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2016-17 Biennial Budget – Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals

Agency Profile – Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals ..... 1

<http://mn.gov/workcomp>

**AT A GLANCE**

- Five appellate judges, who sit as panels of three or five.
- Budget 100% funded by the Special Compensation Fund.
- We review workers' compensation appeals from the Office of Administrative Hearings, the Department of Labor & Industry and union workers' compensation arbitration.
- We also decide petitions to reopen workers' compensation settlements.
- Our website provides information, rules and searchable text of decisions of the court.
- Appeals from our decisions proceed directly to the Minnesota Supreme Court.

**PURPOSE**

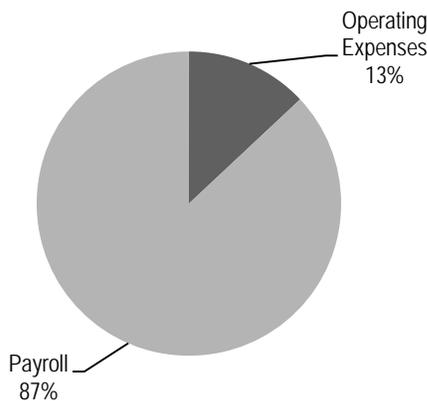
The Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals' mission is to provide equal access to fair and timely review of disputed workers' compensation issues which affect entitlement to and delivery of workers' compensation wage loss and medical benefits.

Statewide outcomes supported by our agency include:

- Efficient and accountable government services
- A thriving economy that encourages business growth and employment opportunities
- People in Minnesota are safe
- All Minnesotans have optimal health

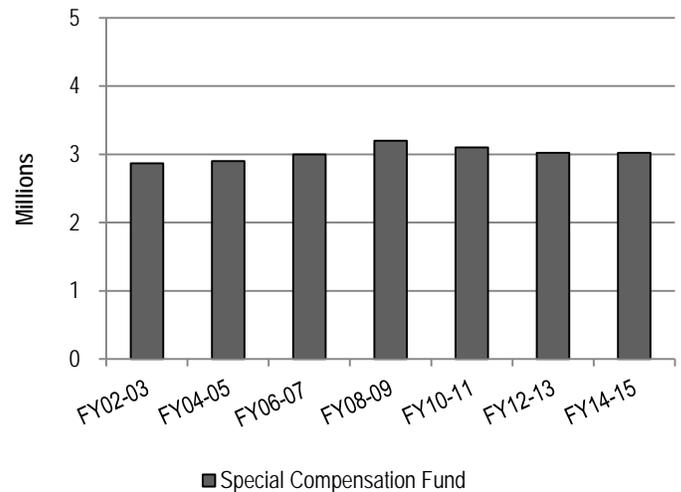
**BUDGET**

**Spending by Category  
FY 13 Actual**



Source: SWIFT

**Historical Spending**



■ Special Compensation Fund  
Source: Consolidated Fund Statement

**STRATEGIES**

We work to provide equal access to fair and timely review of disputes before us by:

- Reviewing the evidentiary record created by the initial decision making body;
- Presiding over oral arguments;
- Conducting necessary legal research
- Deciding the issues; and
- Issuing appropriate written orders, decisions and memoranda.

## RESULTS

We decide disputes before us promptly under our statutory mandate to:

- Ensure the quick and efficient delivery of benefits to injured workers at a reasonable cost to employers;
- Maintain economic stability for injured workers and their families;
- Provide for appropriate medical treatment of work-related illnesses and injuries;
- Support a competitive business climate for Minnesota employers by reducing the amount of litigation; and
- Support employers in creating safe and healthy work environments.

Decisions are written to inform the parties and the public of the bases for the court's decisions and to create a consistent body of law interpreting and applying the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Act. Our decisions are provided to the public both in published volumes and at: <http://search.state.mn.us/workcomp/>.

<i>Type of Measure</i>	<i>Name of Measure</i>	<i>Previous</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Quantity	Cases processed by the WCCA	143	148	FY 2012: FY 2103
Quality	Average number of days between case assignment and issuance of decision	60	62	FY 2012: FY 2103
Results	% of WCCA decisions reversed by Supreme Court	0%	1%	FY 2012: FY 2103

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The legal authority for the Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals is provided by Minn. Stat. Chapters 175A and 176 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=175A>; <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=176>).