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THE TREND OF ACCIDENTS AT WORK AND OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES

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Managing Director Mario G. Recupero
Chief Editor Alessandro Salvati

Editorial Staff
Diana Antimi Ciccarelli
Raffaello Marcelloni
Claudia Tesei

E-mail
statisticoattuariale@inail.it

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Articles by Alessandro Salvati
Tables by Andrea Bucciarelli
Charts by Gina Romualdi

Graphic layout by Claudia Tesei

Translated by
Raffaello Marcelloni
Paolo Perone

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INAIL WORLD

INAIL AND THE FIGHT TO COVID-19

INAIL, pursuant to Article 42, paragraph 2 of Decree Law no. 18 of 17 March 2020, converted into Law no. 27 of 24 April 2020, provides protection to workers who have contracted SARS-Cov-2 infection at work, according to the consolidated legal principle that equates the virulent cause with the violent cause of an accident.

INAIL circulars no. 13 of April 3, 2020 and no. 22 of May 20, 2020 clarify how all cases of infection at work by Covid-19 trigger full protection by the Institute, like other accidents or illnesses, since the beginning of quarantine period. In order to correctly detect cases for statistical and epidemiological purposes, the Institute has promptly codified Covid-19 as a new "disease-accident" in early March.

In the current health emergency, Inail protection covers firstly health sector workers exposed to a high risk of contagion, but also other categories in constant contact with people, such as front-office and cashiers, sales/counter staff, non-healthcare personnel in hospitals with technical, support and cleaning tasks and sick people transport operators. Insurance protection also extends to cases where identification of the precise causes of the infection and work methods is more difficult.

INAIL protects also cases of contagion from new Coronavirus occurring on the way to and from the workplace, which are defined as accidents in itinere (commuting accidents). Since the risk of contagion is much more likely on board of crowded public transport means, for all workers involved in the performance of services to be given in attendance, the use of private transport is also allowed, by way of derogation from current legislation and until the end of the epidemiological emergency.

The comparison of the data on Codiv-19 accident claims released by INAIL with those observed at national level by the Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS) requires caution, due to the wider universe of people observed by ISS (about 51 million) compared to the INAIL data for insured workers only (about 21 million). There are still several categories of workers excluded from INAIL insurance protection, including the military, policemen, firefighters, freelancers, business owners and a specific group of workers, particularly exposed to the risk of contagion, such as family doctors, freelance doctors, civil protection volunteers (including Red Cross ones).

Between April and June, the Institute released the first five Reports dedicated to the phenomenon of infections at work by Covid-19, with data updated to 21 April, 4 May, 15 May, 31 May and 15 June respectively. As of April 21, 28 thousand infections were reported (98 of which were fatal); as of May 4, the number of reported infections was 37 thousand (129 fatal), rising to 43 thousand (171 fatal) on May 15, 47 thousand (208 deaths) on May 31 and 49 thousand (236 deaths) on June 15.

With reference to the monitoring of accident claims from Covid-19 as at 15 June 2020, it should be noted that the distribution by month of the 49.021 cases is as follows: 53,1% (26.025 cases) of them are work-related infections occurred in March, 36,8% (18.054 cases) occurred in April, 7,6% (3.730) in May and 0,8% (410) occurred in the first 15 days of June, while the remaining 1,6% are cases occurred in February.

Of the 236 deaths recorded from January to 15 June, 89 (37,7%) were due to contagion occurred in March, 136 in April (57,6%), 10 (4,2%) in May and only one death in the first fortnight of June (no deaths have been reported in January or February).

