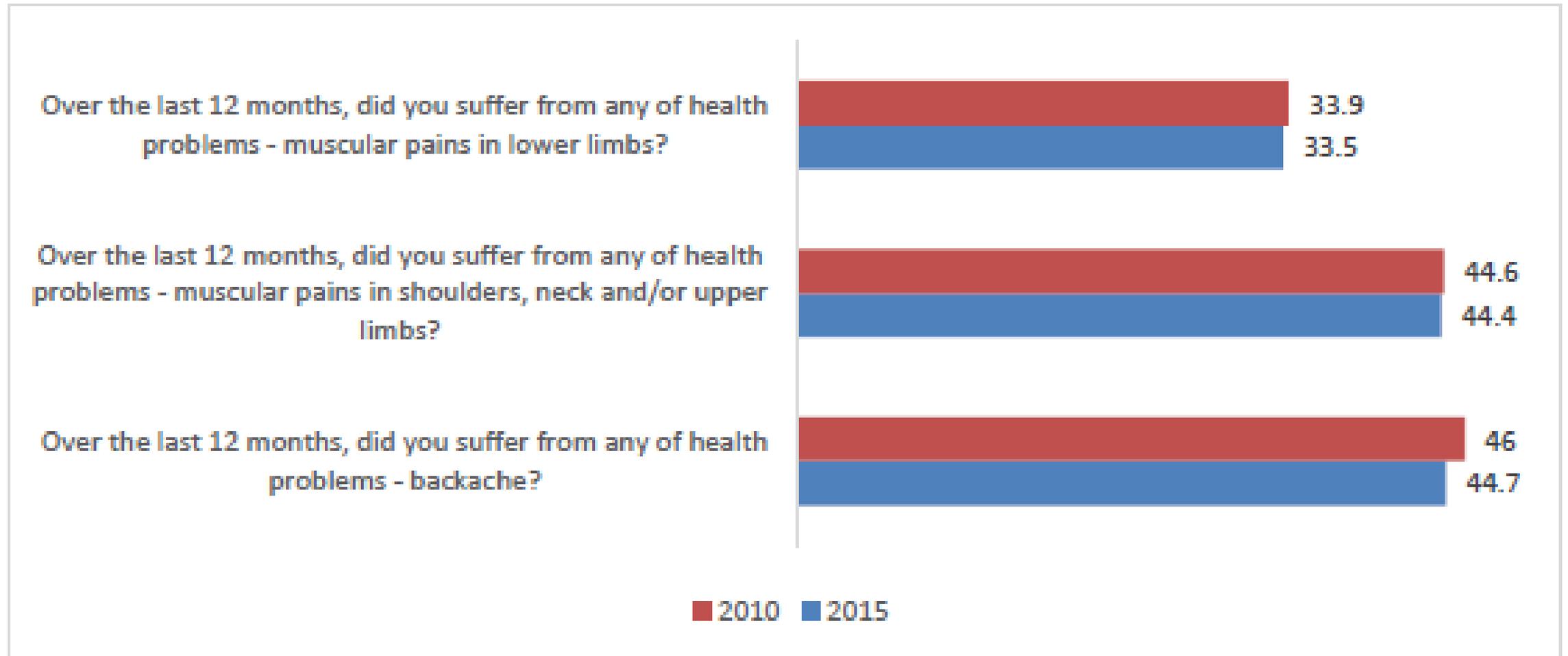


”Healthy workplaces lighten the load! 2020-2022”
Statistics – the human behind figures

Minke Wersäll

minke.wersall@av.se

Figure 1 Percentage of individuals reporting specific types of MSDs in the EU, 2010 and 2015



