

Additional File 2: Prevalence (29 studies) and incidence (5 studies) data grouped by pain definition and reported by age.

Age (yrs)	Period Prevalence (%)†						Period Incidence (%)†			
	Point	7 day	1 month	3 month	1 year	Lifetime	1 month	6 month	1 year	25 year
Any back pain										
7-17		10.0 [60]								
8-10			18.7 [57]; 18.5M, 18.5F [11]							
8-12		23.0 [40]								
10-14						17.1M, 18.9F [54]				
10-16		3.4* [59]				12.0* [59]				
11-17	4.0 [53]					15.6 [61]				
12		21.2 [49]	34.8 [49]							
12-18						19.5 [42], 31.2* [42]				
13		2.8M, 6.7F [12]	22.0M, 23.0F [67]							
14		5.6M,							23.5M,	

	11.7F [12]		33.3F [12]
14-16		18.0 [57]; 21.9M, 15.8F [11]	
15	5.6M, 11.7F [12]		11.8M, 33.3F [12]
> 15	0.9-3.6M, 2.9-9.4F ‡ [56]		
16	9.7M, 15.0F [12]		35.3M, 26.7F [12]
17	15.3M, 16.7F [12]		29.4M, 6.7F [12]
20-72	0.5, 0.7* [52]	19.3-27.5 [68]	
35-70		17.0 [13]; 15.0 [46]; 18.0M, 22.0F # [47]	
Pain associated with backpack use			
8-18	6.0, 18.3^		

	[48]	
9	14.0M, 9.0F	
	# [65]	
10	38.0M,	
	72.0F # [65]	
11	14.0M,	
	30.0F # [65]	
12	26.0M,	
	37.0F # [65]	
13	11.7M, 22.9M,	
	38.0F # [65] 51.4F [58]	
15	31.4 [44];	
	24.0M,	
	41.0F # [65]	
17	31.4M,	
	40.0F [58]	

Pain interfering with school or leisure

10	9.3M, 3.5F
	[45]
14	9.7M, 9.5F
	[45]

16		8.7M, 4.2F	
		[45]	
Pain duration ≥ 1 day			
12	18.0 [50]		
Daily pain for duration ≥ 1 week			
>18		21.5 [51]	9.8
			[62]
Pain duration ≥ 15 days			
20-80			0.0-
			0.6M,
			0.3-
			1.0F
			[43]
Pain duration ≥ 1 month			
9-11		4.8M, 7.0F	
		# [66]	
Pain frequency ≥ 1/week			
10			3.8 # [41]
13			10.3 [69] 7.1 [69]
Pain associated with low back pain occurring ≥ 1/month			
14-15	20.4M,		

38.3F [64]

Frequent pain	
40-69	1.4-6.8 # [55]
Pain after work	
16-65	34.8 [39]

* thoracolumbar spinal pain

^ cervicothoracic spinal pain

† M = males, F = females, C = genders combined

‡ age standardised prevalence values

data extracted from a Figure