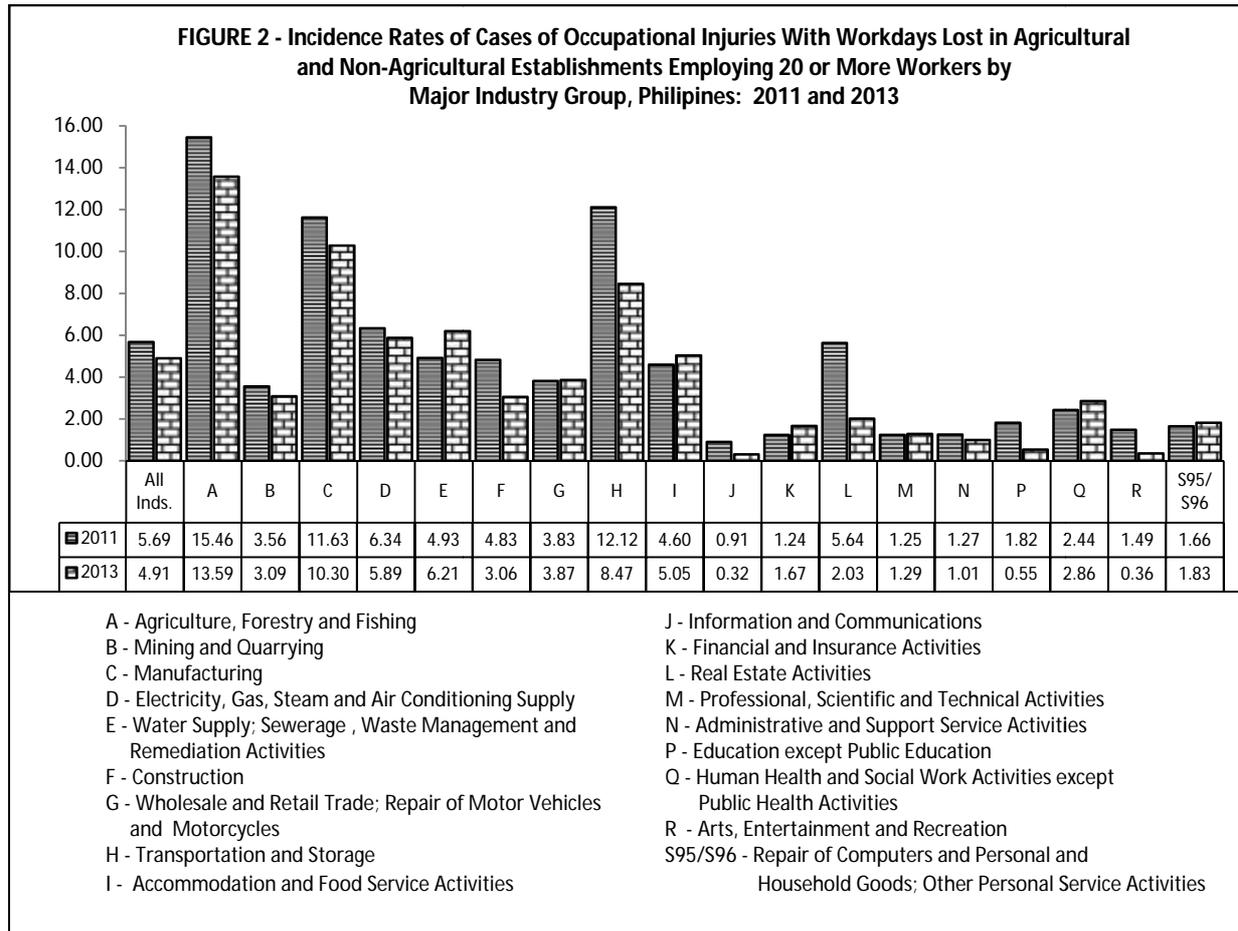
Incidence rate of cases of occupational injuries also highest in agriculture, forestry and fishing

- The national incidence rate of cases of occupational injuries with workdays lost was recorded at 4.91 in 2013. This indicates a decline of only 0.78 percentage point from the 5.69 incidence rate reported in 2011. These figures meant that there were 5 cases and 6 cases of occupational injuries with workdays lost for every 1,000 workers in 2013 and 2011, respectively. (Table 2)
- Most non-fatal cases of occupational injuries with workdays lost in 2013 were temporary incapacity cases at 4.80, lower compared to the 5.57 posted in 2011. Permanent incapacity cases likewise decreased to 0.04 in 2013 from 0.08 in 2011. On the other hand, fatal incidences slightly increased to 0.06 in 2013 from 0.04 in 2011.
- There were six industry groups that posted higher rates than the all-industry incidence rate of 4.91 in 2013. Of these, agriculture, forestry and fishing industry recorded the highest double-digit incidence rate of 13.59. This was lower by 1.87 percentage points from the incidence rate of 15.46 in 2011. (Figure 2)

TABLE 2 –Incidence Rates of Cases of Occupational Injuries with Workdays Lost, Philippines: 2011 and 2013

| Category | 2011 | 2013 | Difference |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Total | 5.69 | 4.91 | -0.78 |
| Fatal | 0.04 | 0.06 | 0.02 |
| Non-Fatal | 5.65 | 4.84 | -0.81 |
| Permanent Incapacity | 0.08 | 0.04 | -0.04 |
| Temporary Incapacity | 5.57 | 4.80 | -0.77 |

Source of data: Philippine Statistics Authority, Integrated Survey on Labor and Employment.

