

Occupational Safety and Health Statistics Bulletin

Issue No. 23 (August 2023)

Occupational Safety and Health Branch, Labour Department



This Bulletin provides statistics of work-related accidents and confirmed cases of occupational disease in Hong Kong with information, analysis and trend on various economic sectors and selected industries. Employers, employees and occupational safety and health practitioners, by benchmarking against the overall accident rate and the industry average in this bulletin, can better manage the occupational safety and health programme of their own organisations.

The Labour Department attaches great importance to enhancing occupational safety and health, and is committed to ensuring that risks to the safety of people at work are properly managed and addressed through legislation and enforcement, publicity and promotion as well as education and training. Through the concerted efforts of all parties concerned, including employers, employees, contractors, safety professionals, trade associations, workers' unions, related organisations and government departments, Hong Kong's occupational safety performance has been improving steadily in the past decade.

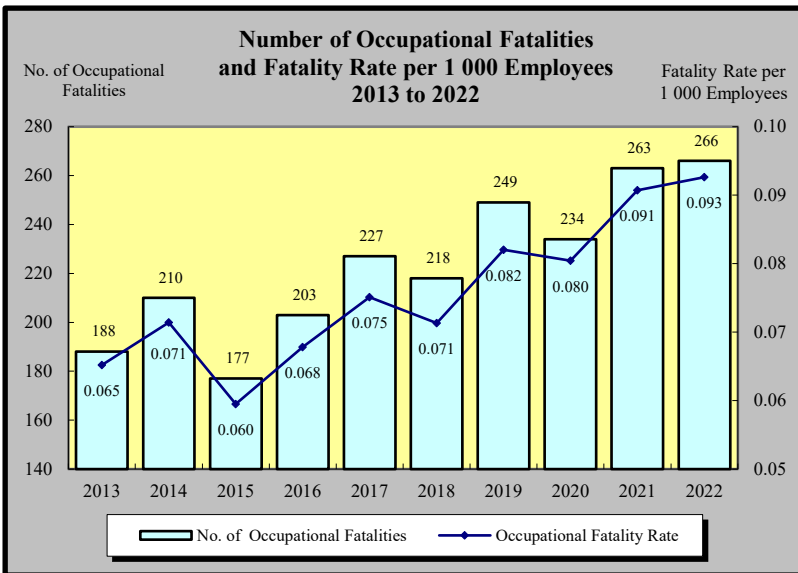
In 2022, the number of occupational injuries in all workplaces was 32 026, and it was 30 448 in 2021. The injury rate per 1 000 employees was 11.2 in 2022 and it was 10.5 in 2021. The number of industrial accidents in all industries in 2022 was 7 762, and it was 8 865 in 2021. The accident rate per 1 000 workers was 13.5 in 2022 and it was 15.2 in 2021.

The high-risk construction industry recorded 3 046 industrial accidents in 2022, and it was 3 109 in 2021. The accident rate per 1 000 workers was 29.1 in 2022 while it was 29.5 in 2021. The construction industry still recorded the highest number of fatalities and accident rate among all industry sectors.

