WORKING IN ILLINOIS’ TEMP INDUSTRY

KEY FINDINGS FROM NEW STUDIES WITH ILLINOIS TEMP WORKERS

In 2015, over 60 temp workers completed surveys about what happened when they have tried to address problems at work. In 2016, a subset participated in four focus groups, answering additional questions on work conditions, and a third study was completed in Will County with temp applicants.

Big business is replacing good, direct hire jobs with permanently temporary jobs.

- **0** Workers who prefer a temp job to a direct hire job
- **20%** Workers who had a temp job lead to being directly hired
- **8 years** Average time workers have been employed through a temp agency

Loopholes allow companies’ use of temping to avoid legal responsibility.

- **$11,500** Median annual income for a temp worker in Illinois
- **2:1** Chance a temp worker is injured compared to a direct hire worker
- **75%** Temp workers who experienced wage theft
- **65%** Temp agencies in Will County that discriminate against women

When workers report abuse, companies consistently retaliate.

- **62%** Temp workers punished for exercising rights at work, such as reporting wage theft

Most don’t report abuse out of fear.

- **84%** Temp workers who avoid reporting abuse, such as wage theft, at least sometimes - 53% did not report abuse all or most of the time