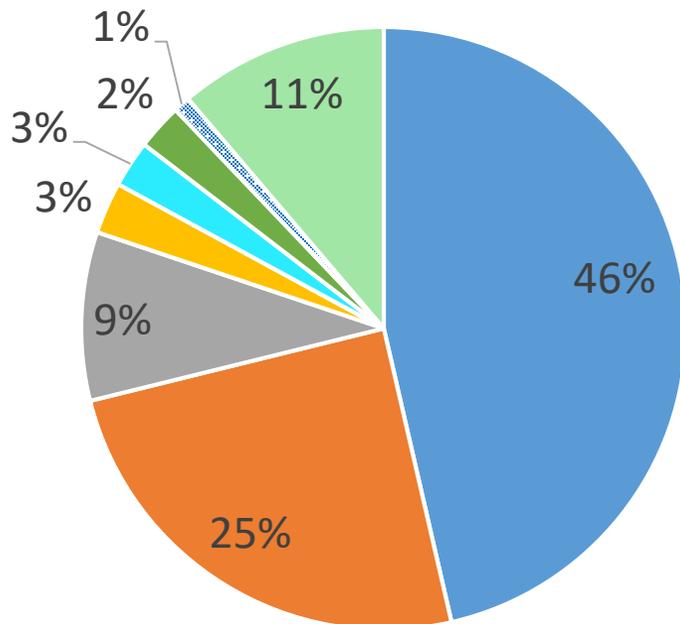
Source: European Working Conditions Survey, Eurofound

Reported Work Related Diseases 2019



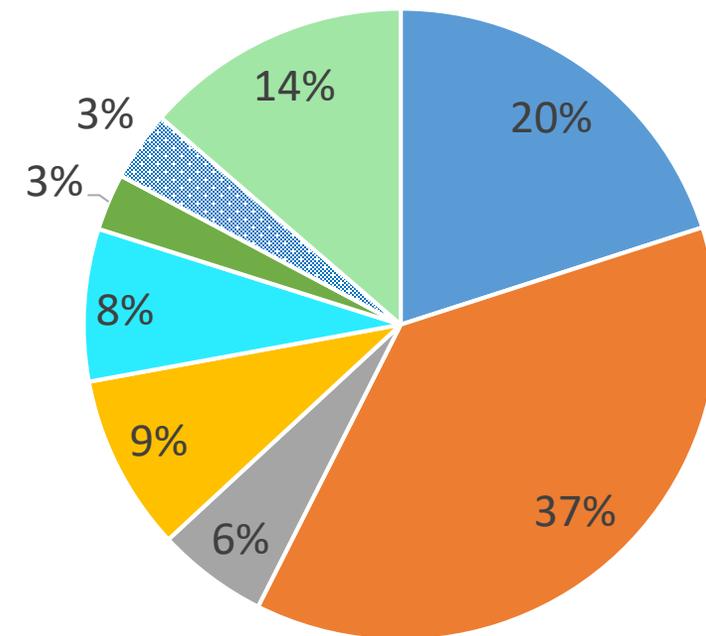
n = 6784

- Disorders due to psycho social factors
- Musculoskeletal disorders
- Disorders of the respiratory tract
- Hearing deficiencies, Tinnitus
- Nervous System disorders
- Skin disorders
- Cardio Vascular disorders
- Others



n = 3850

- Disorders due to psycho social factors
- Musculoskeletal disorders
- Disorders of the respiratory tract
- Hearing deficiencies, Tinnitus
- Nervous System disorders
- Skin disorders
- Cardio Vascular disorders
- Others



From: Swedish Work Environment Authority (ISA)

Work Related (WR) diseases and accidents 2019 – as reported

36 fatal accidents

114 500 reported WR diseases and accidents:

10 600 WR diseases

34 700 WR accidents with sickness absence

69 200 WR accidents without absence

Not visible in statistics:

Ill-health, complaints, risks and short term absence

30 % employees experienced ill-health caused by work

(SWEA, report: arbetsorsakade besvär, 2018)

- Most people with problems with their working conditions are still at work
- Poor working environment or lacking conditions reduce human production capacity by 30-40%*
- "Poor working environment: costs five times as much as sick leave does"*

