

FY 2024

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

SPECIAL BENEFITS

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SPECIAL BENEFITS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Appropriation Language	1
Amounts Available for Obligation.....	2
Summary of Changes.....	3
Summary Budget Authority and FTE by Activity	5
Budget Authority by Object Class	6
Authorizing Statutes.....	7
Appropriation History.....	8
Overview.....	9
Budget Activities	11
Federal Employees' Compensation.....	11

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SPECIAL BENEFITS

APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the payment of compensation, benefits, and expenses (except administrative expenses not otherwise authorized) accruing during the current or any prior fiscal year authorized by 5 U.S.C. 81; continuation of benefits as provided for under the heading "Civilian War Benefits" in the Federal Security Agency Appropriation Act, 1947; the Employees' Compensation Commission Appropriation Act, 1944; section 5(f) of the War Claims Act (50 U.S.C. App. 2012); obligations incurred under the War Hazards Compensation Act (42 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); and 50 percent of the additional compensation and benefits required by section 10(h) of the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, [\$250,000,000] \$700,000,000, together with such amounts as may be necessary to be charged to the subsequent year appropriation for the payment of compensation and other benefits for any period subsequent to August 15 of the current year, for deposit into and to assume the attributes of the Employees' Compensation Fund established under 5 U.S.C. 8147(a): Provided, That amounts appropriated may be used under 5 U.S.C. 8104 by the Secretary to reimburse an employer, who is not the employer at the time of injury, for portions of the salary of a re-employed, disabled beneficiary: Provided further, That balances of reimbursements unobligated on September 30, [2022] 2023, shall remain available until expended for the payment of compensation, benefits, and expenses: Provided further, That in addition there shall be transferred to this appropriation from the Postal Service and from any other corporation or instrumentality required under 5 U.S.C. 8147(c) to pay an amount for its fair share of the cost of administration, such sums as the Secretary determines to be the cost of administration for employees of such fair share entities through September 30, [2023] 2024: Provided further, That of those funds transferred to this account from the fair share entities to pay the cost of administration of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act, [\$81,752,000] \$83,007,000 shall be made available to the Secretary as follows:

- (1) For enhancement and maintenance of automated data processing systems operations and telecommunications systems, [\$27,727,000] \$28,153,000;
- (2) For automated workload processing operations, including document imaging, centralized mail intake, and medical bill processing, [\$26,125,000] \$26,526,000;
- (3) For periodic roll disability management and medical review, [\$26,126,000] \$26,527,000;
- (4) For program integrity, [\$1,774,000] \$1,801,000; and
- (5) The remaining funds shall be paid into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts:

Provided further, That the Secretary may require that any person filing a notice of injury or a claim for benefits under 5 U.S.C. 81, or the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, provide as part of such notice and claim, such identifying information (including Social Security account number) as such regulations may prescribe. (*Department of Labor Appropriations Act, 2023.*)

SPECIAL BENEFITS

AMOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR OBLIGATION						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted		FY 2023 Revised Enacted		FY 2024 Request	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
A. Appropriation	0	\$244,000	0	\$250,000	0	\$700,000
Offsetting Collections From:						
Benefits and reimbursable FTE	0	\$2,540,912	55	\$2,649,754	55	\$2,714,023
FECA Fair Share Appropriation	116	\$80,920	168	\$81,752	168	\$83,007
Unobligated Balance Carried Forward from Prior Year	0	\$1,538,566	0	\$1,454,914	0	\$901,574
B. Gross Budget Authority	116	\$4,404,398	223	\$4,436,420	223	\$4,398,604
Total Collections	0	-\$2,621,832	0	-\$2,731,506	0	-\$2,797,030
Unobligated Balance Carried Forward from Prior Year	0	-\$1,538,566	0	-\$1,454,914	0	-\$901,574
Shared Services Realignment	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
C. Budget Authority	116	\$244,000	223	\$250,000	223	\$700,000
Total Collections	0	\$2,621,832	0	\$2,731,506	0	\$2,797,030
Unobligated Balance Carried Forward from Prior Year	0	\$1,538,566	0	\$1,454,914	0	\$901,574
D. Total Budgetary Resources	116	\$4,404,398	223	\$4,436,420	223	\$4,398,604
Unobligated Balances	-8	-\$1,454,914	0	-\$901,574	0	-\$790,183
E. Total, Estimated Obligations	108	\$2,949,484	223	\$3,534,846	223	\$3,608,421

