

# Workers say 'green' buildings boost productivity

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(PhysOrg.com) -- Workers who moved from conventional office buildings to environmentally friendly “green” buildings said they called in sick less often and were more productive, according to a study by a team of Michigan State University researchers.

The study appears in the online version of the American Journal of Public Health.

The researchers, who looked at two case studies in the Lansing area, found that moving to LEED-certified buildings contributed to noticeable reductions in self-reported absenteeism and stress. It also improved the workers’ productivity as a result of perceived improvements in health and well-being.

“These preliminary findings indicate that green buildings may positively affect public health,” the researchers write.

LEED, which stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental [Design](#), is a designation by the U.S. Green Building Council for buildings with environmentally friendly design, construction practices and operation.

The research team consists of Amanjeet Singh, a former MSU master’s student; Matt Syal, professor of planning, design and construction; Sue Grady, assistant professor of geography; and Sinem Korkmaz, assistant professor of planning, design and construction.

The researchers said they plan to continue seeking funds to monitor the study participants and also conduct similar studies at different sites.

Provided by Michigan State University

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