



CHAPTER 2

INFORMATION ON WORK INJURIES IN THAILAND

2.1 Work Injuries in Thailand, 2000

Pursuant to the Workmen's Compensation Act (1994), employers must report to the officers for any work injury occurred. According to the WCF data, the work injury rate in Thailand has increased from 25,568 cases in 1980 to as high as 245,616 cases in 1996. During the years 1997-1999, the rate of work injury decreased before increased again in 2000. The minimum work injury rate is 16.99 per 1,000 workers in 1997 and increased to a maximum of 46.69 per 1,000 workers in 1993. (Appendix 1, Table 1.1)

In 2000, there were 179,566 work injury cases, increased by 4.4% from 1999. From the statistics, there were 620 death cases, accounting for 0.34% of all injury, with an average of 52 cases per month. Permanent total disability accounts for 0.01%, while permanent partial disability is 1.96%. The majority of work injuries resulting in temporary disability has an average of 14,618 cases per month. (Table 2.1)

Table 2.1: Work injuries in Thailand classified by severity, 2000

Severity	No. of case	Percentage	Cases/month
Death	620	0.34	52
Permanent total disability	16	0.01	1
Permanent partial disability	3,516	1.96	293
Temporary disability			
> 3 days	48,338	26.92	4,028
≤ 3 days	127,076	70.77	10,590
Total	179,566	100.0	14,964

Source: The Office of Workmen's Compensation Fund, 2001

Considering the statistics of work injuries in 2000 by province, Bangkok accounted for the highest share at 24.54% of injuries, followed by Samut Prakan and Samut Sakhon at 22.96% and 9.24%, respectively. (Appendix 1, Table 1.3)

In view of work injury rate by province, it was found that Samut Prakan has the highest rate of 7.84%, followed by Samut Sakhon, Nakhon Sawan, and Nakhon Pathom which the rate were 6.41%, 5.23% and 5.20%, respectively. (Appendix 1, Table 1.4)

2.2 Work Injuries by Area and Severity

Considering work injuries by area and severity, Bangkok's surrounding vicinity accounts for 75,092 cases, representing 41.82% of every injury. Work injuries in the Northeast have only 3.2% of all cases. The death cases in Bangkok were 161, representing 25.97% of all deaths. (Table 2.2)

Table 2.2: Work injuries in Thailand by area and severity in 2000

Area	Death	Permanent disability		Temporary disability		Total	%
		total	partial	>3 days	≤3 days		
Bangkok	161	4	573	11,079	32,251	44,068	25.54
Bangkok's surrounding vicinity	110	4	1,710	17,681	55,587	75,092	41.82
Central	134	3	760	9,937	23,966	34,800	19.38
North	60	3	159	2,516	5,066	7,804	4.35
Northeast	80	1	147	1,851	3,666	5,745	3.20
South	75	1	167	5,274	6,540	12,057	6.71
Nationwide	620	16	3,516	48,338	127,076	179,566	100.0

Source: The Office of Workmen's Compensation Fund, 2001

2.3 Work Injuries by Severity and by Age Group

Considering the age range of work injury cases, most of injured workers were at the age ranging 20-24 years, followed by those in the age ranging 25-29 years, and 30-34 years, representing 25.57%, 24.75% and 17.17%, respectively. Death cases for workers at the age ranging 25-29 years amounted to 145 cases, accounting for 23.39%. For permanent partial disability, it was reported that 22.95% of all cases were workers at the age ranging 25-29 years. The temporary disability in the age group of 20-24 years accounted for about 25% of all temporary disability cases. (Table 2.3)

Table 2.3: Work injuries in Thailand by severity and by age group in 2000

Age group	Death	Permanent disability		Temporary disability		Total	
		total	partial	> 3 days	≤ 3 days	case	%
< 12	1	0	1	15	37	54	0.03
13-14	1	0	2	4	25	32	0.02
15-19	27	0	381	4,663	11,242	16,313	9.08
20-24	90	4	805	11,485	33,530	45,914	25.57
25-29	145	3	807	10,839	32,642	44,436	24.75
30-34	101	3	605	8,086	22,042	30,837	17.17
35-39	103	4	423	5,618	13,402	19,550	10.89
40-44	49	1	217	3,656	7,504	11,427	6.36
45-49	51	0	143	2,150	3,908	6,252	3.48
50-54	31	1	67	1,071	1,764	2,934	1.63
55-59	9	0	34	484	616	1,143	0.64
≥ 60	12	0	31	267	364	674	0.38
Total	620	16	3,516	48,338	127,076	179,566	100.0

