

Offshore Survey on the General Health and Safety

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On behalf of the Danish Working Environment Authority, a general health and safety survey among Danish offshore employees has been conducted, as there is sparse knowledge of the working environment and health of Danish employees on fixed installations in the Danish part of the North Sea. The results from the survey are compared with a developed benchmark consisting of a group of employees from an onshore survey on the general health and safety among 50,000 employees in Denmark with, as far as possible, the same job group distribution, which is represented on the Danish fixed offshore installations. These differences between the offshore population and the benchmark are all statistically significant of a 5% level. Of the 669 participants in the offshore survey, 94 % were men and 6% women. The average age is around 49, and the youngest participant is 21 years, while the oldest participant is 71 years old. The average age of participants is higher than on land.

The report highlights, among other things, the mental and physical working environment, safety, health behaviour, health and social relations of employees on Danish fixed offshore installations.

The main findings are summarised here.

Areas where the offshore population is better than benchmark:

- Higher collegial recognition
- Lower level for most quantitative requirements, namely: 'Not enough time', 'High pace', 'Hard time limits' and 'Unexpected tasks'
- A higher (positive) level of role clarity: 'Enough Information', 'Enough Guidance and Instructions' and 'Clear Tasks' and a lower level of 'Non-Contradictory Requirements'.
- More collaboration and more collegial support
- Less stress
- A lower level at: 'Not sure about their own abilities'.
- Less conflicts between work and privacy
- More 'Help and support from the nearest manager'

Areas where the offshore population is not better to the benchmark:

- Frequent emotional requirements.
- Less influence - both how and when tasks are solved.
- Higher Level in Single Issue for Incompatibility: 'unable to control important things'.
- Lower level of management quality by: 'Recognition and appreciation from management', 'Sufficient powers in respect of responsibility' and 'Confidence in management announcement'

Areas where the offshore population is in line with the benchmark:

- In an overall goal of management quality

The results have been shared with labour organizations and organisations of employer and will be further evaluated with the organisations.

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