

# Understanding the work and health research landscape

In this study we looked at three key questions:

- 1** What is the level of spend on work and health research in the UK since 2015?
- 2** What is this spent on, in terms of type of research and topic?
- 3** What are the main priorities for future work and health research in the UK?

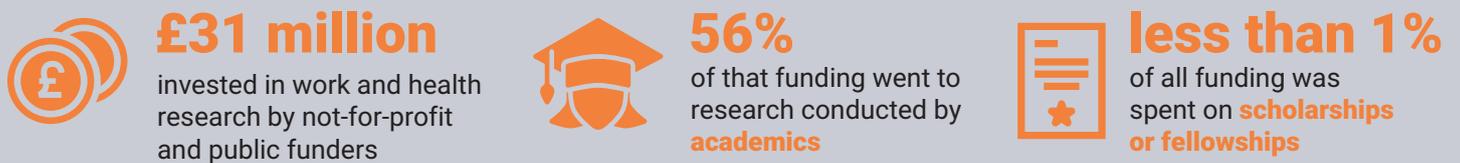
## Methods

In order to answer these questions, the study:

-  Reviewed available databases and information from key research funders
-  Classified research according to funder and host, methods used, topics, etc.
-  Contextualised findings through 15 interviews with researchers and funders

## Key findings

- 1** What is the level of spend on work and health research in the UK since 2015?



- 2** What is this spent on, in terms of type of research and topic?

### TOP 5 METHODOLOGIES USED:



### TOP 5 TOPICS EXAMINED:



- 3** What are the main priorities for future work and health research emerging from interviews?



## Key conclusions

-  Future attempts to map the work and health research landscape should include smaller funders (also from private sector)
-  Work and health interventions can be costly so their cost-effectiveness for commissioners needs to be evaluated
-  More funding is also needed to develop career paths & support for work and health researchers, to ensure there is future research expertise in this area



Adapted from *Work and health research funding review (2015–2020)* by Joanna Hofman, Susan Guthrie, Annemari de Silva, Lillian Flemons, Lucy Gilder, William Phillips, Natalie Picken, Mann Virdee, RR-A1164-1, 2021 (available at [www.rand.org/t/RR-A1164-1](http://www.rand.org/t/RR-A1164-1)). To view this infographic online, visit [www.rand.org/t/IGA1164-1](http://www.rand.org/t/IGA1164-1). RAND Europe is a not-for-profit research organisation that helps improve policy and decision making through research and analysis. RAND Europe's publications do not necessarily reflect the opinions of its research clients and sponsors. **RAND**® is a registered trademark.

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