Source: The Office of Workmen's Compensation Fund, 2001

2.4 Work Injuries by Area, Severity and Age Group

The statistics of work injuries in Bangkok by severity and age group show that there were 161 death cases, 4 permanent total disability cases, 573 partial disability cases and 43,330 temporary disability cases. The age of most of the injured workers ranges between 20-29 years, representing 48.62% of all injuries. Most of death cases were in age group 25-29 years, followed by those aged 30-34 years and 35-39 years, representing 28.57%, 17.39% and 17.39%, respectively. Most of permanent partial disability cases were at the age ranging 25-29 years and 20-24 years, representing 24.78% and 21.64%, respectively. (Table 2.4)

Table 2.4: Work injuries in Bangkok by severity and age group in 2000

Age group	Death	Permanent disability		Temporary disability		Total
		total	partial	> 3 days	≤ 3 days	
<14	1	0	0	3	29	33
15-19	8	0	72	1,087	3,091	4,258
20-24	20	2	124	2,507	8,163	10,816
25-29	46	0	142	2,450	7,973	10,611
30-34	28	0	103	1,921	5,470	7,522
35-39	28	2	64	1,283	3,578	4,955
40-44	13	0	30	900	2,026	2,969
45-49	10	0	21	505	1,119	1,655
50-54	6	0	5	243	499	753
55-59	1	0	6	122	197	326
60+	0	0	6	58	106	170
Total	161	4	573	11,079	32,251	44,068

Source: The Office of Workmen's Compensation Fund, 2001

The statistics of work injuries in Bangkok's surrounding vicinity by age group and severity reveal that there were 110 death cases, 4 permanent total disability cases, 1710 partial disability cases, and 73,268 temporary disability cases. Most of injured workers were at the age ranging 20-24 years, representing 27.46% of all injuries, followed by workers in an age group ranging 25-29 years. There were 27 death cases in age ranging 25-29 years, followed by an age group 20-24 years and 30-34 years, representing 24.54%, 21.82% and 16.36 % of all fatality cases, respectively. Most of permanent partial disabilities were at an age group 20-24 years and 25-29 years, representing 25.32% and 22.92%, respectively. (Table 2.5)

Table 2.5: Work injuries in Bangkok's surrounding vicinity by severity and age group, 2000

Age group	Death	Permanent disability		Temporary disability		Total
		total	partial	> 3 days	≤ 3 days	
<14	0	0	1	5	18	24
15-19	6	0	186	1,902	5,019	7,113
20-24	24	1	433	4,708	15,451	20,617
25-29	27	0	392	4,137	14,610	19,166
30-34	18	1	285	2,833	9,722	12,859
35-39	12	2	203	1,867	5,501	7,585
40-44	9	0	95	1,057	2,859	4,020
45-49	4	0	70	673	1,449	2,196
50-54	6	0	23	308	631	968
55-59	2	0	12	140	191	345
60+	2	0	10	51	136	199
Total	110	4	1,710	17,681	55,587	75,092

Source: The Office of Workmen's Compensation Fund, 2001

Among 34,800 cases of work injury occurred in the Central region in 2000, there were 134 deaths, 3 permanent total disabilities, 760 partial disabilities and 33,903 temporary disabilities. Most of injured workers were at the age ranging 20-29 years, representing 51.04% of all injuries. Most of the death cases were in age group 25-29 years, followed by an age ranging 35-39 years and 30-34 years, representing 20.89%, 17.16% and 16.42% of death cases, respectively. The majority of permanent partial disabilities were at age ranging 25-29 years and 20-24 years, representing 24.87% and 22.11%, respectively. (Table 2.6)

Table 2.6: Work injuries by age group and by severity in Central region, 2000

Age group	Death	Permanent disability		Temporary disability		Total
		total	partial	> 3 days	≤ 3 days	
<14	1	0	2	9	13	25
15-19	6	0	81	937	1,920	2,944
20-24	19	0	168	2,381	6,267	8,835
25-29	28	0	189	2,267	6,444	8,928
30-34	22	1	129	1,673	4,213	6,038
35-39	23	0	86	1,116	2,511	3,736
40-44	12	1	47	762	1,414	2,236
45-49	11	0	29	420	693	1,153
50-54	7	1	16	211	328	563
55-59	5	0	7	100	104	216
60+	0	0	6	61	59	126
Total	134	3	760	9,937	23,966	34,800

