By the Numbers: Worldwide Workplace Injury and Illness Stats

The world's **3.2 billion workers** are increasingly unwell: they are growing old; they suffer more chronic disease; they are stressed, unhappy, and sometimes unsafe at work; and they face significant economic insecurity. This is according to a January 2016 report by the Global Wellness Institute, entitled *The Future of Wellness at Work*.

Unsafe working conditions and unsafe work practices lead to a staggering number of workplace and work-related injuries, illnesses, and deaths. The International Labour Organization compiles statistics from across the globe and here are some of their findings.

- **$3 trillion** – that's the annual cost to the global economy from accidents and work-related diseases.
- **3 million** women and men around the world succumb to work-related accidents or diseases every year.
- This corresponds to over **6,000 deaths** a day.
- **340 million occupational accidents** and **160 million** victims of **work-related illnesses** occur worldwide annually.
    - The construction industry has a disproportionately high rate of recorded accidents.
    - Younger and older workers are particularly vulnerable. The ageing population in developed countries means that an increasing number of older persons are working and need special consideration.
- Diseases related to work cause the most deaths among workers. Hazardous substances alone are estimated to cause **651,279 deaths** a year.