



## **VCF Program Statistics** ***(Represents activity through the end of the day on August 31, 2017)***

As of August 31, 2017, the VCF has made 21,712 eligibility decisions, finding 17,434 claimants eligible for compensation. The VCF has made award determinations on 14,009 of those claims at a total value of \$3,007,475,734.85. The total amount awarded to date includes revised awards on 3,528 claims due to an amendment or appeal.

### **ELIGIBILITY CLAIMS**

As shown in Table 1 on the following page, the VCF has received 30,081 Eligibility claims. The VCF has made 21,712 total eligibility decisions (72% of all claims filed), finding 17,434 claimants eligible for compensation review (80% of eligibility decisions made).

There are 4,997 claims that have not yet been decided and are either under substantive review by a claim reviewer, or have been screened for completeness of the original submission and are now in queue awaiting assignment for substantive review. There are an additional 3,372 claims that cannot be processed. This includes 601 claims that have been identified as duplicate or superseded claims for the same victim or where the claim has been withdrawn, and 2,771 that have been deemed inactive. A claim is placed in inactive status for one of the following reasons: (1) there is a discrepancy in key data needed to process the claim, such as a discrepancy in the Social Security Number or date of birth, and the VCF is awaiting clarification from the claimant; (2) the claim appears to be a duplicate claim for the same victim and the VCF is awaiting confirmation from the claimant as to which claim to move forward for review; (3) the claim does not include proof of an eligible 9/11-related condition and the VCF is waiting for the claimant to be certified for treatment by the World Trade Center (“WTC”) Health Program;<sup>1</sup> or (4) the claim is missing one or more minimum documents required for the VCF to begin substantive review (i.e., review to determine eligibility).<sup>2</sup>

The total number of eligibility claims submitted includes all eligibility claims the VCF has received, which is different from what was reported in VCF statistics reports prior to March 2017. As explained in the [Fifth Annual Status Report](#) published in March 2017, and in reports prior to that date, the total number of claims submitted previously did not include duplicate claims, withdrawn claims, or Personal Injury claims that were superseded by the filing of a Deceased claim for the same victim. In addition, prior reports included “inactive” claims in the count of “not eligible” claims, although these claims had not had an eligibility determination rendered. Since these specific categories are now separated out in the statistics, the count of total eligibility claims accounts for all claims submitted to date and is noticeably different than the same statistic as it was reported at this time last year. For these reasons, comparing the total number of eligibility determinations made from year to year is inadequate to assess the VCF’s progress. Instead, the separate counts of claims where eligibility is approved or eligibility is denied provides a more accurate reporting of the VCF’s determinations to date.

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<sup>1</sup> This inactive reason is new to this report and is intended to capture the number of claims awaiting certification of an eligible condition in light of changes to our Private Physician process, which were announced in July 2017.

<sup>2</sup> The minimum documents required in order for the VCF to begin substantive review of a claim are: the claim form, the Claim Form Signature Page (or the equivalent sections from Part IV of the original VCF 2 claim form), Exhibit A – Authorization to Release Medical Information, Exhibit C (if represented by an attorney and the law firm does not already have an Exhibit C on file with the VCF), Exhibit F (for Deceased claims filed using the original VCF 2 claim form), original Letters of Administration and original or certified death certificate (for deceased victims), and documentation to support presence at a 9/11 site (for those whose employer or other affiliated organization does not have an existing relationship with the VCF allowing for the exchange of this information). These documents must be submitted and sufficiently complete for the VCF to begin substantive review of a claim.



It is also worth noting that the count of ineligible claims in Tables 1 and 2 – those claims that have been denied – may *decrease* from one report to the next. The count of denied claims includes those claims that have been found ineligible for failing to respond to requests for required information. These claimants are encouraged to amend their claim once they are ready to provide the missing information. If the information is sufficient to support the claimant’s eligibility, the claim is approved and is removed from the count of denied claims and added to the count of claims with eligibility approved.

Comparison data for the same period in 2016 is taken from the September 7, 2016, [VCF Program Statistics](#) report and is provided for those statistics where the definition or calculation of the statistic has not changed (except as noted in the paragraph above) and a comparison is therefore appropriate.

**Table 1: Status of Eligibility Forms Received**

<b>ELIGIBILITY FORMS</b>	<b>As of August 31, 2017</b>	<b>As of September 7, 2016</b>
<b>Total Eligibility Claims</b>	<b>30,081</b>	<b>23,255</b>
<b>Total Eligibility Decisions</b>	<b>21,712</b>	<b>20,978</b>
<b>Eligibility Decisions – Approved</b>	<b>17,434</b>	<b>15,258</b>
Personal Injury Claims	17,063	15,034
Deceased Claims*	371	224
<b>Eligibility Decisions – Not Eligible</b>	<b>4,278</b>	<b>5,720</b>
Denied	1,464	
Ineligible due to failure to respond to requests for required information	2,814	
<b>Eligibility Claims Processing</b>	<b>4,997</b>	<b>2,277</b>
Eligibility Claims not yet in Substantive Review	4,041	
Eligibility Claims in Substantive Review	956	
<b>Eligibility Claims – Unable to Process</b>	<b>3,372</b>	
Duplicate, Superseded, or Withdrawn Claims**	601	
Inactive Claims***	2,771	

\* The count of Deceased claims includes only those claims filed for a victim who died of causes related to an eligible 9/11 condition. The claim type is initially determined based on answers to claim form questions and may change once the claim begins substantive review.