SPECIAL BENEFITS

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Net Change
Budget Authority			
General Funds	\$2,981,506	\$3,497,030	+\$515,524
Total	\$2,981,506	\$3,497,030	+\$515,524
 Full Time Equivalents			
General Funds	223	223	0
Total	223	223	0

Explanation of Change	FY 2023 Base		FY 2024 Change				Total	
	FTE	Amount	Trust Funds FTE	Amount	General Funds FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Increases:								
A. Built-Ins:								
To Provide For:								
Costs of pay adjustments	168	\$16,714	0	\$0	0	\$680	0	\$680
Personnel benefits	0	\$9	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Employee health benefits	0	\$5,739	0	\$0	0	\$234	0	\$234
Moving allowance	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA)	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Benefits for former personnel	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Travel and transportation of persons	0	\$196	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Transportation of things	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Rental payments to GSA	0	\$385	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Rental payments to others	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0	\$16	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Printing and reproduction	0	\$7	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Advisory and assistance services	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0	\$21,794	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Working Capital Fund	0	\$17,006	0	\$0	0	\$377	0	\$377
Other Federal sources (Census Bureau)	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other Federal sources (DHS Charges)	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other goods and services from Federal sources	0	\$16,455	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Research & Development Contracts	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Operation and maintenance of facilities	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0

SPECIAL BENEFITS

FY 2024 Change

Explanation of Change	FY 2023 Base		Trust Funds		General Funds		Total	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Operation and maintenance of equipment	0	\$2,173	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Supplies and materials	0	\$47	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Equipment	0	\$92	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Insurance claims and indemnities	55	\$2,899,754	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Built-Ins Subtotal	223	+\$2,980,387	0	\$0	0	+\$1,291	0	+\$1,291
B. Programs:								
FECA Appropriation	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$450,000	0	\$450,000
Offsetting Benefits	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$64,269	0	\$64,269
Programs Subtotal			0	\$0	0	+\$514,269	0	+\$514,269
Total Increase	223	+\$2,980,387	0	\$0	0	+\$515,560	0	+\$515,560
Decreases:								
A. Built-Ins:								
To Provide For:								
Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA)	0	\$1,119	0	\$0	0	-\$36	0	-\$36
Built-Ins Subtotal	0	+\$1,119	0	\$0	0	-\$36	0	-\$36
B. Programs:								
Programs Subtotal			0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Total Decrease	0	+\$1,119	0	\$0	0	-\$36	0	-\$36
Total Change	223	+\$2,981,506	0	\$0	0	+\$515,524	0	+\$515,524

SPECIAL BENEFITS

SUMMARY BUDGET AUTHORITY AND FTE BY ACTIVITY								
(Dollars in Thousands)								
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted		FY 2023 Revised Enacted		FY 2024 Request		Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Federal Employees' Compensation Act Benefits	0	2,540,912	55	2,649,754	55	2,714,023	0	64,269
Offsetting Benefits Collections	0	2,540,912	55	2,649,754	55	2,714,023	0	64,269
FECA Fair Share Appropriation	108	80,920	168	81,752	168	83,007	0	1,255
Offsetting Collections	108	80,920	168	81,752	168	83,007	0	1,255
Federal Employees' Compensation Act Appropriation	0	242,000	0	248,000	0	698,000	0	450,000
General Funds	0	242,000	0	248,000	0	698,000	0	450,000
Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Benefits Appropriation	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	0
General Funds	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000	0	0
Total	108	2,865,832	223	2,981,506	223	3,497,030	0	515,524
Offsetting Benefits Collections	0	2,540,912	55	2,649,754	55	2,714,023	0	64,269
General Funds	0	244,000	0	250,000	0	700,000	0	450,000
Offsetting Collections	108	80,920	168	81,752	168	83,007	0	1,255

NOTE: FY 2022 reflects actual FTE.

