

Depression in the workplace in South Korea

Workplace depression is a major issue across different cultures and economies, with devastating consequences.

Lifetime prevalence of depression in South Korea: **5.6%** or **2.8 million**^{1,2}

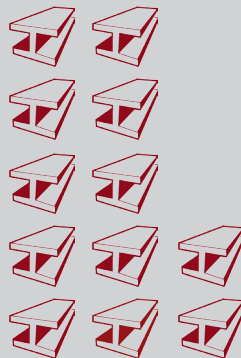
1. The Statistics Portal. South Korea: Total population from 2010 to 2020. Available at: www.statista.com/statistics/263747/total-population-in-south-korea/ Last accessed: August 2016;
2. Park JH, Kim KW. *JKMA*. 2011;54(4):362-369

Depression costs South Korea more than US\$1.75 billion in lost productivity (absence from work, and attending work while unwell)¹

More than Posco's 2014 operating profit, one of South Korea's leading companies²



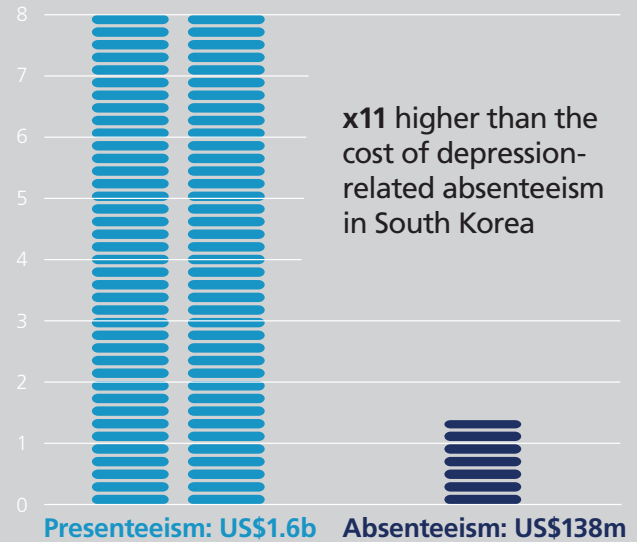
US\$1.75b
Lost Productivity



US\$1.2
Posco's 2014
Operating Profit

1. Evans-Lacko, S. & Knapp, M. *Soc Psychiatry Psychiatr Epidemiol* (2016). doi:10.1007/s00127-016-1278-4;
2. Top 10 Korean Businesses in the World. Available at: <http://blog.btrax.com/en/2015/03/23/top-10-korean-businesses-in-the-world-2015/> Last accessed: August 2016

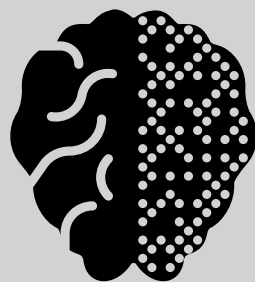
Depression-related presenteeism* costs South Korea US\$1.6 billion¹ (*attending work while unwell)



Pr Presenteeism (attending work while unwell)
Ab Absenteeism (unscheduled absence from work)

1. Evans-Lacko, S. & Knapp, M. *Soc Psychiatry Psychiatr Epidemiol* (2016). doi:10.1007/s00127-016-1278-4

The cognitive symptoms of depression, for instance difficulties in concentrating, making decisions and remembering, are present up to 94% of the time during an episode of depression¹, causing significant impairment in work function and productivity²



1. Conradi HJ et al. *Psychological Medicine*. 2011;41:1165-1174;
2. Greer TL et al. *CNS Drugs*. 2010;24(4):267-284

Cognitive symptoms are a crucial factor affecting workplace performance in people with depression



McIntyre RS et al. *Compr Psychiatry*. 2015; 56:279-82

63% of South Korean employees are highly educated, the highest proportion of all countries surveyed

Highly educated employees with depression are likely to...

- Work in a highly demanding job and therefore be severely impacted by the cognitive symptoms of depression
- Manage others so the impact of their depression has wider consequences



Evans-Lacko, S. & Knapp, M. *Soc Psychiatry Psychiatr Epidemiol* (2016). doi:10.1007/s00127-016-1278-4

Of all countries surveyed, South Korean employees are the most likely to not take any days off work during an episode of depression, impacting their productivity and performance at work



Evans-Lacko, S. & Knapp, M. *Soc Psychiatry Psychiatr Epidemiol* (2016). doi:10.1007/s00127-016-1278-4