

GLOBAL MONITORING REPORT

WHO/ILO Joint Estimates of the Work-related Burden of Disease and Injury, 2000–2016





World Health
Organization



International
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Organization

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CONTENTS

FOREWORD FROM THE WHO DIRECTOR-GENERAL AND THE ILO DIRECTOR-GENERAL	v
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	vi
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	vii
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	viii
1. INTRODUCTION	1
2. OCCUPATIONAL RISK FACTOR AND HEALTH OUTCOME PAIRS	3
2.1. Established pairs	4
2.1.1. Selection	4
2.1.2. Data sources	4
2.2. Recently added pairs	4
2.2.1. Selection	4
2.2.2. Data sources	4
3. ESTIMATION METHODS	7
3.1. Established pairs	8
3.2. Recently added pairs	8
3.2.1. Exposure estimates	8
3.2.2. Burden of disease estimates	8
3.3. Inequalities	8
3.4. Uncertainty	9
4. RESULTS	10
4.1. Overview of estimates for all pairs	11
4.2. Estimates for established pairs	19
4.2.1. Occupational exposure to asbestos	20
4.2.2. Occupational exposure to arsenic	21
4.2.3. Occupational exposure to benzene	21
4.2.4. Occupational exposure to beryllium	22
4.2.5. Occupational exposure to cadmium	23
4.2.6. Occupational exposure to chromium	24

4.2.7. Occupational exposure to diesel engine exhaust	25
4.2.8. Occupational exposure to formaldehyde	25
4.2.9. Occupational exposure to nickel	26
4.2.10. Occupational exposure to polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons	27
4.2.11. Occupational exposure to silica	27
4.2.12. Occupational exposure to sulphuric acid	28
4.2.13. Occupational exposure to trichloroethylene	29
4.2.14. Occupational asthmagens	29
4.2.15. Occupational particulate matter, gases and fumes	30
4.2.16. Occupational noise	31
4.2.17. Occupational injuries	32
4.2.18. Occupational ergonomic factors	34
4.3. Estimates for recently added pairs	35
4.3.1. Exposure to long working hours: stroke	36
4.3.2. Exposure to long working hours: ischaemic heart disease	36
4.3.3. Preventive actions	37
4.4. Trends over time	38
4.5. Inequalities in work-related burden of disease	39
4.5.1. By geographic region	39
4.5.2. By sex	41
4.5.3. By age group	42
5. DISCUSSION	44
6. CONCLUSION	46
REFERENCES	48
ANNEXES	54

FOREWORD FROM THE WHO DIRECTOR-GENERAL AND THE ILO DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Nobody should get sick or die from doing their job. And yet every year, 1.9 million people die from exposure to risk factors in the workplace. The 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim “to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being” and “decent work” for all people, whatever their economic or social status.

Achieving these goals requires the comprehensive, accurate and transparent monitoring of workers’ health and safety. Quantifying the impact of each occupational risk factor is essential for mitigating it. That’s why the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) have established the WHO/ILO Joint Estimates of the Work-related Burden of Disease and Injury (WHO/ILO Joint Estimates).

In 2016, we agreed to produce a single unified methodology and a single set of joint estimates on the work-related burden of disease and injury. In 2019, we further strengthened our partnership by signing a Collaboration Agreement to produce these estimates regularly.

This report is the first fruits of that collaboration. It details the impact on human health of each occupational risk factor, and offers concrete policies and actions to improve occupational and workers’ health and safety. These estimates provide a valuable basis for identifying, prioritizing, planning, costing, implementing and evaluating effective policies and actions to prevent the work-related burden of disease and injury, at country, regional and global levels, across sectors.

This report is a snapshot of a wider problem. The challenge for all of us now is to act on what it is showing us.



**Dr Tedros Adhanom
Ghebreyesus**
Director-General
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Director-General
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Organization

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This report presents the World Health Organization/International Labour Organization Joint Estimates of the Work-related Burden of Disease and Injury (WHO/ILO Joint Estimates).

The WHO/ILO Joint Estimates were produced by Frank Pega (WHO), Natalie Momen (WHO), Kai Streicher (WHO) and Bálint Náfrádi (ILO).

Frank Pega and Natalie Momen were the lead writers of this report; the drafting team also included Yuka Ujita (ILO), Bálint Náfrádi and Halim Hamzaoui (ILO). Rola Al-Elmam (WHO), Richard Brown (WHO), Ahmadreza Hosseinpoor (WHO), Ivan Ivanov (WHO), Kathleen Krupinski (WHO), Franklin Muchiri (ILO), Ann Olsson (International Agency for Research on Cancer), Lesley Onyon (WHO) and Annette Prüss-Üstün (WHO) also provided valuable technical inputs to this report.

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