



Printing and publishing

Fact sheet

Background

Eurofound's European Working Conditions Surveys (EWCS) have been carried out every five years since 1991. Each wave of the survey provides an overview of the state of working conditions throughout Europe and indicates the nature and extent of changes affecting the workforce and the quality of work. The fieldwork for Eurofound's most recent edition of the EWCS was carried out in 2005 in 31 countries, including the 27 EU Member States, plus candidate countries Croatia and Turkey, as well as EFTA countries Norway and Switzerland. In 2005, the sample size was set at 1000 per country (600 for Cyprus, Estonia, Luxemburg, Malta and Slovenia).

Following the 2005 survey, Eurofound asked TNO Work & Employment to perform a secondary statistical analysis of the data from the fourth EWCS 2005 on sector profiles with regard to working conditions in the 27 Member States. For the analysis, NACE Revision 1.1¹ was applied. The findings are set out in 26 fact sheets, each covering one of the 26 sectors in the NACE classification. Each fact sheet presents:

- a profile of the sector's socio-demographic characteristics based on data at NACE at 1 and 2 digit level;
- a profile of working conditions in the sector based on data at NACE at 1 and 2 digit level.

This fact sheet presents a snapshot of working conditions in the printing and publishing sector (Nace Rev 1.1 D22).

Sector profile

The printing and publishing sector has a higher proportion of workers employed in small companies or organisations of 10 to 49 workers (39.6%) than the average for all sectors (27.7%). Conversely, the proportion of workers in this sector working in large companies or organisations (250 employees and over) is lower than average (6.4% compared with an average of 15%).

With regard to the educational level, a higher proportion of workers in the printing and publishing sector (6%) have completed advanced third-level education than the average (2%).

In terms of income level, the sector shows a positive and statistically significant difference compared to the average for all sectors. In this sector, there is a significant concentration of workers in the medium to high income band (38.5%) compared to the average (26.7%).

Differences according to other socio-demographic characteristics (e.g. gender, age, employment status) between the printing and publishing sector and the average for all sectors are not statistically significant.

¹ This is a revision of the 'General Industrial Classification of Economic Activities within the European Communities', known by the acronym NACE and originally published by Eurostat in 1970. The NACE code was subsequently revised (REV. 1.1) in the 1990s.

Gender		
	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
Printing and publishing sector	63.2%	36.8%
All sectors	55.5%	44.5%

Age					
	<i>Average age</i>	<i>Age group</i>			
		<i>≤ 24 years</i>	<i>25-39 years</i>	<i>40-54 years</i>	<i>≥ 55 years</i>
Printing and publishing sector	40.7	9.2%	37.8%	46.0%	7.0%
All sectors	40.0	11.8%	36.8%	38.6%	12.7%

Years in company or organisation				
	<i>≥ 2 years</i>	<i>3-5 years</i>	<i>6-15 years</i>	<i>≤16 years</i>
Printing and publishing sector	20.0%	15.9%	35.8%	28.3%
All sectors	27.1%	20.9%	29.6%	22.4%

Type of employment		
	<i>Self-employed</i>	<i>Employee</i>
Printing and publishing sector	14.4%	85.6%
All sectors	16.7%	83.3%

Employment contract		
	<i>Permanent contract</i>	<i>Non-permanent contract</i>
Printing and publishing sector	85.6%	14.4%
All sectors	76.6%	23.4%

Company size					
	<i>One-person company</i>	<i>Micro enterprise (2-9 employees)</i>	<i>Small enterprise (10-49 employees)</i>	<i>Medium enterprise (50-249 employees)</i>	<i>Large enterprise (250+ employees)</i>
Printing and publishing sector	8.1%	23.6%	39.6%▲▲▲	22.3%	6.4%▼▼▼
All sectors	10.4%	27.5%	27.7%	19.4%	15.0%

Education level							
	<i>No education</i>	<i>Primary education (ISCED 1)</i>	<i>Lower secondary education (ISCED 2)</i>	<i>Upper secondary education (ISCED 3)</i>	<i>Post-secondary including pre-vocational or vocational education</i>	<i>Tertiary education - first level (ISCED 5)</i>	<i>Tertiary education - advanced level (ISCED 6)</i>
Printing and publishing sector	0.2%	2.8%	11.1%	51.6%	9.8%	18.5%	6.0%▲▲▲
All sectors	0.9%	5.3%	16.5%	44.5%	7.3%	23.5%	2.0%

