COVID-19 claims filing by essential workers

The percentage of COVID-19 claims filed essential and nonessential workers was ascertained by using the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency’s “Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce: Ensuring Community and National Resilience in COVID-19 Response, (Version 4.0; August 18, 2020).”

Using the 17,879 COVID-19 workers’ compensation claims downloaded from DLI’s Campus database on Jan. 26, 2021, and removing 46 claims with no industry coding, 99% of the workers filing claims were employed in essential industries. All workers in the presumption industry categories of first responders, corrections, health care and child care were included in the essential industries. Among workers in non-presumption industries, 93% were employed in essential industries. For claims with lost time indicated, 87% of the workers in non-presumption industries were employed in essential industries.