

An Garda Síochána



Occupational Injury Report 2014

Please note that this data reflects the position as of 16th April 2015

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Introduction

2014 is the first full year that all occupational injuries have been recorded on the Garda Employee Management Systems (GEMS). Prior to July 2013 only occupational injuries that resulted in an absence of more than 3 days were recorded. This has resulted in an additional 269 occupational injuries being recorded on GEMS. This equates to 44% of all occupational injuries recorded on GEMS in 2014.

GEMS now enables us to establish how our personnel are being injured. As part of their normal work, Gardaí inevitably face significant and serious dangers and sometimes unrealistic public expectations. The nature of policing is such that it is not always possible to completely control all risks. The special nature of operational policing may require that certain risks are taken to secure appropriate benefits to the public and the wider society, such as saving life, preventing serious crime and apprehending those responsible for serious crime. However, there is still a requirement for those risks to be minimised as far as is reasonably practicable in the context of operational policing.

The overall injury rate per 1,000 for An Garda Síochána's employees was 39.7 compared to the national injury rate of 3.4 per 1,000 employed (Health and Safety Authority figure). The main kinds of reported injuries to An Garda Síochána's employees resulted from assaults (46%), road traffic collisions (17%) and slips, trips or falls (15%).

Occupational Injury Rates 2010 - 2014							
Division/Section	Accidents 2014	Garda Numbers 2014	Incident rate per 100 Gardaí				
			2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
CAVAN / MONAGHAN	10	330	3.0	3.8	1.4	3.6	4.1
CLARE	16	290	5.5	1.0	3.1	2.6	5
CORK CITY	26	679	3.8	2.7	1.9	3.5	2.9
CORK NORTH	9	299	3.0	4.2	2.3	3	3.2
CORK WEST	5	273	1.8	2.2	3.9	0.6	2.2
D.M.R. EAST	20	401	5.0	5.7	2.4	4.2	3.4
D.M.R. NORTH	30	700	4.3	4.1	1.2	3.2	3
D.M.R. NORTH CENTRAL	14	617	2.3	1.6	2.6	2.1	1.7
D.M.R. SOUTH	39	561	7.0	7.4	2.9	2.1	3.3
D.M.R. SOUTH CENTRAL	33	668	4.9	2.7	1.1	2	1.3
D.M.R. WEST	53	711	7.5	6.5	4.8	3.2	3
DONEGAL	30	405	7.4	6.0	4.9	4.3	2.4
GALWAY	19	572	3.3	2.4	1.7	3.4	1.8
GARDA COLLEGE & RESEARCH	7	116	6.0	3.4	0.9	0	0
KERRY	27	296	9.1	7.4	2.3	2.5	4.2
KILDARE	16	310	5.2	2.8	4.4	4.1	3.7
KILKENNY/CARLOW	19	284	6.7	4.1	1.7	2.6	2.8
LAOIS / OFFALY	8	280	2.9	3.5	1.7	2.6	4.1
LIMERICK	13	579	2.2	3.9	2.3	3.3	3.4
LOUTH	25	285	8.8	7.6	4.5	1	2.2
MAYO	8	302	2.6	5.9	2.3	1.9	2.6
MEATH	19	284	6.7	3.8	3.4	4	3.8
OPERATIONAL SUPPORT UNIT	6	60	10.0	4.8	3.2	4.7	4.7
ROSCOMMON / LONGFORD	7	286	2.4	3.2	0.7	2.1	3
SLIGO / LEITRIM	9	300	3.0	4.6	1.3	1.6	4.7
TECHNICAL BUREAU	1	81	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
TIPPERARY	28	366	7.7	6.3	4.1	4	2.7
TRAFFIC DIVISION (DMR)	8	141	5.7	10.3	12.2	1.9	4.7
WATERFORD	37	273	13.6	5.0	2.1	3.4	2.3
WESTMEATH	12	246	4.9	1.2	4.3	1.6	1.5
WEXFORD	19	252	7.5	4.7	1.5	1.5	1.4
WICKLOW	19	324	5.9	2.4	3.3	3.2	2.5

Table 1: Garda Divisions/Sections sorted by numbers of occupational injuries recorded in 2014 and also showing the incident rate per 100 Gardaí from 2010 to 2014.

