
EUROGIP

● Statistical Review of Occupational Injuries **GERMANY**

2007 Data

Set of statistical data relating to
accidents at work and **occupational diseases**
in the European Union Member States

August 2009
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FOREWORD

This document sets out a descriptive synthesis of the main available statistical data about accidents at work, commuting accidents and occupational diseases of the considered EU Member State.

It comes from the use by EUROGIP of various official publications from Member States. The data have been translated and presented according to the EUROGIP's knowledge of the analysed insurance system. These data have not been reprocessed by EUROGIP. For any confirmation, one has to refer to the source which is systematically given.

Comments do not intend to give explanatory factors to the figures but only to describe the underlying system's characteristics in order to allow the reader to analyse them.

Furthermore, Eurostat (Statistical Office of the European Communities) publishes, at European level, harmonised accidents at work data according to the ESAW (European Statistics on Accidents at Work) methodology in implementation of the 89/391/EEC framework directive. In order to complete national data, the last part of this document shows accidents at work structural indicators computed and published by Eurostat.

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1. Main characteristics of the German occupational injury insurance system

Statutory accident insurance is one of the five mandatory insurances within the social security system. Employees are insured during their activities at the workplace. Pupils and students are insured for their activities from the nursery school till higher education institutes. Other groups, such as agricultural workers, domestic helps and voluntary workers are insured. The costs of this insurance are met by the employer or the State.

In 2007, DGUV insured 73,530,609 persons:

Industry, trade and services	45,539,215
Public sector	10,723,280
Pupils and students	17,268,114

An organisational restructuring of the statutory accident insurance is currently ongoing. On July 1st 2007, the Federation of Institutions for Statutory Accident Insurance and Prevention of the industry, trade and services sector - HVBG (*Hauptverband der gewerblichen Berufsgenossenschaften*) and the Central Federation of Public Sector Accident Insurer - BUK (*Bundesverband der Unfallkassen*) merged to build together the German statutory accident insurance - **DGUV** (*Deutsche Gesetzliche Unfallversicherung*).

Data published within this document cover industry, trade and services as well as the public sector, all in all 56,262,495 persons or 35,794,823 full-time equivalent workers.

Accidents at work and commuting accidents statistical data derived from the Pupils Accident Insurance are excluded. These data are available, distributed by region, within the documents cited as reference. On the other hand, occupational diseases data are included in the macro-data. It is not possible to isolate them in each table. This will be specified whenever possible.

As a result of this merger, data from the private and public sectors are published by DGUV within the same statistical yearbook. The reference population having been greatly modified, the reader can't use the "2006 data" (Ref. Eurogip-31/E) as a point of comparison.

The system sets that companies of the industry, trade and services must affiliate themselves to a *Berufsgenossenschaft* (BG) according to their activity.

BGs are public law professional associations with an equal representation board. The BGs accomplish tasks falling to them under their own responsibility. If they are independent for their management, they are financially interdependent. Prevention of occupational risks is one of the BGs' major tasks.

Consequences of accidents at work, commuting accidents and occupational diseases are insured by the BGs. The funding is the sole responsibility of the employer within the framework of a contributory system.

BGs are gathered into 14 branches of activity which can be found in the statistical tables.

Public sector's equivalent to a BG is an UVTöH (*Unfallversicherungsträger der öffentlichen Hand* - Accident Insurance Fund of the Public Sector). UVTöH are gathered under the BUK umbrella association.

Usually there is one Accident Insurance Fund of the Public Sector per region. But several Insurance Funds for fire-services covering each several regions are in existence. On the other hand, the Insurance Fund for railway services and the one for postal services and telecommunications operate at national level.

These Accident Insurance Funds of the Public Sector insure the public sector and pupils and students, all in all roughly 28 millions persons.

These two kinds of insurance bodies, BG and UVTöH, are labelled Insurance Fund within this document.