TREND OF ACCIDENTS AT WORK DUE TO COVID-19: BY EVENT MONTH AND DEATH MONTH
(Observation period January - June 15, 2020)

Source: data processing on Inail databases - updated on June 15th 2020

At the same time, the total number of accidents at work reported to INAIL from January to 15 June 2020 decreased by about 25% compared to the same period in 2019. The trend in this period was affected by the drop in accidents recorded between March and May, with about 60,000 fewer accidents claimed than in the quarter March-May 2019 (-35.4%), mainly due to the suspension throughout Italy of all economic activities considered unnecessary to contain the new Coronavirus epidemic. In fact, the lockdown of many activities has caused the absence of a large number of workers in the workplace and on the roads, with a consequent reduction in the risk of injury. Excluding the claims of accidents due to Covid-19 contagion, the reduction in accidents as of June 15, 2020 would have been about 40%, which is an estimate of the lockdown effect. In addition, in March, April and May it has been estimated that worked hours decreased on average by about 30% compared with 2019 (in May, the reduction compared with the previous two-month period was more than halved due to the recovery of most production activities from May 4 onwards). This contraction produced a "true" decrease of 5% in the quarterly trend of accidents recorded as of June 15, 2020, compared with the -35.4% recorded.

TREND OF TOTAL ACCIDENTS AT WORK AND ACCIDENTS DUE TO COVID-19
(Observation period January - June 15, 2020)

Source: data processing on Inail databases - updated on June 15th 2020

Silvia D'Amario

A GLIMPSE OF ITALY DURING PANDEMIC THROUGH ITS ENTERPRISES

Covid-19 pandemic and the consequent lockdown produced unimaginable effects on world economies and, in particular, on Italian economy, which was already characterised by signs of weakness (GDP in last quarter 2019 was -0,3% on third quarter). It is difficult to quantify the repercussions of such an event, which will be heavy and prolonged.

The emergency that has been faced was made evident by the queues in front of the pawnshops, which have always been an excellent thermometer for measuring crises: Affide - the largest company active in the pledge credit sector authorized by the Bank of Italy - estimates that during lockdown, credit requests have increased by 30%. Families of pensioners and workers forced into immobility began to attend social canteens and to pawn family assets in order to get some money. A gloomy picture that boosted unfair competition by increasing the rate of irregular work (26,3% in the personal services sector alone).

The blockage of activities had immediate effects on production: according to ISTAT national accounts data, in the first quarter of the year GDP contracted by 4,7%. Furthermore, a survey carried out by the Institute of Statistics, which involved a sample[1] of about 90 thousand companies belonging to industry, trade and services sectors, which produce almost 90% of the national added value, showed that during the lockdown phase 45% of the companies stopped their activities without resuming them before 4 May.

PERCENTAGE OF ENTERPRISES BY ECONOMIC SECTOR AND CONSEQUENCE OF COVID-19

	Industry	Construction	Trade	Other service	Total
Activity suspended and not resumed before 4 May					
by decree	5,8%	5,6%	6,3%	20,6%	38,3%
by decision of the enterprise	1,0%	0,8%	1,1%	3,8%	6,7%
Subtotal	**6,8%**	**6,3%**	**7,4%**	**24,4%**	**45,0%**
Activity suspended and resumed before 4 May					
by decree	5,6%	1,7%	3,3%	4,2%	14,7%
by decision of the enterprise	1,4%	1,2%	2,4%	2,8%	7,7%
Subtotal	**7,0%**	**2,9%**	**5,7%**	**7,0%**	**22,5%**
Activity not suspended	5,1%	1,6%	11,4%	14,4%	32,5%
Total enterprises	**18,9%**	**10,8%**	**24,5%**	**45,8%**	**100,0%**

Source: Inail analysis on data provided by Istat - "Situazione e prospettive delle imprese nell'emergenza sanitaria Covid-19" Statistical annex - June 2020"

Of the 67,7% of companies that stopped their activities, 21,4% did so regardless of the constraints imposed by the decrees or to comply with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health, or to be unable to take measures to contain the virus. The analysis by sector shows that it is mainly construction and service companies that have suspended their activities (58,9% and 53,3% respectively) compared to industry (36,0%) and trade (30.3%). Trade is the sector that was the most active during the lockdown; in particular, the retail sector has the highest share of companies kept active (52,4%).