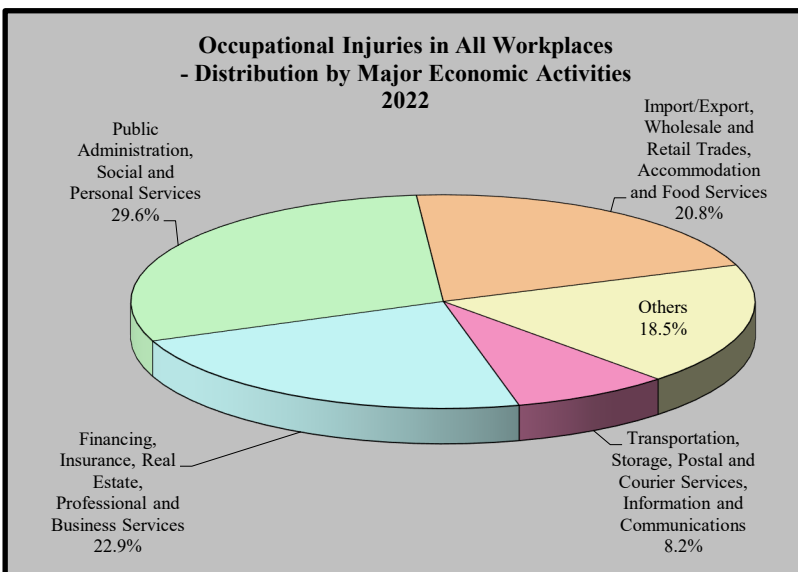
Occupational Injuries



- In 2022, there were 32 026 occupational injuries. It was 30 448 in 2021 and 38 027 in 2013. The average of the past five years was 31 687.
- The injury rate per 1 000 employees in 2022 was 11.2. It was 10.5 in 2021 and 13.2 in 2013. The average of the past five years was 10.7.

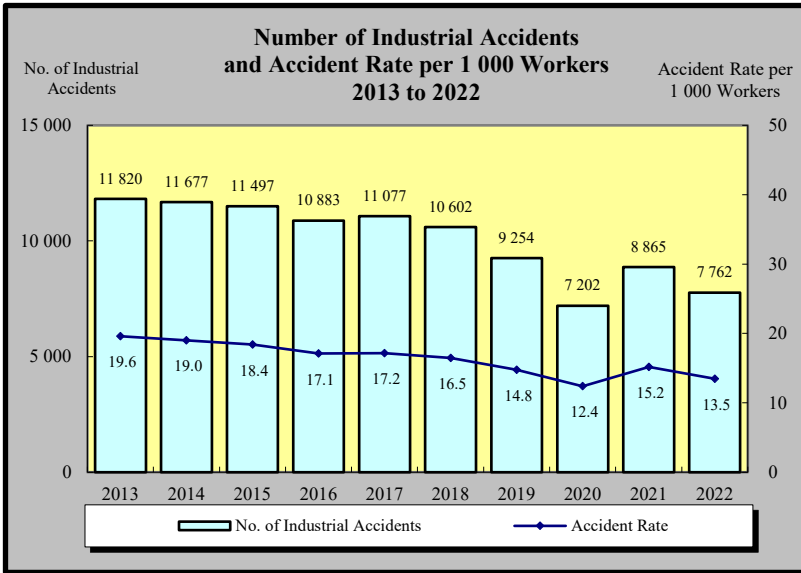


- In 2022, there were 266 occupational fatalities. It was 263 in 2021 and 188 in 2013. The average of the past five years was 246.
- The occupational fatality rate per 1 000 employees in 2022 was 0.093. It was 0.091 in 2021 and 0.065 in 2013. The average of the past five years was 0.083.

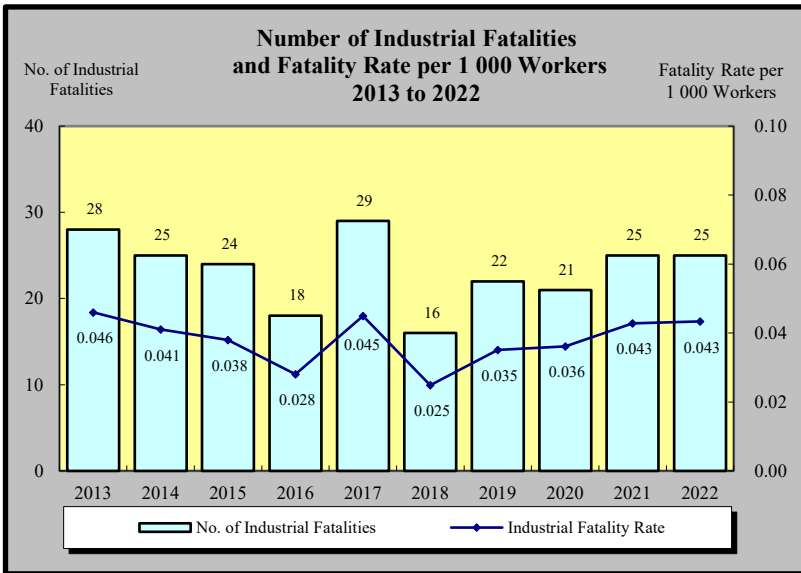


- Of the 32 026 occupational injuries in 2022, over 80% occurred in the following major economic sectors:
 - 29.6% Public Administration, Social and Personal Services
 - 22.9% Financing, Insurance, Real Estate, Professional and Business Services
 - 20.8% Import/Export, Wholesale and Retail Trades, Accommodation and Food Services
 - 8.2% Transportation, Storage, Postal and Courier Services, Information and Communications

