

Staff Union of the European Patent Office
Central Bureau

Staff Survey 2016

Summary presentation of the results of the questionnaire

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0 Response rate

Response rate



Period covered: 15 February 2016 to 14 March 2016 inclusive.

Number of EPO officers	(permanent and te	mporary) 6770
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Number of access codes to the questionnaire distributed 3495

Number of responses	2649
Response rate to the questionnaire	75.8%
% of officers who expressed their opinion	39.1%





Global indicators of psychosocial risk

A comparison of the indicators with national data

Sumer Survey 2010 (Medical Supervision of Exposure to Professional Risks)



- ✓ "Medical Supervision of Exposure to Professional Risks" survey.
- Conducted in France, jointly run by Dares, the DGT and the Occupational Health Inspectorate.
- ✓ Carried out between January 2009 and April 2010.
 - → Measures the organisational constraints, occupational exposure of a physical, biological and chemical nature to which employees are subject.
- ✓ Data collected by 2400 occupational doctors from more than 48,000 respondents.
- ✓ Population = all employees (Mainland France + Réunion) monitored by occupational health services under the general scheme and the Mutualité Sociale Agricole + public hospitals, EDF-GDF, La Poste, the SNCF, Air France, RATP, sailors and some civil servants and local authority officials.
 - → Representative study of 22 million employees, i.e. 92% of employees in France.

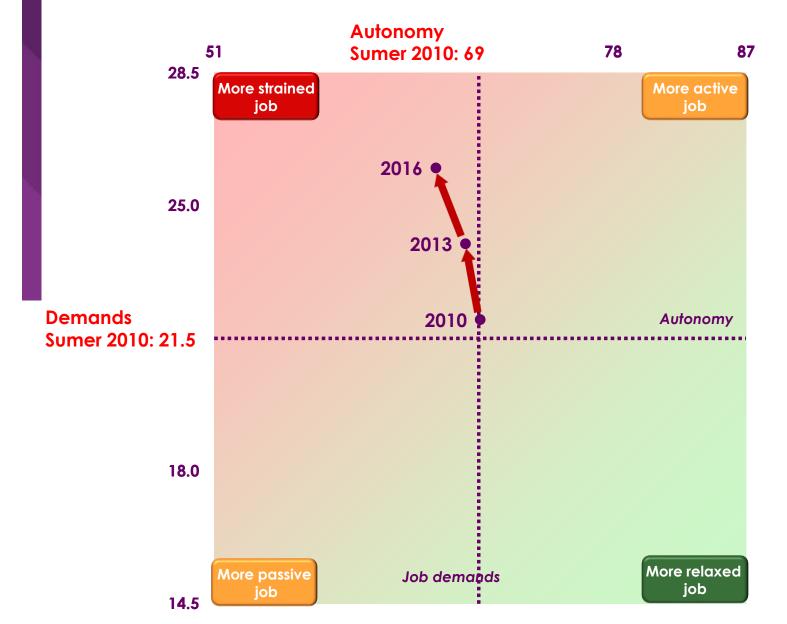
The Karasek model, with respect to Sumer 2010



- The crossover between the levels "Autonomy" and "Job demands" resulting from Sumer 2010 on the same chart enables us to describe 4 job situations, <u>relative to these national references:</u>
 - the "South-West" quadrant: low job demands combined with low autonomy expresses a more passive job situation
 - the "South-East" quadrant: low job demands combined with high autonomy expresses a more relaxed job situation
 - the "North-East" quadrant: high job demands combined with high autonomy expresses a more active job situation
 - the "North-West" quadrant: high job demands combined with low autonomy expresses a more strained job situation
 the latter is associated with a higher risk of cardiovascular problems, musculoskeletal disorders and depressive disorders
- ✓ The following chart shows the results for all respondents at the EPO during the 3 iterations of the study.







