

For information on
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LegCo Panel on Manpower

Hong Kong's Occupational Safety Performance in the First Half of 2005

PURPOSE

This paper briefs Members on Hong Kong's occupational safety performance in the first half of 2005.

BACKGROUND

2. The Labour Department ("LD") is committed to protecting the safety and health of people at work by ensuring that risks in the workplace are properly managed and controlled through legislation, law enforcement, promotion, education and training.

3. Through the concerted efforts of all parties concerned, including employers, employees, contractors, safety practitioners and the Government, Hong Kong's safety performance has been improving since 1998, with the number and the rate of occupational accidents falling steadily. The pattern continued in the first half of 2005, with sustained improvement in the overall safety performance.

RECENT STATISTICS

Occupational Injuries

4. The number of occupational injuries in all workplaces in the first half of 2005 stood at 20 467, a decrease of 2.8% over the corresponding period in 2004, while the injury rate per 1 000 employees fell from 17.5 to 16.5, down by 5.3%. (**Table 1**)

Table 1: Occupational Injuries in All Workplaces

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2004 1 st half	2005 1 st half (Compared with 2004 1 st half)
Fatal cases	199	176	210	171	187	91	77 (-15.4%)
Non-fatal cases	57 893	53 543	46 813	41 851	43 838	20 973	20 390 (-2.8%)
Total	58 092	53 719	47 023	42 022	44 025	21 064	20 467 (-2.8%)
Injury rate/ 1 000 employees	23.3	21.6	19.2	17.7	18.1	17.5	16.5 (-5.3%)

5. While the overall occupational safety performance had improved in terms of the number and the rate of occupational accidents as compared with the same period of 2004, some economic activities, such as transport and related services, storage and communication, financing, insurance, real estate and business services (including import and export trade), recorded slight increases in their accident figures. However, these accidents were mostly of a minor nature and were mainly due to improper manual lifting or carrying and slip or trip on the same level. A detailed breakdown of the occupational injuries in all workplaces in first half of 2005 by major economic activities is at Annex 1.

Industrial accidents

6. The number of industrial accidents for all sectors in the first half of 2005 stood at 7 838, representing a decrease of 7.2% over the corresponding period in 2004. The accident rate per 1 000 workers dropped from 30.1 in the first half of 2004 to 28.4 in the same period of 2005, down by 5.9%. (**Table 2**)

Table 2: Industrial Accidents in All Sectors

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2004 1 st half	2005 1 st half (Compared with 2004 1 st half)
Fatal cases	43	34	25	28	24	11	9 (-18.2%)
Non-fatal cases	33 609	28 484	22 428	17 221	17 509	8 433	7 829 (-7.2%)
Total	33 652	28 518	22 453	17 249	17 533	8 444	7 838 (-7.2%)
Accident rate/ 1 000 workers	51.7	44.6	37.4	31.3	31.5	30.1	28.4 (-5.9%)

7. All 9 industrial fatalities in the first half of 2005 occurred on construction sites. Their causes were fall of persons from height (4 cases), struck by moving vehicle (2 cases), contact with moving machinery or object being machined (2 cases) and trapped by collapsing or overturning object (1 case).

Accidents in the Construction Industry

8. The safety performance of the high-risk construction industry continued to improve. However, it still had the highest number of fatalities and accident rate. The number of industrial accidents in the construction industry decreased from 1 789 in the first half of 2004 to 1 582 in the same period of 2005, down by 11.6%. The accident rate per 1 000 workers dropped from 53.9 in the first half of 2004 to 50.3 in the same period of 2005, down by 6.7%. (**Table 3**)

Table 3: Industrial Accidents in Construction Industry

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2004 1 st half	2005 1 st half compared with 2004 1 st half)
Fatal cases	29	28	24	25	17	8	9 (+12.5%)
Non-fatal cases	11 896	9 178	6 215	4 342	3 816	1 781	1 573 (-11.7%)
Total	11 925	9 206	6 239	4 367	3 833	1 789	1 582 (-11.6%)
Accident rate/ 1 000 workers	149.8	114.6	85.2	68.1	60.3	53.9	50.3 (-6.7%)

9. For the first half of 2005, the most common types of construction accidents are striking against or struck by moving object (18.8%), slip, trip or fall on the same level (18.2%) and injured whilst lifting and carrying (15.4%). A detailed breakdown by type of accident is at Annex 2.

