



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Department of Consumer and Business Services

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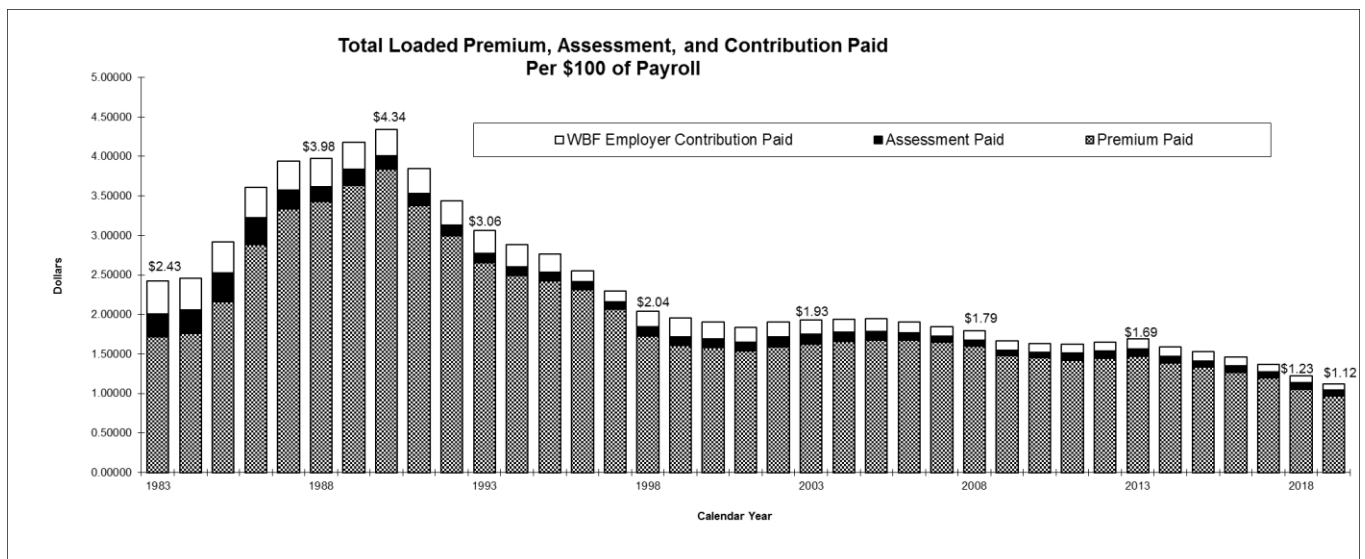
[www.dcbs.oregon.gov](http://www.dcbs.oregon.gov)

February 6, 2019

The Honorable Senator James Manning Jr., Co-Chair  
The Honorable Representative David Gomberg, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development  
900 Court Street NE  
H-178 State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301-4048

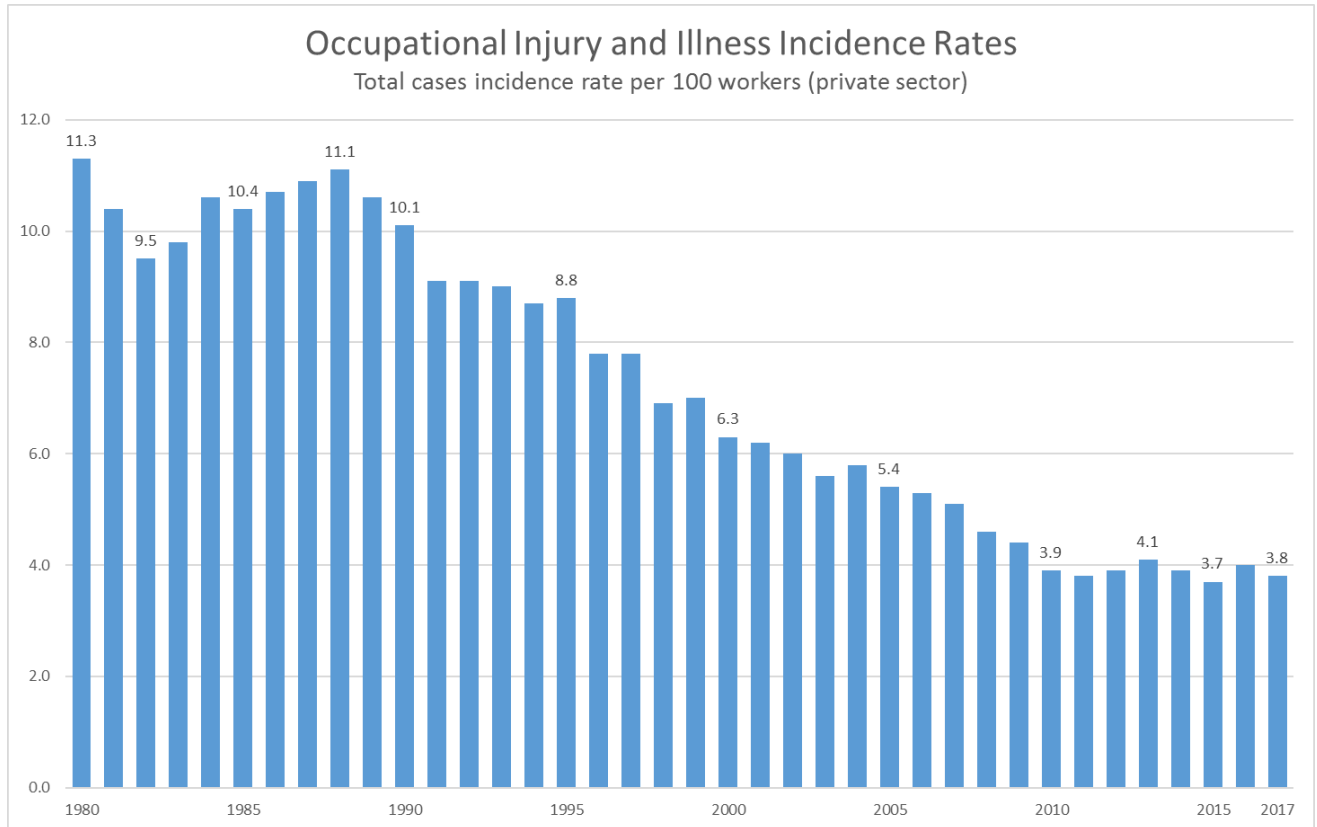
Dear Co-Chairs and Members:

During the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) budget hearing on Feb. 5, 2019, a request was made for workers' compensation system employer costs before 1990. The attached chart illustrates employer costs (premium and assessments) from 1983 to 2019. The figure illustrates the rapid increase in costs that was one of the drivers of workers' compensation reform in the late 1980s and early 1990s.





For reference, we have also included data for occupational illness rates for a similar time period. The trend in that data is similar to the trends in employer costs.



Thank you for your support and please do not hesitate to reach out if there are additional program or policy questions going forward.

Sincerely,

Cameron Smith  
Director