Estimating the Unpaid Cost of Coal Worker Pneumoconiosis Claims Filed Under the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act Scott J. Lefkowitz, FCAS, MAAA, FCA Steven G. McKinnon, FCAS, MAAA

Goals

The general goals of this presentation are to:

- Present a detailed discussion of underlying exposure to loss
- Illustrate the use of commonly applied actuarial techniques to estimate the unpaid cost of incurred coal worker pneumoconiosis (CWP) claims
- Discuss recent law changes expected to materially impact the cost of CWP claims filed under the Federal Act

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Goals

Specifically, the following items will be discussed:

- The nature of the underlying exposure to loss
- Benefits payable for claims that are approved for benefits under the Federal Act
- Similarities and differences from other workers compensation exposures
- Differences between jurisdictions (Federal and State)
- Differences between the pension component associated with active employees (not specifically examined here) and the unpaid component associated with incurred claims
- Examination of detailed data from the United States Department of Labor to generate claim reporting patterns, claim entitlement patterns, and claim entitlement ratios for use in a methodology using commonly applied actuarial techniques
- Methodology will be discussed and reviewed
- Discussion of the potential impact of legislative changes to the Federal Act embedded in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA – health care reform)

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Understanding the Exposure to Loss

Understanding the Exposure to Loss

Definition

- Coal Worker Pneumoconiosis (CWP or "black lung" disease) is caused by long term exposure to coal dust
 Inhaled coal dust remains in lungs and, over years, causes changes to lung tissue that ultimately leads to decreased lung function and disease
 Workers compensation claims are generated when CWP results in disability defined by the Federal Act

Understanding the Exposure to Loss

- Latency period extends over 50 years since last date of exposure to coal dust (CME)

 For insurance purposes, the date of loss is defined as the last date of exposure to coal dust

 Also know as last date of coal mine exposure, or CME

 Equivalent to the last day worked

 Following chart is based on data from the DOL

Years Since Last Date of CME	Percent Claims Filed (Reported)	Percent Claims to be Filed (Unreported)
1	17%	83%
5	50%	50%
10	66%	34%
20	82%	18%
30	91%	9%

Note: Data is available through $\sim\!\!30$ years. Reporting percentage subsequent to 30 years is judgment based on available data.

Understanding the Exposure to Loss

- Long term emergence pattern is similar to WC claims generated by exposure to asbestos, fumes, and other industrial hazards

 Following chart summarizes permanent total disability claims from a large ship builder

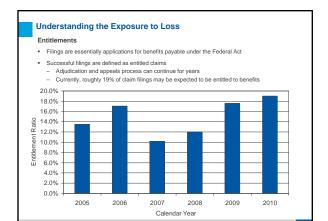
 Claims reported during the first 24 months from last day worked (date of loss) are generally traumatic and are not included

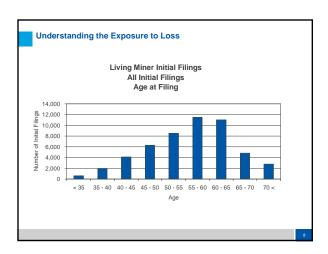
 Claims reported subsequent to 24 months from the last day worked are generally respiratory or cancer cases (mesothelioma)

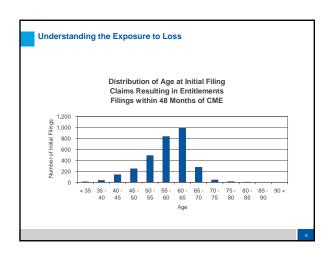
 Data is available only through 30 years

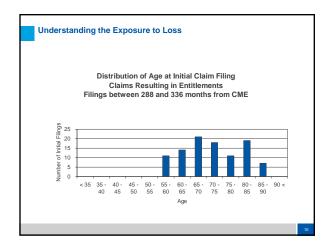
Years Since Last Day	Percent Claims Filed	Percent Claims to be		
Worked	(Reported)	Filed (Unreported)		
2	0%	100%		
5	23%	77% 52%		
10	48%			
20	79%	21%		
30	?%	?%		

