

**For information on  
15 June 2006**

## **Legislative Council Panel on Manpower**

### **Occupational Safety Performance of Hong Kong in 2005**

#### **Purpose**

This paper briefs Members on Hong Kong's occupational safety performance in 2005.

#### **Background**

2. The Labour Department attaches great importance to occupational safety and health, and is committed to ensuring that risks to the safety and health of people at work are properly managed through 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 in recent years.

#### **Recent Statistics**

##### ***Occupational injuries***

4. The number of occupational injuries in all workplaces in 2005 stood at 44 267, representing a slight increase of 0.5% over the figure of 44 025 in 2004, while the injury rate per 1 000 employees decreased from 18.1 to 17.8, down by 1.7%. Compared with 2001, the number of injuries decreased by 17.6% and the injury rate fell by 17.4%. (**Table 1**)

**(Table 1) Occupational Injuries in All Workplaces**

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005 (compared with 2004)	2005 (compared with 2001)
<b>Fatal</b>	176	210	171	187	187 (0.0%)	187 (+6.3%)
<b>Non-fatal</b>	53 543	46 813	41 851	43 838	44 080 (+0.6%)	44 080 (-17.7%)
<b>Total</b>	53 719	47 023	42 022	44 025	44 267 (+0.5%)	44 267 (-17.6%)
<b>Injury Rate/ 1 000 employees</b>	21.6	19.2	17.7	18.1	17.8 (-1.7%)	17.8 (-17.4%)

5. In 2005, the sanitary and similar services, transport and related services, hotels and boarding houses as well as business services recorded some increase in their accident figures. Nevertheless, most of the accidents were of a minor nature and were mainly due to slip or trip on the same level and incorrect manual lifting or carrying. A detailed breakdown of the occupational injuries in all workplaces in 2005 by major economic activities is at **Annex 1**.

***Industrial accidents***

6. The number of industrial accidents for all sectors in 2005 stood at 16 917, representing a decrease of 3.5% over the figure of 17 533 in 2004. The accident rate per 1 000 workers also decreased from 31.5 in 2004 to 30.6 in 2005, down by 2.7%. Compared with 2001, the number of industrial accidents decreased by 40.7% and the accident rate dropped by 31.4%. (**Table 2**)

**(Table 2) Industrial Accidents in All Sectors**

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005 (compared with 2004)	2005 (compared with 2001)
<b>Fatal</b>	34	25	28	24	29 (+20.8%)	29 (-14.7%)
<b>Non-fatal</b>	28 484	22 428	17 221	17 509	16 888 (-3.5%)	16 888 (-40.7%)
<b>Total</b>	28 518	22 453	17 249	17 533	16 917 (-3.5%)	16 917 (-40.7%)
<b>Accident Rate/ 1 000 workers</b>	44.6	37.4	31.3	31.5	30.6 (-2.7%)	30.6 (-31.4%)

7. Of the 29 industrial fatalities in 2005, 25 occurred on construction sites, while the remaining four happened on container yards and other industrial establishments. Their causes were fall of person from height (16 cases), contact with electricity or electric discharge (3 cases), trapped by collapsing or overturning object (3 cases), struck by moving vehicle (2 cases), contact with moving machinery or object being machined (2 cases), striking against fixed or stationary object (1 case), striking against or struck by moving object (1 case) and exposure to or contact with harmful substance (1 case).

### *Accidents in the construction industry*

8. The safety performance of the high-risk construction industry has continued to improve. However, it still has the highest number of fatalities and accident rate. The number of industrial accidents in the construction industry decreased from 3 833 in 2004 to 3 548 in 2005, down by 7.4%. The accident rate per 1 000 workers fell slightly from 60.3 in 2004 to 59.9 in 2005, down by 0.8%. Compared with 2001, the number of industrial accidents fell by a significant 61.5% and the accident rate dropped by 47.8%. (**Table 3**)