SPECIAL BENEFITS

BUDGET AUTHORITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
	Full-Time Equivalent				
	Full-time Permanent	143	168	168	0
	Total	143	168	168	0
	Average ES Salary	\$189,270	\$193,529	\$201,077	\$7,548
	Average GM/GS Grade	13/1	13/1	13/1	0
	Average GM/GS Salary	\$101,563	\$105,067	\$109,165	\$4,098
11.1	Full-time permanent	12,424	16,139	16,819	680
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	0	0	0	0
11.5	Other personnel compensation	453	575	575	0
11.9	Total personnel compensation	12,877	16,714	17,394	680
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	5,776	6,867	7,065	198
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	0	0	0	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	97	196	196	0
22.0	Transportation of things	0	0	0	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	0	385	385	0
23.2	Rental payments to others	0	0	0	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	145	16	16	0
24.0	Printing and reproduction	7	7	7	0
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	0	0	0	0
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	20,503	21,794	21,794	0
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources 1/	27,224	33,461	33,838	377
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities	0	0	0	0
25.5	Research and development contracts	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	14,032	2,173	2,173	0
26.0	Supplies and materials	44	47	47	0
31.0	Equipment	75	92	92	0
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	0	0	0
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities	2,785,052	2,899,754	3,414,023	514,269
51.1	Benefits	0	0	0	0
	Total	2,865,832	2,981,506	3,497,030	515,524
	1/Other goods and services from Federal sources				
	Working Capital Fund	27,009	17,006	17,383	377
	DHS Services	33	0	0	0

SPECIAL BENEFITS

AUTHORIZING STATUTES

Public Law / Act	Legislation	Statute No. / US Code	Expiration Date
P.L. No. 267, 39 Stat. 742	Federal Employees' Compensation Act approved September 7, 1916	5 U.S.C. 8101 et seq.	N/A
P.L. 77-784	War Hazards Compensation Act of 1942	42 U.S.C. 1701	N/A
P.L. 80-896	War Claims Act of 1948	50 U.S.C. 2001-30013	N/A
P.L. 69-803	Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, approved March 4, 1927, section 44(a) and 44(j)	33 U.S.C. 901	N/A

SPECIAL BENEFITS

APPROPRIATION HISTORY					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
	Budget Estimates to Congress	House Allowance	Senate Allowance	Appropriations	FTE
2014					
Base Appropriation	\$396,000			\$456,017	114
2015					
Base Appropriation	\$210,000			\$270,334	110
2016					
Base Appropriation	\$210,000	\$210,000	\$210,000	\$272,170	110
2017					
Base Appropriation	\$220,000			\$286,675	104
2018					
Base Appropriation	\$220,000	\$220,000		\$291,188	128
2019					
Base Appropriation...1/	\$230,000		\$230,000	\$304,777	158
2020					
Base Appropriation...2/ 3/	\$234,600	\$234,600		\$309,377	154
2021					
Base Appropriation...3/	\$239,000			\$319,257	143
2022					
Base Appropriation...2/	\$244,000	\$244,000		\$324,920	116
2023					
Base Appropriation	\$250,000			\$331,752	168
2024					
Base Appropriation	\$700,000				168

1/ This bill was passed by the Senate. It was passed out of the House Subcommittee but was not reported out of the House Committee or by the full House.

2/ This bill was passed by the House. It was not taken up by the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee or full Appropriations Committee.

3/ FTE for FY 2020 and FY 2021 reflect the Shared Services Realignment.

SPECIAL BENEFITS

OVERVIEW

The Special Benefits fund, administered by the Division of Federal Employees, Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation (DFELHWC), comprises two accounts representing obligations for benefits under the Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA), as amended, with extensions, and the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (LHWCA), as amended, with extensions. The requested funding provides resources necessary to meet required payments for compensation, medical costs, vocational rehabilitation, and other benefits made to eligible claimants or their survivors as mandated by each of the Acts. Under extensions of FECA, the program pays benefits to certain groups such as War Hazards Compensation Act claimants, non-Federal law enforcement officers, Job Corps enrollees, and certain Federally supported volunteers. The workers covered by DFELHWC's FECA and Longshore Programs should be able to sleep at night knowing if they get injured at work, they will receive equitable, timely service no matter who they are, what they do, or where they live.

Spending authority is also provided for the FECA program administration out of annual "Fair Share" collections. Fair Share assessments are mandated under Section 8147(c) of the FECA for 23 non-appropriated agencies, including the United States Postal Service, with each paying a pro rata share of OWCP's cost to administer FECA claims filed by their employees.

Section 10(h) of the amended LHWCA authorized annual adjustments in compensation to beneficiaries in cases of permanent total disability or death occurring on or prior to November 26, 1972, with the Federal Government paying half the costs of the annual increase for compensation of those cases. A direct appropriation provides the necessary resources to meet the required annual increase in benefits for the Federal share of the costs for compensation and related benefits for the pre-1972 cases. Private insurance companies and/or employers pay the remaining 50 percent of the compensation.