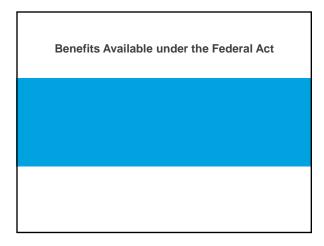
Data available through 30 years – claims are still being reported











Benefits Available Under the Federal Act

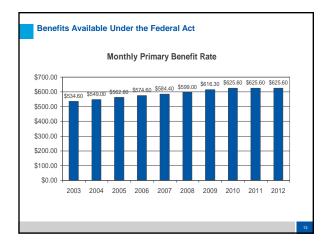
- Claimants awarded entitlements receive the following benefits:
- anianias awarded entimentals receive the following deficients.

 All required medical services

 Primary Benefit is monthly pension equal to 37.5% of the base salary of a federal employee at level GS-2, Step 1
- level GS-2, Step 1

 Benefits generally include cost of living adjustments annually, equal to the increase to the GS2, Step 1, federal pay grade.

Beneficiary	Benefit	Current 2011 Value		
Single Beneficiary	100% of Primary	625.60		
+ 1 Dependent	150% of Primary	938.30		
+ 2 Dependents	175% of Primary	1,094.70		
> 2 Dependents	200% of Primary	1,251.10		

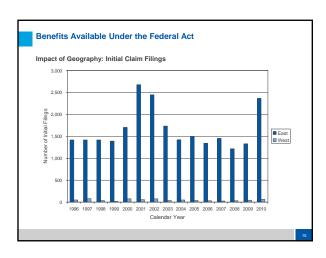


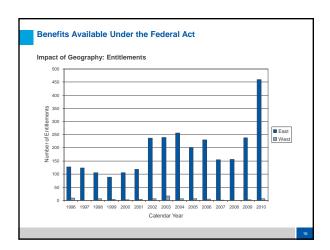
Benefits Available Under the Federal Act

Impact of Geography

- Material difference between states east and west of Mississippi River
 Chart below shows total initial filings since 1983
 Initial Claim Filings by Regio

Initial	Claim Fil	lings by Region	
EAST		WEST	
ALL OTHER	112	ALL OTHER	67
Indiana	509	Montana	27
Tennessee	957	Iowa	32
Ohio	1462	Oklahoma	63
Illinois	2267	Missouri	83
Alabama	2563	Arizona	123
Pennsylvania	4708	New Mexico	130
Virginia	6165	Wyoming	168
West Virginia	14274	Colorado	242
Kentucky	15561	Utah	351





mpact of Geography:	Entitlements		
			Average
	CY 96 to 11	CY 96 to 11	Entitlement
Region	Initial Filings	Entitlements	Ratio
EAST	24,811	2,842	11.5%
WEST	709	73	10.3%
Countrywide	25,520	2,915	11.4%

Benefits Available Under the Federal Act Death Benefits May file an initial claim subsequent to death of miner → very small number of claims Referred to as "Living Widow Claims" As opposed to "Living Miner Claims" May file for continuation of benefits upon death of primary beneficiary Rules governing this process were changed by the PPACA Similarities and Differences Compared to Other **Workers Compensation Exposures** Similarities and Differences Compared to Other Workers Compensation Exposures Basic Similarities Entitled claims represent compensation for disease stemming from employment Very similar as respects impact and latency when compared to other workers compensation claims associated with long term exposure to hazardous substances Entitled claimants receive all associated medical services, as with other workers compensation claim Benefit structure is specific and clearly defined by statute, as with other workers compensation claims

Similarities and Differences Compared to Other Workers Compensation Exposures

Basic Differences

- Adjudication process and litigation is centered on the question of entitlement, or compensability
- Materially different from a typical workers compensation case

 Typical workers compensation claims where compensability is litigated are rare

 Result is materially greater legal costs associated with these cases
- In addition to defense costs, employers/insurers are responsible for claimant attorney fees for claims that result in entitlements

