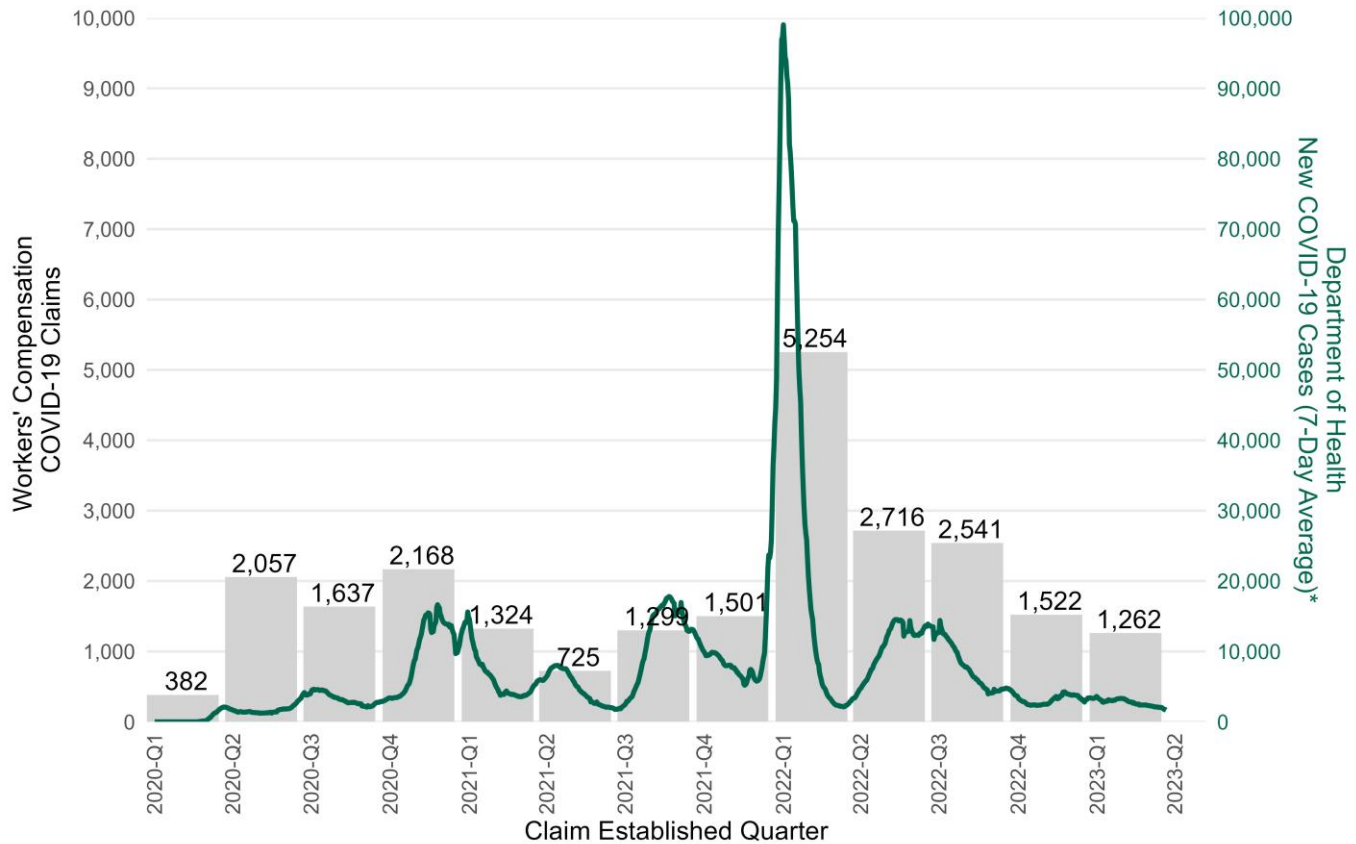


Workers' Compensation Claims for Exposure to and Disease from COVID-19

WA State Fund and Self-Insured Claims Established between Feb 26, 2020 and March 31, 2023



↓ 17% decrease in workers compensation claims for COVID-19 from 2022-Q4 to 2023-Q1.

↓ 18% decrease in statewide COVID-19 cases among working age adults from 2022-Q4 to 2023-Q1.

Claims filed for COVID-19 were confirmed for known or suspected exposure to or disease from COVID-19 at work. Counts of quarantine, laboratory tests, hospitalization, and fatal are for all claims filed. Affected workers are under-represented in workers' compensation data, particularly outside of the healthcare sector. The methods and other key findings from this surveillance system can be found in the report [COVID-19 Surveillance in Washington Workers' Compensation Data](#). Additionally, we have investigated the effects of long-COVID or post-COVID conditions on the return-to-work experience in the report [Surveillance of Post-COVID Conditions using the Washington State Workers' Compensation System, 2020-2022](#). We estimate that 6-9% of workers' compensation claimants for acute COVID-19 will go on to develop post-COVID conditions, i.e. symptoms lasting for 28 days or more after the first positive test.

* Source: *COVID-19 Data Dashboard, Adults 18-64 years old*. Washington State Department of Health. Accessed 5/1/2023. <https://doh.wa.gov/emergencies/covid-19/data-dashboard>

Summary of COVID-19 Claims by Year/Quarter and Industry

Claim Established Year/Quarter	Claims Filed ²	Known Positive Laboratory Test ³	Hospitalized	Fatal	Claims Accepted
2020	6,244	3,448	93	23	5,444
2021	4,849	4,062	120	38	4,284
2022	12,033	11,324	38	12	10,971
2023	1,262	1,135	3	0	1,141
2023-Q1	1,262	1,135	3	0	1,141
Industry Sector ¹					
Health Care & Social Assistance	13,564	11,208	120	32	12,861
Public Administration	5,162	4,124	53	14	4,980
Educational Services	2,279	2,106	18	2	2,057
Admin & Support & Waste Mgmt.	936	744	9	0	792
Retail Trade	406	315	9	2	231
Manufacturing	369	294	8	8	49
Other Svcs.(except Public Admin.)	269	191	2	0	230
Accommodation & Food Services	252	155	6	1	126
Transportation & Warehousing	240	160	12	3	128
Agricult., Forestry, Fish & Hunting	228	187	9	7	134
Professional, Sci., & Tech. Svcs.	163	128	0	0	101
Construction	150	88	3	2	23
Wholesale Trade	118	73	1	0	38
Information	48	43	0	0	40
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	48	31	1	0	23
Arts, Entertainment, & Rec.	23	20	0	0	7
Finance & Insurance	16	11	0	0	2
Utilities	8	6	0	0	6
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	4	4	0	0	1
Unknown Industry, Not Specified	105	81	3	2	11
Total	24,388	19,969	254	73	21,840

1. Industry sectors defined using the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Educational Services is predominant for university-affiliated hospitals. Administrative & Support & Waste Mgmt. is predominant for hospital and nursing home administrators.
2. Includes claims adjudicated as Accepted, Rejected, Provisional, and claims Not Yet Allowed.
3. Number of positive tests are likely an undercount, as test results are not always known, particularly for self-insured claims. We linked L&I claim records with COVID-19 data from the WA Department of Health to identify 0.9% of the positive tests.