Workplace fatal injuries in Great Britain, 2020

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111
Workers killed in 2019/20 (RIDDOR)

Fatal injuries to workers by main industry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Workers Killed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, forestry and fishing</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport and storage</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale, retail, motor repair; Accommodation and food</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin &amp; support services</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fatal injuries to workers by age

- Aged 60 plus: 30
- Aged 16-59: 80
- Age not known: 1

Main kinds of fatal accident for workers

- Falls from a height: 29
- Struck by moving vehicle: 20
- Struck by moving object: 18
- Trapped by something collapsing/overturning: 15
- Contact with moving machinery: 11

Rate of fatal injury per 100,000 workers

Data source RIDDOR: Reporting of Injuries Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences regulations. Figures for 2019/20 are published as provisional at this stage and will be finalised July 2021.

Members of the public were killed due to work related activities in 2019/20 (excluding those that died in Local Authority enforced workplaces – typically around 12-16 deaths per year)
Introduction

This report provides headline numbers on workplace fatal injuries that were reported to enforcing authorities in 2019/20. It includes both fatal injuries to workers and to members of the public, though numbers of deaths to members of the public do not include those that occurred in Local Authority enforced workplaces for 2019/20. The 2019/20 figures are currently provisional and will be finalised in July 2021 to take account of any necessary adjustments (including accounting for deaths to members of the public in Local Authority enforced workplaces). In tables and chart headings, 2019/20 is marked as ‘p’ for clarity.

Fatal injuries are thankfully rare events. There is a degree of chance and randomness to the annual count resulting in an element of natural variation from one year’s count to the next. To allow for this natural variation, alongside figures for 2019/20, this report also presents the annual average estimate for the five years 2015/16-2019/20, which reduces the effect of year-on-year fluctuations and gives a more stable current picture.

The figures make up part of a long running series enabling both short and long-term comparisons of change. The information includes only those cases of fatal injury that the enforcing authorities have judged as meeting the reporting criteria for workplace injuries as set out in the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR). Two notable exclusions from these statistics are fatal diseases (including COVID-19) and fatal accidents on non-rail transport systems. (See Annex 1 for more details). Also, as noted above, the count of deaths to members of the public for 2019/20 excludes those that occurred in Local Authority enforced workplaces. We have been unable to verify these cases with Local Authorities given the pressures on them arising from the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic (numbers of deaths to workers in 2019/20 are unaffected and include deaths in all settings).
Fatal injuries to workers

Headline figures

A total of 111 workers were killed at work in Great Britain in 2019/20, a decrease of 38 from the previous year and is the lowest annual number on record.

It is difficult to assess what impact the current COVID-19 pandemic has had on the annual number of deaths. Statistics on output of the UK economy show that COVID-19 had a large impact on output of the UK economy in March, but also anecdotal evidence of some small effects in February too. The number of workers killed at work was also lower in both these months compared to recent years though, in statistical terms, numbers are small and subject to fluctuation.

Excluding deaths in February and March, the number of worker deaths for the first ten months of the year was lower than comparable periods in recent years (99 in 2019/20 compared with 123 in 2018/19 and an annual average of 117 in the previous five years), though it is possible that the difference can be explained by natural variation in the figures. However looking over the full year, the number of deaths is statistically significantly lower suggesting that COVID-19 has had some impact on reducing numbers further. In statistical terms the number of fatalities has remained broadly level in recent years and the fall seen in the current year, while striking, may not reflect any major shift in the inherent dangerousness of workplaces.

Figure 1: Fatal injuries to workers: GB 2008/09 - 2019/20p

![Graph showing fatal injuries to workers from 2008/09 to 2019/20 with annual average 137.]

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Injuries by industry

There are two ways of looking at fatality numbers. The first is to look at the absolute count. On this basis, Construction and Agriculture, forestry and fishing tend to come out worst as they account for the greatest number of fatalities each year.

Figure 2: Number of fatal injuries by main industry group, 2019/20p and annual average for 2015/16-2019/20p

The number of fatal injuries in 2019/20 for many of the main industry sectors is lower than compared with the annual average over the last five years. However, numbers can be prone to year-on-year fluctuations.