Income level				
	<i>Income bands</i>			
	<i>Lowest</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Highest</i>
Printing and publishing sector	17.2%	20.2%	38.5%▲▲▲	24.1%
All sectors	25.1%	23.9%	26.7%	24.3%

How to read the table

The comparison is between the subgroup/sector and the average for all sectors based on the 2005 European Working Conditions Survey sample for the EU27. ▲ (p<0.05), ▲▲ (p<0.01), and ▲▲▲ (p<0.001) indicate differences between the sector profiled and the sample average at different levels of statistical significance (each mean is tested with the t-test). The more triangles, the higher the statistical significance of the figure (i.e. it is more likely to reflect a real difference in the population).

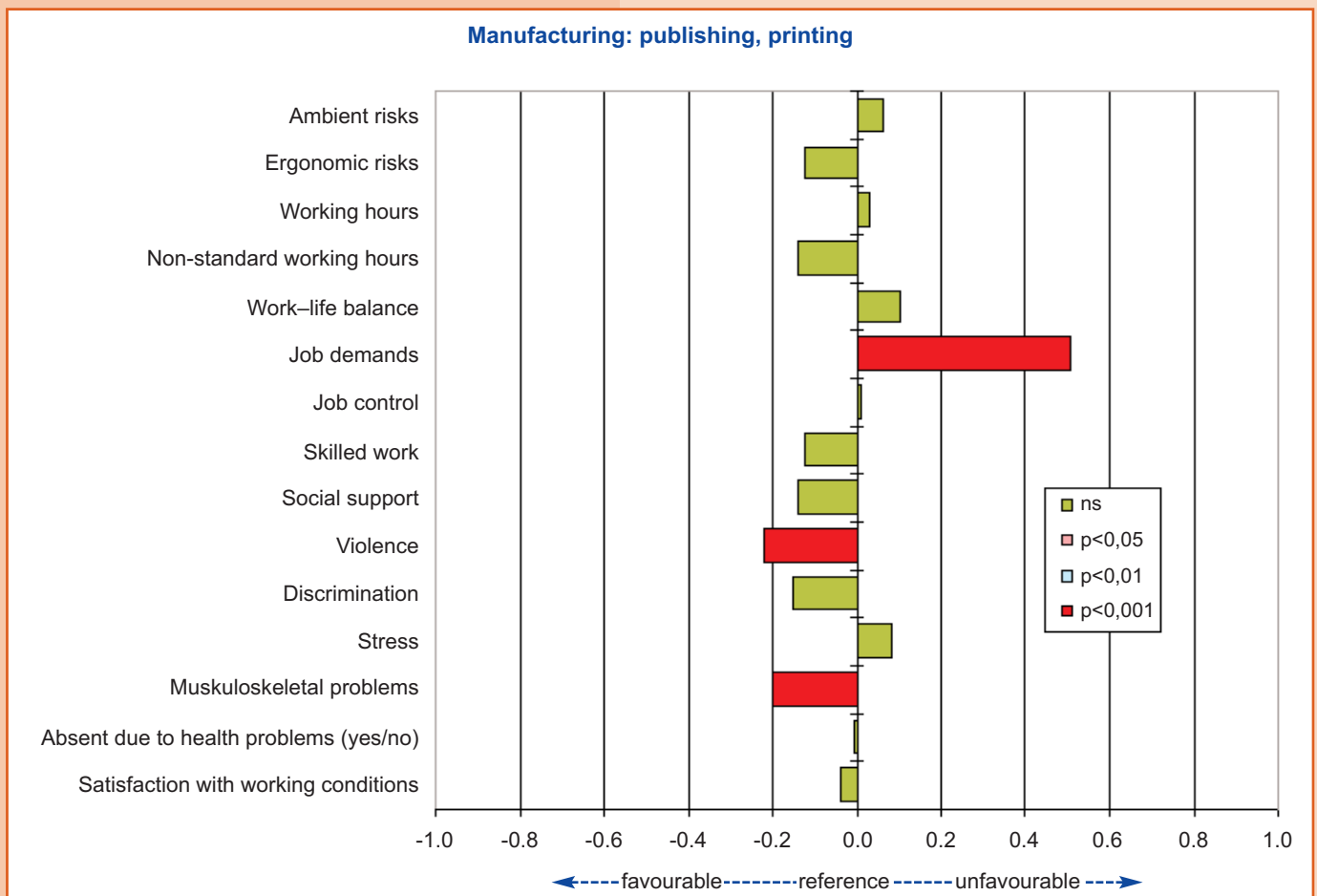
Where estimates are not accompanied by triangles, this indicates that observed differences are not statistically significant.