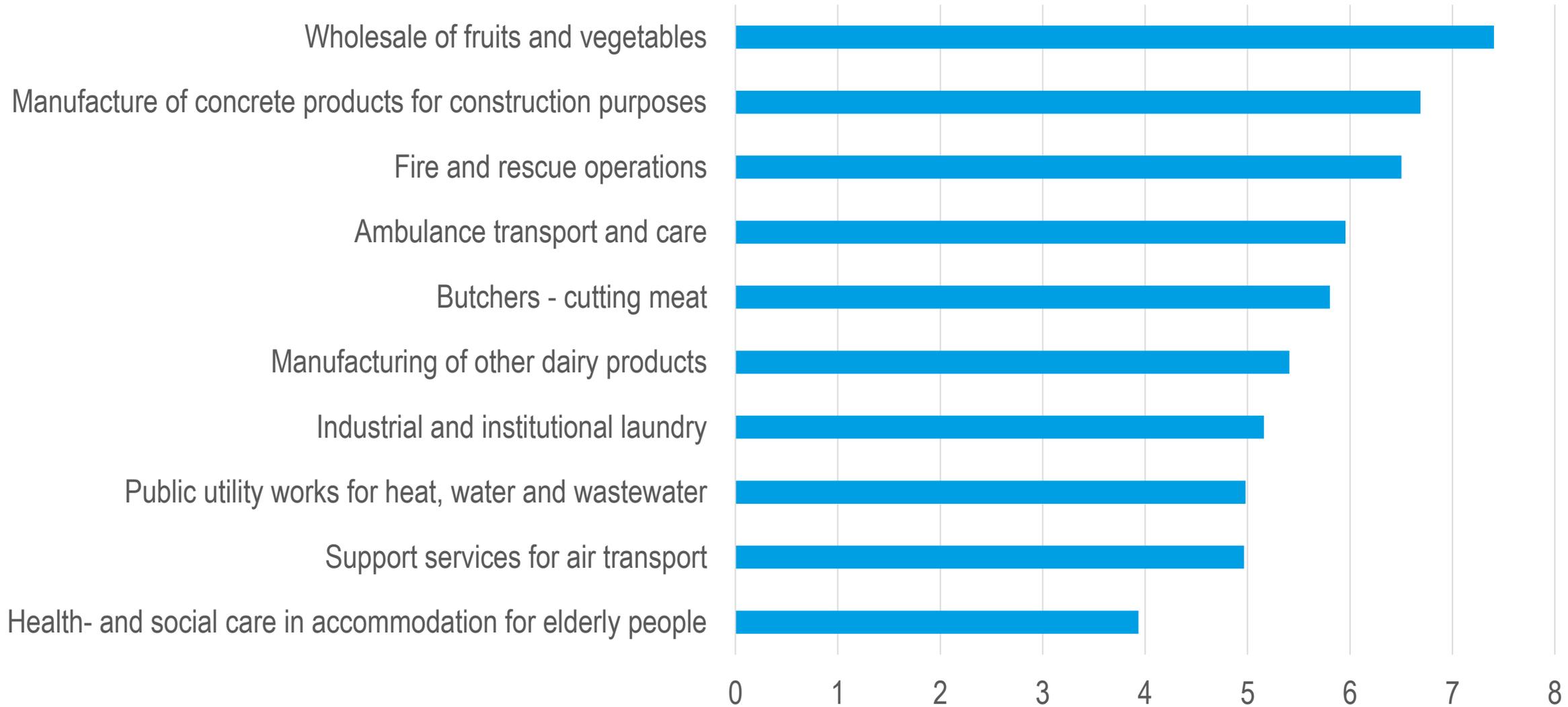
*Malin Lohela Karlsson
Uppsala University

Reported work accidents with sickness absence due to accident with physical overload per 1000 employees 2015-2019 among women distributed by industry with the most reports per 1 000 employed – only industries with more than 50 reports during the period





Reported accidents with sickness absence due to physical overload per 1000 employees 2015-2019 among men distributed by industry with most reports per 1 000 employees – only industries with more than 50 reports during mentioned period.



Examples from accident reports

Anna arrived at a customer who he had pushed the alarm due to a fall. The customer was lying on the floor and had a lot of pain in his knees. Anna who at the time was alone alerted to a colleague for support as they need to be two for safe lifting. The answer she got was that it would take a while before somebody would arrive.

The customer was in pain and the staff felt sorry for the customer and chose to help her alone.

While lifting, Anna feels a strong back pain.

