

Overview & Outlook for the P/C Insurance Industry: Washington and Alaska Markets

IIABW/PIA of Washington/Alaska Joint Conference Seattle, WA

September 30, 2011

Robert P. Hartwig, Ph.D., CPCU, President & Economist Insurance Information Institute ♦ 110 William Street ♦ New York, NY 10038

Tel: 212.346.5520 ♦ Cell: 917.453.1885 ♦ bobh@iii.org ♦ www.iii.org



What in the World Is Going On?

Is the World Becoming a Riskier Place?

What Are the Implications for Insurance and Risk Management?

Uncertainty, Risk and Fear Abound



- Global Economic Slowdown
- US Debt and Budget Crisis and S&P Downgrade
- Echoes of the Financial Crisis
- Housing Crisis
- Persistently High Unemployment
- European Sovereign Debt, Bank & Currency Crises
- Japan, New Zealand, Haiti, Chile Earthquakes
- Nuclear Fears
- Record Tornado, Flooding in the US, Wildfires
- Cyber Attacks
- Manmade Disasters (e.g., Deepwater Horizon)
- Resurgent Terrorism Risk (e.g., Bin Laden Killing)
- Political Upheaval in the Middle East
- Inflation/Deflation
- Runaway Energy & Commodity Prices
- Era of Fiscal Austerity
- Reshuffling the Global Economic Deck
- China Becomes #2 Economy in the World



Are "Black Swans" everywhere or does it just seem that way?

Déjà Vu? Lehman II? Is This 2008 All Over Again?



Why Today is Not 2008 All Over Again

- The Situation Today is Very, Very Different from 2008
- Credit Markets Are Not Seizing; Some Contraction in Europe
- Bank Balance Sheets Are in Much Stronger Shape
 - Capital up, charge offs falling
- We Will Not Experience the Collapses/Near Collapses Like in 2008
 - No repeat of Lehman, AIG, Washington Mutual, Wachovia, Countrywide Financial
- Some Additional Regulatory Controls Are Now Place

What Would Be Helpful Now?

- Long-Term Fiscal and Monetary Policy Direction
- Fed on Aug. 9 stated rates would remain low "at least through mid-2013"
 - This is not only a signal that borrowing costs will remain low over an extended period of time and that inflation will remain muted; Also tells investors that they'll need to take on risk in order to earn returns in the market. Should be bullish for stocks.
 - Congress and the Administration need to remove regulatory and tax uncertainty ASAP and drive a pro-growth agenda

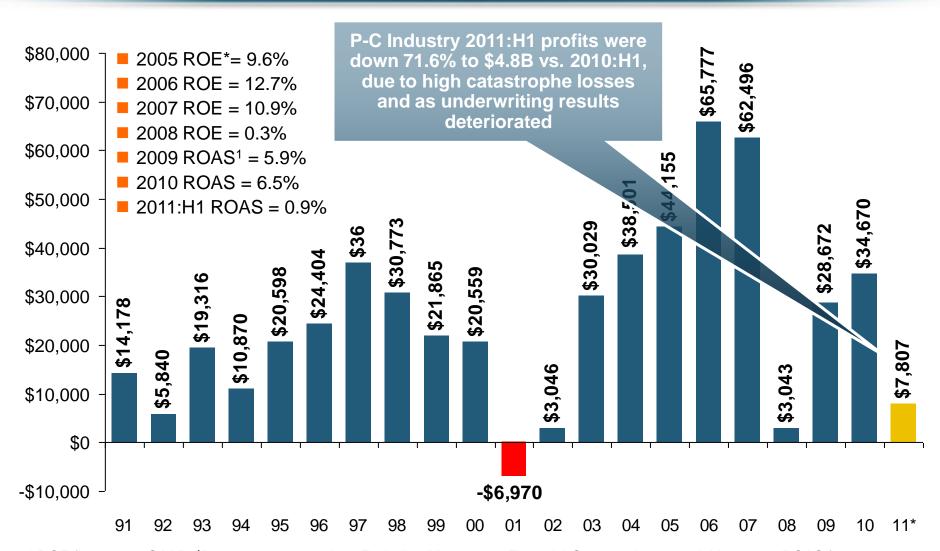


P/C Insurance Industry Financial Overview

Profit Recovery Will Be Set Back by High CATs, Low Interest Rates, Diminishing Reserve Releases

P/C Net Income After Taxes 1991–2011:H1 (\$ Millions)



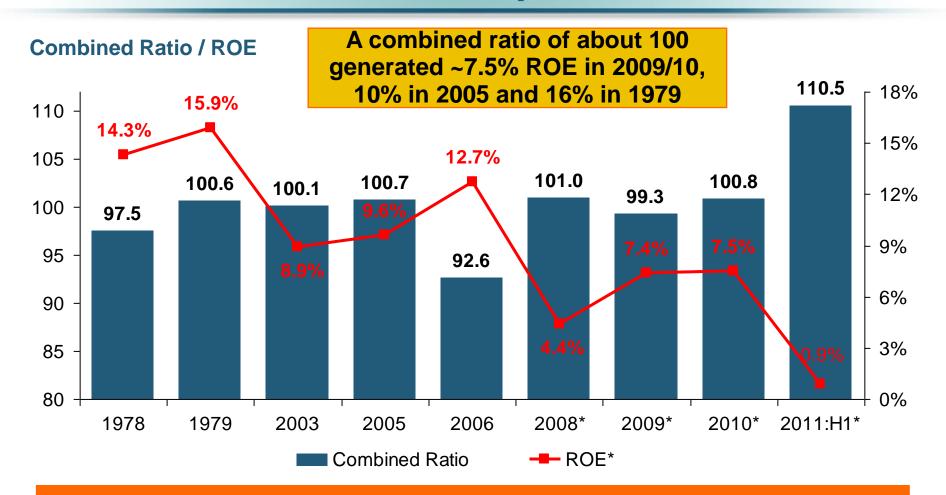


^{*} ROE figures are GAAP; ¹Return on avg. surplus. Excluding Mortgage & Financial Guaranty insurers yields a 6.5% ROAS for 2011:Q1, 7.5% for 2010 and 7.4% for 2009.

Sources: A.M. Best, ISO, Insurance Information Institute

A 100 Combined Ratio Isn't What It Once Was: Investment Impact on ROEs





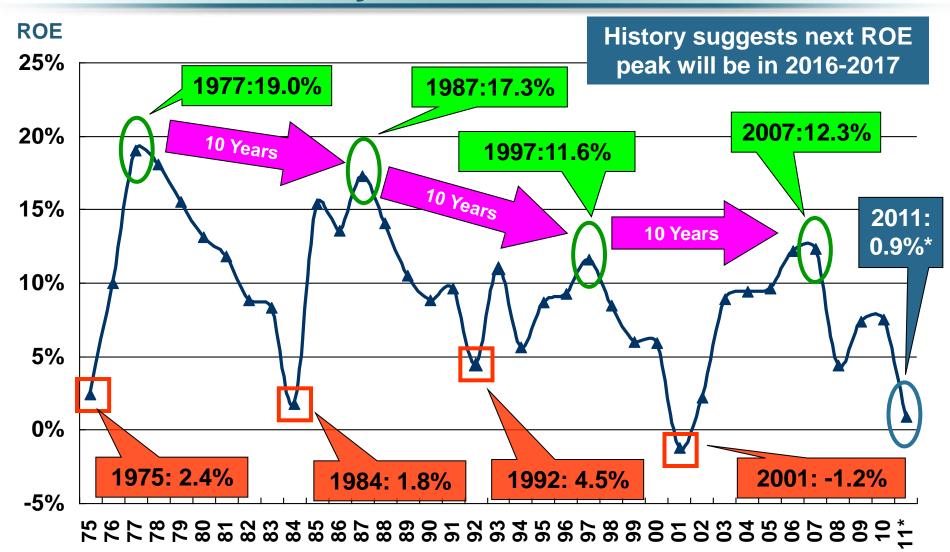
Combined Ratios Must Be Lower in Today's Depressed Investment Environment to Generate Risk Appropriate ROEs

Source: Insurance Information Institute from A.M. Best and ISO data.

^{* 2009} and 2010 figures are return on average statutory surplus. 2008 -2010 figures exclude mortgage and financial guaranty insurers. 2011 figure is estimate through first half.

Profitability Peaks & Troughs in the P/C Insurance Industry, 1975 – 2011*





*Profitability = P/C insurer ROEs are I.I.I. estimates. 2011 figure is an estimate based on annualized ROAS for H1 data. Note: Data for 2008-2010 exclude mortgage and financial guaranty insurers.

Source: Insurance Information Institute; NAIC, ISO, A.M. Best.

