Organizational Factors and Mental Health in Public Safety Organizations

Overview

Public Safety Personnel
(PSP)/First Responders
encounter situations that can
result in psychological
trauma, contributing to
higher rates of mental health
conditions



Firefighters 25%

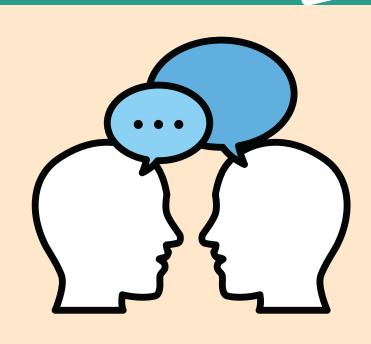
Correctional officers & paramedics 27%

Police officers

Organizational factors
accounted for 34% of the
total factors found.
Majority of PSP reported
that several
organizational factors
impacted their mental
health.

Most important
organizational factors
reported to have a positive
impact on PSP mental
health:

- 1. Co-worker support
- 2. Supervisor support
- 3. Workplace culture





The studies reviewed indicated that organizational factors were the most modifiable factors that can have positive impacts for PSP mental health.

Next Steps for Improving PSP Mental Health

Public safety organizations can work to:

- Prioritize supervisor support & positive workplace culture
- Highlight the importance of co-worker support

Future research needs to investigate the relationship between organizational, operational, and personal factors.

Source: Edgelow, M., Scholefield, E., McPherson, M., Legassick, K., & Novecosky, J. (2022). Organizational factors and their impact on mental health in public safety organizations. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 19(21), 13993. https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph192113993