

Mortality in the cleaning sector

the role of cancer

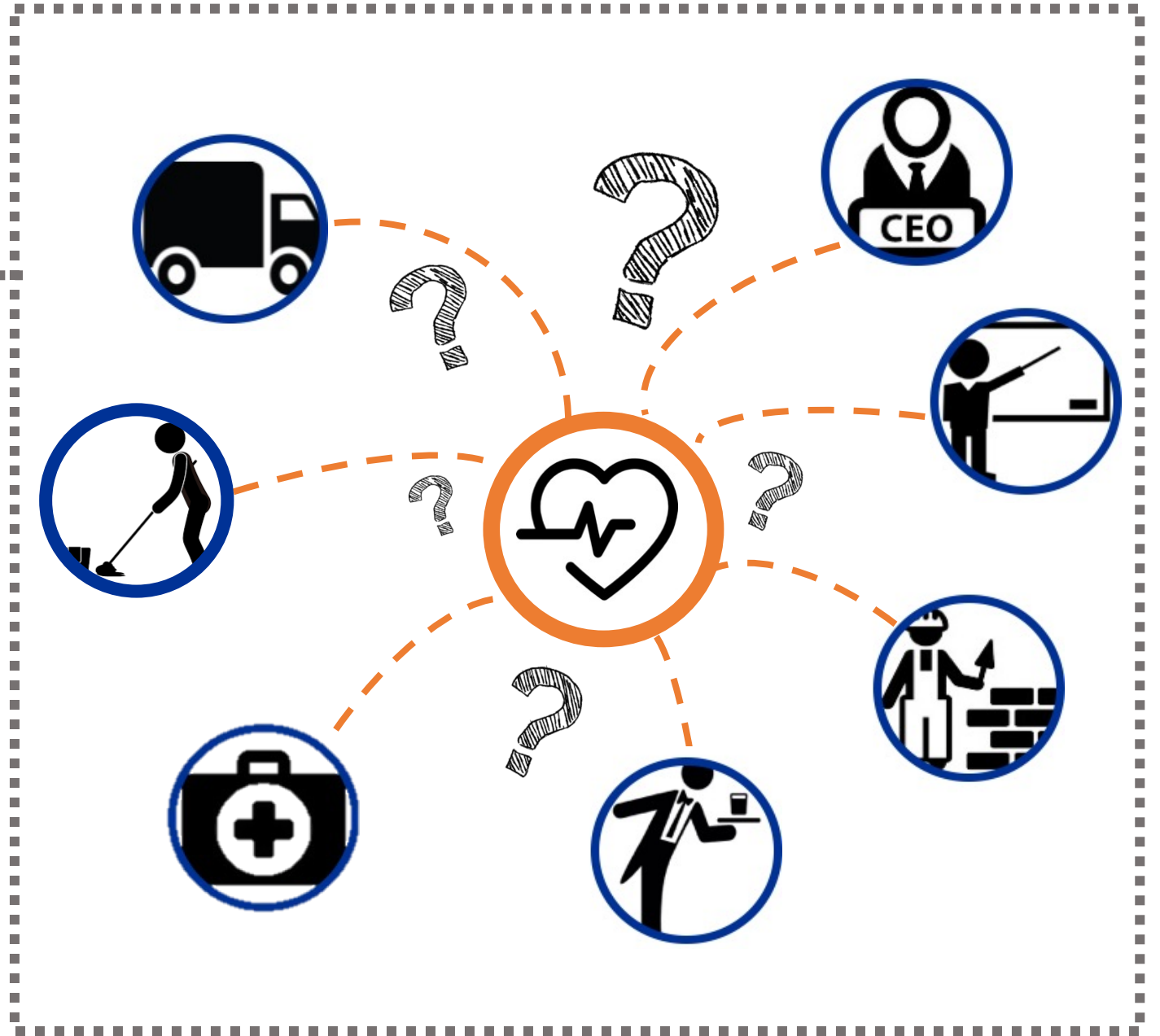
dr. Laura Van den Borre

ETUI Conference Women, work and cancer

