



## PENNSYLVANIA

Compensation Rating Bureau

December 15, 2021

### **PCRB CIRCULAR NO. 1775**

To All Members of the PCRB:

### **RE: PCRB RELEASES MULTI-BUREAU COLLABORATIVE REPORT ON COVID-19 CLAIMS CHARACTERISTICS AND TRENDS**

The Pennsylvania Compensation Rating Bureau (PCRB), in collaboration with a number of other workers compensation rating bureaus, has released a comprehensive analysis on COVID-19 data. The report is available on the PCRB website under [Industry Reports](#) or by clicking the following link: [COVID-19 Claims Characteristics and Trends](#).

To better understand the pandemic's impact on the workers compensation (WC) industry, a cross-bureau collaborative effort was made to analyze COVID-19 claims characteristics, including representation from the following WC bureaus: California, Delaware, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and the National Council on Compensation Insurance (NCCI). The analysis does *not* include experience from self-insured employers or denial and expense-only claims.

Claim and loss activity during 2020 as of year-end 2020 varies across jurisdictions, indicative of how the pandemic impacted individual states differently and at varying times. The early evaluation of the emergence of COVID-19 claims includes many uncertainties.

#### **Key findings in the study include:**

- In PA, COVID-19 claims represent 8.48% of total claims counts and 1.65% of incurred losses.
- Indemnity-only claims emerged as a significant share of reported COVID-19 claims.
- In aggregate, COVID-19 claims that remained open have relatively higher case reserves due to the uncertainty of COVID-19 infections, later than average accident dates, and timing of the various waves of the pandemic.
- COVID-19 indemnity claims closed more quickly than non-COVID-19 indemnity claims, partly driven by the large share of indemnity-only claims.
- Despite the higher closure rate, the ratio of paid to paid + case losses on COVID-19 claims is lower when compared with that for non-COVID-19 claims.

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

#### **Research Forum Webinar:**

Join several Independent Bureaus and NCCI for an engaging and enlightening webinar to better understand how COVID-19 has impacted the American workforce since March 2020. During this discussion, you'll learn about the multi-bureau collaboration on COVID-19 claims data that offers a more comprehensive view of COVID-19 claim characteristics and trends. The webinar is available at no cost and open to everyone.

**Thursday, January 20, 2022, at 2:30 p.m. ET (11:30 a.m. PT)** [Register now.](#)

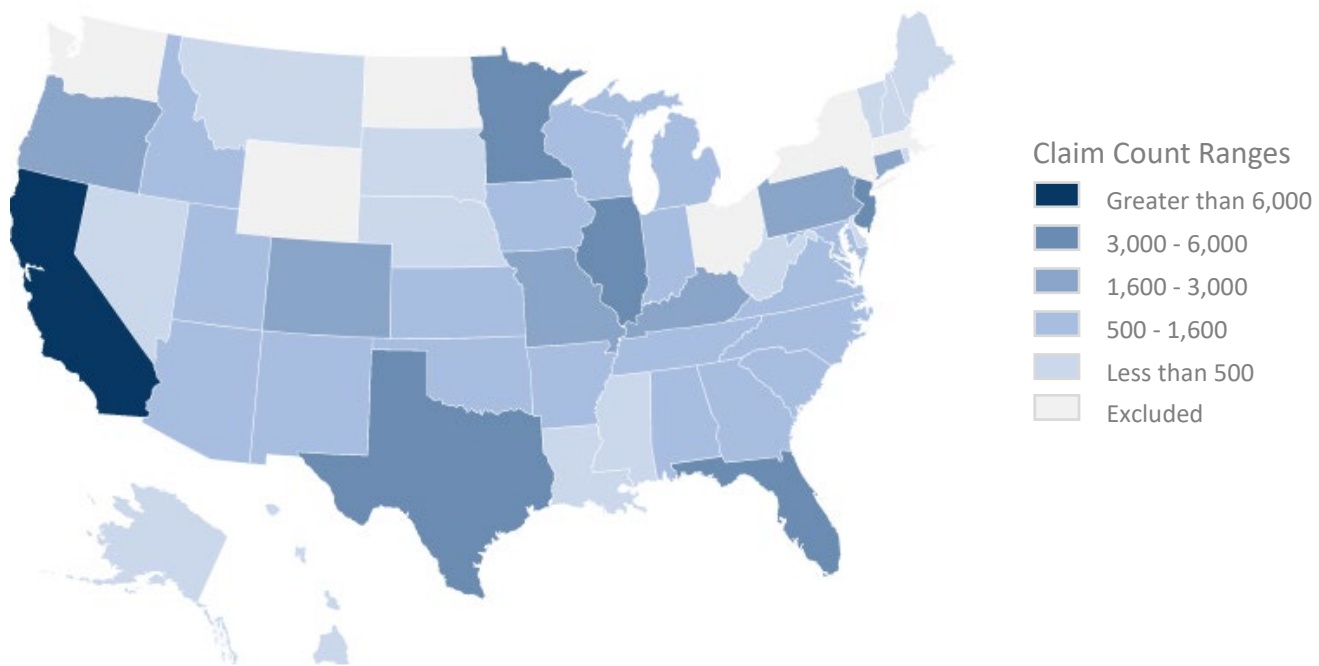
**William Taylor**

**President**



# Covid-19's Impact on Workers Compensation— A Multi-Bureau Collaboration

**45 jurisdictions**, representing approximately  
**\$630M** in incurred loss dollars across  
**80K** COVID-19 claims



**Indemnity-only** claims emerged as a **significant share** of reported COVID-19 claims.



In aggregate, **COVID-19 claims that remained open** have relatively **higher case reserves**.



**COVID-19 indemnity** claims **closed more quickly** than non-COVID-19 indemnity claims.



The ratio of **paid to paid + case losses** on **COVID-19 claims** is **lower** than that for non-COVID-19 claims.