

Selected Findings

We've chosen recent data to make the point that there are a significant number of work related incidents resulting in injuries. In addition, the monetary costs of these work-related injuries are significant not only in the short term, but too often are incurred over many years and even the lifetime of the employee. This is a snapshot (see noted appendices for details):

- ✓ **For the period January 1, 2005 through DECEMBER 31, 2006, there were 594 work-related incident reports logged by the Department of Safety & Risk Management (formerly Environmental Health & Safety).**
- ✓ **For this same period, there were 168 lost-time Ohio Bureau of Worker Compensation (OBWC) claims for O.U. employees filed, and 5,356 person-days lost to injury at Ohio University. This is an average of 31.8 days lost per OBWC claim!**
- ✓ **Assuming 8 hours of work per day, this is more than 42,848 hours of lost production time for a two-year period!**
- ✓ **This lost time amounts to 10.3 employees NOT working for each and every day of the year!**
- ✓ **During this time period, O.U. spent \$2,500,891 out-of-pocket in direct costs (medical and compensation)! This does not include the indirect or reserve costs.**
- ✓ **Of the departments which were tracked, 70% of the present and future (MIRA Reserve Risks) costs since 1998 are the result of injuries in only five O.U. departments (Custodial Services, Grounds and Transportation, Dining Services, Maintenance & Operations and College of Medicine.**
- ✓ **There were a total of 327 Worker compensation claims filed during the 2005 – 2006 time period. Forty-seven (47) employees have filed two or more Worker Compensation claims during that period. A total of 107 claims were filed by those 47 employees. Stated another way, and presuming a total of 4,100 O.U. employees, 1% of our employees have filed 32% of our Worker Compensation claims!**
- ✓ **As high as these direct costs are, the future liability of a certain percentage of these incidents is much greater. The more severe injuries can result in on-going costs to the university in the order of multiple millions of dollars over the life of the claims. A certain percentage of injuries will be severe, and a certain percentage of severe injuries will result in very high-cost future liability. S&RM believes that reduction of the total number of incidents will**

**also result in a reduction in the number of these long-term, high-cost claims.
(See appendix #1 for details).**