

# BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH CENTRE FOR THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT, NFA

NFA is a public sector research institution under the Danish Ministry of Employment and the largest research institution in Denmark focusing on the occupational safety and health.

We conduct research in ergonomic and psychosocial working environments, chemistry and microbiology, safety and accidents, as well as occupational safety and health economics. Our research is interdisciplinary.

In 2025, NFA employed approximately 180 staff members, of whom nearly 145 were research personnel. The total budget amounted to approximately DKK 150 million.

NFA's overall leadership is managed by a board comprising of representatives from the social partners, other research institutions, and NFA employees.

# NFA in 2025

## WE PRODUCE RELEVANT RESEARCH OF INTERNATIONAL TOP QUALITY

### WE CREATE NEW RESEARCH-BASED KNOWLEDGE

**182** ↑ 23.0%

peer-reviewed scientific articles published.

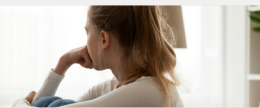
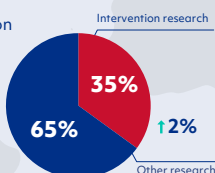
**11** ↑ 10.0%

peer-reviewed reports.

### RESEARCH PROJECTS TRANSLATED INTO SOLUTIONS

Intervention research involves developing and testing interventions to improve the working environment.

In 2025, Intervention research accounted for one-third of NFA's studies.



### SICKNESS ABSENCE THROUGHOUT WORKING LIFE

Frequent sickness absence in a first job increases the risk of long-term sickness absence later in working life, research from NFA shows. Targeted prevention of sickness absence already in young people's first job may therefore be a good idea.

### SCIENTIFIC IMPACT

**125** ↑ 9.6%

scientific articles authored by NFA researchers in 2025 were published in top journals relevant to NFA's research areas or in journals among the top 25% most cited in their fields.

#### Top journals in 2025:

**Ergonomic working environment & musculoskeletal disorders:** Journal of Sport and Health Science, **IF 10.3**



**Psychosocial working environment:** International Journal of Epidemiology, **IF 5.9**



**Chemistry and microbiology:** Cell Metabolism, **IF 30.9**



**Safety culture and workplace accidents:** Safety Science, **IF 5.4**

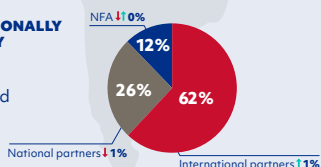


**Occupational health economic:** Alzheimers & Dementia, **IF 11.1**



### WE COLLABORATE NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

88% of NFA's scientific articles are co-authored with other research institutions.



### OUR ARTICLES ARE FREQUENTLY CITED

**14,593** ↑ 31.4%

citations of scientific articles with NFA researchers as co-authors over the past five years.

## SOCIETAL IMPACT

↑ ↓ Arrows indicate percentage increase or decrease since 2024.

### OUR KNOWLEDGE REACHES A WIDE AUDIENCE

**16,238** ↑ 32.1% followers

**5,211** ↑ 45.4% followers

**19,724** ↑ 13.4% followers

### SOCIAL MEDIA INTERACTIONS

**72,840**

interactions on LinkedIn and Instagram\*

\* First included in the annual report for 2025.

### NEWSLETTER

**6,234** ↑ 1.4% subscribers

### NFA.DK

**353,802** ↑ 2.0% page views

**116,327** ↓ 6.9% total visits

### LECTURES

**276** ↑ 10.4% lectures

**18,465** ↓ 17.2% attendees

### MEDIA PRESENCE

**499** ↑ 21.1% expert statements and interviews from NFA

**1,133** ↓ 7.0% references to NFA

### OUR RESEARCH IS APPLIED BY



politicians and the social partners, who translate it into political decisions (laws and regulations)

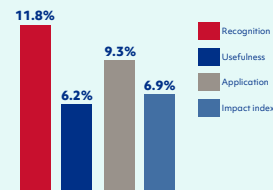


workplace safety and health professionals and workplaces, that use it to improve working conditions.

### WHAT DO KEY STAKEHOLDERS SAY?

Each year, we ask our core stakeholders to what extent they are familiar with our knowledge, how useful they find it, and how much they use it, in order to assess our societal impact.

The bars illustrate the percentage change from 2021 to 2025.



### FIRST DANISH AI PODCAST ON THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT

NFA has launched a podcast using supervised AI. The first episode focuses on research from NFA showing that the risk of cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes is higher among employees who have been exposed to sexual harassment at work.



### Knowledge summary on effective pain prevention

This update summarises current knowledge on how to prevent musculoskeletal pain in the workplace. It also identifies areas where further research and new initiatives are needed. NFA prepared the summary for the Danish Working Environment Authority.



### Changes in smoke diver training practice

The Danish Emergency Management Agency has implemented new measures in the smoke diver training programme, reducing participants' exposure to particles and soot. The measures are based on NFA research and include e.g. scheduled breaks in different areas and improved access to handwashing and shower facilities.



### How unemployed seniors can improve their job prospects

Unemployed seniors are more likely to find new employment if they are motivated, willing to change direction, and have a strong network. Research from NFA shows that the probability gradually decreases with age. This knowledge is important for supporting seniors in re-entering the labour market.



### Economics of the working environment

Work-related accidents and illnesses cost Danish society around DKK 50 billion annually, according to NFA calculations. This also indicates the potential benefits of improving working conditions in Denmark. A one-year grant of DKK 5 million from the 2026 Finance Act research reserve enables NFA to continue its research into the economics of occupational health and safety in 2026.