- Construction is one of the few industry sectors which saw an increase in the number of fatal injuries to workers in 2019/20, with the number of deaths in 2019/20 (40) above the low of 31 seen in the previous year. However, annual numbers have fluctuated in recent years. Over the last five years, the number of deaths has ranged between 31 and 47, with a 5 year average of 37 deaths per year.

- In Agriculture, forestry and fishing the number of fatal injuries in 2019/20 fell to the lowest level on record (20), though the sector still accounts for around 20% of all worker deaths.

- The number of fatal injuries in manufacturing has fluctuated in recent years, and while the number of deaths in 2019/20 is at the lower end of what has been seen in recent years (15), it is at the same level as in 2017/18.

- Around 10% of all fatal injuries to workers occur in the transportation and storage sector. There was a reduction in number of worker deaths across the sector in 2019/20 compared to the previous year (11 in 2019/20 compared with 16 in 2018/19), though numbers are prone to annual fluctuations.

3 Industry is defined using the 2007 Standard Industrial Classification. See annex 1 for more details.
The second approach of looking at fatality numbers is to consider the **fatal injury rate** in terms of the number of fatalities per 100,000 workers employed.

**Figure 3**: Rate of fatal injuries by selected main industry group (per 100,000 workers), 2019/20p and annual average for 2015/16-2019/20

Based on the annual average rates for 2015/16-2019/20 (as this reduces the effect of year-on-year fluctuations and gives a more stable picture):

- Agriculture, forestry and fishing and Waste and recycling continue to come out worst, with a rate of fatal injury some 18 times as high as the average across all industries.

- The rate of fatal injury in Construction, while around 4 times as high as the average rate across all industries, is considerably less than the rate in either Agriculture, forestry and fishing or Waste and recycling, despite accounting for a greater number of cases than these sectors.

- The Manufacturing and the Transportation and storage sector have a rate of fatal injury around twice the average rate across all industries.

- Although not shown in figure 3 above, the rate of fatal injury in Mining and quarrying is around four times as high as the average rate across all industries and broadly similar to that seen in Construction, though it should be noted that there have been no deaths to workers in the Mining and quarrying sector in either of the last two years.

- While the combined 'Wholesale, retail, motor repair; Accommodation and food services' sector accounted for around 7% of fatal injuries between 2015/16 and 2019/20, in terms of rate the overall sector is relatively low risk with an injury rate of around one third the all industry rate. However, there will be variation in risk across activities within the sector.

For more details of fatal injuries by main industry sector, see Table 1, [www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/tables/ridfatal-20.xlsx?2020](http://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/tables/ridfatal-20.xlsx?2020)
Injuries by accident kind

Over three-quarters of fatal injuries in both 2019/20 and the combined five-year period 2015/16-2019/20 were accounted for by just five different accident kinds (see figure 4 below). Falls from a height, being struck by a moving vehicle and being struck by a moving, including flying or falling, object continue as the three main causes of fatal injury, between them accounting for over half of all fatal injuries each year since at least 2001/02.

Figure 4: Number of fatal injuries to workers by accident kind, 2019/20p and annual average for 2015/16-2019/20p

- In 2019/20, 29 fatal injuries to workers were due to falls from a height, accounting for around a quarter of all worker deaths over the year, a similar proportion to the latest five years combined.

- Being struck by a moving vehicle accounted for 20 fatal injuries to workers in 2019/20, representing just under 20% of the total number of deaths over the year. This proportion has changed little in recent years.

- Sixteen percent (18) of the fatal injuries in 2019/20 were caused by being struck by a moving, including flying or falling, object, a similar proportion as for the 5-year period 2015/16-2019/20 combined.

- The 18 fatal injury cases in the Other kind of accident category in 2019/20 are made up of a range of different accident kinds including (but not limited to):
  
  - Slips, trips or falls on same level; Exposure to, or contact with, a harmful substance; Exposure to an explosion; Injured by an animal (2 in each kind category)
  
  - Strike against something fixed or stationary; Exposure to fire; Contact with electricity or electrical discharge (1 in each kind category).

