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Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals

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<https://www.mn.gov/workcomp/>

AT A GLANCE

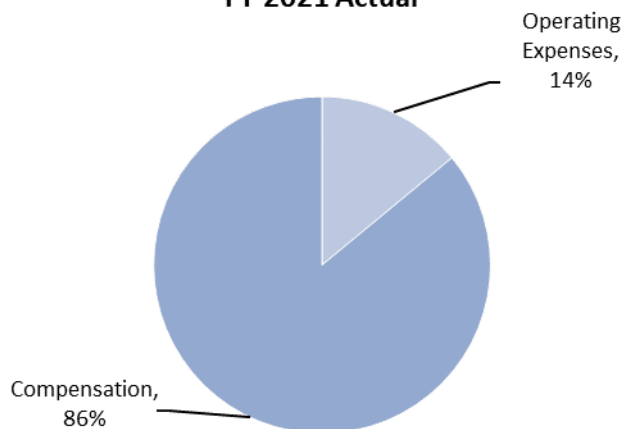
- Five appellate judges, who sit as panels of three or five.
- Budget 100% funded by the Workers Compensation Fund.
- We review workers' compensation appeals from the Office of Administrative Hearings, the Department of Labor & Industry and union workers' compensation arbitration.
- We also decide petitions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

PURPOSE

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

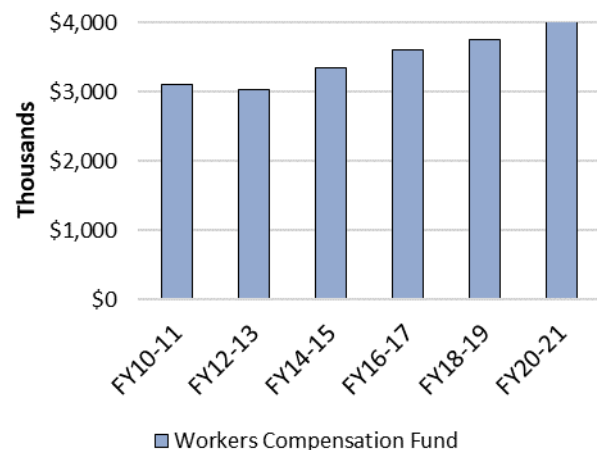
BUDGET

**Spending by Category
FY 2021 Actual**



Source: Budget Planning & Analysis System (BPAS)

Historical Spending



Source: Consolidated Fund Statement

STRATEGIES

We provide accessible, fair, and timely review of disputes before us by:

- Promptly reviewing the evidentiary record created by the initial decision making body;
- Integrating our case management, calendaring, and document filing system with the DLI Campus system;
- Coordinating disparate technologies across the workers' compensation system;
- Presiding over oral arguments;
- Conducting necessary legal research;
- Deciding the issues;
- Issuing appropriate written orders, decisions, and memoranda; and
- Promptly preparing the record for review in cases appealed to the Minnesota Supreme Court.

RESULTS

We decide the disputes before us promptly and fairly, which:

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

Our written decisions inform the parties and the public of the basis for the court's decisions and create a consistent body of law interpreting and applying the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Act. Our decisions are currently provided to the public at: <https://mn.gov/workcomp/decisions/>, distributed to the agency listserv, and available through legal databases such as Westlaw.

Type of Measure	Name of Measure	Previous	Current	Dates
Quantity	Cases processed by the WCCA	70	66	FY 2020: FY 2021
Quality	Average number of days between case assignment and issuance of decision	68*	37*	FY 2020: FY 2021
Results	Percent of WCCA decisions reversed by Supreme Court	3%	6%	FY 2020: FY 2021
*An order staying all proceedings was issued during COVID. The time under the stay for each proceeding is not included in this profile.				

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>).

Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals

Agency Expenditure Overview

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimate	Forecast Base		Enacted Budget	
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY24	FY25
<i><u>Expenditures by Fund</u></i>								
2830 - Workers Compensation	2,047	2,085	2,218	2,348	2,283	2,283	2,583	2,563
Total	2,047	2,085	2,218	2,348	2,283	2,283	2,583	2,563
Biennial Change				434		0		580
Biennial % Change				11		0		13
Enacted Budget Change from Base								580
Enacted Budget % Change from Base								13

Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals

Agency Financing by Fund

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimate	Forecast Base		Enacted Budget	
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY24	FY25
2830 - Workers Compensation								
Balance Forward In		176		65				
Direct Appropriation	2,222	2,283	2,283	2,283	2,283	2,283	2,583	2,563
Cancellations		373						
Balance Forward Out	175		65					
Expenditures	2,047	2,085	2,218	2,348	2,283	2,283	2,583	2,563
Biennial Change in Expenditures				434		0		580
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				11		0		13
Enacted Budget Change from Base								580
Enacted Budget % Change from Base								13

Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals

Agency Change Summary

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY23	FY24	FY25	Biennium 2024-25
Direct				
Fund: 2830 - Workers Compensation				
FY2023 Appropriations	2,283	2,283	2,283	4,566
Forecast Base	2,283	2,283	2,283	4,566
Change Items				
Maintain Current Service Levels		200	280	480
Rulemaking		100		100
Total Enacted Budget	2,283	2,583	2,563	5,146

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY23	FY24	FY25	Biennium 2024-25	FY26	FY27	Biennium 2026-27
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Maintain Current Service Levels

This provision covers the increases of the judges’ salary, operating costs, and the technology/installation costs from integrating with C-Track and CAMPUS.

2830 - Workers Compensation Fund Cost (Savings)	0	200	280	480	280	280	560
Expenditures	0	200	280	480	280	280	560

Rulemaking

This provision provides funding for rulemaking.

2830 - Workers Compensation Fund Cost (Savings)	0	100	0	100	0	0	0
Expenditures	0	100	0	100	0	0	0