

Reported incidents



15 May 2012

Since the last edition, there were 85 incidents reported to WorkSafe in the manufacturing, logistics, meat, food, agriculture and retail/trade industries.

These include 11 fractures, 33 lacerations, three electric shocks and four fatalities.

Manufacturing			
Date*	Suburb	Injury details	Incident description
27.4	Springvale	Fractured leg	Worker was struck on the back of his leg by a reversing forklift.
28.4	Charlton	Cheek laceration	An explosion resulted in a worker sustaining a laceration to his cheek.
30.4	Wendouree	Hand laceration	Worker was changing a sanding wheel when his hand came into contact with the wheel, which was on at the time.
	Baranduda	Arm laceration	Worker using a shrink wrapping machine when his arm came into contact with the knife that cuts the wrap. Knife guard was in place at the time.
	Lang Lang	Fractured hand	Worker caught his hand in a steel container door.
1.5	Brunswick East	Finger laceration	Worker sustained a finger laceration when an angle grinder kicked back.
2.5	Bendigo	No injuries	A loose crossbeam resulted in pallets falling three levels in the vicinity of a worker.
	Campbellfield	Fracture	Worker was driving a ride-on tugger when his leg became caught next to the cage. A support gave way and the worker lost control of vehicle.
	North Shore	No injuries	Worker was standing beside a rework conveyer when a brake rotor dislodged and fell from the conveyer, landing directly behind the operator.
	Shepparton	Head laceration	Worker was on a production line when a conveyor jammed. Worker ran to free up the jam and tripped on a table leg, hitting his head on the frame of the conveyor.
3.5	Bell Park	Finger laceration	Worker was threading a stainless steel bar, using a threading machine, when he sustained a laceration from a piece of swarf.
4.5	Altona North	Stomach laceration	Worker was striking the top of one hammer with another when a piece of metal broke off the top of the hammer and struck the worker.
	Keon Park	Wrist laceration	Worker was cutting a piece of metal when it sprung back and hit him in the wrist.
7.5	Dandenong South	Ankle injury	Worker was moving a piece of steel plate for welding that was incorrectly loaded into the forklift. The plate fell off and hit the worker on the ankle.

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	Campbellfield	Multiple lacerations	Worker was using a grinder when it kicked back, causing the worker to sustain nose, arm and finger lacerations.
	Bayswater	Thigh lacerations	Worker was caught between a steel girder and a reversing work buggy
	Nunawading	Finger laceration	Worker was using a table saw when he sustained ad finger laceration.
8.5	Kilsyth	Leg burns	Worker was oxy cutting when sparks touched his overalls, resulting in leg burns.
	Preston	No injuries	A printing press was discovered smouldering.
9.5	Golden Square	Finger laceration	Worker sustained a laceration while using a riveting machine.
	Dandenong	Fractured fingers	Worker was operating brake press when his hand became caught in the press.
10.5	Delacombe	No injuries	Two workers were welding a truck when a gas bottle on the truck leaked, causing a small explosion.
	Colac	Hand laceration	Worker was placing his hand on the side of his leg, with a pair of scissors in his pocket. The tip of the scissors was facing outwards.
	Truganina	Head laceration, shock	Worker was walking under a mezzanine area when a plastic bin fell two to three meters, causing a head laceration and shock.
	Hampton Park	Thumb laceration	Worker was using a grinder when the machine jammed and kicked back.
	Yarroweyah	Finger amputation	Worker was resting his hand on a roller when another worker started up the 'u-beam' machine, resulting in the worker's finger becoming caught and amputated in the roller.
	Clayton South	No injuries	A fire occurred in a heat soak oven, used for heating glass, when a wheelie bin was left inside it.
	Alphington	Back bruising	Worker slipped over in the control room and sustained severe back bruising.
11.5	Moorabbin	Finger laceration	Worker was cleaning a sensor on a shut-down gauge when the power was restarted. Worker's finger became caught between a bar and the sensor.

Logistics			
Date*	Suburb	Injury details	Incident description
25.4	Strathmore	Fractured arm	Worker was closing a unit-loading device gate when he lost footing, fell backwards and landed on his arm.
1.5	Chadstone	Possible fracture	Bus driver stepped off a bus and missed the footpath.
	Ringwood	No injuries	A 20-foot shipping container tipped over and fell off a truck while being loaded.
	Port Melbourne	Respiratory problems	Workers unloading a container sustained shortness of breath. Suspected diesel fumes entered the ship deck.
2.5	Preston	Fatality	Worker was crushed while unloading a delivery of a forklift and scissor lift to a worksite.
	Ballarat	No injuries	Transport vehicle brakes failed after a hill stop. The vehicle rolled five metres towards a bus, narrowly

