

Table 32

Settlements, Full and Final, by Type of Representation, Average Number of Cases per Month and Average Amount per Case: 1994-2003^{1,2}

State of Colorado

Year	Representation					
	Pro Se		By Counsel		Totals	
	Cases Per Month	Amount Per Case	Cases Per Month	Amount Per Case	Cases Per Month	Amount Per Case
1994	64	\$12,258	418	\$28,257	481	\$26,141
1995	81	\$11,850	405	\$30,353	485	\$27,277
1996	81	\$11,763	413	\$31,709	494	\$28,447
1997	77	\$12,543	426	\$32,121	503	\$29,129
1998	104	\$16,676	460	\$33,309	564	\$30,236
1999	99	\$17,576	465	\$29,813	564	\$27,659
2000	84	\$15,031	454	\$29,464	538	\$27,199
2001	96	\$13,554	450	\$28,420	546	\$25,817
2002	112	\$12,012	454	\$28,006	567	\$24,833
2003	122	\$12,180	452	\$28,305	574	\$24,872

Notes:

1. Based on only those full-and-final settlements that occurred in the calendar year. The original filing of the claim could have taken place in the same year or prior years.
2. Data taken from 1994 through 2003 Stipulation Activity Report (#862).

There are competing views about the relationship between the unemployment rate and the rate of lost-time claims filed. Both views assume a drop in the unemployment rate signals an expanding economy and tight labor markets. However, one view holds that as the unemployment rate drops, the rate of claims filed will increase. This view assumes as the economy expands, more inexperienced workers will be hired and workers, both experienced and inexperienced, will get fatigued from working longer hours, leading to more work-related injuries. The other view holds as the unemployment rate drops, the rate of claims filed will also drop. This view assumes in a tight labor market employers will be more willing to accommodate injured workers and workers can more easily find alternate employment if they do get injured.