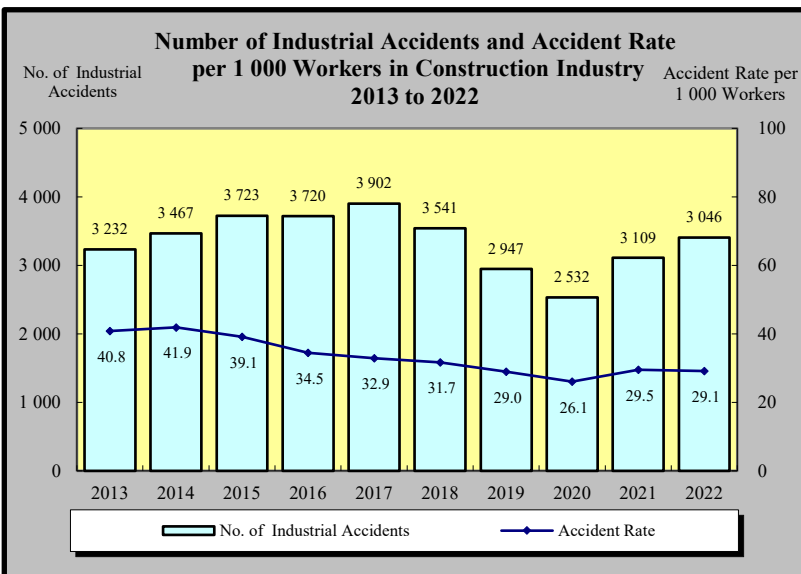
Industrial Accidents



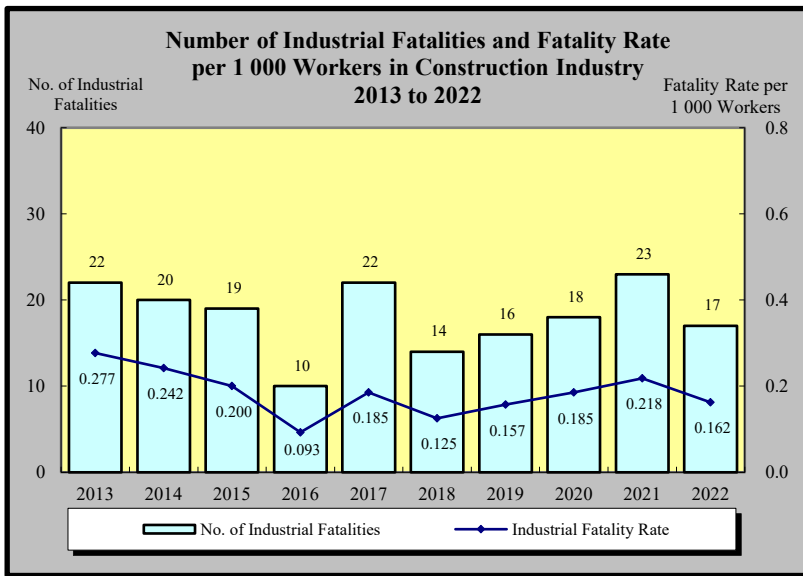
- In 2022, the number of industrial accidents was 7 762. It was 8 865 in 2021 and 11 820 in 2013. The average of the past five years was 8 737.
- The accident rate per 1 000 workers in 2022 was 13.5. It was 15.2 in 2021 and 19.6 in 2013. The average of the past five years was 14.5.