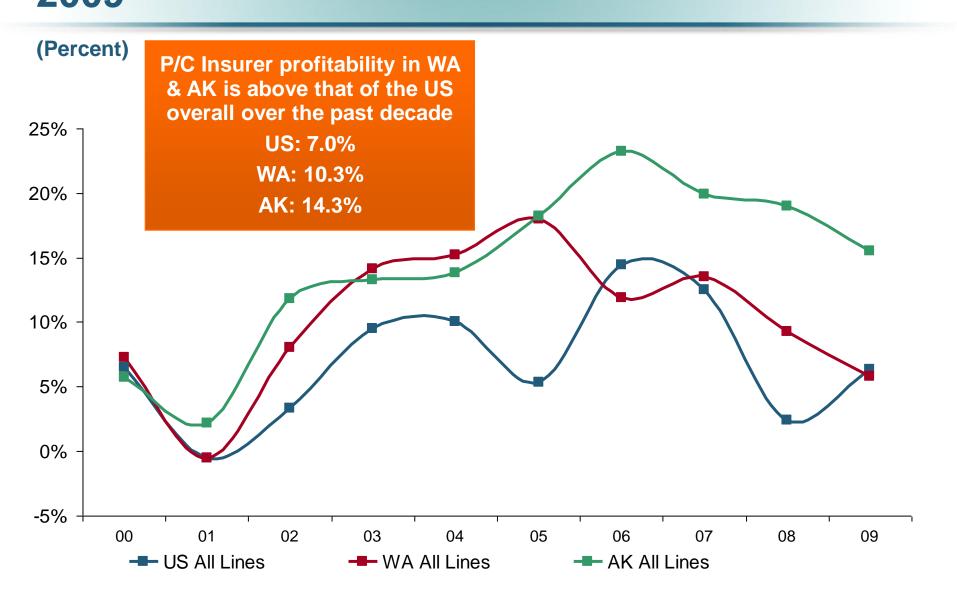


Profitability and Growth in the Washington and Alaska P/C Insurance Markets

Analysis by Line and Nearby State Comparisons

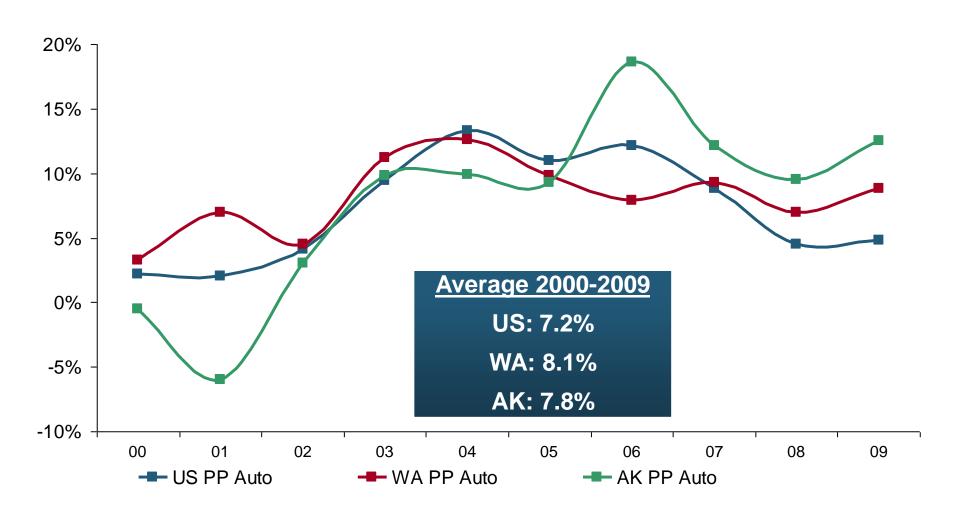
RNW All Lines: WA & AK vs. U.S., 2000-2009





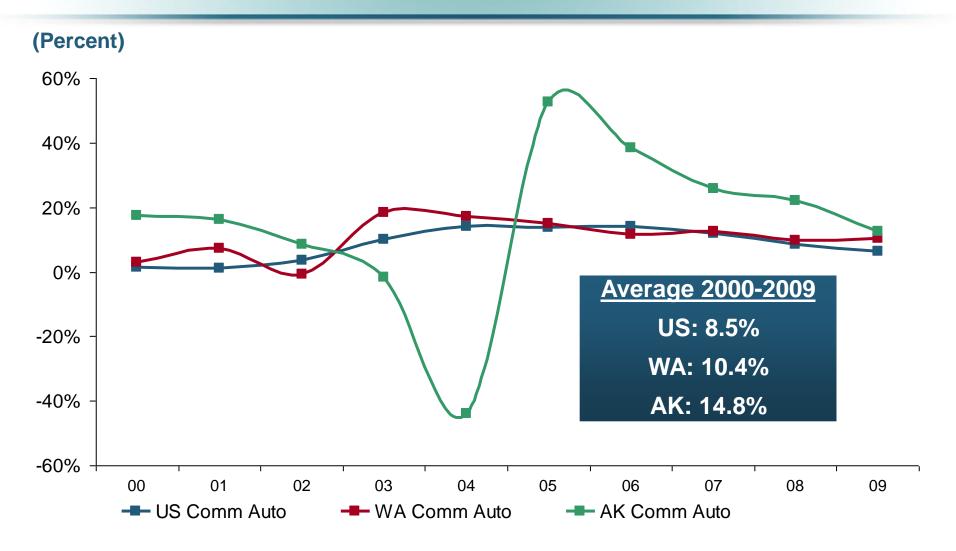
RNW PP Auto: WA & AK vs. U.S., 2000-2009





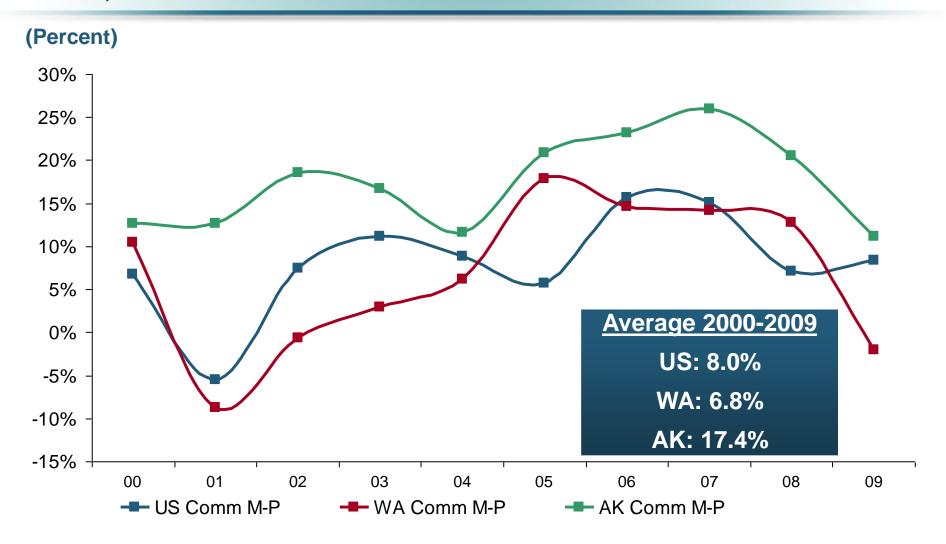
RNW Comm. Auto: WA & AK vs. U.S., 2000-2009





