## Chapter 6: Wholesale Trade, Transportation, & Utilities

*Note: Figures for this chapter are located on pages 61-67.* 

More than half of the resident workers (53.8%) in Wholesale Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (WTTU) are men 35 years of age or older (see Figure 1.6.1). While this proportion is much higher than the statewide average of 29.3 percent (see Figure 1.1.2, page 12), the proportion of nonresident workers in WTTU (see Figure 1.6.2) is 14.6 percent, much lower than the 23.0 percent statewide. Resident and nonresident turnover in this industry is also considerably lower than the statewide averages (13.8% and 29.6% compared to 21.6% and 41.9%, respectively).

Benefits eligibility in WTTU tends to be relatively high. Data in Figure 1.6.3 indicate that 86.1 percent of resident workers and 65.1 percent of nonresident workers were eligible to receive benefits in 2002. Given the relatively low level of turnover in this industry, we expect that workers in WTTU tend to be highly tenured. Figure 1.6.4 shows that nearly 73 percent of workers in WTTU were highly tenured in 2002. Consequently, the proportions of seasonal, marginal, and transitioning workers are less than the statewide averages (see Figure 1.1.5, page 15).

Benefits offering proportions by firm size tend to be much higher in WTTU than statewide. Figure 1.6.5 shows the health benefit offering percentage in WTTU is 80 percent, 15 percentage points greater than statewide (see Figure 1.1.6, page 16).

Much higher than statewide average benefit offering percentages implies that benefit utilization and therefore benefits costs are higher. The wages and benefit costs to employers are shown in Figure 1.6.6. The top bar in Figure 1.6.6 shows the estimated average annual cost of health insurance per WTTU worker. During the period for which these estimates were prepared, information regarding the number of workers participating in health insurance was unavailable. Additionally, the capacity to produce cost per participant in health, dependent health, and dental benefits together is under development. Not only are the vast majority of WTTU workers highly tenured, they are also relatively highly paid at \$10,225 per quarter compared to \$8,116 statewide (see Figure 1.1.7, page 17).

As shown in Figure 1.6.7, while benefits offering proportions in WTTU are similar to statewide (see Figure 1.1.8, page 18) for part-time workers (14% health, 13% dependent health, 14% dental compared to 12%

health, 12% dependent health and 10% dental, respectively), offering rates to full-time WTTU employees average from 7 to 12 percentage points greater than the statewide averages. WTTU may be an effective target for a program like Wyo-Care because it has relatively stable employment and high paying jobs, both of which lend themselves to uninsured workers being able to afford premium payments.