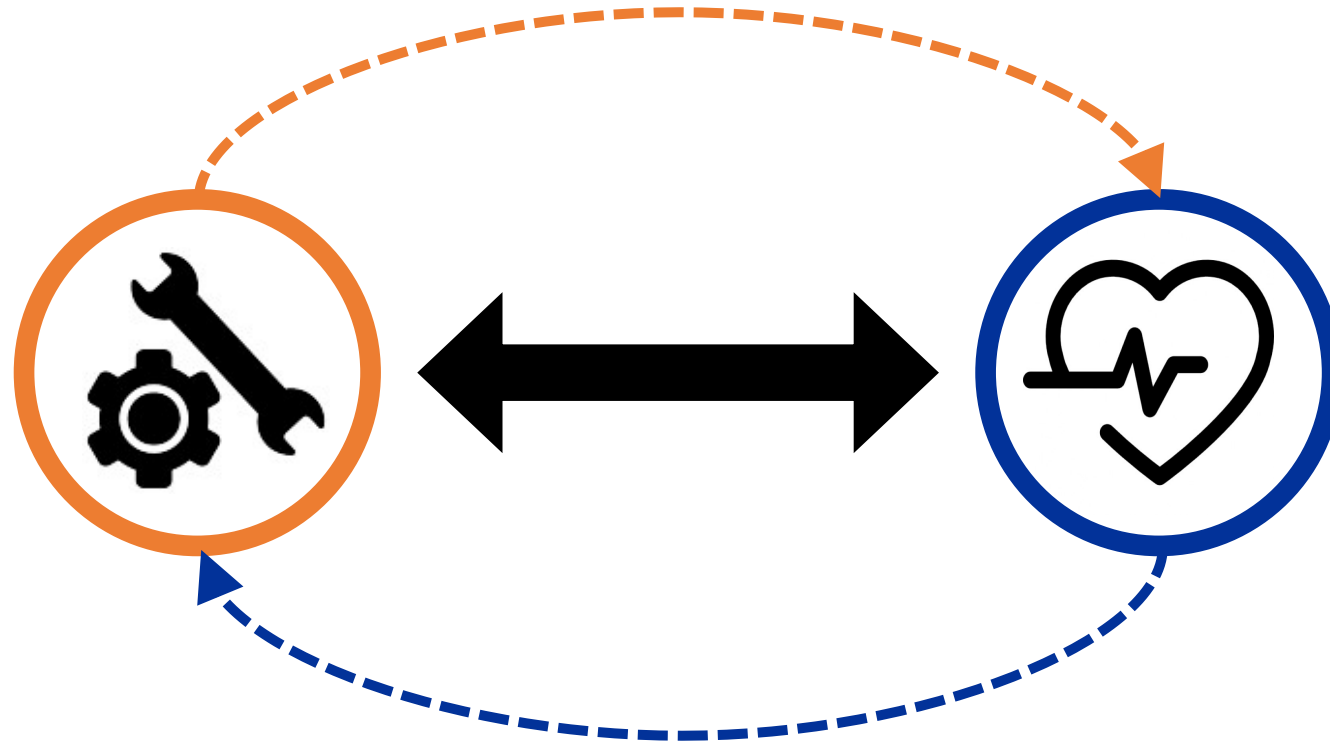


Problem

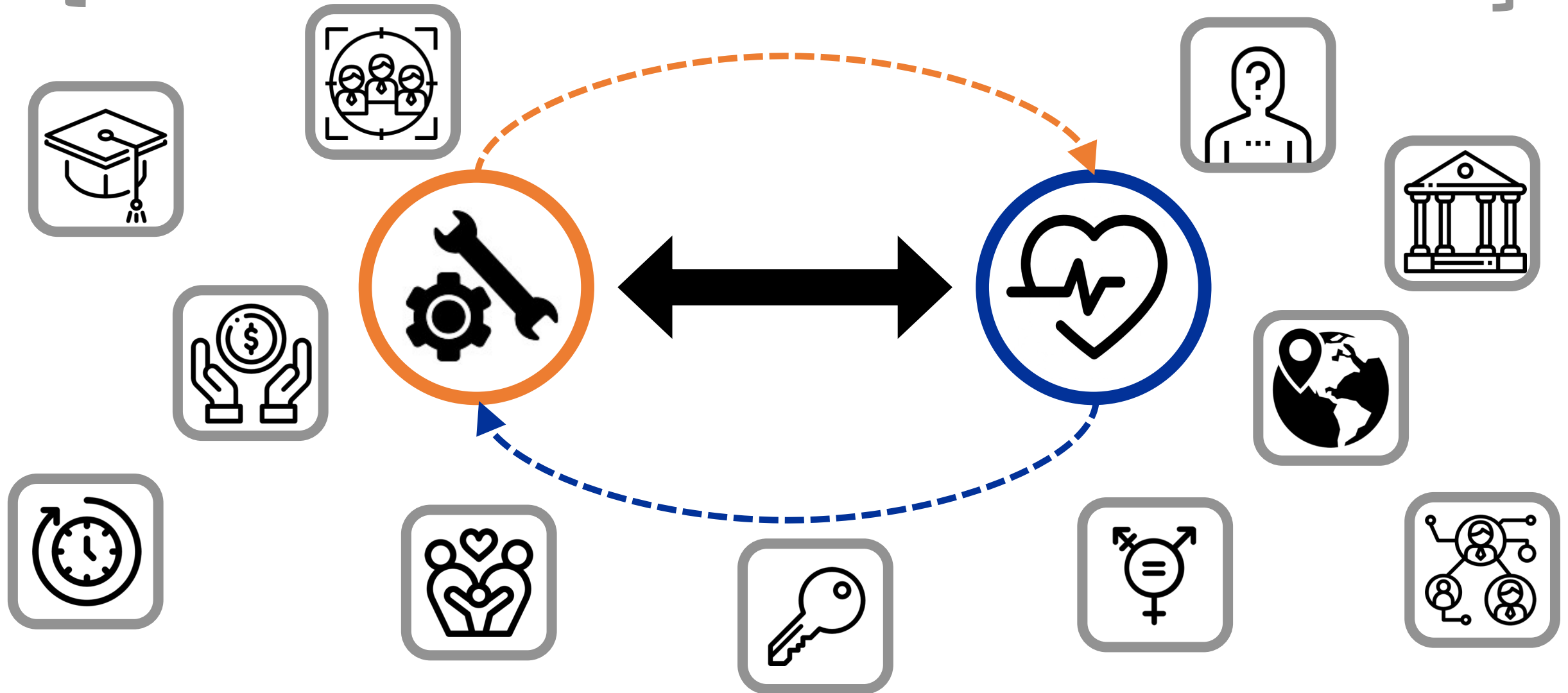
Scarce
research on
occupational
health and
mortality
differences in
Belgium



