

Centers of Occupational Health & Education (COHE) Program Report

May 2025

Research and Data Services, Information for Informed Decisions



Executive Summary

- Claims treated by COHE providers resolve faster than other claims:
 - Faster resolution may be due to COHE best practices preventing some medical-only claims from becoming time-loss. (Wickizer, et al., 2007.)
 - The difference in claim resolution rates is most pronounced when looking at all claims. The average resolution rate of COHE claims at 6 months is notably higher than non-COHE claims.
 - When looking at the measure for time-loss claims, treatment by COHE providers traditionally has showed benefit albeit less pronounced.
 - The time-loss days paid measure across all claims further reinforces faster COHE claim resolution when looking at total claims.
- The majority of COHE providers are high & medium adopters of COHE Best Practices (BP): In the most recent report quarter, 87.2% of COHE providers were high and medium adopters.

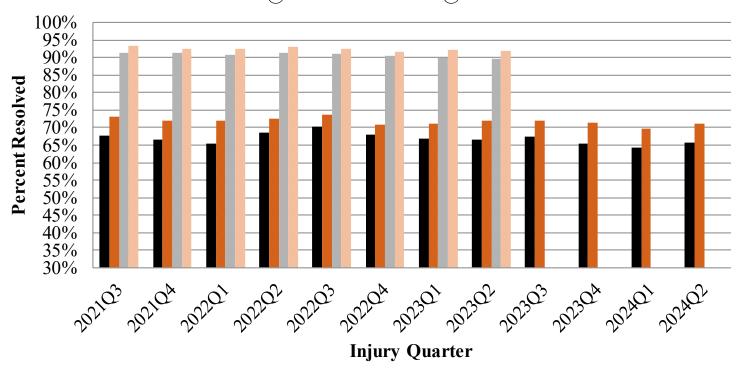
Notes:

- For this analysis, a COHE claim is one initiated by a COHE provider.
- COVID-19 claims are excluded from the resolution and time-loss days paid measures due to their disproportional representation in the COHE and non-COHE groups



Resolution: All Claims Percent Resolved at 6 and 18 Months

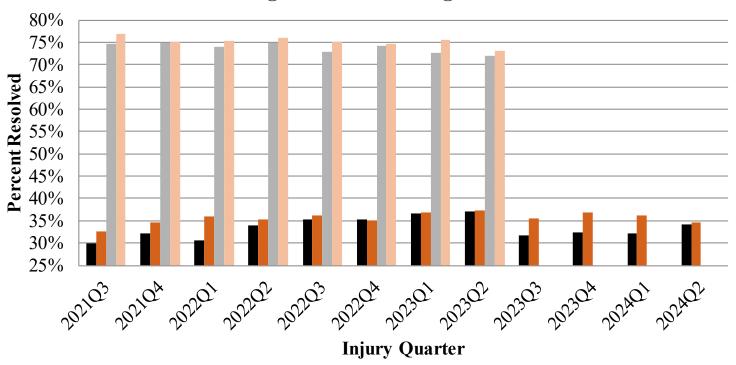
■ Non-COHE @ 6 Months ■ COHE @ 6 Months ■ Non-COHE @ 18 Months ■ COHE @ 18 Months





Resolution: Time-loss Claims Percent Resolved at 6 and 18 Months



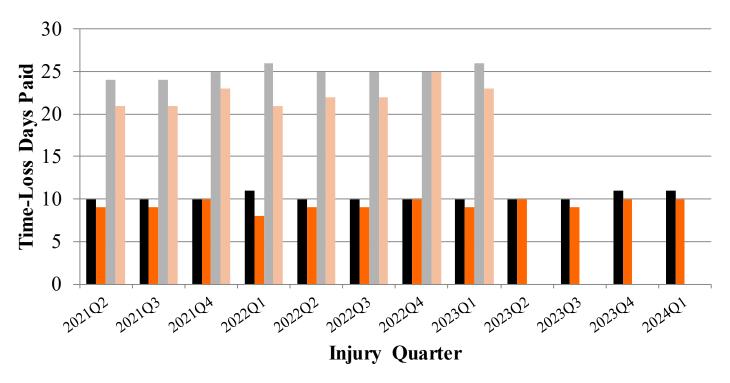


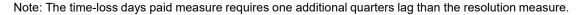
Note: A change in estimating early case reserves beginning in 2015Q1 resulted in a change in how claims are classified as time-loss at 6 months thus the resolution rate for the period 2015Q1 forward is not directly comparable to earlier periods.



