

Composite of Illinois Workers' Compensation Claims 2017

The Department collects claim specific data from workers' compensation insurers in Illinois on an aggregate basis as outlined in Section 29.2(b) of the Illinois Workers' Compensation Act. The experience period for this summary was January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

- ◆ A total of 127,121 workers' compensation claims were opened during 2016. Companies were notified that the employee had attorney representation in 16.3 percent of these opened claims.
- ◆ Of the opened claims, a total of 84,939 (66.8 percent of total claims) were medical-only claims. Medical-only claims are defined as any request for recovery that was limited to medical expenses only.
- ◆ Of the opened claims, a total of 11,979 (9.4 percent of total claims) were contested claims. Contested claims are defined as any claim in which resolution was delayed due to a dispute regarding policy language or in which litigation was involved.
- ◆ There were 28,812 claims that included lost work by the insured claimant. Companies report 33 percent of these claims were not paid within 14 days from the first full day off, regardless of reason. Below is a breakdown of the claims with loss time:
 - ◇ 10,019 (34.8 percent) involved a loss of less than 3 working days,
 - ◇ 4,827 (16.8 percent) involved a loss of between 3 and 14 working days, and
 - ◇ 13,966 (48.5 percent) involved a loss of greater than 14 working days.
- ◆ An average of 12.4 hours per claim was spent adjusting workers' compensation claims.
- ◆ A total of 290 companies reported paying medical bills 60 days or later from the date of service with an average of 321 days paid on those medical bills paid after 60 days.
- ◆ The average cost per claim for claims in which in-house defense counsel participated was \$1,570, and the average cost per claim for claims in which outside defense counsel participated was \$3,047.
- ◆ The total amount billed to employers totaled:
 - ◇ \$23,836,539 for bill review,
 - ◇ \$30,895,025 for fee schedule savings, and
 - ◇ \$32,789,130 for any and all managed care fees.
- ◆ The average cost per claim involving in-house medical nurse case management totaled \$603, and the average cost per claim involving outside medical nurse case management totaled \$94.
- ◆ The total amount paid for all Independent Medical exams totaled \$31,908,424.
- ◆ The total number of companies reporting in-house Utilization Review expenses totaled 56 compared to 179 companies reporting outside Utilization Review expenses.