

# Department training guide now available online

By Jim Vogel, Information Processing Center

The Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) has been providing basic adjuster training to claim adjusters for more than 10 years, both at its office in St. Paul and at locations outside the state. A *Basic Adjusters' Training Guide*, developed for use during those training classes, is now available on the DLI Web site at [www.doli.state.mn.us/wc\\_batg.html](http://www.doli.state.mn.us/wc_batg.html), for viewing and printing.

While the training classes are designed for adjusters with less than one year experience handling Minnesota workers' compensation claims, the guide may be a useful resource for all parties, presenting an overview of Minnesota workers' compensation statutes and rules. It provides highlights and nonbinding examples of how the referenced rule or statute may be applied.

The information in this guidebook is designed to:

- illustrate how to calculate benefits;
- describe when benefits are payable;
- explain how and when to file the required forms; and
- provide general information about workers' compensation benefits.



## Workers' compensation cost drops slightly in 2006

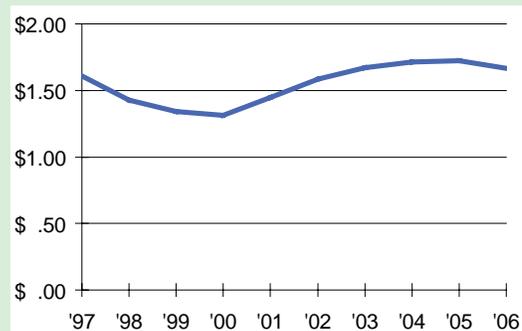
By David Berry  
Policy Development, Research and Statistics

After rising to a gentle peak in 2004 and 2005, Minnesota's workers' compensation costs dropped slightly in 2006.

The overall cost of the system came to \$1.66 per \$100 of payroll in 2006. This is a slight decrease from \$1.71 and \$1.72 in 2004 and 2005 (both figures revised). The 2006 figure is 27 percent above the low-point of \$1.31 in 2000, but 36 percent less than the peak of \$2.60 in 1993.

These figures reflect premiums paid by insured employers plus an estimate of costs for self-insured employers.

Workers' compensation system cost per \$100 of payroll, 1997-2006 [1]



	Cost per \$100 of payroll
1997	\$1.61
2000	1.31
2002	1.58
2003	1.67
2004 [2]	1.71
2005 [2]	1.72
2006 [2]	1.66

1. Data from the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, Minnesota Workers' Compensation Insurers Association, Inc., Minnesota Assigned Risk Plan, Minnesota Workers' Compensation Reinsurance Association, Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry, and Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development. Includes insured and self-insured employers.
2. Subject to revision.