

# What pupils in vocational schools learn about risk at work

Ing-Marie Andersson, Gunnar Rosén, Kristina Gunnarsson  
Dalarna University, Sweden



# Why?

Young male and female workers are overrepresented in statistics concerning negative outcomes of poor work environment and risky work.

The aim was to identify pupils in vocational school knowledge in potential work environment risks in their future work.

# Vocational schools in Sweden

- Three years (15-18 year)
- A large proportion workplace based learning
- Teachers in school – supervisors at workplaces

# The project

- Questionnaires to students
- Focus groups with students
- Interview with teachers
- Training material

# Participants

- 10 vocational schools
- 6 Industry, 5 Transport, 4 Wood, 5 Restaurant
- 20 teachers( 2 female)
- ~ 200 students
- 2/3 boys, 1/3 girls

# Questions about work environment



- Who has the primary responsibility to ensure you have the right skills so you can perform your job safely?

I myself 52%, SR/Manager 39%

- Which of the following laws and regulations do you think control the work environment at the workplace?

WEA 65%, AFS 44%, WEM 18%

- Which of the following is your employer required to implement?

Inform about risks 73%, Risk Analysis 27%

# Control strategy

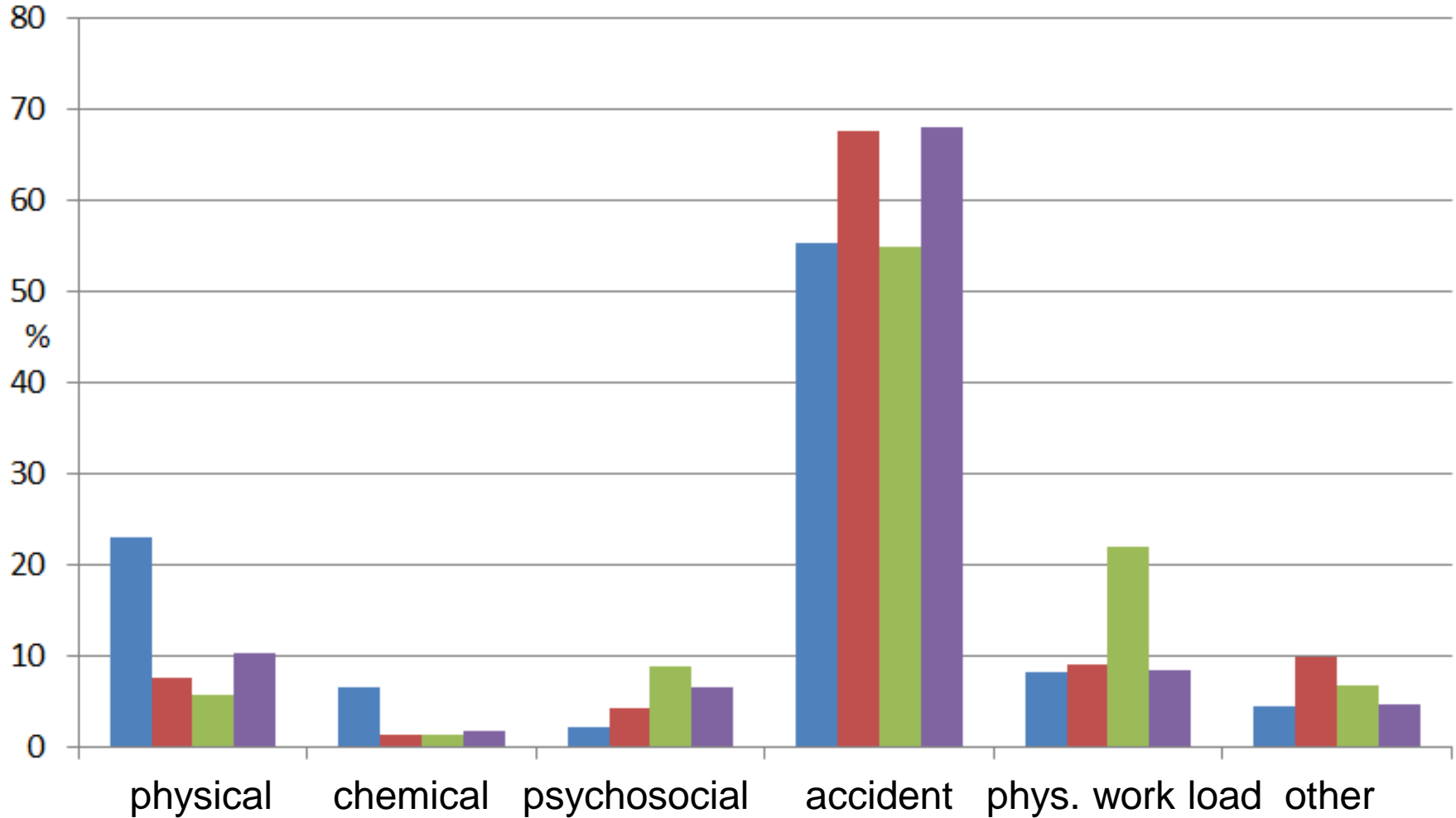


What action do you think the company in the long term should focus on if you have a noisy workplace? Rank the following from the first (1) to the last (4). **12 of 200 students had the following response.**

**Many of them ranked “Ear protectors” first.**

- 1 Change to a less noisy machine
- 2 Embedding the noisy machine
- 3 Build a noise protection cabin for the worker
- 4 Ear protectors

# The five biggest risks





# Teachers

- Know the curriculum but will not always follow
- Plan the teaching independently
- Based on their professional experience
- Taking examples from their own experiences
- Poor knowledge about available materials with some exceptions, they do not look to the web

# Other actors in the teaching

- School Health
- Sports teacher
- The fire department
- Unions - in some schools

# School

- Large cultural differences (between schools)
- No central control (from headmaster)
- Very limited cooperation between teachers/programs



# More research

- Collaboration between school and workplaces
- The students first workplaces
  - Safety culture
  - Work environment management
- The students demands on an attractive work
  - Expectations
  - How was it



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