



# DMIRS and OSH in the Public Sector



Presented by Sally North

# Public Sector Safety Communique

- *“People should always feel safe and supported at work. Their workplace should be a healthy environment.”*
- *“My Government is determined that the public sector will lead the way.”*
- *“Health and safety is everybody’s responsibility. By sharing knowledge and resources and working together we can create a better safer workplace for all of us.”*

MARK MCGOWAN MLA

PREMIER OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

# Public sector safety and health

- Committed leadership
- Community of practice
- Consultation with staff
- Meeting national targets
- WHS Advisory Committee

# About DMIRS



*Safety Regulation*



*Industry Regulation &  
Consumer Protection*



*Resource & Environmental  
Regulation*

# WorkSafe directorates

## **WorkSafe Service Industries and Specialists Directorate**

- Public Sector and Related Industries Team
- Retail and Service Industries Team
- Specialist teams: Plant & Engineering; Occupational Health, Hygiene & Noise; and Human Factors and Ergonomics Team

## **WorkSafe Industrial and Regional Directorate**

- Industrial Team
- Construction Team
- Regional and Primary Industries Team

## **Investigations Directorate**

# WorkSafe teams

## Public Sector and Related Industries team

- Conducts proactive and reactive inspections across the sector
- Projects in the public sector:
  - Management of asbestos containing materials in government buildings
  - Education – primary and secondary schools
  - Health - hospitals and emergency departments
  - Community services - hospices and group homes

# WorkSafe teams

## Human Factors and Ergonomics team

- Conducts proactive and reactive inspections across the sector
- Projects in the public sector
  - Focus on ergonomics and psychosocial hazards
  - Proactive campaign on violence/aggression in community health

## Plant and Engineering team

## Occupational Hygiene and Noise Control team

# Data online: LTID 2015-16 to 2017-18p

Industry (ANZSIC 2006 Edition)		3yr Average (2015-16 to 2017-18p)	
		Frequency rate	Incidence rate
<b>O</b>	<b>Public Administration and Safety</b>	<b>7.62</b>	<b>1.25</b>
75	Public Administration	1.48	0.24
77	Public Order, Safety and Regulatory Services	28.65	4.77
<b>P</b>	<b>Education and Training</b>	<b>8.21</b>	<b>1.24</b>
80	Preschool and School Education	11.75	1.86
81	Tertiary Education	2.88	0.43
82	Adult, Community and Other Education	1.14	0.15
<b>Q</b>	<b>Health Care and Social Assistance</b>	<b>10.36</b>	<b>1.46</b>
84	Hospitals	14.51	2.12
85	Medical and Other Health Care Services	3.90	0.56
86	Residential Care Services	19.55	2.60
87	Social Assistance Services	8.79	1.17
<b>ALL WA INDUSTRIES</b>		<b>7.66</b>	<b>1.29</b>



# Mechanisms of injury in public sector

Most common mechanisms of injury are:

- Falls, trips and slips of a person
- Body stressing
- Being hit by moving objects
- Mental stress
- Hitting objects with a part of the body

# Trends

- Violence and aggression is an increasing problem in society and in the public sector resulting in injuries
- Increase in the number of mental stress claims emphasises the importance of creating psychologically safe and healthy workplaces

# Agency information

Table 41: Occupational safety and health assessment and performance indicators, 2016/17

Indicator	Target	Actual	Comment
Number of fatalities	0	0	Target achieved
Lost time injury/disease (LTI/D) incidence rate (per 100)	0 or 10% reduction (2.47)	2.33	Target achieved
Lost time injury severity rate	0 or 10% reduction (28.19)	32.5	Target not achieved
Percentage of injured workers returned to work within 13 weeks	Greater than or equal to 80% return to work within 26 weeks	61%	Target not achieved
Percentage of injured workers returned to work within 26 weeks	Greater than or equal to 80% return to work within 26 weeks	78%	Target not achieved
Percentage of managers and supervisors trained in occupational safety, health and injury management responsibilities	Greater than or equal to 80%	85%	Target achieved

# Information products

- Industry checklists and hazard based information online, eg
  - Public sector [toolbox](#)
  - Safety and health [topics](#) including aggression, stress, manual tasks, asbestos, health, office safety
  - New mental health resources, including videos
  - Toolkits and information for aggression/violence, manual tasks, hazardous substances, etc.
  - Hazard and industry checklists for asbestos containing materials, education, etc.

# WorkSafe Plan

- Audit and assessment tool for occupational safety and health management systems
- Free to use
- If assessed formally, certificates of achievement may be awarded

# Work Safety Awards

- WHS invention of the year
- Best solution to a WHS risk
- Best workplace health and wellbeing initiative
- Leadership excellence award
- Safety and health representative of the year

# Further information

- Enquiries line: 1300 307 877
- [www.dmirs.wa.gov.au/worksafe](http://www.dmirs.wa.gov.au/worksafe)
- Codes, industry checklists, guidance material, online notification of injuries
- Email subscriptions
- WorkSafe Plan, Awards
- Lunchtime sessions, Safe Work October
- Information about work, health and safety legislation reform