RNW Comm. Multi-Peril: WA & AK vs. U.S., 2000-2009

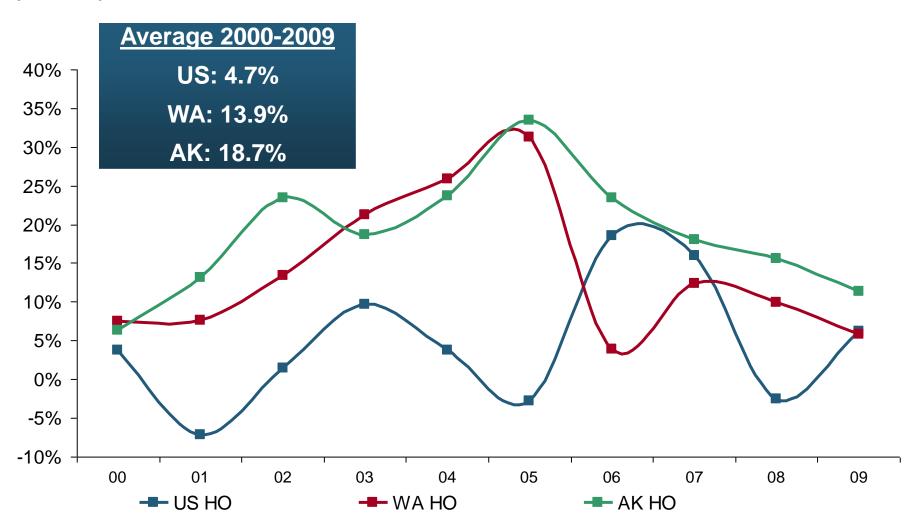




RNW Homeowners: WA & AK vs. U.S., 2000-2009

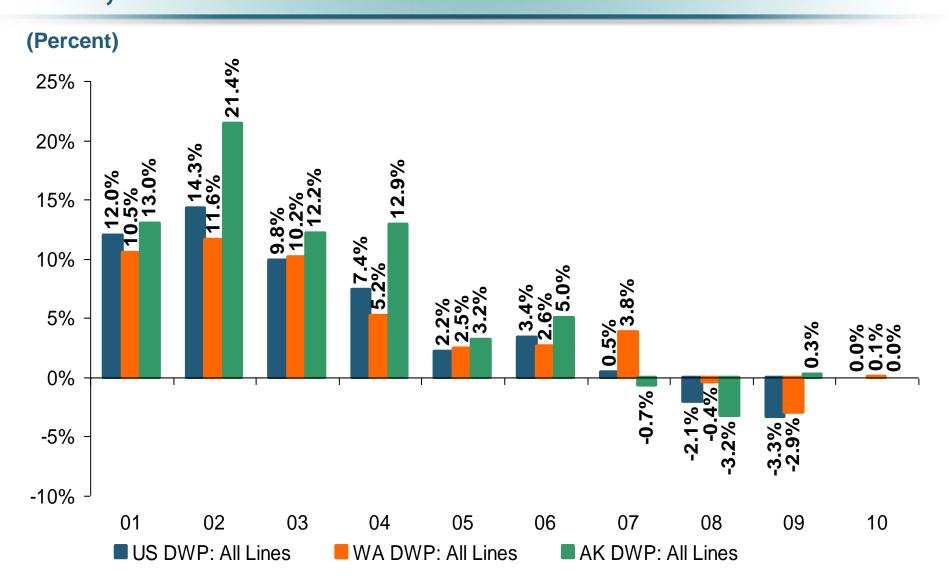


(Percent)



All Lines DWP Growth: WA & AK vs. U.S., 2001-2010

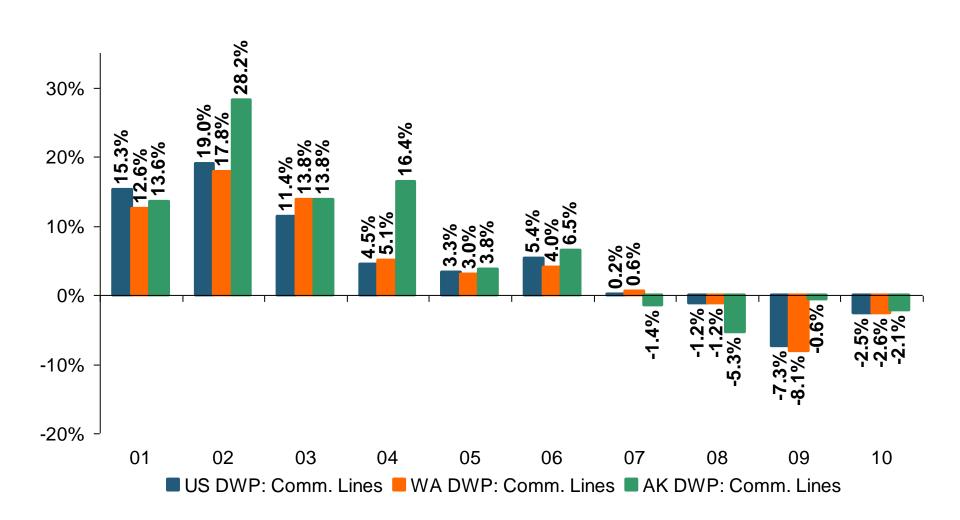




Comm. Lines DWP Growth: WA & AK vs. U.S., 2001-2010



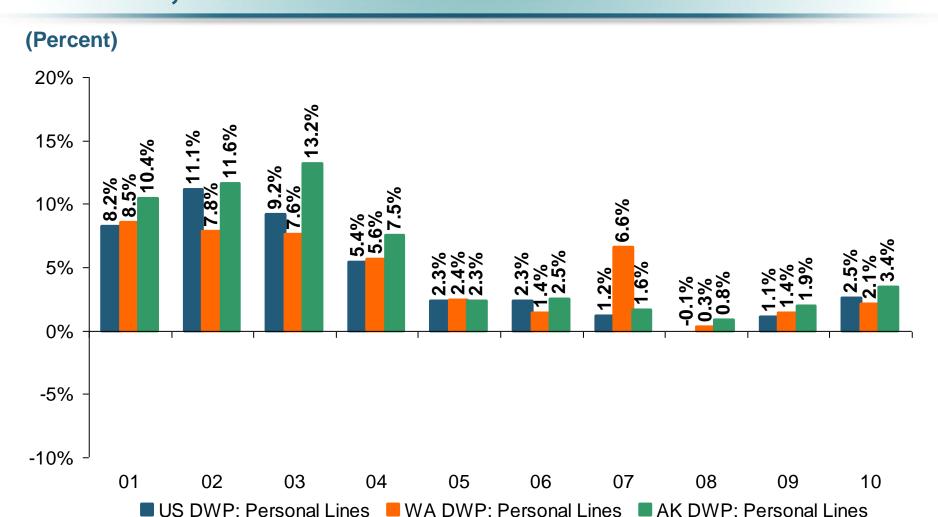
(Percent)



Source: SNL Financial.

Personal Lines DWP Growth: WA & AK vs. U.S., 2001-2010





Source: SNL Financial.



Catastrophe Loss Developments and Trends

2011 and 2010 Are Rewriting Catastrophe Loss and Insurance History

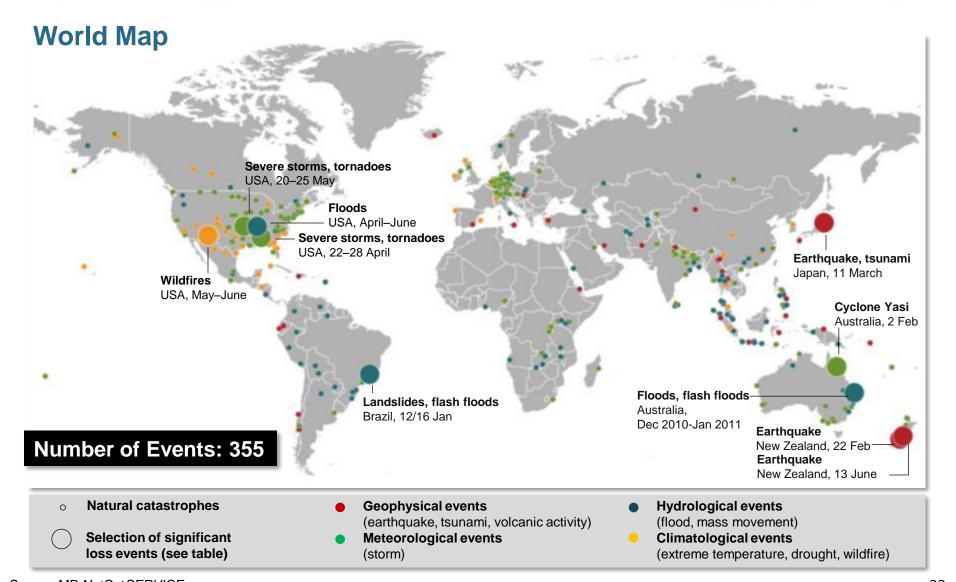
Global Catastrophe Loss Summary: First Half 2011



- 2011 Is Already (as of June 30) the Highest Loss Year on Record Globally
 - Extraordinary accumulation of severe natural catastrophe: Earthquakes, tsunami, floods and tornadoes are the primary causes of loss
- \$260 Billion in *Economic* Losses Globally
 - New record for the first six months, exceeding the previous record of \$220B in 2005.
 - Economy is more resilient than most pundits presume
- \$55 Billion in *Insured* Losses Globally
 - More than double the first half 2010 amount
 - Over 4 times the 10-year average
- \$27 Billion in Economic Losses in the US
 - Represents a 129% increase over the \$11.8 billion amount through the first half of 2010
- \$17.3 Billion in *Insured* Losses in the US Arising from 100 CAT Events
 - Represents a 162% increase over the \$6.6 billion amount through the first half of 2010

