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November 15, 2022

# DCRB CIRCULAR NO. 1017

To All Members of the DCRB:

# RE: DCRB RELEASES MULTI-BUREAU EVALUATION OF COVID-19 -

# PHASE II: EXPANDED DATA ON CLAIM CHARACTERISTICS AND TRENDS

The Delaware Compensation Rating Bureau (DCRB), 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 DCRB website under <u>Industry Reports</u> or by clicking the following link: <u>COVID-19 Claims Characteristics and Trends – Phase II</u>.

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

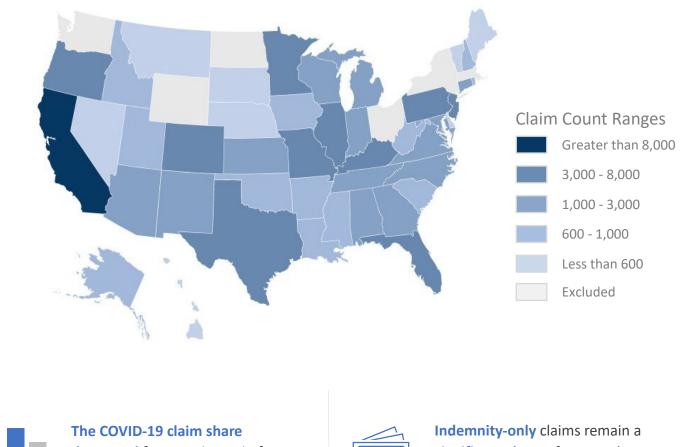
President



# COVID-19's Impact on the Workers Compensation System

# Phase II of the Multi-Bureau Collaboration

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

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