**(Table 3) Industrial Accidents in the Construction Industry**

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005 (compared with 2004)	2005 (compared with 2001)
<b>Fatal</b>	28	24	25	17	25 (+47.1%)	25 (-10.7%)
<b>Non-fatal</b>	9 178	6 215	4 342	3 816	3 523 (-7.7%)	3 523 (-61.6%)
<b>Total</b>	9 206	6 239	4 367	3 833	3 548 (-7.4%)	3 548 (-61.5%)
<b>Accident Rate/ 1 000 workers</b>	114.6	85.2	68.1	60.3	59.9 (-0.8%)	59.9 (-47.8%)

9. For 2005, the most common types of construction accidents were striking against or struck by moving object (19.0%), slip, trip or fall on same level (18.3%) and injured whilst lifting or carrying (15.3%). A detailed breakdown by type of accident is at **Annex 2**.

### *Accidents in the catering industry*

10. The catering industry ranked top among all industries in terms of the number of accidents. The number of industrial accidents decreased from 9 410 in 2004 to 8 902 in 2005, down by 5.4%, while the accident rate per 1 000 workers decreased from 51.5 in 2004 to 47.3 in 2005, down by 8.1% (**Table 4**). Compared with 2001, the number of industrial accidents dropped by 25.3% and the accident rate fell by 23%. A detailed breakdown of the catering accidents by type of accident is at **Annex 3**.

**(Table 4) Industrial Accidents in the Catering Industry**

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005 (compared with 2004)	2005 (compared with 2001)
<b>Fatal</b>	0	0	0	0	0 (---)	0 (---)
<b>Non-fatal</b>	11 914	10 149	8 527	9 410	8 902 (-5.4%)	8 902 (-25.3%)
<b>Total</b>	11 914	10 149	8 527	9 410	8 902 (-5.4%)	8 902 (-25.3%)
<b>Accident Rate/ 1 000 workers</b>	61.5	54.7	49.6	51.5	47.3 (-8.1%)	47.3 (-23.0%)

### **The Way Forward**

11. It is encouraging that Hong Kong's occupational safety and health performance has been steadily improving over the past few years. This shows that the collective efforts of all stakeholders have paid good dividends and that there has been greater awareness of occupational safety and health at the workplace. Despite the improvements, the Labour Department will continue to develop new initiatives to meet our commitment to ensuring that risks to people at work are properly managed and controlled. These initiatives include :-

- (a) launching enforcement and publicity campaigns targeting at minor renovation and maintenance works which is increasingly a major safety concern;
- (b) heightening the safety awareness of employers and employees in the catering industry through a series of promotional and enforcement activities;

- (c) preparing new safety publications including accident case books and guidance notes on the safe use of elevated working platform;
- (d) intensifying enforcement and promotional actions against operators of container yards and cargo handling areas; and
- (e) promoting the safe use of heavy lifting equipment and load shifting machinery on sites and industrial undertakings.

Economic Development and Labour Bureau  
Labour Department  
June 2006

Occupational Injuries in All Workplaces  
in 2005  
- analysed by Major Economic Activity -二 五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		2004 二 四年		2005 二 五年		Change 增減	Percentage Change 增減率
Agriculture and Fishing	漁農業	166	(2)	148	(1)	- 18	-10.8%
Mining and Quarrying	採礦及採石業	2	(0)	2	(0)	0	0%
Manufacturing	製造業	4 258	(29)	4 110	(14)	- 148	-3.5%
Electricity and Gas	電力及燃氣業	54	(1)	65	(0)	11	20.4%
Construction	建造業	3 918	(22)	3 667	(41)	- 251	-6.4%
Wholesale & Retail Trades, Restaurants and Hotels	批發、零售、飲食及酒店業	14 224	(19)	13 926	(15)	- 298	-2.1%
Transport & related services, Storage and Communication	運輸及有關行業、倉庫 及通訊業	4 640	(27)	4 924	(33)	284	6.1%
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)	5 129	(49)	5 276	(52)	147	2.9%
Community, Social & Personal Services	社區、社會及個人服務業	11 604	(38)	12 136	(31)	532	4.6%
Activities not adequately defined	未能介定之行業	30	(0)	13	(0)	- 17	-56.7%
TOTAL	總 數	44 025	(187)	44 267	(187)	242	0.5%

