

7 July 2008

**Economically Active Population Survey (EAPS)  
Module on Occupational Accidents and Work-related Illnesses. Year 2007**

**5.0% of workers <sup>1</sup> have had an occupational accident <sup>2</sup> in the past 12 months**

**17.8% of persons who are employed or who worked previously have suffered some illness in the past year**

**In one in three cases, the illness has been caused or aggravated by the person's work**

5.0% of persons who were employed, or who had worked during the last year, had had accidents during the working day or on the way to/from the workplace in the last 12 months. In turn, 17.8% of persons who were employed or had some work experience, had suffered some illness in the last year, according to the results of the module on occupational accidents and work-related illnesses of the EAPS for the year 2007.

Out of the total persons who had had some accident, 9.4% had had two or more accidents.

5.9% of men and 3.7% of women aged 16 years old or over, had had accidents during the working day or on the way to/from the workplace.

By age, the highest percentages of accidents in men had been recorded in the group aged 25-34 years old, and for women, in the group aged 55 years old and over.

By economic sector, 49.6% of the accidents during the working day took place in the Services sector, 22.2% in Industry and 20.7% in Construction.

In comparing this distribution with that of employed persons by sector, it was observed that the proportion of accidents was greater than the weight of the sector in Construction and in Industry, and lesser in the Services sector.

Among men, 36.5% of accidents had taken place in the Services sector, 28.3% in Construction and 26.5% in Industry. Among women, 84.3% of the accidents had taken place in the Services sector.

Considering the professional situation of the persons who had had an accident, 77.1% had been employees in the private sector, 9.8% had been freelance workers and 9.5% had been employees in the public sector.

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<sup>1</sup> Persons aged 16 years old and over, who were employed or had worked in the past year

<sup>2</sup> During the working day or on the way to/from the workplace

**Persons aged 16 years old and over who had or had not had an accident during the working day or going to/from the workplace.**

Percentage.

<b>Sex and age</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Does not know</b>
<b>Both sexes</b>	5.0	94.9	0.2
16-24 years old	5.3	94.6	0.1
25-34 years old	5.3	94.4	0.2
35-44 years old	5.2	94.6	0.2
45-54 years old	4.4	95.5	0.1
55 and over	4.0	95.8	0.1
<b>Men</b>	5.9	93.9	0.2
16-24 years old	6.7	93.1	0.2
25-34 years old	6.8	92.8	0.3
35-44 years old	6.4	93.4	0.2
45-54 years old	4.8	95.1	0.2
55 and over	3.9	95.9	0.2
<b>Women</b>	3.7	96.2	0.1
16-24 years old	3.6	96.4	0.1
25-34 years old	3.5	96.4	0.1
35-44 years old	3.7	96.1	0.1
45-54 years old	3.8	96.1	0.0
55 and over	4.2	95.7	0.1

1 Employed or had worked during the past year

**Going back to work**

17.7% of persons who had had an accident during the working day had not stopped working and had returned the same day of the accident, whereas 17.6% had gone back to work between five and thirteen days after the accident.

By sex, 18.1% of men had gone back to work between five and 13 days later. In turn, 22.9% of women had not stopped working, and had returned the same day of the accident.

**Illnesses**

17.8% of persons aged 16 years old and over, who are currently employed or with professional experience, had suffered some illness during the year 2007. By sex, 16.7% of men and 19.1% of women had suffered some illness.

**Persons aged 16 years old and over <sup>1</sup> who had or had not suffered an illness**

Percentage

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Does not know</b>
<b>Box sexes</b>	17.8	82.0	0.2
Men	16.7	83.1	0.2
Women	19.1	80.8	0.1

1 Currently working or with professional experience

By age, the percentages of persons who had had some illness increased as they aged within the age group analysed, reaching 26.7% for men aged 55 years old and over and 31.1% for women in the same age group.

Out of the total persons who had suffered some illness in the last year (5,970,700 workers or persons with some professional experience), 27.3% showed that they had suffered one illness caused or aggravated by their work, and 5.2% showed two or more. Conversely, 67.6% had suffered some illness that had not been caused by their work.

### Type of illness

The main causes of work-related illness (caused or aggravated by the person's work in the past 12 months) were respiratory or pulmonary problems (28.2%), bone, joint or muscular problems affecting the hips, legs or feet (17.3%) and bone, joint or muscular problems affecting the back (17.3%).