Accidents in the Catering Industry

10. The catering industry ranked the top among all industries in terms of the number of accidents. The number of industrial accidents decreased from 4 557 in the first half of 2004 to 4 191 in the same period of 2005, down by 8.0%, while the accident rate per 1 000 workers decreased from 50 in the first half of 2004 to 45 in the same period of 2005, down by 10.1% (**Table 4**). A detailed breakdown of the accidents in the catering industry by type is at Annex 3.

Table 4: Industrial accidents in Catering Industry

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2004 1 st half	2005 1 st half Compared with 2004 1 st half)
Fatal cases	2	0	0	0	0	0	0 (---)
Non-fatal cases	12 619	11 914	10 149	8 527	9 410	4 557	4 191 (-8.0%)
Total	12 621	11 914	10 149	8 527	9 410	4 557	4 191 (-8.0%)
Accident rate/ 1 000 workers	66.2	61.5	54.7	49.6	51.5	50.0	45.0 (-10.1%)

THE WAY FORWARD

11. LD will continue to keep up its efforts to reduce the work accident toll and explore new ways to establish and maintain an effective occupational safety and health culture in a changing environment, so that both employers and employees can become increasingly aware of the importance of maintaining safety at work.

Economic Development and Labour Bureau
Labour Department
December 2005

**Occupational Injuries in All Workplaces
in 1st Half of 2005
- analysed by Major Economic Activity -**

二零零五年上半年所有工作地點之職業傷亡個案以主要經濟行業分析

Major Economic Activity 主要經濟行業		1st Half of 2004 二零零四年上半年		1st Half of 2005 二零零五年上半年		Change 增減	Percentage Change 增減率
Agriculture and Fishing	漁農業	79		55	(1)	-24	-30.4%
Mining and Quarrying	採礦及採石業	2		0		-2	-100.0%
Manufacturing	製造業	2 072	(13)	1 895	(4)	-177	-8.5%
Electricity and Gas	電力及燃氣業	30	(1)	30		---	---
Construction	建造業	1 832	(9)	1 617	(15)	-215	-11.7%
Wholesale & Retail Trades, Restaurants and Hotels	批發、零售、飲食及酒店業	6 850	(8)	6 416	(7)	-434	-6.3%
Transport & related services, Storage and Communication	運輸、倉庫及通訊業	2 146	(10)	2 255	(9)	109	5.1%
Financing, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services (including Import & Export Trade)	金融、保險、地產及商用服 務業 (包括進出口貿易業)	2 395	(26)	2 535	(24)	140	5.8%
Community, Social & Personal Services	社區、社會及個人服務業	5 648	(24)	5 653	(17)	5	0.1%
Activities not adequately defined	未能介定之行業	10		11		1	10.0%
TOTAL	總數	21 064	(91)	20 467	(77)	-597	-2.8%
Injury Rate per 1 000 employees	每1 000名僱員計的意外率	17.5		16.5		-0.9	-5.3%

Notes:

- Occupational injuries are injuries arising from work accidents, resulting in death or incapacity for work of over 3 consecutive days, and reported under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance. Since 1.1.1998, the number of injury cases recorded for a period indicates cases which occurred in that period.
- Figures in brackets denote the number of fatalities.
- The above injury figures are recorded as at 30 September 2005.
- Employment figures are based on the Quarterly Report of Employment and Vacancies Statistics published by the Census and Statistics Department.

註釋:

- 職業傷亡個案是根據僱員補償條例呈報由工作意外引致死亡或失去工作能力連續三天以上的受傷個案。由一九九八年一月一日開始，在每一時段所紀錄得之數字乃指在所述時段內發生的傷亡個案。
- 括號內的數字顯示死亡人數。
- 上列傷亡數字為截至二零零五年九月三十日所紀錄的數字。
- 就業人數資料源自政府統計處發表的就業及空缺按季統計報告。

