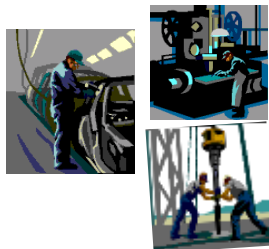


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ARE OUR WORKPLACES SAFE?

(3rd of a Series)

Focus on Electricity, Gas and Water Supply



This series of the LABSTAT Updates is a presentation of thirteen issues on the results of the 2000 Occupational Injuries Survey (OIS). This survey has been redesigned to better serve its objective to generate statistics on occupational injuries that are useful to labor administrators in their formulation of effective policies and decision making on the enforcement of safety and health standards and to safety practitioners of the private sector in their development and implementation of programs on accident prevention.

In 1990-1996, the OIS that has been conducted annually nationwide then followed the classification by extent of disability (fatal, permanent total disability, permanent partial disability and temporary disability) set under the Employees Compensation Program for compensation and insurance purposes.

Starting with OIS 2000, changes undertaken has been in line with the Resolution Concerning Statistics of Occupational Injuries Resulting from Occupational Accidents adopted by the 16th International Conference of Labour Statisticians in October 1998. Data coverage has been expanded to include injuries by occupation, part of body injured and cause of injury. It has also adopted the concept of incapacity for work (permanent and temporary) of the International Labor Organization (ILO) in lieu of the previous classification by extent of disability. Establishment coverage has also been changed to include only those non-agricultural establishments employing at least 20 workers.

*This third issue profiles statistics on incidences and seriousness of occupational injuries specific to **electricity, gas and water industries**. (An **Occupational Injury** is any personal injury, disease or death resulting from an occupational accident. It is distinct from an occupational disease, which is a disease contracted as a result of an exposure over a period of time to risk factors such as contact with asbestos, lead, inhaling cotton dust, carrying out repetitive movement arising from work activity).*

CASES OF OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES

In 2000, there were 69,208 cases of occupational injuries in non-agricultural establishments employing 20 or more workers. Of this total, 61.8 percent (42,742) were without lost workdays while 38.2 percent (26,467) had lost workdays.

In electricity, gas and water supply, there were only 1,246 cases of occupational injuries (1.8% of total cases in all non-agricultural establishments). More than half (53.9%) of these cases had no lost workdays. The rest (46.1%) had lost workdays.

Majority of the cases were in electricity, gas, steam and hot water supply at 82.3 percent while only 17.7 percent were in collection, purification and distribution of water.

- **A case of occupational injury** is the case of one worker incurring an occupational injury as a result of one occupational accident. 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. Where more than one person is injured in a single accident, each case of occupational injury shall be counted separately.

CASES WITH LOST WORKDAYS

In electricity, gas and water supply, there were 574 cases of occupational injuries with lost workdays. Bulk of these cases (86.8%) were found in electricity, gas and hot water supply while the rest (13.2 %) was reported in collection, purification and distribution of water.

By Employment Size

About 62 percent (356) of cases with lost workdays were found in establishments employing at least 200 workers. Establishments with 100 to 199 workers posted 32.2 percent share while those with 20 to 99 workers had a share of only 5.7 percent.

By Incapacity for Work

Most of the cases (96.3% or 553 cases) with lost workdays were non-fatal. Of these, 98.4% were temporary incapacity while permanent

incapacity accounted for only (8 cases) 1.4 percent.

Meanwhile, fatalities totaled 22 cases. This accounted for only less than four percent.

By Major Occupation Group

Technicians and associate professionals, among the major occupation groups, suffered the most number of injuries at 179 cases. About 131 cases (22.8%) were found among laborers and unskilled workers and 71 cases (12.4%) among trades and related workers. Corporate executives, managers, managing proprietors and supervisors suffered the least number of injured cases with only 17 cases (3.0%).

By Type of Injury

Superficial injuries and open wounds were the most common injuries (261 cases) experienced by workers in electricity, gas and water supply. This was followed by dislocations, sprains and strains and fractures with 75 cases and 74 cases, respectively. Cases of acute poisoning and infections were the least at only seven (7) cases.

