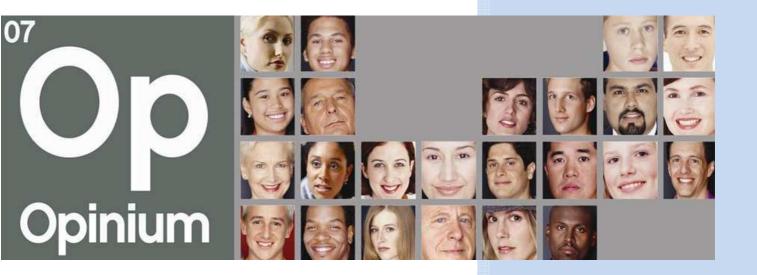
Sickness Absence



TUC

Sarah Mackinnon 26th February 2010

Opinium Poll Results - 26th February 2010

TUC - Sickness Absence

Background

Opinium Research carried out an online poll of 2,003 UK adults from the 24th to the 26th of February 2010. Results have been weighted to nationally representative criteria. [OP1400]

Topline

- Of the 2003 adults surveyed, 42% are in full time work. A further 15% work part time for between 8 and 29 hours per week, and 2% for 8 hours or less per week. 42% are not currently in work.
- Of those currently in work, 57% are employed in the private sector, and 30% in the public sector. A further 13% work for charities, as a volunteer, or within another sector.
 - More males work in the private sector (68% vs. 47% of females). This pattern is reversed in the public sector, where 38% of females are employed, compared to 22% of males.
- Within the last month, a fifth have been to work when they were really too ill to do so (20%). A
 further 36% have done so within the last year, though not in the last month. 13% claim they
 have never been into work when they were too ill to go.
 - Within the last month, more females have gone into work when ill than males (23% vs. 17%.)
 - Younger people (aged 18-34) are also more likely to have gone into work when ill over the last month (24%, vs. 23% of 35-54 year olds and 11% of 55+ year olds).
- Overall, the most popular reason for going into work when ill is 'people depend on the job I do'
 – 31%. Other common reasons are not wanting to let an employer down (20%), and not being
 able to afford to take time off (20%).
 - Males are more worried about loss of pay than females (25% vs. 15%), while females are more concerned about letting an employer down (21% vs. 19%).
 - Younger people (aged 18-34) are more concerned about loss of pay than older people (23% vs. 20% aged 35-54 and 15% aged 55+), and letting an employer down (25% vs. 18% aged 35-54 and 18% aged 55+).
 - Older people are more likely to worry about people depending on them to do their job (42% aged 55+ vs. 30% aged 35-54 and 25% aged 18-34).

Opinium Research carried out an online poll of 2,003 UK adults from the 24th to the 26th of February 2010. Results have been weighted to nationally representative criteria. [OP1400] www.opinium.co.uk





Opinium Research Results/ Tables February 2010

2,003 Online Interviews (UK Nat. Rep)

Field: 24th to 26th February 2010

If the Base is not otherwise specified, the table is based on the full sample and is representative of all UK adults

	Total	Male	Female	Total	18-34	35-54	55+
Which of these applies to you?							
	2003	975	1028	2003	57	7 70	9 717
Base	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	6 100 %	6 100%
Working full time (30 or more	834	478	356	834	31	4 37	7 143
hours per week)	42%	49%	35%	42%	55%	53 %	20 %
Working part time (8 - 29 hours	299	88	211	299	6	8 11	9 112
per week)	15%	9%	21%	15%	12 %	6 17 %	6 16%
Working part time (Less than 8	43	14	28	43	1:	5 1	5 13
hours a week)	2%	1%	3%	2%	3%	6 2 %	6 2 %
	104	43	60	104	9	7	7 0
Full time student	5%	4%	6%	5%	179	<mark>6 1</mark> 9	6 0
	374	213	161	374		2 1	3 358
Retired	19%	22%	16%	19%	0%	6 2 %	50 %
	135	69	66	135	5	3 5	9 23
Unemployed	7%	7%	6%	7%	9%	6 8 %	3 %
	215	69	146	215	2	7 11	9 68
Other not working	11%	7%	14%	11%	5%	6 17 %	6 9 %