- The number of incidents varies across the country with all Regions except the Western Region and Eastern Region represented in the top 10 in terms of incident count
- High incident count is not necessarily indicative of high incident rate

2014 Occupational Injuries by Age and Cause						
Accident Cause	18-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	Grand Total
Assault		183	76	22	2	283
Contact with something sharp, pointed or rough		24	16	3		43
Injured by animal		7	4		1	12
Manual Handling		11	10	2		23
Needle Stick Injury/Stab/Blood		16	4	2		22
Other		14	5	6	1	26
Psychological shock or trauma		1	3	2		6
Road Traffic Collision	1	58	38	5	1	103
Slips/Trips/Falls	2	38	26	23	3	92
Smoke inhalation		1				1
Grand Total	3	353	182	65	8	611
Percentage	0.49%	57.77%	29.79%	10.64%	1.31%	

Table 2: Occupational injuries sorted by cause and age group

- 58% of occupational injuries occurred to employees in the age bracket 26 - 35

2014 Occupational Injuries by Gender and Cause				
Accident Cause	Female	Male	Grand Total	Percentage
Assault	65	218	283	46.32%
Contact with something sharp, pointed or rough	11	32	43	7.04%
Injured by animal	4	8	12	1.96%
Manual Handling	4	19	23	3.76%
Needle Stick Injury/Stab/Blood or body fluid exposure	2	20	22	3.60%
Other	8	18	26	4.26%
Psychological shock or trauma	2	4	6	0.98%
Road Traffic Collision	17	86	103	16.86%
Slips/Trips/Falls	30	62	92	15.06%
Smoke inhalation		1	1	0.16%
Grand Total	143	468	611	
Percentage	23.40%	76.60%		

Table 3: Occupational injuries sorted by cause and gender

- 77% of occupational injuries were sustained by male employees
- 46% of occupational injuries were as a result of assaults on employees

2014 Occupational Injuries by Month and Cause													
Accident Cause	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	Grand Total
Assault	33	19	17	15	31	14	16	28	21	22	38	29	283
Contact with something sharp, pointed or rough	2	3	3	2	8	3	2	6	1	10	2	1	43
Injured by animal		1	2		2	1		1	2		3		12
Manual Handling	2	2	2		3	2	1	5		3	2	1	23
Needle Stick Injury/Stab/Blood or body fluid exposure		1	3	2		3	5	2	1	2	1	2	22
Other			2	1	3	5	2	4		4	1	4	26
Psychological shock or trauma		2		1	2					1			6
Road Traffic Collision	7	9	6	9	8	7	7	12	7	15	8	8	103
Slips/Trips/Falls	5	3	4	10	9	6	13	3	11	6	10	12	92
Smoke inhalation	1												1
Grand Total	50	40	39	40	66	41	46	61	43	63	65	57	611
Percentage	8.18 %	6.55 %	6.38 %	6.55 %	10.80 %	6.71 %	7.53 %	9.98 %	7.04 %	10.31 %	10.64 %	9.33 %	

Table 4: Occupational injuries sorted by month and cause

- Employees had the highest number of occupational injuries in May

2014 Occupational Injuries by Time and Cause							
Accident Cause	02.01-06.00	06.01-10.00	10.01-14.00	14.01-18.00	18.01-22.00	22.01-02.00	Grand Total
Assault	60	10	25	47	56	85	283
Contact with something sharp, pointed or rough	6	3	7	9	5	13	43
Injured by animal		2	4	3	1	2	12
Manual Handling	3	2	5	4	3	6	23
Needle Stick Injury/Stab/Blood or body fluid exposure	4	2	4	5	1	6	22
Other	3	2	9	5	3	4	26
Psychological shock or trauma	3	1		1		1	6
Road Traffic Collision	18	10	18	24	12	21	103
Slips/Trips/Falls	10	17	11	23	15	16	92
Smoke inhalation						1	1
Grand Total	107	49	83	121	96	155	611
Percentage	17.51%	8.02%	13.58%	19.80%	15.71%	25.37%	

