**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF SRI LANKA**

Regulating Utilities | Protecting Consumers

# ELECTROCUTION ANALYSIS REPORT


## ANNUAL ELECTROCUTION REPORT 2025

Analysing Electrocution Incidents to Improve Electrical Safety and Prevent Electrocutions

PROMOTING ELECTRICAL SAFETY | EVIDENCE BASED ANALYSIS | INFORMING POLICY AND REGULATION | PROTECTING LIVES AND COMMUNITIES

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# 1. Executive Summary

The Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (PUCSL), as the regulator of the electricity sector, continuously monitors electrocution incidents based on data received from Sri Lanka Police. The analysis of electrocution fatalities for the year 2025 indicates that **a significant reduction of approximately 25% has been achieved compared to the preceding years**.

A total of 91 electrocution fatalities were reported in 2025, reflecting the positive impact of coordinated regulatory, enforcement, and awareness initiatives. However, despite this reduction, electrocution remains a significant and persistent public safety concern, with Sri Lanka's electrocution fatality rate estimated at approximately 4.18 deaths per million population, which is still higher than the global best-practice benchmark of approximately 1 death per million population.

This improvement can be attributed, in part, to targeted, data-driven interventions implemented by the Inspectorate Division of PUCSL during 2024 and 2025, focusing on high-risk causes such as illegally tapped unsafe electric fences and malfunctioning or absent RCCBs. These interventions included the following key initiatives:

1. Targeted Public Consultations on Electrocutions associated with Absence or Malfuction of RCCBs
   Public consultations were conducted in Kurunegala and Gampaha Districts, which recorded the highest number of electrocutions due to missing or malfunctioning RCCBs over the past five years. These consultations facilitated stakeholder engagement and identification of practical measures to improve compliance and awareness.
2. Public Consultations on Illegally tapped Electric Fences for Crop Protection & hunting
   Consultations were conducted in Badulla and Kandy Districts, which reported the highest number of fatalities associated with illegally tapped electric fences used for crop protection and hunting. These engagements supported the development of targeted enforcement and awareness strategies.
3. House-to-House RCCB Field Survey
   A comprehensive field survey was conducted in the Kurunegala Police Division, covering 425 households across all 20 Police Station areas. The survey provided critical insights into the availability, functionality, and public awareness of RCCBs at the household level.
4. Social Media Campaign on Electrical Safety
   A nationwide social media campaign was implemented to enhance public awareness on electrical safety, with particular emphasis on RCCB usage and the risks associated with illegal electric Fences.
5. Extensive Awareness and Training Programs
   More than 50 awareness programs were conducted targeting Community Police Officers, Government Officers, school students, academic staff, and members of non-governmental organizations, aiming to promote safe practices and behavioural change.
6. Mass Media Awareness Campaigns
   Electrical safety awareness initiatives were further reinforced through radio and television campaigns, ensuring wider public reach across both urban and rural communities.

## Key Findings

1. Geographical Shift in Risk Distribution

   In 2025, the highest number of electrocutions was reported in the Eastern Province, followed by North Central and North-Western Provinces, indicating a shift in geographic risk concentration compared to previous years. Over the last five years, Central Province remains the most affected region overall.

2. High-Risk Police Divisions

   Approximately 30% of electrocutions were concentrated within three police divisions—Ampara, Anuradhapura, and Bandarawela, demonstrating strong clustering of risk. Notably, 16 police divisions reported zero electrocutions, indicating uneven distribution of incidents.

3. Demographic Impact

   Nearly 70% of victims fall within the economically active age group (21–60 years), with a significant majority being male. This highlights the substantial socio-economic impact associated with electrocution fatalities.

4. Seasonal Patterns

   Electrocution incidents demonstrate a clear seasonal pattern, with higher occurrences recorded in January, May, November, and December, likely influenced by increased activities during festive and religious periods.

## Underlying Cause Analysis

The analysis of underlying causes for electrocution fatalities in Sri Lanka indicates that several recurring unsafe practices, installation deficiencies, and protection failures continue to contribute significantly to incidents reported across the country. Among these, illegally tapped unsafe electric fences and malfunctioning or non-availability of RCDs were identified as major contributing underlying factors associated with electrocution fatalities.

1. Illegally tapped Unsafe Electric Fences
   - Approximately 41% of fatalities in 2025 were caused by illegally tapped unsafe electric fences used for agricultural purposes such as crop protection and hunting
   - Although the total number of fatalities has reduced, the proportion attributable to illegal Unsafe Electric Fences remains high, indicating persistent enforcement challenges.

2. Absence or malfunctioning of RCDs
   - Approximately 40% of fatalities are associated with scenarios where properly functioning RCDs would have significantly reduced the likelihood of fatal outcomes.
   - Despite previous improvements, fluctuations observed in recent years indicate the continued presence of non-functional, absent, or substandard RCD installations.

Note 1: In consumer premises, when an electric shock occurs and current flows through the human body to earth, due to factors such as substandard appliances and accessories, unsafe practices, or defective installations, the RCD (RCCB) operates as a last line of protection by rapidly disconnecting the supply and thereby reducing the risk of fatal injury.

Note 2: The presence of a functioning RCD **does not compensate for** substandard appliances and accessories, unsafe practices, or defective installations. RCDs are intended to provide supplementary protection only and **must not be relied upon as a substitute for proper design, installation, and maintenance of electrical systems**.

These findings demonstrate that two primary causes, illegally tapped unsafe electric fences and absence or malfunction of RCCBs, account for the majority of electrocution fatalities in Sri Lanka, highlighting the need for focused and targeted interventions.

## Recommendations

1. Ensure RCD Effectiveness and Compliance

   Strengthen requirements for periodic testing of RCDs and promote consumer awareness on routine self-testing using the test button. Introduce measures to ensure the quality and compliance of RCDs available in the market.
2. Strengthening Control of Illegally Tapped Electric Fences

   Implement strict enforcement measures against illegally tapped Unsafe Electric Fences through coordinated inspections with relevant stakeholders and appropriate legal action against offenders.
3. Promote Safe Electric Fencing Systems

   Encourage the use of safe, standardized, and cost-effective electric fence systems. Facilitate financial assistance schemes, where necessary, to support adoption among vulnerable communities.
4. Targeted Awareness and Training Programs

   Conduct focused awareness campaigns and training programs in high-risk areas, particularly among agricultural and rural communities, addressing illegal unsafe Electric Fences and safe use of electricity.
5. Enhance Public Awareness on Electrical Safety

   Continue nationwide awareness programs covering domestic safety, proper installations, safe wiring practices, and general electrical safety guidelines for both urban and rural populations.

## Conclusion

1. The reduction in electrocution fatalities observed in 2025 represents a significant and encouraging outcome, with 91 fatalities recorded during the year, marking the lowest number reported during the last several years. This improvement indicates the positive impact of targeted, data-driven interventions implemented by the Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (PUCSL) together with supporting stakeholders. The progress achieved provides a strong foundation for further improvement through continued implementation of targeted, enforcement-driven, and risk-based interventions, particularly in high-risk regions and priority underlying causes.

2. International benchmarking analysis indicates that Sri Lanka's electrocution fatality rate is comparatively lower than that of many countries in the region and other countries with similar economic and infrastructural conditions, reflecting the effectiveness of the interventions currently in place. Further reductions are achievable, and with continued targeted, data-driven efforts, Sri Lanka can progressively attain levels comparable to more developed countries.

3. Accordingly, strengthening enforcement against illegally tapped unsafe electric fences, ensuring the proper installation and functioning of RCDs, and implementing data-driven interventions will be critical to achieving sustained reductions in electrocution fatalities in Sri Lanka.

## 2. Disclaimer

This report has been prepared by the Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (PUCSL) primarily based on electrocution-related information and records provided by Sri Lanka Police. The analysis, conclusions, and recommendations contained herein are intended solely for regulatory, awareness, policy-development, and public safety purposes.

While reasonable efforts have been made to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information presented, PUCSL does not guarantee the completeness or absolute accuracy of all data and shall not be held responsible for any errors, omissions, interpretations, or actions taken based on the contents of this report.

The electrocution descriptions and incident details reproduced in this report reflect the information reported by the relevant authorities at the time of reporting and may remain subject to further investigation, verification, or legal proceedings.

# 3. Contents

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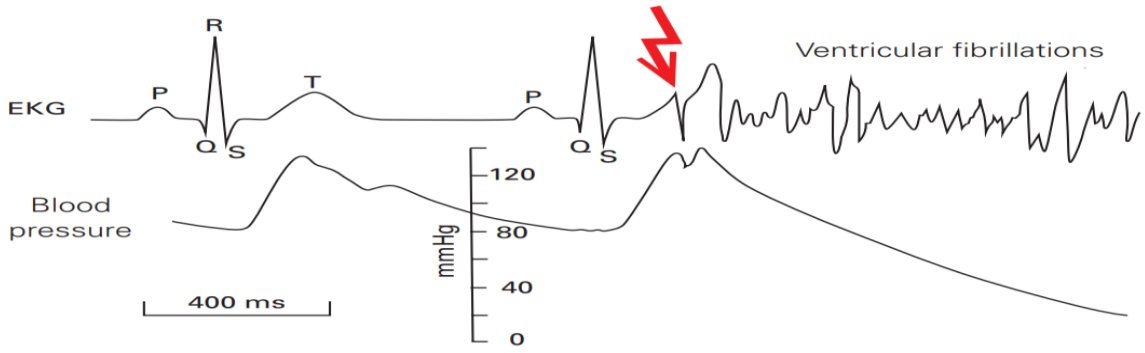
# 5. Introduction

Electric shock can occur when a person comes into contact with an energized electrical conductor or equipment while simultaneously being in contact with the ground or another conductive path, allowing current to flow through the body. Such situations may arise due to damaged or substandard electrical appliances, unsafe wiring, exposed conductors, or illegal electrical connections. Once current passes through the human body, it can become fatal within a very short duration depending on the magnitude of current, the path it takes (particularly through the chest region), and the duration of exposure. Currents as low as 30 mA can disrupt the normal functioning of the heart, potentially leading to ventricular fibrillation and cardiac arrest. The risk is further increased in wet or outdoor environments where body resistance is reduced. In this context, protective devices such as Residual Current Devices (RCDs) play a critical role by rapidly disconnecting the supply upon detection of leakage currents, thereby significantly reducing the risk of fatal outcomes.




Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (PUCSL) receives electrocution reports along with the details of the deaths occurred in the island due to contact with electricity in every month from Sri Lanka Police. Even though the wide availability of electricity has immensely contributed to the development of Sri Lanka, these reports have shown that electricity-related incidents have claimed a significant number of lives irrespective of the gender, age, occupation, religion or race as a result of not using it with due attention and care.

This report analyses the electrocution records of the last 5 years with respect to factors such as location, age, gender and seasonal factors. This report also scrutinizes the underlying causes and the causality of the underlying causes of the reported fatalities during last 5 years.

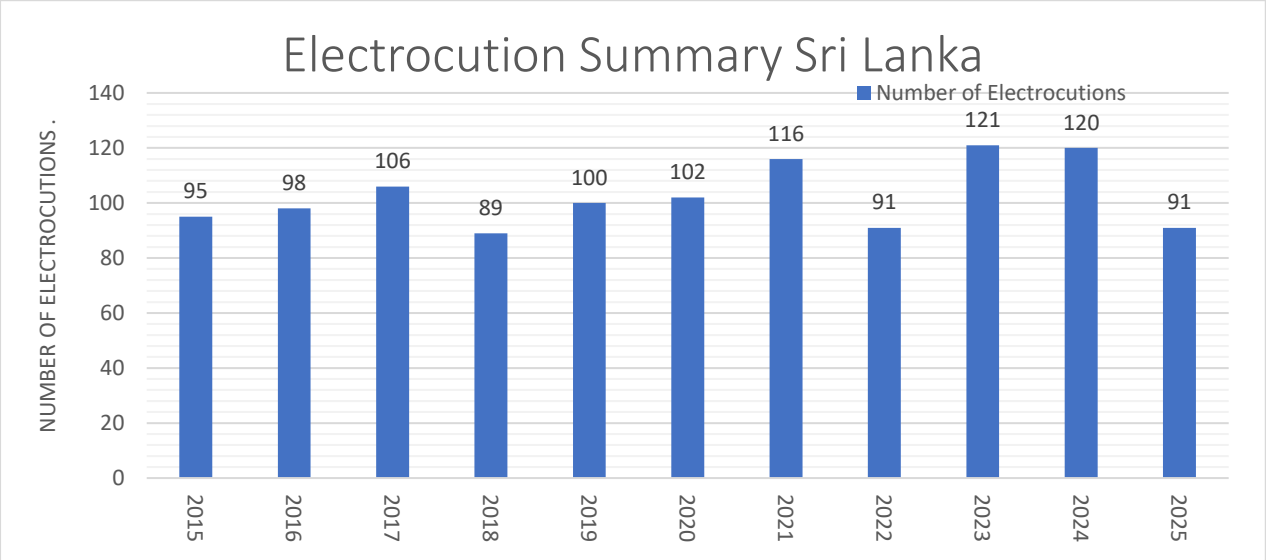



*Figure 1 : Electrocution Summary of Sri Lanka*

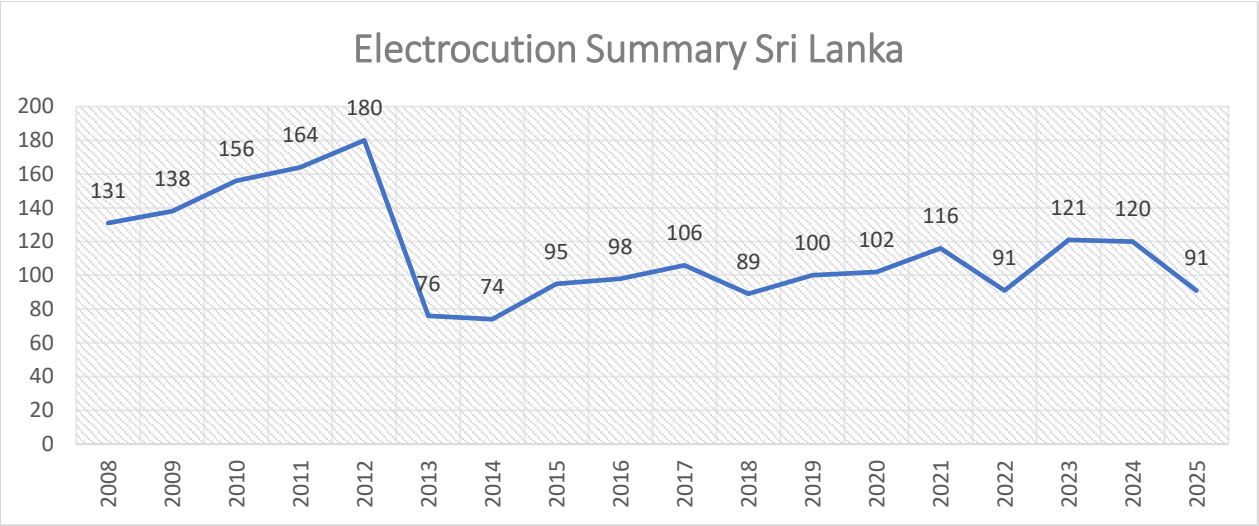



*Figure 2 : Electrocution Summary of Sri Lanka*

A notable reduction in electrocution fatalities has been observed in 2025 compared to the preceding years. This improvement can be attributed, in part, to the **targeted interventions implemented by the Inspectorate Division of PUCSL during 2025**, focusing on high-risk causes such as illegally tapped unsafe electric fences and malfunctioning or absent RCDs. These interventions included public consultations in identified high-risk districts, field-level RCCB surveys, extensive awareness programs, and coordinated media campaigns.