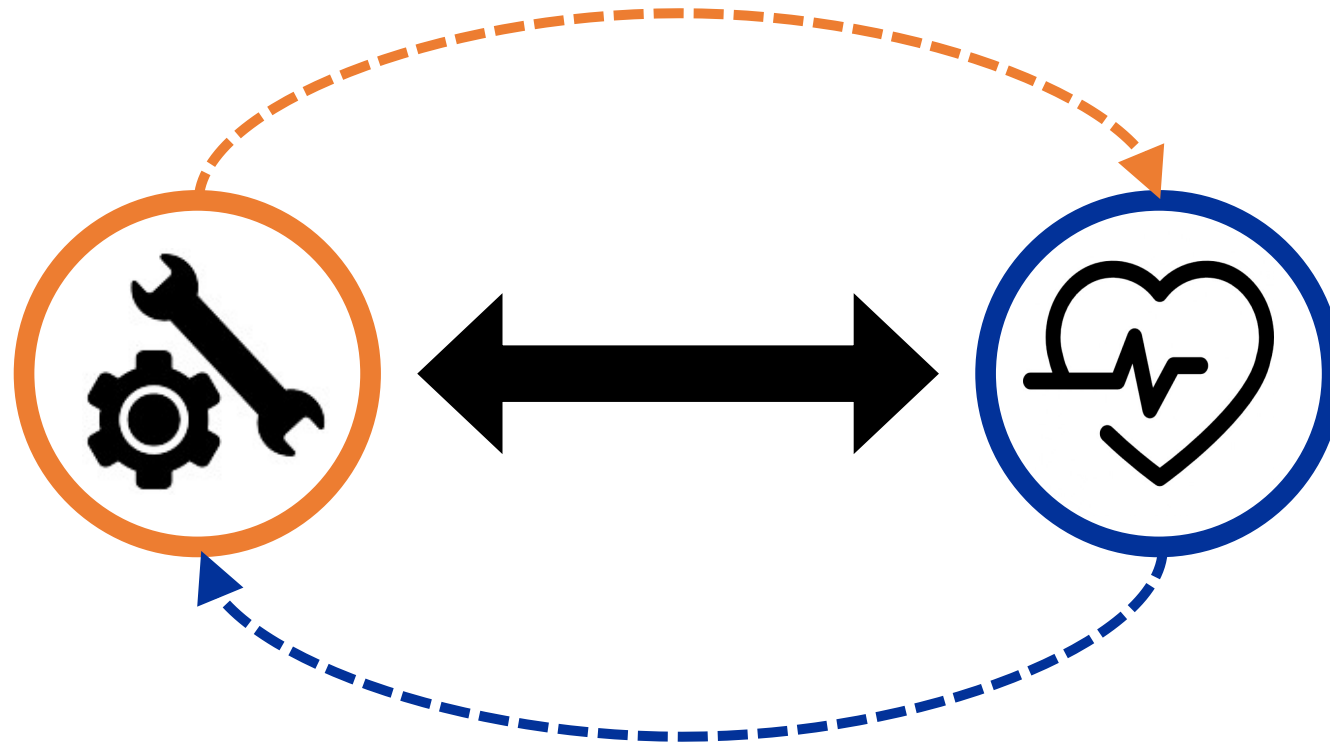
Occupation, health & mortality: a complex, multidimensional relationship



