**Supplementary File I**

**Group by**

**Population**

**Study name**

**Statistics for each study**

**Event rate and 95% CI**

**Event**

**Lower**

**Upper**

**rate**

**limit**

**limit**

**Z-Value**

**p-Value**

Industry workers

Hailu et al

0.158

0.126

0.196

-12.387

0.000

Industry workers

0.158

0.126

0.196

-12.387

0.000

Bank workers

Kibret et al

0.336

0.308

0.415

-4.839

0.000

Bank workers

Dagne et al

0.354

0.321

0.389

-7.904

0.000

Bank workers

0.346

0.327

0.385

-9.265

0.000

Barbers

Mekonnen et al(a)

0.388

0.342

0.436

-4.535

0.000

Barbers

0.388

0.342

0.436

-4.535

0.000

Cleaners

Melese et al

0.170

0.129

0.220

-9.678

0.000

Cleaners

0.170

0.129

0.220

-9.678

0.000

Construction workers

Lette, et al.

0.157

0.125

0.196

-12.381

0.000

Construction workers

0.157

0.125

0.196

-12.381

0.000

Hairdressers

Mekonnen et al(b)

0.504

0.466

0.542

0.204

0.838

Hairdressers

0.504

0.466

0.542

0.204

0.838

Nurses

Regassa et al

0.153

0.117

0.198

-10.688

0.000

Nurses

0.153

0.117

0.198

-10.688

0.000

Pedestrian BL women

Henok and Bekele

0.604

0.557

0.650

4.241

0.000

Pedestrian BL women

0.604

0.557

0.650

4.241

0.000

Vehicle Repair Workers

Tamene et al

0.104

0.076

0.141

-12.193

0.000

Vehicle Repair Workers

0.104

0.076

0.141

-12.193

0.000

Overall

0.347

0.331

0.362

-18.195

0.000

**-1.00**

**-0.50**

**0.00**

**0.50**

**1.00**

*Key: BL: Back loading*

Figure 1. Forest plot shows the subgroup analysis of the prevalence of occupational-related upper back pain in the previous year based on occupation categories, 2020.

**Group by**

**Publication year**

**Study name**

**Statistics for each study**

**Event rate and 95% CI**

**Event**

**Lower**

**Upper**

**rate**

**limit**

**limit**

**Z-Value**

**p-Value**

2017

Henok and Bekele

0.604

0.557

0.650

4.241

0.000

2017

0.604

0.557

0.650

4.241

0.000

2018

Regassa et al

0.153

0.117

0.198

-10.688

0.000

2018

0.153

0.117

0.198

-10.688

0.000

2019

Mekonnen et al(a)

0.388

0.342

0.436

-4.535

0.000

2019

Lette, et al.

0.157

0.125

0.196

-12.381

0.000

2019

0.256

0.094

0.534

-1.739

0.082

2020

Tamene et al

0.104

0.076

0.141

-12.193

0.000

2020

Kibret et al

0.336

0.308

0.415

-4.839

0.000

2020

Hailu et al

0.158

0.126

0.196

-12.387

0.000

2020

Mekonnen et al(b)

0.504

0.466

0.542

0.204

0.838

2020

Melese et al

0.170

0.129

0.220

-9.678

0.000

2020

Dagne et al

0.354

0.321

0.389

-7.904

0.000

2020

0.253

0.155

0.384

-3.471

0.001

Overall

0.438

0.399

0.477

-3.081

0.002

**-1.00**

**-0.50**

**0.00**

**0.50**

**1.00**

Figure 2. Forest plot shows the subgroup analysis of the pooled prevalence of occupational-related upper back pain in the previous year based on the publication year, 2020.

 *Keys: SNNP:* Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples

**Group by**

**Region**

**Study name**

**Statistics for each study**

**Event rate and 95% CI**

**Event**

**Lower**

**Upper**

**rate**

**limit**

**limit**

**Z-Value**

**p-Value**

Addis Ababa

Dagne et al

0.354

0.321

0.389

-7.904

0.000

Addis Ababa

0.354

0.321

0.389

-7.904

0.000

Amhara

Mekonnen et al(a)

0.388

0.342

0.436

-4.535

0.000

Amhara

0.388

0.342

0.436

-4.535

0.000

Oromia

Hailu et al

0.158

0.126

0.196

-12.387

0.000

Oromia

Lette, et al.

