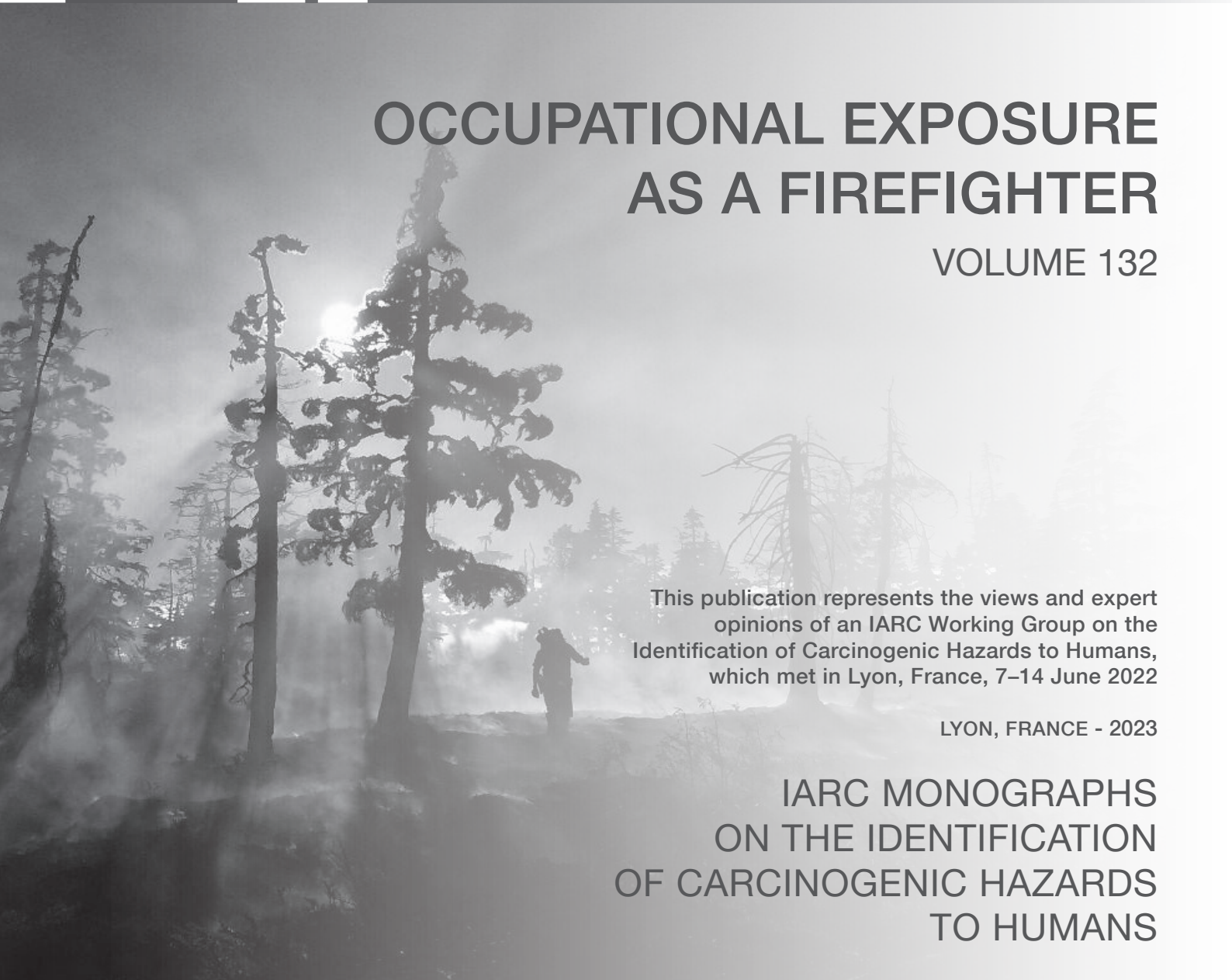


OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE AS A FIREFIGHTER

VOLUME 132



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TO HUMANS

Table S2.12 Cohort and case–control studies only reporting having ever worked as a firefighter and cancer of all sites combined

