
CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT 2010/2011

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to enable the Audit Committee to review performance on health and safety. The report details both progress and future actions associated with implementation of the Council's plans for health and safety management.

Summary

2. The proactive approach to occupational health and safety adopted across the Council has over the years proven to be effective with year on year reduction in accidents, lost time as a result of accidents and insurance claims across the authority. Whilst the Council has for a second year experienced an increase in reportable accidents and resulting lost time figures the general accident trend overall is downward.

Recommendation

3. It is recommended that the progress to date and key planned actions for 2011/12, be noted.

Paul Wildsmith
Director of Resources

Joanne Skelton : Ext. 2111

Background Papers

No background papers used in the compilation of this report.

S17 Crime and Disorder	Some actions and information highlighted in the report support reduction of crime and disorder.
Health and Well Being	The report addresses improved health and safety across the authority.
Carbon Impact	There is no specific carbon impact.
Diversity	Diversity issues are incorporated into Health and Safety managers training.
Wards Affected	All wards equally.
Groups Affected	Employees and pupils in schools.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not affect the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	This is not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision.
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	Action detailed in report supports the Healthy Darlington aspect of the SCS.
Efficiency	Good health and safety performance has a positive impact on efficiency.

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis – Reviewing Initiatives set for 2010-2011

4. A number of issues have been addressed during the period under review. The major focus has remained predominantly in Schools and Place Group.
5. For the second year there has been an increase in the number of reportable (major and over three day) accidents, a break down is provided in **Appendix 1**. All reportable accidents are subject to a thorough investigation to establish the root cause and identify additional control measures to prevent a reoccurrence.
6. There have been five major accidents in 2010/11. Three slips, trips and falls and two falls from height/above ground level. Investigations identified causes due to behavioural safety issues and environmental hazards i.e. ground conditions, severe weather. Information, instruction, and training were carried out, and focused on the implementation of appropriate control measures.
7. Slips, trips and falls and manual handling continue for another year, to be the main type of reportable accidents. The root cause of the manual handling accidents is predominantly as a result of working practices reliant on physical work and an ageing workforce. A break down is provided in **Appendix 2**.
8. The health and safety unit has worked closely with Xentrall, to enable the capture of all data relating to lost time as a result of accidents. Previously, only lost time from accidents that resulted in over 3 days' absence (those reportable to the Health and Safety Executive), were gained. As such it was envisaged that this year's figures would increase from those reported on in previous years.
9. A break down of the lost time performance is provided in **Appendix 3**. Four accidents resulted in long term sickness absence, accounting for nearly 40% of the total lost time recorded.
10. Certification to OHSAS 18001 (occupational health and safety management standard) was again achieved by Environment and Building Services. Confirmation the Authority's health and safety management system operates to a recognised high standard.
11. The authority has again remained free from action by the health and safety executive.

