

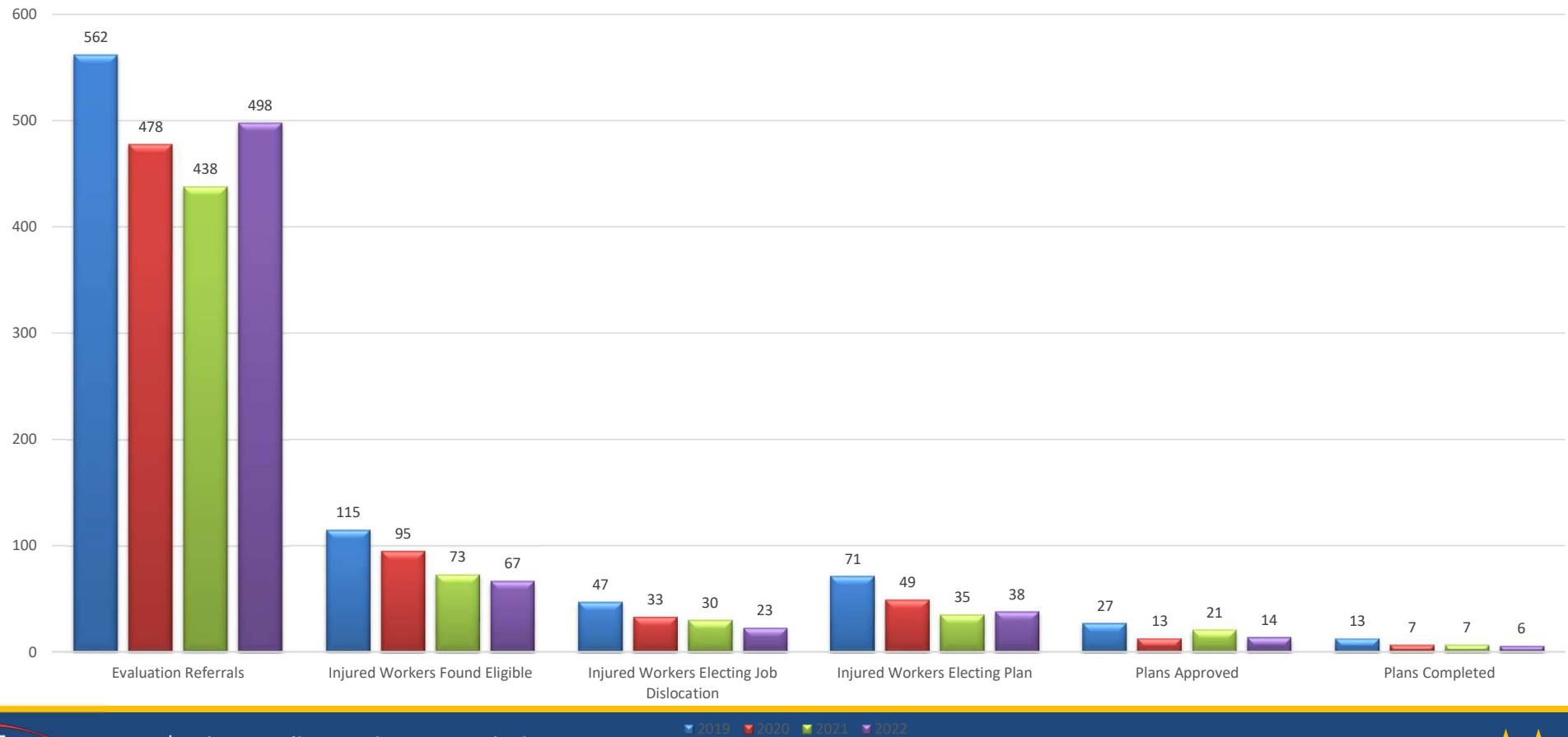
SB 147-Reemployment Benefits

Sponsored by Senator Kaufman

Senate Labor & Commerce Committee

February 14, 2024

2022 By the Numbers, Cont.



Reemployment Benefit Costs

	2020	2021	2022
Evaluation Costs	\$1,472,596	\$1,573,099	\$1,394,704
Reemployment Specialist Plan Fees	\$626,545	\$551,153	\$581,264
Plan Costs	\$503,629	\$263,607	\$359,799
Wage Benefits (AS 23.30.041(k))	\$2,135,149	\$2,053,267	\$2,479,056
Job Dislocation Benefits (AS 23.30.041(g))	\$2,961,687	\$917,890	\$1,674,193
TOTALS	\$7,699,606	\$5,359,016	\$6,489,016
% Change	-3.10%	-38.85%	19.07%



Reemployment Benefits in Settlements

Impact of settlements on reemployment benefits in 2022

- 47 injured workers exited the reemployment benefits process through Compromise and Release agreements during the reemployment benefits process.
- 62 injured workers had funds designated for reemployment benefits included in settlements approved in 2022, increasing reemployment benefit costs.
 - 45 of these injured workers had never been determined eligible for reemployment benefits, many had never entered the reemployment process or had been found not eligible for reemployment benefits.
- 22 injured workers exited the reemployment process through a settlement after a determination of eligibility, significantly reducing the number of injured workers available for plan completion.

Rehabilitation Specialists

- 15 Alaska Rehabilitation Specialists accepted 372 referrals for eligibility evaluations; 126 evaluations were referred to 43 specialists out of state.
- 1 Alaska specialist retired
- For Alaska Based Specialists:
 - 306 or 82% of the first reports were submitted within 60 days of the referral.
 - 141 or 38% of the evaluations were completed on the first report submission.
 - 223 or 60% of the evaluations were completed prior to a suspension letter from a Reemployment Benefits Administrator Designee.
 - 159 reports did not meet statutory/regulatory requirements.
- Continued improvements in our process are being made to ensure work is in compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements through suspension letters, discussions, plans of correction and disqualification from providing services under AS 23.30.041.