Please visit the DGUV web site:
<http://www.dguv.de/inhalt/index.html#>

2. Statistical data sources

■ Germany

Statistical data reproduced within this document come from DGUV. They can be found in a document called « DGUV Statistics 2007 – Figures and long-term trends » (PDF document in English) at the following web address:

<http://www.dguv.de/inhalt/zahlen/documents/dguvstatistiken2007e.pdf>

Other data (in German language) are available at the following address: <http://www.dguv.de/inhalt/zahlen/index.jsp>

The document entitled « *Geschäfts- und Rechnungsergebnisse der gewerblichen Berufsgenossenschaften und Unfallversicherungsträger der öffentlichen Hand 2007* – Industry, trade and services accident insurance Funds and public sector accident insurance Funds statistical 2007 Yearbook », allows the reader to get a complete view of the financial and technological statistics. It is available in German language (PDF format) at the following address:

<http://www.dguv.de/inhalt/zahlen/documents/gur1.pdf>

■ Eurostat

Structural indicators on health and safety at work in Europe are available only for fatal accidents at work and accidents at work with more than three days away from work. Data are available under various formats: tables, maps and graphs, at the following web address: [http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/health/health and safety at work](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/health/health%20and%20safety%20at%20work)

The ESAW (European statistics on accidents at work) aiming to provide harmonised data about accidents at work with more than three days away from work is available at the following web address:

[http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/dsis/hasaw/library?l=/statistics methodology/esaw methodology/ke4202569 en pdf/ FR 1.0 &a=d](http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/dsis/hasaw/library?l=/statistics%20methodology/esaw%20methodology/ke4202569%20en%20pdf/FR%201.0%20&a=d)

3. Main data

Number of insured persons

Workers insured in the industry, trade and services sector	45,539,215
Workers insured in the public sector	10,723,280
Total	56,262,495

Number of insured full-time workers

Workers insured in the industry, trade and services sector	30,740,198
Workers insured in the public sector	5,051,625
Total	35,791,823

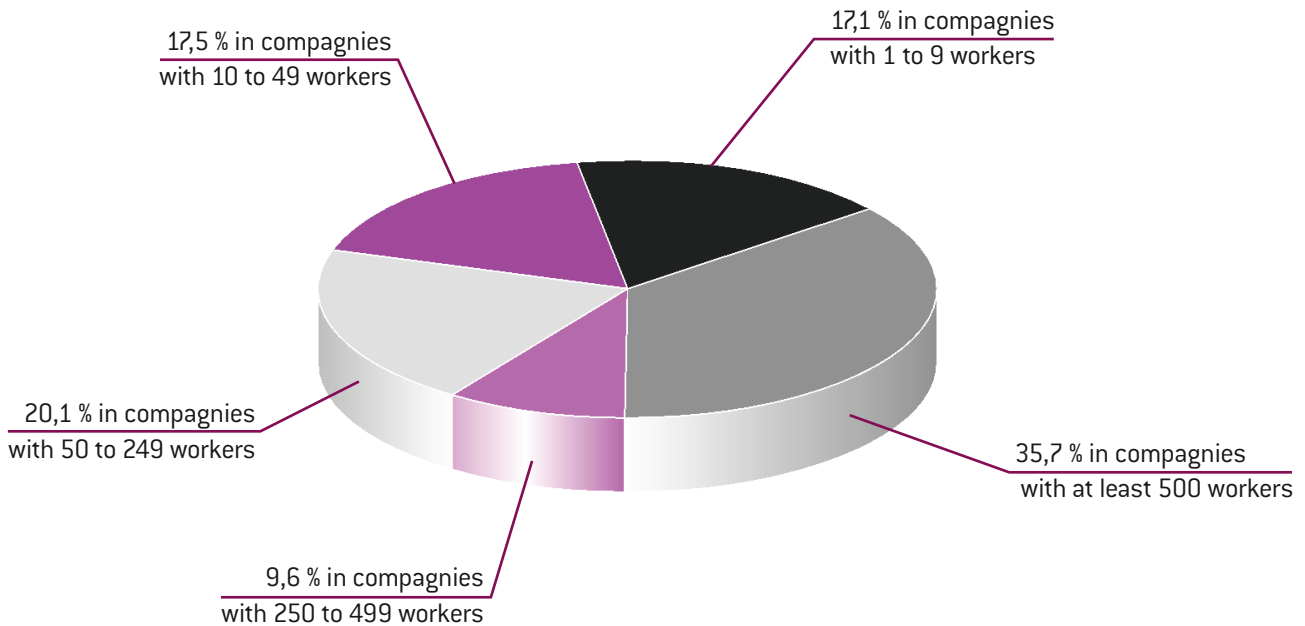
The number of full-time workers is calculated by taking into account the average annual number of hours actually worked (1,590 hours in 2007).