Table 5: Occupational injuries sorted by time and cause

- Just over one quarter of occupational injuries occurred between 10pm and 2am

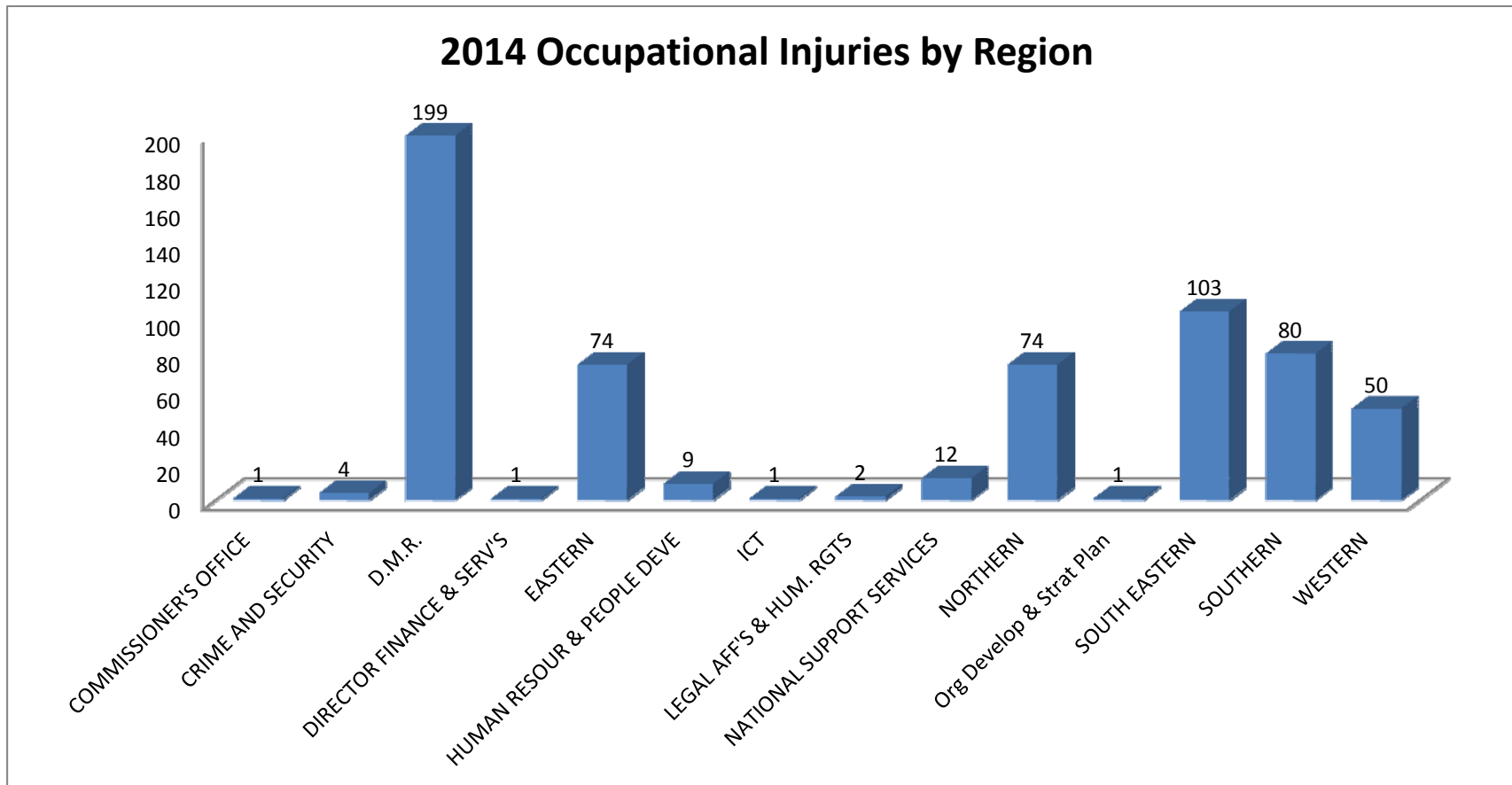


Chart 1: Occupational injuries sorted by Region

- 33% of occupational injuries occurred to employees in the DMR

2014 Occupational Injuries by Division and Cause												
Division	Assault	Contact with something sharp, pointed or rough	Injured by animal	Manual Handling	Needle Stick Injury/ Stab/ Blood or body fluid exposure	Other	Psychological shock or trauma	Road Traffic Collision	Slips/ Trips/ Falls	Smoke inhalation	Grand Total	Percentage
C.A.B.									1		1	0.16%
CAVAN / MONAGHAN	8							2			10	1.64%
CHANGE MANAGEMENT									1		1	0.16%
CLARE	6	3		1				2	4		16	2.62%
COMMISSIONERS OFFICE						1					1	0.16%
CORK CITY	13	2		1	1			3	6		26	4.26%
CORK NORTH	6	1				1		1			9	1.47%
CORK WEST	3							1	1		5	0.82%
CRIME AND SECURITY									1		1	0.16%
D.M.R. EAST	8			1				8	3		20	3.27%
D.M.R. NORTH	13	4	1		1	2		4	5		30	4.91%
D.M.R. NORTH CENTRAL	9					1	2		2		14	2.29%
D.M.R. OFFICE						1			1		2	0.33%
D.M.R. SOUTH	19	7		3	1			7	2		39	6.38%
D.M.R. SOUTH CENTRAL	21	3	1		1	1		3	3		33	5.40%
D.M.R. WEST	29	1	2	5	2		1	8	5		53	8.67%
DONEGAL	9	2	1	3	3		1	7	4		30	4.91%
FLEET MANAGEMENT						1					1	0.16%
G.N.I.B.	2										2	0.33%
G.N.T.B.						1					1	0.16%
GALWAY	11	3							5		19	3.11%
GARDA COLLEGE & RESEARCH		1				1		1	4		7	1.15%
HUMAN RESOUR & PEOPLE DEV				1		1					2	0.33%
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY						1					1	0.16%
KERRY	15	1		2	3	1		2	3		27	4.42%
KILDARE	7	1				2		2	4		16	2.62%
KILKENNY/CARLOW	8	3		1		2		2	3		19	3.11%
LAOIS / OFFALY	4	1						2	1		8	1.31%
LEGAL AFF'S & HUMAN RGTS									2		2	0.33%