Source: The Office of Workmen's Compensation Fund, 2001

Based on the statistics of work injuries by age group and by severity in the Northern region in 2000, there were 60 deaths; 3 permanent total disabilities; 159 partial disabilities and 7,582 temporary disabilities. The majority of injured workers were at the age ranging 20-34 years, representing 58.50% of all injuries. Most of the death cases were in an age group 35-39 years, followed by an age ranging 30-34 years and 20-24 years, representing 28.33%, 16.67% and 13.33% of fatalities, respectively. Permanent partial disabilities at the age ranging 35-39 years accounted for 20.12%, followed by an age group 30-34 years, and 20-24 years, representing 18.24% and 16.98%, respectively. (Table 2.7)

Table 2.7: Work injuries by age group and by severity in Northern region, 2000

Age group	Death	Permanent disability		Temporary disability		Total
		total	partial	> 3 days	≤ 3 days	
<14	0	0	0	1	1	2
15-19	2	0	9	150	319	480
20-24	8	1	27	447	1,178	1,661
25-29	6	1	25	438	1,107	1,577
30-34	10	1	29	420	867	1,327
35-39	17	0	32	383	674	1,106
40-44	3	0	12	312	484	811
45-49	6	0	10	192	256	464
50-54	5	0	8	109	117	239
55-59	0	0	5	41	37	83
60+	3	0	2	23	26	54
Total	60	3	159	2,516	5,066	7,804

Source: The Office of Workmen's Compensation Fund, 2001

Based on the statistics of work injuries by severity and age group in the Northeastern region in 2000, there were 80 cases of fatalities, 1 case of permanent total disability, 147 partial disability cases and 5,517 temporary disability cases.

Work injuries for those at the age ranging 25-29 years accounted for 1,317 cases, representing 22.92% of all injuries, followed by those in an age group 20-24 years, representing 22.51%. The death cases in an age ranging 25-29 years representing for 25.00%, followed by an age group 30-34 years and 35-39 years, representing 17.50% and 12.5% of death cases, respectively. The majority of permanent partial disabilities were at the age ranging 20-24 years, 30-34 years and 25-29 years, representing 18.37%, 17.69% and 16.33%, respectively. (Table 2.8)

Table 2.8: Work injuries in Northeastern region by age group and by severity, 2000

Age group	Death	Permanent disability		Temporary disability		Total
		total	partial	> 3 days	≤ 3 days	
<14	0	0	0	0	1	1
15-19	4	0	13	159	287	463
20-24	9	0	27	348	909	1,293
25-29	20	1	24	379	893	1,317
30-34	14	0	26	321	640	1,001
35-39	10	0	20	265	395	690
40-44	6	0	16	189	264	475
45-49	10	0	9	112	168	299
50-54	5	0	5	50	67	127
55-59	0	0	3	19	33	55
60+	2	0	4	9	9	24
Total	80	1	147	1,851	3,666	5,745

Source: The Office of Workmen's Compensation Fund, 2001

For work injuries in the Southern region in 2000, there were 75 death cases, 1 case of permanent total disability, 167 partial disability cases and 11,814 temporary disability cases. The majority of injured workers were at the age

ranging 20-34 years, representing 63.19% of all injuries. Most of death cases were in an age group 25-29 years, followed by an age ranging 35-39 years and 20-24 years, representing 24.00%, 17.33% and 13.33% of death cases, respectively. The majority of permanent partial disabilities were at the age ranging 25-29 years and 30-34 years, representing 20.96% and 19.76%, respectively. (Table 2.9)

Table 2.9: Work injuries in Southern region by age group and by severity, 2000

Age group	Death	Permanent disability		Temporary disability		Total
		total	partial	> 3 days	≤ 3 days	
<14	0	0	0	1	0	1
15-19	1	0	20	428	606	1,055
20-24	10	0	26	1,094	1,562	2,692
25-29	18	1	35	1,168	1,615	2,837
30-34	9	0	33	918	1,130	2,090
35-39	13	0	18	704	743	1,478
40-44	6	0	17	436	457	916
45-49	10	0	4	248	223	485
50-54	2	0	10	150	122	284
55-59	1	0	1	62	54	118
60+	5	0	3	65	28	101
Total	75	1	167	5,274	6,540	12,057

Source: The Office of Workmen's Compensation Fund, 2001