

**ANALYSIS OF BIANNUAL DATA FROM  
ACCREDITED CONTRACTORS FOR THE  
JULY TO DECEMBER 2013  
REPORTING PERIOD**

Australian Government Building and Construction WHS  
Accreditation Scheme

July - December 2013

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# 1 Introduction

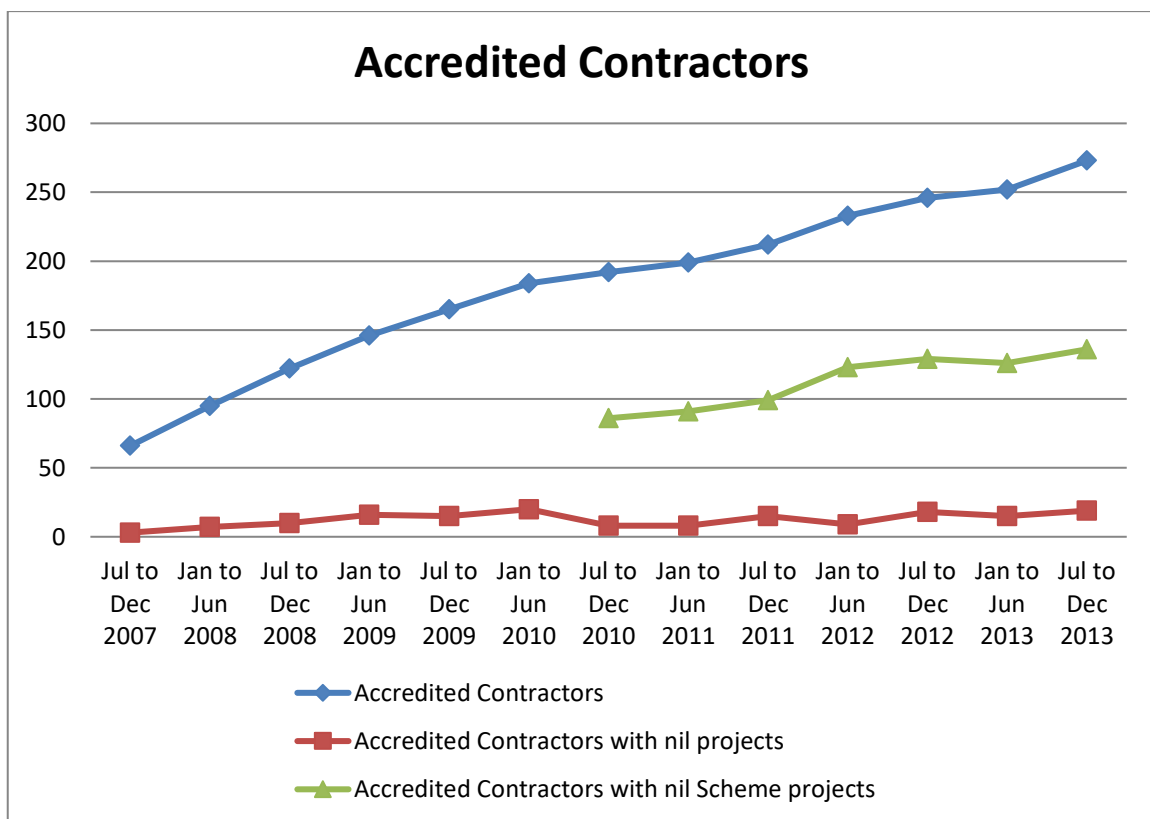
This report is produced by the Office of the Federal Safety Commissioner (OFSC). The report provides an overview and analysis of data collected from companies accredited under the Australian Government Building and Construction WHS Accreditation Scheme (the Scheme) for the period July to December 2013. Comparisons are also made with data collected from previous biannual periods where appropriate.

Under their conditions of accreditation accredited companies are required to submit biannual reports twice a year, in addition to incident reports, Scheme project reports and end of project reports. The data used in this report has been collected from a combination of biannual, incident, and Scheme project reports.

## 2 Overview

### 2.1 Number of Accredited contractors

The number of accredited contractors continues to grow, with 273 contractors submitting biannual reports for the July to December 2013 reporting period. This is an 8.33 per cent increase on the previous period. Of the 273 accredited contractors, 136 did not undertake Scheme projects during the period, with 19 undertaking no projects during the period whatsoever.



## 2.2 Applications

The OFSC received 80 applications for accreditation and reaccreditation during the July to December 2013 reporting period, which is a significant increase compared to the previous corresponding period (64 total for July to December 2012). Of these 80 applications, 48 were first time applications, and 32 were applications for reaccreditation.

Twenty-six contractors gained accreditation for the first time during the period, while 31 contractors achieved reaccreditation.

| Period           | Applications for First Accreditation | Applications for Reaccreditation | Total Applications |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 2006             | 24                                   | 0                                | 24                 |
| Jan to Jun 2007  | 61                                   | 0                                | 61                 |
| Jul to Dec 2007  | 50                                   | 0                                | 50                 |
| Jan to Jun 2008  | 35                                   | 0                                | 35                 |
| Jul to Dec 2008  | 41                                   | 0                                | 41                 |
| Jan to Jun 2009  | 58                                   | 0                                | 58                 |
| Jul to Dec 2009  | 48                                   | 17                               | 65                 |
| Jan to Jun 2010  | 29                                   | 34                               | 63                 |
| July to Dec 2010 | 39                                   | 30                               | 69                 |
| Jan to Jun 2011  | 34                                   | 19                               | 53                 |
| Jul to Dec 2011  | 38                                   | 26                               | 64                 |
| Jan to Jun 2012  | 33                                   | 19                               | 52                 |
| Jul to Dec 2012  | 27                                   | 37                               | 64                 |
| Jan to Jun 2013  | 41                                   | 36                               | 77                 |
| Jul to Dec 2013  | 48                                   | 32                               | 80                 |
| Total            | 606                                  | 250                              | 856                |

## 2.3 Number of Projects

The OFSC has been notified of a total of 1011 directly and indirectly funded contracts for building work with a combined value of \$52.76 billion that had been covered by the Scheme (as at 29 October 2013). Of the 1011 notified contracts, 324 were active and 687 were completed.

The data gathered for this current reporting period includes non-Scheme projects valued at less than \$3 million. The data prior to the July 2010 reporting period only includes projects with a value of \$3 million or more.

| Period           | Number of Accredited contractors reporting active Scheme projects | Number of active Scheme projects | Number of Accredited contractors Reporting non-Scheme projects | Number of non-scheme projects |
|------------------|---|----------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Jul to Dec 2007  | 25  | 42                               | 58   | 1,019                         |
| Jan to Jun 2008  | 32  | 71                               | 85   | 1,212                         |
| Jul to Dec 2008  | 44  | 103                              | 107  | 1,416                         |
| Jan to Jun 2009  | 61  | 128                              | 124  | 1,730                         |
| Jul to Dec 2009  | 75  | 183                              | 145  | 2,170                         |
| Jan to Jun 2010  | 94  | 249                              | 153  | 2,255                         |
| July to Dec 2010 | 102   | 293                              | 177  | 6,943                         |
| Jan to Jun 2011  | 108   | 329                              | 185  | 7,861                         |
| Jul to Dec 2011  | 113   | 343                              | 197  | 11,081                        |
| Jan to Jun 2012  | 110   | 357                              | 218  | 8,824                         |
| Jul to Dec 2012  | 117   | 347                              | 228  | 7,235                         |
| Jan to Jun 2013  | 126   | 339                              | 237  | 11,568                        |
| Jul to Dec 2013  | 137   | 362                              | 254  | 13,016                        |

| Period          | Scheme projects (million hours) | Non-Scheme projects any value (million hours) | All projects (million hours) |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Jul to Dec 2010 | 41.97                           | 147.44  | 189.40                       |
| Jan to Jun 2011 | 26.29                           | 135.95  | 162.24                       |
| Jul to Dec 2011 | 31.92                           | 135.29  | 167.20                       |
| Jan to Jun 2012 | 29.94                           | 139.57  | 169.51                       |
| Jul to Dec 2012 | 43.80                           | 131.05  | 174.85                       |
| Jan to Jun 2013 | 33.66                           | 135.78  | 169.45                       |
| Jul to Dec 2013 | 31.86                           | 152.89  | 184.75                       |

### 3 Analysis/Findings

#### 3.1 Fatalities

There were no fatalities on Scheme projects in the July to December 2013 period, which is a decrease on the previous corresponding period in July to December 2012 which recorded three fatalities on Scheme projects. One fatality was reported on non-Scheme projects during the period, representing a 67 per cent decrease on the corresponding period in 2012 which saw three non-Scheme fatalities. The non-Scheme project fatalities frequency rate (0.66) has also reduced significantly from the July to December 2012 period (2.29).