Time-loss Days Paid All Claims, Average at 6 and 18 Months

- Non-COHE Avg Tl days @ 6 mo per claim COHE Avg Tl days @ 6 mo per claim
- Non-COHE Avg Tl days @ 18 mo per clm COHE Avg Tl days @ 18 mo per clm



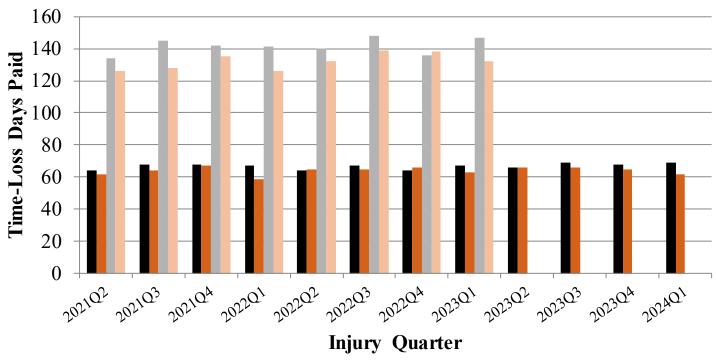




Time-loss Days Paid

Time-loss Claims, Average at 6 and 18 Months

- Non-COHE Avg TL days @ 6 mo per TL clm COHE Avg TL days @ 6 mo per TL clm
- Non-COHE Avg Tl days @ 18 mo per TL clm COHE Avg Tl days @ 18 mo per TL clm

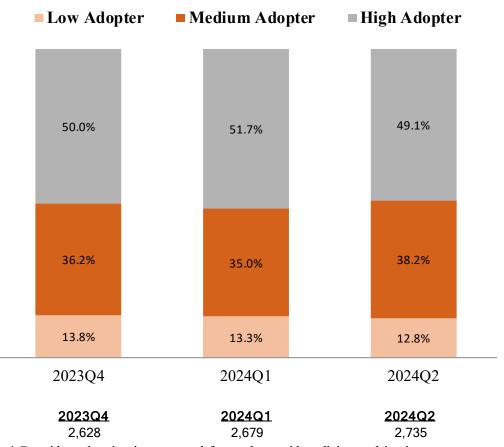


Note: The time-loss days paid measure requires one additional quarters lag than the resolution measure.



Provider Adoption of COHE Practices

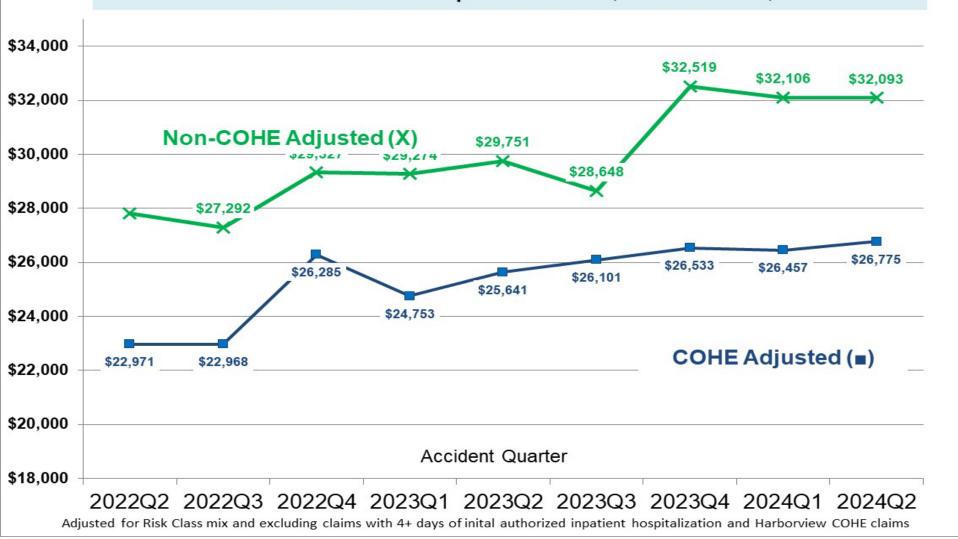
(Among Providers Treating in the Quarter)



^{*} Provider adoption is measured for each provider clinic combination



Estimated Ultimate Accident Fund + Medical Aid Fund Incurred Cost per Claim (ex COVID-19)





Methods:

Resolution - Percent of Time-loss Claims at 6 and 18 months that are resolved.

Method: Use the LDS paid-to-date table to identify claims for injury quarters limit to eval ages= 6(18) months. The percent resolved =

N closed at 6(18) months

N closed + N not closed at 6(18) months

The time-loss group is currently defined using actuarial status codes 1-Fatal, 2-TPD 3-PPD, 4-TL, 5-Miscellaneous, 8-KOS. The *All Claims* group is identified using actuarial status codes 1 - 8. **Important note:** These resolution rates are not directly comparable with claims operational data.

Time-loss - Average days paid at 6 and 18 months COHE vs. Non-COHE

- Method: Divide groups into COHE/Non-COHE based on whether the initiating provider is a COHE provider. Sum the number of days paid on each claim at 6 and 18 months (used 180 and 540 days). LEP days are included in the count of time-loss days.
 - The average time-loss per claim was calculated as:

Total days paid at 6 (or 18)months

Number of claims in the injury quarter

The average days paid per-time-loss claim was calculated as:

Total days paid at 6 (or 18)months

Provider Adoption of COHE Practices

Number of claims in the injury artr with time – loss paid at 6(or 18) months

 Method: Aggregate data reported and documented in the COHE level reports. Providers are counted in each distinct COHE/Provider Group/Comparison Group/Provider Name combination that they practice in.

Best Practices:

Complete ROA in 2 business days or less; Activity Prescription Form at first visit & when restrictions change; Contacting an employer when worker has restrictions; and Completing a Barriers to Return to Work Assessment when barriers exist.

Washington State Department of Labor & Industries