

## At-A-Glance

The Center for Workers' Compensation Studies uses workers' compensation data and systems to improve workplace safety and health. This snapshot shows recent accomplishments and upcoming work.

### What are our priorities?

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Center for Workers' Compensation Studies works with partners in the insurance industry, health care providers, labor, employers, trade associations, professional organizations, and academia. The program focuses on these areas:

- Expanding use of state-level workers' compensation claims data for research and prevention.
- Identifying and communicating interventions most effective at preventing illness and injury.
- Encouraging collaborations between the public health and workers' compensation communities.

### What do we do?

- Build the capacity of states to use workers' compensation claims data for prevention purposes through grants, partnerships, and technical assistance.
- Evaluate approaches to preventing illness and injury by working with workers' compensation insurers.
- Distribute information on the most effective prevention approaches to insurers, state

workers' compensation bureaus, and state departments of health. This primarily includes interventions to prevent injuries, but it also includes best practices for treatment of illness and injury, and issues related to return-to-work.

- Host webinars and meetings to encourage communication between the workers' compensation industry and public health partners.

### What have we accomplished?

- Published a claims analyses [study](#) for multi-industry causation in Ohio to help focus prevention efforts on specific injuries and industries.
- Hosted a December 2017 workers compensation research grantees meeting and established a quarterly conference call series with states to share best practices for data analysis.
- Published a NIOSH Science [Blog](#) on Worker Recovery and Return-to-Work that provided resource and started a discussion on research needs.
- Co-developed a NIOSH [Safety Pays in Mining](#) program to depict cost savings from preventing common injuries in the mining industry.

- Published a [study](#) to survey insurer industrial hygiene practices and a second study to standardize portions of industrial hygiene data collection forms to improve the future use of data within insurers and for safety and health research.
- Published a study of interviews with nine insurers. The results help illuminate how insurer systems control workplace injury and illness risks and identify opportunities for public health partnerships.

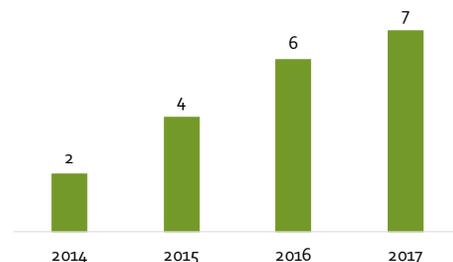
### What's next?

- Publish a web-based data visualization dashboard based on recent completed claims analyses in Ohio.
- Complete claims analyses for multi-industry cost and detailed causation, construction industry rates by age and gender, and healthcare industry violence rates.
- Conduct outreach to state workers' compensation bureaus and departments of health to share best practices for data linkage, auto-coding, and data-dashboards.
- Submit several claims analyses papers to peer reviewed and trade journals, focusing on

temporary services, private ambulance services, traumatic brain injury, hearing loss, and the link of noise level to injury.

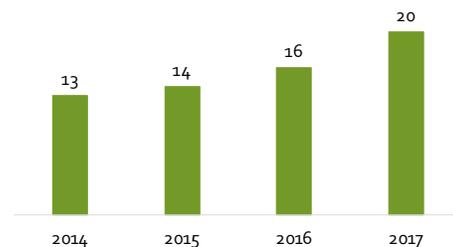
- Submit papers to peer reviewed and trade journals on the intervention effectiveness of material handling controls and a wellness grant case study.
- Support contracted worker care studies focused on levels of prescribed opioids by industry/occupation and stakeholder perspectives for compensation system improvements.
- Publish a NIOSH Science Blog on insurer risk assessment standardization.

Number of states analyzing multi-industry worker's compensation claims data



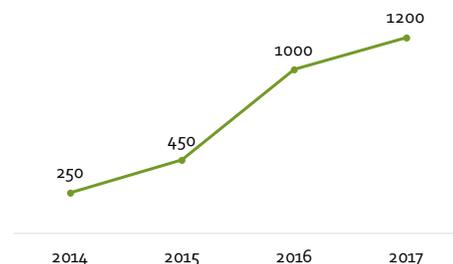
Source: NIOSH program records

Estimated number of NIOSH collaborative evaluations with insurers



Source: NIOSH program records

Number of attendees at the Center's webinars



Source: NIOSH program records

To learn more, visit  
<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/workercomp/cwcs/>

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