Brief outline of key objectives for 2011-12

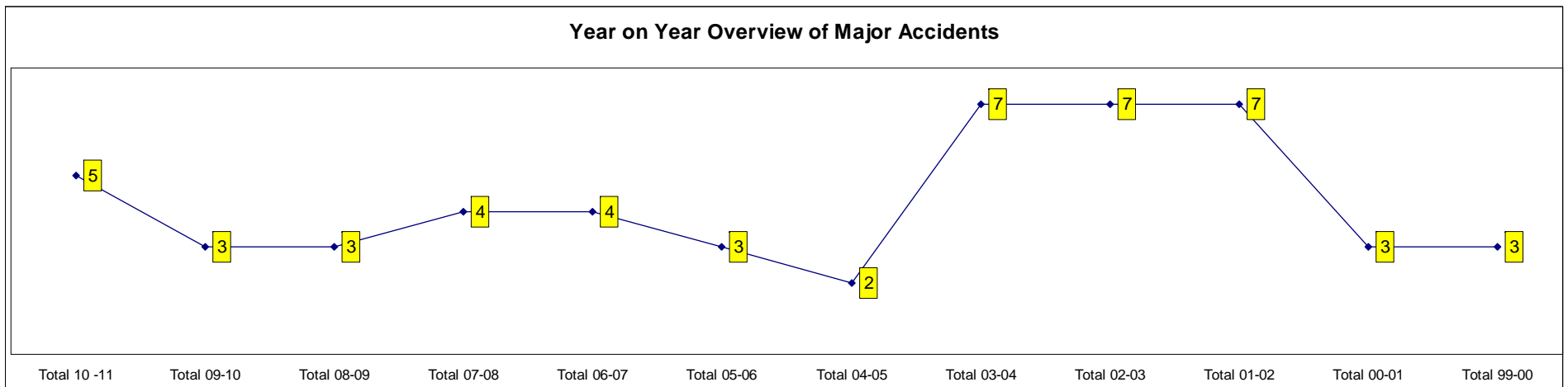
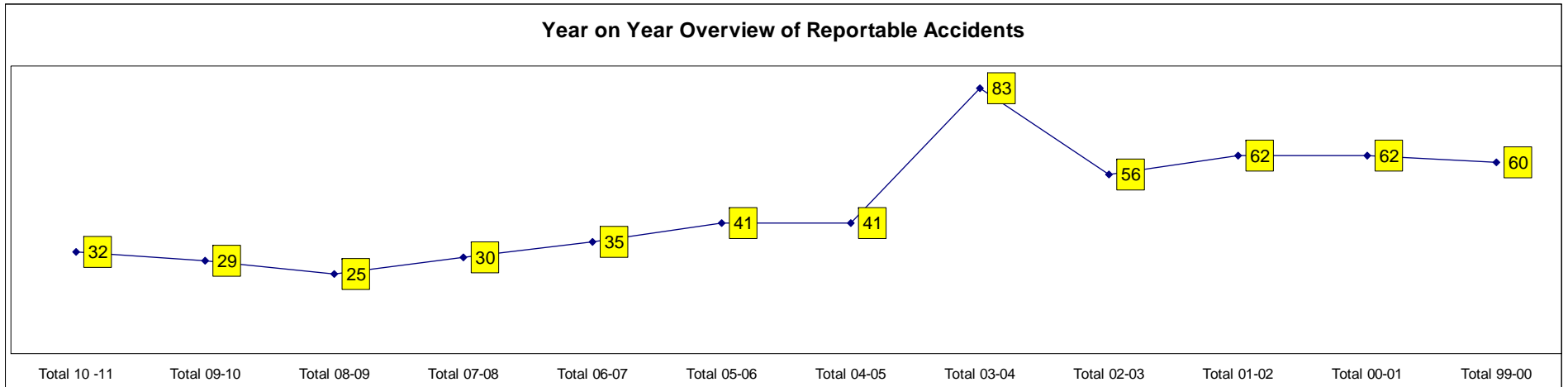
12. In order for the continual improvement ethos outlined in the Health and Safety Policy Statement to be realised, the following strategic priorities have been identified as applicable for the whole of the authority. Each aspect compliments and supports the other in achieving the main strategic aim of Safe and Healthy Workforce.

- (a) Review of the Health and Safety Policy Statement and effectively communicate, as required by statutory legislation.
- (b) Ensure the health and safety management system is embedded within the authority, by continuing the plan for hazard identification, risk assessment and risk control to include routine and non routine activities as well as addressing behavioural issues.
- (c) Focus on the successful implementation of health and safety arrangements and effective self monitoring by services.
- (d) Continue to introduce effective health and safety documentation and data control of the health and safety management system.
- (e) Continue to ensure emergency preparedness and response.
- (f) Continue to measure and monitor performance (key performance indicators) utilising both proactive and reactive measures.
- (g) Carryout a programme of audits ensuring non-conformance and corrective and preventive actions are followed up and closed out.