	Total	Scotland	Northern Ireland	North East	North West	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Wales	East of England	London	South East	South West
Which of these applies to you?													
	2003	168	3 53	86	5 226	170) 144	4 178	3 98	3 186	6 248	3 272	170
Base	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	6 100 %	6 100 %	100%	6 100 %	100%	100%
Working full time (30 or more	834	. 75	5 24	. 34	J 99	67	57	7 68	3 44	l 66	6 120	116	64
hours per week)	42%	45%	44%	39%	44%	40%	39%	38 %	6 44%	36%	48 %	43%	37%
Working part time (8 - 29 hours	299	21	5	12	2 44	23	3 14	4 26	6 8	3 43	3 30	50	24
per week)	15%	12%	9%	13%	19%	13%	10%	6 15%	8 %	23%	6 12 %		
Working part time (Less than 8	43	. 4	l C	2	2 3	3		3 2	2 1	l 7	7 7	7 7	3
hours a week)	2%	3%	6 0	3%	1%	1%	2%	6 1%	6 1%	4%	3 %	3%	2%
	104	. 7	7 4		5 14	13		5 9) 10) :::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	3 13	3 12	9
Full time student	5%	4%	8%	6%	6%	8%	3%	5 %	6 10 %	1 %	5 %	4%	6%
	374	. 27	7 12	21	36	35	38	3 43	3 19	31	1 39	37	37
Retired	19%	16%	23%	24%	16%	20%	26%	24 %	20 %	16%	6 16%	14%	22%
	135	14		. 7	7 11	10		4 13				3 18	
Unemployed	7%	8%	4%	8%	5%	6%	10%	7 %	5 %	8%	5 %	7%	8%
	215	2 1		5	5 20	20	13	3 17	7 12		3 27		
Other not working	11%	12%	11%	6%	9%	12%	9%	6 9%	6 12 %	12%	6 11%	12%	11%

Working Status Which Sector Public sector (e.g. Working Working Central full time (30 Working part time Private sector Government, Civil or more part time (8 (Less than (e.g. limited Service, LEA, NHS, Charity/vol - 29 hours 8 hours a companies and Police, armed hours per untary Total week) per week) week) Total PLCs) forces etc.) sector Other Which of these applies to you? 672 352 2003 834 299 43 1176 51 101 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% Base 27 834 834 512 248 48 834 0 0 Working full time (30 or more 42% **76% 52%** 100% 0 0 71% 70% 48% hours per week) 299 0 299 144 93 20 42 299 0 Working part time (8 - 29 hours 15% 100% 0 25% 21% 39% 42% 0 26% per week) 43 0 43 43 11 5 0 16 11 Working part time (Less than 8 2% 100% 4% 9% 11% 0 0 2% 3% hours a week) 104 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 5% 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Full time student 374 0 0 0 0 0 0 19% 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Retired 0 135 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 7% 0 0 0 0 0 Unemployed 0 0 0 0 215 0 0 0 0 0 11% 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Other not working

In which of the following sectors do you	Total	Male	Female	Total	18-34	35-54	55+
work?							
	1176	581	595	5 1176	398	511	267
Base	100%	100%	100%	6 100%	100%	100%	100%
	672	393	279	9 672	2 248	3 284	140
Private sector (e.g. limited companies and PLCs)	57%	68%	47%	57%	62%	56%	52%
Public sector (e.g. Central Government, Civil Service, LEA, NHS,	352	128	3 224	4 352	2 109	162	. 81
Police, armed forces etc.)	30%	22%	38%	30 %	27%	32%	30%
	51	25	26	5 51	12	2 20	19
Charity/voluntary sector	4%	4%	4%	4 %	3%	4%	7%
	101	35	66	101	29	45	27
Other	9%	6%	11%	9 %	7%	9%	10%

In which of the following sectors do you work?	Total	Scotland	Northern Ireland	North East	North West	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Wales	East of England	London	South East	South West
	1176	100	28	48	146	92	2 74	97	52	116	157	172	91
Base	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Private sector (e.g. limited companies	672	2 47	' 11	21	82	52	2 45	65	28	62	2 86	117	55
and PLCs)	57%	47%	40%	44%	56%	57%	61%	67%	53%	53%	55%	68%	60%
Public sector (e.g. Central Government, Civil Service, LEA, NHS,	352	2 40	12	2 22	. 46	30) 17	23	15	36	5 50	35	25
Police, armed forces etc.)	30%	40%	43%	47%	32%	33%	23%	24%	28%	31%	32%	20%	27%
· ,	51	2	. 2	3	5	3	3	2 3	3 4	7	' 8	3 7	4
Charity/voluntary sector	4%	2%	8%	7%	3%	4%	3%	3%	7%	6%	5%	4%	5%
	101	11	2	. 1	13	6	10	6	6	11	13	3 14	8
Other	9%	11%	8%	2%	9%	7%	13%	6%	12%	9%	8%	8%	8%

