

## Methodological note

# GUIDANCE ON STATISTICAL PROCESSING FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK (ESAW AND EODS DATA COLLECTIONS) IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COVID-19 CRISIS

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UNIT F5 — EDUCATION, HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

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VERSION	DATE	CHANGES IN SECTION
1.0	20 MAY 2020	
1.1	10 MAY 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor editorial changes</li> <li>• Chapter '<i>Purpose</i>' – part '<i>ESAW SPECIFIC STATISTICAL PROCESSING FOR CASES OF ACCIDENTS AT WORK – COVID-19</i>': Update of the existing graph with 2018 data</li> <li>• Chapter '<i>Purpose</i>' – part '<i>EODS SPECIFIC STATISTICAL PROCESSING FOR CASES OF OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES – COVID-19</i>': Update of COVID-19 codes in the ICD-10 classification</li> </ul>

## Introduction

Data on accidents at work and occupational diseases at EU level are essential for EU policies in the area of Occupational Health and Safety (OSH). They are necessary to pursue the developments and the evaluations of the OSH legislation and OSH policy framework, as well as for the preparation of new evidence-based initiatives in this policy field. There are two separate data collections in the OSH area: European Accidents at Work Statistics (ESAW) – data collection under EU implementing Regulation 349/2011, and European Occupational Diseases Statistics (EODS) – pilot data collection that aims to provide experimental statistics at EU level on occupational diseases.

## Purpose

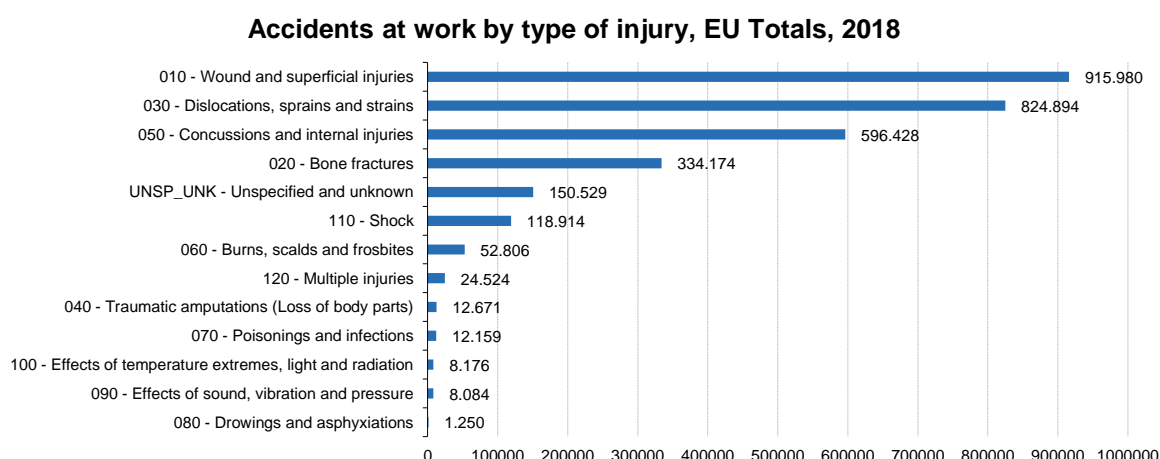
The COVID pandemic has affected everyone, occupational risks for some categories of workers increased significantly. Some EU countries are assessing the possibility to consider COVID-19 from occupational point of view either as an accident at work or as an occupational disease. National practices are different; and in some countries, it has been decided that COVID-19 could be related to the workplace and will receive an occupational recognition. Therefore, it is important to capture the existing situation on COVID-19 occupational related, when available and not hampering reporting of these data. Eurostat proposes to support harmonized statistical processing of OSH data at European level, for capturing COVID-19 from occupational angle. Eurostat recommends the following:

- For ESAW data collection – use the ESAW classification 3 digits for ‘Type of injury’ and the specific new code created for recording COVID-19 accidents at work
- For EODS - use the specific ICD-10 codes issued for COVID – 19 by the WHO

### ESAW - SPECIFIC STATISTICAL PROCESSING FOR THE CASES OF ACCIDENTS AT WORK – COVID -19

The data collection ESAW contains a set of variables that describes, in a statistical way, the accidents at work. One of these variables is ‘Type of injury’ (coded ‘INJ’).

Definition: ‘physical consequences for the victim’ e.g. bone fracture, wounds etc. The 3-digit version of the ESAW classification for ‘Type of injury’ should be used for encoding of information on this variable. The graph below shows the distribution of accidents at work based on type of injury groups.



**The variable ESAW 'Type of injury' contains the group '070' for reporting 'Poisoning and infections' at the workplace. The group is further subdivided into '071 – 'Acute poisonings', '072' – 'Acute infections' and '079' – 'Other types of poisonings and infections'.**

Eurostat proposes adding the code '073' – 'COVID-19' that will allow capturing the necessary information when available.

<b>070</b>	<b>Poisonings and infections</b>
071	Acute poisonings
072	Acute infections
073	COVID-19
079	Other types of poisonings and infections

## **EODS - SPECIFIC STATISTICAL PROCESSING FOR THE CASES OF OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES – COVID -19**

EODS is an annual data collection with the scope of collecting incident cases of occupational diseases that are recognized by the competent national authorities.

For capturing the COVID-19 occupational disease cases recognized nationally, Eurostat proposes using the ICD variable of the EODS data collection.

Definition: The ICD variable refers to the recognized occupational disease case. All the new occupational disease cases, which are recognized during the reference year, by the national competent authorities, will be reported as part of the EODS data collection using 4-characters codes. The EODS uses the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), currently ICD-10 version. In the context of the COVID-19 outbreak, WHO issued new codes for COVID and associated guidance, the most updated information concerning coding principles of the ICD-10 classification specific for COVID-19 can be found here:

<https://www.who.int/classifications/icd/covid19/en/>

In February 2020, two ICD-10 codes were assigned for COVID-19:

- **U07.1** COVID-19, virus identified  
<https://icd.who.int/browse10/2019/en#/U07.1>
- **U07.2** COVID-19, virus not identified
  - o Clinically-epidemiologically diagnosed COVID-19
  - o Probable COVID-19
  - o Suspected COVID-19<https://icd.who.int/browse10/2019/en#/U07.2>

They have been complemented by the following codes:

- **U08.9** Personal history of COVID-19, unspecified  
<https://icd.who.int/browse10/2019/en#/U08.9>

- **U09.9** Post COVID-19 condition, unspecified  
(<https://icd.who.int/browse10/2019/en#/U09.9>)
- **U10.9** Multisystem inflammatory syndrome associated with COVID-19, unspecified  
(<https://icd.who.int/browse10/2019/en#/U10.9>)
- **U11.9** Need for immunization against COVID-19, unspecified  
(<https://icd.who.int/browse10/2019/en#/U11.9>)
- **U12.9** COVID-19 vaccines causing adverse effects in therapeutic use, unspecified  
(<https://icd.who.int/browse10/2019/en#/U12.9>)

Details of the updates to ICD-10 are available online at:

<https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/classification/icd/covid-19/covid-19-coding-updates-3-4-combined.pdf>

The most updated information concerning coding principles of the ICD-10 classification specific for COVID-19 can be found here:

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Eurostat recommends using the above-mentioned codes, when is the case, for coding the ICD variable in EODS data collection.