Reference, location enrolment/ follow-up period, study design	Population size, description, exposure assessment method	Cancer type (histopathology), incidence or mortality	Exposure category or level	Exposed cases or deaths	Risk estimate (95% CI)	Covariates controlled	Comments
Amadeo et al. (2015) France Enrolment, 1 January 1979/ follow-up, 1979–2008 Cohort	10 829 male professional [career] firefighters employed in France on 1 January 1979, identified from 89 French administrative departments (93% of population) Exposure assessment method: ever employed as firefighter from employment records	All cancers combined, mortality	SMR (French population referent): Firefighters	749	0.95 (0.88–1.02)	Age, calendar year	<i>Exposure assessment critique:</i> Minimal quality. Exposure assessment only one point in time. Employed as any type of paid [career] firefighter. May include municipal and rural firefighters. <i>Strengths:</i> cohort coverage at the national level; relatively large cohort with long follow-up; robust linkages. <i>Limitations:</i> probable healthy-worker selection bias; includes only the 16% who were career civilian firefighters (79% were volunteers and 5% were military); lack of information on exposure and potential confounders.

Table S2.12 (continued)

Reference, location enrolment/ follow-up period, study design	Population size, description, exposure assessment method	Cancer type (histopathology), incidence or mortality	Exposure category or level	Exposed cases or deaths	Risk estimate (95% CI)	Covariates controlled	Comments
Deschamps et al. (1995) Paris, France Enrolment, 1 January 1977/ follow-up, 1977 to 1 January 1991 Cohort	830 professional [career] male firefighters with ≥ 5 yr of service in the Paris Fire Brigade before 1977 Exposure assessment method: employed as firefighter with ≥ 5 yr of active fire combat duty from employment records	All cancers combined, mortality	SMR (French population referent): Firefighters	18	0.89 (0.53–1.40)	Age, calendar year	<i>Exposure assessment critique:</i> Satisfactory quality. Duration of active fire combat assessed only for deaths, not used in analyses. Municipal firefighters. <i>Strengths:</i> complete cohort enumeration. <i>Limitations:</i> small study size; probable healthy-worker selection bias; lack of information on exposure and potential confounders; probabilistic linkage of outcome data.
Ma et al. (2006) Florida, USA Enrolment, 1972–1999/ follow-up, 1981–1999 Cohort	36 813; all male (34 796) and female (2017) professional [career] firefighters certified in Florida from 1972 to 1999; the certification date was considered to be the date of first exposure Exposure assessment method: ever career firefighter from professional certification records	All cancers combined, incidence	SIR (Florida population referent): Male firefighters Female firefighters	970 52	0.84 (0.79–0.90) 1.63 (1.22–2.14)	Age, calendar year	<i>Exposure assessment critique:</i> Minimal quality. Only one point in time measure of exposure, no indication when exposure stopped. May include municipal and rural firefighters. <i>Strengths:</i> assesses cancer incidence; includes female firefighters; large male cohort. <i>Limitations:</i> probable healthy-worker selection bias; small female cohort; young age at end of follow-up; lacks information on exposure and potential confounders.

Table S2.12 (continued)

Reference, location enrolment/follow-up period, study design	Population size, description, exposure assessment method	Cancer type (histopathology), incidence or mortality	Exposure category or level	Exposed cases or deaths	Risk estimate (95% CI)	Covariates controlled	Comments
Ma et al. (2005) Florida, USA Enrolment, 1972–1999/follow-up, 1972–1999 Cohort	36 813; all male (34 796) and female (2017) professional [career] firefighters certified in Florida from 1972 to 1999 Exposure assessment method: ever career firefighter from professional certification records	All cancers combined, mortality	SMR (Florida population referent): Male firefighters Male firefighters certified 1972–1976 Female firefighters	403 303 8	0.85 (0.77–0.94) 0.89 (0.80–1.00) 1.03 (0.44–2.03)	Age, calendar period	<i>Exposure assessment critique:</i> Minimal quality. Only one point in time measure of exposure, no indication when exposure stopped. May include municipal and rural firefighters. <i>Other comments:</i> those lost to follow-up were excluded from the analyses. <i>Strengths:</i> includes female firefighters; large male cohort; multiple linkages to assess vital status; conducted a sensitivity analysis among firefighters with longest tenure (certified 1972–1976). <i>Limitations:</i> probable healthy-worker selection bias; small female cohort; young age at end of follow-up; lacks information on exposure and potential confounders.