The Karasek model, with respect to the EPO 2016 results

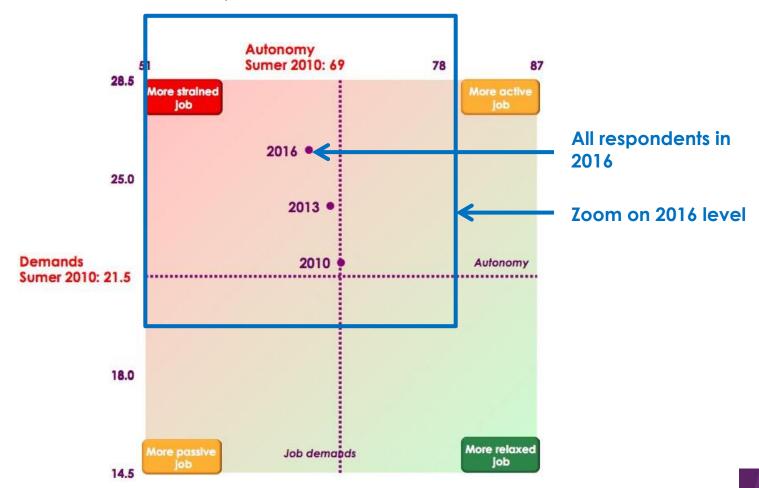


- The crossover between the "Autonomy" and "Job demands" medians can also be applied to the EPO results for 2016.
- ✓ The model will enable us to visualise the population segments at higher risk than others within the EPO.
- As a reminder, the "North-West" quadrant: high job demands combined with low autonomy expresses a more strained job situation => the latter is associated with a higher risk of cardiovascular problems, musculoskeletal disorders and depressive disorders
- In addition, the various categories are coloured in red if social support is perceived as significantly worse than average and in green if it is significantly better.
 => social support plays an extremely significant protective/aggravating role in risk situations.

The Karasek model, with respect to the EPO 2016 results

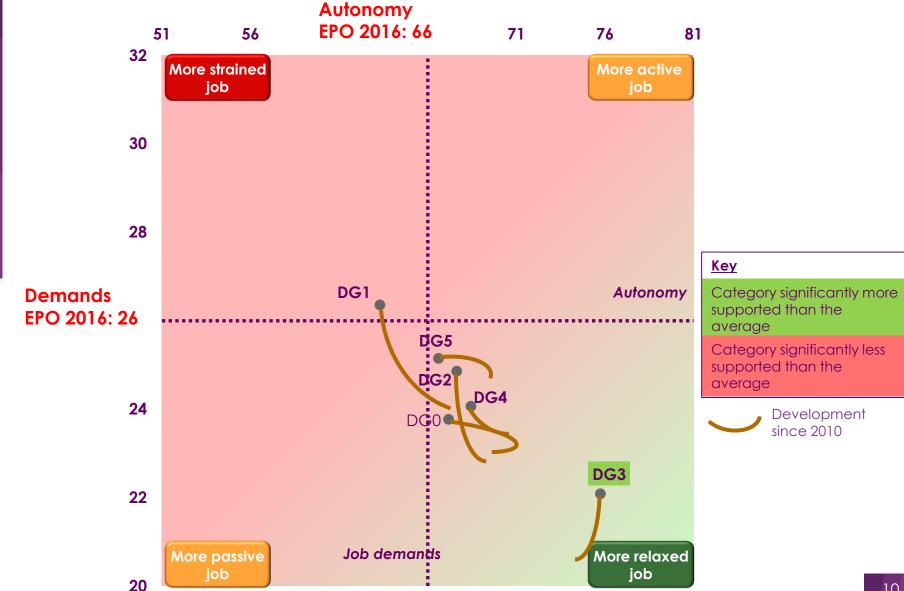


- √ To properly illustrate the trends within each DG, the chart on the following page:
 - has been adapted to focus on the EPO medians in 2016 (autonomy=66 and demands=26).
 - focuses on the zone created by the blue box below