Number of insured companies

Companies of the industry, trade and services sector	3,007,798
Public sector	27,109
Total	3,034,907

Distribution of workers (full-time equivalent) by company size

This chart is based on 32,012,592 full-time workers excluding those working in companies for which the number of salaried employees is not known, in private households and assistance companies.



Number of full-time workers⁽¹⁾ per activity branches and according to the company staff

Branches of activity	Number of companies with full-time workers ⁽¹⁾					Total number of companies ⁽²⁾	Staff by branch
	< 10 workers	10 to 49	50 to 249	250 to 499	> 500		
Mining	81	48	59	17	36	241	70,574
Pit and quarry	11,520	2,610	997	127	67	15,321	280,844
Gas, district heating and water	5,045	933	522	71	44	6,615	159,418
Metal	67,056	45,427	19,641	3,073	3,061	138,258	3,517,657
Light engineering and electrical engineering	78,009	15,764	3,886	610	562	98,831	1,943,431
Chemicals	7,200	3,629	2,166	380	295	13,670	888,979
Timber	43,352	6,242	1,114	123	64	50,895	431,682
Paper and printing	48,121	4,682	1,710	271	153	54,937	587,684
Leather and textiles	54,165	3,662	1,262	151	57	59,297	395,148
Food	354,531	29,577	3,601	265	89	388,063	1,941,937
Construction	290,084	27,348	3,690	297	164	321,583	1,835,224
Commerce and administration	968,230	107,655	22,236	3,156	2,571	1,108,218	13,530,236
Transport	177,765	17,674	3,296	302	177	200,043	1,532,549
Health services	460,318	33,356	67,001	954	757	551,826	3,624,835
Total industry, trade and services	2,565,477	298,607	70,881	9,797	8,097	3,007,798	30,740,198
Public sector	8,975	8,566	4,245	1,149	1,304	27,109	5,051,625
Total	2,574,452	307,173	75,126	10,946	9,401	3,034,907	35,791,823

(1) One full-time worker is equivalent to the number of hours actually worked (1,590 in 2007 and 1,580 in 2006) on average by a full-time employee in industry and is therefore a reflection of the period of exposure to the risk of industrial accidents.

(2) In some cases the size of companies is not available. So summing up does not always coincides with the column. Without private households and assistance companies.

4. Accidents at work and commuting accidents

The following data cover notified and after assessment by the Insurance Funds recognized accidents with at least three days away from work. The employer is not legally bound to notify accidents at work with less than three days away from work. This information is not available in the technological statistics.

Recognized accidents at work in absolute value

Year	Accidents at work	Commuting accidents	Total
2005	931,932	185,146	1,117,078
2006	948,546	191,186	1,139,732
2007	959,714	167,067	1,126,781

Fatal recognized accidents at work in absolute value

Year	Fatal accidents at works	Fatal commuting accidents	Total
2005	656	552	1,208
2006	711	535	1,246
2007	619	503	1,122

Accident rates for the overall number of recognized accidents at work and for fatal accidents (excluding commuting accidents)

Incidence rate is the ratio of the number of accidents at work to 1,000 full-time workers.