**Industrial Accidents in Construction Industry
in 1st Half of 2005
- analysed by Type of Accident -**

二零零五年上半年建造業之工業意外個案以意外類別分析

Type of Accident 意外類別	1st Half of 2004 二零零四年上半年	1st Half of 2005 二零零五年上半年	Change 增減
Trapped in or between objects 受困於物件之內或物件之間	57 (1)	51	-6
Injured whilst lifting or carrying 提舉或搬運物件時受傷	315	244	-71
Slip, trip or fall on same level 滑倒、絆倒或在同一高度跌倒	309	288	-21
Fall of person from height 人體從高處墮下	218 (4)	190 (4)	-28
Striking against fixed or stationary object 與固定或不動的物件碰撞	211	173	-38
Striking against or struck by moving object 被移動物件或與移動物件碰撞	320 (1)	297	-23
Stepping on object 踏在物件上	11	14	3
Exposure to or contact with harmful substance 暴露於有害物質中或接觸有害物質	8	6	-2
Contact with electricity or electric discharge 觸電或接觸放出的電流	6	7	1
Trapped by collapsing or overturning object 受困於倒塌或翻側的物件	5	5 (1)	---
Struck by falling object 遭墮下的物件撞擊	72 (2)	64	-8
Struck by moving vehicle 遭移動中的車輛撞倒	14	9 (2)	-5
Contact with moving machinery or object being machined 觸及開動中的機器或觸及以機器製造中的物件	120	122 (2)	2
Drowning 遇溺	0	0	---
Exposure to fire 火警燒傷	3	5	2
Exposure to explosion 爆炸受傷	6	2	-4
Injured by hand tool 被手工具所傷	94	75	-19
Injured by fall of ground 泥土傾瀉受傷	0	0	---
Asphyxiation 窒息	0	0	---

**Industrial Accidents in Catering Industry
in 1st Half of 2005
- analysed by Type of Accident -**

二零零五年上半年飲食業之工業意外個案以意外類別分析

Type of Accident 意外類別	1st Half of 2004 二零零四年上半年	1st Half of 2005 二零零五年上半年	Change 增減
Trapped in or between objects 受困於物件之內或物件之間	59	51	-8
Injured whilst lifting or carrying 提舉或搬運物件時受傷	597	488	-109
Slip, trip or fall on same level 滑倒、絆倒或在同一高度跌倒	666	634	-32
Fall of person from height 人體從高處墮下	24	21	-3
Striking against fixed or stationary object 與固定或不動的物件碰撞	448	360	-88
Striking against or struck by moving object 被移動物件或與移動物件碰撞	284	347	63
Stepping on object 踏在物件上	2	5	3
Exposure to or contact with harmful substance 暴露於有害物質中或接觸有害物質	29	26	-3
Contact with electricity or electric discharge 觸電或接觸放出的電流	1	0	-1
Trapped by collapsing or overturning object 受困於倒塌或翻側的物件	0	0	---
Struck by falling object 遭墮下的物件撞擊	32	32	---
Struck by moving vehicle 遭移動中的車輛撞倒	21	10	-11
Contact with moving machinery or object being machined 觸及開動中的機器或觸及以機器製造中的物件	42	56	14
Drowning 遇溺	0	0	---
Exposure to fire 火警燒傷	15	11	-4
Exposure to explosion 爆炸受傷	2	1	-1
Injured by hand tool 被手工具所傷	1 200	1 067	-133
Injured by fall of ground 泥土傾瀉受傷	0	0	---
Asphyxiation 窒息	2	0	-2
Contact with hot surface or substance 觸及灼熱表面或物質	1 068	1 034	-34
Injured by animal 被動物所傷	44	41	-3
Injured in workplace violence 於工作場所暴力事件中受傷	7	0	-7
Others 其他類別	14	7	-7
Total 總計	4 557	4 191	-366

Note:

1. Industrial accidents refer to injuries and deaths arising from industrial activities in an industrial undertaking as defined under the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance. Since 1.1.1998, the number of injury cases recorded for a period indicates cases which occurred in that period.
2. Figures in brackets denote the number of fatalities.
3. The above accident figures are recorded as at 30 September 2005.

註釋:

1. 工業意外指根據《工廠及工業經營條例》須向勞工處呈報的工業經營內因工傷亡個案。由一九九八年一月一日開始，在每一時段所記錄得之數字乃指在所述時段內發生的傷亡個案。
2. 括號內的數字顯示死亡人數。
3. 上列意外數字為截至二零零五年九月三十日所記錄的數字。