

ARIA NEWSFLASH June 2016

Temporality of accidents: When do they occur?

The ARIA database on technology-related accidents has catalogued between 1 January 1992 and 31 December 2015 a total of 25,309 events at French industrial sites. This large number of events provides a valuable study base for identifying trends in accident occurrence with respect to the month, week, day and time of day.

By month



The most accident-prone months are during the **hot summer months of June, July and August**. This season is typically characterised by heat waves and periods when plant operations are suspended or scheduled for maintenance and repairs. Moreover, sites are run with fewer staff in June through August due to the summer holiday period.

By week



Weeks 25-26 and 30-31 are the most accident-prone. These weeks correspond to the last two weeks in June and the period extending from 25 July to 7 August. A slight uptick in accidents is also noticed around mid-September (week no. 37). The first half of the year, most notably in May (weeks 18 and 19), and the period between Christmas and New Year's (i.e. weeks 1 and 52) appear to have fewer accidents.

By day



The breakdown of number of accidents by day of the week shows a "Gaussian" curve. The trend line is centred on the days in the middle of the week: **Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday**.



By time of day

The exact time of an accident is known in over 60% of all cases, i.e. 15,566 events in the ARIA base. Accidents seem to occur over the course of the workday, during "office hours" from 8 am to 7 pm. The intervals of [10 am; 11 am[and [3 pm; 4 pm[stand out as the times of highest frequency.

To submit a comment or suggestion, to notify of an accident or to obtain permission to use this data for publication purposes: <u>barpi@developpement-durable.gouv.fr</u> The summaries of accidents recorded in the ARIA base may be consulted at: <u>www.aria.developpement-durable.gouv.fr</u>

