



WORLD DAY FOR

SAFETY & HEALTH

APRIL 28, 2020

Celebrating across the globe!

Why should we care?

According to new estimates by the ILO, the number of job-related accidents and illnesses, which **annually claim more than two million lives**, appears to be rising because of rapid industrialization in some developing countries.

What's more, a new assessment of workplace accidents and illness indicates that **the risk of occupational disease has become by far the most prevalent danger faced by people at their jobs** – accounting for 1.7 million annual work-related deaths and outpacing fatal accidents by four to one.

In its latest estimates, the ILO found that in addition to job-related deaths, each year there are some **268 million non-fatal workplace accidents in which the victims miss at least three days of work as a result**, as well as 160 million new cases of work-related illness.

The **most common workplace illnesses are cancers from exposure to hazardous substances, musculoskeletal diseases, respiratory diseases, hearing loss, circulatory diseases and communicable diseases caused by exposure to pathogens**. Globally, asbestos alone is responsible for 100,000 occupational deaths per year. Meanwhile, in the agricultural sector, which employs half the world's workforce and is predominant in most underdeveloped countries, the use of pesticides causes some 70,000 poisoning deaths each year, and at least seven million cases of acute and long-term non-fatal illnesses, as stated in the assessment.