The outcomes highlight the effectiveness of **data-driven, risk-based regulatory interventions** in improving electrical safety and reducing fatalities which included

1. Targeted Public Consultations on Electrocutions associated with RCD malfunctions or unavailability

   Public consultations were conducted in Kurunegala and Gampaha Districts, which recorded the highest number of electrocutions due to missing or malfunctioning RCCBs over the past five years. These consultations facilitated stakeholder engagement and identification of practical measures to improve compliance and awareness.
2. Public Consultations on illegally tapped unsafe electric fences

   Consultations were conducted in Badulla and Kandy Districts, which reported the highest number of fatalities associated with illegally tapped electric fences used for crop protection and hunting. These engagements supported the development of targeted enforcement and awareness strategies.
3. House-to-House RCCB Field Survey

   A comprehensive field survey was conducted in the Kurunegala Police Division, covering 425 households across all 20 Police Station areas. The survey provided critical insights into the availability, functionality, and public awareness of RCCBs at the household level.
4. Social Media Campaign on Electrical Safety

   A nationwide social media campaign was implemented to enhance public awareness on electrical safety, with particular emphasis on RCCB usage and the risks associated with illegally tapped unsafe electric fences.
5. Extensive Awareness and Training Programs

   More than 50 awareness programs were conducted targeting Community Police Officers, Government Officers, school students, academic staff, and members of non-governmental organizations, aiming to promote safe practices and behavioural change.

6. Mass Media Awareness Campaigns

   Electrical safety awareness initiatives were further reinforced through radio and television campaigns, ensuring wider public reach across both urban and rural communities.

Furthermore, the number of electrocutions per annum in Sri Lanka has stagnated around the 100 mark since 2015, from the initial 140-180 mark during the previous years. It can be further noticed that since 2012, the previously existed trend of incrementation of electrocutions was significantly reduced to a more constant reduced number, although the current figure is still more than the globally acceptable limits. However, an alarming rise of electrocutions can be observed from the above graphs in the last few years.

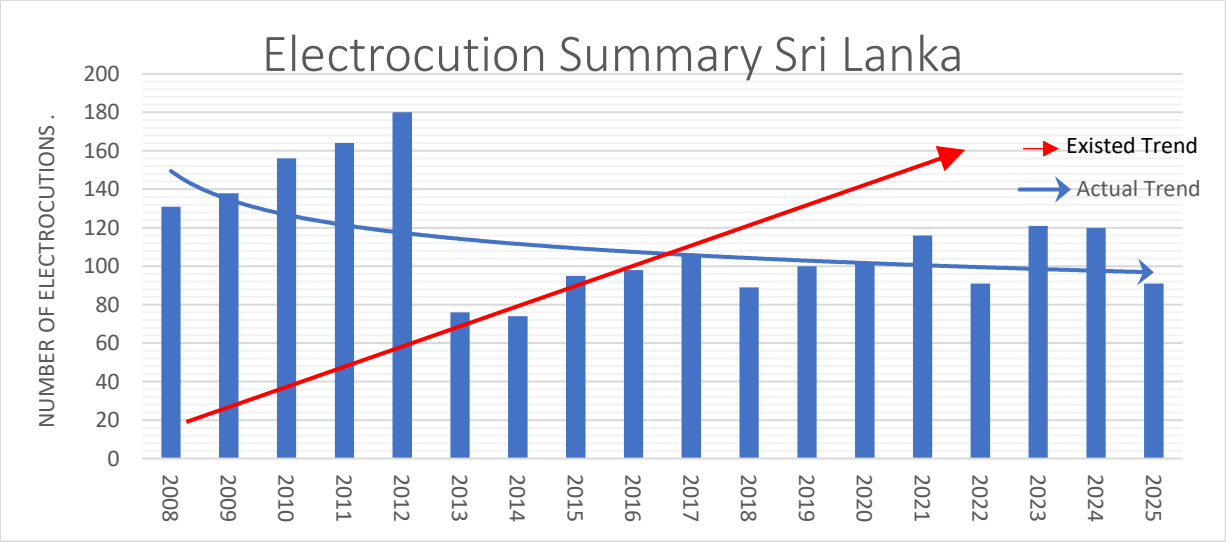



*Figure 3 : Trend of Electrocutions in Last 15 years*

PUCSL believes that the following actions taken after 2012 as the safety regulator in the electricity industry in Sri Lanka, would have contributed in reducing the electrocutions in Sri Lanka.

- Conducting island-wide awareness programs (in schools, at NIE, for police, for tri-forces, Government officers, door to door campaign, at exhibitions, safety competitions, media campaigns)
- Social Media & Mass Media Safety Awareness Programs
- Conducting site inspections to avoid unsafe conditions
- Issuing an Electricity Safety Guideline for Schools
- Introduction of National Standard for Plugs and Sockets in Sri Lanka
- Introduction of minimum line clearances through the Safety Regulation to ensure a minimum distance away from the electric cables and dwellings, which has become compulsory for construction approval
- Insertion of a module on safe use of electricity into the school science syllabus of Grade 6 and Grade 10
- Jointly working along with 'Community Police Division' of Sri Lanka Police to deter the practice of illegal tapping.
- Providing a comprehensive plan for the licensee to align their exercises to the best safety practice (Safety and Technical Management Plan)

# 6. Province-Wise Data Analysis

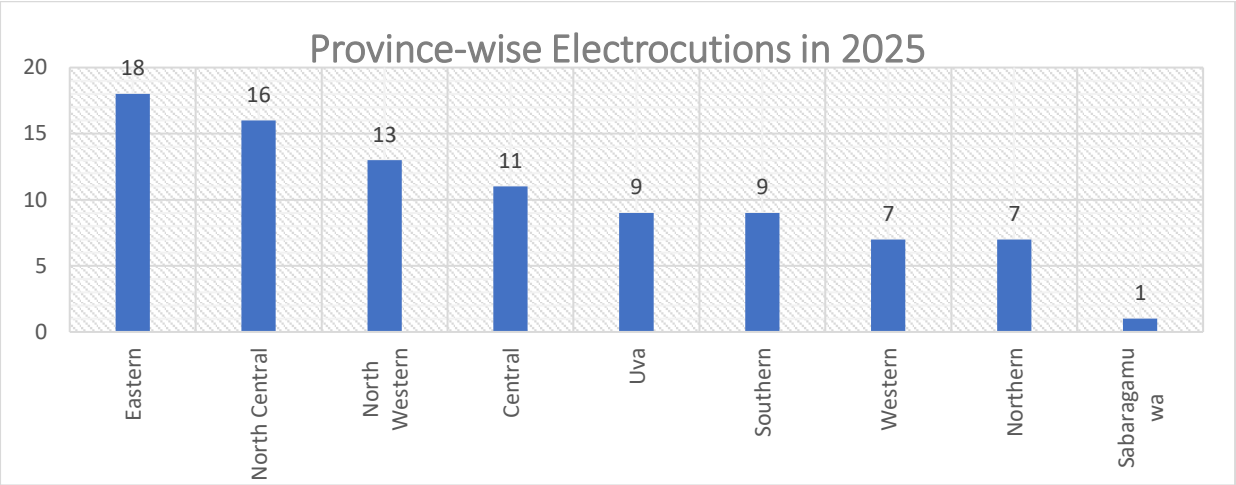



*Figure 4 : Province Wise Electrocutions in 2025*

The data indicate that the highest number of electrocutions in Sri Lanka in 2025 were reported in the Eastern Province. Further, North Central Province and North Western Province also reported a significant proportion of electrocutions.

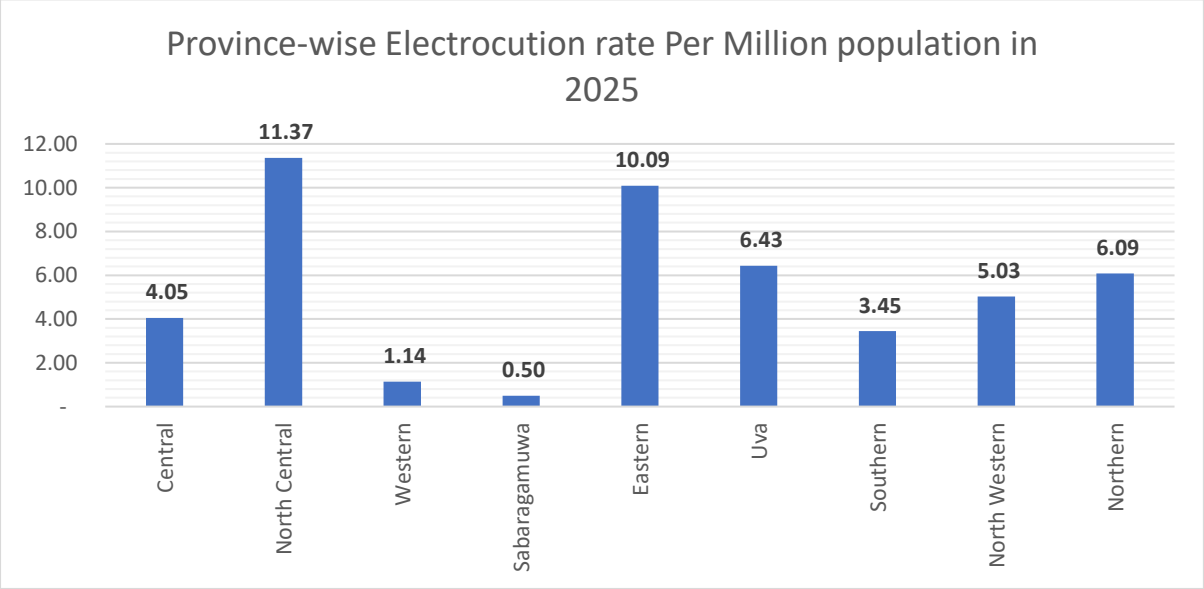



*Figure 5:Province-wise Electrocution rate Per Million population in 2025*

Figure 5 illustrates the province-wise electrocution fatality rate per million population in Sri Lanka for the year 2025. The analysis indicates significant regional variation in electrocution risk across the provinces. North Central Province recorded the highest electrocution fatality rate per million population, followed by Eastern Province. Uva, Northern, and North-Western Provinces also reported comparatively high fatality rates, indicating elevated electrical safety risks in these regions. In contrast, Sabaragamuwa and Western Provinces recorded the lowest electrocution rates per million population during 2025.The findings suggest that electrocution risks are not uniformly distributed across the country and are likely influenced by factors such as illegal electrical tapping, unsafe electric fences, agricultural activities, substandard wiring practices, and the availability and functionality of RCD protection systems. This highlights the importance of implementing targeted, region-specific awareness, enforcement, and safety intervention programs in high-risk provinces to further reduce electrocution fatalities in Sri Lanka.

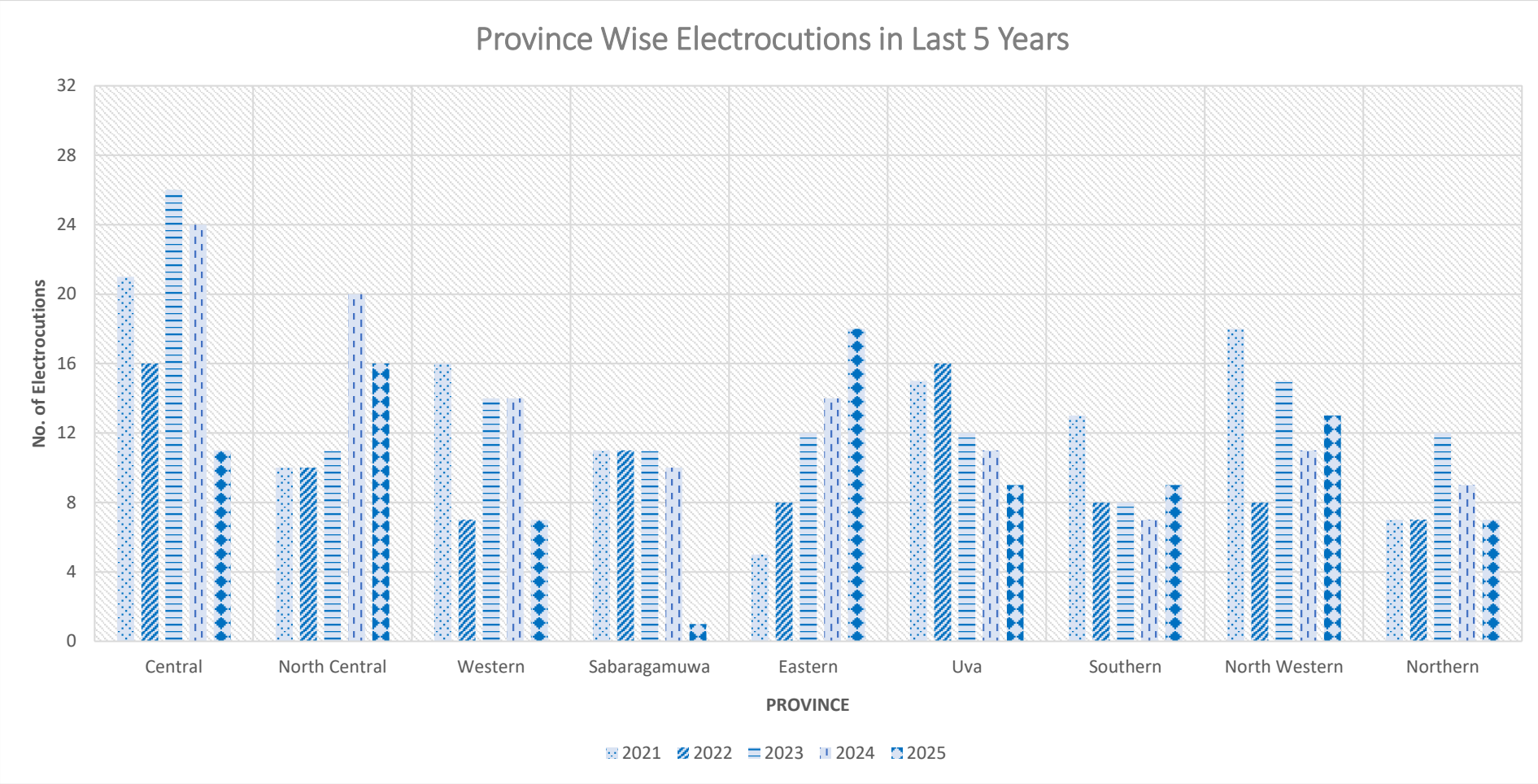



*Figure 6: Province Wise Electrocutions in Last 5 years*

Above graph conclude that the greatest number of electrocutions in last 5 years has been reported in Central province followed by North Central province, North Western Province and Uva Province.

