

## WORKPLACE INJURIES AND OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES

### Source of Data

Data on factories, workplace injuries and occupational diseases are compiled by the Occupational Safety and Health Division of the Ministry of Manpower in the administration of legal requirements under the Workplace Safety and Health Act. Data on factories are collected from employers and occupiers when they apply for factory notification or factory registration. Data on workplace injuries and occupational diseases are compiled based on incident reports made by employers, occupiers and medical practitioners in the fulfilment of their obligations under the Workplace Safety and Health (Incident Reporting) Regulations which was enacted on 1 March 2006.

The Occupational Safety and Health Division monitors and enforces safety and health standards in workplaces. It also promotes self-regulation in workplaces and the management of safety and health through industry ownership and good risk management.

### Coverage

The types of workplace injuries and occupational diseases covered in the reported statistics include the following:

- Workplace injuries sustained by employees and resulting in more than 3 consecutive days of medical leave;
- Workplace injuries sustained by employees and resulting in at least 24 hours of hospitalisation;
- Workplace accidents resulting in the death of employees, self-employed persons and persons not at work;
- Workplace accidents resulting in the injury of self-employed persons and persons not at work who have to be taken to the hospital for treatment; and
- Occupational diseases listed in the Third Schedule of the Workplace Safety and Health Act.

### Concepts and Definitions

A **workplace accident** is an unexpected and unplanned occurrence, arising out of or in connection with work which results in one or more workers incurring a personal injury, disease (acute) or death.

A **workplace injury** is any personal injury, disease (acute) or death resulting from a workplace accident.

An **occupational disease** is a disease (chronic) contracted as a result of an exposure over a period of time to risk factors arising from work activity.

The **workplace injury rate** refers to the number of fatal and non-fatal workplace injuries per 100,000 persons employed.

The **workplace fatality rate** refers to the number of workplace fatalities per 100,000 persons employed.

The **workplace accident frequency rate** refers to the number of workplace accidents per million man-hours worked.

The **workplace accident severity rate** refers to the number of man-days lost to workplace accidents per million man-hours worked.

An **occupational disease incidence** refers to the number of chronic occupational diseases confirmed by the Ministry of Manpower per 100,000 persons employed.

The degree of disablement of a workplace injury is defined as:

- **fatal** if it results in death;
- **permanent disablement** if it is an injury, other than fatal, which results in the complete loss or loss of use of any member or part of a member of the body; and
- **temporary disablement** if it is an injury, other than fatal and permanent disablement, which results in more than 3 days of medical leave, or at least 24 hours of hospitalisation.

A **confirmed case of occupational disease** is one where there is definite evidence that the worker suffers from a disease which is related to his occupation.