These figures do not include deaths from heart attacks or other natural causes. The fatality frequency rate for non-Scheme projects includes hours worked on projects valued at less than

\$3 million, while the Scheme fatality frequency rate does not (there are no Scheme projects valued under \$3 million). The result is a relative inflation of the fatality frequency rate on Scheme projects when compared to the rate on non-Scheme projects.

| Period          | Number of Fatalities on Scheme projects | Scheme project Fatalities frequency rate | Number of Fatalities on non-Scheme projects | Non-Scheme projects Fatalities frequency rate | Number of Fatalities all projects | All projects Fatalities frequency rate |
|-----------------|---|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| Jul to Dec 2007 | 1                                       | NA                                       | 0   | NA  | 1                                 | NA                                     |
| Jan to Jun 2008 | 0                                       | NA                                       | 6   | NA  | 6                                 | NA                                     |
| Jul to Dec 2008 | 0                                       | NA                                       | 4   | NA  | 4                                 | NA                                     |
| Jan to Jun 2009 | 1                                       | NA                                       | 4   | NA  | 5                                 | NA                                     |
| Jul to Dec 2009 | 0                                       | 0.00                                     | 1   | 1.07  | 1                                 | 0.92                                   |
| Jan to Jun 2010 | 1                                       | 4.36                                     | 0   | 0.00  | 1                                 | 0.66                                   |
| Jul to Dec 2010 | 2                                       | 4.77                                     | 2   | 1.35  | 4                                 | 2.39                                   |
| Jan to Jun 2011 | 0                                       | 0.00                                     | 1   | 0.70  | 1                                 | 0.60                                   |
| Jul to Dec 2011 | 3                                       | 9.40                                     | 3   | 2.22  | 6                                 | 3.59                                   |
| Jan to Jun 2012 | 0                                       | 0.00                                     | 6   | 4.85  | 6                                 | 3.90                                   |
| Jul to Dec 2012 | 3                                       | 6.85                                     | 3   | 2.29  | 6                                 | 3.43                                   |
| Jan to Jun 2013 | 2                                       | 5.94                                     | 3   | 2.21  | 5                                 | 2.95                                   |
| Jul to Dec 2013 | 0                                       | 0.00                                     | 1   | 0.66  | 1                                 | 0.54                                   |

### 3.2 Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (LTIFR)

The Scheme mean LTIFR for the July to December 2013 period (8.88) decreased from the corresponding period in 2012 by 34.42 per cent, while the winsorised mean increased by more than 100 per cent from 1.88 per cent to 3.93 per cent, indicating that outliers were not as extreme in the previous corresponding period. The non-Scheme project mean LTIFR for the period (7.69) increased by 25.04 per cent when compared to the July to December 2012 period, with the winsorised mean LTIFR (3.13) also increasing by 15.50 per cent from the corresponding period in 2012.

| Period          | Scheme project median | Scheme project Arithmetic mean | Scheme project Winsorised mean | Non-Scheme project median | Non-Scheme project Arithmetic mean | Non-Scheme project Winsorised mean |
|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Jul to Dec 2007 | 0.00                  | 6.94                           | 4.04                           | 4.65                      | 10.06                              | 7.52                               |
| Jan to Jun 2008 | 0.00                  | 9.24                           | 8.72                           | 4.95                      | 10.41                              | 9.05                               |
| Jul to Dec 2008 | 0.00                  | 7.44                           | 6.21                           | 4.65                      | 12.22                              | 7.36                               |
| Jan to Jun 2009 | 0.00                  | 12.86                          | 10.35                          | 3.50                      | 11.54                              | 6.10                               |
| Jul to Dec 2009 | 0.00                  | 9.36                           | 7.68                           | 3.00                      | 11.61                              | 8.28                               |
| Jan to Jun 2010 | 0.00                  | 21.99                          | 3.21                           | 3.73                      | 11.34                              | 8.61                               |
| Jul to Dec 2010 | 0.00                  | 5.54                           | 3.43                           | 0.00                      | 13.83                              | 4.76                               |
| Jan to Jun 2011 | 0.00                  | 10.17                          | 3.98                           | 0.00                      | 8.97                               | 3.97                               |
| Jul to Dec 2011 | 0.00                  | 20.60                          | 6.82                           | 0.60                      | 8.01                               | 5.45                               |
| Jan to Jun 2012 | 0.00                  | 4.14                           | 2.04                           | 0.00                      | 7.38                               | 4.30                               |
| Jul to Dec 2012 | 0.00                  | 13.54                          | 1.88                           | 0.00                      | 6.15                               | 2.71                               |
| Jan to Jun 2013 | 0.00                  | 6.10                           | 1.69                           | 0.00                      | 21.60                              | 3.87                               |
| Jul to Dec 2013 | 0.00                  | 8.88                           | 3.93                           | 0.00                      | 7.69                               | 3.13                               |

#### Scheme LTIFR by construction type

When separated by industry sector, Scheme work carried out by accredited contractors on Commercial projects recorded the highest mean LTIFR (10.70), followed by Residential projects (7.08) and Civil projects (5.13).

|                 | Residential | Civil | Commercial | All  |
|-----------------|-------------|-------|------------|------|
| Mean            | 7.08        | 5.13  | 10.70      | 8.88 |
| Median          | 0.00        | 0.00  | 0.00       | 0.00 |
| Winsorised Mean | 0.00        | 1.85  | 4.14       | 3.93 |

### Non-Scheme LTIFR by construction type

Non-Scheme work carried out by accredited contractors on Civil projects recorded the highest mean LTIFR (9.49), followed by Commercial projects (7.36) and Residential projects (3.54). Interestingly when looking at the winsorised mean, the non-Scheme LTIFR on Civil projects was the *lowest* of the three sectors; the result of a number of high outliers recorded in the Civil sector during the period.

|                 | Residential | Civil | Commercial | All  |
|-----------------|-------------|-------|------------|------|
| Mean            | 3.54        | 9.49  | 7.36       | 7.69 |
| Median          | 0.00        | 0.00  | 0.00       | 0.00 |
| Winsorised Mean | 1.06        | 0.61  | 4.86       | 3.13 |

### 3.3 Medically Treated Injury Frequency Rate (MTIFR)

The Scheme project mean MTIFR for the period has lowered for the second consecutive corresponding period. The winsorised mean has slightly increased when compared with the previous corresponding period, due to a higher number of outliers. The non-Scheme project Winsorised mean MTIFR decreased from the corresponding period in 2012, while the mean MTIFR has significantly increased also due to a number of high outliers.

| Period          | Scheme project median | Scheme project Arithmetic mean | Scheme project Winsorised mean | Non-Scheme project median | Non-Scheme project Arithmetic mean | Non-Scheme project Winsorised mean |
|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Jul to Dec 2007 | 0.00                  | 12.06                          | 9.53                           | 19.90                     | 26.23                              | 23.32                              |
| Jan to Jun 2008 | 0.00                  | 18.06                          | 16.29                          | 19.00                     | 29.39                              | 24.36                              |
| Jul to Dec 2008 | 2.78                  | 21.79                          | 14.50                          | 13.18                     | 21.10                              | 16.67                              |
| Jan to Jun 2009 | 8.58                  | 33.93                          | 22.78                          | 14.32                     | 26.82                              | 17.21                              |
| Jul to Dec 2009 | 13.04                 | 21.84                          | 16.62                          | 18.17                     | 38.51                              | 28.73                              |
| Jan to Jun 2010 | 0.00                  | 34.67                          | 16.95                          | 21.03                     | 40.15                              | 28.45                              |
| Jul to Dec 2010 | 0.00                  | 11.30                          | 6.44                           | 12.71                     | 63.91                              | 21.07                              |
| Jan to Jun 2011 | 0.00                  | 19.93                          | 8.12                           | 11.02                     | 36.31                              | 20.00                              |
| Jul to Dec 2011 | 0.00                  | 16.30                          | 7.23                           | 10.83                     | 34.12                              | 18.10                              |
| Jan to Jun 2012 | 0.00                  | 13.13                          | 9.65                           | 10.24                     | 32.21                              | 18.69                              |
| Jul to Dec 2012 | 0.00                  | 14.77                          | 5.00                           | 9.08                      | 40.91                              | 17.16                              |
| Jan to Jun 2013 | 0.00                  | 7.52                           | 3.78                           | 8.28                      | 29.95                              | 16.89                              |
| Jul to Dec 2013 | 0.00                  | 11.96                          | 5.52                           | 8.36                      | 52.12                              | 16.90                              |

### Scheme MTIFR by construction type

Scheme Civil construction projects recorded the highest mean MTIFR (15.70), followed by Residential projects (8.11) and Commercial projects (7.72).