### Persons aged 16 years old and over <sup>1</sup>, who had suffered some work-related illness, by type of illness and sex

Percentage

Type of illness	Both sexes	Men	Women
<b>Total</b>	100.0	100.0	100.0
Bone, joint or muscular problem mainly affecting the neck, shoulders, arms or hands	0.4	0.3	0.4
Bone, joint or muscular problem mainly affecting the hips, legs or feet	17.3	13.5	21.3
Bone, joint or muscular problem mainly affecting the back	17.2	18.3	16.1
Respiratory or pulmonary problem	28.2	27.6	28.8
Dermatological problem	7.0	8.9	5.0
Hearing problem	0.9	1.0	0.7
Stress, depression or anxiety	0.9	1.4	0.4
Headache and/or eye fatigue	13.9	12.9	15.0
Heart condition or attack, or other circulatory system problems	1.4	1.2	1.5
Infectious disease (virus, bacteria or other types of infection)	5.2	7.0	3.4
Other	1.5	1.0	2.0
Does not know	6.1	6.9	5.3

<sup>1</sup> Currently employed or with professional experience

For 40.9% of persons aged 16 years old and over who had suffered some work-related illness, this illness had "considerably" limited their daily activities.

## Period of absence

By period of absence from work due to illness, 33.4% had not been absent at all, 15.6% had been absent from one to three months and 13.2% had been absent from four to thirteen days.

In turn, 8.1% had been absent from work for three to six months, 4.1% for six to nine months and 5.2% for nine months or more.

## Persons aged 16 years old and over <sup>1</sup> who were absent from work due to some work-related illness, by period of absence from work and sex

Percentages

Period of absence	Both sexes	Men	Women
<b>Both sexes</b>	100.0	100.0	100.0
No absence	33.4	33.7	33.1
One to three days	8.2	8.7	7.7
Four to thirteen days	13.2	13.3	13.1
At least two weeks, but less than one month	9.6	10.3	8.9
At least one month, but fewer than three	15.6	15.5	15.7
At least three months, but fewer than six	8.1	7.7	8.5
At least six months, but fewer than nine	4.1	3.9	4.3
Nine months or more	5.2	5.0	5.5
Does not know	2.6	2.0	3.2

<sup>1</sup> Currently employed or with professional experience

## Factors detrimental to mental and physical well-being

A total of 5,072,900 of the persons employed during the year 2007 declared to have been exposed to factors that were detrimental to their mental well-being.

In 81.6% of the cases, the most serious negative factor had been the presence of time pressure or excessive workload (83.4% of men and 78.8% of women).

Conversely, 11.0% claimed to have suffered violence or threats of violence (556,900 persons). This percentage rose to 11.7% in the case of women.

7.4% of employed persons declaring adverse factors to their mental well-being claimed to have suffered harassment or intimidation (375,100 persons). In the case of women, this percentage reached 9.4%.

**Percentage of employed persons aged 16 years old and over <sup>1</sup> exposed to factors detrimental to their mental well-being, by factor with the most serious negative effect, by sex and age group**

Sex and age	Total	Harassment or intimidation	Violence or threat of violence	Time pressure or excessive workload
		Percentage	Percentage	Percentage
<b>Both sexes</b>	100.0	7.4	11.0	81.6
16-24 years old	100.0	10.1	10.3	79.6
25-34 years old	100.0	6.2	10.0	83.8
35-44 years old	100.0	6.8	10.6	82.6
45-54 years old	100.0	8.4	12.0	79.6
55 and over	100.0	8.7	12.9	78.3
<b>Men</b>	100.0	6.1	10.5	83.4
16-24 years old	100.0	9.5	10.3	80.2
25-34 years old	100.0	4.8	9.5	85.7
35-44 years old	100.0	5.7	9.4	84.9
45-54 years old	100.0	7.0	12.5	80.5
55 and over	100.0	7.0	12.0	81.1
<b>Women</b>	100.0	9.4	11.7	78.8
16-24 years old	100.0	10.8	10.2	79.0
25-34 years old	100.0	8.2	10.7	81.1
35-44 years old	100.0	8.6	12.6	78.8
45-54 years old	100.0	10.8	11.2	78.0
55 and over	100.0	12.5	15.0	72.5

<sup>1</sup> In 2007

In the case of risk factors to physical health, a total of 9,522,100 employed persons showed some type of detrimental factor.

The risk of accidents was indicated as the factor with the greatest negative effect by 36.6% (in the case of men, the percentage was 43.5% and in the case of women, 20.9%), whereas the "adoption of postures, difficult movements that are part of the work, or carriage of heavy weights" was noted by 35.2% of the affected persons (28.0% in the case of men and 51.7% in the case of women).

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