

## **2016 Personal Injuries Assessment Board** **statistics published**

- *Claim volumes stable*

**There was a small increase of 1.5% last year in the overall number of personal injury claims received by the Personal Injuries Assessment Board compared with the previous year, figures published today show.**

The number of **Motor accident claims** reduced last year by just under 1%, according to the PIAB statistics.

The number of **Public Liability claims** (accidents in public places) increased by 3.1 per cent and the number of **Employer Liability** (workplace accident) claims increased by 8.2 per cent, at a time of growing numbers of people at work.

PIAB publishes the most detailed and transparent statistics on personal injury compensation available in Ireland. It is Ireland's independent body which assesses personal injuries compensation in a quick and cost-efficient way. The statistics it publishes reflect the cases PIAB handles. Detailed statistics on cases where claimants and insurers settle privately are not currently publicly available.

Last year **34,056** new personal injury claims were submitted to PIAB, compared to 33,561 claims made in 2015, according to the PIAB data.

2016 was a year in which the PIAB model continued to deliver major benefits, by providing a low-cost, quick and fair option in injury compensation, the statistics show:

- **The average time to assess a personal injury claim was seven months.**
- **PIAB processing costs were 6.4% of awards – a fraction of the costs had the claims it handled required litigation.**

More...

## Statistics...2

PIAB made **12,966** awards in 2016, compared to 11,734 awards 2015. The increase in awards does not reflect any change to underlying claim volumes, but is due to the timing of awards, with some volume from 2015 pushing into Q1 2016

The proportional breakdown of awards remained relatively steady with **motor liability** accounting for 74% of awards in 2016 (compared with 75% in 2015); **employer liability** (workplace accidents) rising slightly from 8% to 9% year on year as a percentage of awards, and **public liability** (accidents in public places) remaining at 17% of awards.

- 9% of PIAB awards related to sums of less than €10,000 in value and 79% of awards were under €30,000 in value.
- The average PIAB **award** in 2016 was **€24,305** compared to €22,878 in 2015. Award values vary depending on the nature and severity of cases received..
- In 2016 PIAB assessed a greater proportion of higher value employer liability awards arising from workplace accidents, as well as a greater proportion of more serious cases (awards in excess of €100,000).
- The counties with the highest number of awards were counties Dublin, Cork, Limerick and Galway.
- The counties with lowest number of awards were counties Leitrim, Roscommon, Kilkenny and Carlow.
- The highest award in 2016 was €740,968.

**ENDS**