For more details of fatal injuries by accident kind, see Table 3, www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/tables/ridfatal-20.xlsx?2020
**Injuries by gender and age**

Fatal injuries to workers are predominately to male workers. In 2019/20, 108 (97%) of all worker fatalities were to male workers, a similar proportion to earlier years.

In terms of age, 27% of fatal injuries in 2019/20 were to workers aged 60 and over, even though such workers made up only around 10% of the workforce.

**Figure 5:** Number of fatal injuries by age group, 2019/20p

![Figure 5: Number of fatal injuries by age group, 2019/20p](image)

Figure 6 below shows the fatal injury rate by age group for the period 2015/16-2019/20. This clearly shows how the rate of fatal injury increases with age, with workers aged 60-64 having a rate around twice as high as the all ages rate, and workers aged 65 and over a rate more than four times as high as the all ages rate. Almost all the main industry sectors show an age gradient in fatal injury rate.

**Figure 6:** Rate of fatal injuries by age group (per 100,000 workers), annual average for 2015/16-2019/20p

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16-19</td>
<td>0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>0.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>0.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>0.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>0.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-59</td>
<td>0.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-64</td>
<td>0.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>1.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>0.42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Injuries by employment status

Around 30% of fatal injuries in both 2019/20 and the five year-period 2015/16-2019/20, were to self-employed workers working mostly in Agriculture, forestry and fishing and Construction but also in other sectors including (but not restricted to) Manufacturing, and Administrative and support service activities (such as renting and leasing activities and services to buildings and landscape activities).

By industry, the proportion of fatal injuries to employees and the self-employed varies considerably, to some extent reflecting the relative make-up of the working population between employees and self-employed.

Figure 7: Fatal injury by employment status for selected industries, 2015/16-2019/20p

However, some of the difference in the proportion of fatal injuries to the self-employed by industry is due to variations in the rate of fatal injury to these workers. Overall, the fatal injury rate for the self-employed is more than double that for employees. This increased rate for self-employed workers is seen particularly in the Agriculture, forestry and fishing sector and Administration and Support service activities. However, in construction and manufacturing, there is more parity in the rate of fatal injury between employees and self-employed workers.

Figure 8: Rate of fatal injuries to employees and self-employed workers (per 100,000 employees / self-employed) for selected industries, 2015/16 - 2019/20p

For more details of fatal injuries by employment status, see www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/tables/ridfatal-20.xlsx?2020
Injuries by country within GB

Figure 9 below shows the country or region where the accident occurred for fatalities in 2019/20. The number of fatalities in some regions is relatively small, hence susceptible to considerable variation. Accidents involving multiple fatalities can also affect annual totals. Therefore Figure 9 also shows the annual average number of deaths for the five-year period 2015/16-2019/20 as this reduces the effect of year-on-year fluctuations.

Figure 9: Number of fatal injuries by country and region within GB, 2019/20p and annual average for 2015/16 - 2019/20p (annual average number in brackets)

- The number of deaths in Scotland has seen large fluctuation in each of the last 2 years – with a high of 29 in 2018/19 and a low of 10 in 2019/20. The annual average for the last 5 years is 18.
- There were 5 fatal injuries to workers in 2019/20 in Yorkshire and the Humber, the lowest on record and compares to an annual average of 13 for the 5 year period 2015/16-2019/20.

In terms of fatal injury rate, England consistently has a lower injury rate than either Scotland or Wales. However, injury rates are strongly influenced by variations in the mix of industries and occupations and in England there are a greater proportion of people working in lower risk jobs than in Scotland and Wales. The country injury rate does not make allowance for the varying composition of the workforce between these three nations.

For more details of fatal injuries by country and region within GB, see Table 5, www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/tables/ridfatal-20.xlsx?2020
Injury comparison with other countries

Since 1990, the statistical authority for the European Union (Eurostat) has worked with member states on a harmonisation programme to give consistency to workplace injury statistics across the EU. To take account of differing industrial backgrounds across member states, Eurostat publishes industry standardised incidence rates. The standardised rate accounts for variation in industry composition across EU countries. (See the appendix in www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/european/european-comparisons.pdf for further details on the standardisation process).