Occupation, health & mortality: a complex, multidimensional relationship



Occupation, health & mortality: a complex, multidimensional relationship



Data

Census
1/3/1991

Census
1/10/2001

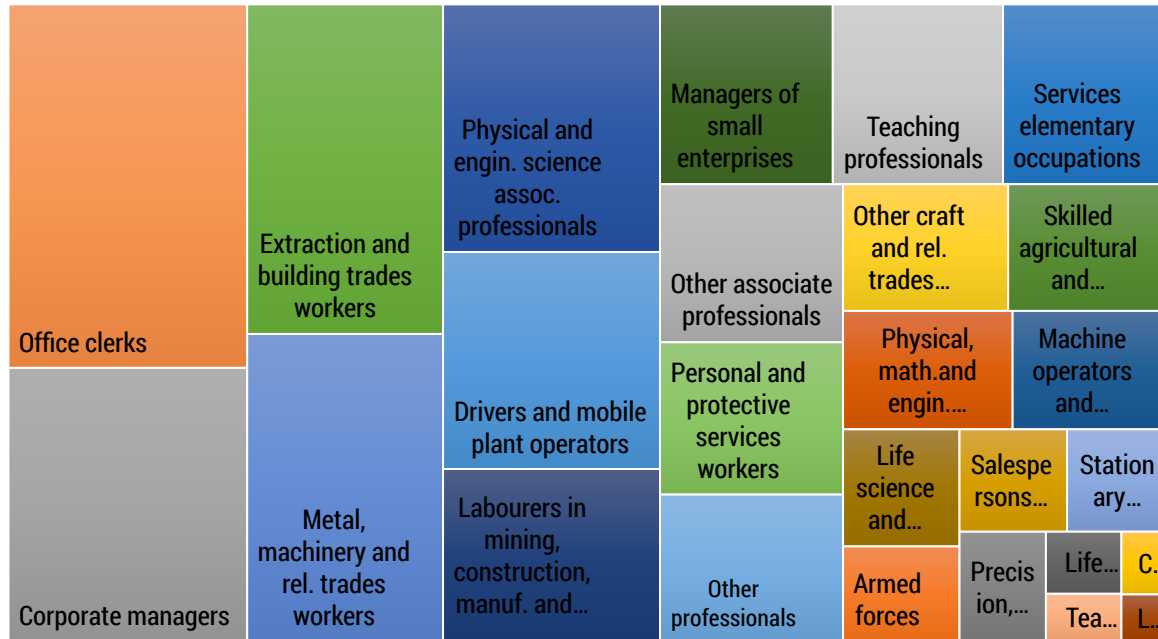
National register: All-cause mortality
1/3/1991 - 31/12/2011

Death certificates
1/3/1991-31/1/1997
Cause-specific mortality
(ICD-9)

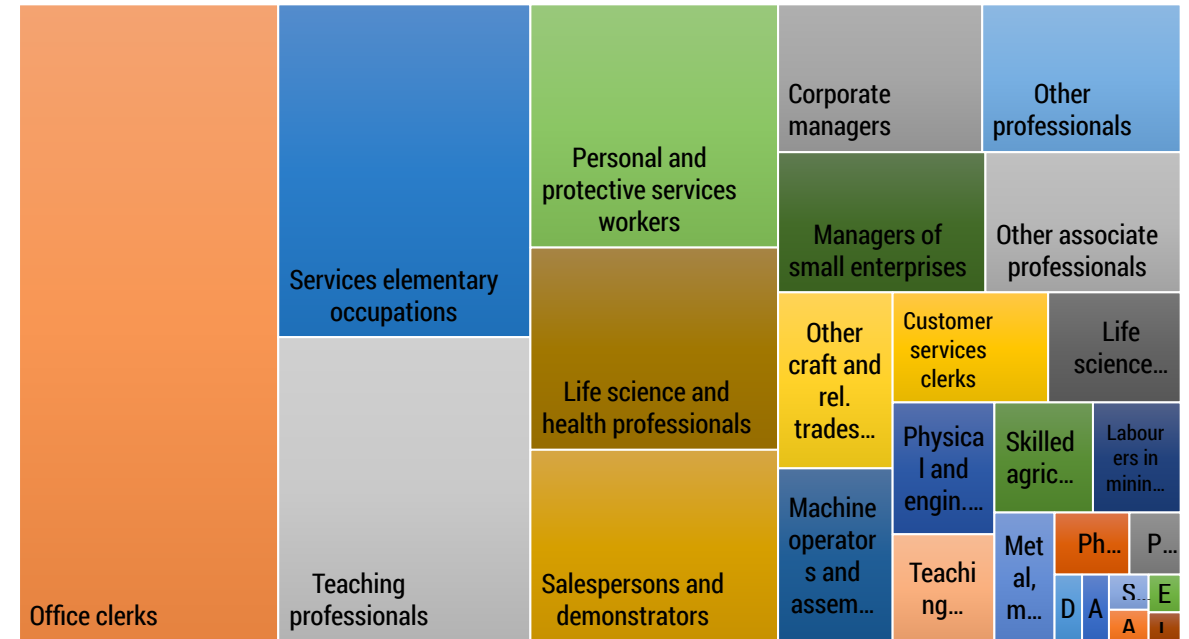
Death certificates
1/10/2001-31/12/2011
Cause-specific mortality
(ICD-10)

Study population: 1991 workforce

Men: 1.9 million workers



Women: 1.2 million workers



- Agricultural, fishery and related labourers
- Customer services clerks
- Labourers in mining, construction, manuf. and transport
- Life science and health professionals
- Metal, machinery and rel. trades workers
- Other craft and rel. trades workers
- Physical and engin. science assoc. professionals
- Armed forces
- Drivers and mobile plant operators
- Legislators and senior officials
- Machine operators and assemblers
- Office clerks
- Other professionals
- Physical, math. and engin. science professionals
- Corporate managers
- Extraction and building trades workers
- Life science and health assoc. professionals
- Managers of small enterprises
- Other associate professionals
- Personal and protective services workers