LIAISON & PROTECTION									2		2	0.33%
LIMERICK	4							5	4		13	2.13%
LOUTH	10	2	1			2		6	4		25	4.09%
MAYO	3	1		1				2	1		8	1.31%
MEATH	8			1		1		7	2		19	3.11%
N.B.C.I.		1						1			2	0.33%
OPERATIONAL SUPPORT UNIT			2	2		2					6	0.98%
ROSCOMMON / LONGFORD	4					1			2		7	1.15%
SLIGO / LEITRIM	3		1			1	1	2	1		9	1.47%
TECHNICAL BUREAU									1		1	0.16%
TIPPERARY	13		1				1	7	5	1	28	4.58%
TRAFFIC DIVISION (DMR)	1	1			1			4	1		8	1.31%
WATERFORD	22			1	2	2	1	5	4		37	6.06%
WESTMEATH	5	2						4	1		12	1.96%
WEXFORD	11	1	1			1	2	1	2		19	3.11%
WICKLOW	8	2	1		3			2	3		19	3.11%
Grand Total	283	43	12	23	22	26	6	103	92	1	611	

Table 6: Occupational injuries sorted by Garda Divisions/Sections and cause

- Assaults rank as the most common incident type across many of the Divisions and this feature appears across the country in both urban and rural Divisions.

2014 Occupational Injuries by Cause and Period of Absence

Accident Cause	0 Days (non-reportable)	1-3 Days (non-reportable)	14-20 Days	21 Days - less than one month	4-6 Days	7-13 Days	One Month - less than three Months	Six Months or more	Three Months - less than six Months	Grand Total
Assault	29	117	9	8	22	41	27	10	20	283
Contact with something sharp, pointed or rough	2	20	2	3	3	7	5		1	43
Injured by animal	2	8				1	1			12
Manual Handling	1	9			3	2	3	1	4	23
Needle Stick Injury/Stab/Blood or body fluid exposure	5	16							1	22
Other	2	10	2	1	2	4	3		2	26
Psychological shock or trauma			2	1			3			6
Road Traffic Collision	3	16	4	6	5	9	30	9	21	103
Slips /Trips/Falls	5	23	3	5	8	10	26	2	10	92
Smoke inhalation		1								1
Grand Total	49	220	22	24	43	74	98	22	59	611
Percentage	8.02%	36.01%	3.60%	3.93%	7.04%	12.11%	16.04%	3.60%	9.66%	