The UK consistently has one of the lowest rates of fatal injury across the EU.

- In 2017 the standardised rate, at 0.52 per 100,000 employees, was one of the lowest of all European countries and compares favourably with other large economies such as France, Germany, Italy, Spain and Poland.

- Similarly, the UK three-year average rate for 2014-2016 (0.53 per 100,000 employees) was the lowest of all EU member states.

- Standardised rates published by Eurostat are based on fatalities occurring across all main industry sectors (excluding the transport sector). Whilst road traffic accidents should not be included in these rates, their removal may not always be complete. This should be considered when reviewing rates for individual countries.

Figure 10: Standardised incidence rates (per 100,000 employees) of fatal injuries at work for 2017

Global comparisons, for example, with the USA, Asia etc, are not available due to differences in definitions of workplace accidents and reporting systems.

For more details see www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/european/table1.xlsx
Potential impact of COVID-19 on number of fatal injuries in 2019/20

2020 has been marked by the COVID-19 pandemic and it has impacted on all corners of life, both in Great Britain and around the world. In Great Britain we entered a period of lockdown on 23rd March 2020 though there was some disruption to life in the weeks leading up to this. This has had a major impact on the UK economy. A report by ONS\(^4\) on the impact on UK output shows that GDP fell by 5.8% in the month of March, while in February although GDP grew by 0.1% over the quarter there was some anecdotal evidence that there were both "some small positive and negative indirect effects [of COVID-19 on the economy] … although the number of negative impacts was greater".\(^5\)

Figure 11 below shows numbers of worker deaths by month in 2019/20 compared against other recent time periods. With the exception of May, October and January the number of worker deaths each month was generally lower than compared with either 2018/19 or the annual average for the previous 5-year period, though it should be appreciated that, statistically speaking monthly numbers are low and subject to considerable natural fluctuation.

Even without COVID-19, 2019/20 was on track for a lower number of deaths over the year compared with other recent years. However, the number of deaths in both February and March were particularly low compared to other recent time periods and this coincides with the time that COVID-19 was starting to have an impact on the GB economy. While it is not possible to say what the number of deaths in February and March would have been in the absence of COVID-19, there is certainly the distinct possibility that the number of deaths to workers was affected by the impact of COVID-19 on the economy.

Table 1 shows how the number of deaths in 2019/20 for the periods April–January, April–February and April–March compares with other recent periods. All three periods show the number of deaths in 2019/20 to be lower than comparable time periods in other recent years. However, the difference in numbers for the pre-COVID-19 period April–January is not statistically significant and can possibly be explained by natural year-on-year fluctuations. In contrast, the difference in numbers for the full year are statistically significant suggesting that there has been a real change in 2019/20, though it is likely that the impact of COVID-19 will have contributed to this.

\(^4\) Office for National Statistics: Coronavirus and the impact on output in the UK economy [www.ons.gov.uk/economy/grossdomesticproductgdp/articles/coronavirusandtheimpactonoutputintheukconomy/march2020]

Table 1: Number of fatal injuries to workers in Great Britain for the period April-January, April-February and April-March for recent time periods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Period</th>
<th>Number of worker deaths</th>
<th>Annual average 2014/15-2018/19</th>
<th>Was the change in number in 2019/20 statistically significant ^</th>
<th>Annual average 2014/15-2018/19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April - January</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April-February</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April-March</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

^ Tests of statistical significance at the 95% confidence level
**Longer term trends**

Despite long term reductions in the number of workers killed by work activities, each year such cases continue, with 111 such deaths in 2019/20. This number compares with 220 twenty years ago (1999/2000) and 495 in 1981 (prior to 1981 only fatal injury numbers to employees were reported to enforcing authorities).