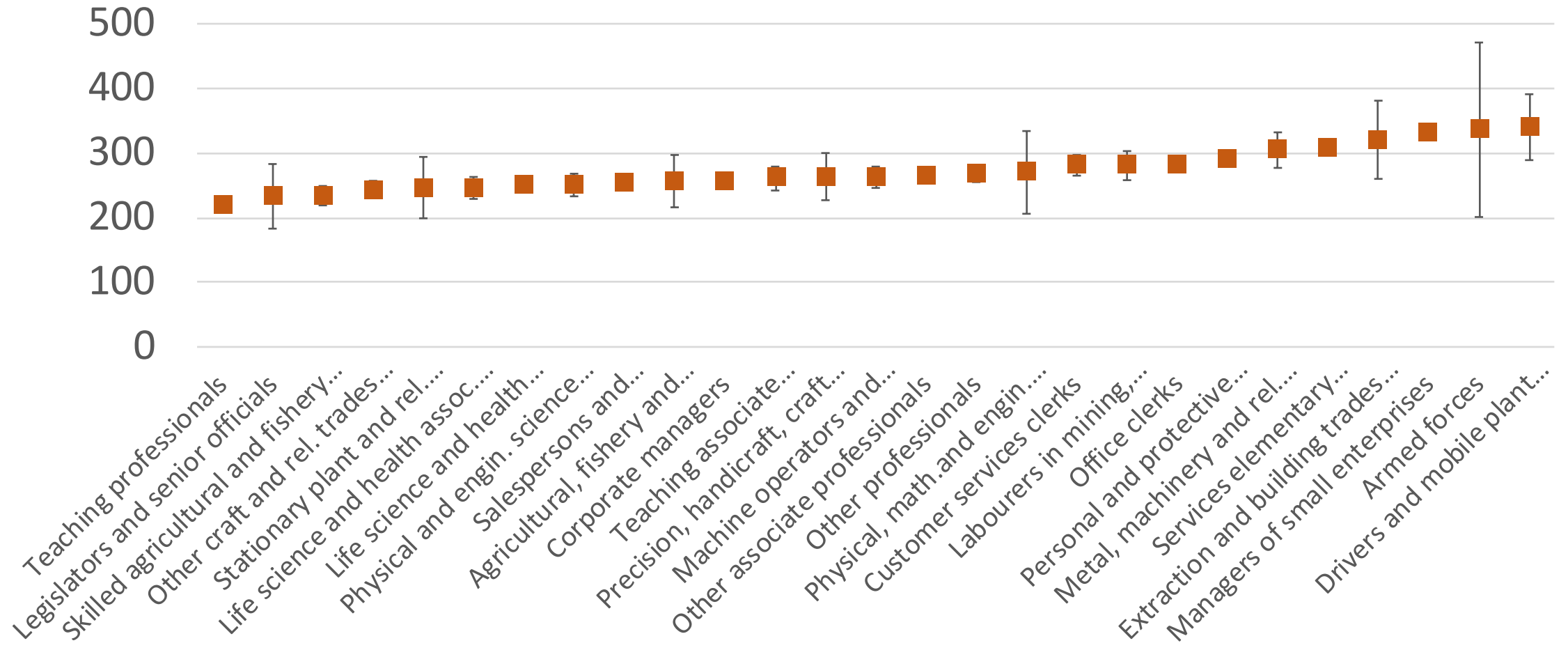
Large health and mortality differences by occupation



- ➡ Pattern was found in the male and female workforce
- ➡ Large occupational variation among preventable causes of death

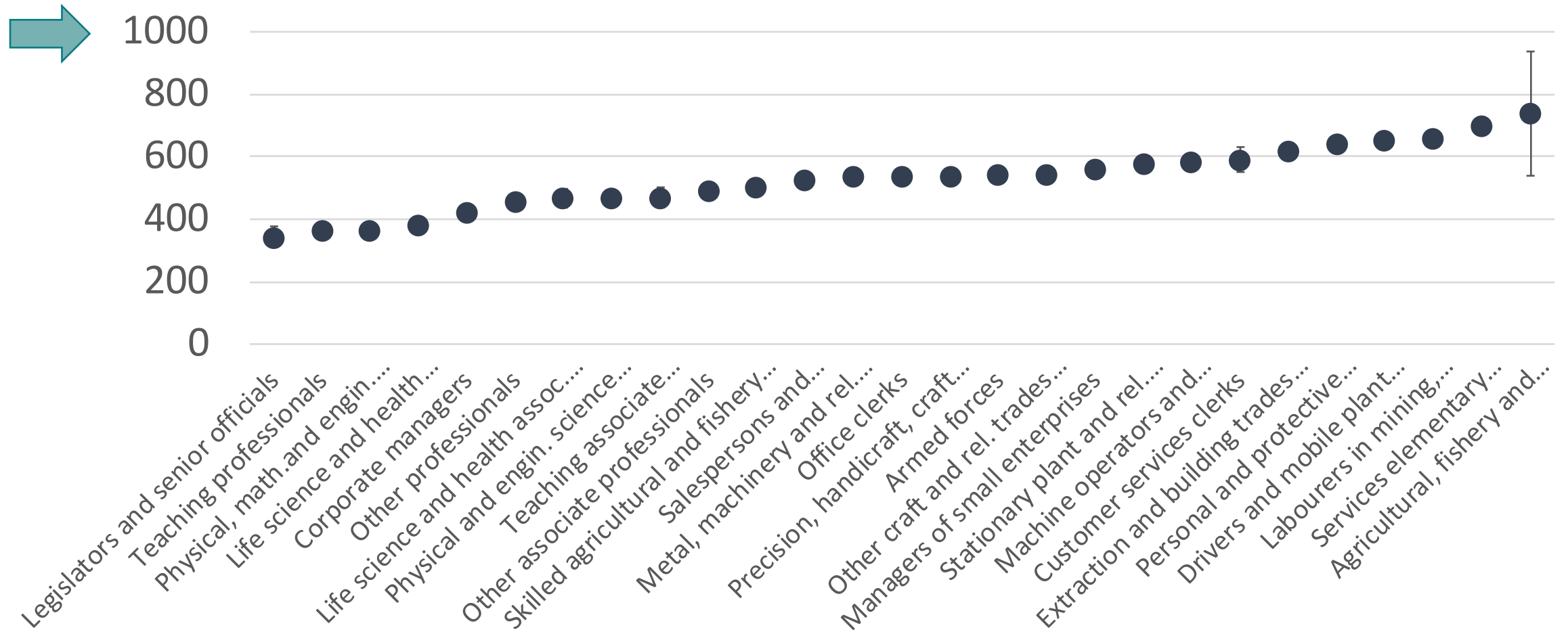
All-cause mortality among female workers (1991-2011)