 This aspect is similar to WC claims filed under the USLHWA
- Claims filed under the USLHWA are also administered by the DOL
- All claims, by definition, are permanent total disability cases as defined by the Federal Act
 - Extraordinarily expensive cases, with typical nominal severities on the order of \$400,000 to \$500,000 with legal and other claim related expenses
- Employees appeal, and/or file subsequent claims if not successful
- Administrative rule changes and statutory changes to the program have the potential to be retroactive
 - PPACA
- Creates a challenging environment under which to estimate unpaid claim costs

 40+ year emergence pattern combined with potential for statutory changes that
 retroactively impact the cost of claims

Differences Between Jurisdictions

Differences Between Jurisdictions

- Claims for disability may be filed under the jurisdiction of the Federal Act or under the jurisdiction of the applicable state WC act
 Claimants are not permitted to collect benefits concurrently from claims filed under both acts
 Benefits payable under the Federal Act are excess to benefits paid under a state act for claimants who file successful claims in both jurisdictions
- Comparison between exposure under the Federal Act and the various state acts

 - Reporting Period

 State acts → in general, claims are reported within 3 5 years of last date of exposure
 - Statutes of limitation exist under various state acts, but vary
 - Federal Act \Rightarrow claim reporting extends over 40+ years from the last date of CME
 - Claim Costs

 State acts → generally permanent partial disability claims of limited cost

 Federal Act → by definition, permanent total disability claims

 Monthly lifetime pension
 - All associated medical costs

 - Higher litigation costs than typical WC claims
 In general, most costs associated with CWP claims are due to claims filed under the Federal Act

Differences Between Jurisdictions

The following table displays the occupational disease (OD) component of the current loss costs in various states for surface mining (1005) and underground mining (1016)

	Surface Mi	ning (1005)	Underground Mining (1016)			
State	State OD	Federal OD	State OD	Federal OD		
Illinois	2.87	1.68	5.66	3.27		
Kentucky	0.20	1.52	0.80	6.24		
Virginia	0.10	1.46	0.27	3.80		
West Virginia	0.32	1.37	1.15	4.84		

Differences Between Jurisdictions

Impact of Legislative and Administrative Changes

- State acts → impact of legislative changes affecting benefit levels and rules generally do not "reach back" and do not apply to claims with dates of loss prior to the law change
- Teach back: and do not apply to claims with dates of loss prior to the law change

 Federal Act -> legislative changes can reach back and impact claims with dates of loss prior to the law change

 Changes under the Federal Act generally affect claims relative to filing date, not date of CME

 Example: Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010

 Expected to increase the number of claims entitled to benefits

 Applicable to claims filed (reported) on or after January 1, 2005 regardless as to last date of coal mine exposure (CME), or date of loss

 Miners previously denied benefits may file new claims

Differentiating a Provision for the Unpaid Cost of **Incurred Claims and a Pension Component Associated with Active Employees**

Differentiating a Provision for the Unpaid Cost of Incurred Claims and a Pension Component Associated with Active Employees Provision for Unpaid Cost of Claims with Loss Dates On or Prior to 12/31/XX · No different from any other casualty reserve Provides for claims with dates of loss on or before 12/31/XX → reported / unreported claims Consideration must be given to unique aspect of the loss exposure Extraordinarily long claim emergence Potential impact of legislative changes Impact of external influences - Workforce reductions generally result in a surge to filed CWP claims

this is a risk associated with other workers compensation exposures Population demographics impact likelihood of claims, though impact is different
- For CWP, a relatively young workforce is less likely to generate claims

- For typical workers compensation exposures

Younger Workers → higher frequency / lower average severity

Older Workers → lower frequency / higher average severity

Other considerations

- "Vesting" issue: under the Federal Act, an employer is financially responsible for the claim if the claimant worked for the employer at least one year prior to claim filing

- Data will generally exclude claims not the financial responsibility of the employer

Differentiating a Provision for the Unpaid Cost of Incurred Claims and a Pension Component Associated with Active Employees

