



# Microsimulation Model on Worker Leave – Update

## SUMMARY

In 2017, the Chief Evaluation Office (CEO) funded contractors IMPAQ International and the Institute for Women’s Policy Research (IWPR) to conduct the Microsimulation Model on Worker Leave. The goal of the study was to produce an updated, open-source, publicly available simulation tool based on the Albelda and Clayton-Matthews/IWPR Paid Family Medical Leave Simulation Model (ACM Model). The result is the Worker Paid Leave Usage Simulation (Worker PLUS) Model. The Worker PLUS Model uses Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Survey and American Community Survey (ACS) data to allow researchers and federal, state, and local policy makers to estimate the effects of various worker leave scenarios and policy options on worker leave-taking behavior, and to estimate the benefits paid as well as costs of administering any given program.

In 2022, the CEO funded contractor Summit Consulting, LLC to further update data, models, and programming code to produce a [2023 version of Worker PLUS Model](#).

The Department of Labor-funded study is a result of the annual process to determine the Department’s research priorities for the upcoming year. It contributes to the labor evidence base to inform [data, methods, and tools](#) and [worker leave](#) program and policies and addresses Department strategic goals and priorities.

[SEE FULL STUDY](#)

**TIMEFRAME:** 2017-2023  
**SUBMITTED BY:** Summit Consulting  
**DATE PREPARED:** July 2023

**PARTNER AGENCY:** Women’s Bureau  
**SPONSOR:** Chief Evaluation Office  
**CEO CONTACT:** [ChiefEvaluationOffice@dol.gov](mailto:ChiefEvaluationOffice@dol.gov)

*The Department of Labor’s (DOL) Chief Evaluation Office (CEO) sponsors independent evaluations and research, primarily conducted by external, third-party contractors in accordance with the [Department of Labor Evaluation Policy](#). CEO’s [research development process](#) includes extensive technical review at the design, data collection and analysis stage, including: external contractor review and OMB review and approval of data collection methods and instruments per the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), Institutional Review Board (IRB) review to ensure studies adhere to the highest ethical standards, review by academic peers (e.g., Technical Working Groups), and inputs from relevant DOL agency and program officials and CEO technical staff. Final reports undergo an additional independent expert technical review and a review for Section 508 compliance prior to publication. The resulting reports represent findings from this independent research and do not represent DOL positions or policies.*