## 7. Police Division Wise Analysis

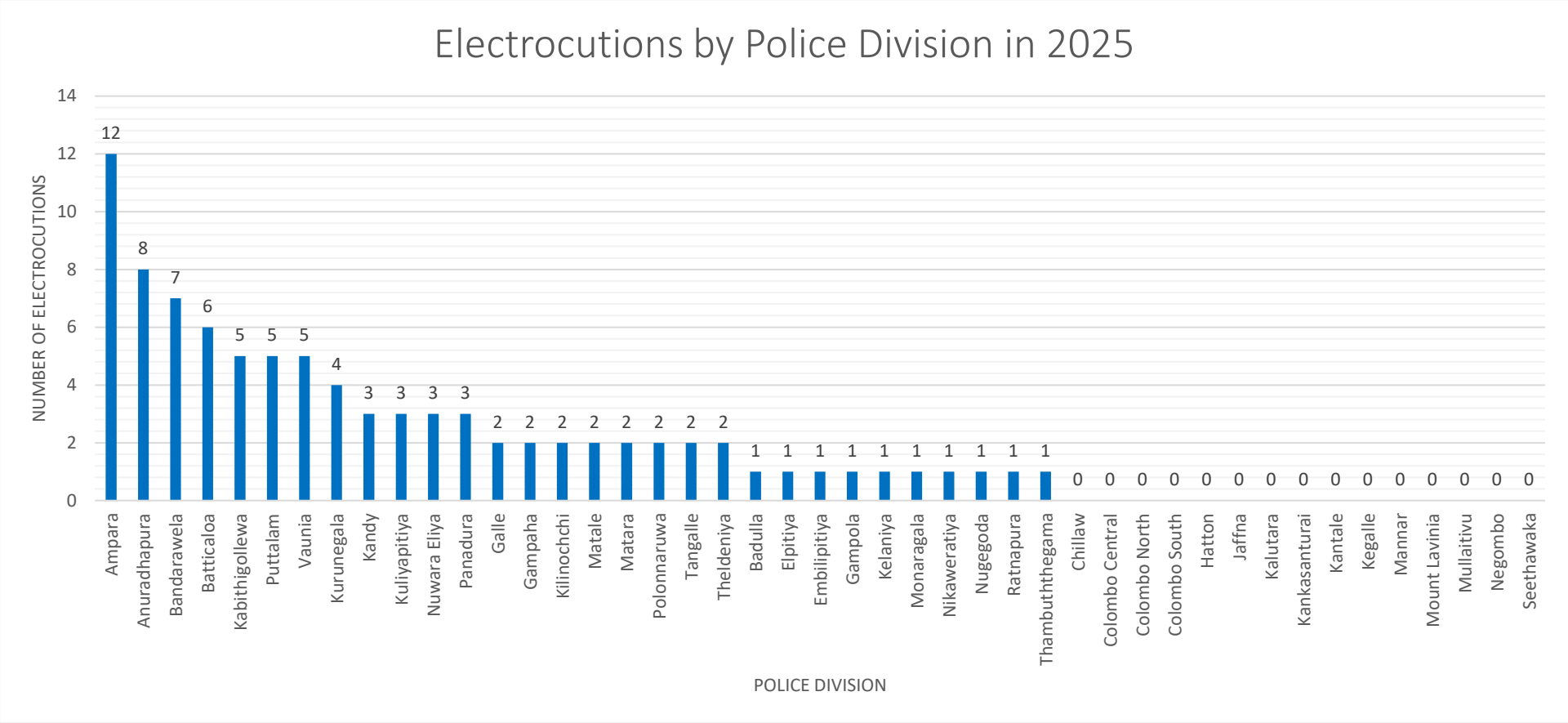



*Figure 7: Police Division Wise Electrocutions in 2025*

30% of the electrocutions occurred in 2025, has been reported in 3 police divisions (Ampara, Anuradhapura & Bandarawela) out of 46 police divisions in Sri Lanka. 16 Police Divisions have reported no electrocutions during 2025.

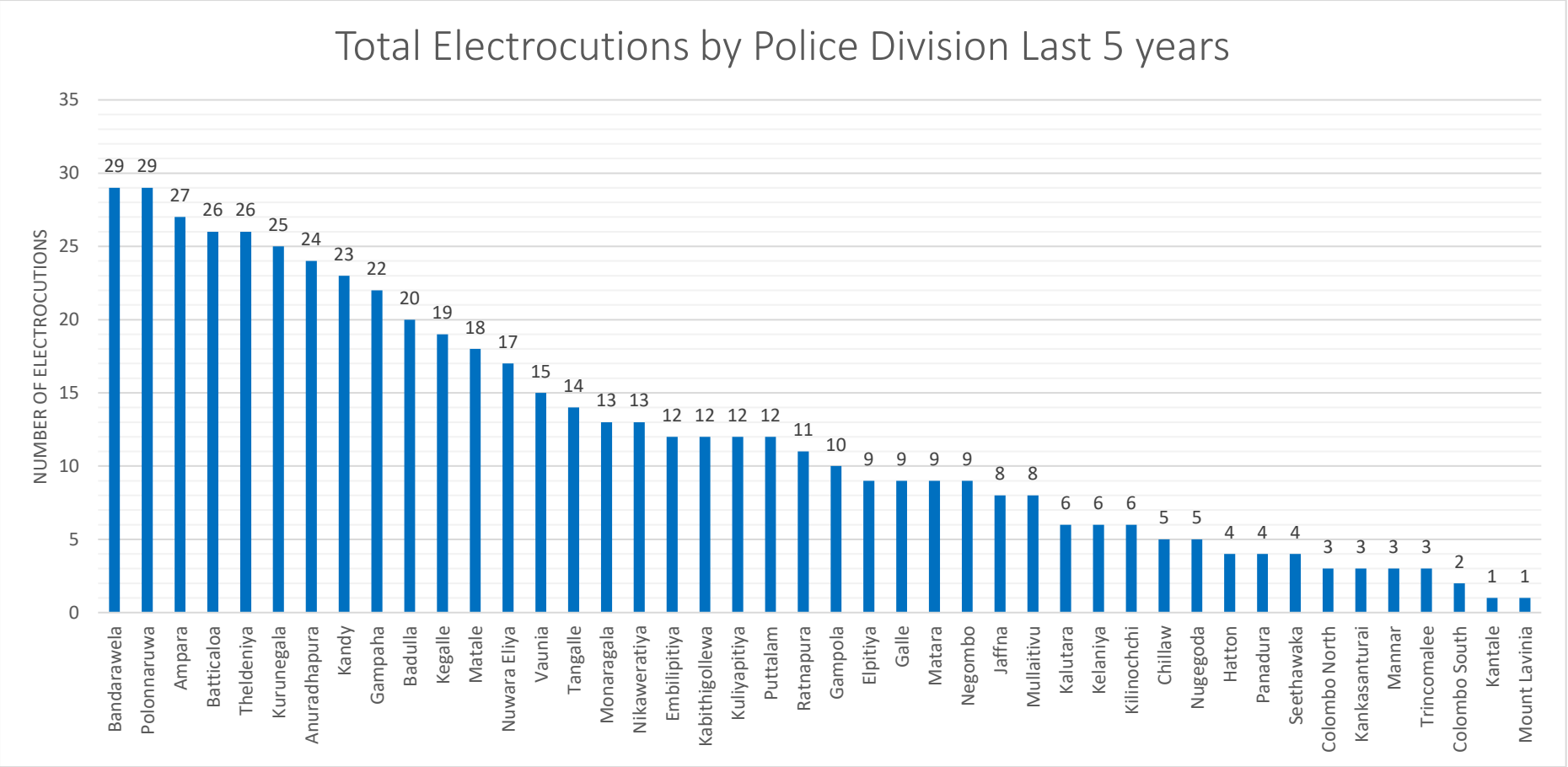



*Figure 8:Police Division Wise Electrocutions in last 5 years*

30% of the electrocutions reported in the last 5 years have been occurred in 6 Police Divisions Bandarawela. Polonnaruwa, Ampara, Batticaloa, Theldeniya and Kurunegala out of 46 police divisions. Further all the police divisions have reported at least one electrocution during the last 5 years.

## 8. Age-Wise Electrocution Data Analysis

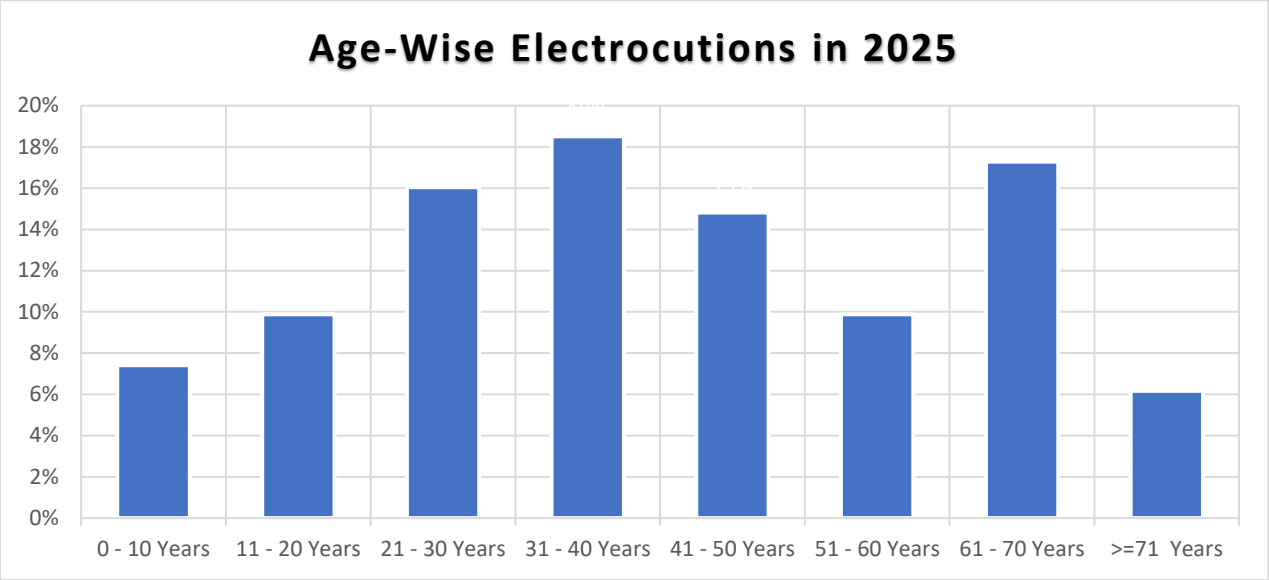



*Figure 9: Age-Wise Electrocution proportion in 2025*

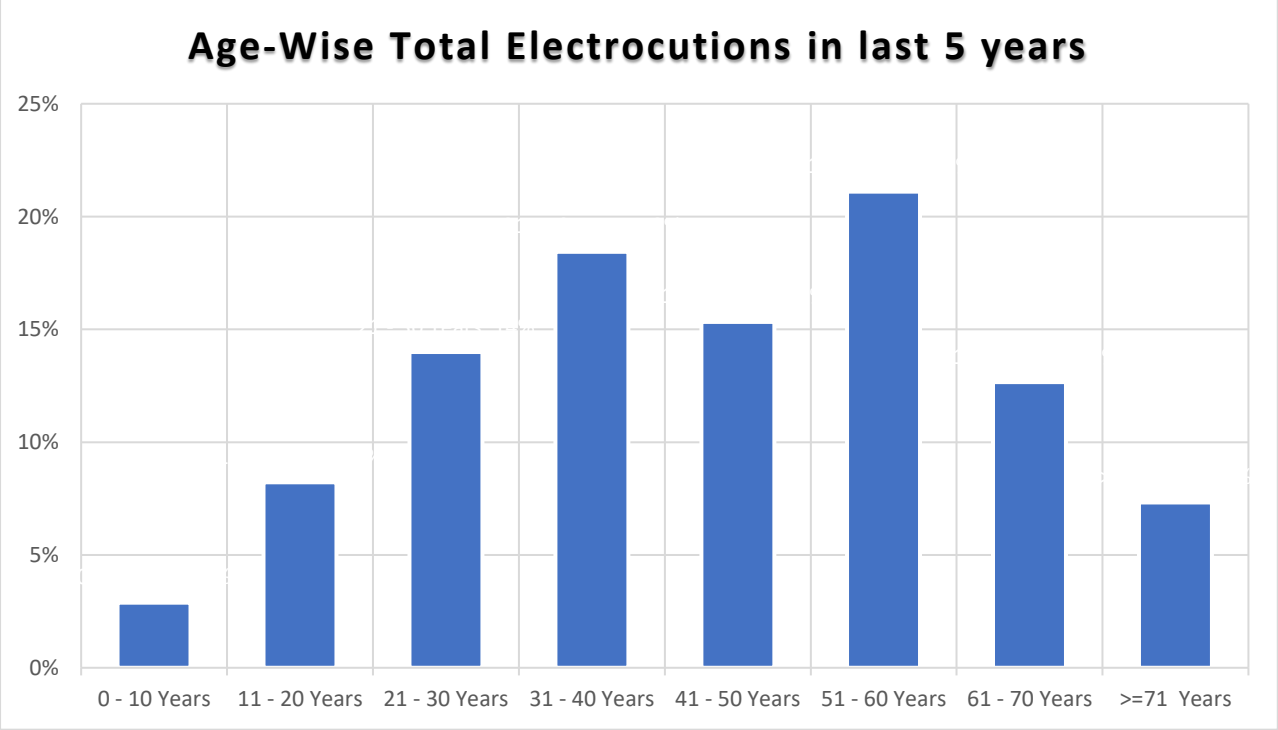



*Figure 10:Age-Wise Electrocution proportion in last 5 years*

As per the above graphs almost 70% of the victims of electrocutions are working age people from 21 years to 60 years.