The winsorised mean MTIFR for Civil and Residential Scheme projects were significantly lower than their arithmetic mean for both; the result of a number of high outliers.

|                 | Residential | Civil | Commercial | All   |
|-----------------|-------------|-------|------------|-------|
| Mean            | 8.11        | 15.70 | 7.72       | 11.96 |
| Median          | 0.00        | 0.00  | 0.00       | 0.00  |
| Winsorised Mean | 1.99        | 6.45  | 4.82       | 5.52  |

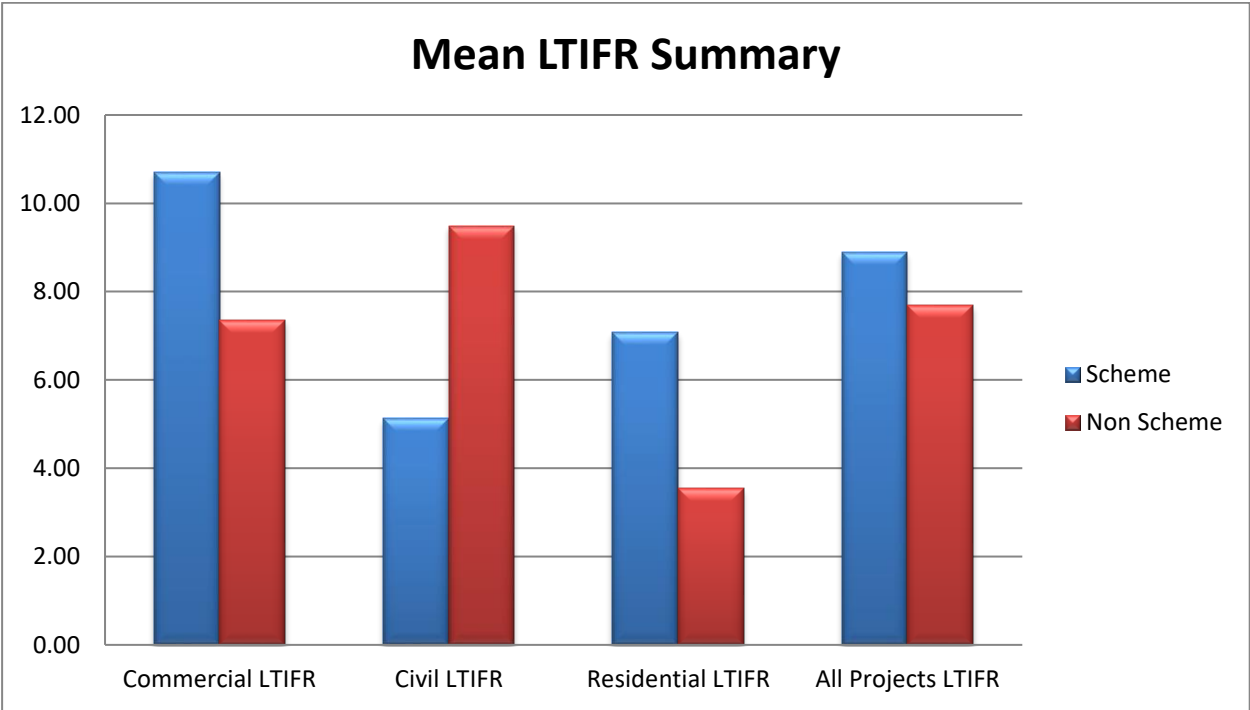
**Non-Scheme MTIFR by construction type**

The mean MTIFR recorded by contractors working on non-Scheme Commercial projects (70.89) was more than double the MTIFR recorded by accredited contractors working on Civil projects (26.62) and more than three times higher than on Residential projects (19.09). This high figure is the result of extreme outliers.

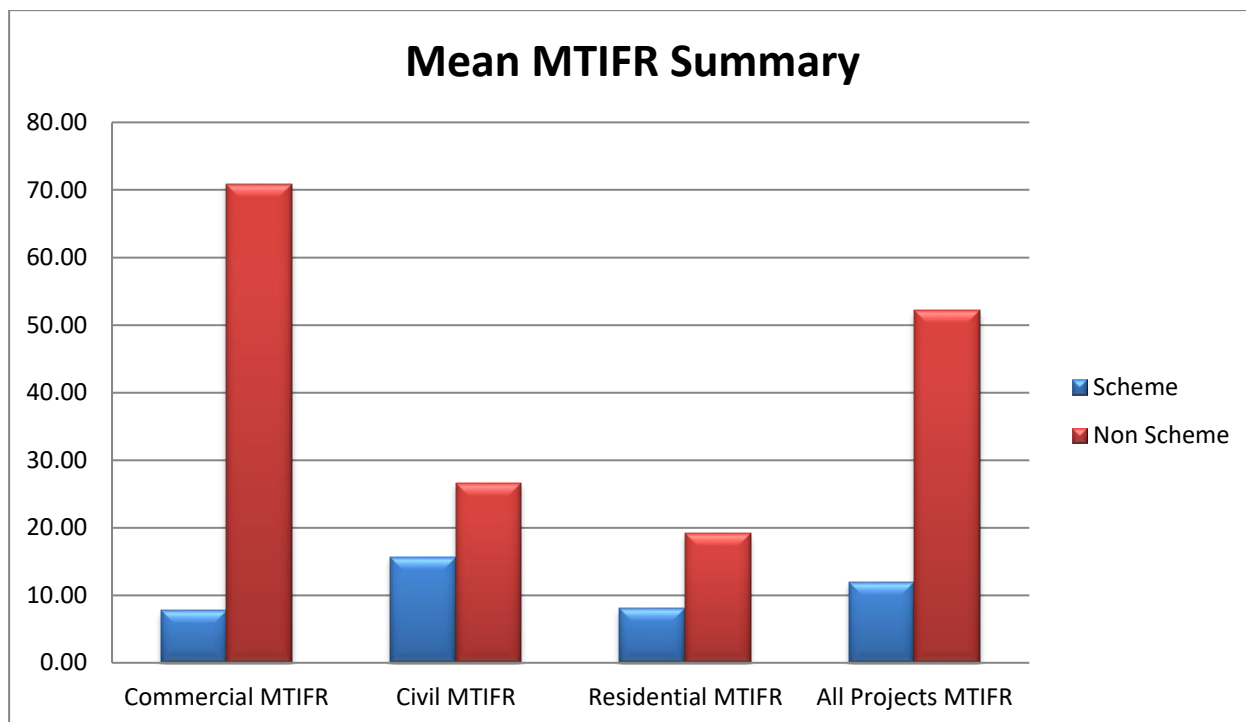
|                 | Residential | Civil | Commercial | All   |
|-----------------|-------------|-------|------------|-------|
| Mean            | 19.09       | 26.62 | 70.89      | 52.12 |
| Median          | 0.00        | 2.49  | 11.20      | 8.36  |
| Winsorised Mean | 9.85        | 12.37 | 19.17      | 16.90 |

**3.4 LTIFR/MTIFR Summary**

The graph below summarises the LTIFR figures across construction types and Scheme and non-Scheme projects. The Scheme LTIFR exceeds the non-Scheme LTIFR in all categories bar Civil construction.



The following graph summarises the MTIFR figures across construction types and Scheme and non-Scheme projects, with the Scheme MTIFR never exceeding the non-Scheme MTIFR.



### 3.5 Number of Notices Issued

There has been a 98 per cent decrease in the number of Infringement notices issued to accredited contractors when compared to the corresponding period in 2012. There has also been a significant decrease to Improvement notices compared to the corresponding period in 2012, with this period recording the lowest number of Improvement notices in the history of the Scheme, while the number of Prohibition notices also decreased slightly. The overall notices total 155 for the July to December 2013 period, which is the lowest number of notices ever recorded.

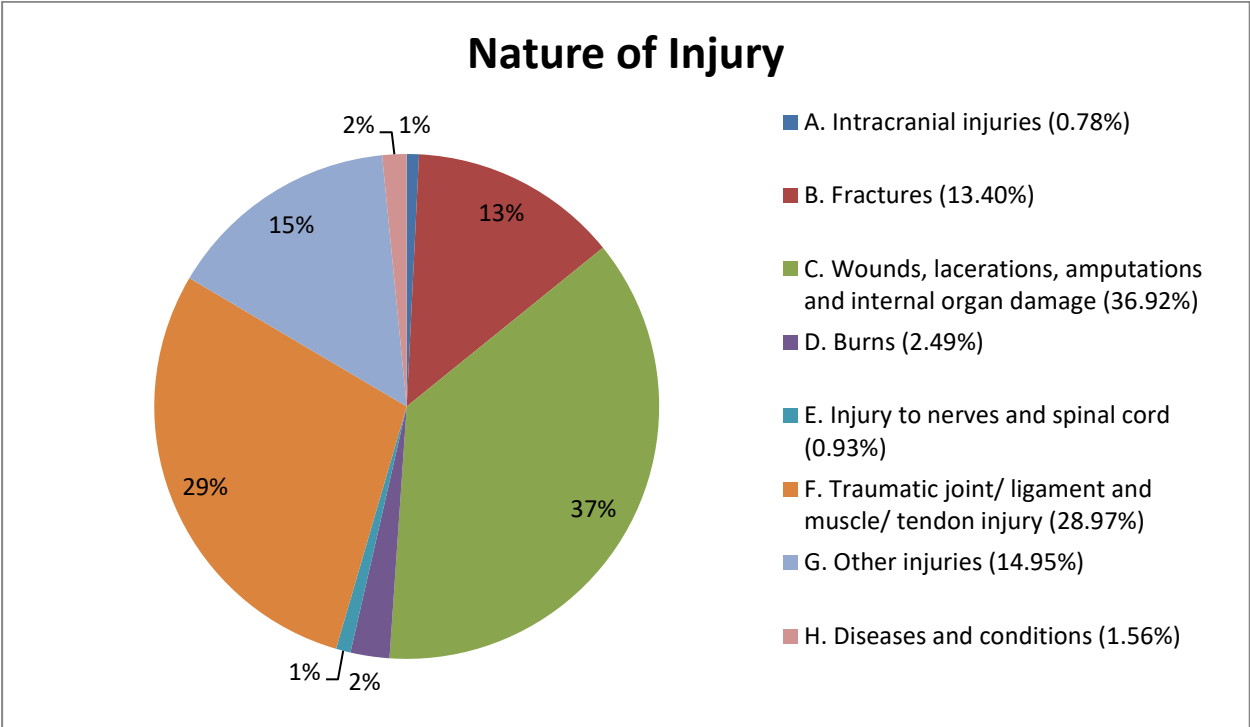
| Period       | Infringement Notices | Prohibition Notices | Improvement Notices | Other Notices (eg enforceable undertakings) | Total Notices |
|--------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---|---------------|
| Jan–Jun 2011 | 10                   | 63                  | 140                 | 7   | 220           |
| Jul–Dec 2011 | 2                    | 51                  | 137                 | 1   | 191           |
| Jan–Jun 2012 | 4                    | 52                  | 136                 | 5   | 197           |
| Jul–Dec 2012 | 46                   | 46                  | 143                 | 5   | 240           |
| Jan–Jun 2013 | 8                    | 41                  | 112                 | 5   | 155           |
| Jul–Dec 2013 | 1                    | 43                  | 104                 | 7   |               |