Equity in Budgeting

The workers covered by DFELHWC's FECA and Longshore Programs should be able to sleep at night knowing if they get injured at work, they will receive equitable, timely service no matter who they are, what they do, or where they live. DFELHWC is uniquely positioned to address inequities in how its claimant populations receive service because of the transactional and measurable nature of its work. After implementing actions to address inequities, the program can quantifiably assess its impact on claimants.

DFELHWC has enhanced the Employees' Compensation Operations & Management Portal (ECOMP) to offer additional non-binary gender options for filing forms and also to collect additional voluntary demographic information from claimants, to include (without being made available to or used by claims staff to determine claims eligibility): race, ethnicity, primary language, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, religion, disability status, and veteran status.

Additionally, DFELHWC will continue to administer a survey to identify barriers of entry to the programs, gathering information on demographic barriers as well as other obstacles that can be addressed through improved customer service and outreach. Depending on the results of the

SPECIAL BENEFITS

surveys, this may result in actions such as outreach to Longshore and federal employee unions to provide more direct training to them and their members, collaboration with large Longshore employers and federal employers to promote information sharing with employees on how to file claims for injuries, and ECOMP enhancements to ease claim filing experience and document submission.

Future of the Departmental Workforce

Staff funded by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) manage the increased caseload associated with COVID-19 claims and includes claims examiners, supervisors, quality assurance and mentoring examiners, and technical assistance staff. DFELHWC staff will continue to perform this work under ARPA as demand dictates and will transition to regular claims staff work if the demand lessens, which our attrition rate will allow us to do.

Providing equity across all levels of the organization—from the lowest GS ranks through supervisors and managers—is challenging for an organization of the FECA program’s size. DFELHWC plans to build on our efforts to recruit a diverse workforce by working to ensure that job announcements are widely publicized within marginalized communities. The Division also plans to encourage employees from underrepresented worker groups to apply for supervisory and managerial positions. Active support of the OWCP mentorship program and participation in OWCP’s “Day in the Life” series are two concrete ways that we are empowering underrepresented groups to apply for higher level positions within the organization. Further, once we have a more diverse workforce in the FECA program, it will become necessary for retention of that staff to ensure that caseloads are consistent with industry standards.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
Activity Appropriation	80,920	81,752	83,007	1,255
FTE	108	168	168	0

NOTE: FY 2022 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2022 was 116.

Introduction

The Special Benefits fund is administered by the Division of Federal Employees', Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation (DFELHWC), which adjudicates new claims for benefits and manages ongoing cases; pays medical expenses and compensation benefits to injured workers and survivors; and helps injured employees return to work when they are medically able to do so.

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The new law makes it easier for federal workers diagnosed with COVID-19 to establish coverage under the FECA. [Section 4016](#) of the law provides that a federal employee who is diagnosed with COVID-19 and carried out duties that required contact with patients, members of the public, or co-workers, or included a risk of exposure to the novel coronavirus during a covered period of exposure prior to the diagnosis, is deemed to have an injury that is proximately caused by employment. The FECA program is working to ensure that federal workers who contracted COVID-19 at work receive the benefits they are owed. ARPA funding authority enabled the transfer of 55 FTE to the Employee Compensation Fund (ECF) to support the COVID-19 related workload.

The Program Integrity, Fraud Prevention, and Prescription Management units continue to improve the safety and quality of care through controls for prescription drugs, while at the same time reducing medical costs and referring suspicious providers to the DOL Office of Inspector General. However, as new drugs enter the market and as questionable prescribing and billing practices evolve to circumvent controls, the FECA program will need new controls to address the changing environment in order to advance management and performance of the program. The FECA program will perform ongoing program integrity efforts through data analytics, payment audits, and improper payment reporting. This effort directly supports the objective of improving access and use of data by providing high quality and timely information to inform evidence-based decision-making and ongoing initiatives supported by the Secretary to reduce improper payments.

Additionally, the FECA program implemented its Pharmacy Benefit Management (PBM) services to improve the safety, quality, and cost-effectiveness of prescription care provided to claimants under the FECA. The FECA program implemented this cost-sharing service for use by all federal Departments/Agencies, as the FECA is the exclusive remedy by which federal employees may obtain disability, medical, and/or survivor benefits for workplace injuries. This initiative, combined with its Program Integrity, Prescription Management, and Fraud Prevention

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION

activities, enables the program to approve medically appropriate use of opioid medication and provide beneficiaries assistance in transitioning to alternative treatments as appropriate.