## 9. Gender-Wise Electrocution Data Analysis

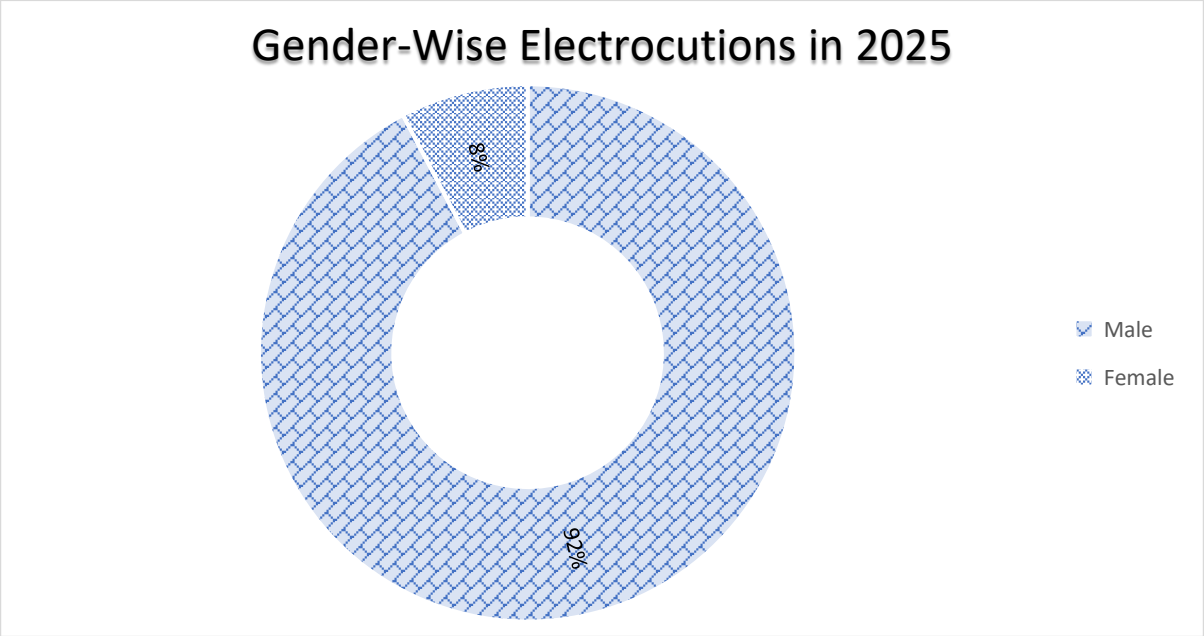



*Figure 11: Gender-Wise Electrocution Proportion in 2025*

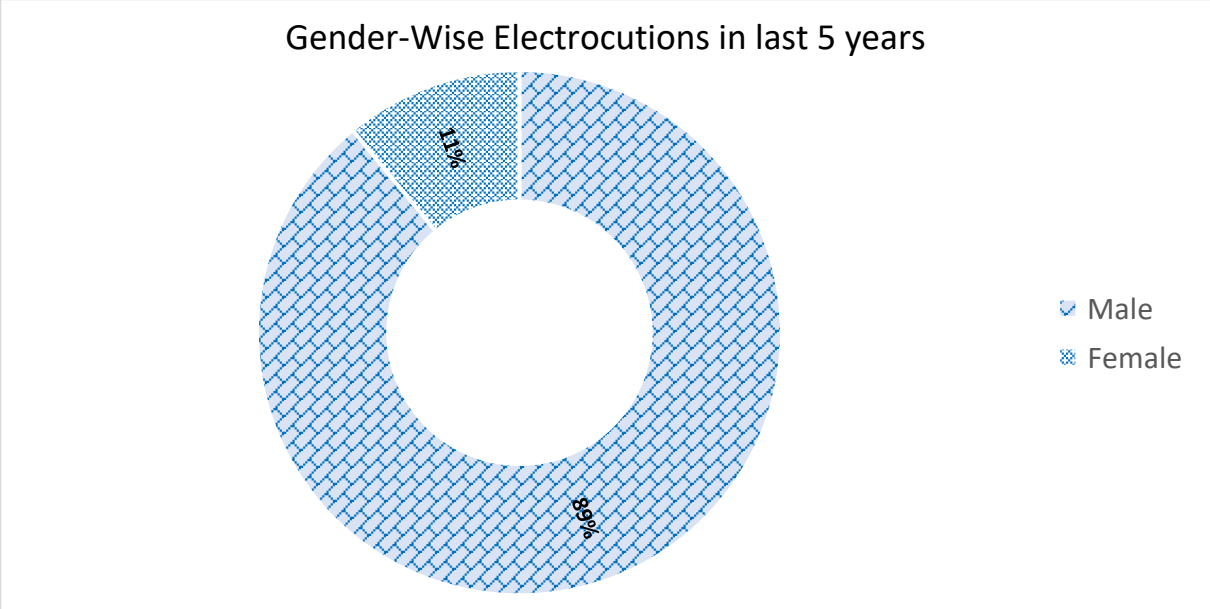



*Figure 12:Gender-Wise Electrocution Proportion in last 5 years*

Majority of the victims of electrocutions in Sri Lanka are men as can be expected. However, in 2025, the margin has increased even more than last few years.