## 4 Incidents

Accredited contractors are required to provide incident reports for lost time injuries, medically treated injuries and notifiable dangerous occurrences that occur on Scheme projects, as well as lost time injuries that occur on non-Scheme projects valued at greater than \$3 million. Incident reports for all fatalities—regardless of project value—must also be submitted.

### 4.1 Nature of injury

Wounds, lacerations, amputations and internal organ damage injuries (36.92 per cent) have slightly decreased when compared to the corresponding period in 2012, but still remain the highest occurring injuries, while 28.97 per cent of injuries relate to Traumatic joint/ligament and muscle/tendons. These two categories make up almost two thirds of the total injuries reported.

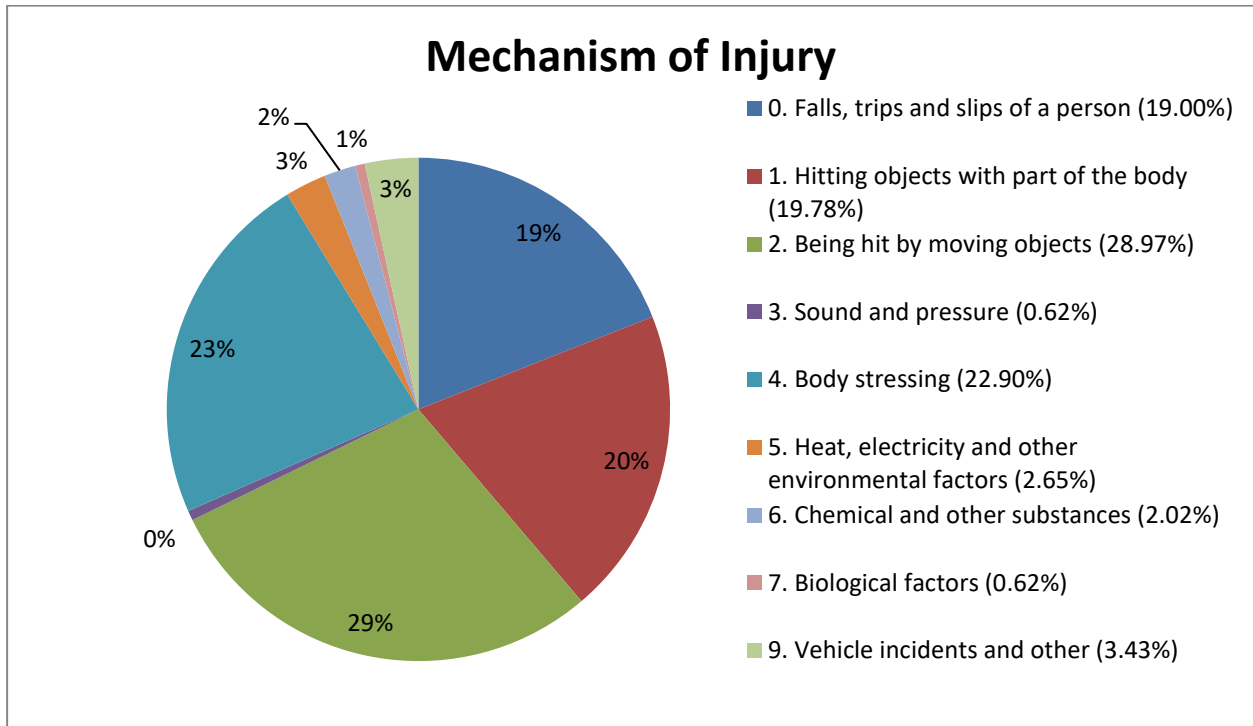


### Nature of Injury

| Period          | Injury A | Injury B | Injury C | Injury D | Injury E | Injury F | Injury G | Injury H |
|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Jul to Dec 2011 | 0.76%    | 10.51%   | 32.57%   | 1.43%    | 1.24%    | 33.81%   | 19.20%   | 0.48%    |
| Jan to Jun 2012 | 0.87%    | 9.89%    | 38.57%   | 1.24%    | 1.11%    | 31.77%   | 15.70%   | 0.87%    |
| Jul to Dec 2012 | 0.81%    | 12.53%   | 37.06%   | 2.02%    | 1.62%    | 26.95%   | 17.65%   | 1.35%    |
| Jan to Jun 2013 | 0.16%    | 12.28%   | 43.22%   | 2.71%    | 0.48%    | 21.69%   | 19.14%   | 0.32%    |
| Jul to Dec 2013 | 0.78%    | 13.40%   | 36.92%   | 2.49%    | 0.93%    | 28.97%   | 14.95%   | 1.56%    |

## 4.2 Mechanism of Injury

The top four mechanisms of injury reported to the OFSC were *Being hit by moving objects* (28.97 per cent), *Body Stressing* (22.90 per cent), *Hitting objects with part of the body* (19.78 per cent) and *Falls, trips and slips of a person* (19.00 per cent). These mechanisms account for 90.65 per cent of all injuries reported during the period. These are the same four categories that were the top four identified in the corresponding period for the previous year.