Working Status Which Sector Public sector (e.g. Working Working Central full time (30 Working part time Private sector Government, Civil Service, LEA, NHS, Charity/vol or more part time (8 (Less than (e.g. limited - 29 hours 8 hours a companies and Police, armed hours per untary Total week) per week) week) Total PLCs) forces etc.) sector Other In which of the following sectors do you work? 1176 834 299 43 1176 672 352 51 101 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% Base 144 672 0 672 512 16 672 0 0 Private sector (e.g. limited companies **57%** 61% 48% 38% 57% 100% and PLCs) 0 0 0 352 248 93 0 352 0 0 11 352 Public sector (e.g. Central Government, Civil Service, LEA, NHS, 30% 27% 30% 30% 31% 100% 0 0 Police, armed forces etc.) 0 51 51 27 20 5 51 0 0 0 4% 3% 7% 11% 4% 0 0 100% 0 Charity/voluntary sector 101 48 42 11 0 0 0 101 101 9% 6% 14% 25% 9% 0 Other 0 0 100%

	Total	Male	Female	Total	18-34	35-54	55+
When was the last time you went to work when you were really too ill to do so?							
	1176	581	595	1176	398	511	267
Base	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	240	100	139	240	95	115	29
Within the last month	20%	17%	23%	20%	24%	23%	11%
Not within the last month but	429	219	209	429	162	175	91
within the last year	36%	38%	35%	36%	41%	34%	34%
-	315	160	155	315	85	142	89
More than a year ago	27%	28%	26%	27%	21%	28%	33%
	155	81	74	155	42	60	52
Never	13%	14%	12%	13%	11%	12%	20%
	38	20	18	38	14	19	5
Don't know	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%	4%	2%

	Total	Scotland	Northern Ireland	North East	North West	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Wales	East of England	London	South East	South West
When was the last time you went to work when you were really too ill to do so?													
	1176	100	28	3 48	146	92	2 74	97	7 52	116	3 157	7 172	91
Base	100%	100%	100 %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100 %	100%	100 %	100 %	100%
	240	13	3 7	' 10	28	17	' 19	17	7 14	32	2 29	33	20
Within the last month	20%	13%	25%	21%	19%	19%	25%	18%	27 %	28%	18 %	19 %	22%
Not within the last month but	429	42	2 10) 19	55	36	31	30) 14	36	5 58	3 58	40
within the last year	36%	42%	36%	40%	38%	39%	41%	31%	26 %	31%	37%	33%	44%
	315	28	3 7	' 12	43	28	3 11	30		26	3 42	2 55	17
More than a year ago	27%	28%	24 %	25%	29%	30%	15%	31%	29 %	22%	27 %	32%	19%
	155	13	3 4	5	16	8	3 11	16	9	18	3 22	2 20	12
Never	13%	13%	15 %	11%	11%	9%	15%	16%	16 %	15%	14 %	12 %	13%
	38	}	1 C) 1	5	2	2 3		3 1	4	1 7	7 6	2
Don't know	3%	4%	6 0	2%	3%	2%	4%	3%	2 %	3%	4%	3%	2%

Working Status

Total

Which Sector

Total

Working Working full time (30 Working part time or more part time (8 (Less than hours per - 29 hours 8 hours a per week) week)

Private sector Government, Civil (e.g. limited Service, LEA, NHS, Charity/vol

companies and Police, armed

untary PLCs) forces etc.) sector Other

Public sector (e.g.

When was the last time you went to work when you were really too ill to do so?

	1176	834	299	43	1176	672	352	51	101
Base	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	240	191	44	4	240	131	75	8	26
Within the last month	20%	23%	15%	10%	20%	19%	21%	16%	26%
Not within the last month but	429	317	101	10	429	242	145	19	22
within the last year	36 %	38%	34%	24%	36%	36%	41%	37 %	22%
	315	201	96	17	315	187	82	18	27
More than a year ago	27%	24%	32%	41%	27 %	28%	23%	36 %	27%
	155	96	49	10	155	92	39	6	18
Never	13%	12%	16%	23%	13%	14%	11%	11%	18%
	38	29	9	1	38	19	11	0	8
Don't know	3 %	3%	3%	2%	3%	3%	3%	0	8%