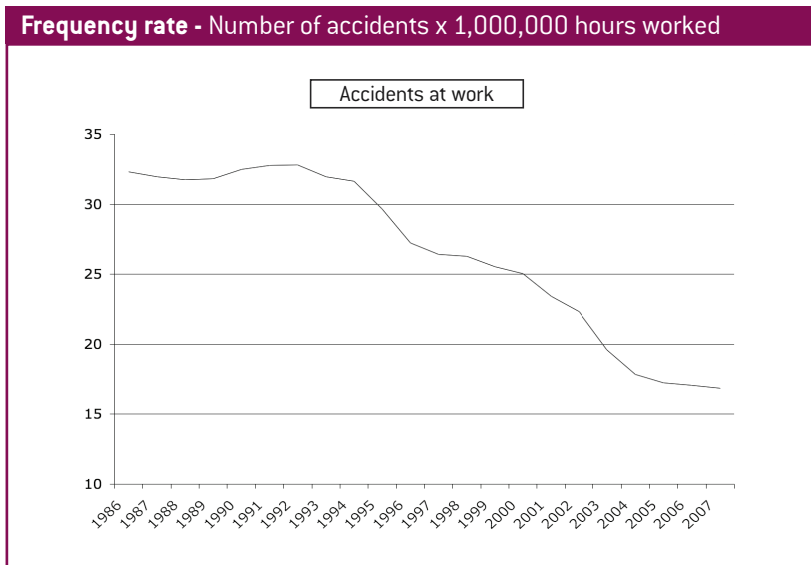
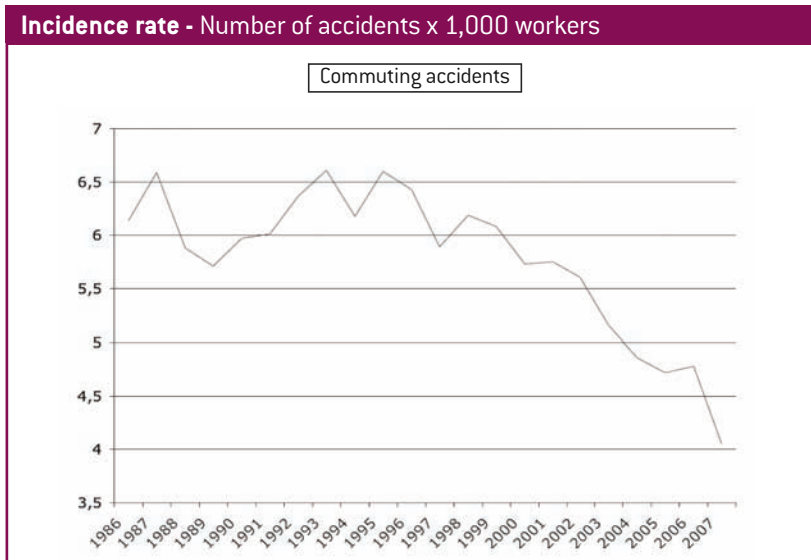
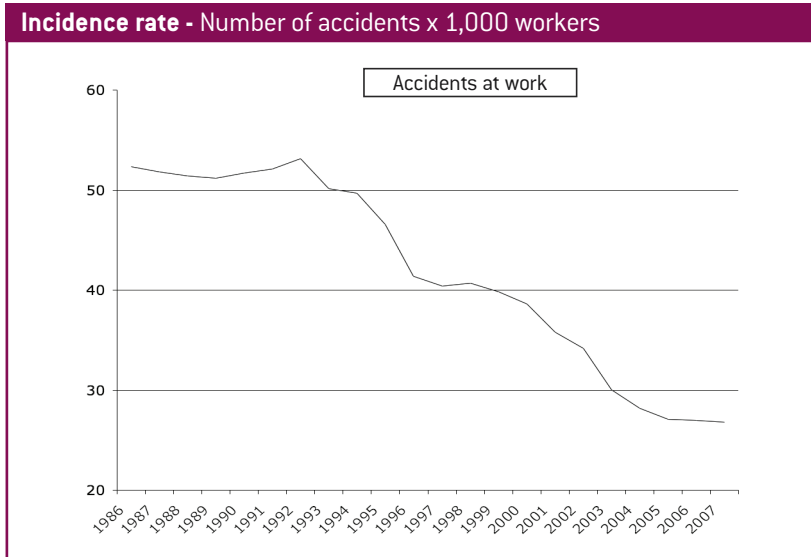
Frequency rate is the ratio of the number of accidents at work to 1 million hours worked.