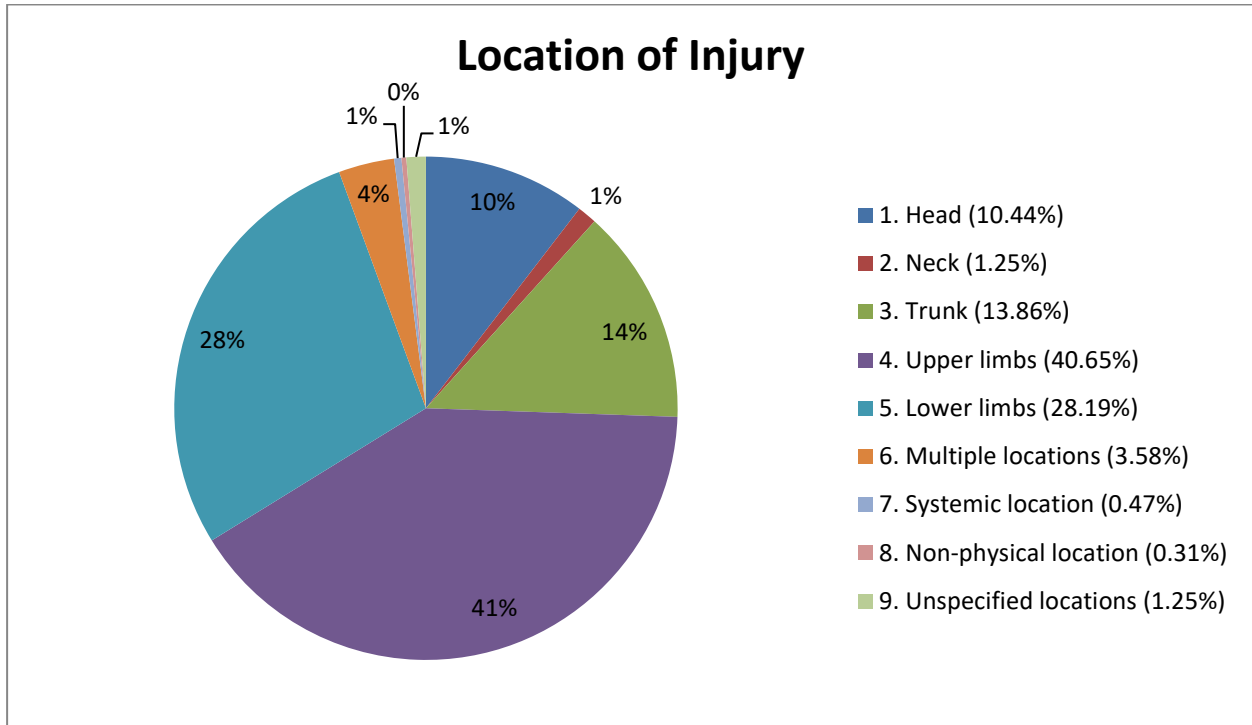


### Mechanism of Injury

| Period          | Mech. 0 | Mech. 1 | Mech. 2 | Mech. 3 | Mech. 4 | Mech. 5 | Mech. 6 | Mech. 7 | Mech. 8 | Mech. 9 |
|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Jul to Dec 2011 | 20.92%  | 21.78%  | 23.78%  | 0.29%   | 24.74%  | 2.10%   | 1.91%   | 0.67%   | 0.00%   | 3.82%   |
| Jan to Jun 2012 | 21.26%  | 23.49%  | 25.34%  | 0.00%   | 20.64%  | 2.84%   | 2.10%   | 1.73%   | 0.25%   | 2.35%   |
| Jul to Dec 2012 | 21.83%  | 20.89%  | 28.57%  | 0.13%   | 19.54%  | 3.91%   | 1.62%   | 0.94%   | 0.27%   | 2.29%   |
| Jan to Jun 2013 | 15.31%  | 24.40%  | 31.74%  | 1.12%   | 17.38%  | 4.15%   | 2.71%   | 0.32%   | 0.16%   | 2.71%   |
| Jul to Dec 2013 | 19.00%  | 19.78%  | 28.97%  | 0.62%   | 22.90%  | 2.65%   | 2.02%   | 0.62%   | 0.00%   | 3.43%   |

### 4.3 Location of Injury

Over 65 per cent of injuries reported were sustained to *upper limbs* (40.65 per cent) and *lower limbs* (28.19 per cent). Both of these locations of injury have increased when compared to the corresponding period in 2012.



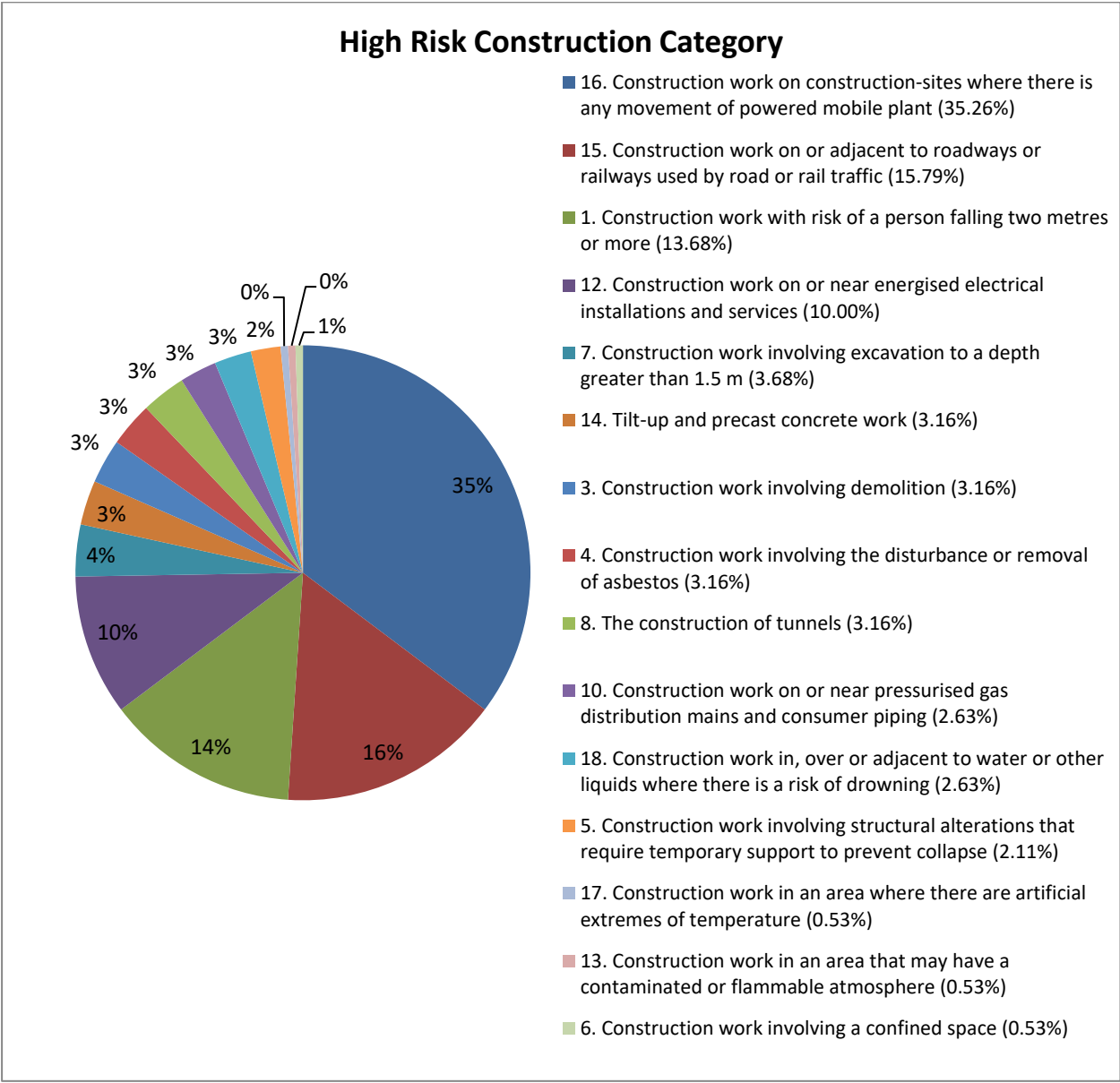
### Location of Injury

| Period          | Loc. 1 | Loc. 2 | Loc. 3 | Loc. 4 | Loc. 5 | Loc. 6 | Loc. 7 | Loc. 8 | Loc. 9 |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Jul to Dec 2011 | 10.51% | 1.81%  | 20.92% | 34.48% | 27.22% | 2.29%  | 0.29%  | 0.19%  | 2.29%  |
| Jan to Jun 2012 | 9.52%  | 2.10%  | 16.81% | 37.33% | 28.55% | 2.10%  | 0.25%  | 0.62%  | 2.72%  |
| Jul to Dec 2012 | 11.19% | 1.21%  | 17.12% | 34.91% | 27.49% | 3.50%  | 0.27%  | 0.27%  | 4.04%  |
| Jan to Jun 2013 | 12.12% | 1.12%  | 14.83% | 36.84% | 28.71% | 2.55%  | 0.32%  | 0.64%  | 2.87%  |
| Jul to Dec 2013 | 10.44% | 1.25%  | 13.86% | 40.65% | 28.19% | 3.58%  | 0.47%  | 0.31%  | 1.25%  |

### 4.4 High-risk Construction Work

When submitting incident reports, accredited contractors are required to disclose – where applicable – if any high-risk construction work was taking place at the time of the incident. Of the incident reports submitted, 36.12 per cent nominated high-risk construction work as having been undertaken at the time of the incident. The three most common categories of high-risk work taking place at the time of an incident were:

- construction work on construction sites where there is any movement of powered mobile plant (35.26 per cent)
- construction work on or adjacent to roadways or railways used by road or rail traffic (15.79 per cent)
- construction work with risk of a person falling two metres or more (13.68 per cent).