**Figure 12:** Number of fatal injuries to workers in Great Britain, 1981-2019/20p

As described in earlier sections, the 111 fatal injuries in 2019/20 represents a decrease of 38 fatalities from 2018/19 and is the lowest annual number on record. However numbers for 2019/20 are potentially affected by impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the GB economy. While the overall number for 2019/20 is statistically significantly lower than in other recent years, it is likely that the impact of COVID-19 will have contributed to this. Comparing the number of fatal injuries for the pre-COVID period months April-January supports this, showing that while the number of fatal injuries are lower than in recent years, the difference is not statistically significant and can possibly be explained by natural variation in the figures.

By natural variation we mean that if we had identical conditions between two years; identical people doing identical jobs in identical industries working in identical conditions, the number of fatalities would not necessarily be the same. This is because the final total is at least partly related to chance and randomness. Examining the causal factors behind individual fatal accidents, it is often found that an unfortunate set of chance events have occurred together with shortcomings in safety precautions. Annual counts of fatalities can also be influenced by multiple fatalities; that is one incident resulting in more than one death.

Taking employment levels into account, the 111 fatalities in 2019/20 gives rise to a fatal injury rate of 0.34 deaths per 100,000 workers. When considering trends over time it is preferable to consider the rate of injury rather than just the number of injuries as the rate accounts for changes in the numbers in employment between years. Like the fatal injury number, the rate for 2019/20 is similarly potentially affected by COVID-2019. Despite the fall in rate in 2019/20, the long-term picture for the fatal injury rate is similar to that for fatal injury numbers: a long-term downward trend but has been broadly flat in recent years.

**Figure 13:** Rate of fatal injuries to workers in Great Britain, 1981-2019/20p

Fatal injuries to members of the public

Fifty one members of the public were killed in 2019/20 as a result of a work-connected accident in HSE enforced workplaces and a further 41 occurred on railways (enforced by the Office for Road and Rail). No data is currently available on the number of such deaths in Local Authority (LA) enforced workplaces in 2019/20 as we have been unable to verify these cases with LAs during the current COVID-19 pandemic. Typically, in recent years the number of such deaths has ranged between 12 and 16 deaths annually.

Of the 51 deaths in HSE enforced workplaces, around two-thirds (33) occurred in the Health and social work sector, all in Scotland and Wales (since 2015/16 the Care Quality Commission enforce in this sector in England. Patient and service user deaths in CQC enforced workplaces are not included in the HSE count of deaths to members of the public). A further five deaths were recorded against Public Administration and 4 in Construction.

Comparison of numbers between years is complicated by recent changes in reporting requirements. Since October 2013, the requirement to report suicides to members of the public on railways (which accounted for a high proportion of railway deaths) was removed. And as detailed above, since 2015/16, the fatality figure no longer includes ‘patient and service users’ deaths in England for premises registered with the Care Quality Commission. Previously these statistics were recorded as member of the public deaths in Health and social work. This year, we also have the additional issue of lack of data for the current year in LA enforced workplaces.

To get an indication of changes in work-related deaths to members of the public, the chart below considers work-related deaths to members of the public in HSE enforced workplaces excluding those that occurred in the Health and social work sector in England. This shows that over the last two decades the number of such deaths has fluctuated each year, with no clear trend.

**Figure 14**: Number of work-related deaths to member of the public in HSE enforced workplaces, excluding deaths in health and social care in England: GB 2001/02 - 2019/20p

ANNEX 1: Sources and definitions

Coverage of fatal injury numbers

Fatal injuries included in this report are those that the relevant enforcing authority (namely HSE, Local authorities or the Office of Rail and Road) have judged as reportable under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR).

Certain types of work-related injury are not reportable under RIDDOR, hence excluded from these figures. Particular exclusions include:

- Fatal accidents involving workers travelling on a public highway (a 'road traffic accident'). Such incidents are enforced by the police and reported to the Department for Transport. Those killed whilst commuting (travelling from home to work, and vice versa) are also excluded. For road accident statistics, see www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-transport/series/road-accidents-and-safety-statistics
- Fatal accidents involving workers travelling by air or sea. These incidents are the responsibility of the Air Accident Investigation Branch and Marine Accident Investigation Branch of the Department for Transport and reported accordingly;
- Fatalities to members of the armed forces on duty at the time of incident;
- Fatal injuries at work due to 'natural causes', often heart attacks or strokes, unless brought on by trauma due to the accident.