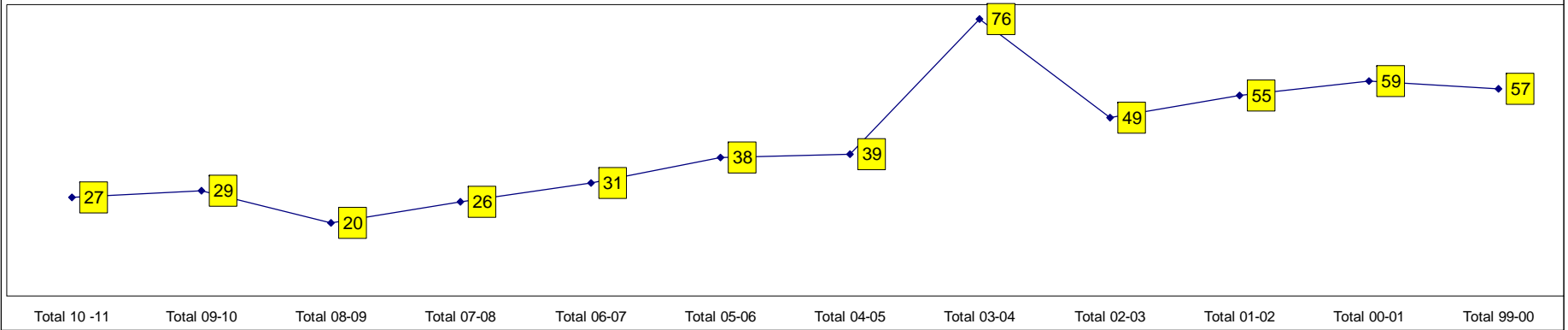
Outcome of Consultation

13. There was no formal consultation undertaken in production of this report.

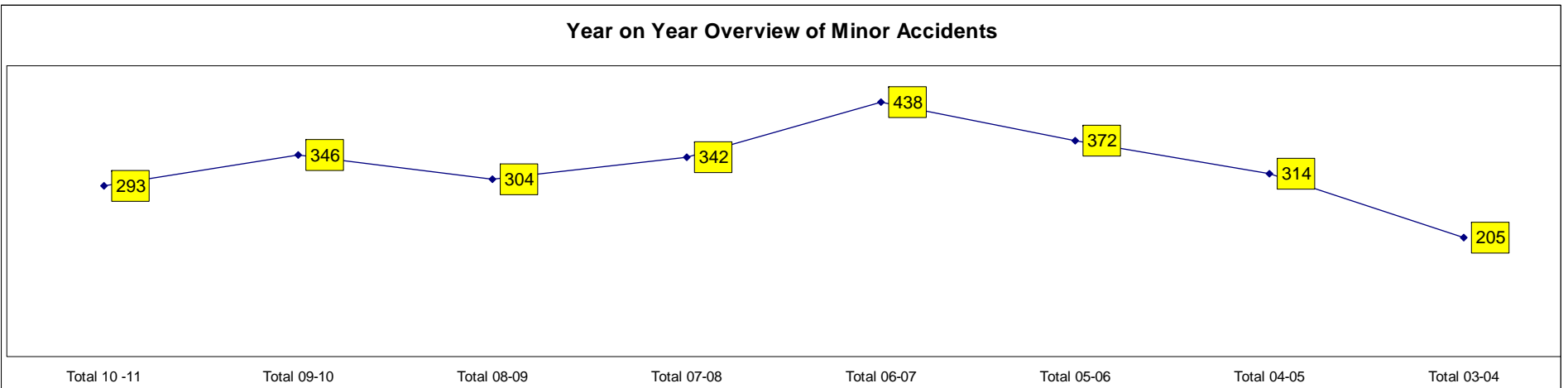
Appendix 1



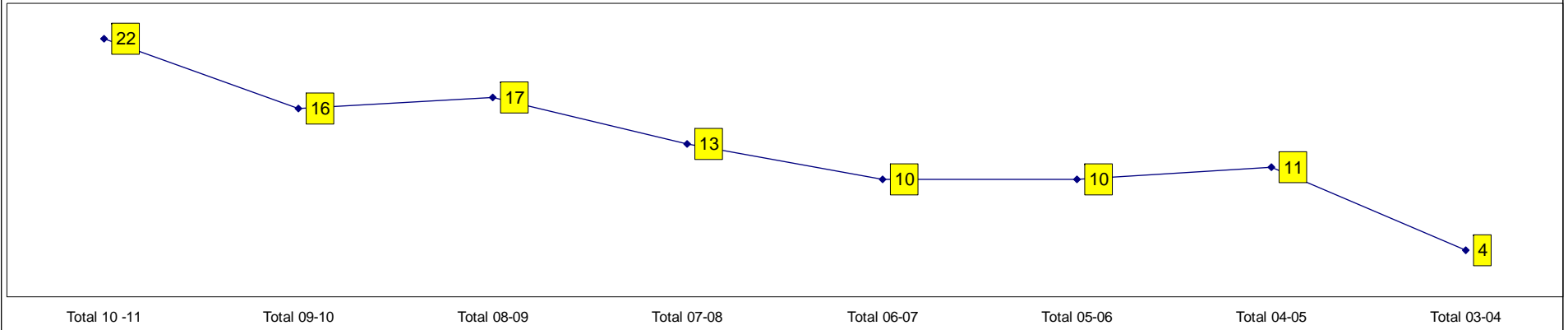
Year on Year Overview of Over Three Day Accidents



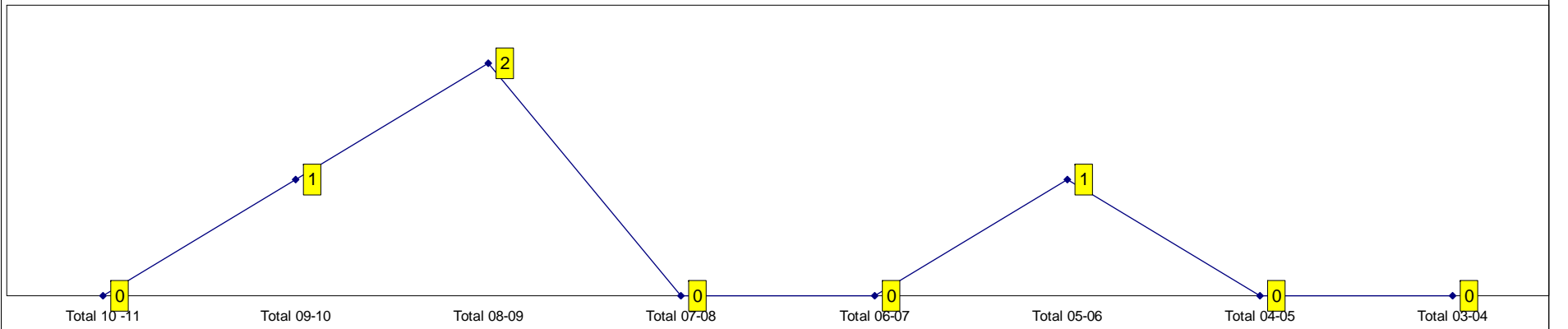
Year on Year Overview of Minor Accidents



