Spotlight on Small Medium Enterprises (SME)

In the UK, SMEs employ 16.3 million people, which accounts for 60% of all private sector employment.

In the UK, among employees of small businesses (less than 50 employees), 21% report access to Occupational Health and 12% report access to Employee Assistance Programmes.

In the UK, sickness absence is lower in smaller businesses. Percentage of working hours lost to sickness, by number of employees:

- Businesses with 25 employees or less: 1.6%
- Businesses with 50–500 employees: 2%
- Businesses with 500+ employees: 2.3%