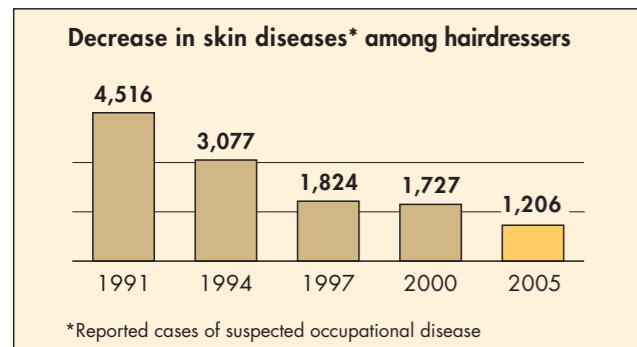


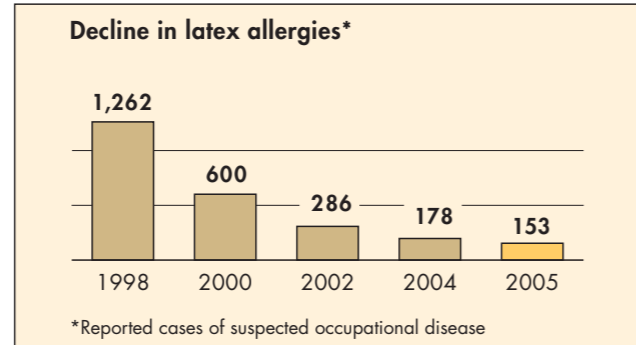
Prevention Pays Off

The number of occupational diseases reported has declined by almost 28 per cent from 12,449 (1993) to 8,977 in 2005. The number of insured enterprises rose by around 125,000 to over 500,000 during the same period.

Between 1980 and 1991, there was a two-fold increase in the number of cases of reported skin disease among hairdressers, with this figure rising to 4,516. Thanks to the optimally focused preventive measures taken by the BGW, by 2005 this figure had declined by around 73 per cent to 1,206. Consequently, there has been a marked decrease in the contribution rates paid by hairdressing establishments.



The BGW Academy for Occupational Safety and Health Protection in Dresden runs training courses, based on the very latest data and technology, for managers and occupational physicians. In 2005 around 5,000 managers, occupational safety specialists, safety experts and occupational physicians participated in 249 seminars and 34 special training courses on diverse topics relating to occupational health protection.



Thanks to a prevention campaign, it has been possible to reduce the number of cases of latex allergies within a period of seven years by almost 90 per cent. Whereas 1,262 cases were registered with the BGW in 1998, this figure had dropped to 153 in 2005.

Novel Approaches to Prevention

The prevention campaign "bgw qu.int.as[®]" designed to facilitate the integration of occupational safety into everyday working practices is eliciting widespread interest. Several enterprises have already been certified and awarded discounts on their premiums. Info at: www.bgw-online.de/Kundenzentrum/qu.int.as

With its initiative "Focus on Care", the BGW is launching a campaign for modern prevention in care for the elderly. Acting as a neutral party but in concert with politicians, interest groups and care institutions, it intends developing care for the elderly as a "healthy" futuristic discipline.

Competent Advisory Service

The BGW

- gives advice on safety in the workplace, provides information on statutory provisions and gives practical tips for a healthy, everyday-working environment.
- researches the causes of workplace accidents, occupational diseases and work-related hazards.
- formulates and implements appropriate measures for prevention of the latter.
- is cofounder of the Academy of the Institution for Statutory Accident Insurance and Prevention for Occupational Safety and Health Protection in Dresden, where it offers a manifold training and continuing education programme.
- organises seminars and provides comprehensive material on topics relating to accident insurance, prevention and health protection.
- ensures, thanks to its decentralised structure with twelve regional offices, that assured persons enjoy easy and prompt access.
- provides occupational help if the event insured against occurs, with the aim of reintegrating the assured person into his/her chosen occupation.
- establishes personal contacts with assured persons and entrepreneurs at exhibitions and organised events.
- provides comprehensive information relating to occupational health protection as well as forms, applications, leaflets and information material which can be downloaded from its website: www.bgw-online.de

