

Monitoring of Occupational Safety and Health in the European Union

This document will be updated

There are a wide variety of approaches towards monitoring occupational safety and health in the European Union aiming to describe the situation at different levels from the company level to a national overview. It has become a very dynamic area with a number of new models and strategies. The overview of systems has shown that no single data source can provide a complete and adequate description of occupational safety and health.

The different approaches chosen for monitoring OSH at national level include monitoring health outcomes, describing the workplace environment, and describing the infrastructure and the level of prevention at national and at enterprise level. The “traditional” data collection approaches, based on outcome factors such as accident and diseases data, have been complemented by some new initiatives that combine data sources and monitor the infrastructure and resources at different levels. All these initiatives strive to reach the goal of having as complete a picture as possible of occupational safety and health at the level chosen i.e. for the purpose of “early warning”, decision-making and possible corrections.