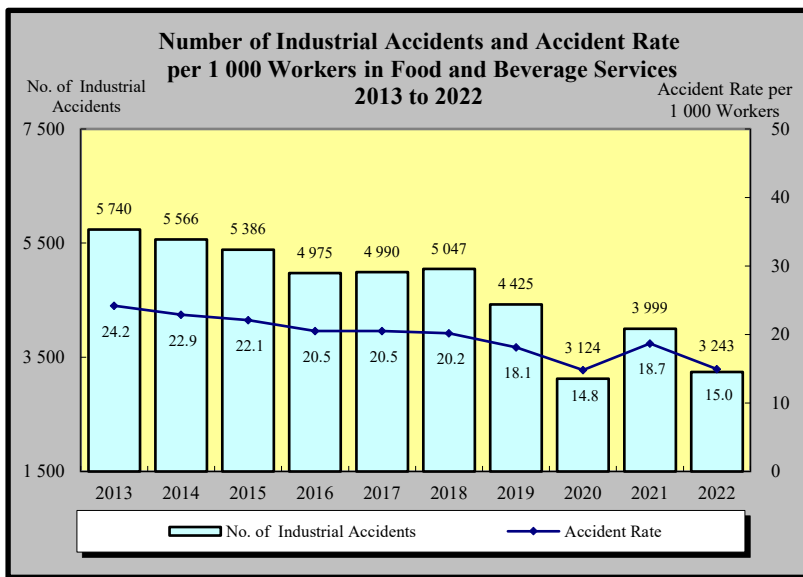
- In 2022, the number of industrial fatalities was 25. It was 25 in 2021 and 28 in 2013. The average of the past five years was 22.
- The industrial fatality rate per 1 000 workers in 2022 was 0.043. It was 0.043 in 2021 and 0.046 in 2013. The average of the past five years was 0.036.



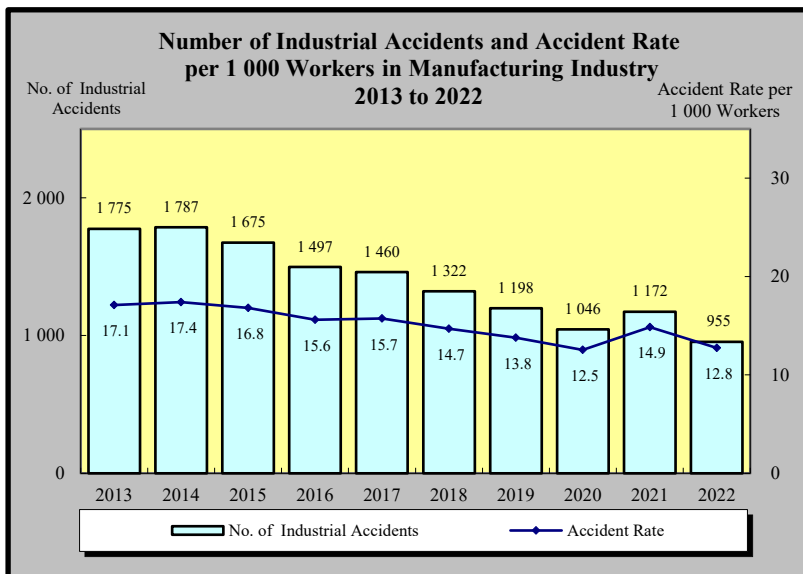
- In 2022, there were 3 046 industrial accidents in the construction industry. It was 3 109 in 2021 and 3 232 in 2013. The average of the past five years was 3 035.
- The accident rate per 1 000 workers of the construction industry in 2022 was 29.1. It was 29.5 in 2021 and 40.8 in 2013. The average of the past five years was 29.1.



- In 2022, the number of industrial fatalities in the construction industry was 17. It was 23 in 2021 and 22 in 2013. The average of the past five years was 18.
- The industrial fatality rate per 1 000 workers of the construction industry in 2022 was 0.162. It was 0.218 in 2021 and 0.277 in 2013. The average of the past five years was 0.170.



