

**From Occupational Safety and Health Strategies to
Practice
Tampere, September 20, 2016**

**Can we find more
information from Hospital
surveys
CASE Latvia**

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Introduction

- Registration of occupational accidents in Latvia slightly improving but still ~10-20(?) times lower than in comparable countries
- Fatal accidents on the rise after economic recovery
- Number of indicators showing the level on under-reporting
- This study – attempt to provide proof to policy makers that registration system unreliable and not precise

Underreporting of occupational accidents in Latvia – General comments

■ Fatalities

- » Most probably very few underreported but still...
 - «Grey» (unreported) employment?
 - Self-employed – growing problem!
 - Traffic accidents
 - Workers working abroad?

■ Non-fatal accidents

- » Underreporting - Huge problem with many reasons

■ Poor statistics?

- » No effective prevention
- » Growing and accumulating long term public health problem

Material and methods

- 2 approaches were used
- Data from Centre of Disease Prevention and Control (CDPC)
 - » Good data collection system based on hospital records and filing – lots of various data on accidents, including those that have happened during working time (paid and unpaid)
 - » Based on ICD 10 classification data from hospitals but coded according to requirements of European Injury Database
 - » Data from 2009-2013 analysed

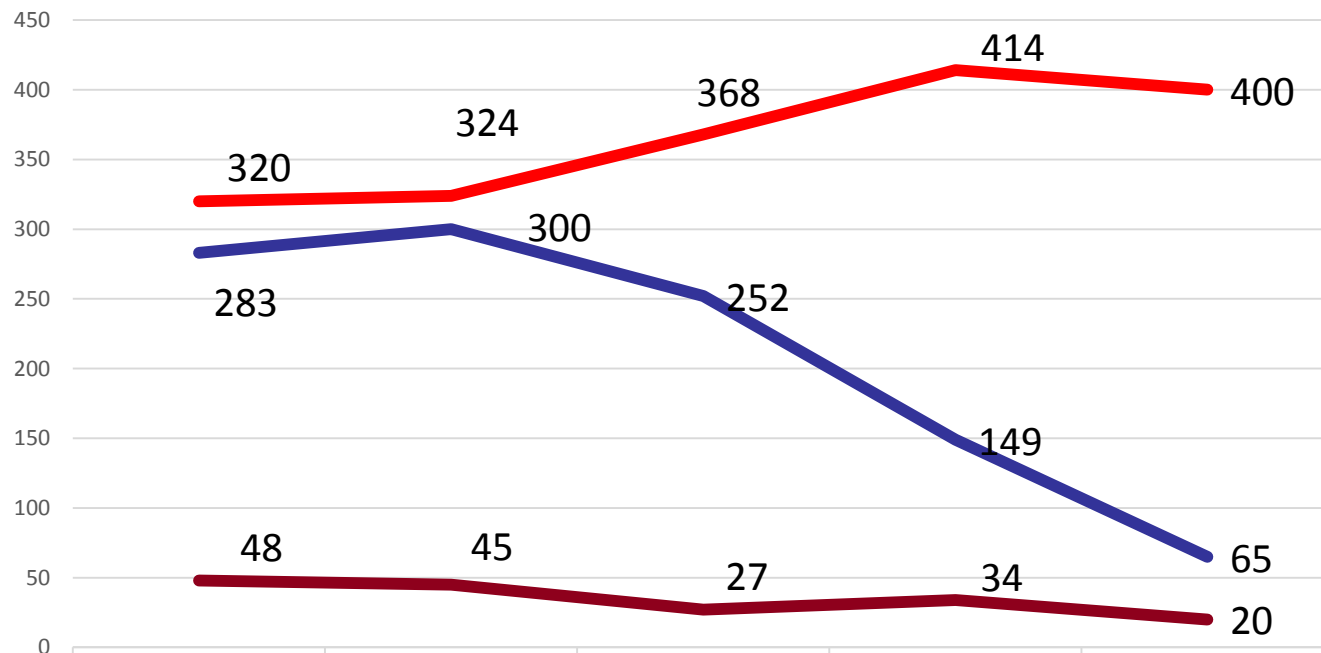
Material and methods

- Data from the Hand and plastic surgery centre of «Riga East Clinical university hospital»
 - » Treating 30-50% of all similar injuries in Latvia)
 - » Data from Nov-Dec 2013, Jan-Feb 2014 and July-Sept 2014 analysed
 - » On average 60-70 cases per month (18-65 years) or Total of 222 cases over 8 months
 - » Selected based on diseases codes (ICD 10)
 - » Location of injury and time of day analysed
 - » **All cases checked in State Labour inspection based on ID codes of patients**
- Some results from survey «Working conditions and risks in Latvia 2012-2013»

