

Section Title: Board and Corporate Administration - Board Administration
Subject: Release of Statistical Data
Effective Date: January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2022

A. POLICY PURPOSE

The Workers Compensation Act (the Act) permits the Workers Compensation Board to collect information from workers and their dependants, employers, healthcare practitioners and others in order to fulfill its mandate.

The protection and disclosure of information collected by the WCB is governed by a legislative and policy framework consisting of the *Act*, *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA)*, *The Personal Health Information Act (PHIA)*, and WCB Policy 21.50.10, *Disclosure of File Information*.

Stakeholders periodically request access to statistical information collected and held by the WCB. Statistical data may be helpful to stakeholders with an interest in hazard reduction, injury prevention, injury recovery, and disability management.

This policy states the WCB's position on the protection and disclosure of statistical information.

B. DEFINITION

Statistical data is aggregate, or bulk, data that is generally stored in and extracted from databases. It is usually numerical in nature. Statistical data includes, but is not limited to, information such as claimant gender, age, industry, occupation, body part injured, nature of injury, source of injury, event causing injury, case type, and claimant employer information (industry sector and rate code).

C. POLICY

All personal identifiers will be removed from any data that is released.

If, because of sample size, an individual's identity could be determined despite the removal of personal identifiers, the data will not be released without the approval of the President and CEO or designate.

All requests for the disclosure of statistical information will be approved by the President and CEO or designate.

An administrative fee, consistent with fees charged under FIPPA, may be charged to cover the processing of requests for statistical information.

D. REFERENCES

The Workers Compensation Act, section 101
The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
The Personal Health Information Act
WCB Policy 21.50.10, *Disclosure of File Information*

History:

1. Policy approved by Board Order 41/07, on December 21, 2007, and effective January 1, 2008.
2. Minor formatting changes were made to the policy, June 27, 2012.
3. Minor formatting changes were made to the policy, October 2020.
4. New policy approved by Board Order No. 30/22 on September 29, 2022 effective January 1, 2023. This replaces three previous policies, repealed effective January 1, 2023: 21.50.10, Disclosure of File Information, 21.50.40, Disclosure of File Information - Employer Access, and 21.50.50, Release of Statistical Information. The previous policy versions were removed from the policy manual and archived December 31, 2021.

Archived