## 10. Seasonal Electrocution Data Analysis

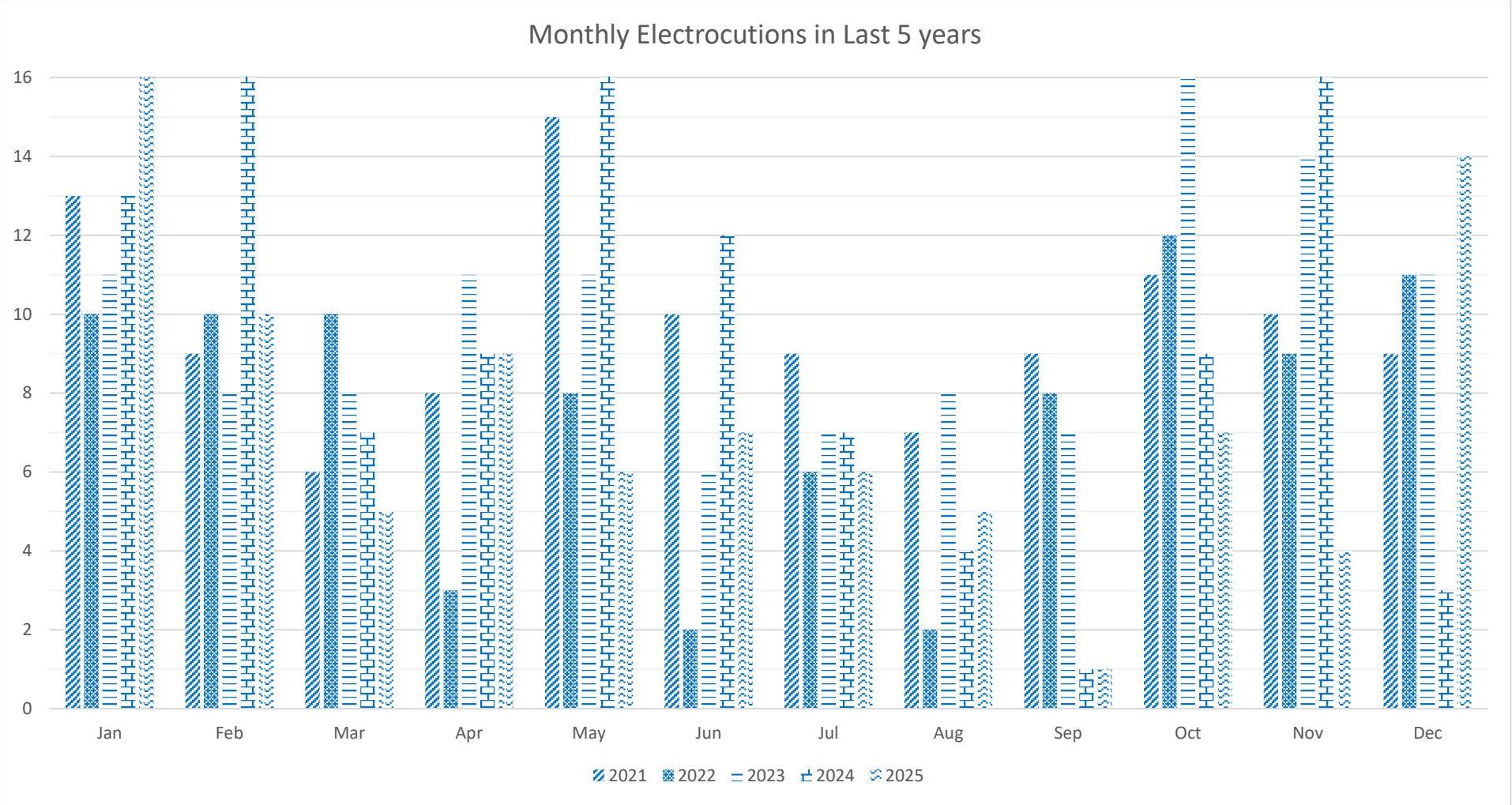



*Figure 13: Number of Monthly Electrocutions in last 5 years*

## 11. Brief Description of Electrocutions as reported by SL Police

| # | Province | Division | Police Station | Month | Age | Description |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | NORTHCENTRAL | ANURADHAPURA | Nochchiyagama | January | 54 | While cutting tree branches carelessly, a branch fell onto an electric line causing leakage current. |
| 2 | NORTHCENTRAL | ANURADHAPURA | Hurigaswewa | January | | While cutting tree branches carelessly, a branch fell onto an electric line causing leakage current. |
| 3 | NORTHCENTRAL | ANURADHAPURA | Ipalogama | January | 28 | While installing a bulb for cultivation behind the house. |
| 4 | NORTHCENTRAL | POLONNARUWA | Meegaswewa | January | | While illegally obtaining electricity from the main electrical system for a sound system in the house. |
| 5 | NORTHERN | VAVUNIYA | Vavuniya | January | | While installing an electric line to protect crops from wild animals. |
| 6 | NORTHERN | KILINOCHCI | Kilinochci | January | | While washing a harvesting machine from the house, water entered an external wall switch causing electric leakage. |
| 7 | EASTERN | AMPARA | Dehiattakandiya | January | 27 | Due to contact with an unsafe illegally installed electric wire used for crop protection. |
| 8 | EASTERN | AMPARA | Samanthurai | January | 61 | While repairing electricity in the house. |
| 9 | EASTERN | AMPARA | Bandaraduwa | January | 82 | Due to contact with an unsafe illegally installed electric wire used for crop protection. |
| 10 | EASTERN | BATTICALOA | Kokkadichole | January | | While attempting to obtain a temporary electricity supply for a house under construction. |
| 11 | EASTERN | BATTICALOA | Kokkadichole | January | | Due to contact with an unsafe electric fence installed around the house for protection from wild elephants. |
| 12 | UVA | BANDARAWELA | Keppetipola | January | 58 | Due to contact with an unsafe illegally installed electric wire used for crop protection. |
| 13 | UVA | BANDARAWELA | Koslanda | January | 66 | While carrying the main electrical supply wire unsafely while it was still energized. |
| 14 | UVA | BANDARAWELA | Uva Paranagama | January | 64 | Due to contact with an unsafe illegally installed electric wire used for crop protection. |
| 15 | UVA | BANDARAWELA | Ambagasdowa | January | 41 | Due to contact with an unsafe illegally installed electric wire used for crop protection. |
| 16 | UVA | MONARAGALA | Monaragala | January | | Due to contact with an unsafe illegally installed electric wire used for crop protection. |
| 17 | NORTHWESTERN | KULIYAPITIYA | Narammala | January | 37 | Due to contact with an illegal electric wire drawn across a field. |
| 18 | NORTHCENTRAL | ANURADHAPURA | Rajanganaya | February | 44 | Due to contact with a damaged illegal wire drawn from the house to a shop in front. |
| 19 | SOUTHERN | ELPITIYA | Elpitiya | February | 62 | While attempting to repair a water pump in the land. |
| 20 | CENTRAL | MATALE | Makulugaswewa | February | 19 | On 2025.02.18, during house repair work while using a water cleaning device, an electric shock occurred. |
| 21 | CENTRAL | GAMPOLA | Pussellawa | February | 67 | Due to contact with an illegal electric wire installed for crop protection. |
| 22 | NORTHERN | VAVUNIYA | Puliyankulam | February | 7 | Due to contact with an illegal wire connected to a water pump. |
| 23 | NORTHERN | VAVUNIYA | Ulukkulam | February | 74 | While using a heater unsafely to heat water. |
| 24 | EASTERN | BATTICALOA | Kokkadichole | February | 40 | Due to contact with an unsafe electric fence installed for protection from wild elephants. |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 25 | SOUTHERN | EMBILIPITIYA | Sevanagala | February | 30 | Due to forgetting to remove an electric wire used to protect house from dogs at the parents' house and later coming into contact with it. |
| 26 | NORTHWESTERN | KURUNEGALA | Mawathagama | February | 63 | While switching on the house water pump, electric leakage occurred from the switch. |
| 27 | NORTHWESTERN | KURUNEGALA | Thalamalgama | February | 64 | While stepping on a wire set for hunting animals. |
| 28 | SOUTHERN | TANGALLE | Sooriyawewa | March | 33 | Due to contact with an illegally obtained electric fence causing electrocution. |
| 29 | SOUTHERN | TANGALLE | Sooriyawewa | March | 6 | Due to contact with an illegally obtained electric fence causing electrocution. |
| 30 | EASTERN | AMPARA | Akkaraipattu | March | 48 | While attempting to repair an antenna wire, the antenna rod touched the main electrical line. |
| 31 | CENTRAL | TELDENIYA | Wattegama | March | 69 | While passing through a place where illegal wires were installed to kill animals. |
| 32 | CENTRAL | MATALE | Yatawatte | March | 42 | Due to contact with an electric wire installed for animals entering cultivation land. |
| 33 | SABARAGAMUWA | RATHNAPURA | Wewalwatta | April | 19 | While installing a grease pole, it fell onto an electrical line system nearby. |
| 34 | CENTRAL | NUWARAELIYA | Kandapola | April | 74 | A worker died after contacting an illegal electric wire installed in cultivated land. |
| 35 | NORTHERN | VAVUNIYA | Bogaswewa | April | 57 | Electric leakage from an unsafe wire inside the house passed through a metal sheet and into the body. |
| 36 | EASTERN | AMPARA | Ampara | April | 72 | Death occurred due to entanglement with a wire drawn from the house to the outdoor toilet. |
| 37 | WESTERN | PANADURA | Pinwatta | April | 56 | While plastering a wall, contact occurred with a concealed current-carrying wire inside the wall. |
| 38 | NORTHCENTRAL | ANURADHAPURA | Mahawilachchiya | April | 42 | Due to an unsafe wire drawn from the house to provide outdoor lighting. |
| 39 | SOUTHERN | GALLE | Galle | April | 40 | While holding a sugarcane plant, contact occurred with a high-voltage electric line. |
| 40 | CENTRAL | TELDENIYA | Panwila | April | 22 | During construction work, a metal rod contacted a nearby high-voltage line causing fatal electrocution. |
| 41 | NORTHCENTRAL | KEBITHIGOLLEWA | Kebithigollewa | April | 30 | Due to electric leakage while washing a harvesting machine. |
| 42 | WESTERN | PANADURA | Moragahahena | May | 9 | While installing decorative lights for Vesak, contact occurred with a light wire. |
| 43 | NORTHCENTRAL | ANURADHAPURA | Galnewa | May | 58 | While attempting to illegally obtain electricity by connecting another wire to a main road line. |
| 44 | NORTHWESTERN | KULIYAPITIYA | Hettipola | May | 63 | While walking, got entangled in an illegal electric wire drawn across a field and died. |
| 45 | CENTRAL | KANDY | Wellambada | May | 11 | Death occurred due to contact with an illegally drawn electric wire. |
| 46 | UVA | BADULLA | Mahiyanganaya | May | 40 | While attempting to repair a fish tank motor. |
| 47 | NORTHCENTRAL | POLONNARUWA | Hingurakgoda | May | 81 | Due to contact with an electric wire installed for protecting paddy fields from animals. |
| 48 | UVA | BANDARAWELA | Bandarawela | June | 45 | Due to two wires in the house touching each other, leading to electrocution and later death after hospitalization. |
| 49 | WESTERN | KELANIYA | Biyagama | June | 39 | While attempting to connect electricity to a television. |
| 50 | NORTHWESTERN | PUTTLAM | Maradankuliya | June | 16 | While attempting to repair a non-functioning outdoor light. |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 51 | NORTHWESTERN | PUTTLAM | Mundalama | June | 21 | While cleaning a poultry cage using a high-pressure gun, slipped and contacted a live wire connected to the machine, leading to death after hospitalization. |
| 52 | SOUTHERN | GALLE | Habaraduwa | June | 30 | While switching on a water pump, contact occurred with an exposed wire. |
| 53 | NORTHCENTRAL | KEBITHIGOLLEWA | Padaviya | June | 31 | While hunting, contact occurred with an illegal electric wire set for trapping animals. |
| 54 | NORTHCENTRAL | KEBITHIGOLLEWA | Medawachchiya | June | 8 | While using a heater connected via a multi-plug, contact occurred with the heating coil. |
| 55 | EASTERN | AMPARA | Uhana | July | 44 | Due to contact with an illegal electric wire installed for crop protection. |
| 56 | EASTERN | AMPARA | Thirukkovil | July | 40 | Due to contact with an illegal electric wire installed in a coconut land. |
| 57 | NORTHWESTERN | PUTTLAM | Karuwalagaswewa | July | 34 | While touching a bulb installed for foundation work, electric leakage caused shock. |
| 58 | CENTRAL | KANDY | Hataraliyadda | July | 42 | While attempting to remove an illegal electric wire installed for crop protection. |
| 59 | NORTHCENTRAL | KEBITHIGOLLEWA | Kapugollewa | July | 19 | While washing a harvesting machine using a high-pressure gun, leakage current caused electrocution. |
| 60 | NORTHCENTRAL | THAMBUTTEGAMA | Nochchiyagama | July | 35 | While attempting to supply electricity to a poultry cage using an unsafe wire. |
| 61 | UVA | BANDARAWELA | Koslanda | August | 63 | While chasing a cow, got entangled in an illegal electric wire and was electrocuted. |
| 62 | CENTRAL | NUWARAELIYA | Theripehe | August | 39 | Due to contact with an illegal electric wire installed in a paddy field near the house. |
| 63 | EASTERN | BATTICALOA | Vellawally | August | 70 | While attempting to repair a technical fault inside the house. |
| 64 | EASTERN | AMPARA | Akkaraipattu | August | 22 | While working on a ladder, it fell onto a nearby electric wire causing electrocution. |
| 65 | WESTERN | PANADURA | Horana | August | 29 | While installing a machine used by MDK company, electric shock occurred. |
| 66 | EASTERN | BATTICALOA | Vellawally | September | 41 | While repairing a wire in a house in Wellawali Colony, electric shock occurred. |
| 67 | UVA | BANDARAWELA | Bandarawela | October | 67 | Electric leakage from a well water pump caused electrocution. |
| 68 | CENTRAL | NUWARAELIYA | Theripehe | October | 50 | Due to contact with an illegal electric wire installed for crop protection. |
| 69 | EASTERN | BATTICALOA | Eravur | October | 14 | Electric leakage from a fan wiring on the upper floor caused electrocution when touched. |
| 70 | NORTHWESTERN | PUTTLAM | Puttlam | October | 27 | While starting a generator for a new shop. |
| 71 | WESTERN | NUGEGODA | Malambe | October | 31 | While repairing a non-functioning electric pole. |
| 72 | NORTHCENTRAL | ANURADHAPURA | Kawarakkulama | October | 41 | While cleaning a tank, electric leakage caused electrocution. |
| 73 | CENTRAL | KANDY | Bokkawala | October | 35 | While holding a heater connected to electricity and placing a hand into a jug, electrocution occurred. |
| 74 | NORTHWESTERN | KURUNEGALA | Polgahawela | November | 64 | While installing a water pump, electric shock occurred. |
| 75 | NORTHERN | VAVUNIYA | Nedunkerni | November | 63 | Due to contact with electric fencing used for elephants. |
| 76 | EASTERN | AMPARA | Samanthurai | November | 58 | While cutting branches of a dangerous tree, electric shock occurred and death followed after hospitalization. |
| 77 | NORTHWESTERN | PUTTLAM | Mundalama | November | 29 | A worker at a shrimp farm died after being electrocuted. |
| 78 | NORTHCENTRAL | ANURADHAPURA | Mihintale | December | 58 | While heating water using a heater, electrocution occurred. |
| 79 | NORTHCENTRAL | KEBITHIGOLLEWA | Pihibiyagollewa | December | | While fishing, contact occurred with an illegal electric wire near a reservoir outlet. |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 80 | NORTHWESTERN | KURUNEGALA | Mawathagama | December | 31 | While climbing a lamp post and cutting a wire connected to it, electrocution occurred. |
| 81 | WESTERN | GAMPAHA | Weliweriya | December | | After powering a water pump using electricity from a nearby house, holding the wire caused electrocution. |
| 82 | WESTERN | GAMPAHA | Pallewela | December | | Electric leakage from a water pressure gun caused electrocution. |
| 83 | NORTHWESTERN | NIKAWERATIYA | Nagollagama | December | 17 | Due to contact with an illegally drawn electric wire. |
| 84 | EASTERN | AMPARA | Dehiattakandiya | December | 25 | Due to contact with a wire installed for wild animals. |
| 85 | EASTERN | AMPARA | Damana | December | 27 | While plastering a wall, a tool contacted a high-voltage line causing death. |
| 86 | EASTERN | AMPARA | Samanthurai | December | 51 | While cutting a tree branch, it fell onto an electric line causing electrocution. |
| 87 | NORTHERN | KILINOCHCI | Kilinochci | December | 31 | While repairing electrical wiring of a telecom tower under construction, leakage current caused electrocution. |
| 88 | NORTHWESTERN | KULIYAPITIYA | Bingiriya | December | 43 | CEB linesman electrocuted by contacting LV supply while inspecting an isolated 33kV line. |
| 89 | SOUTHERN | TANGALLE | Middeniya | December | 8 | Due to electric shock from unsafe wiring used to obtain electricity illegally. |
| 90 | SOUTHERN | MATARA | Kosmodara | December | 7 | While measuring, a measuring tape contacted an electric line causing electrocution. |
| 91 | SOUTHERN | MATARA | Gandara | December | 17 | While handling wiring of a grill machine, electric shock occurred |

*Table 1: Description of Electrocutions as reported by Police*

## 12. Analysis of Causes for Electrocutions

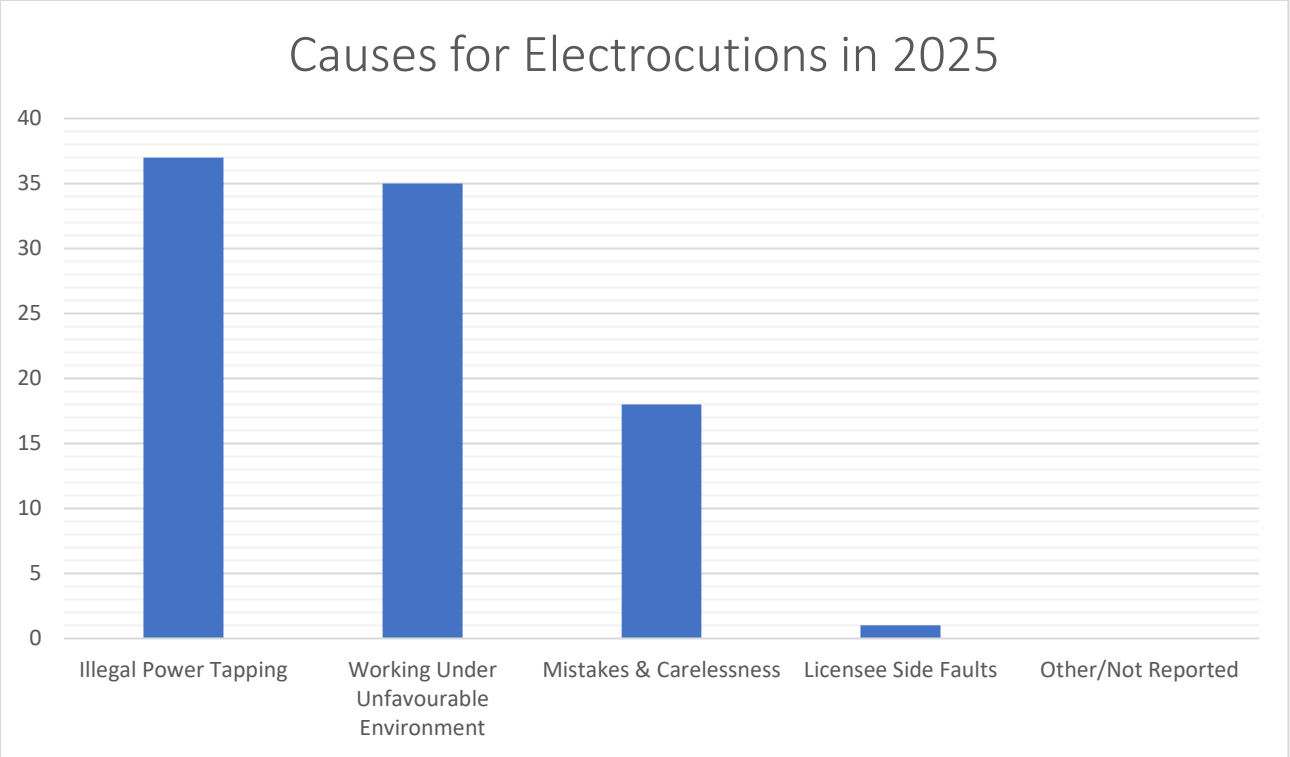


*Figure 14:Causes for Electrocutions in 2025*

| Code | Cause of Electrocution |
|---|---|
| 1 | Illegal Power Tapping |
| 1A | Get Electricity supply from main power line |
| 1B | Draw power lines illegally to protect cultivation or kill wild animals |
| 2 | Working Under Unfavorable Environment |
| 2A | Usage of damaged/broken/insulation failed electrical appliances |
| 2B | Unsafely drawn electrical lines away from the house(well/water pump) |
| 2C | Touching/removing fallen power lines |
| 2D | Improper/unsafe wiring (installation) and bad maintenance practices |
| 3 | Mistakes and Carelessness |
| 3A | Activities near power lines |
| 3B | Small scale electric repair work at home/ work place |
| 3C | Plugging/connecting electricity appliances |
| 4 | Licensee Side Faults |
| 4A | Violation of proper installation procedures by license |
| 5 | Other Cause or Cause not reported |

*Table 2: Causes for Electrocutions*

It can be observed that the main cause for electrocutions in 2025 has been illegally driven electrical lines to kill wild animals or to protect cultivations.

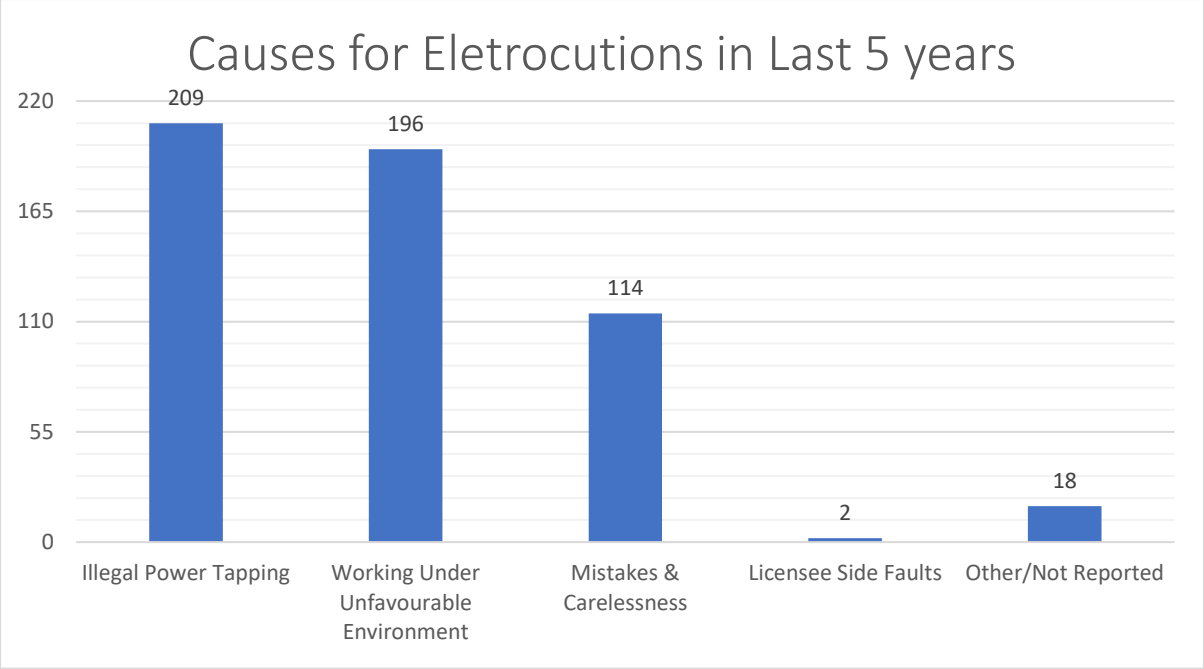


*Figure 15: Causes for electrocutions for last 5 years*

*Note: Please refer to Table 2 for more descriptive categories*

As per the above graphs, figure 14 & figure 15, it can be observed that the greatest number of electrocutions occur in Sri Lanka are due to the illegally tapped power lines. In addition, we see significant electrocutions due to Working Under unfavourable Environment and mistakes & Careleseness. These can be mitigated via proper awareness programs to the general public. Alarming number of electrocutions have occurred due to failed electrical appliances and unsafe wirings as well. While introducing necessary regulations is important, it is of similar importance to make the general public follow these regulations.