[1] *Enterprises with more than 2 employees, excluded agriculture (Nace 01 02, 03), public administration (Nace 84) and associations sectors (Nace 94)*

More than 70% of the companies surveyed in this study, declared a reduction in revenue during the period March-April 2020 compared to the same period in 2019: 41,4% claimed that their revenue has more than halved and 14,6% of companies said they have not earned any revenue, with reasons ranging from the reduction of weeks worked, to the drop in demand, to supply difficulties up to the drop in productivity due to new working conditions.

Source: analysis Inail from data Istat "Situazione e prospettive delle imprese nell'emergenza sanitaria Covid-19" Statistical annex - June 2020"

The closure of the economic activities ordered by the series of decrees, has penalized mostly the micro (3-9 employees) and small enterprises (10-49 employees), involved in more than 70% of the total of the closures (even if 29,4% of small enterprises have reopened before May 4).

This has been a crisis that has severely affected people's health, well-being and work and created unprecedented uncertainty. This is why we should prepare an exit from the crisis designing bold economic growth policies, cutting red tape, reviewing business organisational models, investing in innovation and policies that respect the environment.

Claudia Tesei

PROFESSIONS AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN ACCIDENT AT WORK BY CONTAGION FROM COVID-19

The data on the work accident claims for contagion from Covid-19 received by Inail on 15 June 2020, confirm the picture of the most affected professionals reported in the INAIL Circular of 13 April 2020. Analyzing the 49.021 claims from Covid-19 (of which 236 fatal cases) due to the professionalism of the injured worker coded according to the Istat-CP2011 classification, three out of four claims concerned workers of the health sector. 40,9% of the claims come from "health technicians" (mainly nurses), 21,3% by socio-health workers of "qualified personnel in health and social services", 10,7% by "medical doctors" (internists, cardiologists and anesthesiologists-resuscitators more than others) and almost 5% by hospital auxiliaries, servants in nursing homes, stretcher bearers of "unskilled personnel in education and health services". Added to these health workers there is significant share of claims, 8,5%, coming from social-care workers (normally operating in health and care facilities). The remaining 14% of codified claims are distributed among numerous professionals, distinguishing among the other administrative employees (2,7% of claims) and "unskilled personnel in cleaning services" (1,8%). With percentage frequencies around 1% of claims, but with a substantial number of reports (from 300 to 100 in the order) also professional drivers of vehicles (especially ambulances), employees in the restaurant business, employees in reception and sales people.

CLAIMS FOR ACCIDENTS AT WORK DUE TO COVID-19 BY PROFESSION WITH CODE ISTAT-CP2011
(Observation period January - June 15, 2020)

Source: data processing on Inail databases - updated on June 15th 2020

Analysing the economic macro-sector, 99% of cases arise from Industry&Services sector, with the residual 600 cases distributed mainly between the "on behalf of the State" sector (slightly under 500), Maritime Navigation sector and Agriculture sector. For Industry and Services, the ranking of accident reports for Covid-19 by economic activity, according to the NACE classification, consistently

resumes what is detectable by profession, keeping in mind that the attribution of the NACE sector is aimed at identify the type of activity carried out by the company, without necessarily being representative of all the professionals who collaborate in the company. Health and social care (hospitals, nursing and rest homes, institutions, clinics and university hospitals, residences for the elderly and disabled, etc.) is at the top of the ranking for claims submitted (72,2%), followed by Public administration (in particular the activities of the subjects responsible for health services) with 9,1%. Among the most affected by the covid phenomenon is also the Rental sector and business support services (security, cleaning, call center services, but also the supply of staff such as temporary workers "lent" to multiple activities, including healthcare and cleaning) with 4,3%; followed by the manufacturing sector (particularly large and articulated) and the activities of accommodation and food service activities, both with 2,6%.

