

Healthcare Sector Injury and Illness Statistics

The healthcare sector accounted for 13.5% of all workplace injuries reported to the HSA in 2008

Injuries reported to the HSA by economic sector 2008 (HSA)		
Economic Sector (NACE Rev.2)	Number of reports	Reports %
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	97	1.3
Mining and Quarrying	80	1.0
Manufacturing	1592	20.8
Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply	64	0.8
Water Supply; Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities	120	1.6
Construction	1178	15.4
Wholesale and Retail trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	754	9.9
Transportation and Storage	868	11.4
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	170	2.2
Information and Communication	96	1.3
Financial and Insurance Activities	148	2.0
Real Estate Activities	4	0.1
Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	49	0.7
Administrative and Support Service Activities	95	1.3
Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	936	12.2
Education	97	1.3
Human Health and Social Work Activities	1034	13.5
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	35	0.5
Other Service Activities	238	3.1
Activities of Extra Territorial Organisations and Bodies	3	0.1
Total	7658	100

Source: HSA Summary of Workplace Injury, Illness and Fatality Statistics 2007-2008.

Number and rate of total injuries in the health and social work sector relative to the number and rate of total injuries in all sectors 2003 - 2007

Number and rate of total injuries in the health and social work sector 2003–2007 (CSO)										
CSO Quarterly National Household Surveys: These are sample surveys and accordingly the data are estimates and liable to sampling error.										
	Number injuries 2003	Rate per 1000 2003	Number injuries 2004	Rate per 1000 2004	Number injuries 2005	Rate per 1000 2005	Number injuries 2006	Rate per 1000 2006	Number injuries 2007	Rate per 1000 2007
Health and social work	6 000	33.9	5 200	28.0	5 500	28.0	10 000	47.1	4 702	21
All sectors	56 100	30.6	52 900	27.7	57 800	28.9	58 400	28.1	64 206	30.1

Source: HSA Summary of Workplace Injury, Illness and Fatality Statistics 2006-2007 & 2007-2008.

Reported data from employers in 2008 indicates three main accident triggers in the healthcare sector – manual handling; slips, trips and falls; and shock, fright and violence. Details of reported incidents within the healthcare sector for 2008 are shown below.

Incidents in Healthcare Sector (NACE Code Q) reported to the HSA in 2008		
Type	All Healthcare	
	No.	%
Manual handling*	378	36.6
Fall of Person	224	21.7
Shock, Fright, Violence	144	13.9
Other triggers not listed	93	9.0
Body movement no physical stress	72	7.0
Loss of Control of an Item	63	6.1
Break Fall or Collapse of Material	28	2.7
Overflow Leak or Emission	26	2.5
Electrical problem, explosion, fire	6	0.6
Total	1034	100.0

* physical strain to musculoskeletal system, due to lifting/carrying; pushing/pulling; twisting/turning.

NACE Revised classification 2008 – Code Q=Human and Social Work Activities

Available statistics indicate that there have been relatively high rates of illnesses amongst workers in the healthcare sector.

Number and rate of total illnesses in the health and social work sector 2003–2007 (CSO)										
CSO Quarterly National Household Surveys: These are sample surveys and accordingly the data are estimates and liable to sampling error.										
	Number illnesses 2003	Rate per 1000 2003	Number illnesses 2004	Rate per 1000 2004	Number illnesses 2005	Rate per 1000 2005	Number illnesses 2006	Rate per 1000 2006	Number illnesses 2007	Rate per 1000 2007
Health and social work	5200	29.3	9500	51.2	7600	38.7	12800	60.3	8560	38.2
All sectors	48100	26.2	58700	30.8	63900	32.0	71400	34.4	59273	27.8

Source: HSA Summary of Workplace Injury, Illness and Fatality Statistics 2006-2007 & CSO