Directly standardised mortality rates per 100,000 & 95% confidence intervals
Reference: male and female working population in 1991



All-cause mortality among male workers (1991-2011)

Directly standardised mortality rates per 100,000 & 95% confidence intervals
Reference: male and female working population in 1991

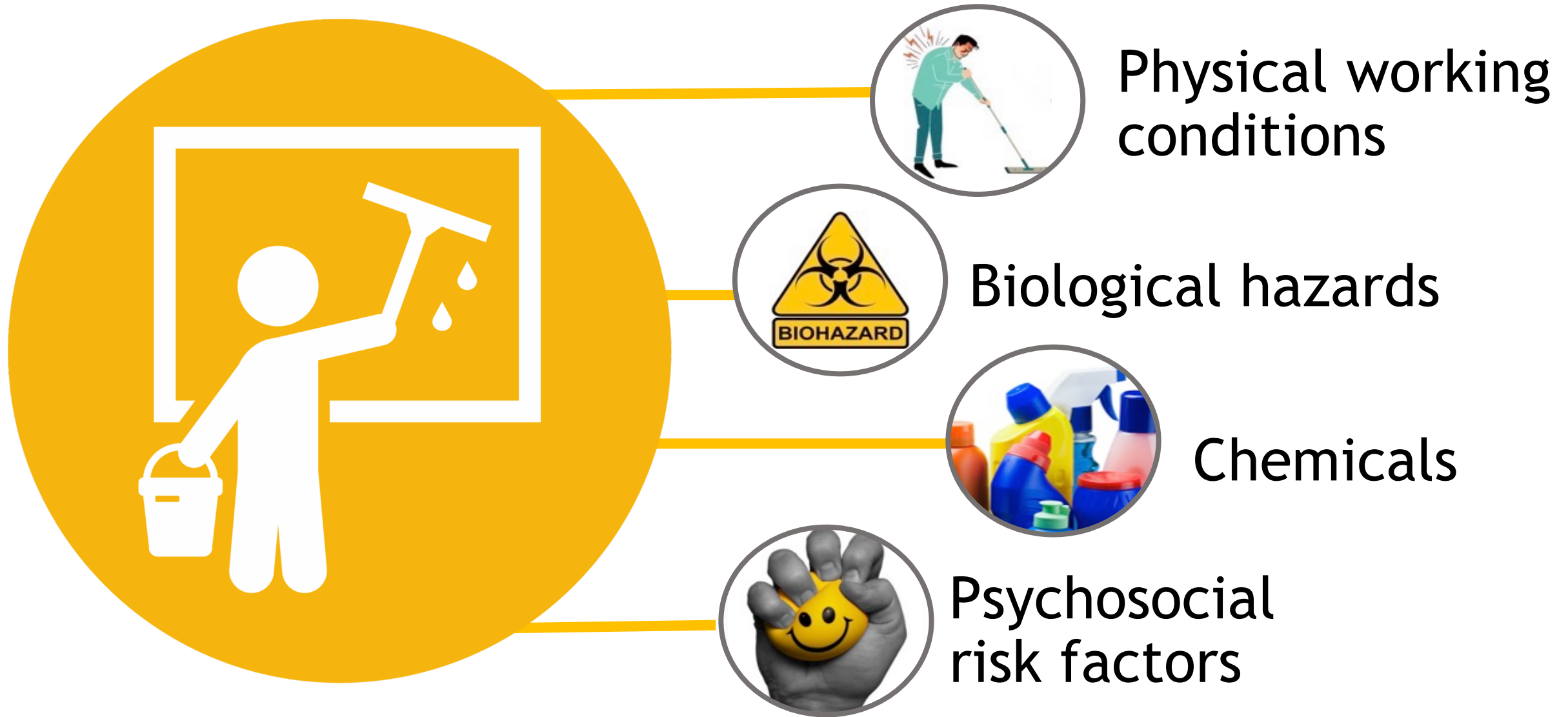


Large health and mortality differences by occupation



- ➡ Pattern was found in the male and female workforce
- ➡ Large occupational variation among preventable causes of death