CLAIMS FOR ACCIDENTS AT WORK DUE TO COVID-19 BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN THE INDUSTRY AND SERVICES SECTOR (NACE)
(Observation period January - June 15, 2020)

Source: data processing on Inail databases - updated on June 15th 2020

The 236 fatal cases still concern health and social-care personne, even if with a lower share than in the overall claims: they represent approximately 40% of codified deaths. The most affected are therefore, again, health technicians (mostly nurses) with 12,8% of the coded cases and medical doctors with 9,9%, followed by socio-health workers (7,8%), social workers and life sciences specialists (toxicologists and pharmacologists) with 4,2% for both. Unqualified personnel in health services (auxiliaries, porters, stretchers) then weighs 3,5%. The remaining professional categories involved concern administrative employees with 11,3% of claims, drivers (5,0%) and employees in food service activities (3,5%); security, surveillance as well as managers of the public administration and in the health, education and research services, account for 2,8% each. More details can contribute to explain the lower share of health workers in fatal cases than in the overall cases. First of all, the lower level of numbers of fatal claims is subject to more sensitive and uneven variations compared to the whole cases. Furthermore, special treatments undertaken more consciously and promptly among the injured people in the health sector may have led to this result together with the greater attention paid to the fatal cases claims in respect to the probable under-reporting effect for the less serious cases among the non-health professional categories.

The decrease in infections - also found in the trend of the claims number reported to Inail after the main peak of 23 March with over 1.500 cases - is followed by a gradual and controlled recovery of economic activities. The continuous monitoring of work accidents by economic activity and professionalism, may give useful information to the decision makers for an ex-post analysis.

CLAIMS FOR ACCIDENTS AT WORK DUE TO COVID-19 BY DATE OF EVENT
(Observation period January - June 15, 2020)

Note: *this data, with particular regard to those of June, are still provisional having to take into account the data consolidation in relation to the time delays between the contagion event, and the report of the injury claim.*

Source: data processing on Inail databases - updated on June 15th 2020

Andrea Bucciarelli

PICTURE OF A CONTAGION: GENDER AND AGE OF COVID-19 INJURED PEOPLE

The pandemic from coronavirus at the beginning of the year has led to a review of many human behaviors with the adoption of new rules of social distancing and lifestyles and at the same time has opened up new ways of working with a widespread use of smart working for all the activities and professions that have allowed it.

The suspension of non-essential productions during the lockdown period and the huge utilisation of "agile work" for some companies have led to a drop either in accidents at work or in occupational diseases.

The onset of the coronavirus has raised the issue of protecting workers from contagion while at workplace and during commuting to reach it. As of June 15 2020, there were 49.021 accidents claims reported to Inail, 22% of the total claims.

CLAIMS FOR ACCIDENTS AT WORK DUE TO COVID-19 BY AGE CLASS AND GENDER
(Observation period January - June 15, 2020)

Overall claims				
Age class	**Females**	**Males**	**Total**	**%**
from 18 to 34	5.832	2.668	8.500	17,3%
from 35 to 49	13.351	4.738	18.089	36,9%
from 50 to 64	15.474	5.928	21.402	43,7%
over 64	486	544	1.030	2,1%
Total	**35.143**	**13.878**	**49.021**	**100,0%**

Fatal cases				
Age class	**Females**	**Males**	**Total**	**%**
from 18 to 34	-	4	4	1,7%
from 35 to 49	7	15	22	9,4%
from 50 to 64	28	138	166	70,3%
over 64	6	38	44	18,6%
Total	**41**	**195**	**236**	**100,0%**

Source: data processing on Inail databases - updated on June 15th 2020

71,7% of those infected by Covid-19 are women, while 28,3% are men, with a gender ratio that is the opposite of what we observe for other accidents at work. The average age of those infected is 47 old both for male and female, while the median age, which divides the number of claims sorted by age into two identical groups, is 48. In detail, it can be observed that 43,7% of the total claims concerns the 50-64 age group, followed by the 35-49 age group (36,9%) and the 18-34 age group (17,3%, which becomes 19,2% if we consider only men), whilst cases among the over 64s are marginal (slightly more than a thousand people, equal to 2,1%, which rises to 3,9% for men only).