\*See glossary for high-risk construction work details

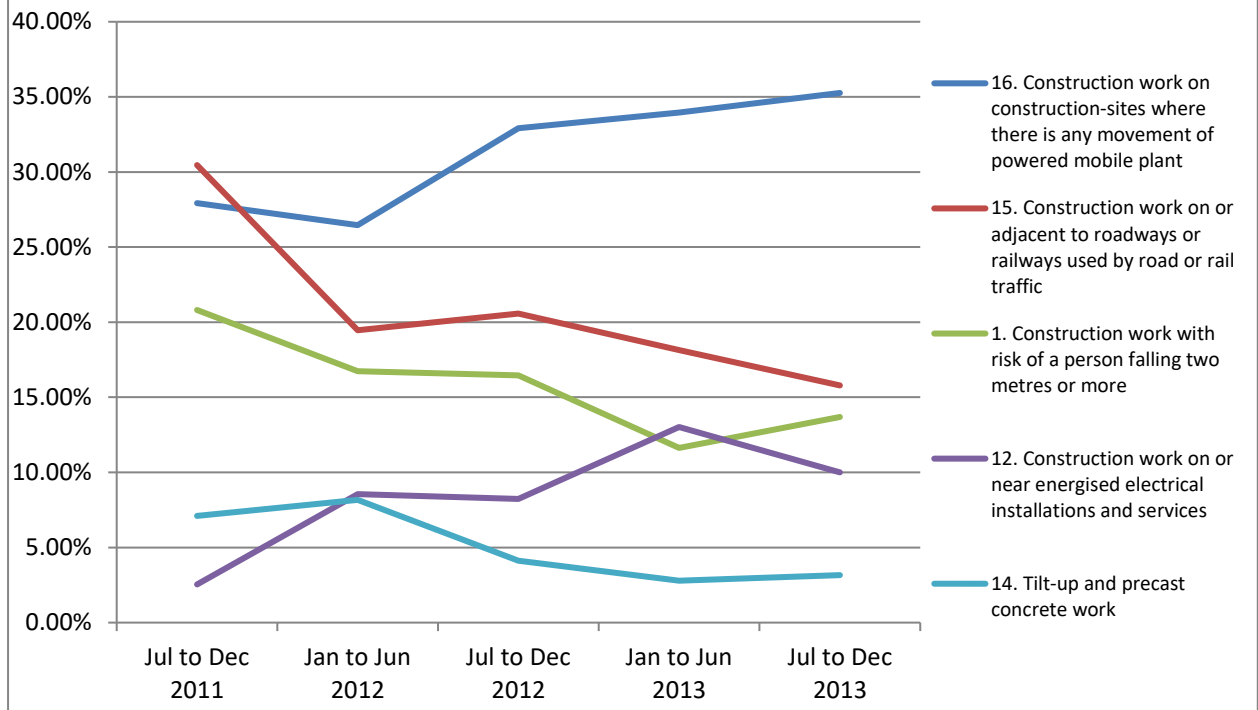
## High-risk Construction Work

| Period  | Jul to Dec 2011 | Jan to Jun 2012 | Jul to Dec 2012 | Jan to Jun 2013 | Jul to Dec 2013 |
|---------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Risk 1  | 20.81%          | 16.73%          | 16.46%          | 11.63%          | 13.68%          |
| Risk 2  | 0.00%           | 0.00%           | 0.41%           | 0.00%           | 0.00%           |
| Risk 3  | 2.54%           | 4.67%           | 1.65%           | 2.33%           | 3.16%           |
| Risk 4  | 0.00%           | 1.56%           | 0.82%           | 1.86%           | 3.16%           |
| Risk 5  | 2.03%           | 1.95%           | 2.06%           | 2.33%           | 2.11%           |
| Risk 6  | 0.00%           | 1.17%           | 0.82%           | 0.00%           | 0.53%           |
| Risk 7  | 2.54%           | 1.95%           | 2.47%           | 3.26%           | 3.68%           |
| Risk 8  | 0.51%           | 1.95%           | 7.00%           | 5.58%           | 3.16%           |
| Risk 9  | 0.00%           | 0.39%           | 0.41%           | 0.00%           | 0.00%           |
| Risk 10 | 0.00%           | 1.56%           | 0.00%           | 3.72%           | 2.63%           |
| Risk 11 | 0.51%           | 1.56%           | 0.00%           | 0.00%           | 0.00%           |
| Risk 12 | 2.54%           | 8.56%           | 8.23%           | 13.02%          | 10.00%          |
| Risk 13 | 0.00%           | 1.17%           | 1.23%           | 0.47%           | 0.53%           |
| Risk 14 | 7.11%           | 8.17%           | 4.12%           | 2.79%           | 3.16%           |
| Risk 15 | 30.46%          | 19.46%          | 20.58%          | 18.14%          | 15.79%          |
| Risk 16 | 27.92%          | 26.46%          | 32.92%          | 33.95%          | 35.26%          |
| Risk 17 | 1.02%           | 0.00%           | 0.00%           | 0.47%           | 0.53%           |
| Risk 18 | 2.03%           | 2.33%           | 0.82%           | 0.00%           | 2.63%           |
| Risk 19 | 0.00%           | 0.39%           | 0.00%           | 0.47%           | 0.00%           |

Looking at the percentage of a number of these high risk hazards over time, in the five reporting periods that the OFSC has been measuring the risks associated with incidents, risk 16 (movement of powered mobile plant) has increased from being the second most prevalent risk in Jul-Dec 2011 (27.92 per cent) to the most prevalent risk associated with incidents every period since, with over 35 per cent of incident reports high risk hazards in the Jul-Dec 2013 period. High risk hazard 12 (energised electrical installations and services) has increased its proportion from 2.54 per cent in Jul-Dec 2011 to 10 per cent in Jul-Dec 2013; an increase of 294 per cent.

Hazards 15 (roadways or railways used by road or rail traffic), 1 (falling two meters or more), and 14 (tilt-up and precast concrete) have all experienced decreases in proportion over the five periods.

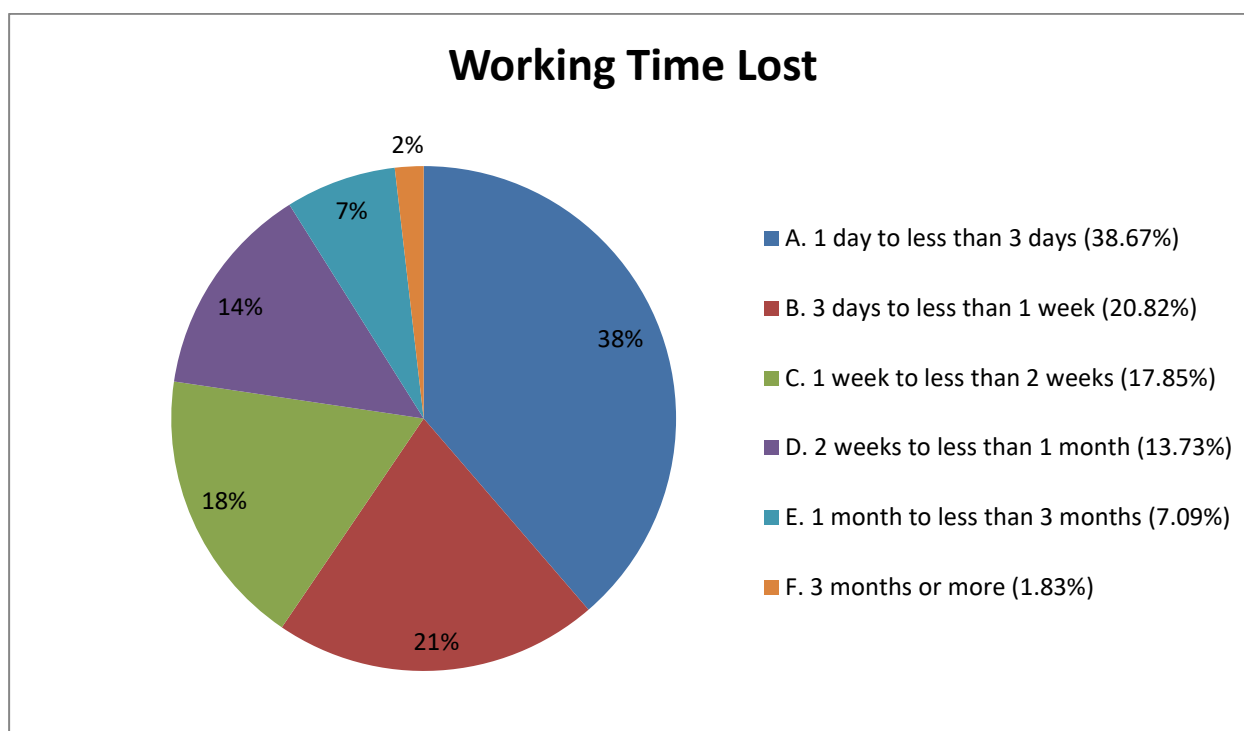
## High Risk Hazards - Percentage Over Time





## 4.5 Working Time Lost

The most common length of time an injured worker was absent from work was *between one and three days* (38.67 per cent), which is an increase from the previous corresponding reporting period in 2012. There was a considerable decrease to the proportion of injuries resulting in *Three days to less than a week* of working time lost (20.82 per cent compared to 25.00 per cent in the corresponding period in 2012), although there was an increase in the proportion of injuries resulting in *One week to less than two weeks* (17.85 per cent compared to 13.75 per cent in the corresponding period in 2012). Over 75 per cent of workers who suffered a lost time injury returned to work in less than two weeks.