Year	Accidents		Fatal accidents	
	Incidence rate	Frequency rate	Incidence rate	Frequency rate
2005	27.08	17.25	0.019	0.012
2006	26.95	17.06	0.020	0.013
2007	26.81	16.86	0.017	0.011

Distribution of recognized accidents at work per branch of activity (with more than three days away from work - fatal accidents included)

Branches of activity	Accidents at work	Commuting accidents	Total per branch
Mining	1,325	253	1,578
Pit and quarry	11,275	1,064	12,339
Gas, district heating and water	3,616	741	4,357
Metal	155,957	16,795	172,752
Light engineering and electrical engineering	36,164	7,942	44,106
Chemicals	13,211	3,852	17,063
Timber	27,835	1,848	29,683
Paper and printing	14,705	2,376	17,081
Leather and textiles	9,071	1,670	10,741
Food	90,019	12,365	102,384
Construction	122,231	9,435	131,666
Commerce and administration	253,087	55,498	308,585
Transports	61,121	5,706	66,827
Health services	52,415	21,906	74,321
Total industry, trade and services	852,032	141,451	993,483
Public sector	107,682	25,616	133,298
Total	959,714	167,067	1,126,781

Accident rates' long-term trends



The five branches of activity registering the highest number of accidents at work

Accidents at work in absolute value		
Branches of activity	Recognized accidents	% compared to total
Commerce and administration	253,087	26.37
Metal	155,957	16.25
Construction	122,231	12.74
Transport	61,121	6.37
Health services	52,415	5.46
Others	207,221	21.59
Public sector	107,682	11.22
Total	959,714	100.00

Accidents at work incidence rate	
Branches of activity	Incidence rate
Construction	66.60
Timber	64.48
Food	46.36
Metal	44.34
Pit and quarry	40.15
Public sector	21.32
National accident rate	26.81

Fatal accidents at work in absolute value		
Branches of activity	Fatal accidents at work	% compared to total
Construction	137	22.13
Commerce and administration	129	20.84
Transport	127	20.52
Metal	58	9.37
Light engineering and electrical engineering	32	5.17
Others	90	14.54
Public sector	46	7.43
Total	619	100.00

The five branches of activity registering the highest number of commuting accidents

Commuting accidents in absolute value		
Branches of activity	Recognized commuting accidents	% compared to total
Commerce and administration	55,498	33.22
Health services	21,906	13.11
Metal	16,795	10.05
Food	12,365	7.40
Construction	9,435	5.65
Others	25,452	15.23
Public sector	25,616	15.33
Total	167,067	100.00

Commuting accidents incidence rate	
Branches of activity	Incidence rate
Metal	4.39
Chemicals	4.34
Commerce and administration	4.21
Leather and textiles	4.04
Health services	3.96
Public sector	4.63
National incidence rate	4.05

Fatal commuting accidents in absolute value		
Branches of activity	Fatal commuting accidents	% compared to total
Commerce and administration	149	29.62
Metal	64	12.72
Food	51	10.14
Construction	47	9.34
Health services	33	6.56
Others	116	23.06
Public sector	43	8.55
Total	503	100.00

5. Occupational diseases

Occupational diseases from 1997 to 2007

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Change from 2006 to 2007	
												In absolute value	In %
Claims for recognition ⁽¹⁾	85,406	82,376	80,282	78,029	73,551	68,196	62,130	60,965	59,919	61,457	61,150	- 307	- 0.5
Decided cases ⁽²⁾	88,406	83,386	76,870	75,060	72,306	70,649	68,452	66,316	63,909	61,059	59,643	- 1,416	- 2.3
Occupational causation not confirmed	58,760	55,072	49,616	49,166	46,864	44,707	43,575	41,374	38,887	38,040	35,980	- 2,060	- 5.4
Occupational causation confirmed:	29,646	28,314	27,254	25,894	25,442	25,942	24,877	24,942	25,022	23,019	23,663	+ 644	+ 2.8
- of which recognized cases of occupational disease	22,577	19,976	18,633	18,000	17,950	17,722	16,778	16,784	15,920	14,156	13,383	- 773	- 5.5
- of which new pensions ⁽³⁾	7,469	6,072	5,693	5,304	5,503	5,443	5,085	5,021	5,459	4,781	4,123	- 658	- 13.8
- of which cases with absence of one additionally required insurance criteria ⁽⁴⁾	7,069	8,338	8,621	7,894	7,492	8,220	8,099	8,158	9,102	8,863	10,280	+ 1,417	+ 16.0

(1) The number of notified cases includes all notifications made by doctors and employers who must notify these cases to the Insurance Funds. Other social bodies provide information to the Insurance Funds as well as insured persons.