Pension Component for Active Workforce

- Defined as an accrued liability that provides for the cost of future (last date of exposure subsequent to 12/31XX) CWP claims due to cumulative "earned" exposure of active employees to coal dust
- Calculations utilize detailed information on each individual active miner, and include, but are not necessarily limited to:

 - Age Dependents
 - Gender
- Cumulative Years Worked Underground versus Surface
- Geography
- Calculations incorporate numerous detailed assumptions regarding future events. These include, but are not necessarily limited to:
 - Likelihood of withdrawal from workforce and filing/not filing a claim, at every age
 - Mortality excluding CWP as cause, at every age
- Likelihood of filing a successful claim, at every age, as an active worker Consideration of mine lifetime

Differentiating a Provision for the Unpaid Cost of Incurred Claims and a Pension Component Associated with Active Employees

Pension Component for Active Workforce

- Discounted present value of the expected future claim cost per active employee is calculated, and
- Discounted present value of the expected future claim cost per active employee is calculated, and then prorated based on years worked and expected remaining work life

 Example: Discounted present value of expected future claim cost of a specific employee is \$25,000 as of 12/31/XX. Employee worked 15 years and has an expected remaining work life of 10 years. Contribution of this employee's expected future cost to the accrued liability is:

 15/25 x \$25,000 = \$15,000

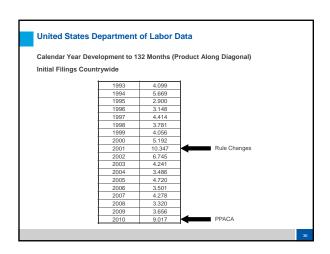
 - Aware of one client that "takes the whole thing" does not prorate
- This process is repeated for each active employed Assumes closed population

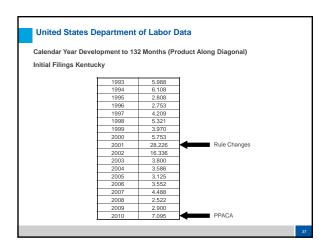
Differentiating a Provision for the Unpaid Cost of Incurred Claims and a Pension Component Associated with Active Employees Questions Regarding Accounting Treatment The pension component, as described above, is a reserve for the latent liability under the Federal Act associated with the cumulative exposure of active employees, to date, to coal dust Self-Insured Mining Enterprises: Treatment Varies Record for Federal Act and state act claims Record for Federal claims only Record for Federal claims and PTD claims under state acts Mining Enterprises with Guaranteed Cost or Large Deductible Programs My experience is that they do not record a provision for the latent liability associated with active employees, though this liability exists. In principle, this is no different than the latent liability under other jurisdictions with the cumulative exposure of active employees in other industries to different industrial hazards Cumulative trauma Asbestos Fumes Etc. **United States Department of Labor Data United States Department of Labor Data** Initial Filings The Department of Labor (DOL) maintains a database that records the reporting and adjudication history of all claims filed under the Federal Act Detailed information is available on each claim which is tracked by claimant Claims are coded as insured, self-insured or Trust claim Insured and self-insured represent claims for employers that are insured or self-insured Trust pays for claims where there is no responsible operator identified, and other older claims - Only self-insured and insured data is used Employees may file multiple claims Count only the most recent filed claim – one claim per employee Properly Match resulting entitlements to the initial filings by year of exposure Data subsequent to 1982 is used Material law change effective 1/1/1982 Numerous law changes in the 1970s

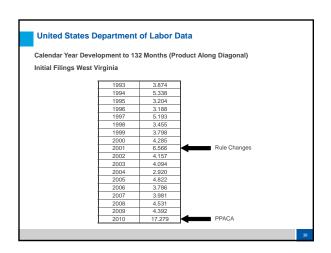
Data is Available by State \Rightarrow Initial Filings State All Years CY 2009 CY 2010 Remainder Utah 1,047 351 35 13 36 31 Indiana Tennessee 509 957 22 41 40 Ohio 1,462 40 89 2,267 2,563 4,708 48 91 102 Illinois Alabama 74 Pennsylvania Virginia West Virginia 136 6,165 14,274 167 417 249 966