Five-Year Budget Activity History

(Dollars in Thousands)

Fiscal Year	Appropriation	Fair Share Funding	FTE
2019	\$230,000	\$74,777	158
2020	\$234,600	\$74,777	154
2021	\$239,000	\$80,257	143
2022	\$244,000	\$80,920	116
2023	\$250,000	\$81,752	168

FY 2024

Total new budget authority requested in FY 2024 is \$3,497,030,000. This amount includes \$698,000,000 in direct appropriations for FECA benefits and \$2,000,000 for LHWCA benefits as authorized under Section 10(h) of the amended LHWCA. OWCP estimates total offsetting collections in FY 2024 to be \$2,714,023,000 in FECA benefits and War Hazard payments, and \$83,007,000 and 168 FTE for FECA Fair Share program administration. The Fair Share amount of \$83,007,000 includes an increase of \$1,255,000 for built-in pay and benefits funding to avoid further erosion of FTE due to pay raises and increased benefit costs. ARPA funding authority enabled the transfer of 55 FTE to the Employee Compensation Fund (ECF) to support the COVID-19 related workload.

In FY 2024, OWCP will continue to support the President's priority of improving the customer experience as well as the Secretary's vision of empowering workers by using Fair Share funding to provide for recent initiatives including the Prescription Management Unit, Program Integrity Unit, Fraud Prevention Unit, and Pharmacy Benefit Management services. The FECA program will continue its ongoing program integrity efforts through data analytics, payment audits, and improper payment reporting.

Additionally, OWCP will continue to work with medical providers and injured workers to provide opioid treatment where needed, reduce the opioid risk level, and assist in securing the benefits needed for pain management.

In alignment with the President's Priority of Advancing Racial and Gender Equity and Support for Underserved Communities through the Federal Government, OWCP is committed to finding ways to make a thoughtful and intentional focus on equity a routine part of how the agency does business.

FY 2023

Total new budget authority for the Fair Share program for FY 2023 is \$2,981,506,000. This amount includes \$248,000,000 in direct appropriations for FECA benefits and \$2,000,000 for LHWCA benefits as authorized under Section 10(h) of the amended LHWCA. OWCP estimates

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION

total offsetting collections in FY 2023 to be \$2,649,754,000 in FECA benefits and War Hazard payments, and \$81,752,000 and 168 FTE for FECA Fair Share program administration.

In FY 2023, OWCP will continue to support the President's priority of improving the customer experience as well as the Secretary's vision of empowering workers by using Fair Share funding to provide for recent initiatives including the Prescription Management Unit, Program Integrity Unit, Fraud Prevention Unit, and Pharmacy Benefit Management services.

The FECA program will continue its ongoing program integrity efforts through data analytics, payment audits, and improper payment reporting. Funding will also support maintenance of the OWCP Employees' Compensation Operations and Management Portal (ECOMP), which is key to strengthening customer experience and stakeholder engagement.

Additionally, OWCP will continue to work with medical providers and injured workers to provide opioid treatment where needed, reduce the opioid risk level, and assist in securing the benefits needed for pain management.

In alignment with the President's Priority of Advancing Racial and Gender Equity and Support for Underserved Communities through the Federal Government, DFELHWC will continue to support ECOMP to offer additional non-binary gender options for filing forms and also to collect additional voluntary demographic information from claimants, to include (without being made available to or used by claims staff to determine claims eligibility): race, ethnicity, primary language, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, religion, disability status, and veteran status.

Additionally, DFELHWC will continue to administer a survey to identify barriers of entry to the programs, gathering information on demographic barriers as well as other obstacles that can be addressed through improved customer service and outreach. Depending on the results of the surveys, this may result in actions such as outreach to Longshore and federal employee unions to provide more direct training to them and their members, collaboration with large Longshore employers and federal employers to promote information sharing with employees on how to file claims for injuries, and ECOMP enhancements to ease claim filing experience and document submission.

FY 2022

Total FY 2022 Revised Enacted resources for the Fair Share program were \$2,865,832,000. This amount included \$242,000,000 in direct appropriations for FECA benefits and \$2,000,000 for LHWCA benefits as authorized under Section 10(h) of the amended LHWCA. Total offsetting collections in FY 2022 were \$2,540,912,000 in FECA benefits and War Hazard payments, and \$80,920,000 and 116 FTE for FECA Fair Share program administration.