## 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 31 March 2006.

## 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，在每一時段所記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 六年三月三十一日所記錄的數字。

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

**二零零五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	2004 二零零四年	2005 二零零五年	Change 增減
Trapped in or between objects 受困於物件之內或物件之間	136 (1)	113	-23
Injured whilst lifting or carrying 提舉或搬運物件時受傷	615	544	-71
Slip, trip or fall on same level 滑倒、絆倒或在同一高度跌倒	662	648	-14
Fall of person from height 人體從高處墮下	447 (8)	423 (14)	-24
Striking against fixed or stationary object 與固定或不動的物件碰撞	458	362 (1)	-96
Striking against or struck by moving object 被移動物件或與移動物件碰撞	757 (3)	674 (1)	-83
Stepping on object 踏在物件上	33	39	6
Exposure to or contact with harmful substance 暴露於有害物質中或接觸有害物質	16	21 (1)	5
Contact with electricity or electric discharge 觸電或接觸放出的電流	16 (1)	20 (1)	4
Trapped by collapsing or overturning object 受困於倒塌或翻側的物件	11 (1)	11 (3)	---
Struck by falling object 遭墮下的物件撞擊	139 (3)	151	12
Struck by moving vehicle 遭移動中的車輛撞倒	32	22 (2)	-10
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	270	290 (2)	20
Drowning 遇溺	0	0	---
Exposure to fire 火警燒傷	10	8	-2
Exposure to explosion 爆炸受傷	8	2	-6
Injured by hand tool 被手工具所傷	171	165	-6
Injured by fall of ground 泥土傾瀉受傷	0	1	1
Asphyxiation 窒息	0	0	---
Contact with hot surface or substance 觸及灼熱表面或物質	29	24	-5
Injured by animal 被動物所傷	0	2	2
Injured in workplace violence 於工作場所暴力事件中受傷	0	0	---
Others 其他類別	23	28	5
Total 總計	3 833 (17)	3 548 (25)	-285

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

**二零零五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	2004 二零零四年	2005 二零零五年	Change 增減
Trapped in or between objects 受困於物件之內或物件之間	117	104	-13
Injured whilst lifting or carrying 提舉或搬運物件時受傷	1 179	1 137	-42
Slip, trip or fall on same level 滑倒、絆倒或在同一高度跌倒	1 332	1 255	-77
Fall of person from height 人體從高處墮下	51	43	-8
Striking against fixed or stationary object 與固定或不動的物件碰撞	927	757	-170
Striking against or struck by moving object 被移動物件或與移動物件碰撞	660	683	23
Stepping on object 踏在物件上	12	13	1
Exposure to or contact with harmful substance 暴露於有害物質中或接觸有害物質	73	63	-10
Contact with electricity or electric discharge 觸電或接觸放出的電流	3	0	-3
Trapped by collapsing or overturning object 受困於倒塌或翻側的物件	0	2	2
Struck by falling object 遭墮下的物件撞擊	59	58	-1
Struck by moving vehicle 遭移動中的車輛撞倒	46	36	-10
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	102	98	-4
Drowning 遇溺	0	0	---
Exposure to fire 火警燒傷	31	14	-17
Exposure to explosion 爆炸受傷	5	1	-4
Injured by hand tool 被手工具所傷	2 496	2 307	-189
Injured by fall of ground 泥土傾瀉受傷	0	0	---
Asphyxiation 窒息	0	0	---
Contact with hot surface or substance 觸及灼熱表面或物質	2 189	2 216	27
Injured by animal 被動物所傷	96	97	1
Injured in workplace violence 於工作場所暴力事件中受傷	0	0	---
Others 其他類別	32	18	-14
Total 總計	9 410	8 902	-508

## Notes:

- 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.
- Figures in brackets denote the number of fatalities.
- The above accident figures are recorded as at 31 March 2006.

## 註釋:

- 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。
- 括號內的數字顯示死亡人數。
- 上列意外數字為截至二零零六年三月三十一日所紀錄的數字。