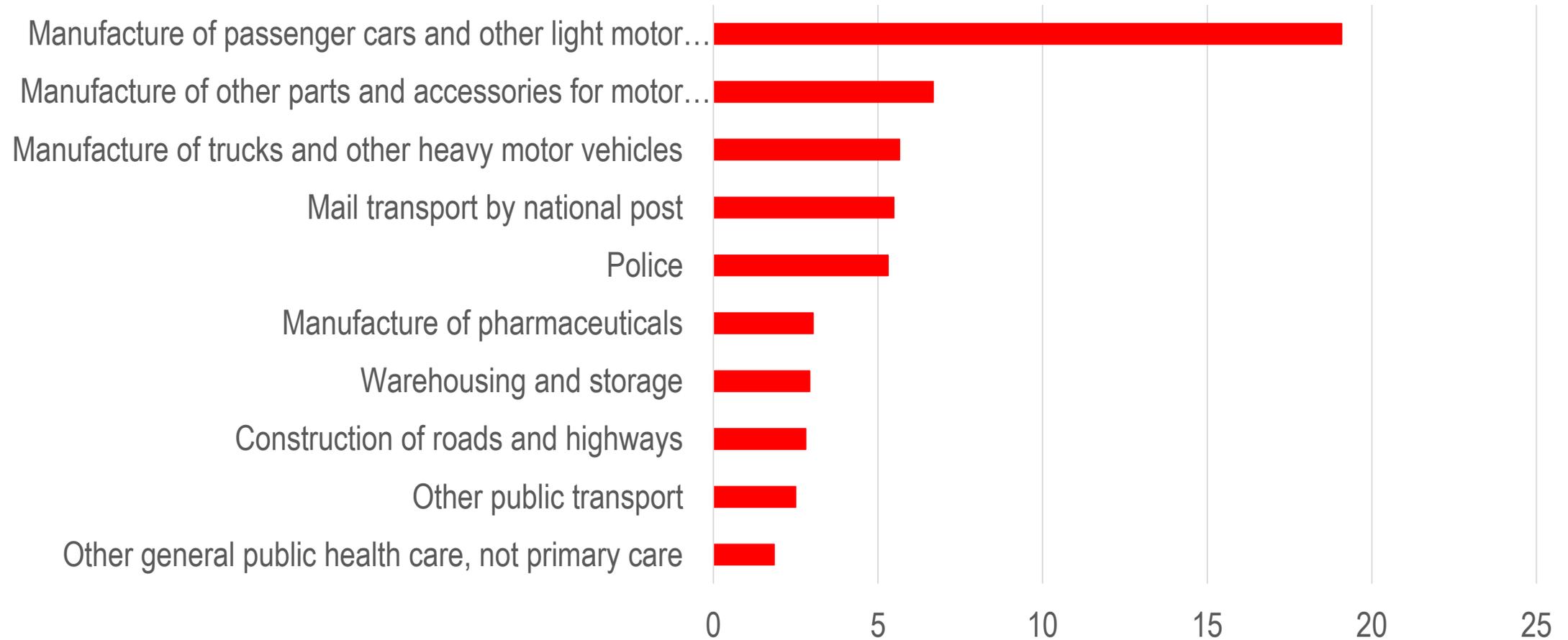
The accident happened on the preschool's yard in connection with putting children in a bicycle that is intended for six children to sit in. Four children sit in the bicycle when a fifth child steps on the bike, which rolls forward and the employee catches the child who is not yet strapped in it. When the bike is to be straightened up again, the employee makes a twist with the body causing pain from the tailbone up all the way to the neck.

Many years of work with vibrating tools. Raynaud's phenomenon and bilateral neuropathy. Permanent pain in the hands, poor force, spasms in finger joints, poor motor skills, sensitive for cold.

I moved a bearing house (weight about 800 kg) with a pallet loader. It was heavy and too narrow. While I put some extra force to turn it, I twisted my right knee, which swelled up and I have severe pain in it. It cost me a period off sick.