(2) Combination of occupational causations confirmed and not confirmed.

(3) New pensions granted during the reference year: in Germany a pension is granted (accidents at work and recognized occupational diseases) only if the victim's capacity to earn his/her living is reduced (permanent disability rate) by 20 % or more.

(4) Number of cases whose occupational causation is confirmed but with an administrative requirement not met. It applies to some occupational diseases of the list (severe or recurrent skin conditions for instance) that to be recognized (and compensated) need to be so acute that the victim must avoid any activity that will or would generate the development, the worsening or the recurrence of the disease. The full recognition as an occupational disease may be granted afterwards when the missing administrative requirement is met.

Distribution per occupational diseases

Diseases giving rise to the greatest number of claims for recognition		
Diseases	Claims	% compared to total
Severe or recurrent skin conditions	18,074	29.56
Noise-induced hearing loss	9,247	15.12
Discogenic conditions of the lumbar spine (lifting of loads)	5,259	8.60
Asbestosis or pleural condition	3,679	6.02
Lung or larynx cancer	3,524	5.76
Others	21,367	34.94
Total*	61,150	100.00

* Including occupational diseases of the Pupil Accident Insurance.

Diseases most frequently recognized as occupational diseases		
Diseases	Recognized cases	% compared to total
Noise-induced hearing loss	4,871	36.40
Asbestos or pleural condition	2,050	15.32
Mesothelioma	948	7.08
Lung or larynx cancer	828	6.19
Infectious diseases	735	5.49
Others	3,951	29.52
Total*	13,383	100.00

* Including occupational diseases of the Pupil Accident Insurance.

Occupational diseases giving rise to the greatest number of new pensions during the year		
Diseases	Pensions	% compared to total
Mesothelioma of the pleura	877	21.27
Lung or larynx cancer	749	18.17
Asbestosis or asbestos plaques	406	9.85
Noise-induced hearing loss	340	8.25
Chronic obstructive bronchitis - emphysema	253	6.14
Others	1,498	36.33
Total*	4,123	100.00

* Including occupational diseases of the Pupil Accident Insurance.

Distribution per branch of activities

Branches of activity recording the greatest number of claims for recognition		
Branches of activity	Claims	% compared to total
Metal	11,495	18.80
Health services	8,805	14.40
Construction	8,665	14.17
Commerce and administration	5,841	9.55
Food	4,518	7.39
Others	16,359	26.75
Public sector	5,467	8.94
Total*	61,150	100.00

* Including 163 claims of the Pupil Accident Insurance.

Branches of activity recording the greatest number of recognized cases		
Branches of activity	Recognized cases	% compared to total
Metal	3,409	25.47
Construction	2,086	15.59
Mining	1,466	10.95
Commerce and administration	899	6.72
Light engineering and electrical engineering	897	6.70
Others	3,635	27.16
Public sector	991	7.40
Total*	13,383	100.00

* Including 20 recognized cases of the Pupil Accident Insurance

Branches of activity recording the greatest number of new pensions during the year		
Branches of activity	Pensions	% compared to total
Metal	975	23.65
Mining	747	18.12
Construction	543	13.17
Light engineering and electrical engineering	359	8.71
Chemicals	342	8.29
Others	988	23.96
Public sector	169	4.10
Total*	4,123	100.00

* None from the Pupil Accident Insurance

6. Financial data

Financial data cover the costs of accidents at work, commuting accidents and occupational diseases.