By Part of Body Injured

The most common body parts affected were lower extremities at 38.8 percent (223 cases). This was followed by 138 cases affecting upper extremities (24.0%). The least affected body part was the neck accounting for only 0.2 percent.

By Cause of Injury

Common causes of injuries of workers were stepping on, striking against or struck by objects found in 18.8 percent of all cases. This was followed by falls of persons at 15.3 percent and exposure to or contact with electric current at 12.2 percent.

SAFETY PERFORMANCE

Frequency Rate

Frequency rate of injury cases with lost workdays in electricity, gas and water stood at 4.64 per 500 full-time workers or one injury out of every 108 workers.

Fatal cases occurred with one work-related death case for every 2,778 workers (derived by dividing 500 by 0.18). In non-fatal cases, temporary incapacity was more frequent at one case per 114 workers than permanent incapacity at one case per 7,143 workers.

Frequency Rate of Cases of Occupational Injuries with Lost Workdays in Electricity, Gas & Water Industry, Philippines: 2000

Industry	Frequency Rate (per 500 full-time workers)
All Industries	5.70
Electricity, Gas & Water	4.64
Electricity, gas, steam & hot water supply	5.36
Collection, purification, & distribution of water	2.46

Severity Rate

Although most cases with lost workdays resulted to temporary incapacity only, their severity rate was 85.29 per 500 full-time workers translating to 0.17 workday lost per worker.

Severity Rate of Temporary Incapacity Cases of Occupational Injuries With Lost Workdays in Electricity, Gas & Water Industry, Philippines: 2000

Industry	Severity Rate (per 500 full-time workers)
All Industries	43.69
Electricity, Gas & Water	85.29
Electricity, gas, steam & hot water supply	104.40
Collection, purification, & distribution of water	28.15

Average Days Lost

In the sector, temporary incapacity cases incurred an average workdays loss of 19 workdays per injury, more than doubled the all-industry level.

Average Days Lost of Temporary Incapacity Cases of Occupational Injuries With Lost Workdays in Electricity, Gas and Water Supply Industry, Philippines: 2000

Industry	Average Days Lost
All Industries	8
Electricity, Gas & Water	19
Electricity, gas, steam & hot water supply	21
Collection, purification, & distribution of water	12

DEFINITION OF TERMS	
Incapacity for Work	inability of the victim due to an occupational injury to perform the normal duties of work in the job or position occupied <i>at the time</i> of the occupational accident.
Case of Permanent Incapacity for Work	refers to an injured person who was unable to work from the day after the day of the accident and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ was <i>never</i> able to perform again the normal duties of work in the job or position occupied at the time of the occupational accident causing injury; ✦ will be able to perform the same job but his/her total absence from work is expected to <i>exceed a year</i> from the day of the accident.
Case of Temporary Incapacity for Work	refers to an injured person who was unable to work from the day after the day of the accident but: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ was able to perform again the normal duties of work in the job or position occupied at the time of the occupational accident causing the injury; ✦ will be able to perform the same job but his/her total absence from work is expected <i>not to exceed a year</i> from the day of the accident; ✦ 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.
1,000,000 Employee-Hours of Exposure	the number of hours worked of 500 full-time workers, each exposed to 2,000 hours per year.

FOR INQUIRIES:

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Regarding other statistics and technical services contact **BLES DATABANK** at 527-35-77

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

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Website at <http://www.manila-online.net/bles> or <http://www.bles.dole.gov.ph> for other statistical information

TABLE 1 - Cases of Occupational Injuries in Electricity, Gas & Water Supply Establishments Employing 20 or More Workers, Philippines: 2000

Industry	Cases of Occupational Injuries		
	Total	With Lost Workdays	Without Lost Workdays
All Industries	69,208	26,467	42,742
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	1,246	574	672
Electricity, gas, steam and hot water supply	1,026	498	528
Collection, purification and distribution of water	221	76	144

Note: Details will not add up to totals due to rounding of figures.