Working conditions and outcomes

The figure below shows specific dimensions of working conditions with favourable and unfavourable scores in printing and publishing, taking as a point of reference mean exposure (0.0 score in the chart below).

Looking at the statistically significant differences only, this sector is characterised by higher than average levels of job demands/work intensity (working at high speed and to

tight deadlines) but lower levels of exposure to workplace violence (threats of physical violence and actual acts of violence from colleagues and non-colleagues) and incidence of musculoskeletal problems (consisting of backache and muscular pains).



How to read the figure

For the profiling of the sector, eleven working conditions (mainly composite indexes based on several variables) and four outcomes (stress, musculoskeletal disorders, absence due to health problems and job satisfaction) were taken into account.

In the chart above, $p < 0.001$ represents the highest level of statistical significance, while $p < 0.01$ and $p < 0.05$ indicate comparatively lower levels of statistical significance; 'ns' stands for no statistically significant difference. Statistical differences from the average can be either favourable (scores on the left side of the chart) or unfavourable (scores on the right side of the chart) on a specific set of working conditions.

Score values greater than ± 0.2 indicate a small deviation from mean exposure (0.0) while score values ranging from ± 0.2 to ± 0.5 and greater than ± 0.5 indicate respectively substantial and very substantial deviation from mean exposure.

Key findings

- The educational level in the publishing and printing sector is above the average for all sectors. This may also explain the fact that the income level in this sector is relatively higher than average.
- Workers in the printing and publishing sector are more likely to work in small companies or organisations (between 10 and 49 workers) than larger ones (250 employees and over).
- In terms of working conditions and work-related outcomes, while the level of job demands/work intensity is higher than average, the level of exposure to workplace violence and incidence of musculoskeletal problems is quite low.

Methodology

The European Working Conditions Survey (EWCS) is carried out every five years by the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Eurofound), a tripartite European agency based in Dublin. The questionnaire is developed by the Eurofound team in close cooperation with an expert questionnaire development group. This group comprises representatives of the European social partners, other EU bodies (European Commission, Eurostat, European Agency for Safety and Health at work), international organisations (OECD, ILO), national statistical institutes, as well as leading European experts in the field. The sample of the EWCS is representative of persons in employment (according to the Eurostat definition this comprises both employees and the self-employed aged 15 years and over) resident in the countries covered for the respective periods. In each country, the EWCS sample followed a multi-stage, stratified and clustered design with a random walk procedure for the selection of the respondents at the last stage. All interviews were conducted face-to-face in the respondent's own household.

Further Eurofound research on the sector

Industrial relations in the print media sector

<http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/eiro/2006/08/study/index.htm>

The future of publishing and media

http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/emcc/publications/2003/sf_pm_1.pdf

In search of a realistic future

http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/emcc/publications/2004/sf_pm_2.pdf

Publishing and media: Balancing the interests of producers and consumers

http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/emcc/publications/2004/sf_pm_3.pdf

Background information on ICT as a driver of change in the graphics and media sector

http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/emcc/publications/2003/Graphics_media_overview.pdf

Further information

The Fourth *European Working Conditions Survey* report and secondary analysis of survey data are available on the *European Working Conditions Observatory* website:
<http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/ewco/surveys/ewcs2005/>

For further information please contact:
Sara Riso, Information Liaison Officer
sri@eurofound.europa.eu