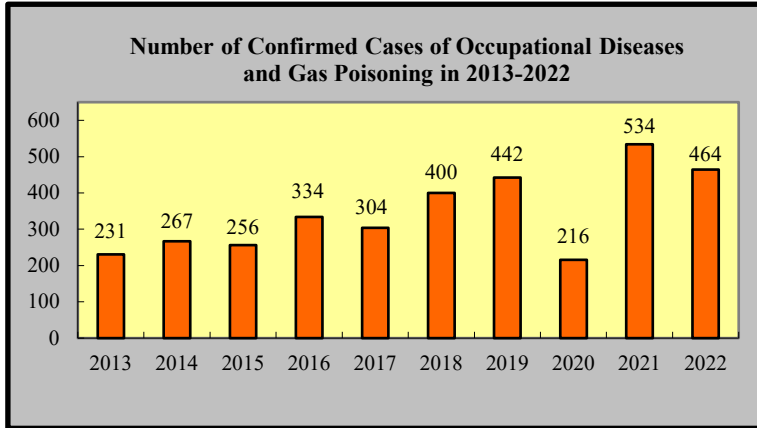
- In 2022, there were 3 243 industrial accidents in the food and beverage services. It was 3 999 in 2021 and 5 740 in 2013. The average of the past five years was 3 968.
- The accident rate per 1 000 workers of the food and beverage services in 2022 was 15.0. It was 18.7 in 2021 and 24.2 in 2013. The average of the past five years was 17.4.



- In 2022, there were 955 industrial accidents in the manufacturing industry. It was 1 172 in 2021 and 1 775 in 2013. The average of the past five years was 1 139.
- The accident rate per 1 000 workers of the manufacturing industry in 2022 was 12.8. It was 14.9 in 2021 and 17.1 in 2013. The average of the past five years was 13.7.

Occupational Diseases

Number of Confirmed Cases of Occupational Diseases and Gas Poisoning in 2013-2022



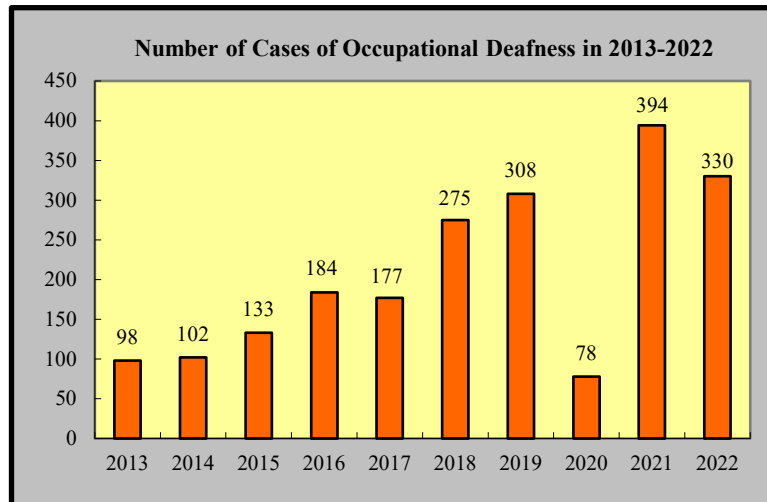
- In 2022, there were 464 confirmed cases of occupational diseases and gas poisoning, compared to 534 in 2021.

Number of Confirmed Cases of Occupational Diseases and Gas Poisoning in 2022

Occupational Disease	Number
Occupational Deafness	330
Silicosis	79
Mesothelioma	21
Tenosynovitis of the Hand or Forearm	21
Asbestosis	3
Tuberculosis	2
Occupational Dermatitis	1
Compressed Air Illness	1
Gas Poisoning	6
Total	464

- The most common occupational diseases confirmed in 2022 were occupational deafness, silicosis, mesothelioma and tenosynovitis of the hand or forearm.

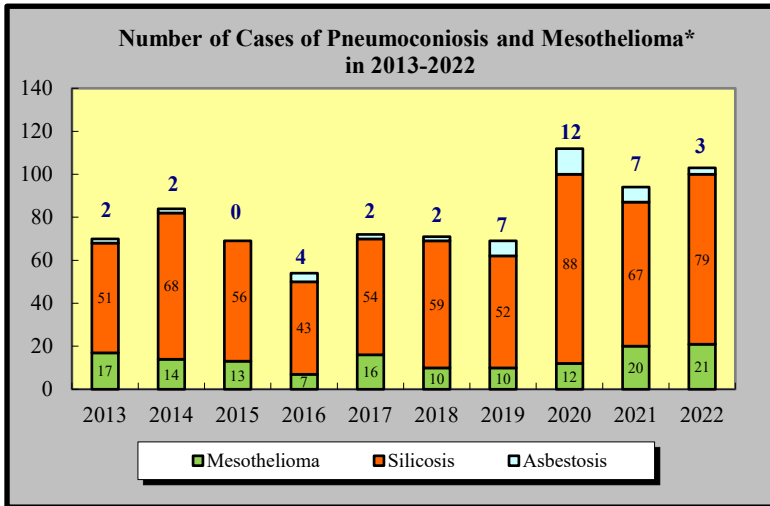
Occupational Deafness



Please refer to the Occupational Deafness Compensation Board for detailed statistical information on occupational deafness.