84,3% of claims concern Italian workers while 15,7% concern those born abroad. Among Italians 7 out of 10 are female, among foreigners the ratio rises to 8 out of 10. The most affected foreign

communities are the Romanian one, with 22% of claims, followed by Peruvians (16%), Albanians (8%) and Ecuadorians (5%), almost exclusively nurses and health workers.

Some differences emerge in the analysis of fatal events: they has been 236, about 40% of all deaths reported to the Inail. If overall claims due to Covid-19 originate mainly from women, the opposite happens for fatal cases: about 9 out of 10 dead patients were male. The average age in case of deaths is higher (59) with a gap of about two years between the genders (57 years for women compared to 59 for men). The detail by age group shows that 9 out of 10 deaths occur between the over-50s, in particular 70,3% of the total number of deaths are in the 50-64 age group and 18,6% among the over-64s, followed by the 35-49 age group (9,4% rising to 17,1% if only women are considered) and that of young people under 34 (1,7%, with no female deaths). The median age is also higher than the total number of claims (59).

91,1% of the deceased had Italian nationality, 8,9% were foreigners. In the majority of cases, the dead patients were men: 9 out of 10 if Italians and 6 out of 10 if foreigners. The most affected foreign communities are still the Romanian and the Peruvian ones (with 4 and 3 deaths respectively).

CLAIMS FOR ACCIDENTS AT WORK DUE TO COVID-19 BY GENDER AND AGE CLASS
(Observation period January - June 15, 2020)

Source: data processing on Inail databases - updated on June 15th 2020

Adelina Brusco

COVID-19 IN THE ITALIAN REGIONS

The province of Milan for the overall accidents, that of Bergamo for deaths. This is the snapshot which represents in absolute values, at provincial level, the sad reality of the contagions from Covid-19 at the workplaces in our country. With 5.316 claims, in fact, Milan and its province recorded 10,8% of all the claims reported to Inail as of June 15 this year (49.021 cases), while the province of Bergamo with 30 deaths recorded 12,7% of the 236 total deaths.

Moreover, in the top five positions with the most claims from Covid-19 there are four Lombard provinces: that of Milan, Brescia (2.719 cases), Bergamo (2.351) and Cremona (1.368), one case out of four, therefore, of all national claims; the second place is occupied by the province of Turin (3.903). The same four Lombard provinces are then right in the top four places in the sad ranking of fatal complaints: Bergamo (30 cases), Milan (22), Brescia and Cremona (14 for both): one claim out of three of all the fatal claims of the our country.

CLAIMS FOR ACCIDENTS AT WORK DUE TO COVID-19 BY REGION
(Observation period January - June 15, 2020)

Source: data processing on Inail databases - updated on June 15th 2020

Lombardy, therefore, with 36% of the national total, is the region with the highest absolute number of infections from Covid-19 at the workplace, thus also replicating the general trend referring to the entire Italian population. Piedmont (15,2%), Emilia Romagna (10,2%) and Veneto (8,4%) follow. But it is for fatal cases (102 claims, equal to 43,2% of the national total) that Lombardy clearly leads the overall standings in respect of the other regions. In second place, in fact, there is Emilia Romagna with 20 deaths (8,5%), Piedmont with 19 cases (8,1%) and Campania in fourth place with 17 cases (7,2%).

Of course, the high number of claims reported in Lombardy also contributed negatively to the data in terms of geographical distribution. The North-West, in fact, with 56,1% for the overall claims and 57,2% for fatal claims clearly distances the North-East (24,2% and 13,5% respectively), the Center (11,8% and 11,9%), the South (5,7% and 15,7%) and the Islands (2,2% and 1,7%).