Source of data: Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics, 2000 Occupational Injuries Survey

TABLE 2 - Cases of Occupational Injuries With Lost Workdays in Electricity, Gas & Water Supply Establishments Employing 20 or More Workers, Philippines: 2000

INDICATOR	ALL INDUSTRIES	ELECTRICITY, GAS & WATER SUPPLY	Electricity, Gas, Steam & Hot Water Supply	Collection, Purification & Distribution of Water
Cases With Lost Workdays	26,467	574	498	76
By Employment Size				
20 to 99 workers	4,236	33	12	21
100 to 199 workers	3,465	185	166	19
200 or more workers	18,766	356	320	36
By Incapacity for Work				
Fatal	178	22	22	0
Non - Fatal	26,289	553	476	76
Permanent	179	8	7	1
Temporary	26,110	544	469	75
By Major Occupation Group				
Corporate Executives, Managers, Managing Proprietors and Supervisors	470	17	13	4
Professionals	389	27	19	8
Technicians and Associate Professionals	1,007	179	177	2
Clerks	472	27	27	0
Service Workers and Shop and Market Sales Workers	2,330	63	55	8
Farmers, Forestry Workers and Fishermen	0	0	0	0
Trades and Related Workers	969	71	71	0
Plant and Machine Operators and Assemblers	7,972	59	53	6
Laborers and Unskilled Workers	12,858	131	83	48

Note: Details will not add-up to totals due to rounding of figures.

TABLE 2 - Cases of Occupational Injuries With Lost Workdays in Electricity, Gas & Water Supply Establishments Employing 20 or More Workers, Philippines: 2000 (cont'd.)

INDICATOR	ALL INDUSTRIES	ELECTRICITY, GAS & WATER SUPPLY	Electricity, Gas, Steam & Hot Water Supply	Collection, Purification & Distribution of Water
By Type of Injury				
Superficial Injuries and Open Wounds	14,925	261	231	30
Fractures	1,151	74	54	20
Dislocations, Sprains and Strains	2,789	75	70	5
Amputations	354	14	14	0
Concussion, Internal Injuries	1,963	43	35	8
Burns, Corrossions, Scalds, Frostbite	1,944	57	52	5
Acute Poisoning and Infections	347	7	7	0
Foreign Body in the Eye	1,793	15	14	1
Other Injury	1,202	28	22	6
By Part of Body Injured				
Head	3,486	91	76	15
Neck	137	1	1	0
Back	651	32	31	1
Trunk or Internal Organs	354	13	13	0
Upper Extremities	13,678	138	130	7
Lower Extremities	6,256	223	181	42
Whole Body or Multiple Sites Equally Injured	969	51	42	9
Others	934	25	24	1
By Cause of Injury				
Falls of persons	1,606	88	82	6
Struck by falling objects	2,566	42	22	20
Stepping on, striking against or struck by objects, excluding falling objects	8,726	108	103	5
Caught in or between objects	4,366	54	36	18
Over-exertion or strenuous movements	2,112	28	28	0
Exposure to or contact with extreme temperatures	1,401	8	8	0
Exposure to or contact with electric current	370	70	70	0
Exposure to or contact with harmful substances or radiations	782	15	15	0
Others	4,538	162	134	27
Frequency Rate per 500 Workers¹				
Fatal	0.04	0.18	0.24	0.00
Non-Fatal	5.66	4.46	5.13	2.46
Permanent incapacity	0.04	0.07	0.08	0.04
Temporary Incapacity	5.62	4.39	5.05	2.42
Severity Rate per 500 Workers² (Temporary incapacity)				
	43.69	85.29	104.40	28.15
Average Days Lost (Temporary incapacity cases)				
	8	19	21	12

Note: Details will not add-up to totals due to rounding of figures.

1 Number of cases of occupational injuries with lost workdays per 1,000,000 employee - hours of exposure .

2 Number of lost workdays of temporary incapacity cases of occupational injuries per 1,000,000 employee hours of exposure.

Source of data: Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics, 2000 Occupational Injuries Survey.