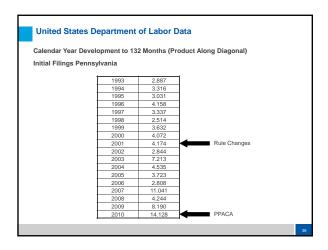
United States Department of Labor Data

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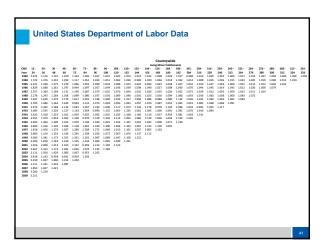


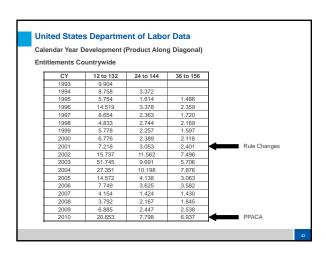




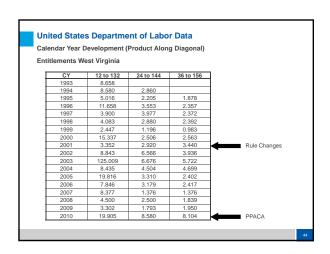


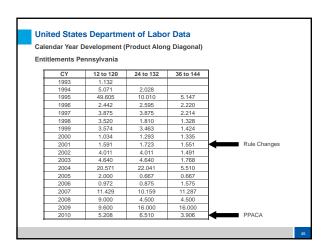
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CME	12	24	26	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	122	144	156	168	180	192	204	216	228	240	252	264	226	288	200	212	224	226
1983	83	172	192	216	270	314	328	340	345	353	379	384	389	392	402	409	408	412	414	432	436	441	447	459	463	463	464	465
1984 1985	54 28	93 65	128 87	178	230 174	257 189	270 199	276	290 221	308 236	319 253	309 259	318 257	239 263	245 273	356 283	361 292	364 295	373	390 320	396 322	405 332	415 336	419 340	419 349	424 364	432	
1986 1987	35 28	64	108	107	176	175	192	203 161	222 165	230 177	239 187	248 193	258 198	265	267	275	296 238	309 245	323 248	329 262	242 275	347 279	354 282	356 286	384			
1988	18	41	53	67	91	100	108	112	116	124	129	131	134	138	151	161	168	174	185	192	192	208	223	286				
1999	19	27 27	61 55	78	92	92	97 95	115	115	119	121	128	139	137	148	123	172	178	189 205	294 219	229	223						
1991	19	47	64	76	86	84 88	93	111	111	124	133	152	179	175	193	212	221	220	240	268	229							
1992	12	37	59	71	80	92	98	97	112	119	147	156	163	164	179	197	200	202	221									
1992	19 11	50 38	22 56	69 57	76 60	79 66	81 64	86 71	29 88	107 98	125	145	161	167	160	173	184 206	210										
1995	5	22	30	39	43	46	51	80	82	103	114	120	125	126	135	166												
1996 1997	11	19 20	25 29	28 27	29 28	33 49	35 59	50 75	65 78	68 79	75 87	92	90	108	108													
1998	10	26	30	37	49	61	81	83	29	95	102	116	129															
1999 2000	7 8	21	29 23	34	46 55	58 63	72 72	79 77	86 82	90 86	105	120																
2001	9	14	28	34	42	49	47	57	65	73	203																	
2002 2003	6	34 28	46	54 60	65	68	73 61	87 77	103																			
2004	11	42	48	45	42	29	49																					
2005 2006	12	27 28	28 27	28 46	34 50	44																						
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ndar Year	Development (Product Alon	g Diagonal)	
lements K	entucky			
CY	12 to 132	24 to 144	36 to 156	٦
1993	37.175			7
1994	18.836	5.684		
1995	1.136	1.105	1.281	
1996	7.561	2.930	2.374	
1997	1.415	1.527	1.625	
1998	9.394	6.642	1.328	
1999	3.007	3.482	2.537	
2000	2.487	1.492	0.904	
2001	3.202	3.812	2.668	Rule Changes
2002	45.420	53.436	29.147	1 '
2003	253.631	34.501	5.606	
2004	147.919	39.915	23.425	
2005	12.132	6.104	4.739	
2006	7.340	4.404	4.415	
2007	14.305	3.017	2.794	
2008	4.129	1.867	1.689	
2009	10.478	2.620	2.502	7
2010	11,140	3.939	3.326	PPACA