The autonomous provinces of Trento and Bolzano are also distinguished by the highest share of female claims (77,9% and 77,0% respectively), followed by Piedmont (76,1%), Tuscany and Veneto (74,5%), up to Sicily with 50,7%. Campania is the only Italian region where the number of injuries from Covid-19 occurred to workers has exceeded that of female workers (39,3% the female share), compared to a national average of 71,7%. Emilia Romagna (one out of three injuries involved women) and Lombardy, Lazio and Marche (one out of four injuries) stand out for fatal claims, where the national female share stands at 17,4%.

CLAIMS FOR ACCIDENTS AT WORK DUE TO COVID-19 BY REGION AND GENDER
(Observation period January - June 15, 2020)

Regions	Females	Males	Total	% Females
Autonomous province of Trento	913	259	1.172	77,9
Autonomous province of Bolzano	602	180	782	77,0
Piedmont	5.680	1.786	7.466	76,1
Tuscany	2.033	695	2.728	74,5
Veneto	3.067	1.052	4.119	74,5
Friuli Venezia Giulia	603	220	823	73,3
Emilia Romagna	3.632	1.348	4.980	72,9
Lombardy	12.830	4.806	17.636	72,7
Aosta Valley	153	58	211	72,5
Marche	996	399	1.395	71,4
Liguria	1.539	664	2.203	69,9
Sardinia	319	148	467	68,3
Abruzzo	379	198	577	65,7
Molise	30	16	46	65,2
Umbria	122	68	190	64,2
Lazio	912	550	1.462	62,4
Basilicata	34	28	62	54,8
Calabria	76	65	141	53,9
Apulia	635	595	1.230	51,6
Sicily	289	281	570	50,7
Campania	299	462	761	39,3
Italy	**35.143**	**13.878**	**49.021**	**71,7**

Values reported in descending value by share of female

Source: data processing on Inail databases - updated on June 15th 2020

Lastly, among the Italian municipalities most affected by the new coronavirus infection at the workplace, we find the metropolitan cities and provincial capitals such as Milan (3.075 claims), Turin (1,723), Genoa (1,090), Brescia (995), Bergamo (895), Bologna (817) and Rome (719); for fatal cases, Milan (19), Naples (11), Rome (8), Genoa (7), Bergamo, Cremona, Parma and Turin (5 each), Brescia (4). Then follow two municipalities in the province of Bergamo with three deaths each (Alzano Lombardo and Ponte San Pietro).

CLAIMS FOR ACCIDENTS AT WORK DUE TO COVID-19 BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS
(Observation period January - June 15, 2020)

Overall claims

Fatal cases

Source: data processing on Inail databases - updated on June 15th 2020

Alessandro Salvati

SOME EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON THE WORLD LABOUR MARKET

Leaving from China, Covid-19, quickly followed the airways of trade and tourism, and then all the other ways of contact between the citizens of the world. After China, the epicenter of the contagion was Europe first and then the United States, the countries that more than others have relocated their activities in East Asia or that depend heavily on Chinese supplies. Now the virus is spreading to South America.

At the moment, the only therapy accepted and shared worldwide is social distancing. That is, the exact opposite of the fundamental principles of globalization. In fact, Covid-19 has spread using the same channels used by so-called globalization and the metaphorical expression "viral effect" used until yesterday only to describe an exceptional propagation of multimedia contents through social networks, with the arrival of Covid -19, today it has returned to its original meaning.

This paradox, according to the International Labour Organization (ILO), has also had repercussions on labour markets and, in particular, on young workers so that ILO is considering the possibility of the emergence of a "lockdown generation".

The most recent figures show that, in many aspects and in a future perspective, it is precisely young people who are most affected by the economic consequences that the pandemic will have: starting from the interruption of education and training, passing through the loss of employment. and income, to arrive at the greatest difficulties they may face in the near future to find a job.

Altogether, 178 million young workers worldwide, more than four out of ten young workers globally, were working in the hardest hit sectors at the time the crisis started. About 328 million young workers worldwide (almost 77%) had informal employment[2] compared in respect of around 60% of adult workers (aged 25 and over). The proportion of informal youth work varies from 32,9% in Europe and Central Asia to 93,4% in Africa.