\*\* Includes duplicate claims filed for the same victim, Personal Injury claims that have been superseded by the filing of a Deceased claim for the same victim, claims awaiting proof of an eligible condition; and claims that have been withdrawn by the claimant.

\*\*\* Includes claims that do not have the minimum documents required to begin review of the claim and claims where the claimant is awaiting certification for treatment by the WTC Health Program.

The VCF is also reviewing 2,102 claims for which eligibility was previously decided and there is either a pending appeal of an eligibility denial or the claimant has filed an eligibility amendment seeking a revised determination based on new information or to add a new condition.

Table 2 on the following page provides information on the categories of conditions associated with the eligibility decisions. The breakdowns are based on conditions certified or verified by the WTC Health Program.



**Table 2: Eligibility Claims by Category of Condition (as of August 31, 2017)**

ELIGIBILITY FORMS	TOTAL	Claims with Cancer as the only Condition	Claims that do not include Cancer as a Condition	Claims with both Cancer and Non-Cancer Conditions
Eligibility Decisions – Approved	17,434	2,299	12,443	2,692
Eligibility Decisions – Not Eligible*	850	126	674	50

\* This table does not include the 3,428 claims found not eligible where the VCF was unable to make a determination as to whether the claimant suffered from a 9/11-related condition, including in those claims where eligibility was denied for failure to respond to a request for information.

## COMPENSATION CLAIMS

Once a claimant has been deemed eligible, the VCF begins review of the claimant’s compensation claim to determine how much compensation the claimant may receive from the Fund. As of August 31, 2017, the VCF has received 25,695 compensation claims, of which 16,825 (65%) are from claimants who have been deemed eligible. Of those with eligibility approved, the VCF has rendered decisions on 14,009 (83%) claims. Note that these numbers reflect all compensation form submissions since the VCF re-opened in October 2011.

An additional 4,756 individuals whose eligibility review is still in process have also submitted compensation claims. If the claimant is deemed eligible, the compensation claim will be prioritized for review based on the date the compensation form was first submitted.

The VCF has also rendered revised decisions on 3,528 claims for which the claimant appealed the award decision or submitted an amendment to seek additional loss once the initial award determination had been rendered. In addition, there are 2,573 claims with a previously-issued award decision that are now pending review of a compensation amendment or appeal.

The statistics in Tables 3 through 6 on the following pages represent activity through the end of the day on August 31, 2017. Comparison data is shown below where available from the same period last year. It is important to note that the statistics for the period ending September 7, 2016, reflect predominantly Group A claims, with only 1,450 Group B claims decided between June 30, 2016, when the VCF began issuing Group B award decisions and September 7, 2016, when the report was published. As required by the reauthorization, the VCF could not accept new claims or render decisions on previously-filed claims until after the updated interim regulations were published in June 2016.



**Table 3: Status of Compensation Claims**

<b>COMPENSATION CLAIMS</b>	<b>As of August 31, 2017</b>	<b>As of September 7, 2016**</b>
<b>TOTAL Compensation Claims (claims for which an Eligibility Form was also submitted)</b>	<b>25,695</b>	<b>14,915</b>
Claims with In-Process Eligibility Review	4,756	
Claims deemed Denied, Duplicate, Superseded or otherwise halted Eligibility review	4,114	
TOTAL Compensation Forms <i>from claimants who have been deemed Eligible</i>	16,825	13,337
<b>Compensation Decisions Rendered – Initial Award Decisions</b>	<b>14,009</b>	<b>10,580</b>
Personal Injury Claims	13,865	10,549
Deceased Claims*	144	31
<b>Compensation Claims Processing</b>	<b>2,816</b>	<b>2,757</b>
Compensation Claims not yet in Substantive Review	2,147	
Compensation Claims in Substantive Review	669	
<b>Claims for Revised Decisions due to Amendment or Appeal</b>	<b>6,101</b>	<b>1,766</b>
<b>Claims with Revised Decisions Rendered</b>	<b>3,528</b>	
Claims pending review for a Revised Decision	2,573	

\* The count of Deceased claims includes only those claims filed for a victim who died of causes related to an eligible 9/11 condition. The claim type is initially determined based on answers to claim form questions and may change once the claim begins substantive review.

\*\* These numbers represent the total for Group A and Group B claims as reported separately in the September 7, 2016 report.