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			missing the bus and a pedestrian.
	Sandringham	Fractured wrist	Worker reached up to remove signage from a truck, slipped on a wet step and fell onto the roadway.
	West Melbourne	No injuries	A crane cable snapped while in operation.
3.5	Anglesea	No injuries	A tip tray truck flipped after sand being unloaded got into the body and tipped the trailer.
	Footscray	No injuries	A retractable trailer broke in half after exiting a weighbridge. The driver stopped for a red light and the tri-axel stopped, the pins did not correctly engage, causing the top of truck to stop before the rest of it.
	Bundoora	Facial lacerations	Worker walked past a courier van being unloaded when a door came off van.
	Tottenham	Thumb laceration	Worker was using a pressure release valve when a spring retracted.
4.5	Port Melbourne	Fractured leg and pelvis	Plasterboard fell on a worker during a delivery.
	Banyule	Forehead laceration	Worker was emptying a load of rubbish from a truck when the tray tilted, causing the gates to swing open.
5.5	Carrum	Fatality	Person exited a moving bus and was run over by the bus.
7.5	Werribee	Leg injury	A tipper truck took a corner too quickly and tipped over, landing on its cabin head.
8.5	Warrnambool	Torn ligaments	Worker was carrying product when he stepped out of a truck cargo hold and slipped off a step, falling onto the road.
10.5	Euroa	Leg and internal injuries	A bus collided with a truck.
11.5	Fitzroy	No injuries	Worker was unloading product from a delivery truck when a weld snapped and the load fell.

Meat

Date*	Suburb	Injury details	Incident description
20.4	Cranbourne	Forearm laceration	Worker was boning heads when a knife slipped.
23.4	Melton	Finger laceration	Worker's finger was dragged into a press when a twisted shank product jumped.
2.5	Brooklyn	Forehead laceration	Knife became caught in a knuckle of a carcass. Worker used more force on the knife, which then slipped through and made contact with the worker.
4.5	Warrnambool	Hand laceration	Worker was cleaning a knife when his hand slipped.

Food

Date*	Suburb	Injury details	Incident description
18.4	Richmond	Burns to feet	Worker sustained caustic soda burns to his feet.
27.4	Southbank	Hand laceration	Worker tried to force frozen beef burgers apart with a knife and slipped.
2.5	Brunswick	Burns to face and eyes	Worker tried to light an oven when unused gas exploded in his face.
5.5	Kinglake	Finger tip amputation	Worker was slicing mushrooms using a meat slicer.

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10.5	Warrnambool	Finger laceration	Worker was using a box cutter to cut open a cattle hide when it slipped.
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Retail/Trade

Date*	Suburb	Injury details	Incident description
30.4	Bayswater Nth	Punctured hand	Worker was underneath the dashboard of a vehicle when a test light slipped.
	Ringwood	Electric shock	Worker received an electric shock when he connecting a male plug into a female socket on a portable conveyor.
	Coldstream	Finger laceration	Worker was cleaning a knife.
1.5	Geelong	Electric shock	Worker received an electric from a security de-tagger.
2.5	Narre Warren	Laceration	Worker was cleaning a mirror when it fell. While trying to catch it, the worker sustained a laceration.
	Maffra	Fractured arm	Worker was climbing down ladder and missed the last rung, resulting in a fall.
	Coburg	Fractured ankle	Member of the public tripped on a crate.
3.5	Mulgrave	No injuries	While stacking empty pallets onto a truck, two pallets fell approximately eight metres and one pallet clipped the edge of the forklift cabin.
4.5	Wantirna	No injuries	Worker was holding a ladder when it hit fluorescent lighting on the ceiling. The light housing broke on impact and fell 2.5 m to the ground.
	Mitchell Park	Back injury	A tank holding cage collapsed on top of a worker.
	Newham	Thumb laceration	Worker was trying to fix a lifting chain after it came off its pulley. He climbed up and got the chain back on the pulley when the full weight dropped onto the chain.
10.5	Beaconsfield	Electric shock	Worker removed the cover off a motorised diving net and made contact with live switch wires.
	Diamond Creek	No injuries	Customer entered a site with diesel fuel leaking from a truck tank, Approximately 25-40 litres was discharged and contained on the site.
	Richmond	Fractured wrist	Worker was trying to clean a mirror when she lost her balance and fell over.
11.5	Chadstone	Burns to face and hand	Worker was checking the dip reading for LPG at a service station. Instead of using a torch, he used a lighter and the gas ignited.

Agriculture/Horticulture

Date*	Suburb	Injury details	Incident description
17.4	Arcadia	Fatality	Young person was involved in an all-terrain vehicle incident at a worksite and died several days later from injuries.
1.5	Hallston	Fatality	A crop-dusting plane crash landed and was engulfed in flames.

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	Yea	Knee laceration	Worker sustained a laceration while using a chainsaw to cut wood.
	Braeside	Internal injuries	Worker was the ground crew for tree trimming. While holding onto a lowering rope, he was pulled into a tree as a tree limb fell. A log hit him and pinned him between a log and a tree trunk.
2.5	Apollo Bay	Severed finger	Worker using an electric-powered circular saw when he severed his finger on one hand and damaged two fingers on his other hand.
	Dunolly	Knuckle laceration	Worker's hand was close to inoperable auger when the auger started.
	Croydon North	Finger laceration	Worker attempted to reposition a piece of wood inside a chipper, resulting in his hand becoming caught between a piece of wood and the side of the machine or another piece of wood.
3.5	Balwyn	Knee laceration	Worker was operating a motorised hedging tool when it became caught on his trousers.
4.5	Rosebud	No injuries	A cherry picker struck low voltage powerlines.
8.5	Campbellfield	No injuries	Worker was unloading a container on a ramp when he overbalanced and fell approximately 1.5-1.9 metres.
10.5	Bonegilla	Foot laceration	Worker was clearing branches with a chainsaw when it cut through a branch and clipped the worker's foot.
11.5	Bannockburn	No injuries	A large tank tipped over while travelling around a bend at the bottom of a dry lagoon.

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