Table S2.12 (continued)

Reference, location enrolment/follow-up period, study design	Population size, description, exposure assessment method	Cancer type (histopathology), incidence or mortality	Exposure category or level	Exposed cases or deaths	Risk estimate (95% CI)	Covariates controlled	Comments
Grimes et al. (1991) Honolulu, Hawaii, USA 1969–1988 Cohort	205 deaths; all male firefighters with ≥ 1 yr of service in the City of Honolulu Fire Department Exposure assessment method: death certificate coding of usual occupation	All cancers combined, mortality	PMR (state population referent): All firefighters Caucasian [White] firefighters Hawaiian firefighters	[58] [19] [29]	1.19 (0.96–1.49) 1.11 (0.75–1.63) 1.23 (0.90–1.67)	NR	<i>Exposure assessment critique:</i> Minimal quality. Crude, relying on knowledge of usual occupation by death certifier. Possible differential misclassification from missing occupation on death certificates. May include municipal and rural firefighters. <i>Strengths:</i> long follow-up; examined risk by ethnic group (White/Hawaiian). <i>Limitations:</i> probable healthy-worker selection bias; unclear if underlying assumption that PMR will estimate an SMR is valid in this cohort; PMRs were not standardized by age or calendar period; no information on exposure and potential confounders. <i>Other comments:</i> number of deaths calculated by the Working Group.

Table S2.12 (continued)

Reference, location enrolment/follow-up period, study design	Population size, description, exposure assessment method	Cancer type (histopathology), incidence or mortality	Exposure category or level	Exposed cases or deaths	Risk estimate (95% CI)	Covariates controlled	Comments
Musk et al. (1978) Boston, Massachusetts, USA Follow-up 1915–1975 Cohort	5655 male professional [career] firefighters employed by the Boston Fire Department for ≥ 3 yr since 1915 Exposure assessment method: employed as municipal firefighter for ≥ 3 yr from employment records	All cancers combined, mortality	SMR:			Age, calendar period	<i>Exposure assessment critique:</i> Satisfactory quality. Ever employed as municipal firefighter. Other comments: Death certificates lacked for 7.9% (194) of confirmed deaths. <i>Strengths:</i> long follow-up. <i>Limitations:</i> probable healthy-worker selection bias; lack of information on cause for a proportion of deaths; lack of information on exposure and potential confounders.
			Firefighters vs Massachusetts male population	367	[0.86 (0.77–0.95)]		
			Firefighters vs US White male population	367	[0.98 (0.88–1.08)]		
			Active firefighters vs Massachusetts male population	97	[0.73 (0.60–0.89)]		
Mastromatteo (1959) Toronto, Canada Enrolment, 1918–1954/ follow-up, 1921–1953 (Ontario rates), 1937–1953 (Ontario city rates) Cohort	1832; all active (1500) and retired (332) firefighters employed in the city fire department from 1918 to 1954 Exposure assessment method: ever employed municipal firefighter from superannuation and benefit fund registry	All cancers combined, mortality	Mortality (SMR):			Age, calendar period	<i>Exposure assessment critique:</i> Minimal quality. Ever employed as municipal firefighter. <i>Strengths:</i> complete cohort enumeration. <i>Limitations:</i> large loss to follow-up.
			Firefighters vs Ontario men	34	[1.13 (0.80–1.57)]		
			Firefighters vs urban Ontario men	26	[0.96 (0.64–1.37)]		

Table S2.12 (continued)

Reference, location enrolment/ follow-up period, study design	Population size, description, exposure assessment method	Cancer type (histopathology), incidence or mortality	Exposure category or level	Exposed cases or deaths	Risk estimate (95% CI)	Covariates controlled	Comments
Eliopoulos et al. (1984) Western Australia Follow-up, 1939–1978 Cohort	990; all men employed as permanent full-time firefighters by the Western Australian Fire Brigade between October 1939 and December 1978 Exposure assessment method: ever employed as a permanent full-time firefighter, and categorical employment duration (years) as firefighters from employment records	All cancers combined, mortality All cancers combined, mortality	SMR (Western Australia referent): Employment as firefighter PMR (Western Australia referent): Employment as firefighter	30 30	1.09 (0.74–1.56) 1.37 (0.93–1.36)	Age, calendar period	<i>Exposure assessment critique:</i> Satisfactory quality. Unsure if permanent full-time status was maintained throughout study period. Municipal firefighters. <i>Strengths:</i> long follow-up time; low loss to follow-up. <i>Limitations:</i> probable healthy-worker selection bias; small study size; no personal information on exposure or potential confounders.
Zhao et al. (2020) Spain Enrolment, 2001/follow-up, 2001–2011 Cohort	9 579 759 (27 365 firefighters) men identified as residing in Spain on 1 November 2001, employed on the census date, and aged 20–64 yr; followed for mortality using a national death registry Exposure assessment method: employed as firefighter in week before census	All cancers combined, mortality	Occupation (MRR): All other occupations Firefighters	126 445 335	1 1.00 (0.89–1.12)	Age	<i>Exposure assessment critique:</i> Minimal quality. Firefighting self-reported at one point in time. Years of firefighting, may include municipal and rural firefighters. <i>Strengths:</i> large study size; low loss to follow-up; cohort coverage at the national level. <i>Limitations:</i> occupation determined by self-report at baseline; short follow-up and young cohort age; lack of information on exposure and potential confounders.