- There were 330 cases of occupational deafness in 2022. Cases were engaged in the following work#:
 - 66.1% Rock grinding, chiselling, cutting or percussion
 - 17.0% Working near internal combustion engines, turbines, pressurised fuel burners or jet engines
 - 8.5% Metal grinding
 - 5.7% Pile driving
 - 0.9% High speed web-fed offset printing
 - 0.6% Using routing, planing, circular sawing machine or automatic lathes
 - 0.6% Car body repair, or of making metal articles by manual hammering
 - 0.3% Using paper folding machines
 - 0.3% Abrasive blasting operations

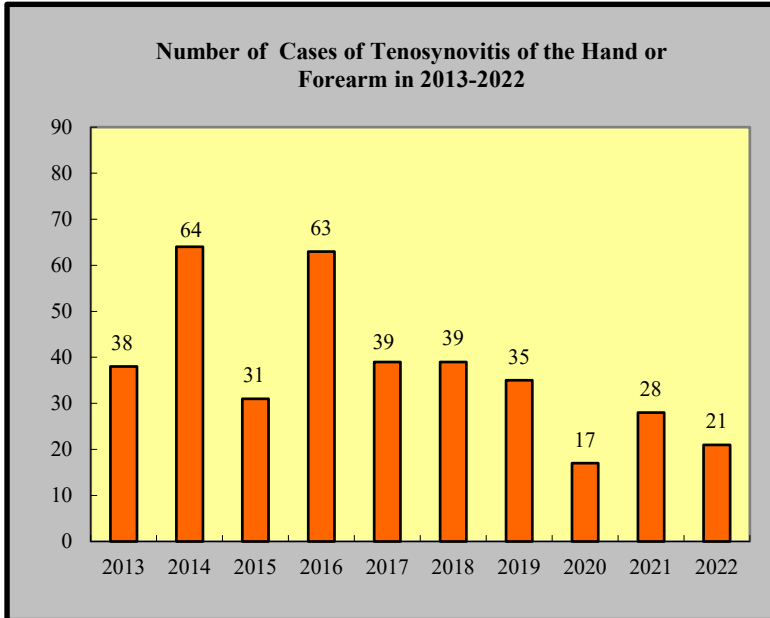
Pneumoconiosis and Mesothelioma



* Please refer to the Pneumoconiosis Compensation Fund Board for detailed statistical information on pneumoconiosis (including silicosis and asbestosis) and mesothelioma.

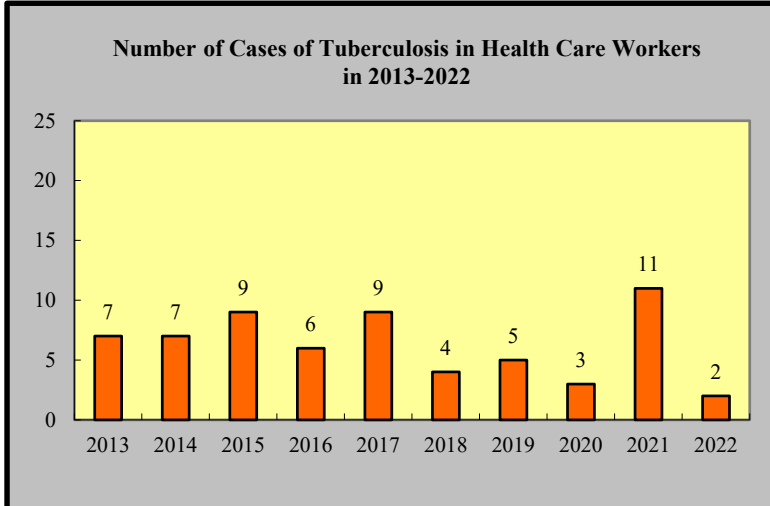
- In 2022, there were 79 confirmed cases of silicosis*.
- Those silicosis cases had history of exposure to silica dust in their occupations many years ago. The latent period of silicosis could be as long as 10 to 20 years.
- There were 3 confirmed cases of asbestosis* in 2022.
- In 2022, there were 21 confirmed cases of mesothelioma*.
- Occupational exposure to asbestos dust could cause mesothelioma and the average latent period of the disease could be as long as 30 to 40 years.

