

IBI INFO

Providing the latest updates
on IBI's research, tools, news
and upcoming events

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What's New

June 2020

Opioid Crisis Exacerbated by COVID-19: What Employers Can Do

Past IBI research on the health and productivity impact of substance use reveals that one in three employees are prescribed pain medication, and one in seven show problematic patterns of use. In an article published in Employee Benefit Adviser, IBI Researcher Erin Peterson discusses how COVID-19 may escalate the opioid crisis and what employers can do to prevent and address employee opioid use issues during these unprecedented times.

[Read the Full Article](#)

Upcoming Research from IBI

IBI's focus on health and productivity research continues to move forward, and members can expect to see the following publications and webinars this summer:

- **PREVENTIVE SCREENINGS:** Screenings have great potential not only in improving quality of life for employees, but also reducing disability time and wage replacement cost for employers when they require treatment. IBI simulated such productivity outcomes of meeting screening guidelines for seven conditions: breast cancer, cervical cancer, colorectal cancer, hypertension, depression, diabetes and obesity to find the greatest opportunities for health and productivity gains.
- **WORK IMPACT OF CAREGIVING:** Employees who are caregivers may oftentimes have trouble balancing personal and work obligations. By analyzing two

different population-based surveys, IBI dives into the impact of caregiving on work, and how work policies might mitigate the burden of caregiving. The results aim to help employers recognize how caregiving impacts employees' abilities to contribute on the job—and make informed decisions when considering the value of caregiver benefits.

Announcement of the publications and webinar registrations will be coming soon.

IBI/Conference Board Health and Productivity Forum

The Forum annually convenes more than 500 thought leaders, employers, and their industry partners to explore innovative solutions in managing the whole picture of health, wellbeing, productivity and business performance. Due to ongoing COVID-19 concerns, IBI and the Conference Board have adjusted it to a virtual event to be held September 14-18. The agenda will be posted soon but a preview session can be found below:

CFO's Views on Health Benefit Strategy

IBI will present findings from a survey of 318 Chief Financial Officers (CFOs) and other corporate senior financial executives on their perspective of the business value of their health benefits strategy—including healthcare and disability insurance, paid leave and sick days, and wellness/wellbeing programs. Included in the findings is also a review of business planning for emergencies prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and their company's ability to maintain operations and support employees in current times.

The Forum registration fee is \$195 for members (a discount code will be sent in a separate email) and \$495 for nonmembers. For any questions or interest in sponsorships, please contact forum@ibiweb.org.

[Register](#)

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Research Review

Snapshot from the latest [IBI Research Review](#):

Are Social Distancing Measures Working? [Health Affairs](#)

A recent study investigated the impacts of four social distancing measures imposed by state and local governments between March 1-April 25: large event bans, school closures, closures of entertainment-related businesses (including movies and restaurants), and shelter-in-place orders. Researchers found that...

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IBIBridge Featured Discussion

We have built IBIBridge to provide employers with a tool to privately connect, strategize, and get answers to questions on pressing health and productivity issues. This week's question of the week on IBIBridge is below:



Question of the Week:

How is your organization dealing with planning travel to meetings and conferences through the end of this year?



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