

## NJ and PA Workers' Compensation Benefits for 2025

Workers' Compensation Alert By: Sandra L. Niemotka 1.17.25

Workers' compensation benefits in New Jersey and Pennsylvania are calculated using a statewide average weekly wage as determined by their departments of labor every year. The year of the worker's injury determines the rates that apply.

In New Jersey, a worker's wage loss benefits are based on 70% of his average earnings. The new maximum rate is \$1,159.00 per week, and there is a minimum rate of \$309.00 per week. NJSA 34:15-12(a) and (b).

New Jersey also has permanency benefits that are capped at 70% of the worker's average earnings or the maximum rate, whichever is less. Benefits are payable based on the extent of the permanent disability. Other than the 70% cap, rates are not calculated using the worker's earnings. The rates are located on an annual "schedule of disabilities." There is a minimum rate of \$35.00 per week. *NJSA* 34:15-12(c).

In Pennsylvania, wage loss benefits are generally 66 2/3% of the worker's average earnings, subject to the new maximum rate of \$1,347.00 per week. If the worker's earnings are \$748.32 per week or less, the rate is 90% of that amount. If the earnings fall on or between \$1,010.25 and \$748.33 per week, there is a flat rate of \$673.50 per week. Section 105.1 of the Act, 77 PS 525.1.

The increase in rates from last year is 1.7%, and that also gets applied to medical benefits in Pennsylvania.

White and Williams will have a limited supply of physical rate cards for Pennsylvania beginning in February 2025. If interested, please make a request here and you will be added to our rate card distribution list.

For questions or further information, please contact Sandra L. Niemotka (niemotkas@whiteandwilliams.com; 215.864.6338).

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