



November 15, 2022

PCRB CIRCULAR NO. 1786

To All Members of the PCRB:

**RE: PCRB RELEASES MULTI-BUREAU EVALUATION OF COVID-19 –
PHASE II: EXPANDED DATA ON CLAIM CHARACTERISTICS AND TRENDS**

The Pennsylvania Compensation Rating Bureau (PCRB), in collaboration with nine other workers compensation (WC) rating bureaus, has jointly released Phase II of COVID-19's Impact on the Workers Compensation (WC) System. The report is available on the PCRB website under [Industry Reports](#) or by clicking the following link: [COVID-19 Claims Characteristics and Trends – Phase II](#).

This updated study includes two years of claims data—Accident Years (AY) 2020 and 2021 through year-end 2021—from the following WC bureaus: California, Delaware, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and NCCI. This effort allowed for the creation of a COVID-19 claims database, which produced a comprehensive view of COVID-19 claim characteristics and trends. The analysis does *not* include experience from self-insured employers or denial and expense-only claims.

Key findings include:

- This analysis relied on data from 45 jurisdictions, representing \$1.1 billion in COVID-19-related losses from approximately 117,000 claims. The average claim cost during the two-year period was approximately \$9,600.
- On average, COVID-19 claims decreased from 11% of WC lost-time claims reported in AY2020 to 4% in AY2021 across the jurisdictions included in the study.
- Approximately 75% of reported COVID-19 lost-time claims were from the healthcare sector, while that sector only accounts for about 9% of non-COVID-19 lost-time claims.
- Indemnity-only claims, while uncommon for non-COVID-19 claims, continued to represent the largest share of COVID-19 claims. On average, these claims for lost wages are less costly, accounting for a relatively small share of overall losses.

This updated report confirms significant findings from our 2020 report and includes additional insights on industry sector and accident-quarter metrics. Claim and loss activity varied across jurisdictions, impacting individual states and sectors differently and at varying times. Uncertainties remain about the long-term impact of COVID-19.

Read the [full report](#) to learn more.

Save the Date: Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. ET

Several independent bureaus and NCCI will host an insightful webinar on information derived from this collaborative study. Registration information will be available soon.

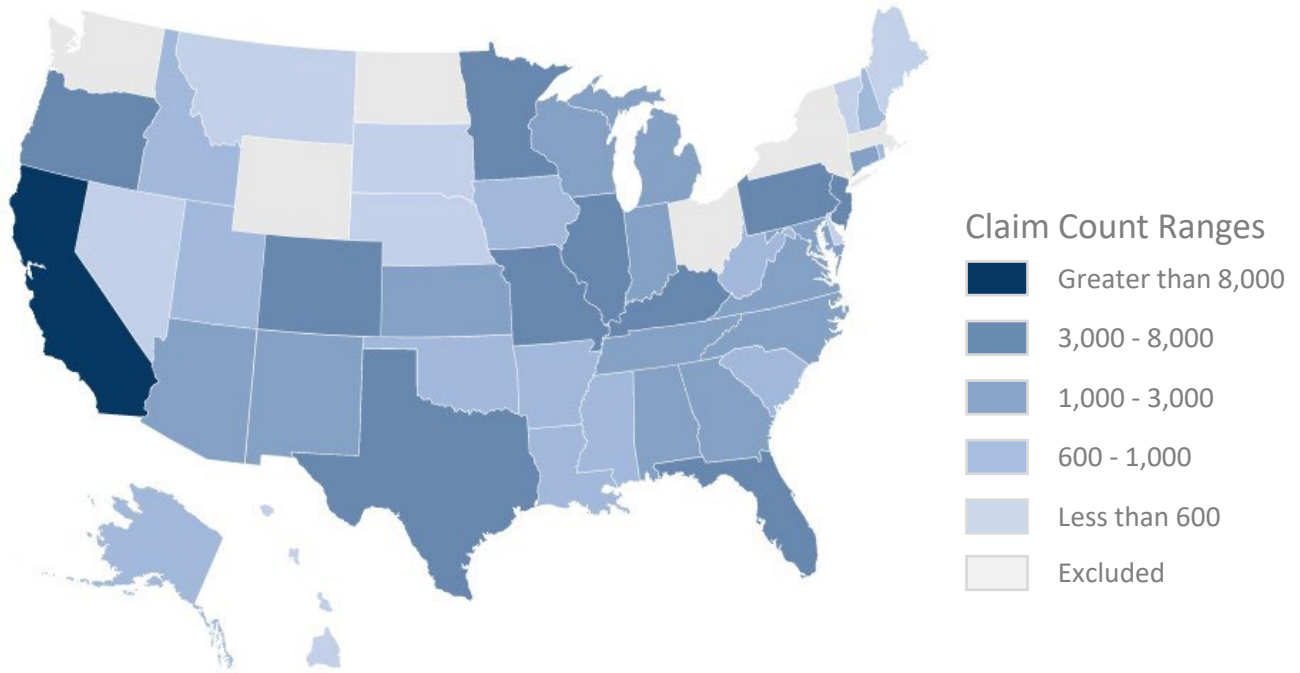
William Taylor
President



COVID-19's Impact on the Workers Compensation System

Phase II of the Multi-Bureau Collaboration

45 jurisdictions, representing \$1.1B in COVID-19-related losses from approximately 117,000 claims.



The COVID-19 claim share decreased from 11% to 4% of WC lost-time claims.

Indemnity-only claims remain a significant share of reported COVID-19 claims.

Approximately 75% of COVID-19 claims were from the healthcare sector.

The average cost of a COVID-19 claim during the study period was approximately \$9,600.