

- OIC considering a paperless imaging process system
- OIC has no backlog of claims

# Ohio Industrial Commission

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## ROLE

The Ohio Industrial Commission (OIC) hears worker and employer appeals of workers' compensation claims decisions made by the Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC). Disputed claims typically involve conflicts over medical decisions or lost time benefits. OIC operations are funded through an Administrative Cost Fund (ACF) assessment that is added to employers' workers' compensation premiums. OIC does not receive general revenue funds.

Hearings take place at three levels. Initial hearings take place before district hearing officers, and if disputes remain, at a second level before staff hearing officers. District and staff level hearings take place at OIC offices located throughout the state, and must occur within 52 days after a claimant or employer files an appeal with the commission. Any remaining disputes are referred to a three-member panel of commissioners in Columbus, that may take up any cases it believes warrant further review. Otherwise, cases proceed to the court system.

Agency In Brief					
Number of Employees	Total Appropriations-All Funds		GRF Appropriations		Appropriation Bill(s)
	2002	2003	2002	2003	
571	\$57.0 million	\$60.0 million	\$0	\$0	Sub. H.B. 74

## OVERVIEW

Since 1996, total staffing levels at the commission have fallen from 643 in 1996 to 571 presently. This decline was realized in part because of attrition, and also because the OIC was no longer required to retain staff at all BWC service centers.

The total number of hearings held between 1996 and 2000 dropped from 231,733 to an estimated 184,000, a 20.6 percent decrease in workload. OIC has a mandate to hear claims and issue an order at the district level within 52 days. If this decision is appealed, OIC has another 52 days to conduct the second level hearing and issue an order. OIC has compiled a 94 percent compliance rate at the district hearing officer level and a 92 percent compliance rate at the staff hearing officer level. 

**FY 2002 - 2003 Final Appropriation Amounts**

**All Fund Groups**

Line Item Detail by Agency	FY 1999:	FY 2000:	FY 2001: Appropriations:	FY 2002: Appropriations:	FY 2003	% Change 2001 to 2002:	% Change 2002 to 2003:
<b>Report For: OIC Budget</b>							
<b>OIC Ohio Industrial Commission</b>							
023 845-100 Personal Services	\$ 0	---	---	---	---	N/A	N/A
023 845-200 Maintenance	\$ 0	---	---	---	---	N/A	N/A
023 845-300 Equipment	\$ 0	---	---	---	---	N/A	N/A
023 845-321 Operating Expenses	\$ 38,750,234	\$ 40,216,494	\$ 40,523,001	\$ 48,397,439	\$ 51,055,568	19.43%	5.49%
023 845-402 Rent-William Green Building	\$ 4,386,886	\$ 4,591,819	\$ 4,729,465	\$ 5,165,116	\$ 5,331,698	9.21%	3.23%
023 845-410 Attorney General Payments	\$ 2,551,421	\$ 2,955,394	\$ 3,020,270	\$ 3,264,855	\$ 3,454,984	8.10%	5.82%
821 845-605 Service Account	\$ 33,817	\$ 86,309	\$ 102,369	\$ 153,300	\$ 157,133	49.75%	2.50%
<b>Workers' Compensation Fund Group Total</b>	<b>\$ 45,722,358</b>	<b>\$ 47,850,016</b>	<b>\$ 48,375,104</b>	<b>\$ 56,980,710</b>	<b>\$ 59,999,383</b>	<b>17.79%</b>	<b>5.30%</b>
<b>Ohio Industrial Commission Total</b>	<b>\$ 45,722,358</b>	<b>\$ 47,850,016</b>	<b>\$ 48,375,104</b>	<b>\$ 56,980,710</b>	<b>\$ 59,999,383</b>	<b>17.79%</b>	<b>5.30%</b>