According to the Directorate-General



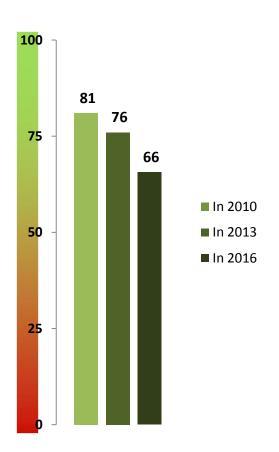


Recognition, Meaning of work

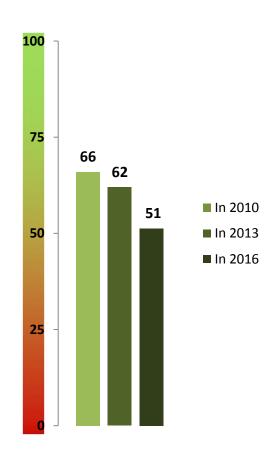
Development of levels at the EPO



Recognition



Meaning of work



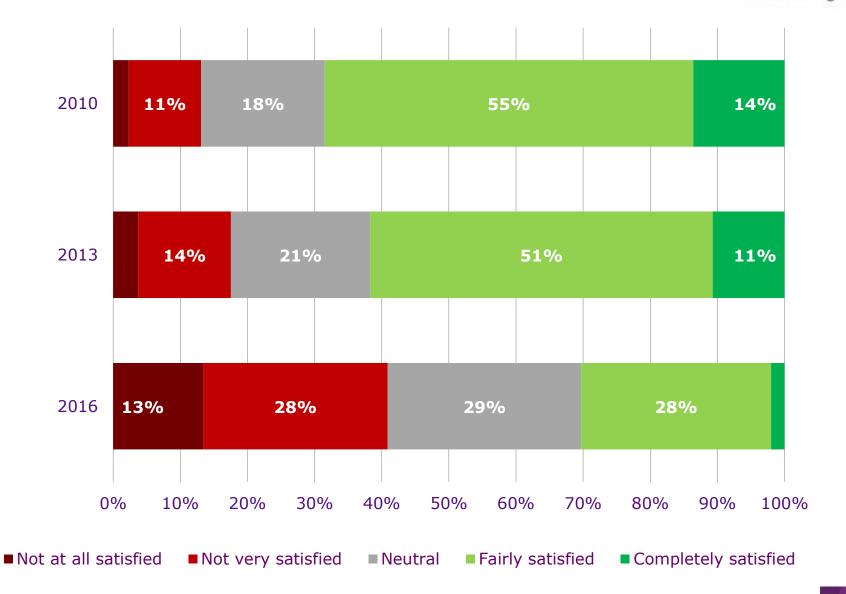




Some effects in terms of employee perception

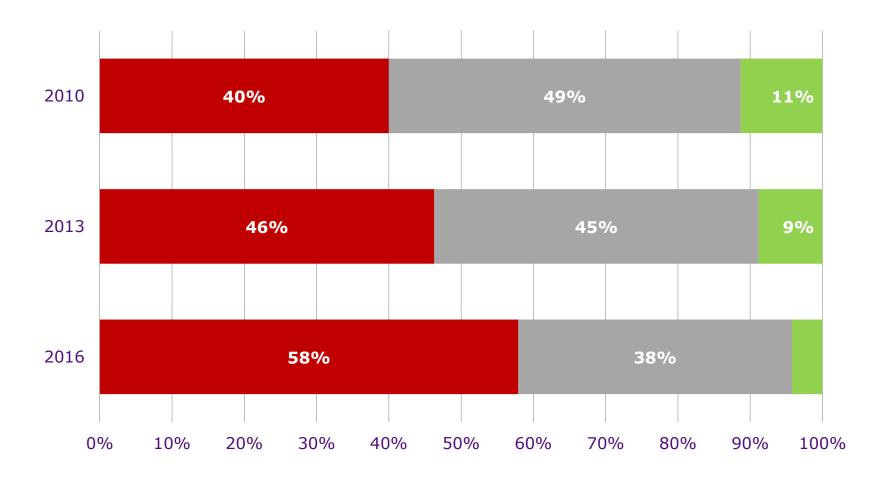
Q167. Compared with my professional situation overall, I am:





Q156. Do you think your current professional life has an impact on your health?





- ■Yes, my current professional life has a negative impact on my health
- No, my current professional life does not have an impact on my health
- Yes, my current professional life has a positive impact on my health

Populations in a situation of "psychological distress"

Quebec Healthy Survey



- Model validated as the international scientific standard
- ✓ **14 items** on **5 themes** (Q140 to Q153) :
 - > anxiety
 - > depression
 - > irritability
 - > cognitive issues
- ✓ Responses→ frequency scale:

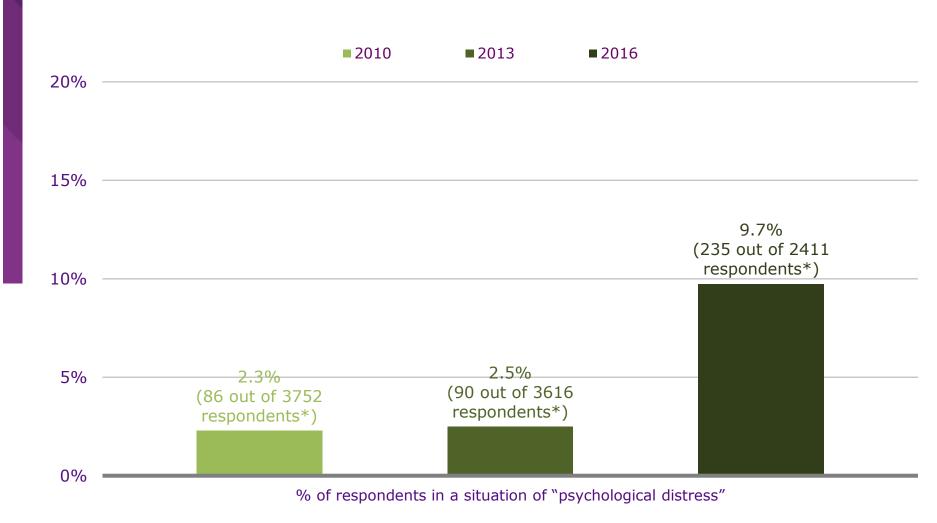
> Never	(=0)
> Occasionally	(= 1)
> Fairly often	(= 2)
> Very often	(= 3)