Results

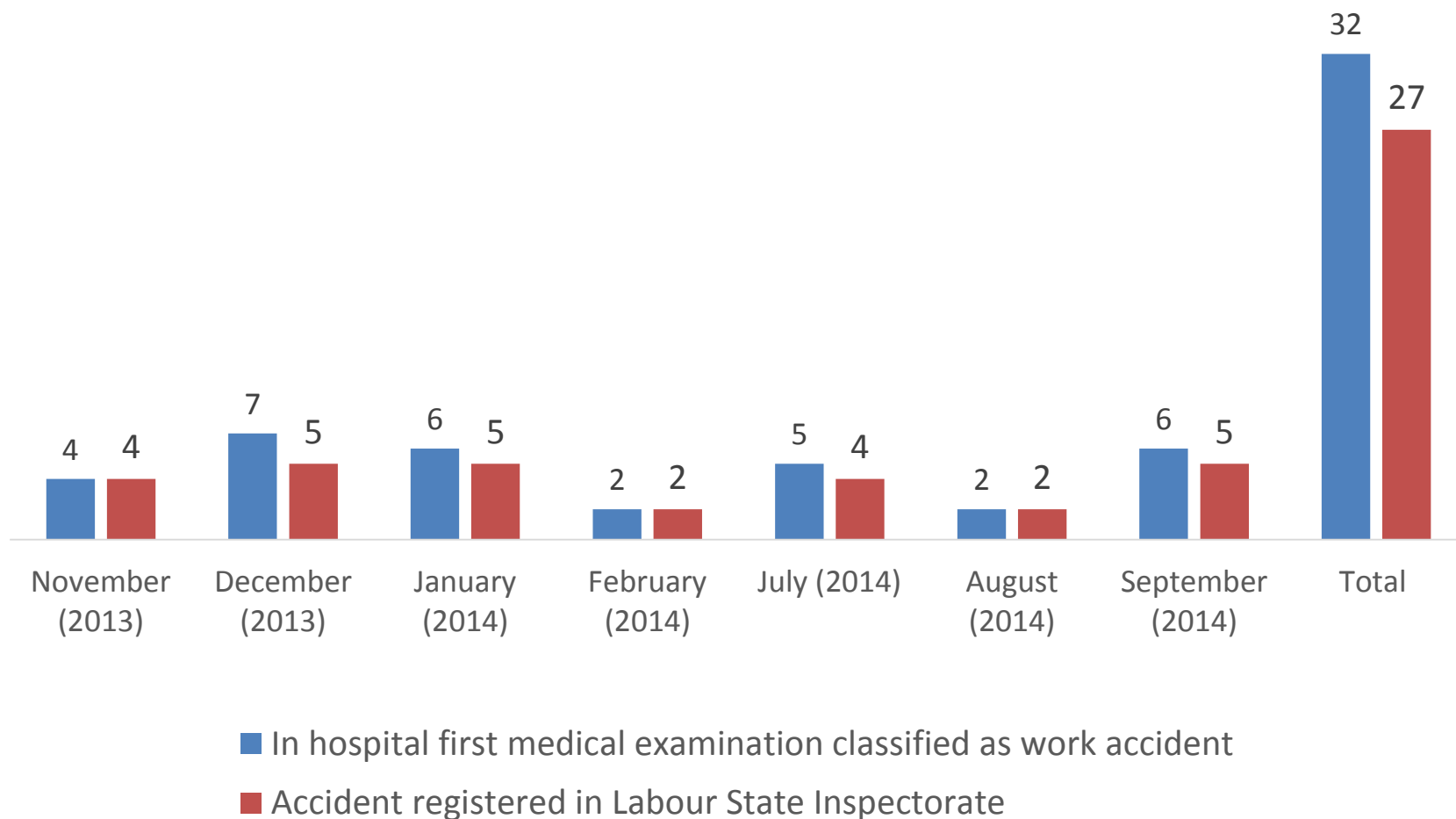
- Results show huge differences among various registries
- Partly explained by data collection problems and differences in coding systems
- Still the differences are too large...