Natural Loss Events, January – June 2011

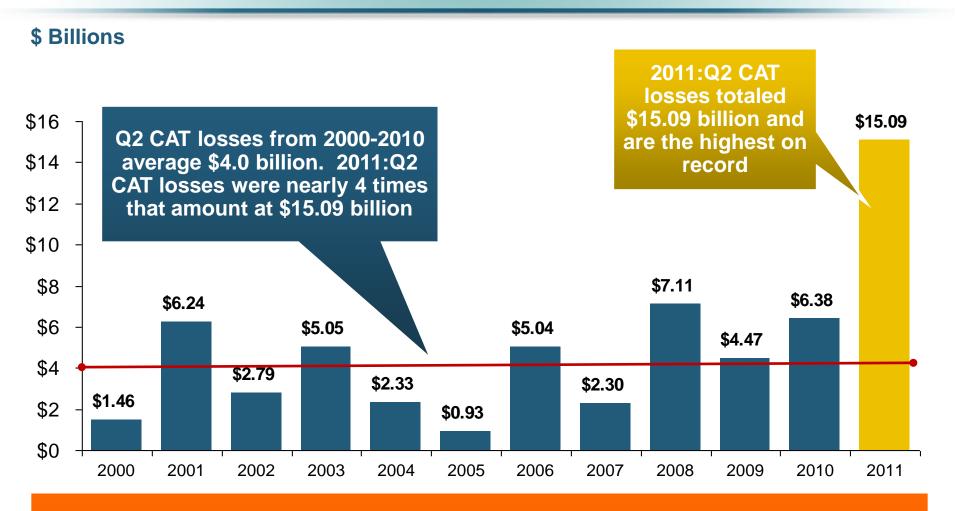




Source: MR NatCatSERVICE

US Second Quarter Insured Catastrophe Losses, 2000–2011





Record Q2 (and First Half) CAT Losses Will Adversely Impact Insurer Results in 2011

Top 16 Most Costly World Insurance Losses, 1970-2011*

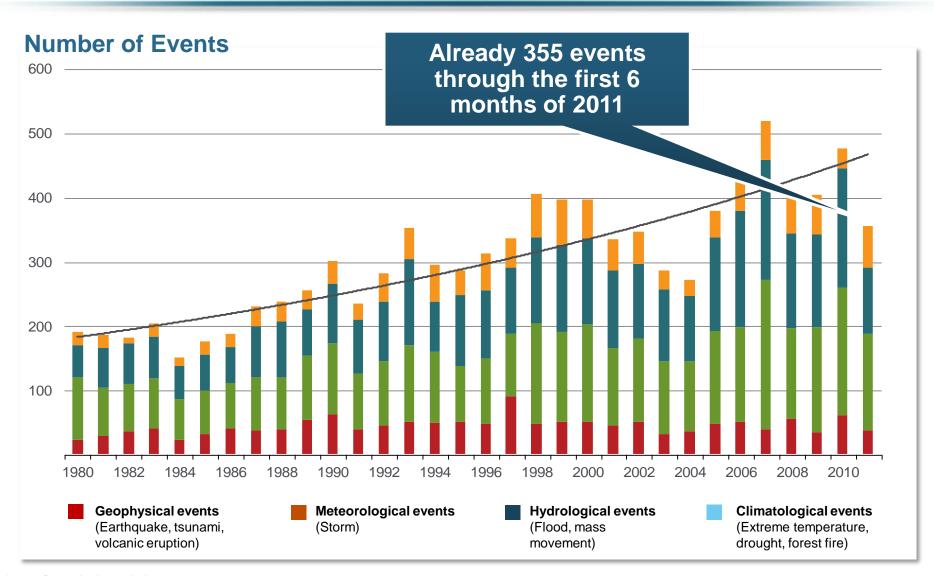




^{*}Through June 20, 2011. 2011 disaster figures are estimates; Figures include federally insured flood losses, where applicable. Sources: Swiss Re *sigma 1/2011*; AIR Worldwide, RMS, Eqecat; Insurance Information Institute.

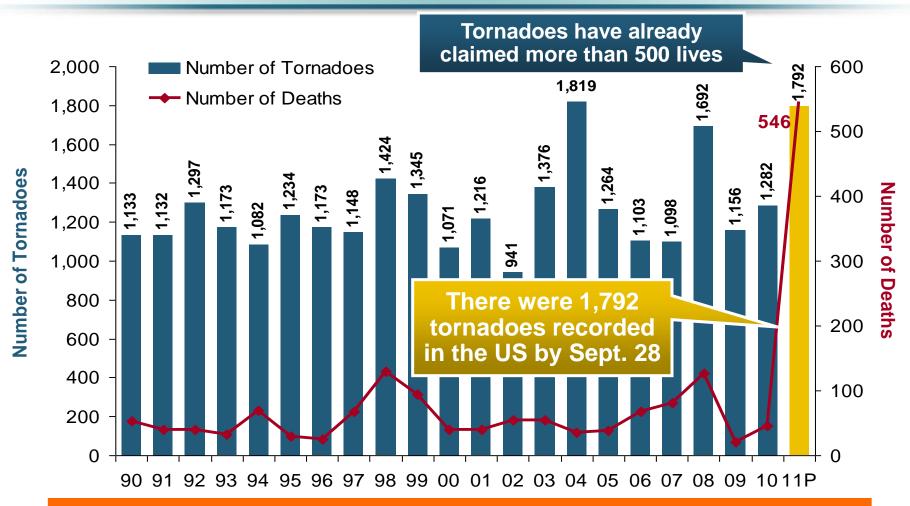
Worldwide Natural Disasters, 1980 – 2011*





Number of Tornadoes and Related Deaths, 1990 – 2011*



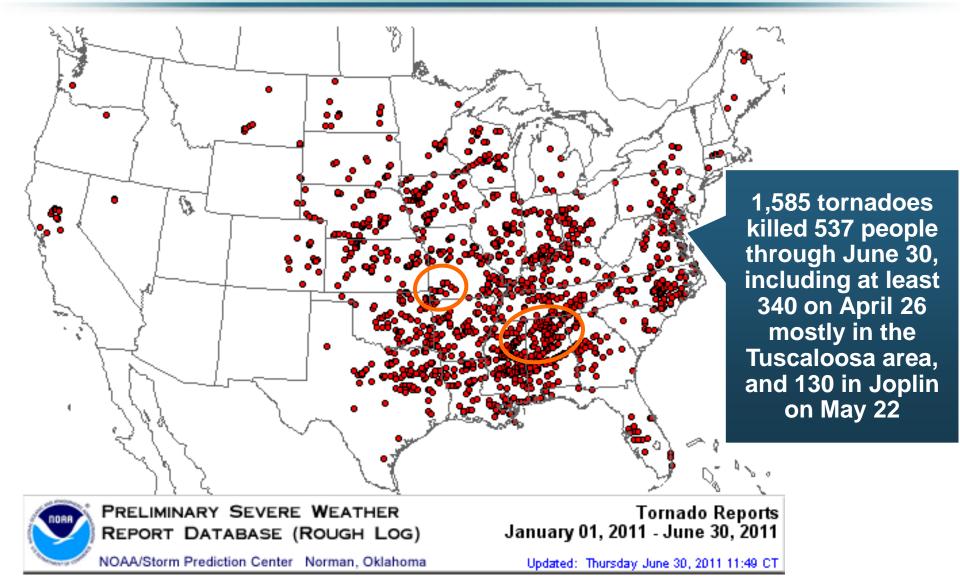


Insurers Expect to Pay \$2 Billion on 165,000 Claims Arising from the April 2011 Tornadoes in the Birmingham and Tuscaloosa Areas

^{*2011} is preliminary data through September 28.

