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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Minzatu
on behalf of the European Commission
(19.8.2025)

The Commission collects, from relevant national authorities, annual data on reported work accidents related to “heat and sunstroke” via the European Statistics on Accidents at Work (ESAW) data collection.¹ It also collects annual data on nationally recognised occupational diseases via the voluntary pilot data collection on European Occupational Diseases Statistics (EODS)² from Member States except Germany, Greece and Portugal. EODS includes, among available data breakdowns, information about the type of recognised occupational disease according to the ICD-10³ classification of the World Health Organisation. The European Survey of Enterprises on New and Emerging Risks⁴ of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work collects data on “Heat, cold or draught”, and the European Working Conditions Survey of Eurofound⁵ on exposure to “high temperatures”.

The topic of heat at work and related data collections at EU level are of great relevance for the development of EU policy in occupational safety and health (OSH). The Commission is continuously working to improve the availability and quality of the data collections in OSH to further advance evidence-based policymaking, in particular concerning ESAW and EODS, and is doing so in cooperation with the Member States by organising working groups meetings and task forces. The topic of heat at work is considered in these activities.

The first European Climate Risk Assessment⁶, highlighted the growing health risks from heat stress and the Commission committed to stepping up measures to ensure that exposed workers are adequately protected.⁷ In 2026, it will adopt an integrated framework for climate resilience and risk management,⁸ which inter alia will seek to ensure more efficient monitoring.

¹ Data collection implemented by the Commission Regulation (EU) No 349/2011 of 11 April 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work, as regards statistics on accidents at work.

² <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/experimental-statistics/european-occupational-diseases-statistics>.

³ International Classification of Diseases 10th revision

⁴ ESENER - <https://oshwiki.osha.europa.eu/en/themes/esener-2019-methodology>.

⁵ EWCS - <https://www.eurofound.europa.eu/en/surveys/european-working-conditions-surveys/european-working-conditions-survey-2024>.

⁶ <https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/en/eu-adaptation-policy/key-eu-actions/european-climate-risk-assessment>.

⁷ COM(2024) 91 final - <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52024DC0091>.

⁸ https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14770-European-climate-resilience-and-risk-management-integrated-framework_en.