

OCCUPATIONAL INJURY STATISTICS (Third of a series)

This LABSTAT is the third issue on a series of reports that focus on occupational injuries based on the results of the 2002/2003 BLES Integrated Survey (BITS) conducted in 2003 in coordination with the DOLE Regional Offices. The BITS is a nationwide survey covering 6,818 sample non-agricultural establishments with 20 or more workers. It aims to generate an integrated data set on employment, labor relations, labor cost and occupational safety in the workplace as basis for policy and program formulation.

Frequency and incidence rates are two of the four measures of safety performance in the workplace used for comparative purposes of occupational injury statistics both at the national and international levels. In particular, this report discusses these rates as derived from the results of the 2002 survey queries regarding occupational injuries in comparison to their respective counterparts based on 2000 Occupational Injuries Survey.

FREQUENCY RATES

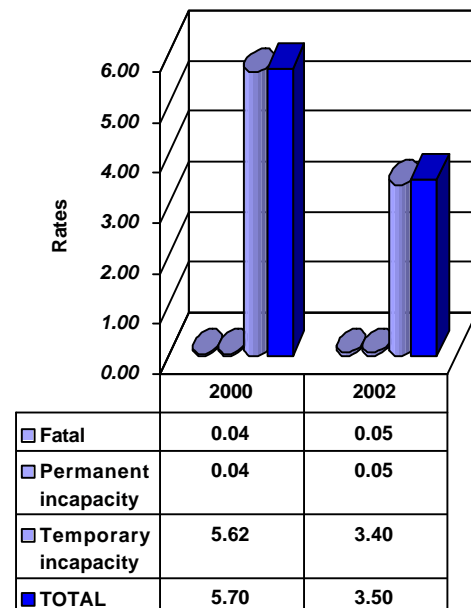
In 2002, the 21,779 cases of occupational injuries with lost workdays reported an overall frequency rate (FR) of 3.50, lower than the 5.70 frequency rate registered two years earlier. (Figure 1)

Fatalities among these cases were rare, at only 0.05 FR. This rate, however, was slightly higher than the 0.04 posted in 2000.

On the other hand, non-fatal cases which comprised most of the cases recorded a 0.05 frequency rate for permanent incapacity cases and a high FR of 3.40 for temporary incapacity cases.

Compared to 2000 data, permanent incapacity frequency rate indicated a little increase from 0.04 while substantial decline was noted on temporary incapacity cases as its frequency rate then was 5.62.

FIG. 1 – Frequency Rates of Cases of Occupational Injuries with Lost Workdays by Incapacity for Work, Philippines: 2000 and 2002



Corresponding to the substantial increase of its caseload in 2002 (from 31 in 2000 to 693), mining and quarrying recorded the highest frequency rate across industries at 10.82, eight times higher than its 2000 FR of 1.35. (Table 1)

In contrast, manufacturing recorded a drop in number of occupational injuries with lost workdays from 26,110 to 21,156 in 2002. Thus, its frequency rate of 10.82 in 2000 slipped to 5.85. In both years under review, manufacturing has always sustained the biggest caseload over other industries.

Financial intermediation whose cases considerably decreased to one-seventh of its 2000 level (118 to 16 in 2002) had the least FR of only 0.06 as compared to 0.60 in 2000.

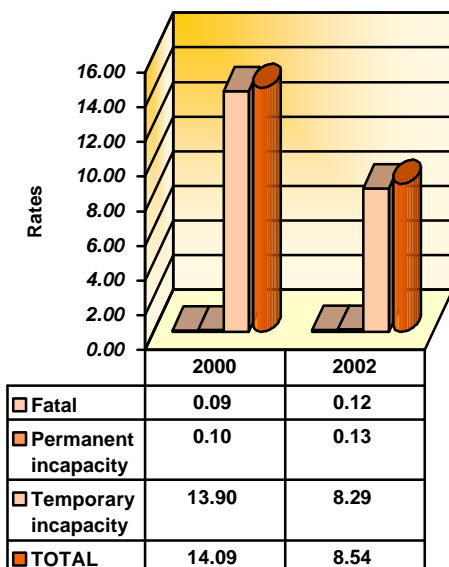
TABLE 1 – FREQUENCY RATES OF CASES OF OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES WITH LOST WORKDAYS BY INDUSTRY GROUP PHILIPPINES: 2000 AND 2002

Industry Group	2000	2002
All Industries	5.70	3.50
Mining & Quarrying	1.35	10.82
Manufacturing	10.08	5.85
Electricity, Gas & Water	4.64	4.29
Construction	5.06	2.46
Wholesale & Retail Trade, etc.	3.54	1.82
Hotels & Restaurants	5.71	3.78
Transport, Storage & Communications	4.39	3.38
Financial Intermediation	0.60	0.06
Real Estate, etc.	1.01	0.96
Private Education Services	0.40	0.31
Private Health & Social Work Services	0.60	0.53
Other Community, Social & Personal Service Activities	2.31	0.91

Source: Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics, 2002/2003 BLES Integrated Survey and 2000 Occupational Injuries Survey.

INCIDENCE RATES

FIG. 2 – Incidence Rates of Cases of Occupational Injuries with Lost Workdays by Incapacity for Work, Philippines: 2000 and 2002



Cases of occupational injuries with lost workdays per 1,000 workers, referred to as **incidence rate** (IR), stood at 8.54 in 2002 – lower by 5.5 percentage points from the 14.09 incidence rate in 2000.

Disaggregated by incapacity for work, death incidences slightly increased from 0.09 in 2000 to 0.12 in 2002.

Cases of permanent incapacity were also reported with a little higher incidence rate at 0.13 in 2002 against a 0.10 record two years earlier.

Non-fatal temporary incapacity cases consistently accounted for highest incidence rate. However, improvement has been noted in 2002 as the incidence rate notably declined to 8.29 from 13.90 in 2000.

Consistent with the movement of its frequency rate, mining and quarrying posted the highest incidence rate at 24.70 among non-agricultural industries in 2002. This showed an increase of 21.23 points over its 3.47 incidence rate in 2000.

With the second highest incidence rate, manufacturing fared better in 2002 as its IR of 14.82 was notably 10.75 points lower than its 25.57 record in 2000.

Lowest incidence rate of 0.13 was attributed to financial intermediation in 2002. Its 1.35 IR in 2000 was slightly higher but this industry has maintained quite low incidences of cases of occupational injuries with lost workdays over the two years in review.

TABLE 2 – INCIDENCE RATES OF CASES OF OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES WITH LOST WORKDAYS BY INDUSTRY GROUP PHILIPPINES: 2000 AND 2002

Industry Group	2000	2002
<i>All Industries</i>	14.09	8.54
Mining & Quarrying	3.47	24.70
Manufacturing	25.57	14.82
Electricity, Gas & Water	10.55	9.48
Construction	13.41	6.30
Wholesale & Retail Trade, etc.	8.81	4.45
Hotels & Restaurants	14.08	8.60
Transport, Storage & Communications	10.94	8.18
Financial Intermediation	1.35	0.13
Real Estate, etc.	2.65	2.52
Private Education Services	0.85	0.65
Private Health & Social Work Services	1.46	1.24
Other Community, Social & Personal Service Activities	5.61	2.20

Source: Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics, 2002/2003 BLES Integrated Survey and 2000 Occupational Injuries Survey.

Definition of Terms

Frequency rate - refers to cases of occupational injuries with lost workdays including fatalities per 1,000,000 employee-hours of exposure.

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

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