Table 7: Occupational injuries sorted by cause and period of absence

- 29.3% of occupational injuries resulted in an absence of one month or more

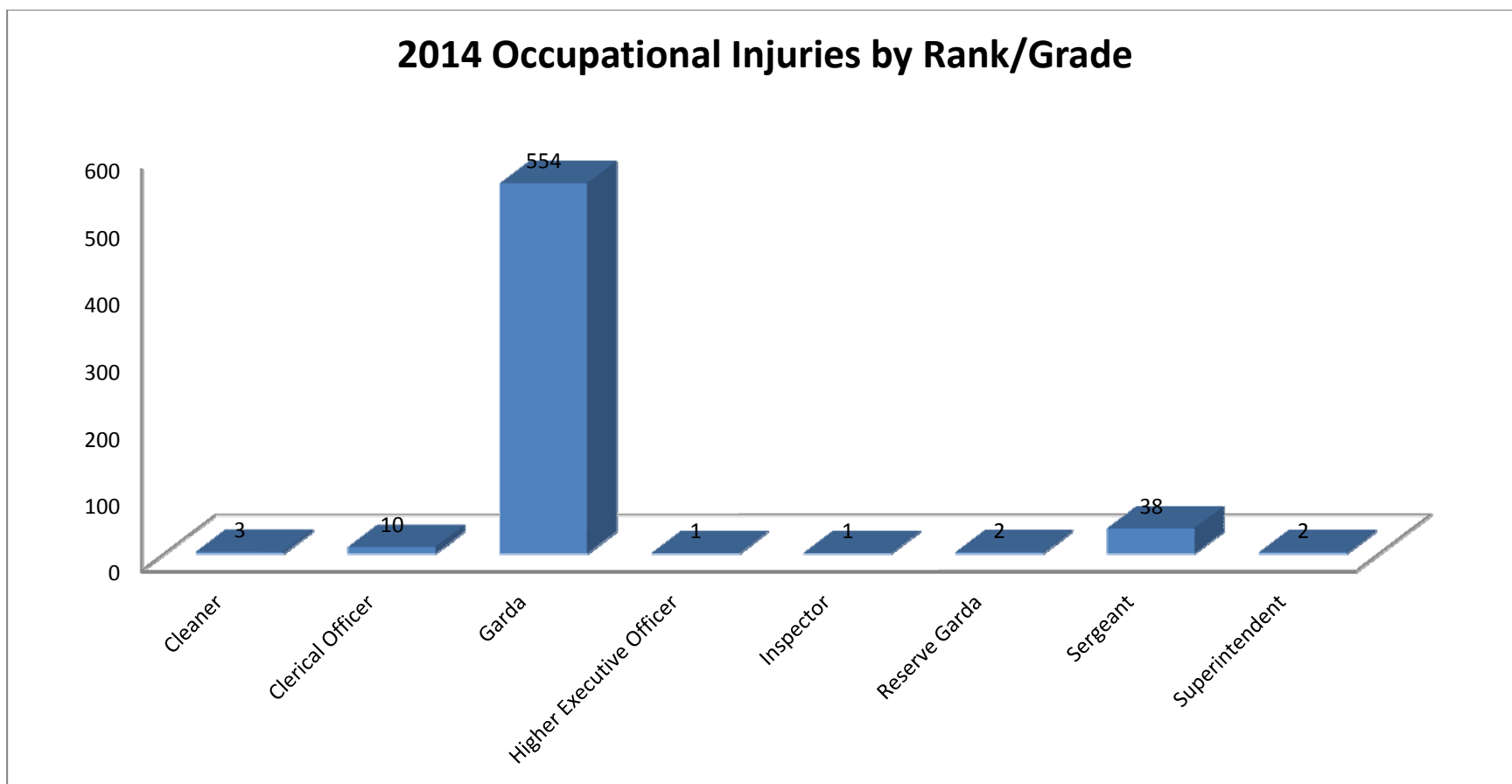


Chart 2: Occupational injuries by Rank/Grade

- 97% of occupational injuries occurred to Garda or Sergeant rank