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ARE OUR WORKPLACES SAFE?

(8th of a Series)
**Focus on Transport, Storage and
Communications**



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 eight issue profiles statistics on incidences and seriousness of occupational injuries specific to **transport, storage and communications**. (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

There were 69,208 occupational injury cases in non-agricultural industries in 2000. Of this total, almost 62.0 percent did not result to lost workdays.

Transport, storage and communications accounted for 3.0 percent or 2.051 injury cases.

- 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.

Less than 40.0 percent (794 cases) of these cases did not entail workday losses.

Across specific industries, at least 57.0 percent (1,174 cases) were found in supporting and auxiliary transport activities; activities of travel agencies. Close to 30.0 percent (610 cases) occurred in land transport; transport via pipelines. The lowest incidence of occupational injury was in air transport with only 3.7 percent (76 cases).

CASES WITH LOST WORKDAYS

Majority (61.3 %) or 1,257 cases in transport, storage and communications resulted to workday losses. Most occurred in supporting and auxiliary transport activities; activities of travel agencies (546 cases) and in land transport; transport via pipelines (538 cases). Air transport had the least number of cases with only 29 during the year.

By Employment Size

At least 75.0 percent (948) of cases with lost workdays were in establishments employing at least 200 workers. This was followed by establishments with 100-199 workers (14.2% or 178 cases) and establishments with 20-99 workers (10.3% or 130 cases).

By Incapacity for Work

There were 16 fatal injuries in the industry and 1,241 non-fatal cases. Almost all or 1,234 of non-fatal cases resulted in temporary incapacity while seven (7) injuries resulted to permanent incapacity.

By Major Occupation Group

Laborers and unskilled workers accounted for 43.6 percent of total injury cases in the industry. Cases involving plant and machine operators and assemblers accounted for 20.3 percent. This was followed by 13.6 percent of cases affecting service workers.

Least affected were corporate executives, managers and managing proprietors and supervisors at only 1.3 percent.

By Type of Injury

More than half (51.2 %) or 644 cases were caused by superficial injuries and open wounds. Injuries due to dislocations, sprains and strains accounted for 15.6 percent or 196 cases. The least frequent type of injury was amputations which occurred in three (3) cases only.

By Part of Body Injured

Injuries to lower extremities and upper extremities shared about one-third of total injury cases each. Head injuries were noted in 186 cases or 15.0 percent. The least common body part affected was the neck with only 16 cases (1.3 %).

By Cause of Injury

Almost 44.0 percent (547 cases) of these injuries was caused by stepping on, striking against or struck by objects, excluding falling objects. This was followed by 15.0 percent of injuries from being caught in or between objects. The incidence of injuries due to exposure to or contact with electric current had the lowest frequency at only 1.3 percent (16 cases).

SAFETY PERFORMANCE

Frequency Rate

Less than five (4.39) injury cases for every 500 full-time workers occurred in transport, storage and communications during the year. This translates to one injury case per 114 workers.

This is slightly lower than the all-industry frequency rate of six injury cases per 500 full-time workers.

Frequency Rate of Cases of Occupational Injuries with Lost Workdays in Transport, Storage and Communications, Philippines: 2000

Industry	Frequency Rate (per 500 full-time workers)
All Industries	5.70
Transport, Storage and Communication	4.39
Land Transport; Transport Via Pipelines	5.19
Water Transport	3.06
Air Transport	4.37
Supporting and Auxiliary Transport Activities; Activities of Travel Agencies	5.80
Postal and Telecommunications Except National Postal Activities	1.10

Severity Rate

Across all non-agricultural industries, severity rate was estimated at 43.69 lost workdays per 500 full-time workers or .09 lost workday for every worker.

Injuries of workers in transport, storage and communications were relatively severe as these resulted to 63.89 lost workdays on temporary incapacity cases or 0.13 lost workday for every worker.

In particular, water transport had the highest severity rate losing 108.41 workdays for every 500 full-time workers (0.22 lost workday for every worker). This was followed by 80.17 lost workdays in supporting and auxiliary transport activities (or 0.16 lost workday per worker) and 71.13 lost workdays in land transport; transport via pipelines (or 0.14 lost workday per worker).

Severity Rate of Temporary Incapacity Cases of Occupational Injuries With Lost Workdays in Transport, Storage and Communication Philippines: 2000

Industry	Severity Rate (per 500 full-time workers)
All Industries	43.69
Transport, Storage and Communication	63.89
Land Transport; Transport Via Pipelines	71.13
Water Transport	108.41
Air Transport	13.87
Supporting and Auxiliary Transport Activities; Activities of Travel Agencies	80.17
Postal and Telecommunications Except National Postal Activities	6.13

Average Days Lost

On the average, 15 workdays were lost for every case of occupational injury in transport, storage and communications. This is almost twice the average number of workday losses for all non-agricultural industries, estimated at eight (8) workdays.

Across specific industries, water transport incurred the most number of workday losses resulting to temporary incapacity averaging 36 workdays for every injury.

Average Days Lost of Temporary Incapacity Cases of Occupational Injuries With Lost Workdays in Transport, Storage and , Communications, Philippines: 2000

Industry	Average Days Lost
All Industries	8
Transport, Storage and Communication	15
Land Transport; Transport Via Pipelines	14
Water Transport	36
Air Transport	4
Supporting and Auxiliary Transport Activities; Activities of Travel Agencies	14
Postal and Telecommunications Except National Postal Activities	6

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.