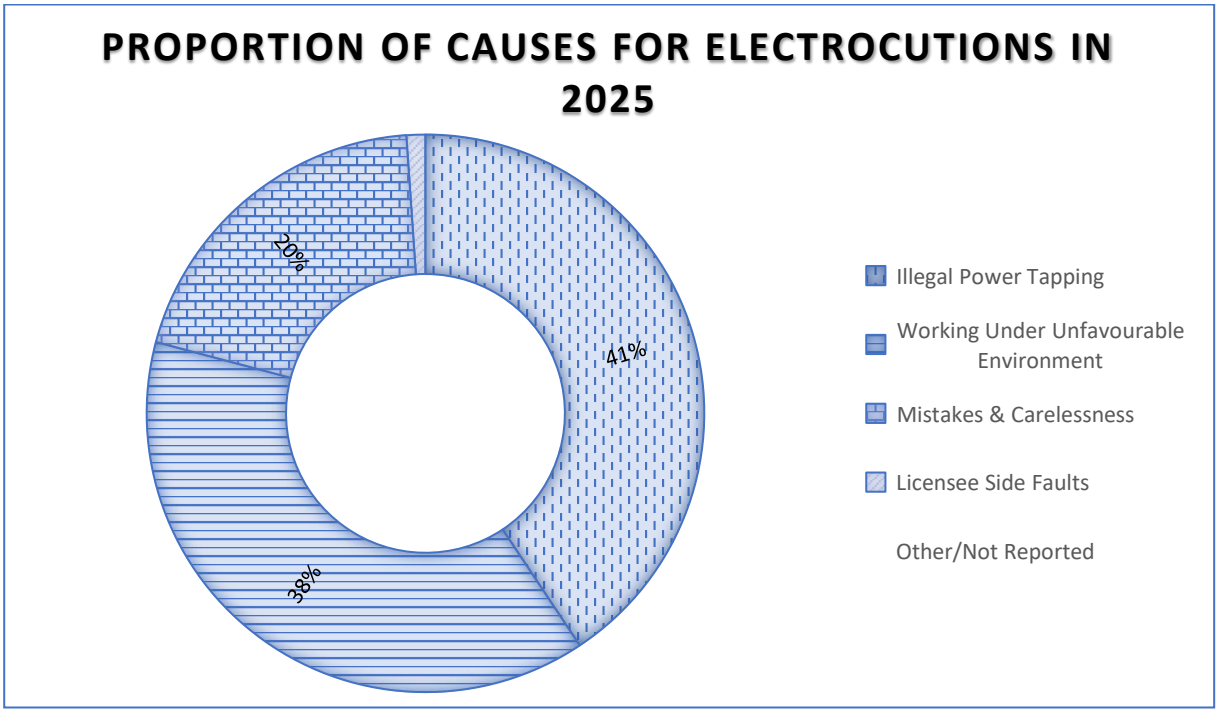


*Figure 16: Proportion of Causes for Electrocutions in 2025*

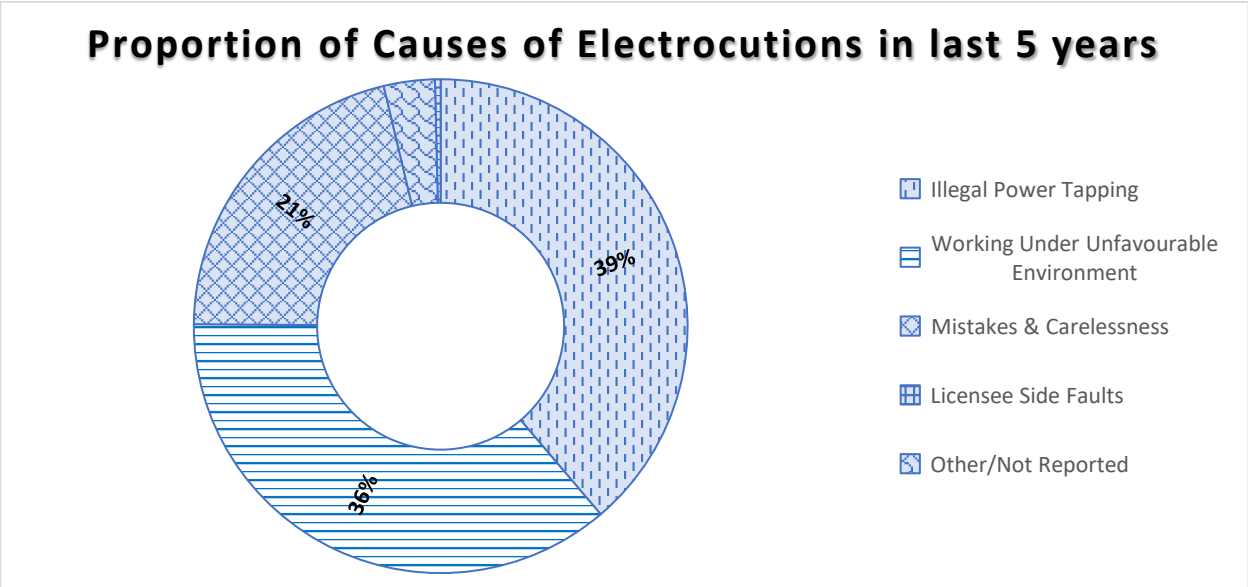


*Figure 17:Proportion of Causes for Electrocutions in last 5 years*

## 13. Analysis of Underlying Causes for Electrocutions

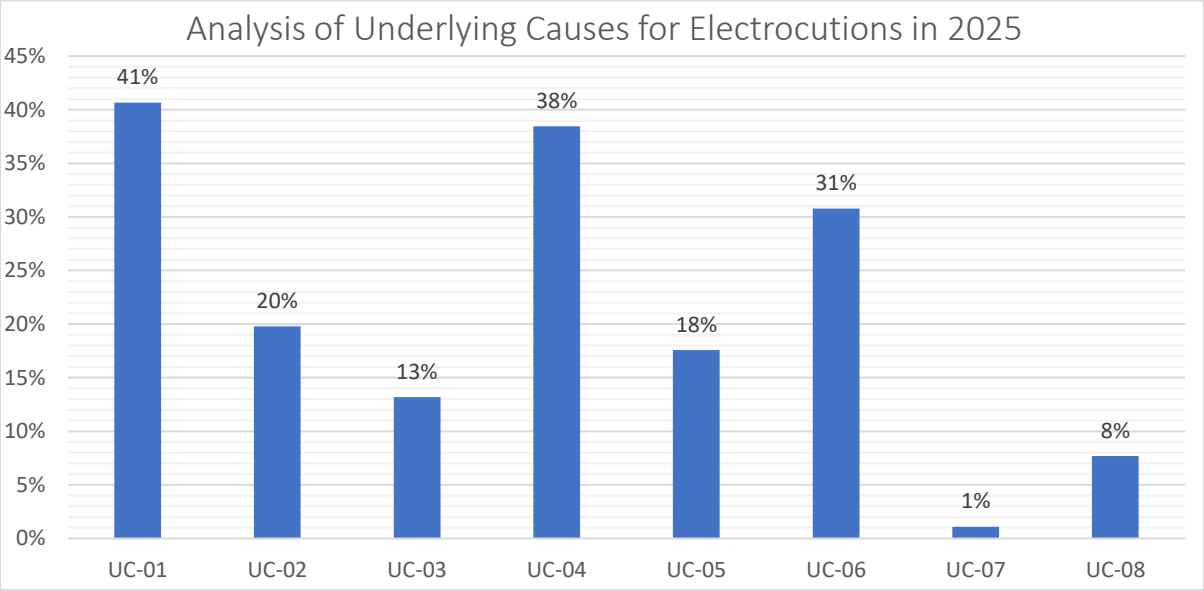


*Figure 18 : Analysis of Underlying Causes for Electrocutions in 2025*

| Code | Underlying Causes |
|---|---|
| UC-01 | Illegal tapping |
| UC-02 | Carelessness |
| UC-03 | Energizing Substandard or Faulty Equipment |
| UC-04 | Malfunctioning or Non availability of RCD |
| UC-05 | Poor Wiring & Unsafe Extension |
| UC-06 | Lack of Awareness |
| UC-07 | Licensee side Faults |
| UC-08 | Violation of Minimum Electrical Line Clearance |

*Table 4: Underlying Causes for Electrocutions*

The analysis of underlying causes for electrocutions in 2025 indicates that several recurring unsafe practices, installation deficiencies, and protection failures continue to contribute significantly to electrocution fatalities in Sri Lanka. Among these, illegal tapping and malfunctioning or non-availability of RCDs were identified as major contributing underlying factors. Although carelessness & lack of awareness were previously major underlying causes, we have seen significant reduction in the last few years. This is partly a result of continuous awareness programs and other activities conducted by PUCSL and other stakeholders.

**Note: In Figures 18, a single electrocution incident may involve multiple underlying causes. Accordingly, the cumulative percentage of underlying causes exceeds 100%.**

# 14. Analysis of Electrocutions Associated with Illegal Tapping (as an Underlying Cause)

As per the electrocution statistics reported in Sri Lanka during 2025, approximately 41% of electrocution fatalities were associated with unlawful use of electricity through illegal tapping of utility distribution lines for purposes such as crop protection, protection of livestock, hunting, fishing, and other agricultural activities. Although such practices are prohibited under Sri Lankan law, a significant number of incidents continue to be reported across various parts of the country each year. In this regard, Section 298 of the Penal Code contains provisions relating to penalizing such unlawful acts upon conviction.

As electricity is supplied by the bare conductors in most of the villages in Sri Lanka, electricity has been misused as a means for illegal killing of animals and crop protection, protect cultivation or even to fishing. According to the statistics, most of the victims of the electrocution incidents reported due to the illegal usage of electricity for fishing and cultivation protection are the same people who installed the illegal fences. Further, the traps made to kill wild animals had killed many innocent people subjecting to the electrocutions as well. Necessary measures are being implemented with the assistance of stakeholders to penalize the perpetrators severely to discourage such illegal activities as well as to aware the public of dangers associated with such illegal measures.




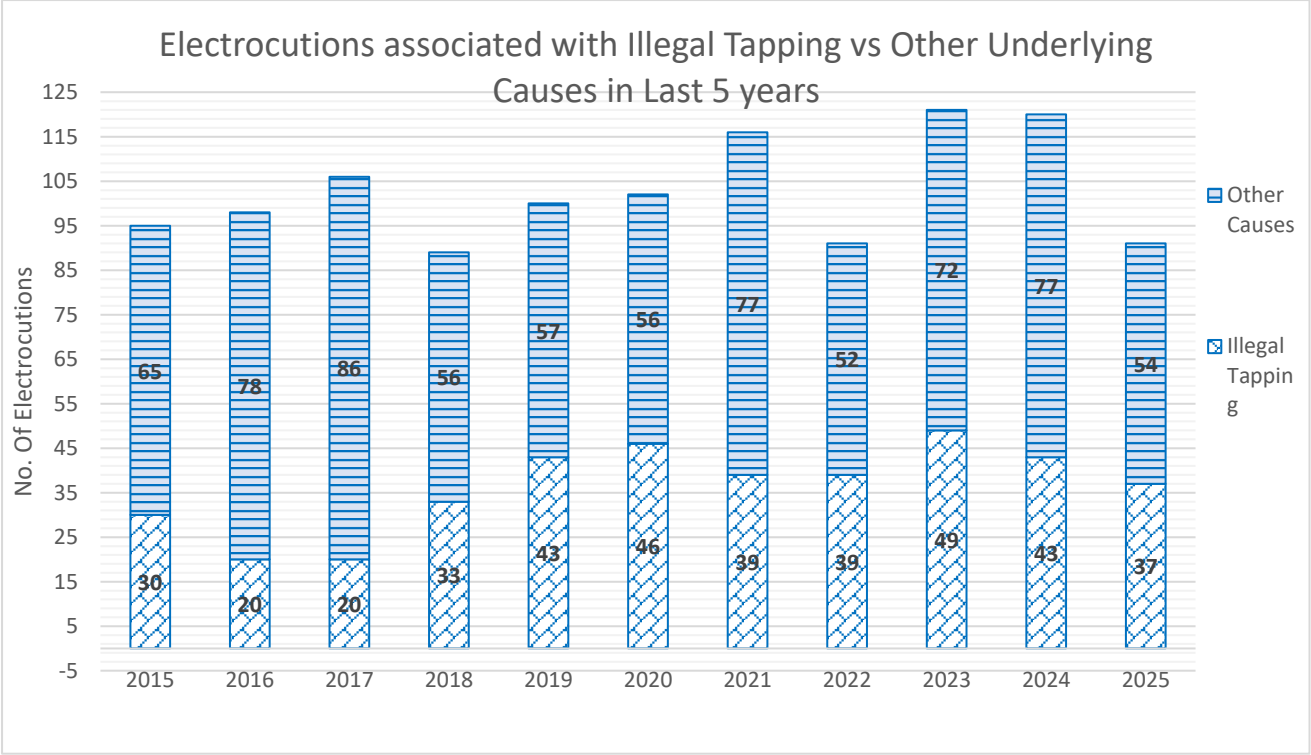


*Figure 19:Electrocutions associated with illegal tapping vs other causes*

As per Figure 19 we can notice that the number of electrocutions due to illegal tapping has been increasing in the last few years gradually although a slight decrease is observed in 2024. However, although the total number of electrocutions are reduced in 2025, proportion of electrocutions due to illegal tapping has increased.

### 14.1 Province & Police Division Wise Analysis

As per the figure 20, 43% of the electrocutions due to illegal tapping has occurred in Central & Uva Provinces. This could be due to majority of the people in these 2 provinces are still dependent on village economy, mainly farming & hunting.