United States Department of Labor Data Calculation of Expected Entitlement Ratios Last ON Filings On Historia Colf Indianate Entitlement Indianate Colf In

United States Department of Labor Data Calendar Year Entitlement Ratios (Does not properly match entitlements to underlying initial filings) 2005 13.5% 2006 17.1% 2007 10.2% 2008 12.0% 17.6% 2009 2010 It is a matter of judgment as to what to select for future claims For the purpose of this study, 20% is selected

Calculating an Unpaid Cost of Incurred Claims

Calculating an Unpaid Cost of Incurred Claims

Part 1: Calculating the Ultimate Number of Initial Filings

Accident Year (1)	Reported Living Miner Filings @ 12/31/2010 (2)	Claim Count CDF	Developed Ultimate Initial Filings (4)	Terminated	Implied Frequency per Termination (6)	Expected Initial Filings (7)	Initial Filings
2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010	3 9 11 9 14 5	1.850 2.011 2.219 2.574 3.278 6.019	6 18 24 23 46 30	256 355 290 246 356 279	0.022 0.051 0.084 0.094 0.129 0.108	21 29 24 20 29 23	13 24 24 21 34 24
TOTAL	51		147	1,782		145	139

(1) Year of Last Exposure to Coal Dust (2) Reported Data from Client (3) Derived From Department of Labor Data (4) (2) x (3)

(5) Reported Data from Client (6) (4) / (5) (7) (5) x Average of (6) (8) (2) + (7) x (1.00 - 1.00 / (3))

Calculating an Unpaid Cost of Incurred Claims

Part 2: Calculating the Ultimate Number of Entitlements

Accident Year (1)		Entitlements CDF	Selected Ultimate Initial Filings (11)	Entitlement		Selected Ultimate Entitlements (14)	Entitlements	Remaining Entitlements @ 12/31/2010 (16)
2005	0	2.811	13	0.200	3	2	0	2
2006	2	3.118	24	0.200	5	5	1	4
2007	1	3.672	24	0.200	5	4	1	3
2008	2	4.534	21	0.200	4	5	1	4
2009	2	6.189	34	0.200	7	8	0	8
2010	2	16.967	24	0.200	5	5	0	5

(1) Year of Last Exposure to Coal Dust (9) Reported Data from Client (10) Derived From Department of Labor Data (11) (8)

(12) Derived From Department of Labor Data (13) (11) x (12) (14) (9) + (13) x (1.00 - 1.00 / (10)) (15) Reported Data from Client (16) (14) - (15)

- 'Final Entitlements' are entitlements that are no longer being adjudicated and are final
- 'Remaining Entitlements' represent both the IBNR as well as entitlements that have been reported as such, but are still in the process of adjudication

Calculating an Unpaid Cost of Incurred Claims Part 3: Calculating the Unpaid Cost iscounted at 3% @ 12/31/2010 @ 12/31/2010 @ 12/31/201 (21 (1) Year of Last Exposure to Coal Dust (17) (16) (18) Calculated Value (19) (17) x (18) (20) Derived from Reported Data from Client (21) (19) + (20)

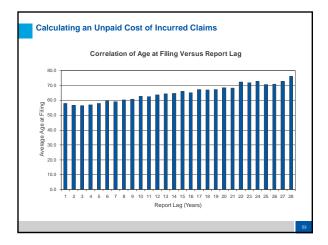
Calculating an Unpaid Cost of Incurred Claims

Severity is based on:

56 year old male miner

- 80% chance of being married
- If married, spouse is 2 years younger (54)
- No other dependents assumed
- Life time pension
- Male: general population table adjusted to reflect tobacco use
 Female: general population table