Whom to Contact for Information on

Basic and contribution queries

Berufsgenossenschaft für Gesundheitsdienst und Wohlfahrtspflege
BGW Headquarters
Pappelallee 35/37
D-22089 Hamburg
Tel.: +49 40 2 02 07-0
Fax + 49 40 2 02 07-525
URL: www.bgw-online.de

Prevention

BGW Regional Offices

Berlin	+49 30 8 96 85-208
Bochum	+49 234 30 78-401
Delmenhorst	+49 4221 913-401
Dresden	+49 351 86 47-402
Hamburg	+49 40 41 25-648
Hanover	+49 511 563 59 99-91
<i>(Magdeburg branch office)</i>	
Karlsruhe	+49 721 97 20-151
Cologne	+49 221 37 72-440
Magdeburg	+49 391 60 90-608
Mainz	+49 6131 808-201
Munich	+49 89 350 96-141
Würzburg	+49 931 35 75-501

Insurance Queries

BGW Regional Administrative Offices

Berlin	+49 30 896 85-0
Bochum	+49 234 30 78-0
Delmenhorst	+49 4221 913-0
Dresden	+49 351 86 47-0
Hamburg	+49 40 41 25-0
Karlsruhe	+49 721 97 20-0
Cologne	+49 221 37 72-0
Magdeburg	+49 391 60 90-5
Mainz	+49 6131 808-0
Munich	+49 89 350 96-0
Würzburg	+49 931 35 75-0

Pappelallee 35/37 · 22089 Hamburg

Institution for Statutory Accident Insurance and Prevention in the Health and Welfare Services

Overview of Facts – Figures – Data

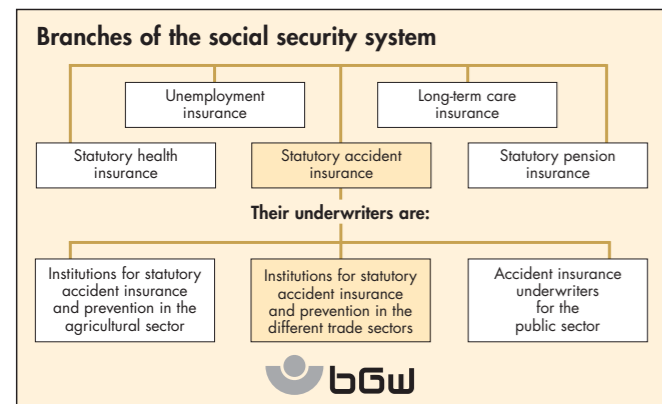


Figures as of 06/2006

Statutory Accident Insurance

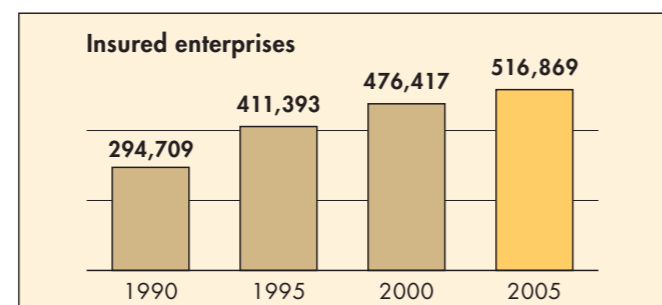
The Institution for Statutory Accident Insurance and Prevention in the Health and Welfare Services – known as 'BGW', its German acronym – is the statutory accident insurer for non-state institutions in the health and welfare services in Germany. As part of the German social security system, statutory accident insurance, and hence the BGW, is a public corporation. The BGW bears responsibility for discharging its statutorily assigned duties under government supervision.

The BGW's decentralised structure means that assured persons enjoy easy and prompt access. The BGW has twelve regional offices throughout Germany. Its headquarters is in Hamburg. The BGW's self-management system guides and controls administrative business. The most important self-management organs are the representatives' meeting – the parliament – and the board of directors. Both have an equal number of employer and assured persons' representatives. The business management is responsible for conducting day-to-day business.



Active Insurance Protection

The BGW's principle tasks include prevention of workplace accidents, occupational diseases and work-related health risks. In the event of an assured person suffering any damage, the BGW will take measures to ensure the best possible medical, occupational and social rehabilitation as well as reasonable compensation. These services are provided as a single package.



With about six million persons in over 500,000 enterprises, the BGW is Germany's second largest trade-specific institution for statutory accident insurance and prevention.

