

Highways Agency Performance Specification 2013-14 – Technical Note

Field	Notes
Short Title	Reducing the Accident Frequency Rate (AFR) of the Highways Agency's Supply Chain.
Performance Specification Reference	Output 6 – PS 4.11
Requirement / Output Details	The network operator aims to reduce the numbers of road workers harmed whilst undertaking activities on the network operator's behalf, seeking a reduction in the accident frequency rate from the 2012-13 figure.
Technical Definition	<p>Health and safety performance for construction and maintenance activities is monitored using Accident Frequency Rates (AFRs). AFR is calculated on the basis of incidents reportable under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR), and presented as a 12 month rolling average, per 100,000 hours worked. It is a legal requirement to record and report all RIDDOR incidents.</p> <p>Road workers include all operatives working on the Highways Agency's (HA's) network who are directly exposed to risks from network users. These include all workers engaged in traffic management activities and incident support services, maintenance and renewal schemes, and other activities where live traffic is present.</p>
Rationale	The AFR is recognised by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) as an industry standard measure. It is widely understood, provides a suitable focus for all RIDDOR injury-incidents and therefore is suitable for measuring workforce health and safety performance.
Formula	<p>AFR is calculated on the basis of all incidents reportable under RIDDOR and presented as a 12 month rolling average, per 100,000 hours worked.</p> <p>The AFR gives the accident rate per 100,000 hours worked and is calculated as follows:</p> $AFR = \frac{\text{No. of reportable incidents per year} \times 100,000}{\text{No. of hours worked in the year}}$
Start Date	AFR data collected and published since 2007-08.

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Performance	The public should be looking for a reduction in the measure.
Behavioural Impact	Collecting data should encourage the development of initiatives to encourage and improve safety behaviours and reduce the AFR. AIRSWeb allows project managers and area teams to view and report on incidents occurring on their projects and monitor performance.
Comparability	The AFR is recognised by the HSE as an industry standard measure and permits comparison across the industry.
Collection Frequency	Monthly.
Clearance Process	The data is collated, analysed and reported by the Highways Agency's National Health and Safety Team.
Time Lag	3 months.
Data Source	HA Accident and Incident Reporting System (AIRSWeb) This is the system which is used by the HA's Principal Contractors to report accidents, incidents and near misses to the National Health and Safety Team.
Type of Data	Management information.
Robustness and Data Limitations	The quality of the data is dependent upon accurate reporting by Principal Contractors of incident data and total numbers of hours worked.
Collecting Organisation	HA Principal Contractors.
Return Format	Number.
Geographical Coverage	England.
How Indicator Can be Broken Down	By HA Directorate/Asset Support Contract Area/Contractor/Project.