		Male	Female	Total	18-34	35-54	55+
Thinking about the last time you went to work when you were really too ill to do so, which one of the following statements best describes why you went to work?	,						
	983	480	504	983	342	432	209
Base	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
didn't want to let my employer	200	92	108	200	85	77	38
down	20%	19%	21%	20%	25%	18%	18%
didn't want to give my	133	54	79	133	50	62	21
colleagues extra work	13%	11%	16%	13%	15%	14%	10%
People depend on the job I do and I didn't want to let them	303	144	159	303	87	128	89
down	31%	30%	32%	31%	25%	30%	42%
was worried that my boss	64	27	37	64	24	32	. 8
would take action against me	6%	6%	7%	6%	7%	7%	4%
would have lost pay and I	197	119	77	197	78	87	31
couldn't afford to	20%	25%	15%	20%	23%	20%	15%
	74	36	38	74	19	38	18
Other	8%	8%	8%	8%	5%	9%	8%
	13	8	6	13	0	10	4
Don't know	1%	2%	1%	1%	0	2%	2%

	Total		Northern Ireland	North East	North West	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Wales	East of England	London	South East	South West
Thinking about the last time you went to work when you were really too ill to do so, which one of the following statements best describes why you went to work?	,												
	983		24						-				77
Base	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	6 100 %	6 100%	100%	100%
I didn't want to let my employer	200	12	6	6	31	11	16	5 16	6 8	B 1'	7 35	31	10
down	20%	15%	25%	14%	24%	14%	27%	20%	19 %	6 18 %	6 27%	21%	13%
I didute to contact and the control of the control	133	3 12	3	3 2	. 17	11	7	7 14	1 10	0 1	4 17	' 16	10
I didn't want to give my colleagues extra work	13%	15%	14%	5%	14%	14%	11%	18%	23%	6 14 9	6 13%	11%	12%
People depend on the job I do and I didn't want to let them	303	3 24	5	5 13	37	26	16	5 22	2 10	6 3	0 42	2 44	26
down	31%	29%	23%	31%	29%	32%	26%	29%	38 %	6 32 %	6 33 %	30%	33%
Luces we will all the town be a se	64	l 6	3	3 7	' 11	4	. 1	l 4	1 2	2 :	3 6	12	6
I was worried that my boss would take action against me	6%	7%	12%	17%	8%	5%	2%	5%	5%	3 %	4 %	8%	7%
	197	' 21	3	3 12	22	21	14	19)	4 2	0 13	3 28	20
I would have lost pay and I couldn't afford to	20%	26%	12%	28%	17%	25%	23%	24%	8 %	6 22 %	6 10%	19%	26%
	74	7	4								9 13		5
Other	8%			5%	5%	9%		4%	5%	6 9%	6 10%	8%	7%
	13	3 0	0		3		1				2 3		1
Don't know	1%	0	0	0	2%	1%) (0 2 %			1%

Working Status

week)

Total

Which Sector

Total

Working Working full time (30 Working part time or more part time (8 (Less than hours per - 29 hours 8 hours a

per week) week)

(e.g. limited companies and Police, armed

Private sector Government, Civil Service, LEA, NHS, Charity/vol

forces etc.)

Public sector (e.g.

PLCs)

untary sector

Other

Thinking about the last time you went to work when you were really too ill to do so, which one of the following statements best describes why you went to work?

describes willy you went to work?	983	709	242	32	983	561	302	45	75
Base	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
1.4.4.4	200	135	55	10	200	124	56	9	12
I didn't want to let my employer down	20%	19%	23%	32%	20%	22%	18%	19%	15%
I all due 14 comment to active const	133	106	25	2	133	65	54	7	6
I didn't want to give my colleagues extra work	13%	15%	10%	6%	13%	12%	18%	15%	8%
People depend on the job I do and I didn't want to let them	303	222	75	6	303	168	99	17	20
down	31%	31%	31%	20%	31%	30%	33%	37%	26%
Luce we wied that my been	64	54	5	4	64	32	25	4	3
I was worried that my boss would take action against me	6%	8%	2%	14%	6%	6%	8%	9%	4%
loosed been look nor and l	197	131	58	8	197	129	35	6	27
I would have lost pay and I couldn't afford to	20%	18%	24%	26%	20%	23%	12%	13%	36%
	74	57	17	1	74	37	28	2	7
Other	8%	8%	7%	3%	8%	7%	9%	4%	10%
	13	6	8	0	13	6	6	1	1
Don't know	1%	1%	3%	0	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%