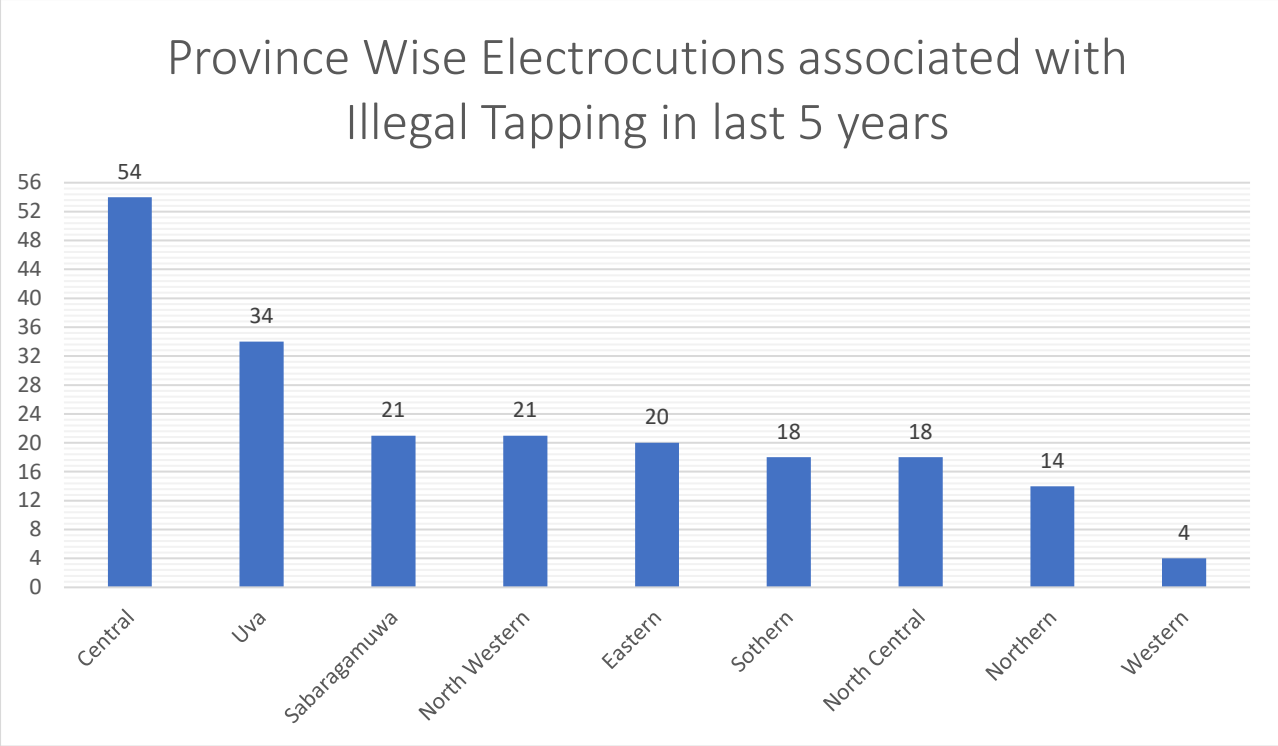


*Figure 20: Province Wise Electrocutions associated with Illegal tapping in last 5 years*

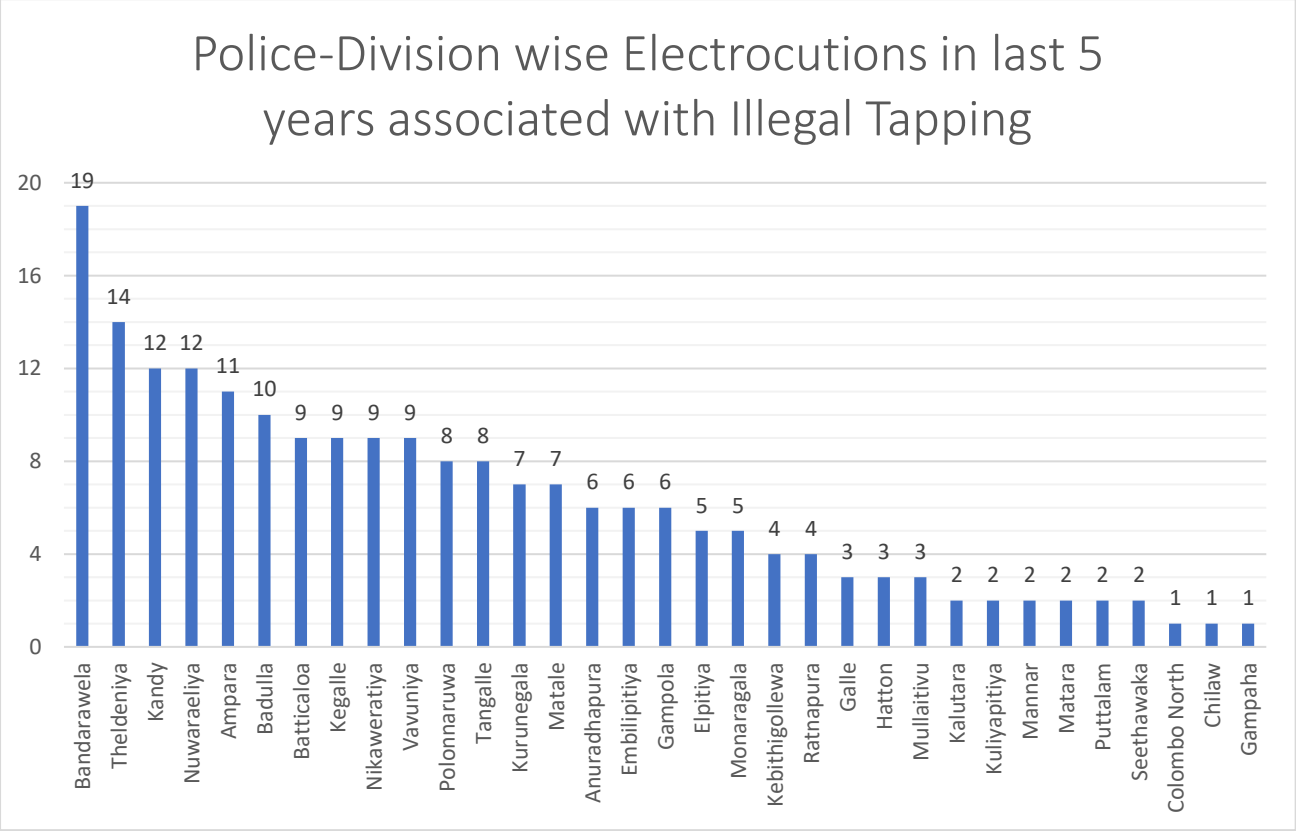


*Figure 21: Police Division wise Electrocutions in last 5 years associated with illegal tapping*

### 14.2 Seasonal Analysis

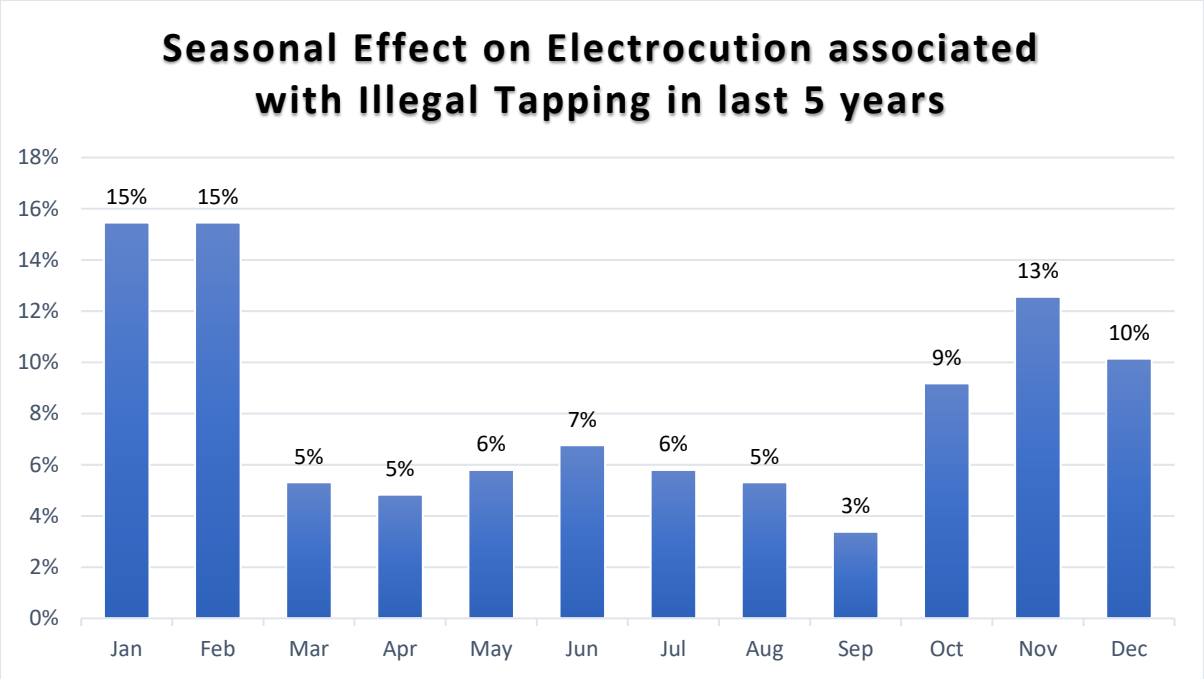


*Figure 22: Seasonal Effect on Electrocutions associated with illegal tapping in last 5 years*

The above chart reveals that electrocutions due to illegal use of electricity is significant in January, February, November & December, recording more than 50% for last 5 years. Since January & December are festival months owing to falling of New year and Christmas people tend to use illicit electrical connections along the natural path ways of the wild animals to get the traps to cater the meat demand during this festival seasons, which could be the reason behind this.

## 15. Analysis of Electrocutions Associated with Unavailability or Malfunctioning of RCDs (as an Underlying Cause)

A Residual Current Device (RCD), commonly referred to as a 'trip switch', is an important supplementary protective device in an electrical installation designed to rapidly disconnect the power supply upon detection of leakage current, thereby reducing the risk of serious injury or fatal electric shock. As per the electrocution statistics reported in Sri Lanka during the last five years, approximately 37% of fatalities were associated with scenarios where the absence or malfunctioning of RCDs may have contributed to the severity of the outcome.



Note: Presence of an RCD alone does not guarantee complete electrical safety and should not be considered a substitute for proper electrical installations, compliant equipment, safe practices, and proper maintenance.

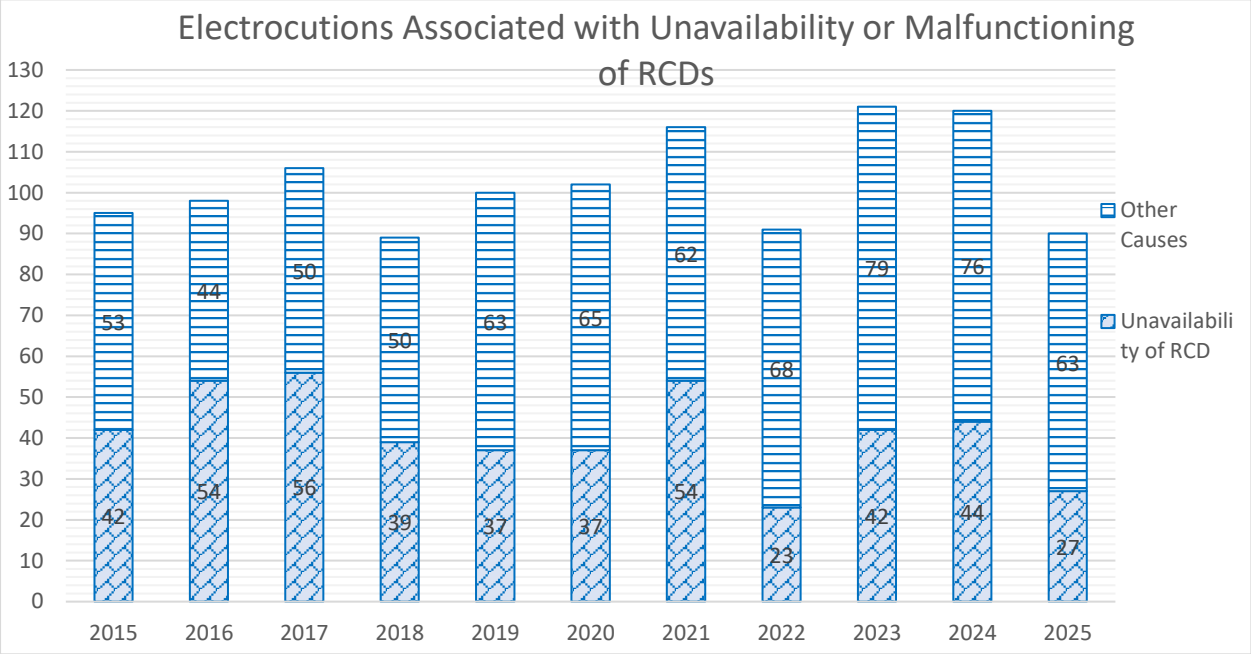


*Figure 23 : Electrocutions Associated with unavailability of RCD vs Other Causes*

As per above figure 23, nearly 40% of fatalities are associated with scenarios where properly functioning RCDs would have significantly reduced the likelihood of fatal outcomes. In addition, we can observe a slight decrease in electrocutions due to unavailability of RCD from 2017 onwards. This reduction is significant in 2022 & 2025. However, an alarming increase was observed in 2023 and 2024.

## 15.1 Province & Police Division Wise Analysis

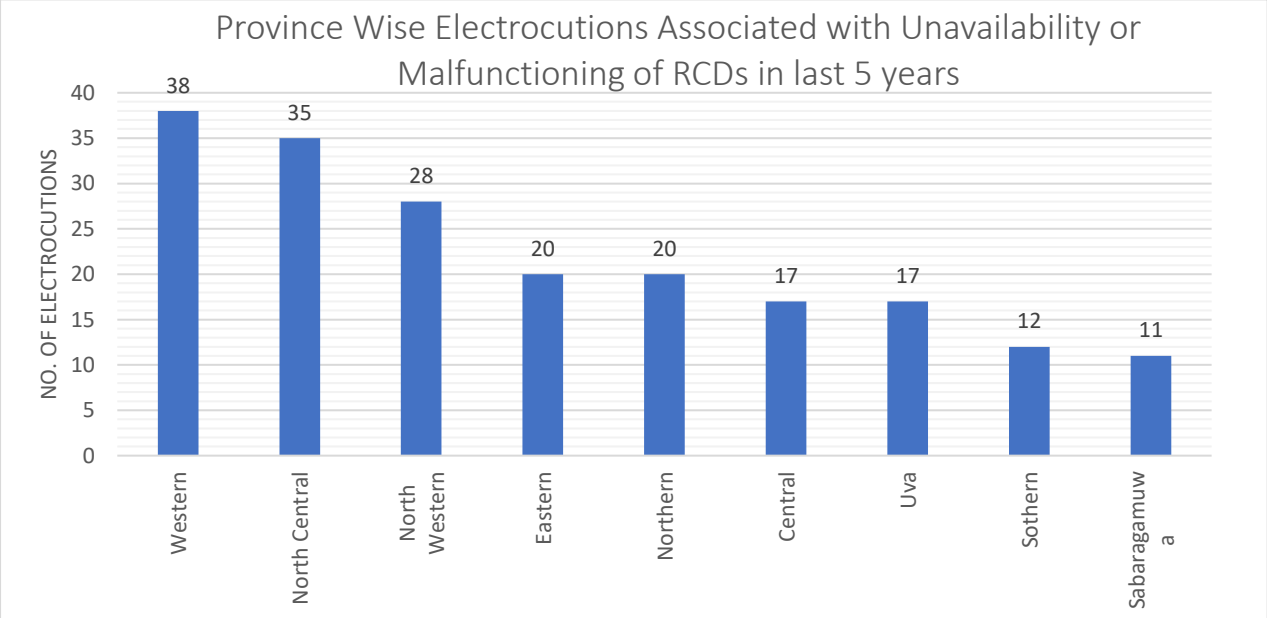


*Figure 24:Province-wise Electrocutions associated with unavailability of RCD in last 5 years*

As per figure 24, More than 50% of the electrocutions associated with unavailability & non-functionality of RCD in last 5 years has been occurred in Western Province, North Central Province and North Western Province.

