should be tailored to men's and women's specific needs and barriers. The timing of such interventions should be considered given the time-varying differences observed between men and women.

Poster Presentation

Other

0465

GENDER, AGE, AND THE CHANGING BURDEN OF WORK-RELATED DISABILITY IN CANADA AND AUSTRALIA

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Objectives This research investigates the changing burden of work-related disability in Canada and Australia and how this varies by gender and age. The secondary objective is to demonstrate a means of comparing work disability data internationally.

Methods Workers' compensation data from Canada and Australia were used to analyse the relative disability burden of workers injured between 2004 and 2010. The two measures used were the number of claims with compensated time-loss and the corresponding time-loss years accrued, indexed to 2004. Gender and age-stratified analyses were conducted using descriptive statistics.

Results Male workers had more claims and cumulative time-loss in both countries. They also had steeper reductions in claim volumes and cumulative time-loss over time, indicating a narrowing in overall gender differences. Age-stratified analysis showed that differences between men and women were smaller among younger workers compared to older workers. In Canada, the proportion of claims attributable to females grew at the same rate as the proportion of time loss until 2007–08 when a gap emerged. In Australia, the proportion of claims and time loss attributable to females grew closer over time.

Conclusions While the volume of claims and cumulative time-loss has decreased in Canada and Australia, and the largest proportion is attributable to workers who are male and aged 35–54, a growing proportion is attributable to female and older workers. These changes have been driven by demographic factors (growth of females in the workforce, ageing workforce) and structural factors (economic recession and policy changes), particularly in Canada.

Oral Presentation

Working Conditions

0466

LABOUR MARKET AND HEALTH TRAJECTORIES DURING PERIODS OF ECONOMIC RECESSION AND EXPANSION IN THE UNITED STATES, 1988–2011

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Objectives Negative labour market experiences are associated with worse health outcomes, although little research has examined health effects of trajectories over time. This study examined associations between labour market and health (LMH) trajectories in the US between 1988 and 2011 and whether associations differed across four macroeconomic periods defined by contraction or expansion.

Methods Working-age cohorts were derived for each period using data from the Panel Study of Income Dynamics. Cohorts started from a baseline state of employment/good health, and were followed over time to characterise LMH trajectories. Modified Poisson regression provided relative risks (RR) with robust 95% CIs for the association between trajectories.

Results LM trajectories ending in unemployment (RRs 1.7–2.5 across periods) or inactivity (RRs 2.3–3.2) had a greater risk of worse health trajectories, compared to stable employment. Individuals recovering into employment following a period of inactivity experienced a greater risk of worse health (RRs 1.6–2.1). There were persistent health-gradients across trajectories, with stable-employed individuals having the highest probability of remaining in good health, and 'LM exit' trajectories having the lowest probability. Overall relationships were consistent across the four periods.

Conclusions The increased likelihood of having worse health among unemployed/inactive individuals, yet attenuated risk among those recovering into employment following these intermediary states, suggests that health outcomes are not only dependent on the LM end-state, but also on the distinct pattern over time. Findings suggest that the contextual economic period has limited impact on these overall relationships, although future research might incorporate methodological frameworks with direct measures of the social-economic context.