



Occupational Health Factsheet 2018-19

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Next publication date: TBC

Background

This factsheet contains information on cases of occupational disease reported to ORR under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) between 2010-11 and 2018-19.

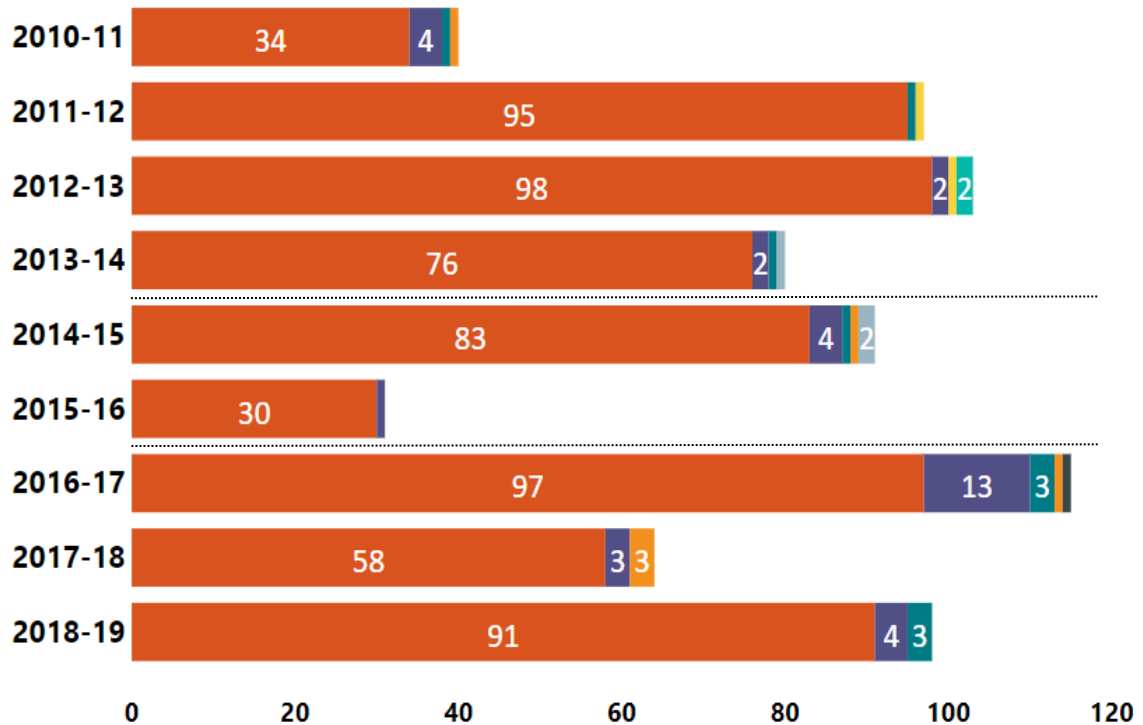
For guidance on RIDDOR click [\(here\)](#)

This factsheet also includes industry data on incidents of manual handling and shock/trauma between 2005-06 and 2018-19.

For more details on Occupational Health within the rail industry click [\(here\)](#)

The data is published annually on ORR's [data portal](#).

Disease cases reported to ORR under RIDDOR from across Britain's railways between 2010-11 and 2018-19 ([Table 5.12](#)):



Source: Rail Safety and Standards Board (RSSB) and ORR

Between 2013-14 and 2014-15, there is a series break due to changes in the reporting requirements under RIDDOR

Between 2015-16 and 2016-17, there is a series break due to the new Safety Management Intelligence System (SMIS) being re-launched in March 2017. This resulted in categories not mapping directly to those within the original SMIS.

- Hand arm vibration syndrome (HAVS)
- Carpal tunnel syndrome
- Tendonitis or tenosynovitis in hand or forearm
- Dermatitis
- Occupational asthma
- Infectious disease due to biological agents
- Cramp in the hand or forearm due to repetitive movements
- Occupational cancers



There has been a **56.9%** increase in reported cases of HAVS between 2017-18 and 2018-19.

Definitions

Hand-arm vibration syndrome (HAVS): work involves regular use of percussive or vibrating tools, or the holding of materials which are subject to percussive processes, or processes causing vibration.

Carpal Tunnel Syndrome: work involves regular use of percussive (repeated impact) or vibrating tools.

Tendonitis or tenosynovitis in the hand or forearm: work is physically demanding and involves frequent, repetitive movements.

Dermatitis: work involves significant or regular exposure to a known skin sensitizer or irritant.

For more information on all the different disease cases reported to ORR under RIDDOR click [\(here\)](#)

To recognise the increasing role that administrative data plays in the production of official statistics, the Office for Statistics Regulation has introduced a Standard to clarify their expectations for what producers of official statistics should do to assure themselves of the quality of the data they use to compile statistics.

Following the switchover in reporting systems for the mainline railway, ORR and RSSB have recently completed their first Quality Assurance of Administrative Data (QAAD) assessment on RSSB's Safety Management Intelligence System (SMIS). The outcome of this assessment will be published in due course.

For more information on QAAD, please click [\(here\)](#)

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