**Table 4: Initial Compensation Decisions by Categories of Conditions**

<b>INITIAL COMPENSATION DECISIONS</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Claims with Cancer as the only Condition</b>	<b>Claims for only Non-Cancer Conditions</b>	<b>Claims with both Cancer and Non- Cancer Conditions</b>
<b>Compensation Decisions Rendered</b>	<b>14,009</b>	1,741	10,337	1,931
Total Dollar Value	<b>\$2,859,468,107.58</b>	\$594,818,301.78	\$1,625,042,277.12	\$639,607,528.68

**Table 5: Revised Compensation Decisions by Categories of Conditions**  
(count of unique claims with revised compensation decisions)

<b>REVISED COMPENSATION DECISIONS</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Claims with Cancer as the only Condition</b>	<b>Claims for only Non-Cancer Conditions</b>	<b>Claims with both Cancer and Non- Cancer Conditions</b>
<b>Claims with a Revised Compensation Decision – due to Amendment or Appeal</b>	<b>3,528</b>	177	2,712	639
Dollar Value of Revised Decisions	<b>\$148,007,627.27</b>	\$20,954,826.69	\$78,696,578.38	\$48,356,222.20



**Table 6: Compensation Decisions Rendered**

COMPENSATION DECISIONS RENDERED	Dollar Value
<b>Total Decisions Rendered</b>	<b>\$3,007,475,734.85</b>
Personal Injury Claims	\$2,905,504,299.63
Deceased Claims	\$101,971,435.22
<b>Highest Amount</b>	<b>\$4,133,466.00</b>
Personal Injury Claims	\$4,133,466.00
Claims for Deceased Individuals	\$3,254,242.77
<b>Lowest Amount*</b>	<b>\$86.07</b>
Personal Injury Claims	\$86.07
Claims for Deceased Individuals	\$10,067.64
<b>Mean Dollar Value</b>	<b>\$223,205.86</b>
Personal Injury Claims	\$217,852.91
Claims for Deceased Individuals	\$744,317.05

\* The \$86.07 in the table represents the lowest amount for any claim for which the calculated award was greater than \$0. Note that there are also claims submitted by claimants who were fully compensated in VCF1 (the original VCF that operated between 2001 to 2004) and do not have any new conditions. These claimants do not receive any compensation and the associated dollar value for these claims is therefore \$0. There are also a number of claimants whose offsets exceed the total amount of their combined economic and non-economic loss, resulting in a \$0 award as required by the reauthorization statute.

**INFORMATION BY CLAIMANT CATEGORIES**

The information in Table 7 below is based on the category identified by the claimant at the time the Eligibility Form was submitted. The number of claims with award decisions reflects only those claims for which an award has been rendered. The remaining claims are either pending review, inactive, or were determined to be ineligible. The associated dollar value reflects the current total award (initial award and any subsequent revised amounts due to an amendment or an appeal) associated with all compensation decisions made on the claims. The data in the table is current as of August 31, 2017.

**Table 7: Claim Information by Self-Reported Claimant Category**

CLAIMANT CATEGORY	Number of Claims Submitted	Number of Claims with Award Decision	Dollar Value
Responder – NYC	21,652	11,524	\$2,558,763,121.66
Responder – Pentagon	72	15	\$2,569,078.55
Responder – Shanksville	19	5	\$649,552.35
Non-Responder NYC – cleaning or maintenance work	1,038	569	\$60,567,607.27
Non-Responder NYC – other capacity	4,693	1,313	\$269,202,644.08
Resident within NYC zone*	915	213	\$41,154,785.97
Attend school/childcare/adult care facility	60	25	\$8,953,260.94
NYC – Other Capacity	407	78	\$16,360,015.74
Non-Responder – Pentagon	40	7	\$1,972,358.40
No Response	1,185	260	\$47,283,309.89



\* The "NYC Exposure Zone" is defined as "the area in Manhattan south of the line that runs along Canal Street from the Hudson River to the intersection of Canal Street and East Broadway, north on East Broadway to Clinton Street, and east on Clinton Street to the East River; and any area related to or along the routes of debris removal, such as barges and Fresh Kills landfill. <https://www.vcf.gov/nycExposureMap.html>

Listed below are the definitions for those claimant categories that benefit from additional clarification:

- **Responder:** an individual who performed rescue, recovery, demolition, debris cleanup, or other related services at one of the sites in response to the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, regardless of whether the individual was a state or federal employee or member of the National Guard or performed the services in some other capacity. Therefore, the victim may be considered a Responder even if he or she performed the listed services through a private employer or on a volunteer basis.
- **Non-Responder NYC – other capacity:** an individual who, through ordinary employment, was in the exposure zone during the period from September 11, 2001, through May 30, 2002.
- **NYC – Other Capacity:** a visitor, tourist, and any other individual who was in the exposure zone during the relevant time period and is not included in another category.

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

An individual must timely register his or her claim based on deadlines set forth in the Zadroga Act and implementing regulations. By registering a claim, an individual preserves his or her right to file a claim any time before the VCF closes for submissions on December 18, 2020. Registration does not create an obligation or commitment to file a claim, and the Special Master expects that a large percentage of registrations will not result in claims being filed as they are either duplicates or were created by individuals who will eventually decide not to file a claim.

As of this report, 66,185 unique registrations (based on the victim's Social Security Number) have been submitted with the VCF. This number does not include incomplete registrations.