Fatal injury statistics presented in this report also exclude deaths from occupational diseases (including COVID-19). Typically, for many occupational diseases, death occurs many years after first exposure to the causative agent. The asbestos-related cancer mesothelioma is one of the few examples where deaths due to an occupational disease can be counted directly. There were 2,446 such deaths in GB in 2018 - see www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/causdis/asbestos-related-disease.pdf. Other occupational deaths usually have to be estimated rather than counted. Each year around 13,000 deaths from occupational lung disease and cancer are estimated to have been caused by past exposure, primarily to chemicals and dust, at work. (This estimate includes the count of mesothelioma deaths).

Provisional nature of the latest statistics

On first publication, RIDDOR data is classified as provisional and marked with a 'p' suffix. The following year data are finalised and marked as ‘r’ (revised). The revised (finalised) figures for fatal injuries can go down as well as up, by up to +/-3% on finalisation for fatal injuries to workers. The change from provisional to final usually reflects more up-to-date information following the detailed investigations of these incidents, but also Regulation 6 of RIDDOR covers situations where someone dies of their injuries within a year of their accident. The finalised figure for 2018/19 is 149 revised from 147.

Table 2: Differences in provisional and finalised counts of fatal injuries to workers, 2015/16-2019/20p

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Provisional figure</th>
<th>Revised finalised figure</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019/20p</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018/19r</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>+2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017/18</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>+3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Fatal injury rates**

Differences in the size of the workforce will impact on comparisons of the number of fatalities, both over time and between one group and another within a year (e.g. between different industry groups). In order to make robust comparisons, it is important to consider the rate of fatal injury. The rate is constructed by dividing the count of fatal injuries by the employment estimate. This is then multiplied by a factor of 100,000 to give a rate per 100,000 workers, in line with international standards. The source of employment data used to construct the injury rates from 2004/05 onwards is the Annual Population Survey (APS).

**Statistical significance**

The total fatal injury count is subject to a degree of chance and randomness; if exactly the same conditions prevail in two different years then it is likely that the annual count will differ due to natural variation. We use tests of statistical significance at the 95% confidence level to judge whether a difference between years is likely to be explained by natural variation alone or whether it represents a statistically significant difference. (Note statistical significance should not be confused with the significance of each injury. Every casualty is a tragedy and has both a social cost and a personal cost to those directly affected).

For more information see [www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/sources.pdf](http://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/sources.pdf)
**Industry definitions**

The table below presents the 2007 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes used to define the top-level industry groupings presented in this report.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SIC Code</th>
<th>Industry Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section A</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section B</td>
<td>Mining and quarrying</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section C</td>
<td>Manufacture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section D</td>
<td>Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section E</td>
<td>Water Supply, Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Division 38</strong></td>
<td><em>- of which waste and recycling</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section F</td>
<td>Construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section G, I</td>
<td>Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; accommodation and food service activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section H</td>
<td>Transport and storage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section J-N</td>
<td>Communication, business services and finance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section N</strong></td>
<td><em>- of which Administrative and support services</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section O-Q</td>
<td>Public administration; education; human health and social work activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section R-U</td>
<td>Arts, entertainment and recreation; all other service activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more details of what is included in these SIC codes, please see the [2007 Standard Industrial Classification](www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/).
National Statistics

National Statistics status means that statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value. They are produced in compliance with the Code of Practice for Statistics, and awarded National Statistics status following assessment and compliance checks by the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR). The last compliance check of these statistics was in 2013.

It is Health and Safety Executive’s responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected by National Statistics. If we become concerned about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, we will discuss any concerns with the OSR promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained and reinstated when standards are restored. Details of OSR reviews undertaken on these statistics, quality improvements, and other information noting revisions, interpretation, user consultation and use of these statistics is available from www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/about.htm

An account of how the figures are used for statistical purposes can be found at www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/sources.htm.

For information regarding the quality guidelines used for statistics within HSE see www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/about/quality-guidelines.htm

A revisions policy and log can be seen at www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/about/revisions/

Additional data tables can be found at www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/tables/

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