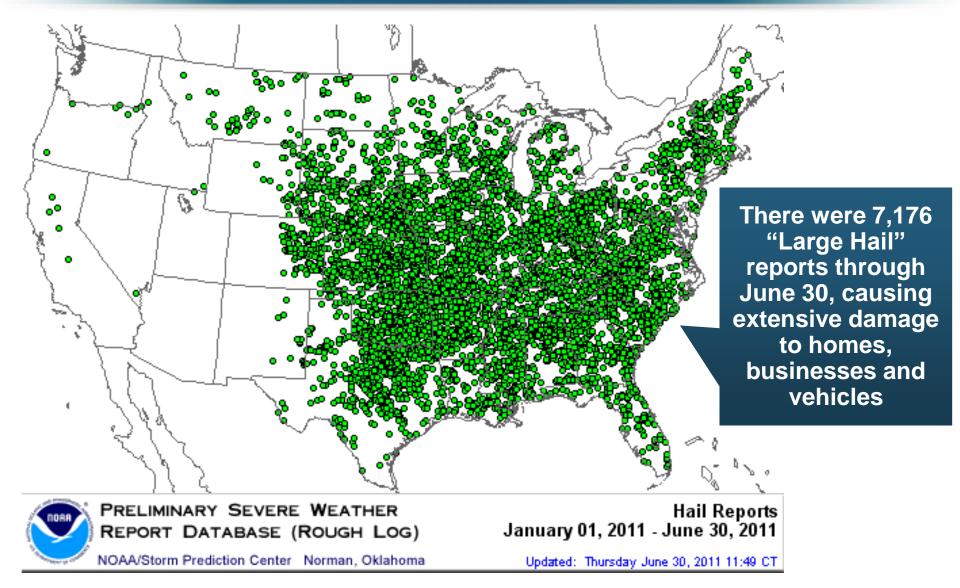
Location of Tornadoes in the US, January 1—June 30, 2011





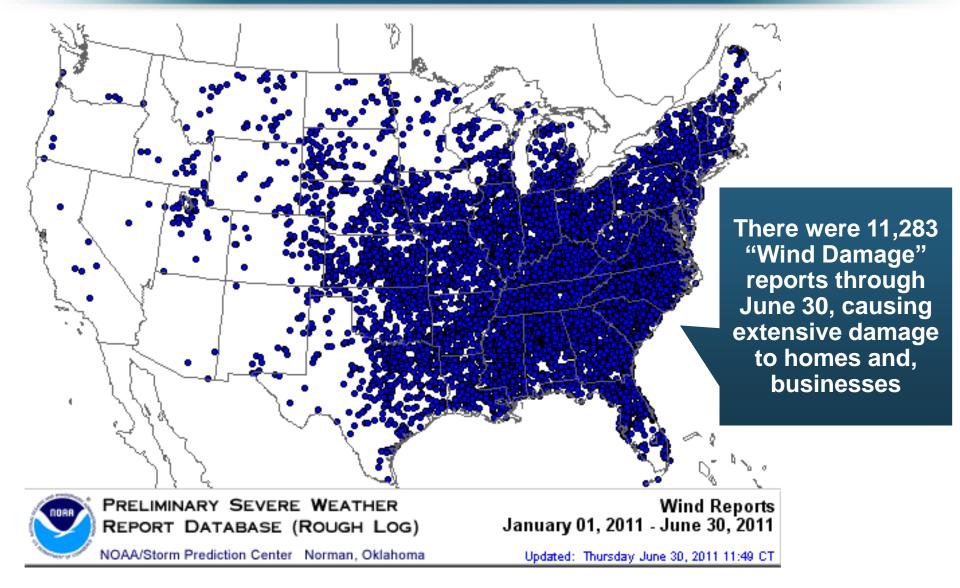
Location of Large Hail Reports in the US, January 1—June 30, 2011





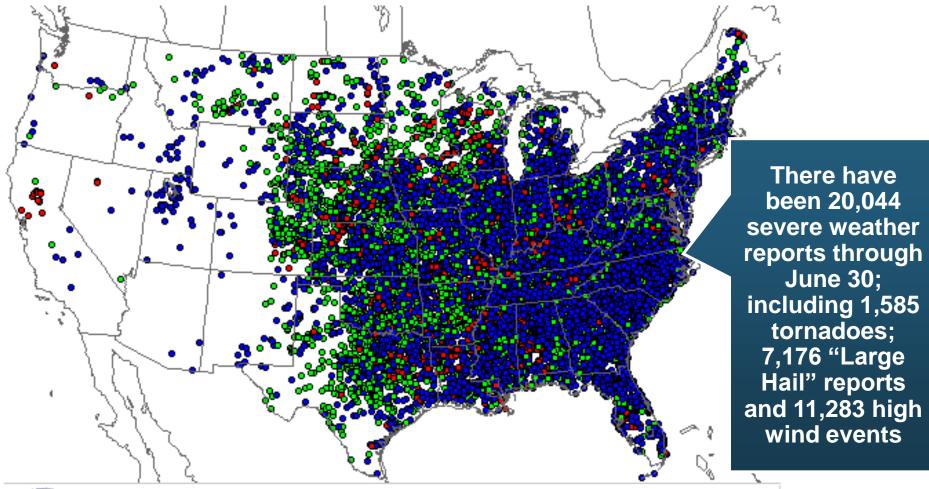
Location of Wind Damage Reports in the US, January 1—June 30, 2011





Severe Weather Reports, January 1—June 30, 2011





PRELIMINARY SEVERE WEATHER
REPORT DATABASE (ROUGH LOG)

Severe Weather Reports January 01, 2011 - June 30, 2011

Updated: Thursday June 30, 2011 11:49 CT

NOAA/Storm Prediction Center Norman, Oklahoma

Severe Weather Reports in WA State, January 1—September 29, 2011





Total Reports = 10

Tornadoes = 2

Hail Reports = 2

Wind Reports = 6

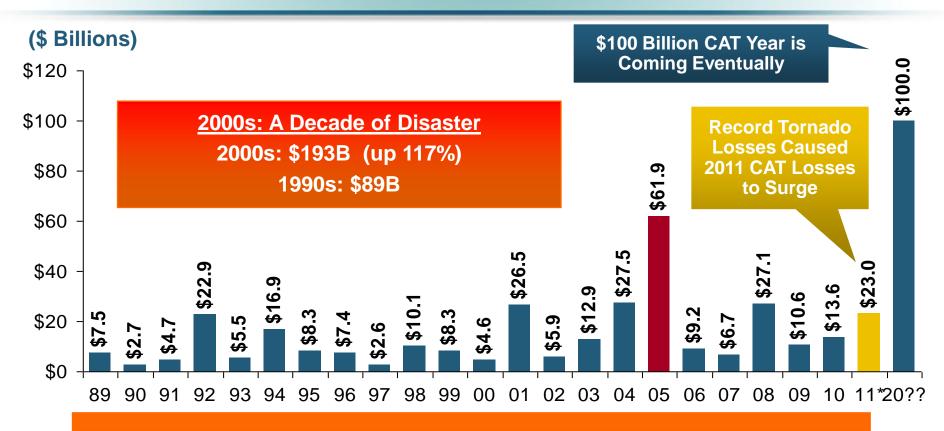


US CATASTROPHE INSURED LOSS UPDATE

First Half 2011 CAT Losses Already Exceed All of 2010 and Could Become One of the Most Expensive Years on Record

US Insured Catastrophe Losses





First Half 2011 US CAT Losses Already Exceed Losses from All of 2010. Even Modest Hurricane Losses Will Make 2011 Among the Most Expensive Ever for CATs

Note: 2001 figure includes \$20.3B for 9/11 losses reported through 12/31/01. Includes only business and personal property claims, business interruption and auto claims. Non-prop/BI losses = \$12.2B.

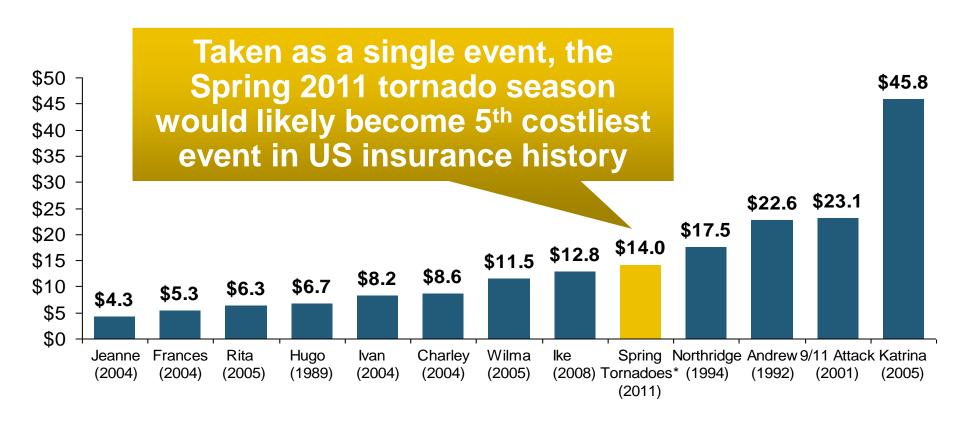
Sources: Property Claims Service/ISO; Insurance Information Institute.

^{*}Estimate through Sept. 30, 2011.