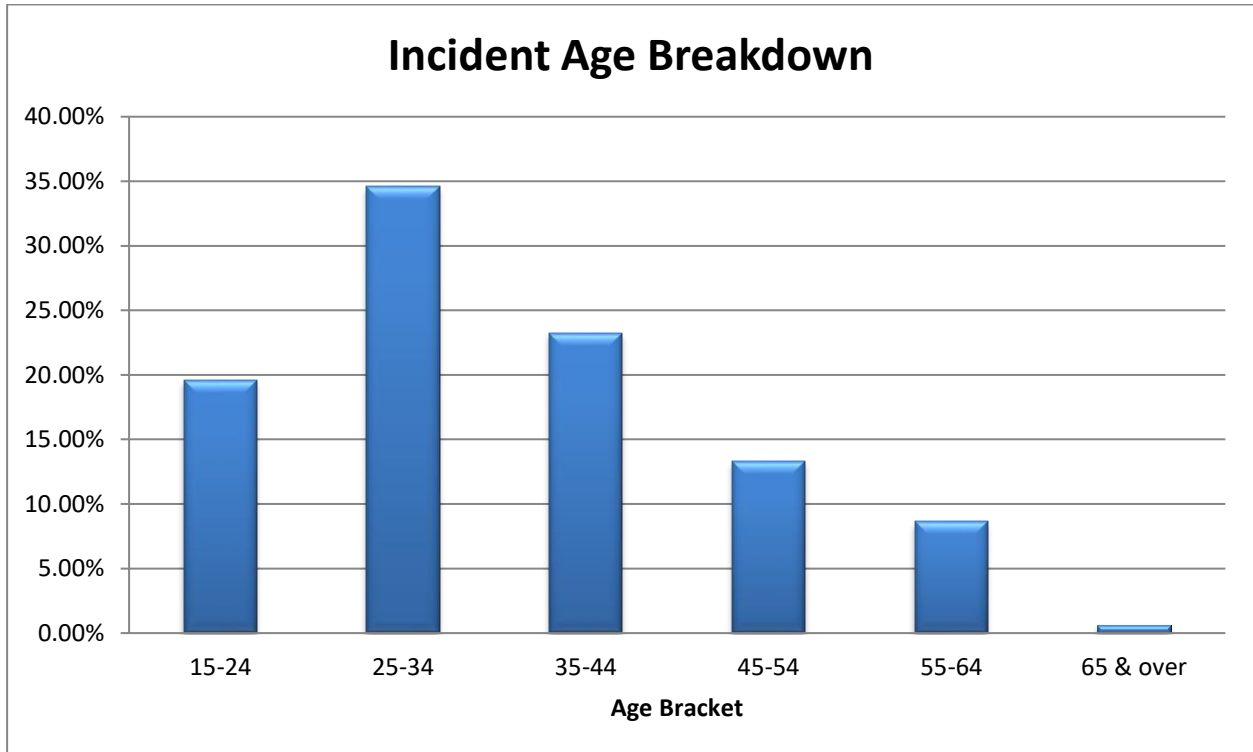


### Working Time Lost

| Period          | A      | B      | C      | D      | E     | F     |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| Jul to Dec 2011 | 45.26% | 22.40% | 13.98% | 9.47%  | 7.22% | 1.65% |
| Jan to Jun 2012 | 46.41% | 17.66% | 13.55% | 12.53% | 8.21% | 1.64% |
| Jul to Dec 2012 | 34.79% | 25.00% | 13.75% | 13.33% | 9.58% | 3.54% |
| Jan to Jun 2013 | 46.67% | 23.20% | 12.27% | 8.80%  | 6.67% | 2.40% |
| Jul to Dec 2013 | 38.67% | 20.82% | 17.85% | 13.73% | 7.09% | 1.83% |

## 4.6 Age Breakdown

Over 75 per cent of injured workers were below the age of 45. The 25-34 age bracket continues to account for the highest number of reported incidents (34.62 per cent), an increase over the previous corresponding reporting period.

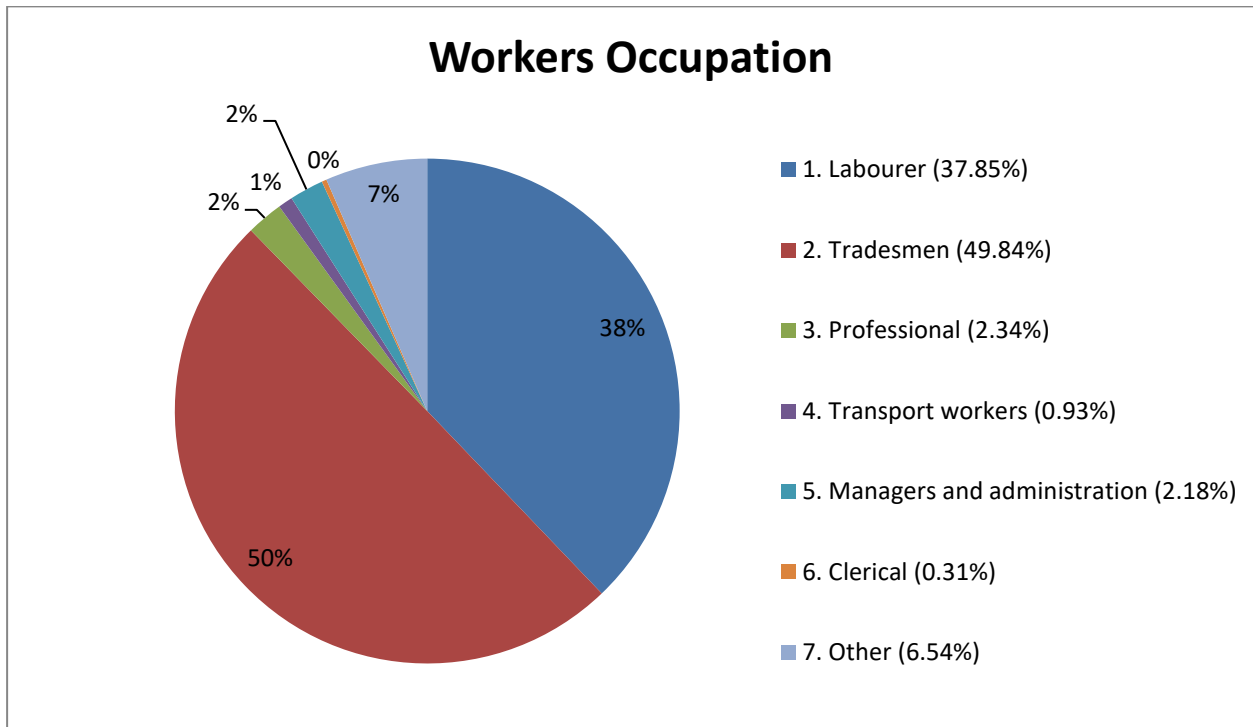


### Incident Age Breakdown

| Period          | 15-24  | 25-34  | 35-44  | 45-54  | 55-64 | 65 & Over |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-----------|
| Jul to Dec 2011 | 19.77% | 28.65% | 21.97% | 19.96% | 8.69% | 0.96%     |
| Jan to Jun 2012 | 20.77% | 28.18% | 22.13% | 20.02% | 7.66% | 1.24%     |
| Jul to Dec 2012 | 17.84% | 33.24% | 25.00% | 15.14% | 7.43% | 1.35%     |
| Jan to Jun 2013 | 18.20% | 33.33% | 20.93% | 16.59% | 9.66% | 1.29%     |
| Jul to Dec 2013 | 19.55% | 34.62% | 23.24% | 13.30% | 8.65% | 0.64%     |

## 4.7 Injured Person's Occupation

Over 85 per cent of people injured in reports submitted to the OFSC were Labourers (37.85 per cent) or Tradesmen (49.84 per cent).



### Workers Occupation

| Period          | 1      | 2      | 3     | 4     | 5     | 6     | 7     |
|-----------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Jul to Dec 2011 | 42.22% | 47.47% | 1.15% | 1.43% | 1.72% | 0.19% | 5.83% |
| Jan to Jun 2012 | 45.49% | 44.99% | 2.10% | 1.11% | 1.48% | 0.37% | 4.45% |
| Jul to Dec 2012 | 41.37% | 48.92% | 2.02% | 0.54% | 2.16% | 0.13% | 4.85% |
| Jan to Jun 2013 | 42.58% | 47.69% | 1.91% | 0.48% | 1.91% | 0.00% | 5.42% |
| Jul to Dec 2013 | 37.85% | 49.84% | 2.34% | 0.93% | 2.18% | 0.31% | 6.54% |

## 4.8 Dangerous Occurrences

The OFSC encourages companies to accurately report Dangerous Occurrences both internally and to external bodies such as the OFSC. A Dangerous Occurrence (or 'near miss') can be as revealing of WHS system inadequacies as an incident that *does* result in an injury or fatality.

Seventy-six Scheme Dangerous Occurrences were reported to the OFSC in the July to December 2013 reporting period; a slight decrease on the previous corresponding period (83) and the lowest in the history of the Scheme.

There was again some correlation between the circumstances of the Dangerous Occurrences reported to the OFSC and those of the incidents resulting in injury. The most common high-risk work nominated in Dangerous Occurrence incident reports was also the most commonly nominated in LTI/MTI/Fatality reports (work on construction sites where there is any movement of powered mobile plant).