Expenditures of the occupational injuries branch (in million Euros)

Type of action	2005	2006	2007
Prevention (see table below)	813	817	827
Compensation (kind and cash)	8,676	8,666	8,575
- part of which medical treatment + rehabilitation (see table below)	3,104	3,150	3,127
- part of which pensions, compensation, lump sum	5,572	5,516	5,448
Administration and procedure	1,266	1,247	1,211

Cost of Insurance Funds' prevention activity (in million Euros)

Detailed prevention expenditures	2005	2006	2007
Prevention, regulations, publications, etc.	3.775	3.340	3.463
Advice to companies, inspections	461.336	467.937	475.254
Health and for safety services, operation security, first aid	84.488	81.696	81.146
Training	132.746	134.589	136.315
Total	812.559	816.908	827.386

This table does not include the cost of the implementation of prevention measures by the Insurance Funds' member companies.

Cost of medical treatment and rehabilitation (in million Euros)

Detailed expenditures	2005	2006	2007
Out-patient treatment and dentures	992.513	1,029.190	1,053.842
In-patient treatment and home nursing care	838.315	879.189	856.662
Injury allowance and special benefits	484.486	486.559	484.155
Other medical treatment expenditure	546.284	555.851	561.142
Expenditure for occupational rehabilitation	242.388	199.204	170.983
Total	3,103.986	3,149.994	3,126.784

Insurance Funds' responsibilities encompass all rehabilitation services rendered necessary by occupational and commuting accidents as well as occupational diseases. Insurance Funds' control and co-ordinate these services. This entails the provision of medical treatment, including medical, occupational and social rehabilitation benefits, nursing services and cash benefits.

Number of pensions (stock of pensioners)

Pensions paid to	2004	2005	2006	2007
Insured persons	816,869	806,707	797,457	786,565
Widows/widowers	117,510	115,977	114,971	113,180
Orphans	18,774	18,236	17,243	16,522
Other claimants	95	87	72	70
Total	953,248	941,007	929,743	916,337

Out of the 786,565 pensions paid to insured persons in 2007, 678,764 are accidents pensions and 107,801 occupational diseases pensions. These pensions are paid when the disability rate is at least of 20 % (loss of capacity to earn a living).

In case of death, the pension is paid to eligible parties. For 2007, 92,462 are accident pensions and 37 310 occupational diseases pensions.

7. Eurostat data

Structural indicators are available only for accidents at work. 2007 data are not available.

Index of the number of serious accidents at work per 100,000 persons in employment (1998=100)

Serious accidents	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
EU (27 countries)	:	:	:	:	:	100	96	88	84	80	78	76
EU (25 countries)	:	:	:	100	100	99	95	87	82	79	77	75
EU (15 countries)	104	103	100	100	100	98	94	86	81	78	76	74
Euro area (12 countries)	105	103	101	100	99	97	92	84	79	76	74	72
Germany	106	103	101	100	99	96	88	82	74	73	65	66

(:) not available

Index of the number of fatal accidents at work per 100,000 persons in employment (1998=100)

Fatal road traffic accidents and other transport accidents in the course of work are excluded.

Fatal accidents	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
EU (27 countries)	:	:	:	:	:	100	97	91	90	88	86	81
EU (25 countries)	:	:	:	100	88	87	85	80	78	75	72	72
EU (15 countries)	116	113	106	100	91	88	85	80	78	75	74	73 (p)
Euro area (12 countries)	113	110	102	100	88	86	83	78	78	73	72	:
Germany	136	159	123	100	109	95	89	112	105	100	82	95

(:) not available, (p) provisory

The index shows the evolution of the incidence rate of serious and fatal accidents at work in comparison to 1998 (= 100). The incidence rate = (number of accidents with more than three days away from work or number of fatal accidents at work that occurred during the year/number of persons in employment in the reference population) x 100,000. An accident at work is "a discrete occurrence in the course of work that leads to physical or mental harm". This includes accidents in the course of work outside the premises of one's business, even if caused by a third party, and cases of acute poisoning. It excludes accidents on the way to or from work, occurrences having only a medical origin, and occupational diseases.

Euro area (12 countries): Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain.

EU-15: Euro area + Denmark, Sweden, United Kingdom.

EU-25: EU-15 + Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, Cyprus (without the northern part of the island) and Malta.

EU-27: EU-25 + Bulgaria and Romania.

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