Pre-employment training, both technical and professional, but also on-the-job training are undergoing heavy interruptions. In a recent joint ILO – UNESCO – World Bank survey, approximately 98% of respondents reported having completely or partially interrupted training cycles at technical and professional schools and in training centers. Although over two thirds of the training is now provided remotely, few so-called "low-income" countries have actually implemented this transition.

Another new ILO global survey on formal jobs for young people reveals that over one in six of the respondents has stopped working since the start of the crisis and that among those who remained in service, working hours decreased by 23%.

[2] The term "informal work" indicates those kind of employment in which workers are not provided of their rights and protections. The concept of the informal work first appeared in the ILO studies in 1971 on Ghana and Kenya.
More generally, "informal economy" is represented by the activities producing goods and services not included in the national accounts; it includes therefore all the goods and services exchanged without paying a salary and also those produced within the household for self-consumption and other large sectors such as volunteering.

BASELINE EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES FOR 2020 (BEFORE COVID-19 CRISIS)

ECONOMIC SECTOR (NACE)	Impact of crisison economic output	Level of youth employment (millions)	Share in global youth employment (%)	Share of young women in total youth
Manufacturing	High	59,2	13,8	36,9
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	High	74,8	17,5	41,7
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	High	28,1	6,6	50,8
Real Estate Activities	High	16,4	3,8	43,8
Transportation and Storage	Medium-High	21,0	4,9	16,4
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	Medium-High	28,4	6,6	60,3
Mining and Quarrying	Medium	2,9	0,7	22,6
Construction	Medium	33,1	7,7	5,4
Financial and Insurance Activities	Medium	4,6	1,1	54,7
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	Low-medium	123,7	28,9	36,0
Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	Low	8,6	2,0	33,3
Education	Low	13,2	3,1	69,5
Human Health and Social Work Activities	Low	11,8	2,7	74,2
Utilities	Low	2,0	0,5	21,3

Source: ILO Monitor, April 2020; ILO modelled estimates, November 2019..

The crisis also continues to cause unprecedented reduction in economic activity and working time. The latest data show that during the first quarter of 2020 an estimated 4,8% of working hours were lost compared to the fourth quarter of 2019 (equivalent to about 135 million full-time jobs under the assumption of a 48-hours working week), confirming the previous estimates. The estimated drop in work activity in the first quarter of 2020 is uneven across countries of the world. While the number of hours worked in the first quarter of 2020 decreased by 6,5% in Asia and the Pacific (driven by an 11,6% decrease in East Asia), all other areas experienced a decrease of no more than 3%. This picture of the youth job market follows the timing of the spread of the pandemic in the various countries and the consequent measures to contain the contagion. In fact, the hours lost in the first quarter of 2020 are largely driven by the exceptional impact of the Covid-19 crisis that occurred in China during that quarter. The outlook for the second quarter of 2020 remains dramatic. As of May 17, 2020, estimates indicate that working hours will decrease by about 10,7% in the current quarter compared to the last quarter of 2019, which equates to 305 million full-time workers (always assuming a 48-hours working week).

ESTIMATED PERCENTAGE DROP IN AGGREGATE WORKING HOURS RELATIVE TO THE PRE-CRISIS BASELINE (4th quarter 2019, seasonally adjusted)

Source: ILO nowcasting model

The Americas, Europe and Central Asia have the largest loss of hours worked. In the Americas, the decrease in hours worked in the second quarter should reach 13,1% compared to the pre-crisis level, while in Europe and Central Asia, the decrease is estimated at 12,9%. The estimates for the other regions follow closely with a minimum of 9,5% only in Africa. South America and Europe are the areas with the greatest loss of hours worked. These latest data reflect, respectively, the serious deterioration of the pandemic situation in South America and the fact that Europe has been more severe in terms of contagion containment measures.

