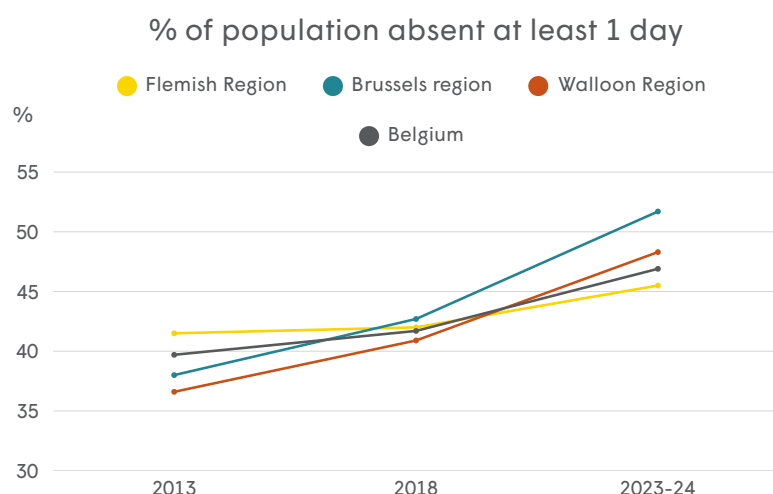


Absence from work: key results

Health Survey 2023-2024

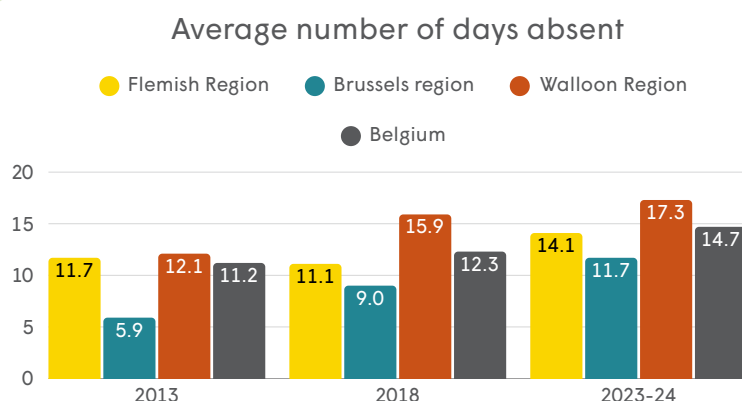
Half of Belgians (47%) took at least one day of sick leave



Compared to previous health surveys, absenteeism due to health reasons has **increased significantly**.

The percentage of **women** reporting absence from work due to health problems is higher (51.1%) than that of men (38.9%) and is **highest in the 25 to 34 age group** (52.4%).

Belgians took an average of 15 days of sick leave



In each region, **women** report a higher average of absenteeism days than men.

This difference can be (partly) explained by the duration of the absence due to pregnancy or childbirth.

The duration of the absence is **not linked to the level of education**.



Possible causes of absenteeism

- **Specific job characteristics** such as workload, the extent to which an employee has or does not have control over the work, and job insecurity.
- **Individual factors** such as age, gender, socio-economic status, work and family life balance, and health status.
- **Social factors** such as the characteristics of the social security system and the economic situation.
- Figures show that **work-related stress, depression and anxiety** are among the top five leading causes of absenteeism from work.