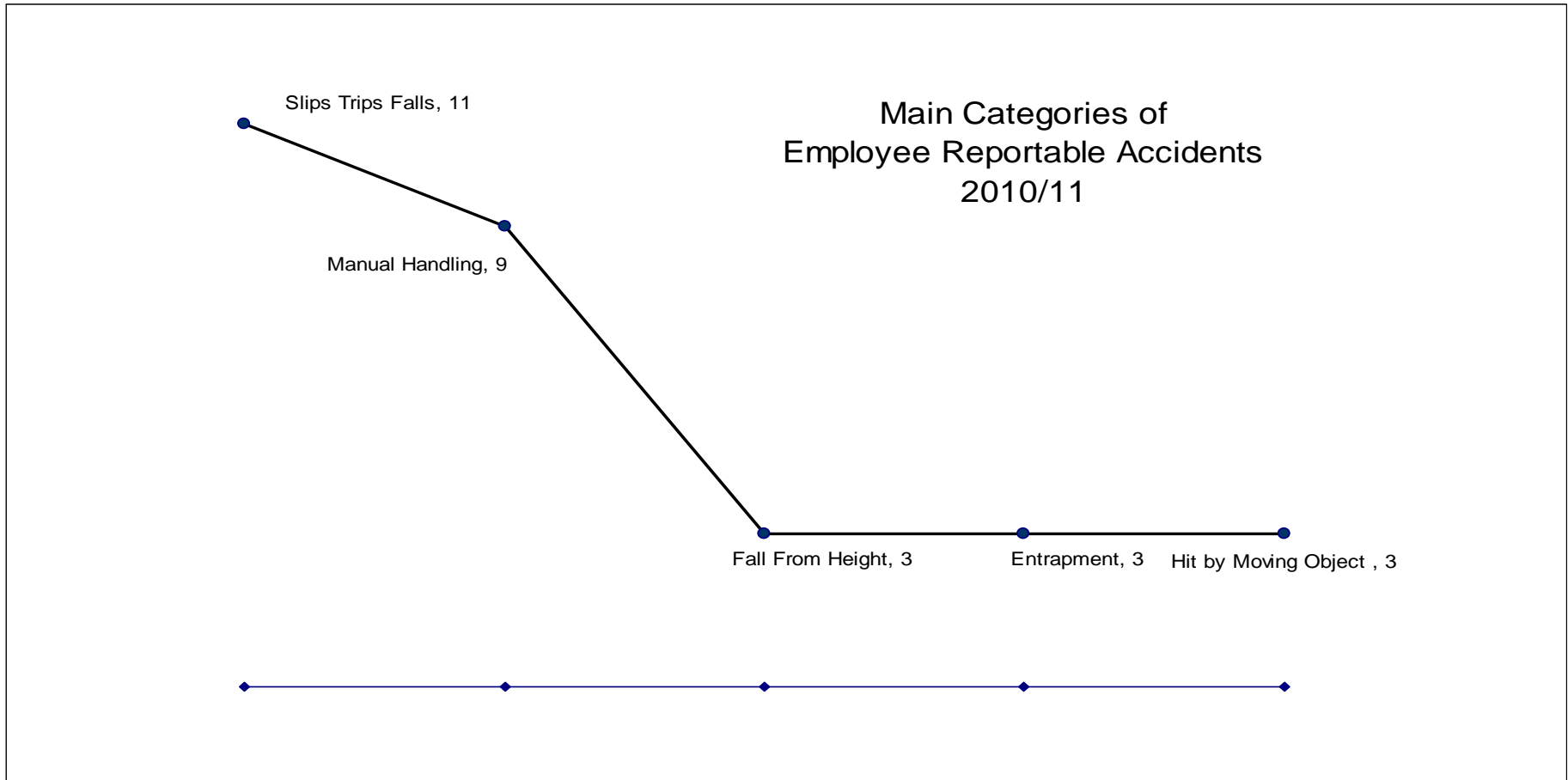
Year on Year Overview of Near Miss Incidents



Year on Year Overview of Disease



Appendix 2



Appendix 3