Top 12 (13?) Most Costly Disasters in U.S. History



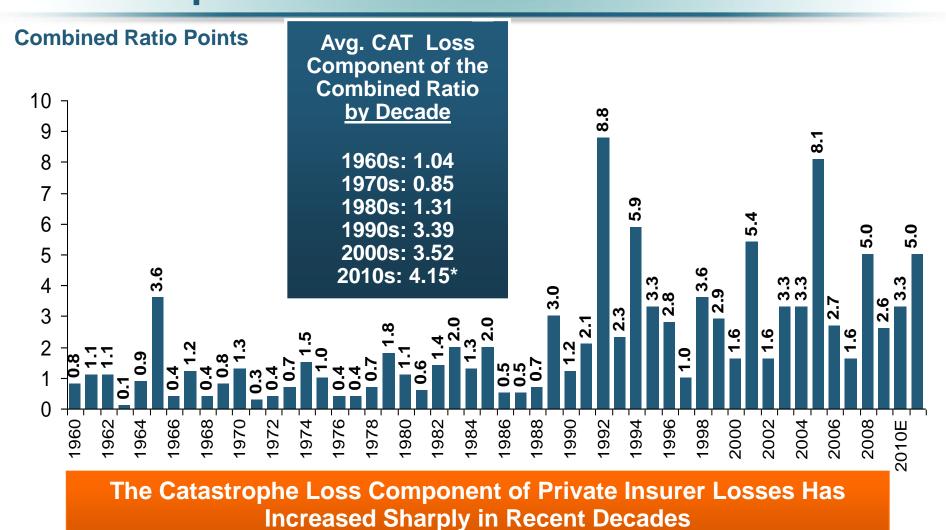
(Insured Losses, 2010 Dollars, \$ Billions)



^{*}Losses will actually be broken down into several "events" as determined by PCS. Sources: PCS; Insurance Information Institute inflation adjustments.

Combined Ratio Points Associated with Catastrophe Losses: 1960 – 2011:H1*





^{*}Insurance Information Institute estimates for 2010 and 2011:H1

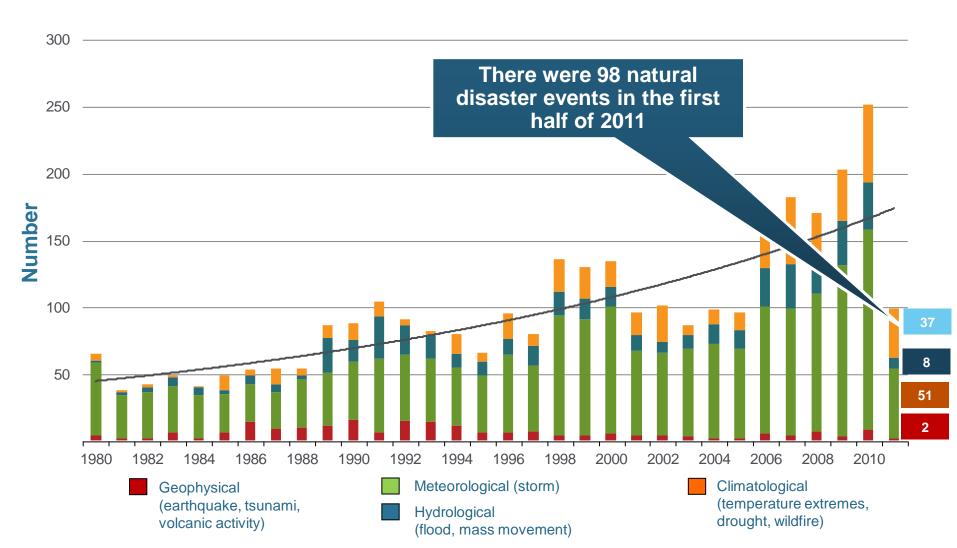
Notes: Private carrier losses only. Excludes loss adjustment expenses and reinsurance reinstatement premiums. Figures are adjusted for losses ultimately paid by foreign insurers and reinsurers.

Source: ISO; Insurance Information Institute.

Natural Disasters in the United States, 1980 – 2011*



Number of Events (Annual Totals 1980 – 2010 and First Half 2011)

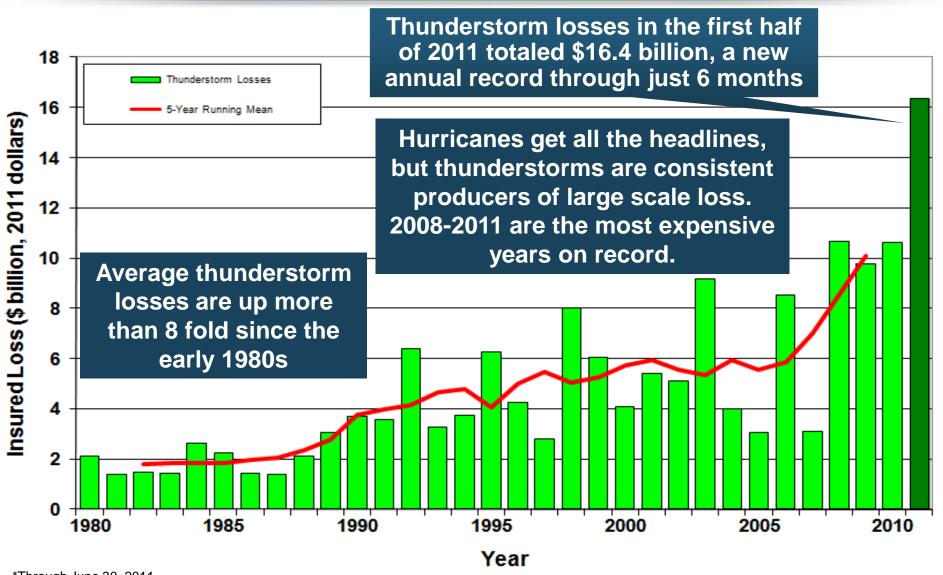


*Through June 30.

Source: MR NatCatSERVICE

U.S. Thunderstorm Loss Trends, 1980 – 2011*

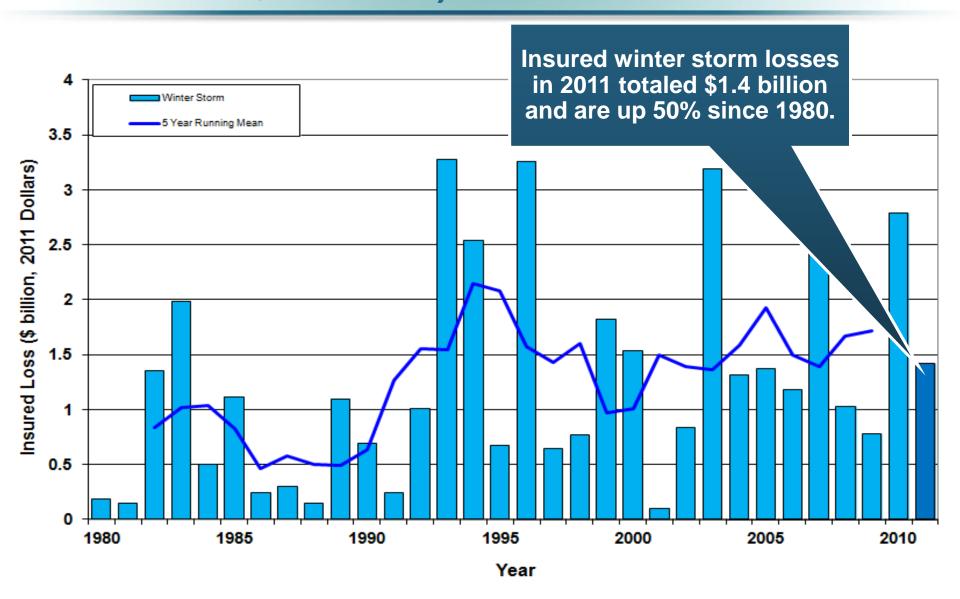




*Through June 30, 2011. Source: Property Claims Service, MR NatCatSERVICE

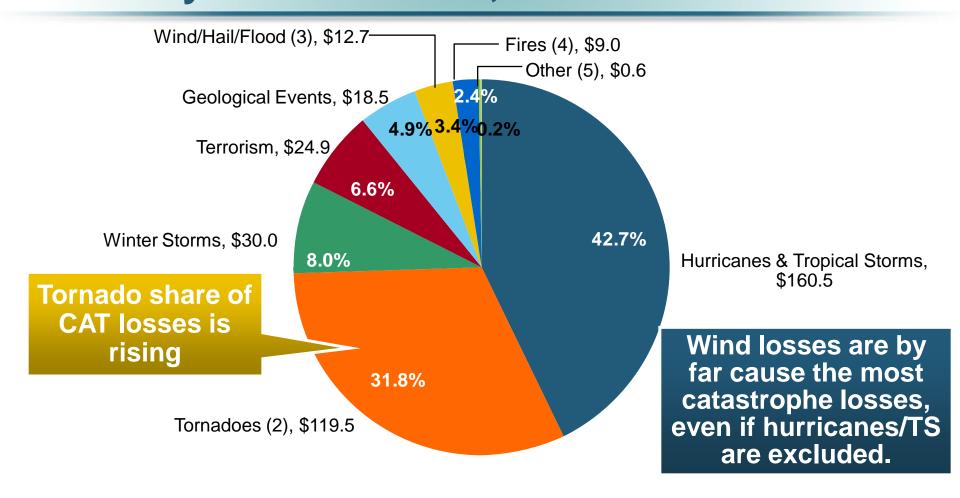
U.S. Winter Storm Loss Trends, 1980 – 2010 (Annual Totals) vs. First Half 2011