Tenosynovitis of the Hand or Forearm



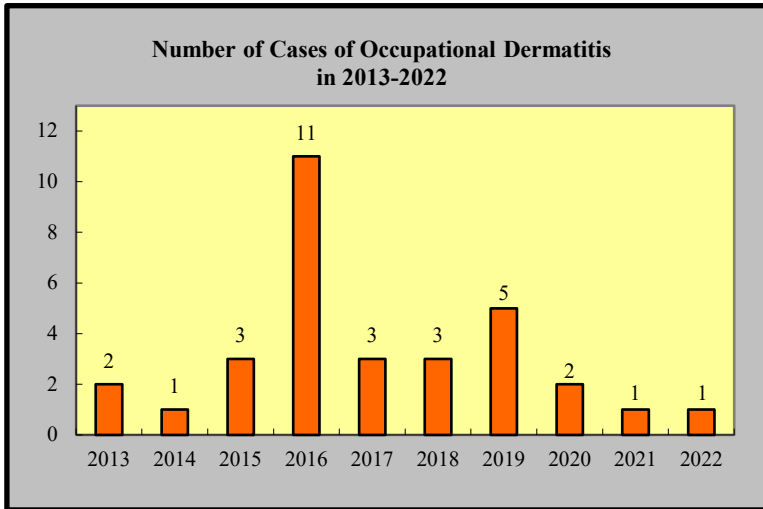
- In 2022, there were 21 confirmed cases of tenosynovitis of the hand or forearm. The disease was common among clerical support workers, services and sales workers and elementary occupations, etc.
- Distribution by industry of the 21 cases in 2022:
 - 42.8% Public administration, and social and personal services
 - 19.0% Accommodation and food services
 - 14.2% Manufacturing
 - 4.8% Professional and business services
 - 4.8% Financing and insurance
 - 4.8% Real estate
 - 4.8% Import/export, wholesale and retail trades
 - 4.8% Construction

Tuberculosis in Health Care Workers



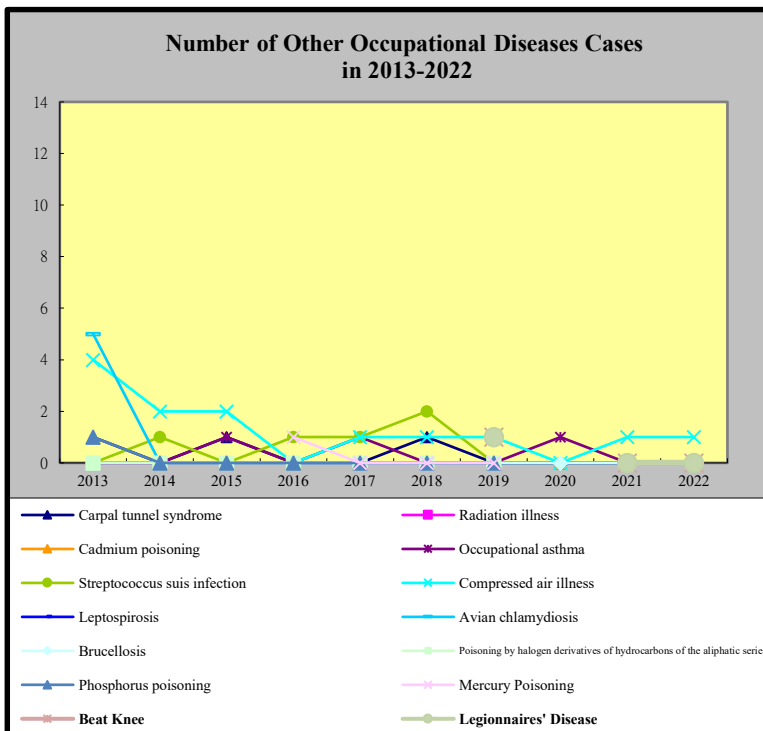
- In 2022, there were 2 confirmed cases of tuberculosis in health care workers, including a nurse and a health associate professional.