### Dangerous Occurrences

| Period          | Dangerous Occurrences |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Jul to Dec 2011 | 79                    |
| Jan to Jun 2012 | 89                    |
| Jul to Dec 2012 | 83                    |
| Jan to Jun 2013 | 84                    |
| Jul to Dec 2013 | 76                    |

## 4.9 Workers' Compensation

### Accredited Companies

| Period          | Mean premium rate ACT % | Mean premium rate NSW % | Mean premium rate NT % | Mean premium rate QLD % | Mean premium rate SA % | Mean premium rate TAS % | Mean premium rate VIC % | Mean premium rate WA % |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Jul to Dec 2007 | 5.589                   | 3.069                   | 2.675                  | 1.346                   | 2.940                  | .                       | 3.098                   | 2.496                  |
| Jan to Jun 2008 | 4.962                   | 3.508                   | 2.355                  | 1.438                   | 3.037                  | .                       | 2.054                   | 3.348                  |
| Jul to Dec 2008 | 4.274                   | 3.106                   | 2.261                  | 1.568                   | 3.750                  | 1.087                   | 2.297                   | 2.066                  |
| Jan to Jun 2009 | 3.742                   | 2.811                   | 1.973                  | 1.117                   | 3.832                  | 1.155                   | 2.289                   | 2.342                  |
| Jul to Dec 2009 | 3.849                   | 3.351                   | 2.376                  | 1.424                   | 3.695                  | 1.302                   | 2.202                   | 1.948                  |
| Jan to Jun 2010 | 3.521                   | 2.975                   | 2.372                  | 1.316                   | 3.560                  | 1.475                   | 2.270                   | 1.731                  |
| Jul to Dec 2010 | 3.025                   | 3.051                   | 2.389                  | 1.548                   | 3.845                  | 1.015                   | 1.980                   | 1.896                  |
| Jan to Jun 2011 | 3.699                   | 3.014                   | 2.310                  | 1.449                   | 3.668                  | 1.701                   | 1.905                   | 1.767                  |
| Jul to Dec 2011 | 3.534                   | 3.019                   | 2.028                  | 1.735                   | 2.913                  | 2.277                   | 1.746                   | 1.518                  |
| Jan to Jun 2012 | 3.712                   | 3.102                   | 3.508                  | 1.717                   | 3.204                  | 2.014                   | 1.680                   | 3.048                  |
| Jul to Dec 2012 | 3.488                   | 3.177                   | 2.303                  | 1.702                   | 2.981                  | 1.858                   | 1.773                   | 1.568                  |
| Jan to Jun 2013 | 3.442                   | 3.217                   | 2.324                  | 1.769                   | 2.801                  | 1.935                   | 1.584                   | 1.627                  |
| Jul to Dec 2013 | 3.318                   | 2.906                   | 2.334                  | 1.728                   | 2.705                  | 2.275                   | 1.531                   | 1.466                  |

### Industry

| Period             | Mean premium rate ACT % | Mean premium rate NSW % | Mean premium rate NT % | Mean premium rate QLD % | Mean premium rate SA % | Mean premium rate TAS % | Mean premium rate VIC % | Mean premium rate WA % |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| House construction | NA                      | 4.284                   | NA                     | 2.726                   | 3.00                   | 4.37                    | 1.770                   | 1.11                   |

|  |    |       |    |       |      |      |       |      |
|--|----|-------|----|-------|------|------|-------|------|
| September 2013 <sup>1</sup>                              |    |       |    |       |      |      |       |      |
| Non-residential construction September 2013 <sup>1</sup> | NA | 3.339 | NA | 2.852 | 3.00 | 3.70 | 1.696 | 2.09 |

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Safe Work Australia publication Comparison of Workers' Compensation Arrangements in Australia and New Zealand August 2014, Table 7.6 Selected Industry Premium Rates as at 30 September 2013, pages 213-214.

## 5 Awards and Recognition

During this reporting period accredited contractors have been the recipients of a number of prestigious safety awards, including—but not limited to—the following:

- A.W. Edwards Pty Ltd - announced as a Joint winner for the NSW Master Builders Association/WorkCover Excellence in Construction Awards for 'Site Safety in Commercial Buildings \$50million & Over' for the SCG Stage 2 Redevelopment Project.
- Tenix Pty Ltd – won a national safety award at the National Safety Council of Australia Annual Safety Awards for Excellence for the 'Best Continuous Improvement of a Safety Management System' Award category for submission on their 'Fatality and Serious Injury Prevention Program.'
- Diona Pty Ltd - Paul Lyndon - National Safety Manager was awarded the NSW Safety Professional of the Year for 2013 by WorkCover NSW.
- VOS Construction and Joinery Pty Ltd - won the Master Builders Association Award for Work Health and Safety for 2013. The Submission was based on its project at the Sorell Council Administration Centre in early 2013.
- Cooper & Oxley Builders Pty Ltd - Joe Dunbar (Site Safety Representative) won the 2013 Work Safe WA Award for individual best effort for influencing safety on site.
- Sunbuild Pty Ltd - MBA Award: Commercial Industrial Construction \$5-\$10m for the Wickham Point Accommodation Facility completed in 2012.
- Murphy Builders Qld Pty Ltd - QMBA Award for Innovation in Health and Safety - Central Queensland Region.
- Kingston Building Australia Pty Ltd - Winner of the 2013 Workcover Excellence in Health and Safety Award at the Newcastle MBA Awards.

## 6 Initiatives

Accredited contractors submit details of any safety initiatives developed by their company during the reporting period. Many of these initiatives will form the basis of case studies and fact sheets to be published on [fsc.gov.au](http://fsc.gov.au) over the coming months.

## Glossary

**Arithmetic mean (average)** - The mean is the sum of all the scores divided by the number of scores.

**Dangerous occurrence** - An incident where no person is injured, but could have been injured, resulting in Serious Personal Injury, Incapacity or Death. Also commonly called a “near miss”.

**Fatality Frequency Rate** – Fatality Frequency rates are calculated as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Number of incidences}}{\text{Number of hours worked}} \times 100,000,000 \text{ (hours)}$$

**Frequency rate** - Frequency rates are calculated as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Number of incidences}}{\text{Number of hours worked}} \times 1,000,000 \text{ (hours)}$$

### High-risk construction work hazards

1. Construction work where there is a risk of a person falling two metres or more
2. Construction work on telecommunications towers
3. Construction work involving demolition
4. Construction work involving the disturbance or removal of asbestos
5. Construction work involving structural alterations that require temporary support to prevent collapse
6. Construction work involving a confined space
7. Construction work involving excavation to a depth greater than 1.5 metres
8. The construction of tunnels
9. Construction work involving the use of explosives
10. Construction work on or near pressurised gas distribution mains and consumer piping
11. Construction work on or near chemical, fuel or refrigerant lines
12. Construction work on or near energised electrical installations and services
13. Construction work in an area that may have a contaminated or flammable atmosphere
14. Tilt-up and precast concrete construction work
15. Construction work on or adjacent to roadways or railways used by road or rail traffic
16. Work on construction sites where there is any movement of powered mobile plant
17. Construction work in an area where there are artificial extremes of temperature
18. Construction work in, over or adjacent to water or other liquids where there is a risk of drowning
19. Construction work involving diving

**Incident** - An incident resulting in an injury that is required to be notified by the WHS legislative requirement for notifiable incidents in the jurisdiction in which the project is being undertaken.



**LTIFR (Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate)** - The number of occurrences of lost time injury that result in a fatality, a permanent disability or time lost from work of one day shift or more in the period. The number of hours worked refers to the total number of hours worked by all workers in the period, including overtime and extra shifts.

#### **Mechanism of incident classification –**

Major Groups

0. Falls, trips and slips of a person
1. Hitting objects with a part of the body
2. Being hit by moving objects
3. Sound and pressure
4. Body stressing
5. Heat, electricity and other environmental factors
6. Chemicals and other substances
7. Biological factors
8. Mental stress
9. Vehicle incidents and other

**Median** - The median is the middle of a distribution; half the scores are above the median and half are below the median. If the number of values in the data set is even, then the median is the average of the two middle values. The median is less sensitive to extreme scores than the average.

**MTIFR (Medically Treated Injury Frequency Rate)** - The number of occurrences of treatment by, or under the order of, a qualified medical practitioner, or any injury that could be considered as being one that would normally be treated by a medical practitioner. The number of hours worked refers to the total number of hours worked by all workers in the period, including overtime and extra shifts.

#### **Nature of injury classification**

- A. Intracranial injuries
- B. Fractures
- C. Wounds, lacerations, amputations and internal organ damage
- D. Burns
- E. Injury to nerves and spinal cord
- F. Traumatic joint/ligament and muscle/tendon injury
- G. Other injuries
- H. Diseases and conditions

**Non-Scheme projects** – Projects where the accredited contractor is the head contractor, the value of building work is \$3 million or more, and the project is not a Scheme project.

**Scheme projects** - Projects that are directly funded by the Australian Government with a value of \$3 million or more, plus, projects that are indirectly funded by the Australian Government where:

- the value of the Australian Government contribution to the project is at least \$5 million and represents at least 50 per cent of the total construction project value; or
- the Australian Government contribution to a project is \$10 million or more, irrespective of the proportion of Australian Government funding.

**Winsorised mean** - involves the calculation of the mean after replacing given parts of a distribution at the high and low end with the most extreme remaining values, typically replacing an equal amount of both ends. Often 10 per cent of the ends are replaced. The winsorised mean is a useful estimator because it is less sensitive to outliers than the mean but will still give a reasonable estimate of central tendency.