

Bureau of Labor Standards undertook the state-by-state study of standards and administrative procedures governing attorney's fees in workmen's compensation cases in response to a growing interest in the problem. The report, the first of its kind, provides an informational guide to legislators, administrators, attorneys, insurance carriers, representatives of labor and management, and others. It also includes a discussion of basic issues such as methods of regulating fees, amount of fees allowed claimants' attorneys, adding fees to the award, methods of reducing costs to claimants, safeguarding claimants against unfair practices, and the extent to which lay persons can represent claimants. An appendix includes brief summaries of state statutory provisions, rules, and operating policies. There are also tabular listings of major statutory provisions.

- 119 Health Statistics from the U. S. National Health Survey. Series B-No. 24. Acute Conditions, Seasonal Variations. United States July 1957 - June 1960. U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Public Health Service. PHS Publication No. 584-B24. 47 pp. (Nov. 1960). For sale by Supt. of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. 35 cents.

During the period July 1957 - June 1960, there were an estimated 1,161.0 million acute conditions—an average of 6.8 million conditions for each person in the United States. Some 125.6 million of these were infectious and parasitic diseases; 707.8 million, respiratory conditions; 63.0 million, conditions affecting the digestive system; and 142.8 million, injuries. There were also 121.9 million other acute conditions such as deliveries and complications of pregnancies, skin conditions, ear diseases, and other acute conditions with relatively low incidence. There was a marked seasonal variation in the incidence of acute conditions. During this period only 16.6% of the acute conditions occurred in the July-September quarters, 29.8% in October-December, 32.2% in January-March, and 21.4% in April-June. The impact of the Asian influenza epidemic is quite apparent in the winter of 1957 - 1958. In October-December 1957 there were 75.2 acute respiratory conditions per 100 persons, and in January-March 1958 there were 52.6 acute respiratory conditions per 100 persons. However, even in the non-epidemic years there was an obvious seasonal pattern in the incidence of respiratory conditions which usually had their highest incidence in January-March and the lowest in July-September. There is no indication of a seasonal pattern in the conditions related to the digestive system and there are too many different kinds of conditions in the "all other" category to permit discussion of it as a unit.

- 120 Health Statistics from the U. S. National Health Survey. Series B-No. 26. Interim Report on Health Insurance. United States July-December 1959. U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Public Health Service. PHS Publication No. 584-B26. 67 pp. (Dec. 1960). For sale by Supt. of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. 45 cents.

Approximately 67% of the civilian non-institutional population of the United States was covered by some form of hospital insurance, 62% by surgical insurance, and 19% by insurance for doctor visits outside the hospital according to responses to 19,000 household interviews conducted by the U. S. National Health Survey from July through December 1959. In urban areas 72% of the population had hospital insurance; in rural-non-farm areas 68% had hospital insurance; in farm areas 45% had this kind of coverage. For surgical insurance the comparable estimates were 66, 64, and 40%, and for doctor visit insurance the estimates were 20, 21, and 12%. The proportion of the population covered by hospital and surgical insurance was generally highest in the Northeast and North Central regions of the United States and lowest in the South. The proportion covered in the West was between the extremes and somewhat below the national average. However, the proportion covered by insurance for doctor visits in the West, 32%, was higher than in the other 3 regions. In families where the income during the previous 12 months was under \$2,000, approximately 33% of the persons had hospital insurance, 27% had surgical insurance, and 9% had insurance for doctor visits outside the hospital. In families with the highest income during the previous 12 months, \$7,000 or more, the comparable percentages were 84, 80, and 28. Among persons aged 65 and older, approximately 46% were covered by some form of hospital insurance, 37% by surgical insurance, and 10% by doctor visit insurance.