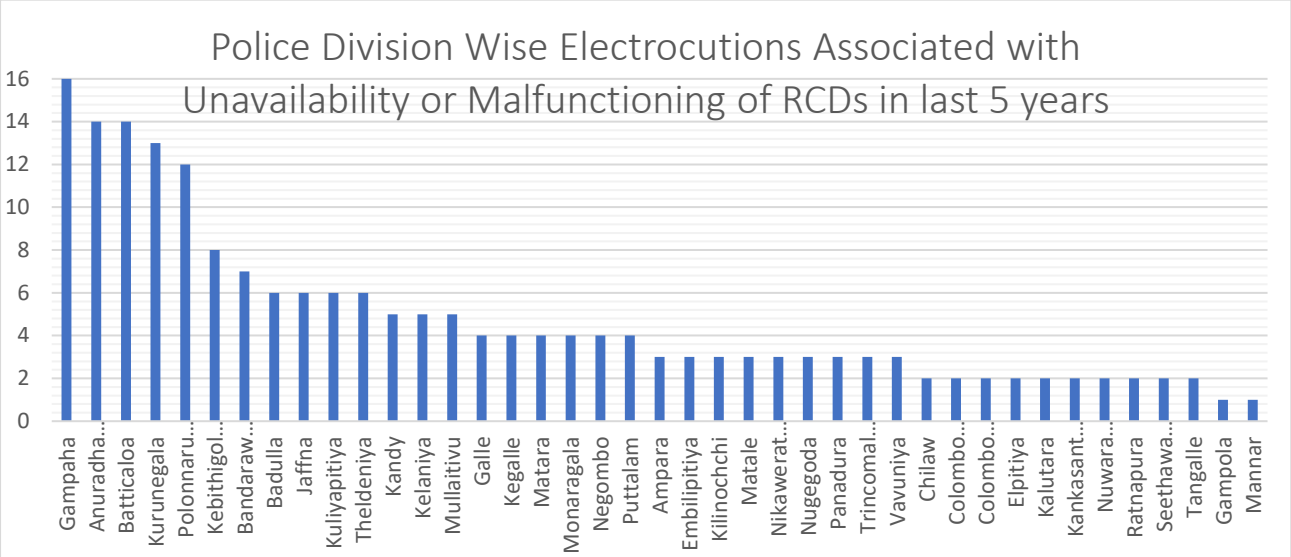


*Figure 25:Police Division wise Electrocutions associated with unavailability or malfunctioning of RCD in last 5 years*

As per figure 25, 35% of electrocutions associated with Unavailability or Malfunctioning of RCDs in last 5 years have been reported in Gampaha, Anuradhapura, Batticaloa, Kurunegala & Polonnaruwa Police Divisions. Specially Gampaha Police Division has recorded an alarming increase of electrocutions associated with unavailability or malfunctioning of RCD in 2024.

# 16. Safety Intervention Implemented in 2025 by Inspectorate Division

During the year 2025, the Inspectorate Division of the Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (PUCSL) implemented a series of regulatory, technical, awareness, monitoring, and stakeholder coordination initiatives aimed at improving electrical safety and reducing electrocution incidents across Sri Lanka. These interventions were implemented based on historical incident trends, field observations, stakeholder feedback, and regulatory requirements, with focus on strengthening public awareness, improving compliance with electrical safety requirements, enhancing inter-agency coordination, supporting enforcement activities, and promoting safer electrical practices among the general public. The interventions implemented during the year are summarized under the areas of public consultations, field surveys and inspections, awareness and capacity-building programs, stakeholder engagement and inter-agency coordination, regulatory enforcement and market surveillance, and digital transformation initiatives.

## 16.1 Public Consultations

During 2025, PUCSL conducted several targeted public consultations in districts identified through historical electrocution analysis and field observations.

Public consultations were conducted in Kurunegala and Gampaha Districts, which recorded a high number of electrocutions associated with malfunctioning or absence of RCCBs over the past several years. These consultations facilitated stakeholder engagement and identification of practical

measures to improve awareness, compliance, and implementation of electrical safety requirements relating to RCCBs.

In addition, public consultations were conducted in Badulla and Kandy Districts focusing on illegally tapped unsafe electric fences used for cultivation protection and hunting purposes. These consultations involved stakeholders including local authorities, farming communities, government officers, law enforcement authorities, and other relevant parties to discuss enforcement challenges, awareness requirements, and safer alternatives.

The consultations provided valuable stakeholder feedback and contributed towards the formulation of recommendations for improving electrical safety interventions and regulatory coordination mechanisms.

## 16.2 Field Surveys, Inspections and Monitoring Activities

A range of field-level surveys, inspections, investigations, and monitoring activities were conducted during 2025 to identify safety deficiencies, improve compliance, and support data-driven interventions.

A comprehensive house-to-house RCCB field survey was conducted within the Kurunegala Police Division covering 425 households across all 20 Police Station areas. The survey revealed approximately **25% of households lacked functional RCCBs** and significant deficiencies in consumer awareness regarding routine testing practices.

Continuous inspections and monitoring activities were also conducted in low-income apartment complexes and other premises to evaluate electrical safety compliance, including functionality of RCCBs and general safety conditions. These inspections indicated improvements in user awareness and reduction in non-functional RCCBs compared to previous years.

Further, inspections and investigations were conducted relating to:

- Electrocution incidents
- Unsafe electrical installations
- Power quality complaints
- Metering and service connection disputes
- Safety complaints received from the public

Monitoring activities relating to high-voltage substations were also carried out focusing on safety aspects associated with step and touch voltages and related protective measures.
In addition, pilot monitoring activities relating to power quality improvements and rooftop solar integration were conducted to support safer and more reliable operation of low-voltage distribution networks.

## 16.3 Awareness and Capacity Building Programs

Extensive awareness and capacity-building programs were conducted during 2025 targeting various stakeholder groups across the country.

More than 50 awareness programs were conducted in collaboration with Sri Lanka Police, Schools, Divisional Secretariats, Department of Agriculture, Non-Governmental Organizations, media institutions, and other stakeholders to improve public awareness on electrical safety.

These programs targeted:

- School students and academic staff
- Community Police Officers
- Government officers
- Agricultural officers and farming communities
- Community groups
- Members of the general public

The awareness programs focused on:

- Safe use of electricity
- Importance of proper electrical installations & following relevant standards
- Dangers associated with illegally tapped unsafe electric fences
- Safe use and testing of RCCBs
- Risks associated with unsafe wiring practices and substandard appliances
- Safety precautions during construction and outdoor activities near electrical lines

In conjunction with the National Accident Prevention Week, PUCSL collaborated with the Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) Unit of the Ministry of Health in conducting electrical safety awareness initiatives through television, radio channels, and other media platforms to promote accident prevention and safe use of electricity among the general public.

A nationwide social media awareness campaign was also implemented through platforms such as Facebook, YouTube, TikTok, radio, and television media to enhance public outreach and improve awareness on electrical safety matters.

These awareness initiatives contributed significantly towards behavioural change, public awareness enhancement, and promotion of safer electrical practices.

## 16.4 Stakeholder Engagement and Inter-Agency Coordination

During 2025, the Inspectorate Division of the Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (PUCSL) further strengthened coordination and engagement with a broad range of national stakeholders to enhance electrical safety awareness, improve dissemination mechanisms, strengthen enforcement coordination, and support data-driven interventions.

These engagements included collaboration with:

- The Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) Unit of the Ministry of Health in conjunction with the National Accident Prevention Week, where PUCSL collaborated in conducting electrical safety awareness initiatives through television, radio channels, and other media platforms to promote accident prevention and the safe use of electricity among the general public.
- Import and Export Control Department (IMEX), Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI), and Consumer Affairs Authority (CAA) in relation to market surveillance activities, monitoring of electrical accessories, and improving compliance of electrical equipment available in the market.
- Schools, academic institutions, and educational authorities to disseminate electrical safety awareness among students, teachers, and academic staff.
- Community Police Divisions of Sri Lanka Police to conduct joint awareness and enforcement-related activities, particularly targeting illegal unsafe electric fences and unsafe electrical practices in rural areas.
- Ministry of Home Affairs through Divisional Secretariats, Grama Niladhari officers, and other field-level administrative officers to disseminate electrical safety awareness materials and coordinate localized awareness activities.
- Department of Agriculture and agricultural field officers to improve awareness among farming communities regarding the dangers associated with illegally tapped unsafe electric fences and unsafe electrical practices used for agricultural activities.
- Sri Lanka Police, including the Central Criminal Investigation Bureau and other Police divisions, for obtaining and validating electrocution-related data and supporting enforcement and investigative activities associated with electrical incidents.

These coordinated stakeholder engagements significantly contributed towards improving public awareness, strengthening enforcement mechanisms, enhancing inter-agency coordination, and supporting the implementation of targeted interventions aimed at reducing electrocution fatalities in Sri Lanka.

## 16.5 Regulatory Enforcement and Market Surveillance

Several regulatory enforcement and market surveillance activities were implemented during 2025 to improve compliance with electrical safety requirements and strengthen consumer protection.

Market surveillance activities relating to electrical accessories and equipment were conducted across multiple districts in collaboration with SLSI, CAA, Customs, and other relevant authorities to improve compliance with applicable standards including SLS 734.

Regulatory inspections and investigations were also conducted relating to:

- Unsafe electrical installations
- Safety violations
- Complaints relating to power quality
- Electrical accidents and electrocution incidents
- Metering and service connection disputes

In addition, sanction applications relating to illegal use of electricity were reviewed to support enforcement actions under the applicable provisions of electricity-related laws and regulations.

These activities contributed towards strengthening compliance monitoring, reducing unsafe practices, and improving consumer safety protections.

## 16.6 Digital Transformation and Data Systems

During 2025, several digital transformation initiatives were undertaken to improve incident reporting, information management, and data-driven regulatory interventions.
A comprehensive Incident Reporting System (IRS) platform was developed to facilitate improved reporting and monitoring of electrical incidents and near-misses. Access to the system is being progressively provided to Distribution, Transmission, and Generation Licensees, Sri Lanka Police, and relevant Health Sector institutions.

The system is intended to:

- Capture electrical incidents and near-miss events
- Improve quality and availability of incident data
- Support data-driven regulatory interventions
- Enhance inter-agency coordination
- Improve analysis of electrocution trends and Underlying causes

These initiatives are expected to strengthen evidence-based decision-making and improve long-term electrical safety monitoring and intervention planning.

### 16.7 Overall Impact

The interventions implemented during 2025 collectively contributed towards:

- Improved public awareness on electrical safety
- Increased awareness regarding proper use and testing of RCCBs
- Strengthened stakeholder coordination and inter-agency collaboration
- Enhanced monitoring and inspection activities
- Improved regulatory enforcement and compliance monitoring
- Strengthened market surveillance activities
- Improved data collection and reporting mechanisms
- Promotion of safer electrical practices among the general public

Most importantly, a notable reduction in electrocution fatalities was observed in 2025, with the total number of reported electrocution deaths reducing to 91 fatalities compared to 120 fatalities reported in 2024 and 121 fatalities reported in 2023, representing an overall reduction of approximately 25% compared to the preceding years. This represents the lowest number of electrocution fatalities reported during the last several years.

The reduction observed in 2025 indicates the positive impact of targeted, data-driven, and coordinated interventions implemented by PUCSL together with supporting stakeholders, particularly interventions focusing on high-risk causes such as illegally tapped unsafe electric fences, malfunctioning or non-availability of RCCBs, unsafe electrical practices, and public awareness deficiencies.

Accordingly, the outcomes demonstrate that sustained reductions in electrocution fatalities can be achieved through continued implementation of targeted awareness programs, stakeholder coordination, regulatory enforcement, market surveillance, inspections, and evidence-based safety interventions.

## 17. Benchmarking of Electrocution Fatalities – International Comparison

### 17.1 Purpose

This report presents benchmark figures on electrocution fatalities in selected countries and regions, normalized by population, to support regulatory analysis and target setting for Sri Lanka.

### 17.2 Data sources

This benchmarking report is based exclusively on secondary data compiled in referenced sources. Electrocution fatality figures have been drawn from official publications and credible institutional sources cited, including national safety regulators, crime record bureaus, utility regulators, and peer-reviewed research. Population figures used for normalization are those explicitly stated in the source reports or derived therein from recognized demographic datasets.

## 17.3 Benchmark summary table

| Country / Region | Year of electrocution data | Population (million) | Electrocution Deaths per year | Electrocutions per million population per year |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Australia | 2024–2025 | 27.40 | 7 | 0.26 |
| New Zealand | 2024–2025 | 5.33 | 1 | 0.19 |
| Australia + New Zealand (combined) | 2024–2025 | 32.2 | 11 | 0.34 |
| India (National) | 2023 | 1,463.90 | 13,835 | 9.45 |
| India – Kerala State | 2023–2024 | 36.1 | 205 | 5.68 |
| Bangladesh | Annualized (survey based) | 175.7 | ≈2,350 | 13.38 |
| Sri Lanka | 2025 | 21.78 | 91 | 4.18 |
| United Kingdom | 2024 | 68.27 | ≈100 | 1.46 |
| United States | 2024 | 340.11 | ≈1,000 | 2.94 |
| Nigeria | 2024 | 223.8 | 112 | 0.5 |

*Table 6: International Benchmark Summary Table*

## 17.4 Comparative analysis

Low fatality rate jurisdictions: Australia and New Zealand consistently record electrocution fatality rates well below 0.5 deaths per million population, representing mature electricity safety frameworks with strong enforcement, infrastructure standards, and public awareness.

Moderate fatality rate jurisdictions: The United Kingdom, United States, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, and Kerala State in India fall within an intermediate band of approximately 0.5 to 6 deaths per million population, indicating partial effectiveness of safety controls with identifiable residual risks.

High fatality rate jurisdictions: India (national) and Bangladesh exhibit significantly higher electrocution fatality rates, exceeding 9 deaths per million population, reflecting challenges associated with scale, rural electrification practices, illegal connections, and uneven safety compliance.

A practical global benchmark of approximately 1 electrocution death per million population per year emerges from the comparison, aligning with performance achieved in advanced regulatory environments.

## 17.5 Regulatory relevance for Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka's estimated electrocution fatality rate of approximately 4.18 deaths per million population places it above best-practice benchmarks but favorably comparable with some regional peers.
The benchmark data indicate that substantial further reductions are achievable through focused regulatory interventions.

## 17.6 Conclusion

The consolidated benchmark confirms that electrocution fatalities are not an unavoidable consequence of electrification. Countries operating below 1 death per million population demonstrate that strong regulation, enforcement, and safety culture can dramatically reduce fatalities. For Sri Lanka, the benchmark provides a clear, evidence-based reference to justify ambitious yet achievable national electrocution reduction targets.

Importantly, the total number of electrocution fatalities reported in 2025 represents the lowest number recorded during the last several years, demonstrating that sustained and targeted

interventions can contribute significantly towards improving electrical safety and reducing electrocution risks in Sri Lanka.

## 17.7 References


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