Inflation Adjusted U.S. Catastrophe Losses by Cause of Loss, 1990–2011:H1¹

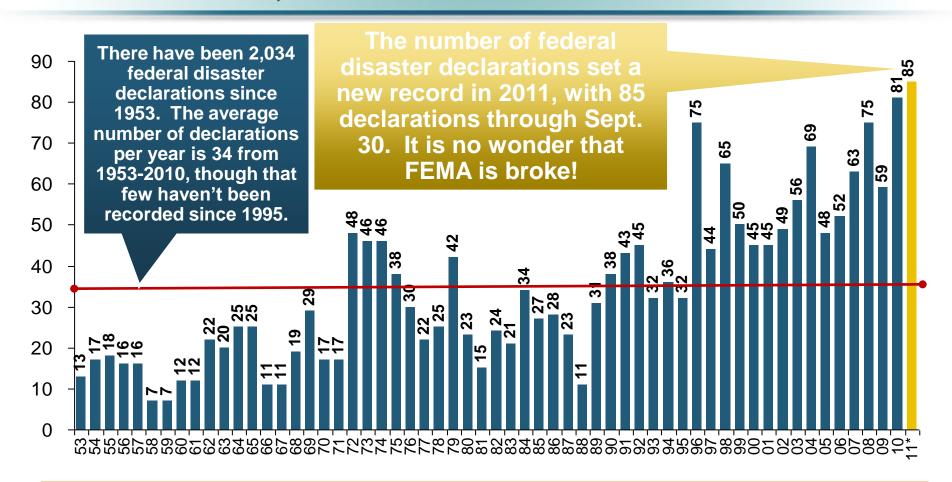




- 1. Catastrophes are defined as events causing direct insured losses to property of \$25 million or more in 2009 dollars.
- 2. Excludes snow.
- 3. Does not include NFIP flood losses
- Includes wildland fires
- 5. Includes civil disorders, water damage, utility disruptions and non-property losses such as those covered by workers compensation. Source: ISO's Property Claim Services Unit.

Number of Federal Disaster Declarations, 1953-2011*





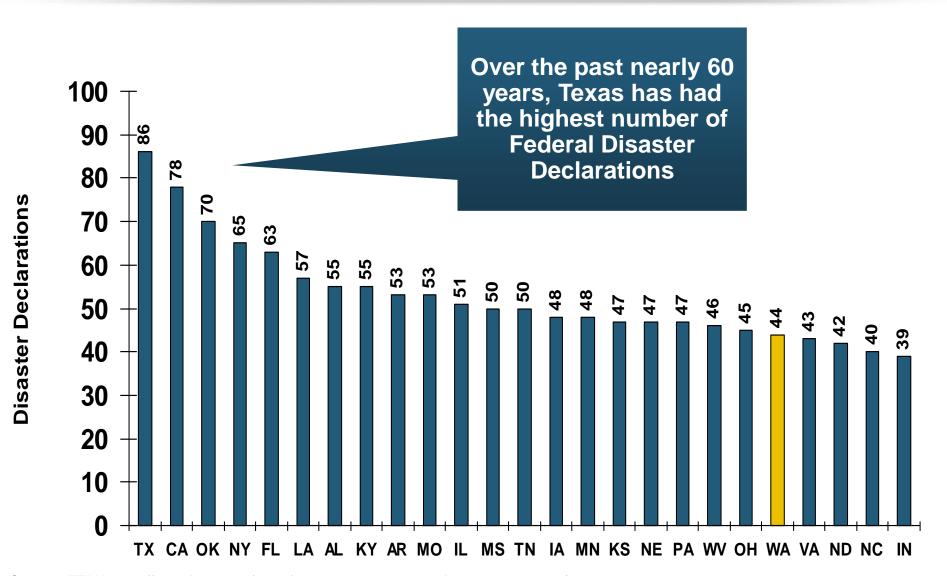
The Number of Federal Disaster Declarations Is Rising and Set a New Record in 2011

Source: Federal Emergency Management Administration: http://www.fema.gov/news/disaster-totals-annual.fema; Insurance Information Institute.

^{*}Through September 30, 2011.

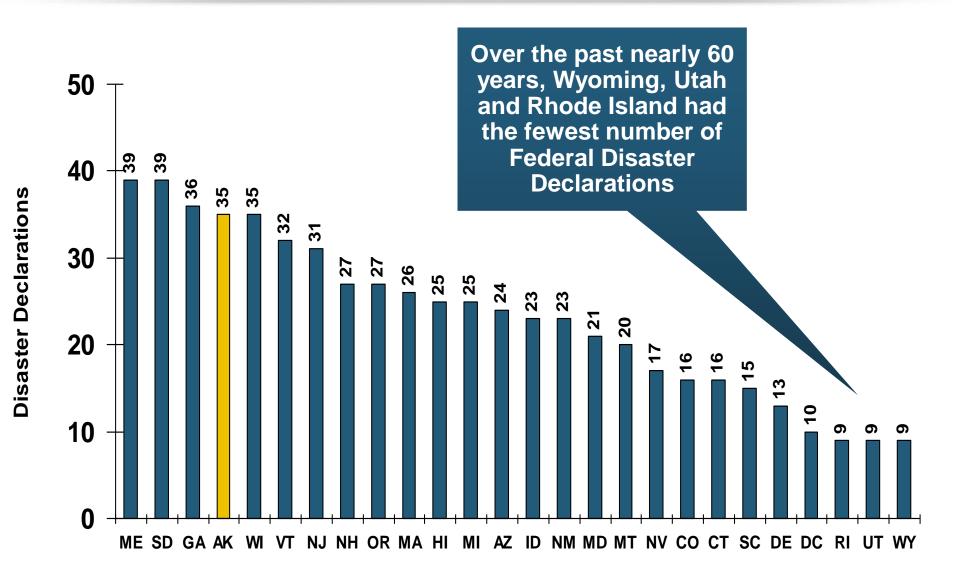
Federal Disasters Declarations by State, 1953 – Sept. 30, 2011: Highest 25 States





Federal Disasters Declarations by State, 1953 – Sept. 30, 2011*: Lowest 25 States







The BIG Question: When Will the Market Turn?

Insurance Cycle Dynamics

Criteria Necessary for a "Market Turn": All Four Criteria Must Be Met



Criteria	Status	Comments
Sustained Period of Large Underwriting Losses		 Apart from Q2:2011, overall p/c underwriting losses remain modest Combined ratios (ex-Q2 CATs) still in low 100s (vs. 110+ at onset of last hard market) Prior-year reserve releases continue reduce u/w losses, boost ROEs
Material Decline in Surplus/ Capacity	Entered 2011 At Record High; Since Fallen	 Surplus hit a record \$565B as of 3/31/11 Analysts est. excess surplus of \$75-\$100B Some excess capacity may still remain in reinsurance markets Weak growth in demand for insurance is insufficient to absorb much excess capacity
Tight Reinsurance Market	Somewhat in Place	Higher prices in Asia/PacificModestly improved pricing for US risks
Renewed Underwriting & Pricing Discipline	Not Broadly Evident; Some Firming	 Commercial lines pricing trends turning from negative to flat Competition remains intense as many seek to maintain market share Terms & conditions—no broad tightening

Sources: Barclays Capital; Insurance Information Institute.