FY 2022 Fair Share funding provided for recent initiatives including the Prescription Management Unit, Program Integrity Unit, Fraud Prevention Unit, and Pharmacy Benefit Management services. In FY 2022, OWCP continued to work with medical providers and injured workers to provide opioid treatment where needed, reduce the opioid risk level, and assist in securing the benefits needed for pain management.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION

The FECA program continued its ongoing program integrity efforts through data analytics, payment audits, and improper payment reporting. Funding also supported maintenance of the ECOMP, which is key to strengthening customer experience and stakeholder engagement.

Staff funded by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) managed the increased caseload associated with COVID-19 claims and included claims examiners, supervisors, quality assurance and mentoring examiners, and technical assistance staff. DFELHWC staff continued to perform this work under ARPA as demand dictated.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION

WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE SUMMARY						
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted		FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request		
	Target	Result	Target	Target		
FECA Fair Share Appropriation						
Strategic Goal 3 - Improve Administration of and Strengthen Worker Safety Net Programs						
Strategic Objective 3.1 - Ensure timely and accurate income support when work is unavailable by strengthening benefits programs and program administration.						
Workload						
FEC WL 4	Periodic Roll Cases - Long-term Disability		37,000[p]	33,031	37,000[p]	36,000[p]

Legend: (r) Revised (e) Estimate (base) Baseline -- Not Applicable TBD - To Be Determined [p] - Projection

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION

Workload and Performance Narrative

Periodic Roll Management

Management of long-term disability cases under Periodic Roll Management is a performance priority for the FECA program. These injured Federal workers have typically sustained more severe injuries with longer recovery periods and have permanent impairments that require long-term monitoring. In FY 2024, the program expects approximately 36,000 workers to receive compensation for long-term disability.

Monitoring and Management of Pharmaceutical Costs

The FECA program continues efforts to reduce the potential for opioid misuse and addiction among injured federal workers. The program used data to implement new policies and institute targeted controls and tailored treatment that resulted in a series of successes when comparing November 2022 with January 2017:

- 60 percent decline in overall opioid use (measured as FECA claimants that have had an opioid prescription within the prior 180 days)
- 43 percent drop in new opioid prescriptions
- 75 percent decline in new opioid prescriptions lasting more than 30 days
- 92 percent drop in claimants with a Morphine Equivalent Dose (MED) of 500 or more
- 73 percent drop in users with an MED of 90 or more

In FY 2024, the FECA program will continue to work with medical providers and injured workers to provide opioid treatment where needed, reduce the opioid risk level, and assist in securing the benefits needed for pain management.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	12,424	16,139	16,819	680
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	0	0	0	0
11.5	Other personnel compensation	453	575	575	0
11.9	Total personnel compensation	12,877	16,714	17,394	680
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	5,776	6,867	7,065	198
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	0	0	0	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	97	196	196	0
22.0	Transportation of things	0	0	0	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	0	385	385	0
23.2	Rental payments to others	0	0	0	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	145	16	16	0
24.0	Printing and reproduction	7	7	7	0
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	0	0	0	0
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	20,503	21,794	21,794	0
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources 1/	27,224	33,461	33,838	377
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities	0	0	0	0
25.5	Research and development contracts	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	14,032	2,173	2,173	0
26.0	Supplies and materials	44	47	47	0
31.0	Equipment	75	92	92	0
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	0	0	0
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities	140	0	0	0
51.1	Benefits	0	0	0	0
	Total	80,920	81,752	83,007	1,255
	1/Other goods and services from Federal sources				
	Working Capital Fund	27,009	17,006	17,383	377
	DHS Services	33	0	0	0

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION

CHANGES IN FY 2024

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Costs of pay adjustments	\$680
Personnel benefits	0
Employee health benefits	234
Moving allowance	0
Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA)	-36
Benefits for former personnel	0
Travel and transportation of persons	0
Transportation of things	0
Rental payments to GSA	0
Rental payments to others	0
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0
Printing and reproduction	0
Advisory and assistance services	0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0
Working Capital Fund	377
Other Federal sources (Census Bureau)	0
Other Federal sources (DHS Charges)	0
Other goods and services from Federal sources	0
Research & Development Contracts	0
Operation and maintenance of facilities	0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	0
Supplies and materials	0
Equipment	0
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0
Insurance claims and indemnities	0

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$1,255**

Net Program **\$0**

Direct FTE **0**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$83,007	168
Program Increase	\$0	0
Program Decrease	\$0	0