Comparison of State Labour inspectorate data and CDPC

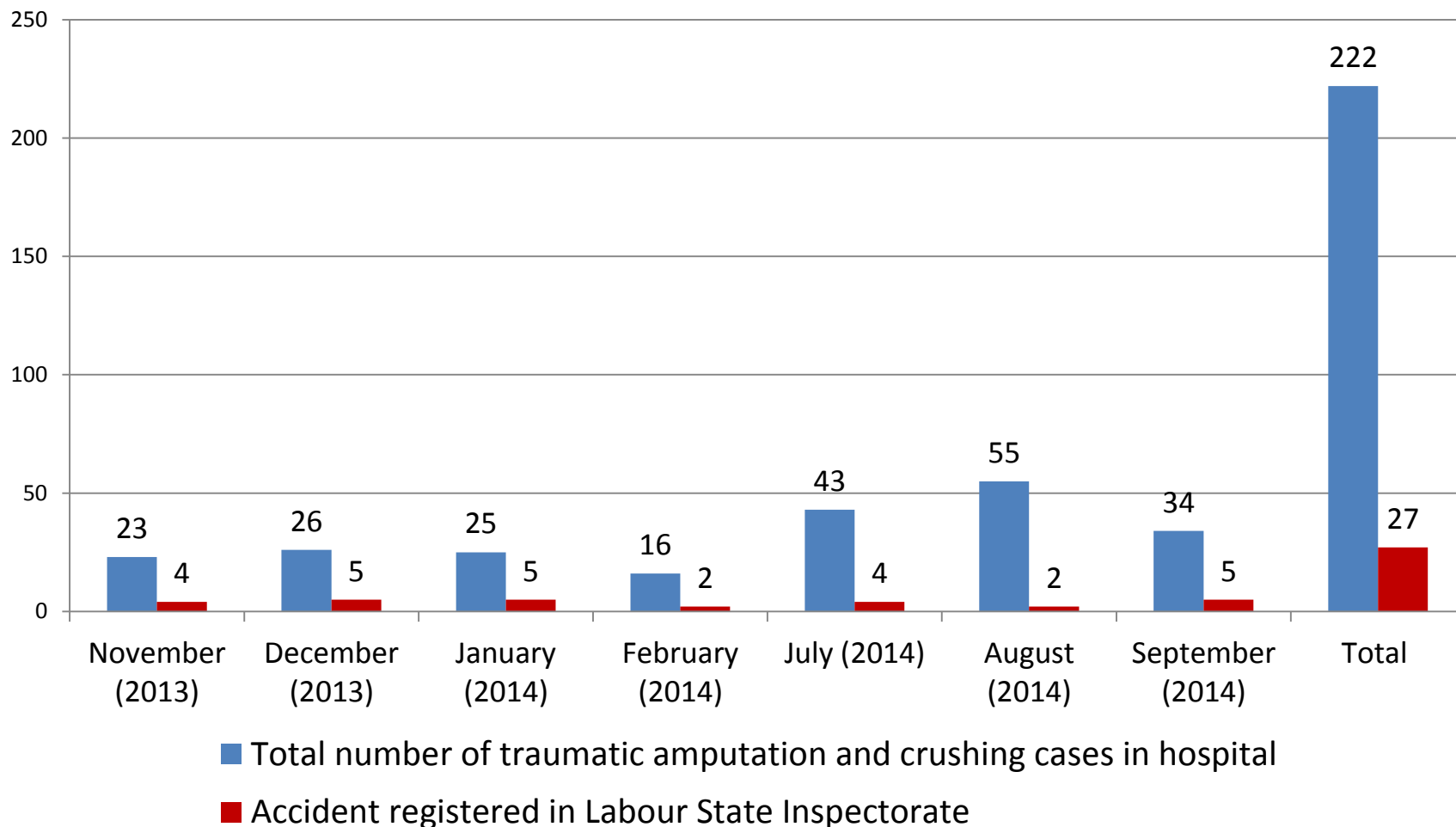


| | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| During work time CDPC | 48 | 45 | 27 | 34 | 20 |
| Not during work time CDPC | 283 | 300 | 252 | 149 | 65 |
| Amputations by SLI | 320 | 324 | 368 | 414 | 400 |