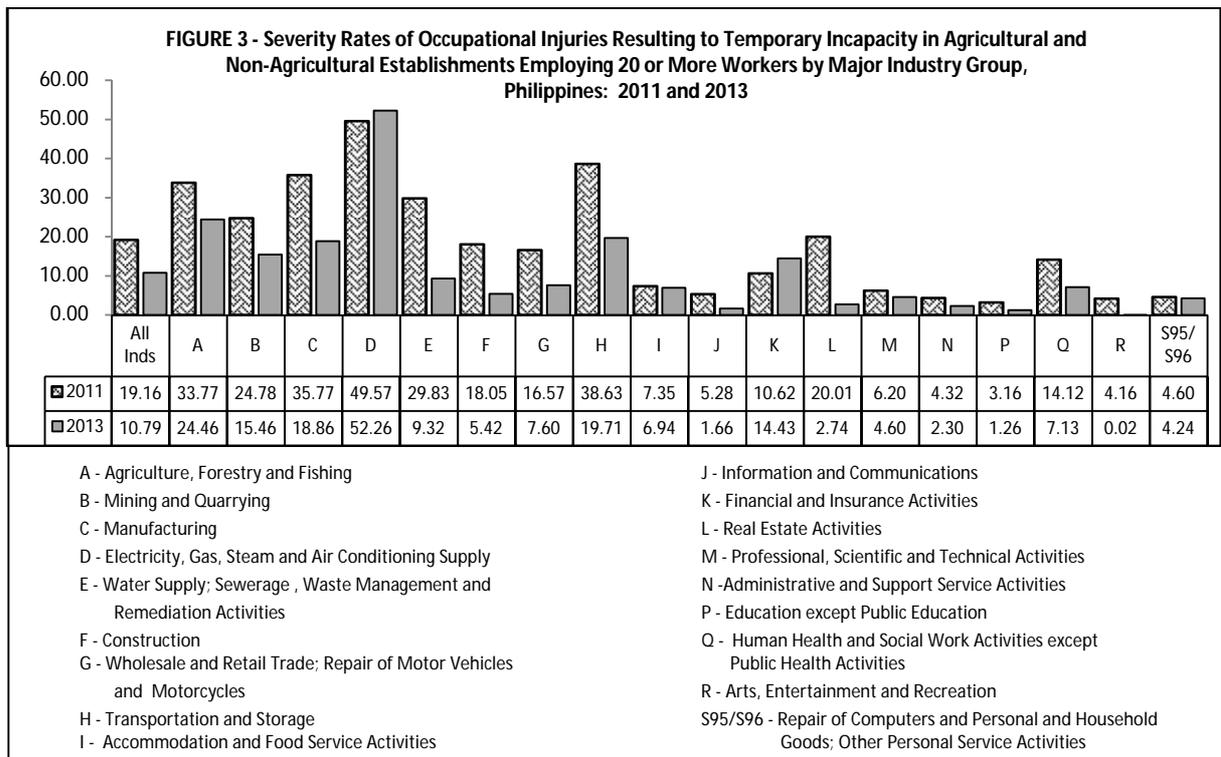


Source of data: Philippine Statistics Authority, Integrated Survey on Labor and Employment.

- Manufacturing ranked second at 10.30, a decrease of 1.33 percentage points from 11.63 incidence rate in 2011.
- Transportation and storage came in third at 8.47, a reduction of 3.65 percentage points from 12.12 in 2011.
- The other three industry groups that posted higher incidence rates than that of the national rate were water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (6.21); electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply (5.89); and accommodation and food service activities (5.05).
- The remaining industry groups posted incidence rates below the national incidence rate in 2013 ranging from 0.32 (information and communications) to 3.87 (wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles).