0.157

0.125

0.196

-12.381

0.000

Oromia

Mekonnen et al (b)

0.504

0.466

0.542

0.204

0.838

Oromia

Regassa et al

0.153

0.117

0.198

-10.688

0.000

Oromia

0.221

0.092

0.445

-2.381

0.017

SNNP

Tamene et al

0.104

0.076

0.141

-12.193

0.000

SNNP

Henok and Bekele

0.604

0.557

0.650

4.241

0.000

SNNP

0.297

0.033

0.841

-0.669

0.503

Tigray

Kibret et al

0.336

0.308

0.415

-4.839

0.000

Tigray

Melese et al

0.170

0.129

0.220

-9.678

0.000

Tigray

0.255

0.113

0.479

-2.127

0.033

Overall

0.362

0.336

0.390

-9.459

0.000

**-1.00**

**-0.50**

**0.00**

**0.50**

**1.00**

Figure 3: Forest plot shows the subgroup analysis of the pooled prevalence of occupational-related upper back pain in the previous year based on the study region, 2020.

**Group by**

**Population**

**Study name**

**Statistics for each study**

**Event rate and 95% CI**

**Event**

**Lower**

**Upper**

**rate**

**limit**

**limit**

**Z-Value**

**p-Value**

Bank workers

Kibret et al

0.404

0.351

0.460

-3.343

0.001

Bank workers

Dagne et al

0.543

0.507

0.578

2.360

0.018

Bank workers

0.475

0.343

0.610

-0.360

0.719

Barbers

Mekonnen (a)

0.557

0.510

0.603

2.356

0.018

Barbers

0.557

0.510

0.603

2.356

0.018

BS Workers

Tolera & Kabeto

0.557

0.506

0.607

2.182

0.029

BS Workers

0.557

0.506

0.607

2.182

0.029

Civil service workers

Fanta et al

0.384

0.347

0.423

-5.746

0.000

Civil service workers

0.384

0.347

0.423

-5.746

0.000

Cleaners

Melese et al

0.348

0.293

0.407

-4.859

0.000

Cleaners

0.348

0.293

0.407

-4.859

0.000

Construction workers

Lette, et al.

0.255

0.215

0.299

-9.462

0.000

Construction workers

0.255

0.215

0.299

-9.462

0.000

Hairdressers

Mekonnen et al(b)

0.532

0.494

0.570

1.633

0.102

Hairdressers

0.532

0.494

0.570

1.633

0.102

Industry workers

Tafese et al

0.649

0.602

0.693

6.026

0.000

Industry workers

Hailu et al

0.359

0.314

0.407

-5.645

0.000

Industry workers

Wanamo et al

0.642

0.595

0.686

5.752

0.000

Industry workers

Olana

0.582

0.544

0.619

4.194

0.000

Industry workers

0.559

0.432

0.679

0.911

0.363

Nurses

Mekonnen (b)

0.636

0.589

0.681

5.490

0.000

Nurses

Regassa et al

0.678

0.623

0.728

6.036

0.000

Nurses

0.654

0.612

0.694

6.911

0.000

Pedestrian BL women

Henok and Bekele

0.673

0.627

0.716

6.956

0.000

Pedestrian BL women

0.673

0.627

0.716

6.956

0.000

Teachers

Kebede et al

0.748

0.712

0.781

11.676

0.000

Teachers

Abebaw, et al

0.440

0.405

0.475

-3.324

0.001

Teachers

0.604

0.293

0.849

0.635

0.525

Drivers

Yosef et al

0.650

0.602

0.695

5.905

0.000

Drivers

0.650

0.602

0.695

5.905

0.000

Vehicle Repair Workers

Tamene et al

0.628

0.576

0.677

4.694

0.000

Vehicle Repair Workers

0.628

0.576

0.677

4.694

0.000

Overall

0.528

0.513

0.543

3.641

0.000

**-1.00**

**-0.50**

**0.00**

**0.50**

**1.00**

*Key; BL: Back Loading; BS: Beauty Salon*

Figure 4. Forest plot shows the subgroup analysis of the pooled prevalence of occupational related low back pain in the previous year based on the study population, 2020.

