

HSE SAFETY CORNERSTONES

DEC. 2018

Health and Safety Statistics for 2017-18 Are Here: Areas Where You Can Improve

Every year, the HSE releases updated workplace health and safety statistics, providing employers with the opportunity to see how their company ranks in terms of health and safety initiatives, as well as highlighting key areas for improvement. This year's data revealed a total of **144 workplace fatalities—nearly a 5 per cent increase from the previous year**. Review these key figures from the 2017-18 report to determine how your organisation can bolster their health and safety efforts:

- **There are currently 1.4 million working people suffering from a work-related illness.** The most common work-related illnesses include musculoskeletal disorders, occupational lung disease, stress, depression and anxiety.
- **Apart from 144 worker deaths this year, 555,000 non-fatal injuries occurred.** Nearly 25 per cent of these injuries resulted in over seven days of absence, while 75 per cent resulted in up to seven days of absence. The top injuries include:
 - Slips, trips and falls
 - Handling, lifting or carrying
 - Being struck by an object
- **Great Britain suffered £15 billion in total costs due to work-related ill health (65 per cent) and injuries (35 per cent) this year.** The total costs include both financial costs (loss of output, health care and other payments) and human costs (monetary valuation given to pain, grief, suffering and loss of life).

Don't Let Your Elderly Employees Become a Statistic: How to Keep Them Safe

Recent HSE data revealed nearly 40 per cent of workplace fatalities in 2017-18 were workers above the age of 60, representing almost a 25 per cent increase from the previous year. And these numbers are particularly alarming considering those over the age of 60 represent just 10 per cent of the UK working population. Make sure your workplace protects elderly employees from potential risks with these tips:

- **Review your risk assessment**—As you complete your routine risk assessment, be sure to include the potential risks that are specific to elderly workers. Depending on the nature of your organisation's work, older employees might be more vulnerable in certain scenarios, such as during emergency evacuations.
- **Offer additional opportunities**—Ensure that your elderly workers are competent and comfortable with their daily tasks by offering opportunities to reduce their on-site risks, such as providing additional time for them to absorb health and safety training, allowing employees the flexibility to transition to other types of work and limiting tasks that involve manual handling.
- **Involve your employees**—Include elderly employees in health and safety planning, as they likely have valuable knowledge and experience to share.

For additional guidance, go to the [HSE](#) or contact Crendon Insurance Brokers Ltd today.

HSE News and Prosecutions

Waste Company Fined and Director Jailed After Worker Suffers Fatality

A waste and recycling company was fined £700,000 and ordered to pay costs of £99,886.57 following a worker fatality from a machine accident. In 2010, the employee was working with a machine used to compress waste materials into small bales and entered the baling chamber to clear a blockage. After doing so, the machine automatically activated and struck the employee, causing severe injuries that led to his death. Further investigation revealed poor maintenance and a defeated safety interlock system caused the machine accident. In 2015, HSE inspectors discovered that the company continued to use the machine, resulting in the company director being sentenced to prison.

Farm Partnership Fined Following Employee Death from Tractor Accident

A farming partnership was fined £100,000 and ordered to pay costs of £7,310.80 after an employee suffered fatal head injuries in a tractor accident. The farm worker was struck by a moving tractor in the farmyard when he exited the calf shed. Further investigation revealed the partnership failed to create a safe circulation path between pedestrians and vehicles. For more guidance regarding vehicle safety, click [here](#).

Manufacturing Company Fined After Worker Killed in Forklift Incident

A garden shed manufacturing company was fined £233,334.00 and ordered to pay costs of £21,620 after an employee fatality from a forklift truck (FLT) incident. The worker was pushing a trolley when he was struck by a reversing FLT. Further investigation revealed the accident was completely avoidable, but the company failed to implement their transport plan.

Provided by:

Crendon Insurance Brokers Ltd

0121 454 5100

www.crendoninsurance.co.uk



Crendon
Insurance
Brokers

Contains public sector information published by the HSE and licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

Design © 2018 Zywave, Inc. All rights reserved. This publication is for informational purposes only. It is not intended to be exhaustive nor should any discussion or opinions be construed as compliance or legal advice. In relation to any particular problem which they may have, readers are advised to seek specific advice. Further, the law may have changed since first publication and the reader is cautioned accordingly.