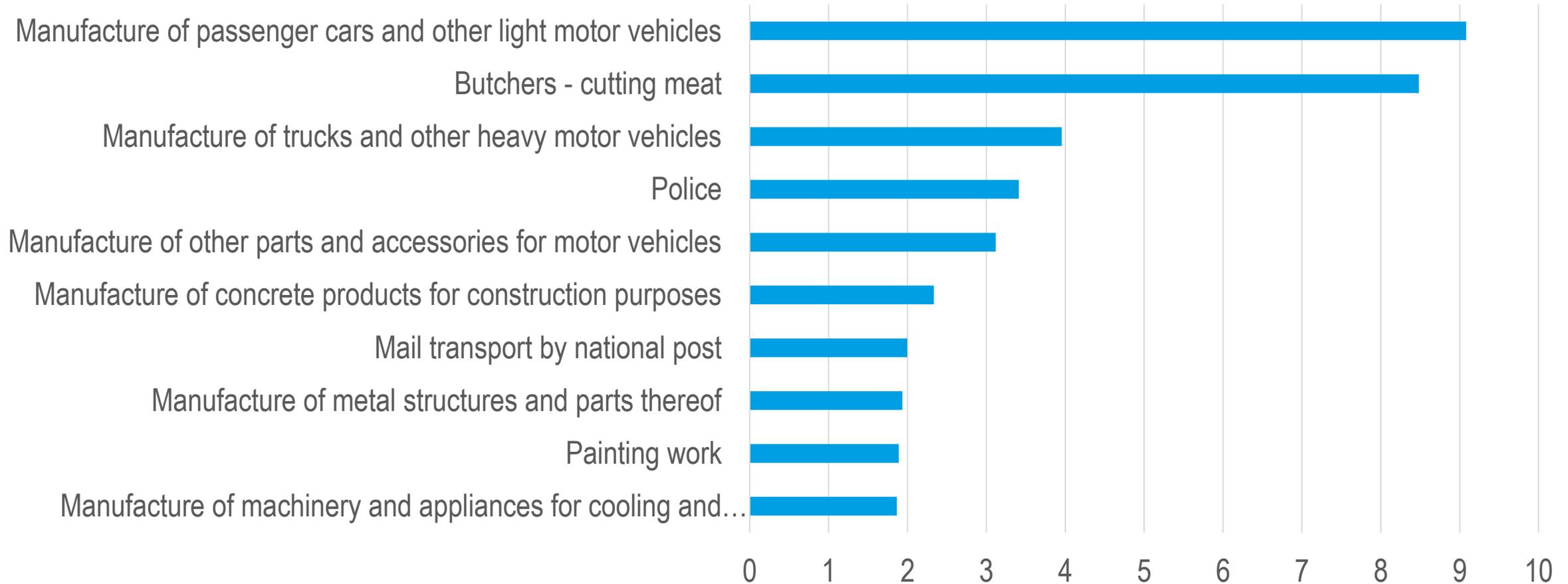


Reported WR diseases due to physical load per 1 000 employees 2015-2019 among women distributed by industries with most reports per 1 000 employees – only industries with more than 50 reports during the mentioned period.





Reported WR diseases due to physical load per 1 000 employees 2015-2019 among men distributed by industries with most reports per 1 000 employees – only industries with more than 50 reports during the period.



Example report WR diseases

Overload injury in the shoulders.

The complaints are most likely caused by repetitively frequent manual handling and handling of heavy loads with the arm above the shoulder level when the dishwasher hood is to be opened and closed manually. Karen is in touch with a physical therapist for treatment.

Back pain due to heavy lifting and poor working postures,
caused by the lack of double staffing during much of the
working day.

May 2013 we had to move to new premises which are our current workplace, we got new equipment and new furnishings. The desk we got was not practical and all opticians complained about the tables to the organization. We got the reply that the interior of the store could not be replaced as the decisions on interior design are made centrally and should apply to all stores that are part of the chain. After a while, I began to experience pain in my right shoulder and a colleague complained of pain in his right hip. Our manager engaged an ergonomist to assess our work environment. According to the expert, our desks were not user friendly and did not meet the requirements of Swedish law. The manager decided to replace the tables but for me the damage was already done. The pain in my shoulder increased over time and I was given my diagnosis, shoulder impingement syndrome.