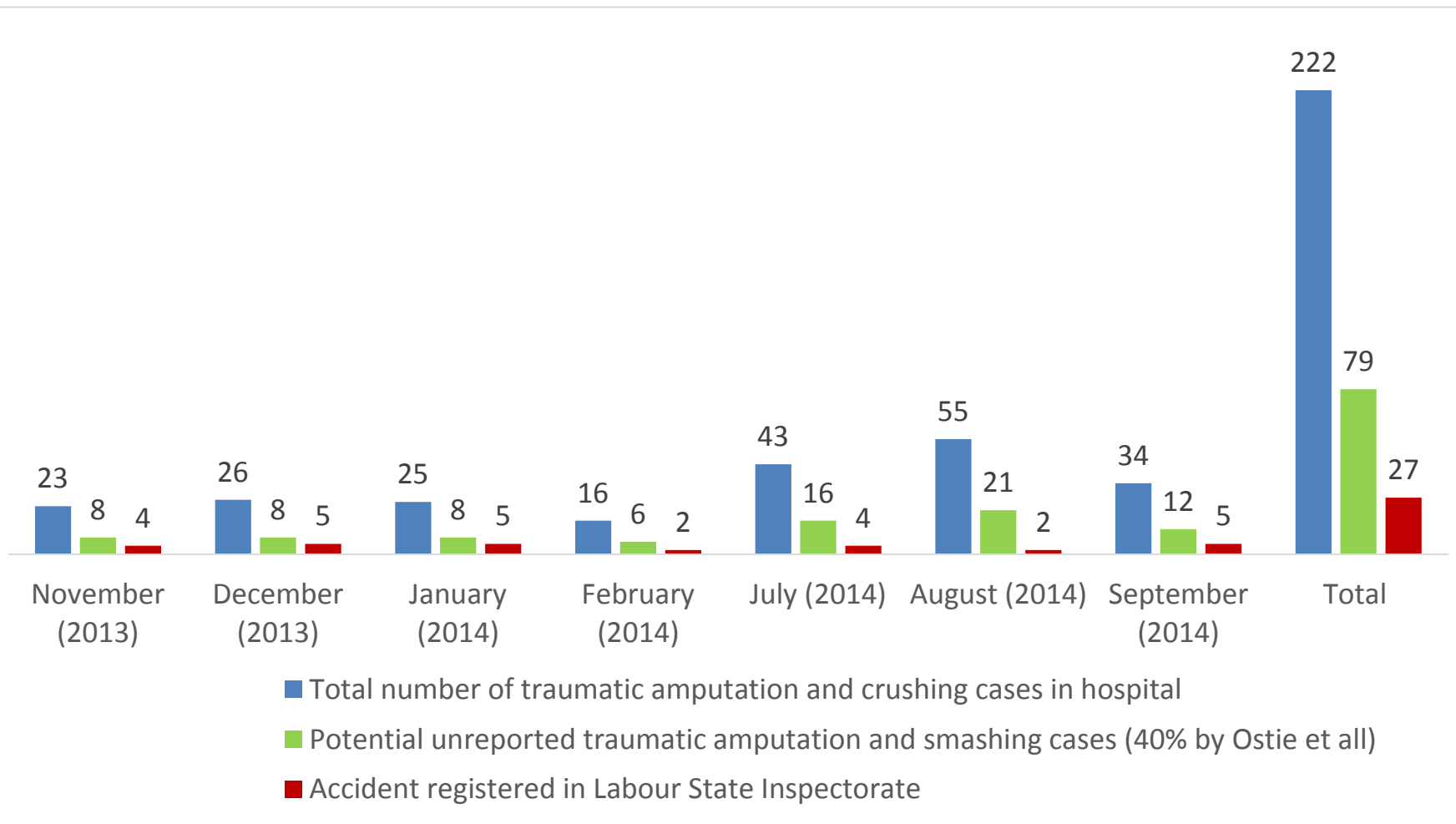
Accident registration in State Labour inspection – CASES marked as occupational accidents



