



# Manufacturing psychosocial risks

# Psychological harm<sup>1</sup>

The percentage of manufacturing workers that report experiencing the following in the last 12 months:

any work-related mental health or wellbeing issues

high work-related stress

18%

work-related anxiety

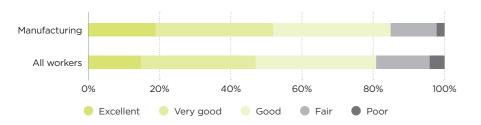
work-related

depression

new mental health or wellbeing issues

#### Self-rated health<sup>2</sup>

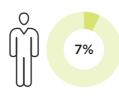
Self-rated health is a key indicator for monitoring quality of life and population health. Manufacturing workers were slightly more likely to rate their health as good or above compared to all workers.



- WorkSafe Workforce Segmentation and Insight surveys 2020 and 2021.
- <sup>2.</sup> WorkSafe (2022). New Zealand Psychosocial Survey 2021.
- 3. WorkSafe (2024). Work-related suicide: Examining the role of work factors in suicide.
- 4. WorkSafe (2023). Mentally healthy work online form analysis: Review of concerns received from 26 April 2022 - 1 May 2023.

#### Work-related suicide<sup>3</sup>

Research reviewed 1,678 coronial findings (from applicable cases) between 2017-2021.



an estimated 7% of workers who die by work-related suicide each year are in manufacturing

estimated number of manufacturing workers who die by work-related suicide each year

All 14 manufacturing workers who died by work-related suicide during 2017-2021 experienced significant work-related stressors. The following workrelated stressors appeared in work-related suicides by people who worked in manufacturing:

HOW WORK	SOCIAL FACTORS	WORK	WORK
IS DESIGNED	AT WORK	ENVIRONMENT	CONTEXT
<ul><li>Job demands</li><li>Work hours and schedule</li><li>Job security and precarious work</li></ul>	<ul><li>Bullying and victimisation</li><li>Interpersonal relationships</li><li>Support</li></ul>	- Work injury	- Making a mistake at work

#### Offensive behaviours<sup>2</sup>

Offensive behaviours can cause harm to the person they are directed at as well as people witnessing the behaviour. Repetitive or severe exposure can cause both physical and psychological harm.

Percentage of manufacturing workers who were exposed at least once in the last 12 months:

26%

14%

17%

bullying

threats of violence

cyberbullying

sexual harassment

physical violence

# Policies around bullying, harassment and violence<sup>1</sup>

25%

of manufacturing employers report they **do not have a policy** to support the management of incidences of bullying and harassment, including sexual harassment

43%

of manufacturing employers report they do not have a policy to guide their response to violent incidents, including threats of violence

#### Psychosocial risks<sup>2</sup>

Manufacturing workers are more likely to be exposed to:



Lower quality of leadership



Higher job insecurity



Lower meaning of work



Lower vertical trust

#### Protective factors<sup>2</sup>

Protective factors can mitigate the impact of risk factors and may enhance mental wellbeing. Manufacturing workers are more likely than all New Zealand workers to report:



Lower demands for hiding emotions



Lower emotional

What workers in manufacturing say makes a good day:

- strong interpersonal relationships
- career development
- safe physical work environment and equipment
- organisational culture
- supportive leadership
- manageable workload.

#### **Employer attitudes**<sup>1</sup>

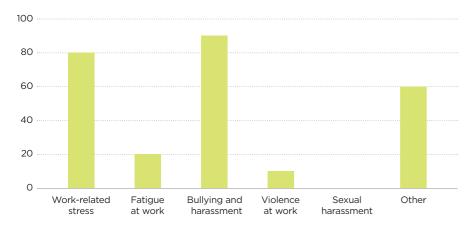
of employers feel a strong sense of responsibility for the mental health of staff and how well they get on with others

# Mentally healthy work concerns<sup>4</sup>

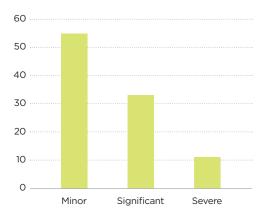
This data involves mentally healthy work concerns WorkSafe received from 26 April 2022 - 1 May 2023.

of mentally healthy work concerns that WorkSafe received in that period were raised from workers in the manufacturing sector (11 out of 283 concerns)

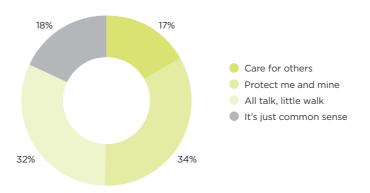
#### Percentage of concerns by issue



#### Percentage of concerns by levels of harm



# **Employer health and safety maturity** in manufacturing<sup>1</sup>



# Employers' health and safety perceptions<sup>1</sup>

Percentage of manufacturing employers that agree with the following statements:

we make the time and effort to ensure we're up to date with changes in health and safety legislation

the main reason we follow health and safety rules is so we don't get in trouble

management wouldn't need to get involved in health and safety if workers just used their common sense

health and safety is a real investment in our business

20%

complying with health and safety regulations is a cost to our business, with little benefit

we have a strong safety culture where each person is always watching out for each other's health and safety

#### Employers' health and safety practices<sup>1</sup>

Percentage of manufacturing employers that:

36%

say they conduct an assessment on workers' level of exposure to a health risk

66%

say they make changes to the work environment or equipment to reduce the risk to people's health and safety

40%

say they provide workers with health checks/monitoring for health problems that could be related to their work

say they develop or update a formal management plan or policy to address key health and safety risks