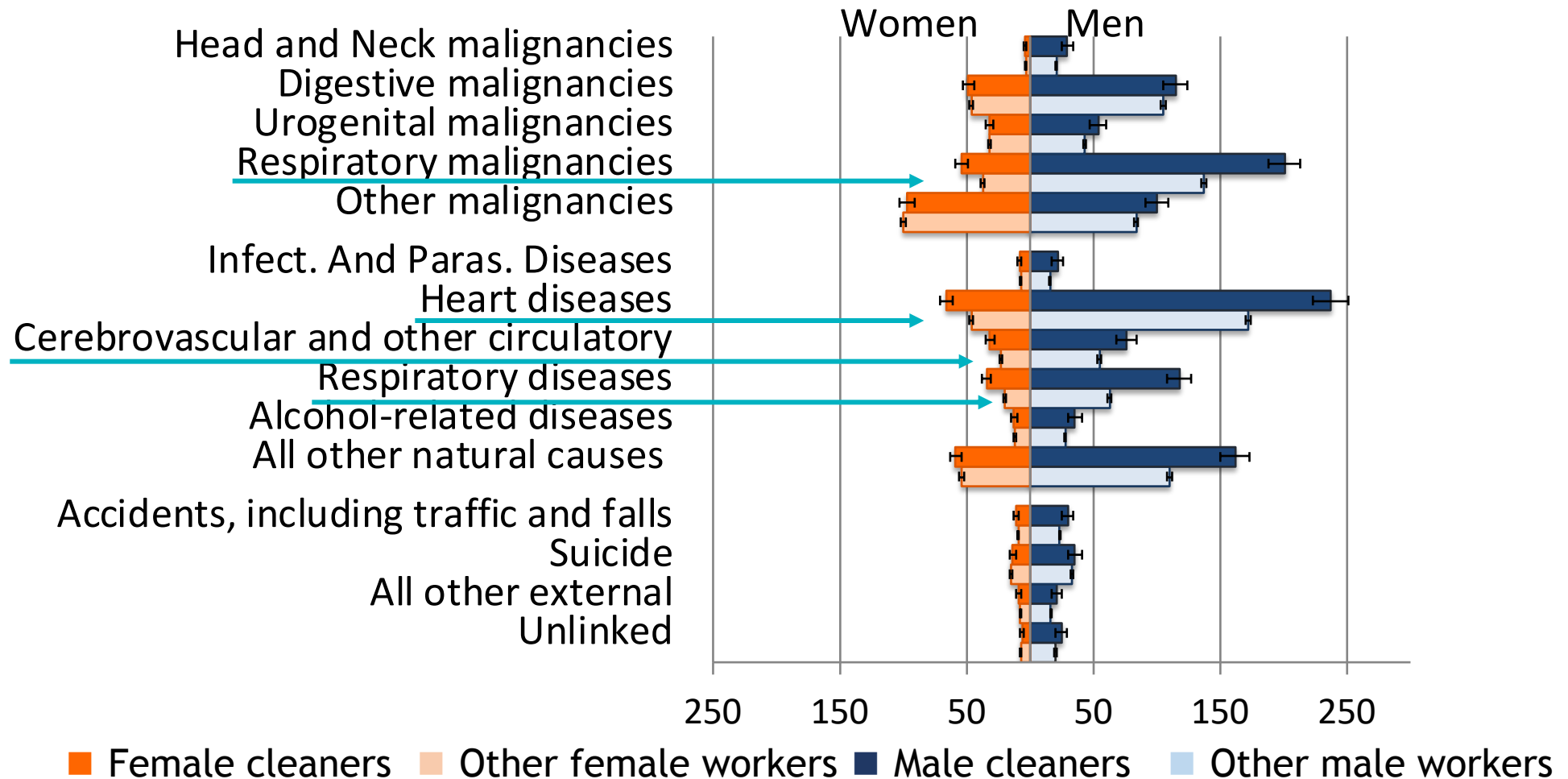
Health risks for cleaners



Mortality among cleaners and other workers (2001-2011)