Table S2.12 (continued)

Reference, location enrolment/ follow-up period, study design	Population size, description, exposure assessment method	Cancer type (histopathology), incidence or mortality	Exposure category or level	Exposed cases or deaths	Risk estimate (95% CI)	Covariates controlled	Comments	
Pukkala et al. (2014) Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden 1961–2005 Cohort	16 422 male professional [career] firefighters in the NOCCA cohort (a registry-based cohort study of Nordic country residents who participated in any computerized population census (1960, 1970, 1980/81, or 1990) and were followed up through linkage to national cancer registries), aged 30–64 yr, alive, and in the country in the year following census participation Exposure assessment method: employed as firefighter at time of census	All cancers combined excluding non-melanoma skin cancer, incidence	SIR (national referent)	2536	1.06 (1.02–1.11)	Country, age, calendar period	<i>Exposure assessment critique:</i> Satisfactory quality. Self-reported firefighter as current job. Includes municipal and rural firefighters. <i>Strengths:</i> large study size; long follow-up time; assesses cancer incidence using high-quality outcome data; contrasts by country, observation period, and age; multiple sensitivity analyses. <i>Limitations:</i> probable healthy-worker selection bias; lack of information on exposure and potential confounders.	
			Country (SIR):					Age, calendar period
			Denmark	275	1.25 (1.11–1.41)			
			Finland	484	0.97 (0.89–1.06)			
			Iceland	24	0.96 (0.61–1.42)			
Norway	644	1.20 (1.11–1.30)						
Sweden	1109	1.00 (0.95–1.07)						

Table S2.12 (continued)

Reference, location enrolment/follow-up period, study design	Population size, description, exposure assessment method	Cancer type (histopathology), incidence or mortality	Exposure category or level	Exposed cases or deaths	Risk estimate (95% CI)	Covariates controlled	Comments
Sritharan et al. (2022) Ontario, Canada Enrolment, 1983–2019/follow-up, 1983–2020 Cohort	2 368 226 (firefighters 13 642; police 22 595); workers aged ≥ 15 yr who submitted lost-time workers' compensation injury and disease claims to the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board with known sex, birthdate, claim date, and occupation and industry information; incident cases identified using the Ontario Cancer registry Exposure assessment method: records; employed as firefighter at time of workers' compensation claim	All cancers combined, incidence	Referent (HR): Firefighters vs all other workers Firefighters vs police	1730 1730	1.23 (1.17–1.29) 1.03 (0.96–1.09)	Age at start of follow-up, birth year, sex	<i>Exposure assessment critique:</i> Minimal quality. Duration of firefighter work unclear. May include full-time, part-time, municipal, and rural firefighters. <i>Strengths:</i> large study size; long follow-up time; includes female firefighters; working population used as referent; assesses cancer incidence. <i>Limitations:</i> potential selection bias into claims database, as compensation claims used to identify the cohort may differ by occupation; lack of information on exposure and potential confounders.
Harris et al. (2018) Canada Enrolment, 1991/follow-up, 1992–2010 Cohort	CanCHEC: 1 108 410 (4535 firefighters); men participating in the long form Canadian census in 1991, employed with a valid occupation and aged 25–74 yr at cohort entry; incident cancers identified using a national cancer registry. Exposure assessment method: ever employed as firefighter data from census	All cancers combined, incidence	Occupation (HR): Non-firefighters Firefighters	NR 505	1 1.04 (0.96–1.14)	Age, region, education	<i>Exposure assessment critique:</i> Minimal quality. Self-reported firefighter as current or longest job. Includes municipal and rural firefighters. <i>Strengths:</i> study size; long follow-up time; national coverage of working population; assesses cancer incidence. <i>Limitations:</i> occupation determined at 1991 census based on self-report. Lack of information on exposure and potential confounders.

