

June 1, 2026

**PCRB Information Bulletin #042**

To all members of the PCRB:

**Updated PCRB Analysis Highlights Increasing Relationship Between Excessive Heat and Workplace Injuries**

The Pennsylvania Compensation Rating Bureau (PCRB) has released [\*Impact of Excessive Heat on Workers Compensation Claims\*](#), a new research report that expands upon the findings presented in PCRB's November 2024 Research Brief. The report examines long term trends in workers compensation claim activity and explores the relationship between excessive heat exposure and workplace injuries across Pennsylvania industries.

Using Pennsylvania workers compensation claims data and statewide temperature information spanning Policy Years 2005–2024, the report analyzes how periods of elevated temperatures correspond with workplace injury patterns, claim frequency, claim severity, and industry-specific exposure trends.

The findings identify a measurable and increasingly observable relationship between excessive heat and workers compensation claim activity. The report found that heat-related claims as a percentage of total claims increased approximately 1.4% annually over the study period, with claim activity rising significantly as temperatures exceed 85°F. Among the major industry groups analyzed, construction-related occupations exhibited the highest concentration of heat-related claims, reflecting the heightened exposure faced by employees performing work in outdoor environments.

While heat-related claims continue to represent a relatively small share of overall workers compensation activity and are predominantly medical-only in nature, the findings underscore the importance of proactive workplace safety measures, employee education, and heat awareness programs as periods of extreme heat become more frequent and prolonged.

Members may find the report useful in evaluating emerging environmental risk factors, supporting safety and loss prevention initiatives, assessing industry-specific exposure trends, and informing strategic discussions regarding workforce safety, claims management, and the potential long-term impact of excessive heat on workers compensation systems.

The report is now available in the [Research & Education](#) section of the PCRB website under [Industry Reports](#).