Among those enterprises that are liable to contributions are welfare associations, free charitable and private hospitals as well as doctors', veterinary surgeons' and dentists' practices, homes for the elderly, pharmacies, outpatient nursing services, midwives and hairdressing salons.

All employees as well as mandatorily insured (with public insurance) enterprises are insured. Enterprises that are not legally obliged to take out insurance can voluntarily insure themselves, while availing of optimal conditions. Voluntary workers can likewise take out insurance with the BGW.

Favourable Contributions

Statutory accident insurance is a third-party liability insurance taken out by employers to cover the risks posed by workplace accidents and occupational diseases among their employees. Therefore only the employers pay contributions towards statutory accident insurance.

Just as is the case for other forms of social security payments, the rate of contributions for statutory accident insurance also depends on the **remuneration** of the assured person. In addition, the accident risk in a specific trade/occupation is taken into consideration. This is expressed as the **hazard class**. The **contribution base** is calculated by the BGW on the basis of its financial requirements for a given year and is the same for all insured enterprises. The individual contribution is calculated according to the following formula:

$$\text{Your contribution} = \frac{\text{remuneration} \times \text{hazard class} \times \text{contribution base}^*}{1,000}$$

*This value is presently set at 2.1 (as of 2005)

The BGW does not make any profit. Revenue is calculated only to cover the real costs incurred. For this reason, contributions are always calculated retroactively for the preceding calendar year.

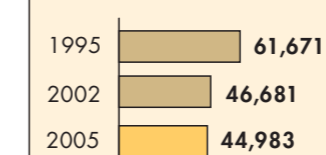
Compared with other forms of social security contributions, the contributions to the BGW are not a major cost factor: for every 100 euros earned by an assured person, the employer pays BGW contributions for 2005 of only between 44.1 cents and 2.54 euros.

Comprehensive Services

Prevention

The BGW's principle task is to prevent workplace accidents, occupational diseases and other work-related health hazards. In view of the fact that at present some 90 per cent of all workplace accidents are of behavioural rather than technical origin, the human being is the main focus of such all-embracing preventive measures. Such measures include provision of consultation and advisory services to enterprises in all matters relating to safety and health protection, causal research in the event of accidents and illness, formulation of accident prevention regulations, active public relations' activities, organising training seminars for employers and employees in occupational safety as well as conducting measurements of hazardous substances in the workplace.

Workplace accidents*



*Notifiable accidents

Accidents on the way to/from work*



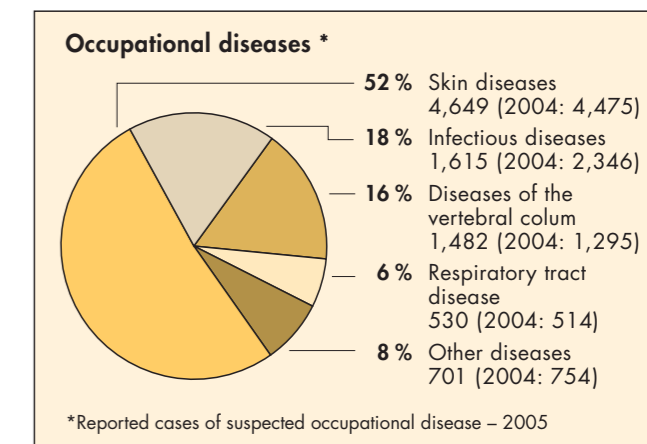
*Notifiable accidents

Rehabilitation

The BGW takes all possible steps to help anyone who has suffered an accident or illness to reintegrate into their chosen occupation. These include medical measures, occupational measures such as retraining, advanced training and continuing education as well as social measures such as housing benefits.

Secondary Individual Prevention

The BGW provides specific secondary individual prevention services to assured persons suffering from an occupational disease. This enables many assured persons to remain in their chosen occupation despite their illness.



Absorption of Costs in the Event of Damage

If the event insured against occurs, the BGW bears the costs for treatment, occupational help, nursing care at home or in an institution, payment for lost earnings during rehabilitation as well as benefits to the assured persons or to the dependants of a deceased person. In 2005 the BGW paid out around 364 million euros for rehabilitation services. If an assured person is obliged to change occupation, the BGW bears the costs for retraining or continuing education. Likewise, the BGW bears the housing and automobile costs incurred in cases of permanent disabilities.