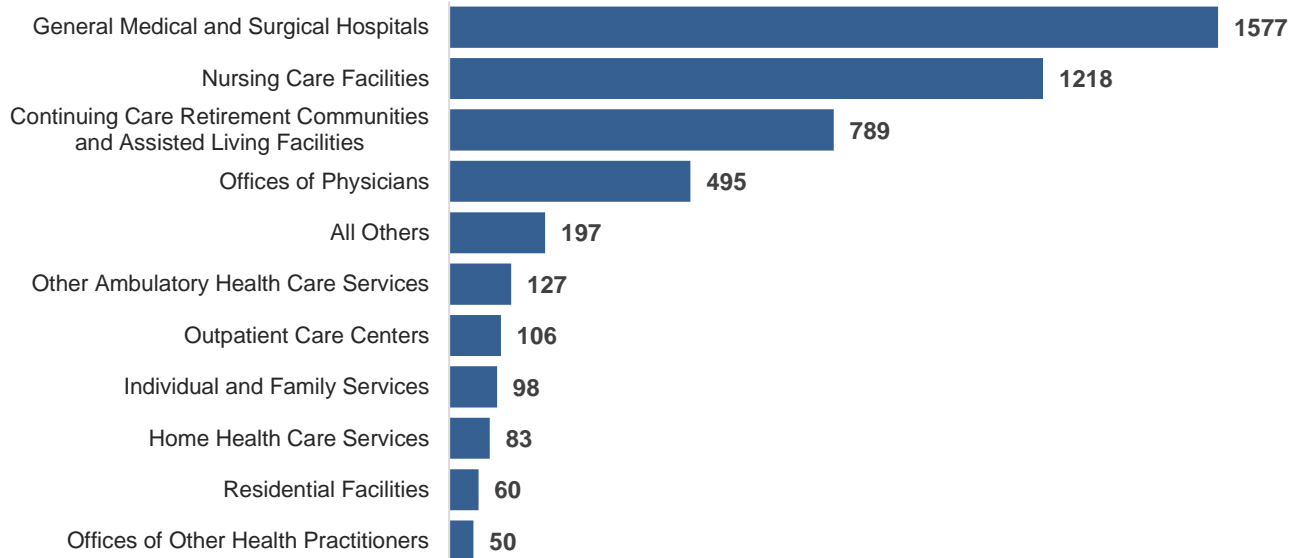


Direct and indirect-care workers in hospitals led filing, with high claim acceptance

WA State Workers' Compensation Data, Washington State, Feb 26, 2020 – Feb 23, 2021

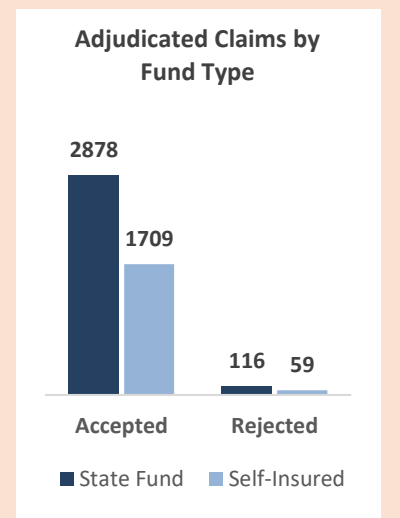
Claims filed for exposure to or disease from COVID-19 (n=4800)^{1,2}



Compensation for health care workers and first responders included benefits to eligible workers during the time they were quarantined after exposure to COVID-19 on the job.

- **96% of claims were accepted** (38 pending claims not shown).
- 3173 involved time-loss, typically for quarantine.
- 1400 claims were 'medical only' (1.5% hospitalized).
- 64% were confirmed positive³ for COVID-19.
- 79% of claimants were female.
- 13 claimants who died following COVID-19 contraction at work filed a workers' compensation claim⁴.

Effective May 11, 2021 WA State has presumption for infectious disease for eligible 'frontline' (expanded definition) workers during a public health emergency. [See SB 5115](#).



1. Industry defined as 2007 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 62 Health Care and Social Assistance, shown at 4-digit level for the top ten industry groups. Claim count excludes an additional 34 claims for home health/home/personal aides identified by Standard Occupation Codes (SOC 2000, 150 codes total) and 257 medical professionals in the Education sector, none of whom fall into Health Care sector 62 (data not shown).

2. SHARP has published detailed [methods](#) for identifying COVID-19 workers' compensation claims and [monthly data reports](#).

3. Positive tests identified through L&I Workers' Compensation and Washington State Department of Health (DOH) data. The number of confirmed positive test results is likely an undercount, as test results are not always known, particularly for self-insured claims.

4. The number of fatal work-related COVID contractions is likely an under-estimate; the WA DOH reports approximately 853 statewide deaths aged 20-64 (working age) for this same time period. (WA DOH: [Cases and Deaths by Earliest Specimen Collection Date](#)). <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/DataDashboard#tables>