The need therefore emerges for intensive analyzes aimed at limiting the spread of Covid-19 in order to minimize the restrictions on economic activities. To monitor the impact of these changes, it will be essential to follow the trend of working hours, employment and income in the coming months.

Raffaello Marcelloni

PROFESSIONAL NOTES

MASKS: WHAT THEY ARE AND WHY WE USE THEM DURING COVID-19 EMERGENCY

In this sad and particular moment, it is known that protective masks availability is no adeguate to the needs. There are different types of masks to which we should give some consideration. Masks currently avaible are divided in three types: surgical mask, filtering half mask, community mask.

The first type, called surgical mask, intends to prevent infective agents transmission from the wearer to the environment and then to people. We know surgical masks because normally medical staff wear them during surgical procedures in operating theatres. They are medical devices and they are subject to EN 14683:2019 standard; according to filtering efficiency and splash resistance, we distinguish them in three types.

The second type, called filtering half mask, intend to protect the wearer against workplace risks. These masks are Personal protective equipment (PPE); they are subject to EN 149:2009 standard and the wearer should receive information and training on their use. According to filtering efficiency, we distinguish them in three classes, namely FFP1, FFP2 and FFP3.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends using FFP2 and FFP3 in order to protect from virus and bacterial and, in particular, FFP3 during medical aerosol-generating procedures.

According to PPE regulation (UE 2016/425), filtering half masks are III category PPE and the CE-marking displays four-digit number next "CE" letters: this number identifies the Notified Body that assessed the conformity of the products to the standard.

To protect wearer, it is important that either the surgical mask or the filtering half mask must be placed on the face, and then removed, in a proper and correct way.

Normally, in the industries, PPE are used to protect against a variety of particles or aerosols; in Italy, during the covid-19 emergency, it is allowed to provide employees with surgical masks too if it is impossible to keep an interpersonal distance of 1 meter.

So surgical masks, even if not in compliance with PPE standard, can be used to protect from covid-19 risk infection. Note that surgical masks cannot be used in replacement of FFP2 and FFP3 if dust or other chemical risks are present in the workplace.

Nowadays, community face covering (DPCM 26 aprile 2020) are increasingly used: they are not medical devices or PPE but they can be product under the manufacture's responsibility that ensures about safety.

Community face masks can be weared by people in order to limit the spread of pandemy but only during non-working time.

Maria Rosaria Fizzano

INAIL
Rischio biologico: evitare il contagio sul lavoro
Dispositivi - Maschere facciali filtranti
Rimozione e smaltimento
Togliere la maschera dall'elastico senza toccare la parte anteriore
Gettarla in un contenitore chiuso o per rifiuti speciali
Dopo la rimozione e ogni volta che si tocca una maschera usata, igienizzare le mani con acqua e sapone
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Rischio biologico: evitare il contagio sul lavoro
Dispositivi - Maschere facciali filtranti
Indicazioni per un corretto utilizzo - Avvertenze
Barba, baffi o basette lunghe possono compromettere il contatt diretto con i bordi di tenuta e quindi l'efficacia filtrante
Evitare di toccare la maschera durante l'uso, soprattutto nella parte anteriore (se necessario agire su lacci /elastici con mani/guanti puliti)
Cambiare la maschera se risulta umida, contaminata o danneggiata
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Dispositivi - Maschere facciali filtranti
Indicazioni per un corretto utilizzo - Come indossarla
Lavare le mani con cura
Tenere la maschera in mano con lo stringinaso in alto e gli elastici liberi
Indossare la maschera con la conchiglia sotto il mento e modellare lo stringinaso
Posizionare gli elastici o i lacci (in base al modello)
Assicurarsi di aver coperto bene naso, bocca e mento
Prova di tenuta: inalare e trattenere il respiro per 5-10 secondi, con la maschera coperta dalle mani pulite
In caso di perdita dai bordi, riposizionare il facciale agendo sulla tensione degli elastici
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