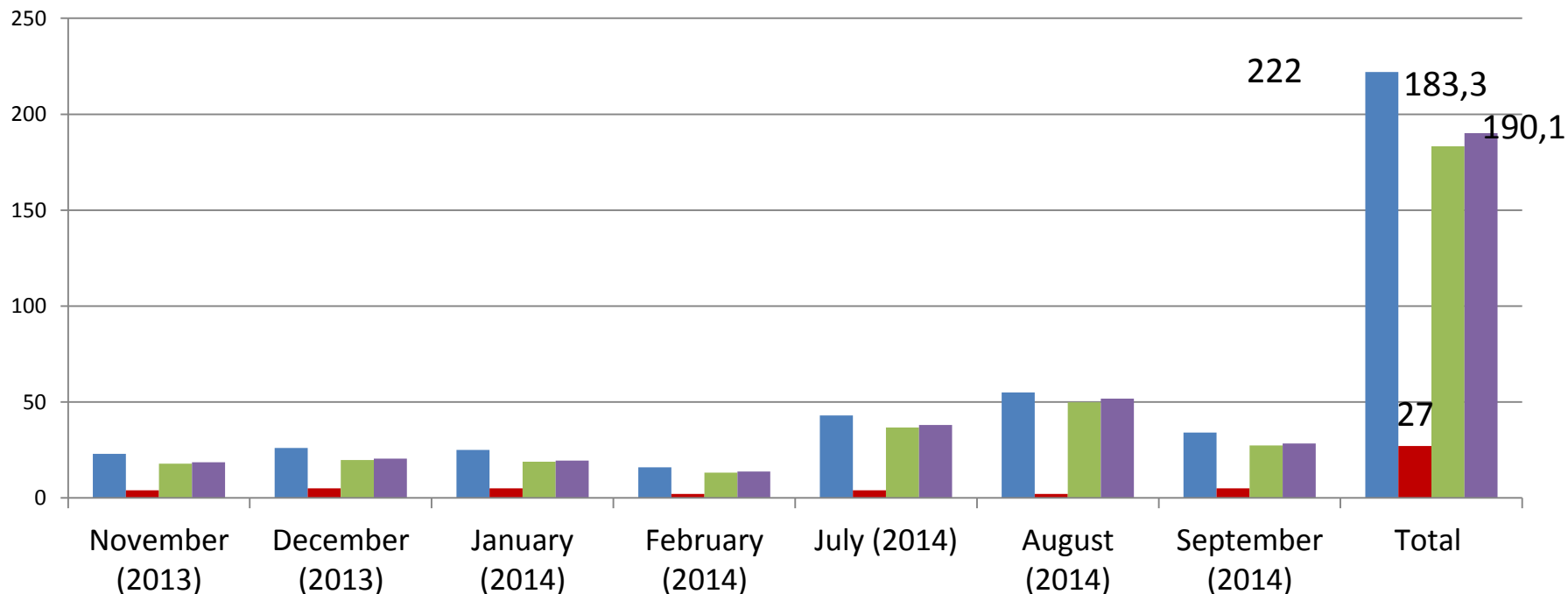
Accident registration in State Labour inspection – All CASES