Directly standardised mortality rates per 100,000 & 95% confidence intervals

Reference: Sex-specific working population in 1991





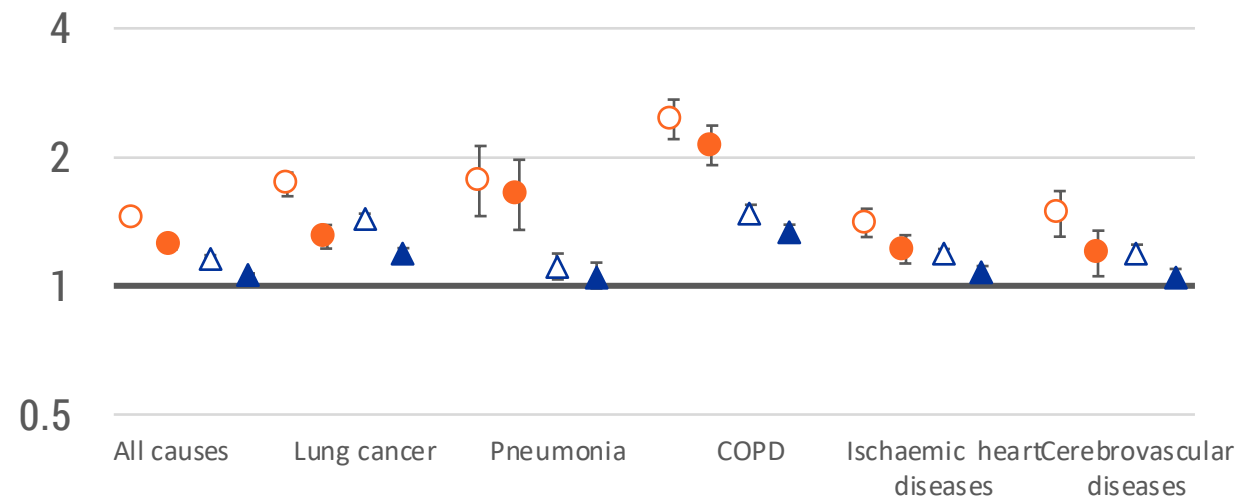
👉 Professional cleaning is associated with significant excess in mortality among male and female cleaners

👉 Excess deaths due to

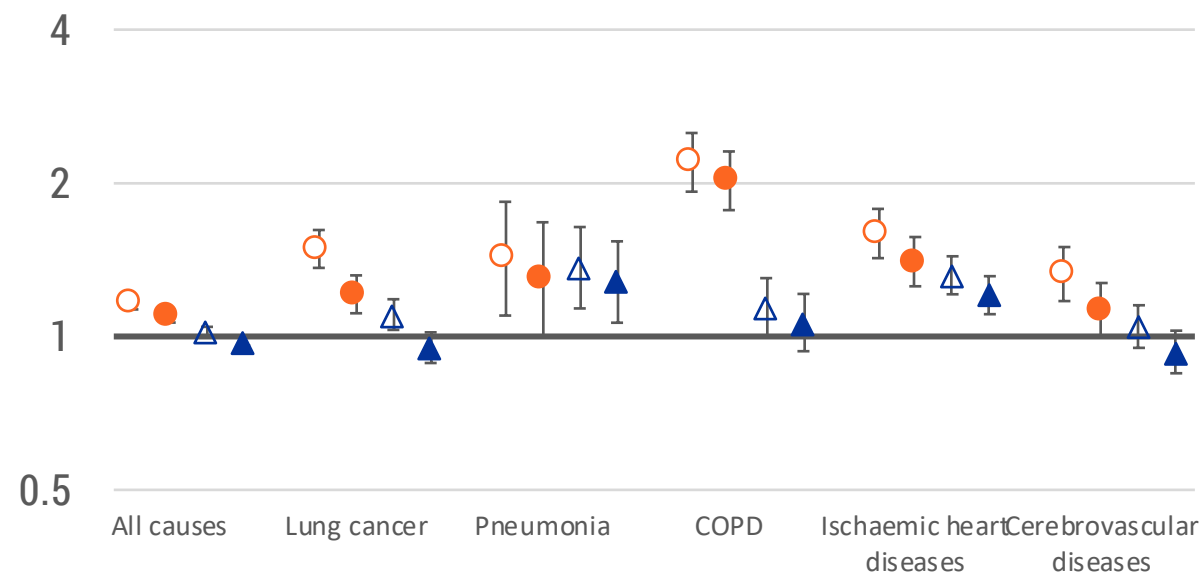
- COPD
- Lung cancer
- Pneumonia
- Ischemic heart diseases
- Cerebrovascular diseases



Male SMRs with reference to non-manual workers



Female SMRs with reference to non-manual workers



Large health and mortality differences by occupation



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Cancer death rates among the female population

Hazard ratios & 95% confidence intervals

Reference: female teachers in 1991

Respiratory malignancies

3 x higher

- Metal, machinery & rel. trades workers

2x higher

- Services elementary occupations
- Managers of small enterprises
- Pers. & protect. services workers
- Customer services clerks
- Machine operators and assemblers

> 50%
higher

- Office clerks
- Other professionals
- Other associate professionals
- Other craft & rel. trades workers
- Corporate managers

Cancer death rates among the female population

Hazard ratios & 95% confidence intervals

Reference: female teachers in 1991

Digestive malignancies

>30%
higher

- Other associate professionals
- Metal, machinery & rel. workers

>20%
higher

- Sales & services elementary occupations
- Managers of small enterprises
- Pers. & protect. services workers

Cancer death rates among the female population

Hazard ratios & 95% confidence intervals

Reference: female teachers in 1991

Urogenital malignancies

>30%
higher

- Other craft and rel. trades workers

>20%
higher

- Managers of small enterprises
- Pers. & protect. services workers
- Skilled agricultural and fishery workers

Cancer death rates among the female population

Hazard ratios & 95% confidence intervals

Reference: female teachers in 1991

Head & neck malignancies

>50%
higher

- Sales and services elementary occupations

To do list:

Reduction of occupational health differences

- ☐ "Poor data makes for poor prevention"
- ☐ Clear integrated strategy for Belgian workforce
- ☐ Target occupational risk factors & lifestyle
- ☐ Inclusive prevention for workforce