- ✓ The scale ranges from **0** (never any feelings due to distress) to **100** (very often feelings due to distress)
 - → Score higher than 66 out of 100 = "psychologically distressed" employee (66 corresponding to the frequency threshold "fairly often"/"very often")

Populations in a situation of "psychological distress"

The Psychological Distress Index





^{*} Having responded to all the questions in the model (in 2016: Q140 to Q153).

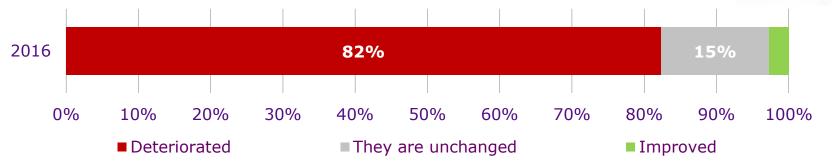




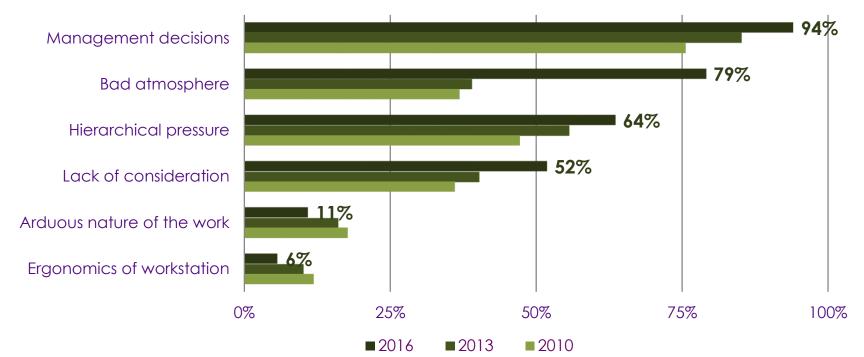
Some determinants specific to the EPO which impact on the risk factors

Q112. For the last three years, your working conditions have:



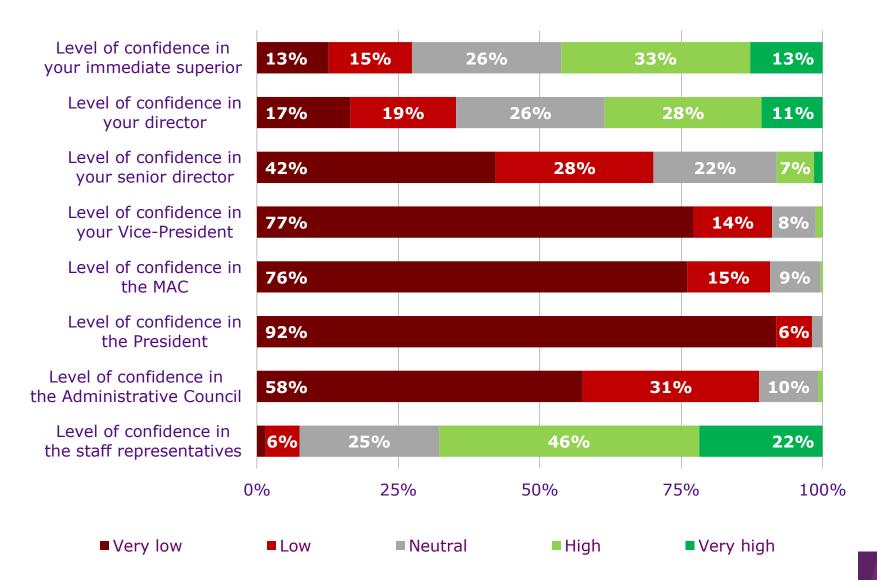


Q113. If they have deteriorated, this is due to



Confidence in the management and the staff representatives - Q29 to Q36





Q39. For the last three years, the position of quality in respect of quantitative targets:



