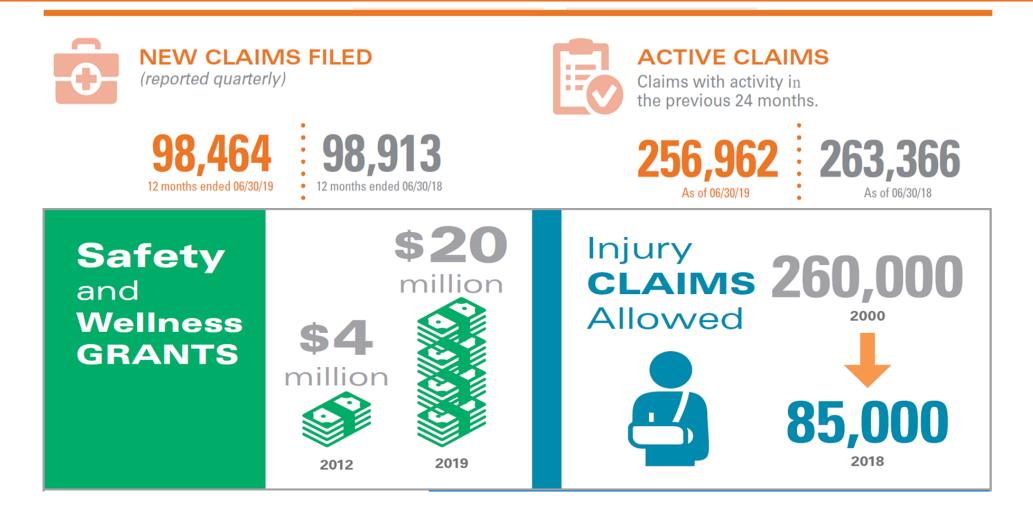


#### Annual Review & Cost Cutting Strategies

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Ohio Bureau Compo

Bureau of Workers' Compensation





### What am I looking at?



# **Claims Cost Control Strategies**

- Handicap Reimbursements
- Settlements
- No Fault MVA rule
- 15k program
- Salary Continuation
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Transitional Work

- Enhanced Care Program
- Better You Better Ohio
- Volunteer Waiver



### Return to Work Programs-Transitional Work & Vocational Rehabilitation

- Effective way to return to work
  - 50% drop in workers returning to work after 12 weeks
  - 10% chance of worker returning to work after one year.
- RTW programs reduces the impact of lost time claims
- Early intervention helps reduce the impact and future loses



### **Handicap Reimbursements**

- 26 recognized conditions
- The condition had to result in a delay in recovery
- Applies to lost time claims only, where TT or Salary Continuation was paid.

• Example: If only compensation paid was a PPD- no handicap award

• Handicap reimbursement awards now will apply to settlements



### **Claims Settlements**

- The settlement forever resolves all past, present, or future medical and compensation issues, and liabilities in the claim, whether known or unknown.
- Eliminates the reserves on the claim, but the claim will still remain on experience
- Losses paid from the BWC will appear on employer's experience
- Handicap Reimbursement awards can now be applied to settlements.

### **No-Fault Motor Vehicle Accidents**

- Effective for claims July 1, 2017 or after
- The claim is based on a motor vehicle accident involving a third party;
- The third party is issued a citation or evidence of third party responsibility
- Employer files a request for consideration
- BWC determination within 180 days
- Charged to the surplus fund



### **Enhanced Care Program**

- Claim is filed for a knee injury only
- MCO collects additional data on co-existing health issues
- BWC makes initial claim determination allowed for specific condition(s)
- Lost Time claims will get 50% claim credit and handicap reimbursement awards can now be applied to the claim.



# **15K Medical Only Program**

- Applies to only medical only claims
- Employers are allowed to pay claim cost
- Can help preserve group rates
- Doesn't have to apply to every claim



# **15K Example**

Employer A (in 15k)	Employer B (not in 15k)
EMR Rate: .50	EMR Rate: .55
Premiums: \$31,859	Premiums: \$34,969
15K Medical only costs: \$2,500	Premium difference for 1 year: \$3,110
No impact to experience	Premium difference for 4 years: \$12,440.



### **Better You Better Ohio**

- Over 15,000 participants have enrolled
- Onsite visits increased to 50 employers scheduled
- New option for employees that utilize personal physician for biometric testing
- Program will continue in the 2020 calendar year



# **Salary Continuation**

- Pay claimant wages
- Indemnity payments don't hit experience
- Drawbacks



### **Recreation Waiver**

- It's BWC's policy that an injury or disability incurred during voluntary participation in an employer sponsored recreation or fitness activity is **not** compensable **if** the injured worker signed a waiver of the right to workers' compensation benefits prior to engaging in the recreation or fitness activity
- Utilized the C-159 form
- Examples: Fitness programs, Company Outings



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