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**TABLE 1 - Cases of Occupational Injuries in Transport, Storage and Communications 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
Transport, Storage and Communications	2,051	1,257	794
Land Transport; Transport Via Pipelines	610	538	72
Water Transport	94	83	11
Air Transport	76	29	47
Supporting & Auxiliary Transport Activities; Activities of Travel Agencies	1,174	546	628
Postal and Telecommunication except National Postal Activities	97	60	36

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 Transport, Storage and Communications Establishments
Employing 20 or More Workers, Philippines: 2000**

INDICATOR	ALL INDUSTRIES	TRANSPORT, STORAGE & COMMUNICATIONS	Land Transport; Transport Via Pipelines	Water Transport	Air Transport	Supporting and Auxiliary Transport Activities; Activities of Travel Agencies	Postal & Telecommunications except National Postal Activities
Cases With Lost Workdays	26,467	1,257	538	83	29	546	60
By Employment Size							
20 to 99 workers	4,236	130	68	11	0	46	5
100 to 199 workers	3,465	178	59	5	-	79	36
200 or more workers	18,766	948	411	68	29	421	19
By Incapacity for Work							
Fatal	178	16	5	1	7	3	0
Non – Fatal	26,289	1,241	533	82	22	543	60
Permanent	179	7	1	0	0	6	0
Temporary	26,110	1,234	532	82	22	537	60
By Major Occupation Group							
Corporate Executives, Managers, Managing Proprietors and Supervisors	470	16	8	0	0	2	6
Professionals	389	43	0	14	20	2	7
Technicians and Associate Professionals	1,007	95	24	19	0	10	42

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

- No establishment population

**TABLE 2 - Cases of Occupational Injuries With Lost Workdays in Transport, Storage and Communications Establishments
Employing 20 or More Workers, Philippines: 2000 (Cont'd.)**

INDICATOR	ALL INDUSTRIES	TRANSPORT, STORAGE & COMMUNICATIONS	Land Transport; Transport Via Pipelines	Water Transport	Air Transport	Supporting and Auxiliary Transport Activities; Activities of Travel Agencies	Postal & Telecommunications except National Postal Activities
By Major Occupation Group (Cont'd.)							
Clerks	472	41	11	2	7	21	0
Service Workers and Shop and Market Sales Workers	2,330	171	101	24	0	45	0
Farmers, Forestry Workers and Fishermen	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trades and Related Workers	969	88	75	8	0	6	0
Plant and Machine Operators and Assemblers	7,972	255	182	3	0	70	1
Laborers and Unskilled Workers	12,858	548	138	13	2	390	5
By Type of Injury							
Superficial Injuries and Open Wounds	14,925	644	267	27	3	324	22
Fractures	1,151	84	34	3	1	36	10
Dislocations, Sprains and Strains	2,789	196	68	22	4	84	18
Amputations	354	3	1	0	0	2	0
Concussions, Internal Injuries	1,963	94	66	12	-	16	-
Burns, Corrosions, Scalds, Frostbite	1,944	76	52	1	8	10	5
Acute Poisoning and Infections	347	11	0	0	0	9	2
Foreign Body in the Eye	1,793	86	33	1	9	41	2
Other Injury	1,202	63	17	17	4	24	0
By Part of Body Injured							
Head	3,486	186	87	4	9	78	8
Neck	137	16	6	0	0	2	8
Back	651	44	6	13	0	15	11
Trunk or Internal Organs	354	31	17	3	0	11	0
Upper Extremities	13,678	458	261	24	2	150	21
Lower Extremities	6,256	425	128	15	11	258	13
Whole Body or Multiple Sites Equally Injured	969	42	20	1	7	14	0
Others	934	55	14	22	0	19	0
By Cause of Injury							
Falls of persons	1,606	94	28	13	2	39	17
Struck by falling objects	2,566	105	16	20	0	67	8
Stepping on, striking against or struck by objects, excluding falling objects	8,726	547	198	9	8	312	9

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

**TABLE 2 - Cases of Occupational Injuries With Lost Workdays in Transport, Storage and Communications Establishments
Employing 20 or More Workers, Philippines: 2000 (Cont'd.)**

INDICATOR	<i>ALL INDUSTRIES</i>	TRANSPORT, STORAGE & COMMUNICATIONS	Land Transport; Transport Via Pipelines	Water Transport	Air Transport	Supporting and Auxiliary Transport Activities; Activities of Travel Agencies	Postal & Telecommunications except National Postal Activities
By Cause of Injury (Cont'd.)							
Caught in or between objects	4,366	184	124	12	0	52	0
Over-exertion or strenuous movements	2,112	118	79	1	1	14	12
Exposure to or contact with extreme temperatures	1,401	45	32	1	8	5	0
Exposure to or contact with electric current	370	16	4	1	0	0	11
Exposure to or contact with harmful substances or radiations	782	40	16	0	9	13	2
Others	4,538	109	42	19	1	46	1
Frequency Rate per 500 Workers¹	5.70	4.39	5.19	3.06	4.37	5.80	1.10
Fatal	0.04	0.06	0.05	0.04	1.06	0.03	0.00
Non-Fatal	5.66	4.33	5.14	3.02	3.32	5.77	1.10
Permanent incapacity	0.04	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.00-	0.06	0.00
Temporary Incapacity	5.62	4.31	5.13	3.02	3.32	5.71	1.10
Severity Rate per 500 Workers² <i>(Temporary incapacity)</i>	43.69	63.89	71.13	108.41	13.87	80.17	6.13
Average Days Lost <i>(Temporary incapacity cases)</i>	8.00	15	14	36	4	14	6

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.