- Annual medical cost of \$1,300 increased annually by 5%
- Assumes automatic widow benefits (see PPACA)
- 20% provision for defense and other claim related expenses
- Discounted using an interest rate of 3.0%
- Provision for Living Widow filings



Calculating an Unpaid Cost of Incurred Claims Discussion of Reported Entitlements that are Not "Final" Calculation above does incorporate any information on these claims Cost of these claims is grouped with true IBNR entitlements, and their associated severity • Information that might be available is the cost of the claim and the likelihood of reversal on appeal Another approach would be to include the cost of the claim, weighted by the likelihood of final disposition as entitled claim Weight the IBNR severity with the likelihood of final disposition as reversal of entitlement Calculating an Unpaid Cost of Incurred Claims Discussion of Level of Necessary Precision Calculation above is general, with a number of areas where level of precision could be increased More precise calculation of severity by expected age of entitlement Consideration of actual demographics of terminated employees - Etc. In general, this level of precision is not necessary Changes in law and administration tend to be the primary factors that drive estimates Implementation of the PPACA essentially made all prior estimates invalid Impact of the PPACA

Impact of the PPACA

- The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) was enacted March 23, 2010
- Embedded in the PPACA are two key changes to the Federal Act impacting survivorship benefits and entitlements

 - and entitlements

 Survivorship benefits

 Prior to the PPACA, upon death of the primary beneficiary, eligible survivors had to file for survivorship benefits and demonstrate that the primary beneficiary's death was due in whole or in part to coal mine employment

 This element of the law was effective for claims filed on or after January 1, 1982
 - In its element of the law was effective for claims filed on or after January 1, 1982
 PPACA reversed the 1982 Jaw. Eligible survivors are automatically entitled to survivorship benefits. Burden of proof is now on employer to demonstrate that the death was not due in whole or in part to coal mine employment.
 General assumption is that survivorship benefits will be automatic in 100% of cases
 Overall impact on costs on a going forward basis is expected to be an increase of 5% to 10%

Impact of the PPACA

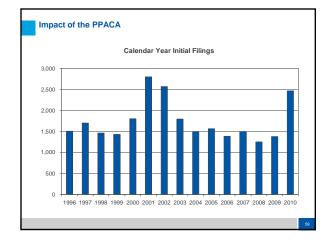
- Rebuttable Presumption
 - Prior to PPACA, for an employee found to be totally disabled due to respiratory illness, the burden of proof was on the employee to demonstrate that the total disability was due to coal mine employment

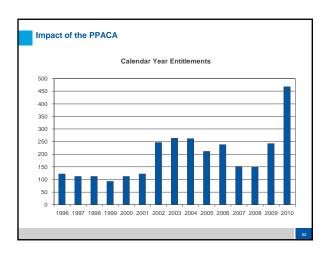
 - coal mine employment

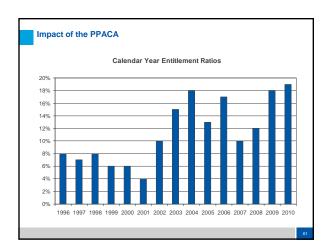
 This element of the law was effective for claims filed on or after January 1, 1982

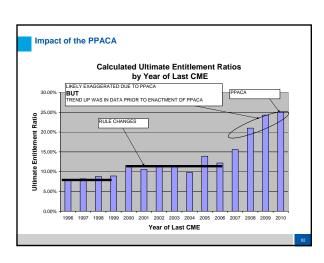
 PPACA reversed the 1982 law. Coal miners who have 15 or more years of underground coal mine employment (or the equivalent) and are found to be totally disabled under the Federal Act due to respiratory liness, are now presumed to be totally disabled due to coal mine employment, with the burden of proof shifted to the employer/insurer to demonstrate that the totally disabling condition is not due to coal mine employment.

 Overall impact is uncertain. Estimates range from increases of 20% to 50% or more on costs depending on who you ask









Questions	
OLIVER WYMAN	
 Scott J. Lefkowitz, FCAS, MAAA, FCA Steven G. McKinnon, FCAS, MAAA 	