Severity rate highest in electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply

- The overall severity rate or workdays lost of cases of occupational injuries resulting to temporary incapacity per 1,000,000 employee-hours of exposure was posted at 10.79 in 2013. This shows a notable decline of 8.37 percentage points from 19.16 in 2011. (Figure 3)
- The highest severity rate was recorded in electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply registered at 52.26 in 2013, a slight increase of 2.69 percentage points from the 49.57 reported in 2011.
- On the other hand, the lowest severity rate was recorded in arts, entertainment and recreation at 0.02 in 2013, lower by 4.14 percentage points from 4.16 in 2011.
- Notably, the severity rate in almost all industry groups in 2013 decreased from its 2011 levels. A decline of more than 10 percentage points was observed in five industries: water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (-20.51); transportation and storage (-18.92); real estate activities (-17.27); manufacturing (-16.91); and construction (-12.63).
- Meanwhile, electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply and financial and insurance activities posted higher severity rates in 2013 than in 2011, or an increase of 2.69 and 3.81 percentage points, respectively.



Average workdays lost of temporary incapacity cases decreased in 2013

- The drop in the severity rate in 2013 also translated to a decline in the average number of workdays lost of temporary incapacity cases from 8.36 in 2011 to 5.42 in 2013. This means that a case of temporary incapacity in 2013 resulted to an average workdays lost of 5 working days compared to 8 working days in 2011. (Table 3)
- For 2013, longer duration in average workdays lost were observed in electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply (20.82); financial and insurance activities (19.04); mining and quarrying (14.53); and information and communications (14.09).
- In terms of difference, decline in average workdays lost from 2011 to 2013 were noted in water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (11.79 days); wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (6.83 days); mining and quarrying (6.23 days); construction (5.59 days); arts, entertainment and recreation (5.34 days); and real estate activities (5.24 days).

Table 3 - Average Workdays Lost of Temporary Incapacity Cases of Occupational Injuries with Workdays Lost by Major Industry Group, Philippines: 2011 and 2013

| Major Industry Group | 2011 | 2013 | Difference |
|---|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| All Industries | 8.36 | 5.42 | -2.94 |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 5.44 | 4.66 | -0.78 |
| Mining and Quarrying | 20.76 | 14.53 | -6.23 |
| Manufacturing | 8.00 | 4.72 | -3.28 |
| Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply | 20.17 | 20.82 | 0.65 |
| Water Supply; Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities | 15.19 | 3.40 | -11.79 |
| Construction | 10.19 | 4.60 | -5.59 |
| Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles | 10.86 | 4.83 | -6.83 |
| Transportation and Storage | 8.47 | 6.22 | -2.25 |
| Accommodation and Food Service Activities | 3.91 | 3.38 | -0.53 |
| Information and Communications | 13.95 | 14.09 | 0.14 |
| Financial and Insurance Activities | 18.54 | 19.04 | 0.05 |
| Real Estate Activities | 8.48 | 3.24 | -5.24 |
| Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities | 12.84 | 10.00 | -2.84 |
| Administrative and Support Service Activities | 8.51 | 5.52 | -2.99 |
| Education except Public Education | 3.77 | 4.79 | 1.02 |
| Human Health and Social Work Activities except Public Health Activities | 14.85 | 5.95 | -8.9 |
| Arts, Entertainment and Recreation | 6.34 | 1.00 | -5.34 |
| Repair of Computers and Personal and Household Goods; Other Personal Service Activities | 6.43 | 5.87 | -0.56 |

Source of data: Philippine Statistics Authority, Integrated Survey on Labor and Employment.

Definition of Terms:

Occupational accident - an unexpected and unplanned occurrence, including acts of violence arising out of or in connection with work which results in one or more workers incurring a personal injury, disease or death. It can occur outside the usual workplace/premises of the establishment while the worker is on business on behalf of his/her employer, i.e., in another establishment or while on travel, transport or in road traffic.

Occupational injury - an injury which results from a work-related event or a single instantaneous exposure in the work environment (occupational accident). Where more than one person is injured in a single accident, each case of occupational injury should be counted separately. If one person is injured in more than one occupational accident during the reference period, each case of injury to that person should be counted separately. Recurrent absences due to an injury resulting from a single occupational accident should be treated as the continuation of the same case of occupational injury not as a new case.

Temporary incapacity - case where an injured person was absent from work for at least one day, excluding the day of the accident, and 1) was able to perform again the normal duties of the job or position occupied at the time of the occupational accident or 2) 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 3) 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.

Permanent incapacity - case where an injured person was absent from work for at least one day, excluding the day of the accident, and 1) was never able to perform again the normal duties of the job or position occupied at the time of the occupational accident, or 2) 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.

Fatal case - case where a person is fatally injured as a result of occupational accident whether death occurs immediately after the accident or within the same reference year as the accident.

Frequency Rate – refers to cases of occupational injuries with workdays lost per 1,000,000 employee-hours of exposure.

Incidence Rate – refers to cases of occupational injuries with workdays lost per 1,000 workers.

Severity Rate – refers to workdays lost of cases of occupational injuries resulting to temporary incapacity per 1,000,000 employee-hours of exposure.

Average Workdays Lost – refer to workdays lost for every case of occupational injury resulting to temporary incapacity.

FOR INQUIRIES

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