**Group by**

**Publication year**

**Study name**

**Statistics for each study**

**Event rate and 95% CI**

**Event**

**Lower**

**Upper**

**rate**

**limit**

**limit**

**Z-Value**

**p-Value**

2017

Wanamo et al

0.642

0.595

0.686

5.752

0.000

2017

Henok and Bekele

0.673

0.627

0.716

6.956

0.000

2017

0.657

0.625

0.689

8.976

0.000

2018

Tafese et al

0.649

0.602

0.693

6.026

0.000

2018

Olana

0.582

0.544

0.619

4.194

0.000

2018

Abebaw, et al

0.440

0.405

0.475

-3.324

0.001

2018

Regassa et al

0.678

0.623

0.728

6.036

0.000

2018

0.588

0.477

0.691

1.564

0.118

2019

Kebede et al

0.748

0.712

0.781

11.676

0.000

2019

Yosef et al

0.650

0.602

0.695

5.905

0.000

2019

Lette, et al.

0.255

0.215

0.299

-9.462

0.000

2019

Mekonnen (a)

0.557

0.510

0.603

2.356

0.018

2019

Mekonnen(b)

0.636

0.589

0.681

5.490

0.000

2019

0.571

0.403

0.724

0.825

0.409

2020

Tamene et al

0.628

0.576

0.677

4.694

0.000

2020

Kibret et al

0.404

0.351

0.460

-3.343

0.001

2020

Hailu et al

0.359

0.314

0.407

-5.645

0.000

2020

Fanta et al

0.384

0.347

0.423

-5.746

0.000

2020

Mekonnen et al(b)

0.532

0.494

0.570

1.633

0.102

2020

Melese et al

0.348

0.293

0.407

-4.859

0.000

2020

Dagne et al

0.543

0.507

0.578

2.360

0.018

2020

Tolera and Kabeto

0.557

0.506

0.607

2.182

0.029

2020

0.469

0.399

0.540

-0.856

0.392

Overall

0.618

0.589

0.646

7.803

0.000

**-1.00**

**-0.50**

**0.00**

**0.50**

**1.00**

Figure 5. Forest plot shows the subgroup analysis of the pooled prevalence of occupational related low back pain in the previous year based on the publication year, 2020.

***Keys****: SNNP:* Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples

**Group by**

**Region**

**Study name**

**Statistics for each study**

**Event rate and 95% CI**

**Event**

**Lower**

**Upper**

**rate**

**limit**

**limit**

**Z-Value**

**p-Value**

Addis Ababa

Wanamo et al

0.642

0.595

0.686

5.752

0.000

Addis Ababa

Abebaw, et al

0.440

0.405

0.475

-3.324

0.001

Addis Ababa

Dagne et al

0.543

0.507

0.578

2.360

0.018

Addis Ababa

0.542

0.432

0.647

0.746

0.456

Amhara

Mekonnen(a)

0.557

0.510

0.603

2.356

0.018

Amhara

0.557

0.510

0.603

2.356

0.018

Oromia

Tafese et al

0.649

0.602

0.693

6.026

0.000

Oromia

Hailu et al

0.359

0.314

0.407

-5.645

0.000

Oromia

Yosef et al

0.650

0.602

0.695

5.905

0.000

Oromia

Olana

0.582

0.544

0.619

4.194

0.000

Oromia

Lette, et al.

0.255

0.215

0.299

-9.462

0.000

Oromia

Mekonnen(b)

0.636

0.589

0.681

5.490

0.000

Oromia

Mekonnen et al(b)

0.532

0.494

0.570

1.633

0.102

Oromia

Tolera and Kabeto

0.557

0.506

0.607

2.182

0.029

Oromia

Regassa et al

0.678

0.623

0.728

6.036

0.000

Oromia

0.544

0.453

0.631

0.948

0.343

SNNP

Tamene et al

0.628

0.576

0.677

4.694

0.000

SNNP

Fanta et al

0.384

0.347

0.423

-5.746

0.000

SNNP

Henok and Bekele

0.673

0.627

0.716

6.956

0.000

SNNP

0.563

0.371

0.739

0.639

0.523

Tigray

Kibret et al

0.404

0.351

0.460

-3.343

0.001

Tigray

Kebede et al

0.748

0.712

0.781

11.676

0.000

Tigray

Melese et al

0.348

0.293

0.407

-4.859

0.000

Tigray

0.507

0.250

0.760

0.046

0.964

Overall

0.552

0.514

0.590

2.681

0.007

**-1.00**

**-0.50**

**0.00**

**0.50**

**1.00**

Figure 6. Forest plot shows the subgroup analysis of the pooled prevalence of occupational related low back pain in the previous year based on the study region, 2020.