Table S2.12 (continued)

Reference, location enrolment/ follow-up period, study design	Population size, description, exposure assessment method	Cancer type (histopathology), incidence or mortality	Exposure category or level	Exposed cases or deaths	Risk estimate (95% CI)	Covariates controlled	Comments
Muegge et al. (2018) Indiana, USA 1985–2013 Case-control	Cases: firefighters: 857; non-firefighters: 3054; cancer as the underlying cause of death in state death registry among registrants with complete information on year of death, age at time of death, sex, race, ethnicity, industry code, and occupation code; all firefighter cancers were included, but non-firefighter cancers only observed among non-firefighter decedents matched 4:1 to firefighter decedents on age at death, sex, race, ethnicity, and year of death Controls: firefighters, 1964; non-firefighters, 8218; non-cancer decedents among all firefighter decedents and a sample of non-firefighter decedents matched 4:1 to firefighter decedents on age at death, sex, race, ethnicity, and year of death Exposure assessment method: death certificate coding of usual occupation	All cancers combined, mortality	Death certificate occupation (OR): Non-firefighters Firefighters	3054 857	1 1.19 (1.08–1.30)	Sex, race, ethnicity, age at death, year of death	<i>Exposure assessment critique:</i> Minimal quality. Crude, relying on knowledge of usual occupation by death certifier. Possible differential misclassification from missing occupation on death certificates. May include municipal and rural firefighters. <i>Strengths:</i> matching on race or ethnicity. <i>Limitations:</i> deaths used as controls (numerator-based analysis); lack of information on exposure and potential confounding.

Table S2.12 (continued)

Reference, location enrolment/ follow-up period, study design	Population size, description, exposure assessment method	Cancer type (histopathology), incidence or mortality	Exposure category or level	Exposed cases or deaths	Risk estimate (95% CI)	Covariates controlled	Comments
Ma et al. (1998) USA 1984–1993 Case-control	Cases: NR; all male cancer deaths with coded industry and occupation on death certificates from 24 states captured in a NIOSH database Controls: NR; all male non-cancer deaths in the NIOSH database Exposure assessment method: death certificate coding of usual occupation	All cancers combined, mortality	Group (MOR): White firefighters Black firefighters	1817 66	1.1 (1.1–1.2) 1.2 (0.9–1.5)	Year of death, age at death	<i>Exposure assessment critique:</i> Minimal quality. Crude, relying on knowledge of usual occupation by death certifier. Possible differential misclassification from missing occupation on death certificates. May include municipal and rural firefighters. <i>Strengths:</i> large study size (includes 6607 male firefighter deaths); broad geographical population coverage. <i>Limitations:</i> small number of cancer deaths among Black firefighters; non-cancer deaths used as controls (numerator-based analysis); lack of information on exposure and potential confounders.

Table S2.12 (continued)

Reference, location enrolment/follow-up period, study design	Population size, description, exposure assessment method	Cancer type (histopathology), incidence or mortality	Exposure category or level	Exposed cases or deaths	Risk estimate (95% CI)	Covariates controlled	Comments
Burnett et al. (1994) USA 1984–1990 Mortality surveillance	5744 deaths among firefighters; White male firefighters identified by evaluation of coded occupation on death certificates from 27 states Exposure assessment method: death certificate coding of usual occupation	All cancers combined, mortality	Group (PMR): Firefighters Firefighters, age < 65 yr at death	1636 663	1.10 (1.06–1.14) 1.12 (1.04–1.21)	Age	<i>Exposure assessment critique:</i> Minimal quality. Crude, relying on knowledge of usual occupation by death certifier. Possible differential misclassification from missing occupation on death certificates. May include municipal and rural firefighters. <i>Strengths:</i> large number of deaths; broad geographical population coverage. <i>Limitations:</i> numerator-only (PMR) analysis; errors in death-certificate occupation; lack of information on exposure or potential confounders.

CanCHEC, Canadian Census Health and Environment Cohort; CI, confidence interval; HR, hazard ratio; MOR, mortality odds ratio; MRR, mortality rate ratio; NIOSH, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; NOCCA, Nordic Occupational Cancer study; NR, not reported; OR, odds ratio; PMR, proportionate mortality ratio; SIR, standardized incidence ratio; SMR, standardized mortality ratio; vs, versus; yr, year.

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