Occupational Dermatitis



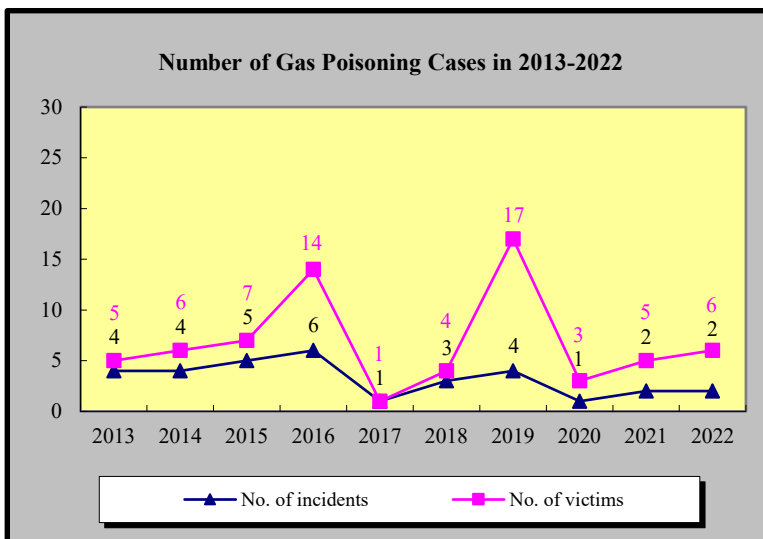
- There was 1 case of occupational dermatitis in 2022 that was related to cleaning work.

Other Occupational Diseases



- In 2022, there was 1 confirmed case of compressed air illness and the worker was a construction worker.

Gas Poisoning



- In 2022, there were 6 confirmed gas poisoning cases involving 2 incidents. The noxious chemical agents were ammonia and hydrogen sulphide respectively.

Definitions and further information

Occupational injuries refer to injury cases in workplaces reported under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance, resulting in death or incapacity for work of over three days.

Industrial accidents refer to injuries and deaths arising from industrial activities in industrial undertakings as defined under the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance.

Occupational diseases refer to confirmed cases of occupational diseases and gas poisoning reported under the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance, the Employees' Compensation Ordinance, the Occupational Deafness (Compensation) Ordinance and the Pneumoconiosis and Mesothelioma (Compensation) Ordinance.

Injury rate per 1 000 employees is calculated by:

$$\frac{\text{Number of occupational injuries}}{\text{*Employment size}} \times 1\,000$$

Accident rate per 1 000 workers is calculated by:

$$\frac{\text{Number of industrial accidents}}{\text{*Employment size}} \times 1\,000$$

**Figures of employment size are based on the Quarterly Report of Employment and Vacancies Statistics published by the Census and Statistics Department.*

The statistics are compiled based on Hong Kong Standard Industrial Classification Version 2.0.

The components that form the statistics may vary from country to country in respect of the legal requirements in the reporting of accidents and occupational diseases, the economic sectors covered and the definition of workforce. Accident and occupational disease statistics of different countries may not be directly comparable and should therefore be interpreted with care.

**For enquiry or further information relating to the accident statistics of this Bulletin,
please contact the Accident Analysis and Information Division at Tel 2815 0678 or Fax 2541 8537.**

**For enquiry or further information relating to the occupational disease statistics of this Bulletin,
please contact the Occupational Medicine Division (Health Promotion) at
Tel 2852 4041 or Fax 2581 2049.**

**If you have any complaint about unsafe operations and environments at workplaces,
please call the Labour Department's occupational safety and health complaint hotline at Tel 2542 2172
or fill out and submit an online occupational safety and health complaint form on our website.**

All complaints will be treated in the strictest confidence.



Online OSH Complaint Form

Email : enquiry@labour.gov.hk