Workplace depression is a major issue across different cultures and economies, with wide and devastating consequences.

The cognitive symptoms of depression, for instance difficulties in concentrating, making decisions and remembering, are present up to 94% of the time during an episode of depression, causing significant impairment in work function and productivity.

Data from a survey of 8,000 employees across 8 countries reveals workplace depression collectively costs almost US$250 billion.

Japan has the highest number of employees reporting 21+ days off consecutively due to depression.

Highly educated employees are likely to:
- Work in a highly demanding job and therefore be severely impacted by the cognitive symptoms of depression
- Manage others so the impact of their depression has wider consequences

Employees in the USA and Japan are least likely to tell their employer about their depression because of fear of losing their job.

For more information on the IDEA Survey as well as the LSE Health and Social Care research centre, visit the centre’s blog: [http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/healthandsocialcare/](http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/healthandsocialcare/) The report was initiated by, and is sponsored by H. Lundbeck A/S. The opinions expressed by the report author from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) do not necessarily represent the opinions of H. Lundbeck A/S.