Accident registration in State Labour inspection – All CASES and estimation



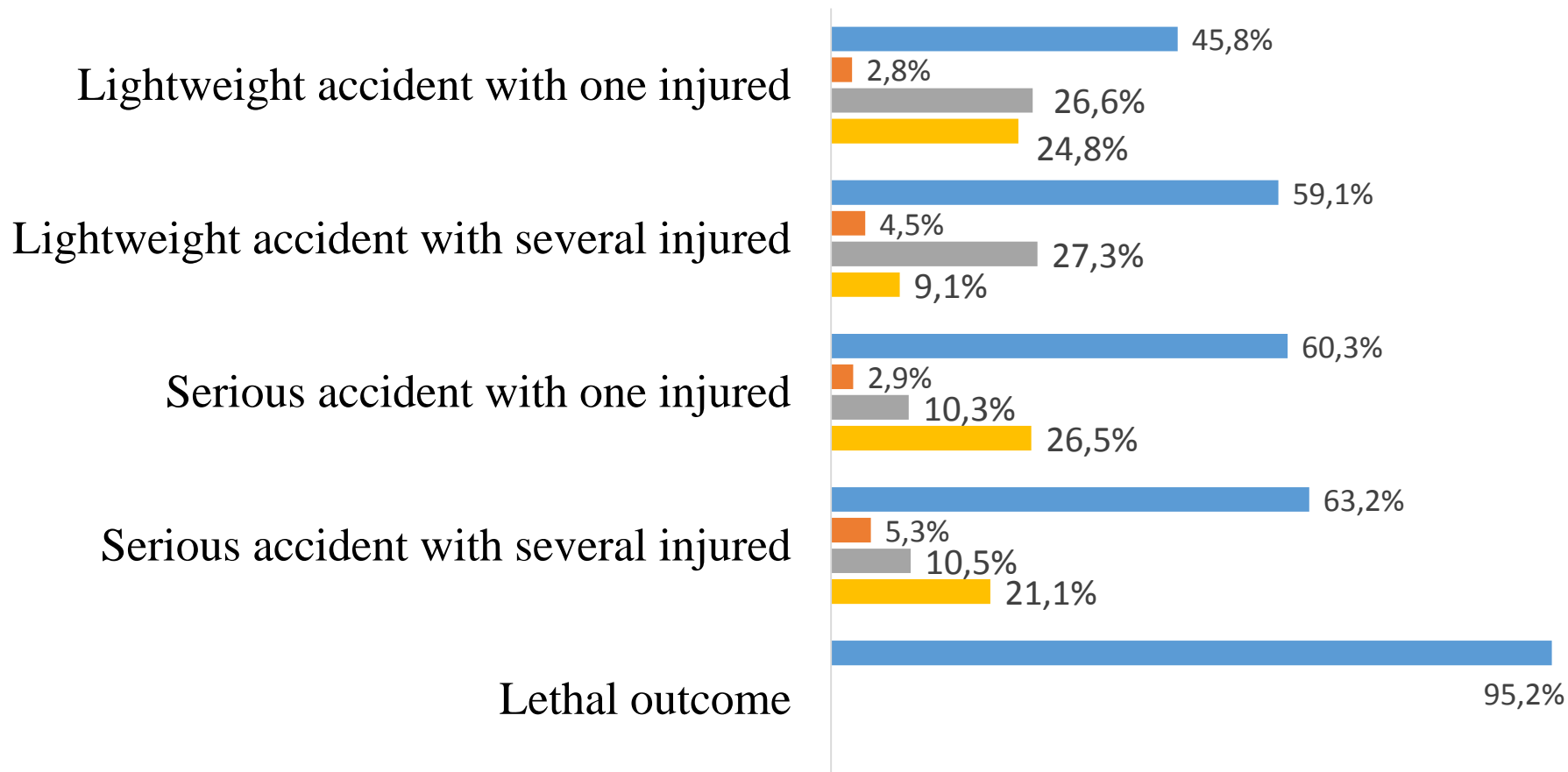
Comparison with actual data with calculations



- Total Number of Hospital cases
- Accidents registered in SLI
- Potential under-reporting to EU-15 rates (94%)
- Potential under-reporting by ratio between fatal and non-fatal injuries (97,5%)

Did your employer reported accident (s) the State Labour Inspectorate?

- Yes, the case was reported
- Yes, some cases were reported
- No, it was not reported
- Hard to say/ no answer



Conclusions – CASE Latvia?

- Calculations on potential underreporting are probably largely true...
- Effective accident prevention hardly possible without realistic statistical data
- Untreated occupational accidents also a major public health concern with potential for huge costs in future
- Serious improvements are necessary to align the coding and reporting systems