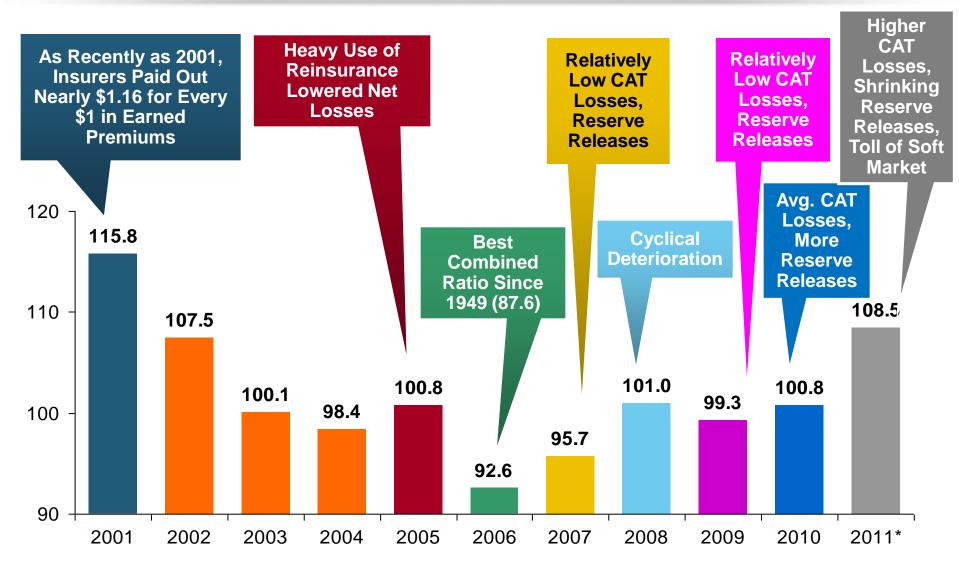


1. UNDERWRITING

Have Underwriting Losses Been Large Enough for Long Enough to Turn the Market?

P/C Insurance Industry Combined Ratio, 2001–2011:H1*

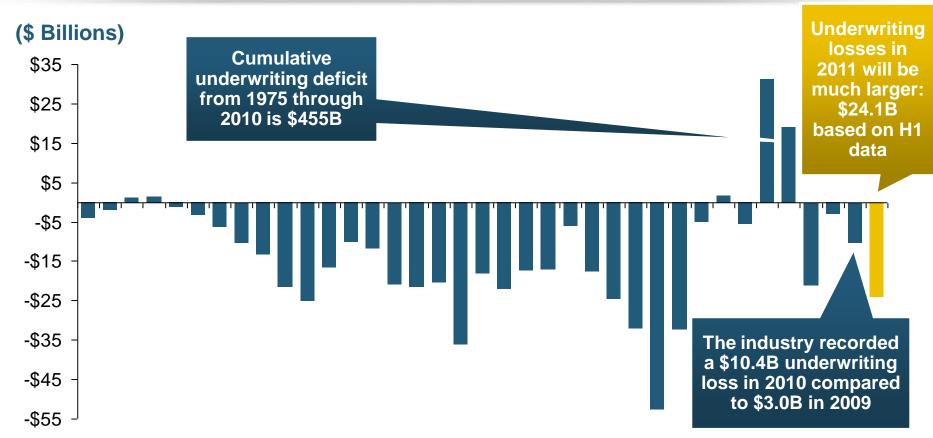




^{*} Excludes Mortgage & Financial Guaranty insurers 2008--2011. Including M&FG, 2008=105.1, 2009=100.7, 2010=102.4, 2011=109.1 Sources: A.M. Best, ISO.; III Estimated for 2011:H1 (Q1 actual ex-M&FG was 102.2).

Underwriting Gain (Loss) 1975–2011*





75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 1011*

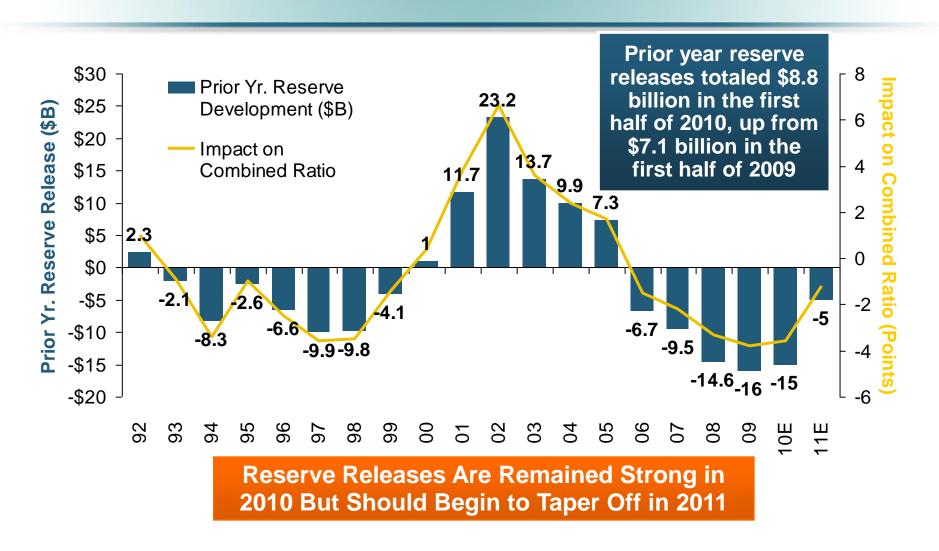
Large Underwriting Losses Are *NOT* Sustainable in Current Investment Environment

Sources: A.M. Best, ISO; Insurance Information Institute.

^{*} Includes mortgage and financial guaranty insurers in all years. 2011 figure is actual H1 underwriting losses of \$24.098 billion.

P/C Reserve Development, 1992–2011E





Note: 2005 reserve development excludes a \$6 billion loss portfolio transfer between American Re and Munich Re. Including this transaction, total prior year adverse development in 2005 was \$7 billion. The data from 2000 and subsequent years excludes development from financial guaranty and mortgage insurance.

Sources: Barclay's Capital; A.M. Best.

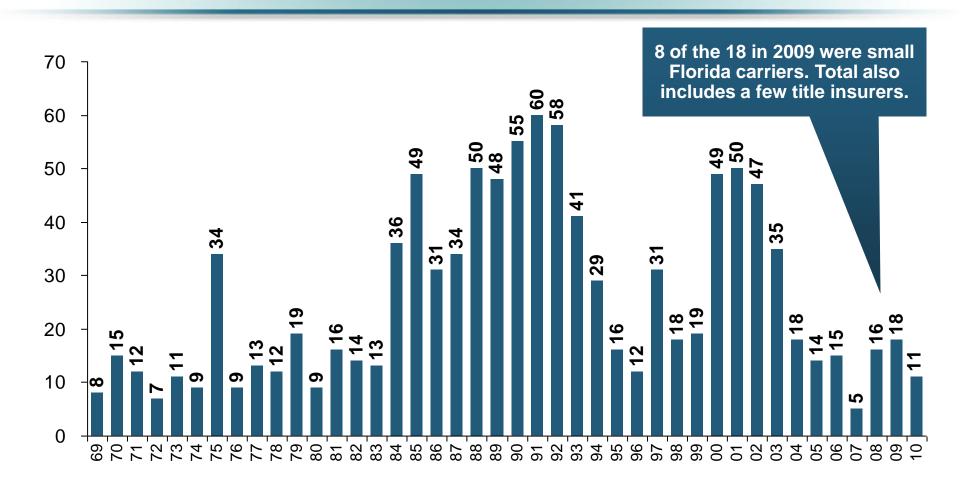


Financial Strength & Underwriting

Cyclical Pattern is P-C Impairment History is Directly Tied to Underwriting, Reserving & Pricing

P/C Insurer Impairments, 1969–2010





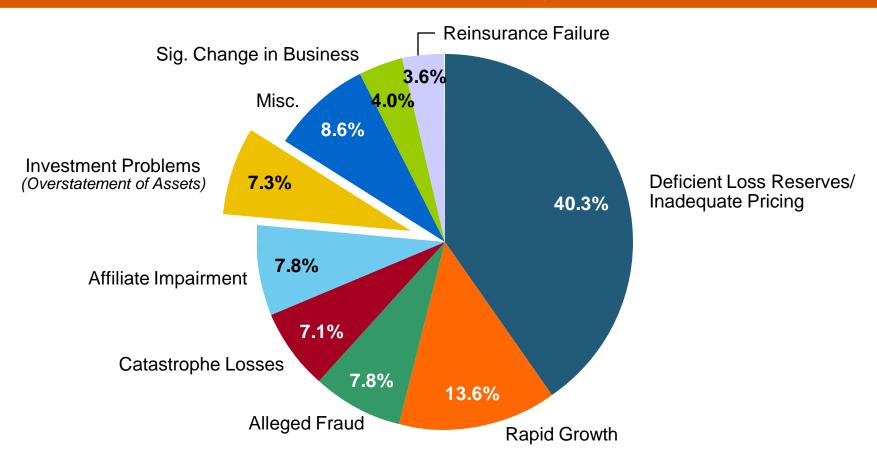
The Number of Impairments Varies Significantly Over the P/C Insurance Cycle, With Peaks Occurring Well into Hard Markets

Reasons for US P/C Insurer Impairments, 1969–2010



Historically, Deficient Loss Reserves and Inadequate Pricing Are By Far the Leading Cause of P-C Insurer Impairments.

Investment and Catastrophe Losses Play a Much Smaller Role

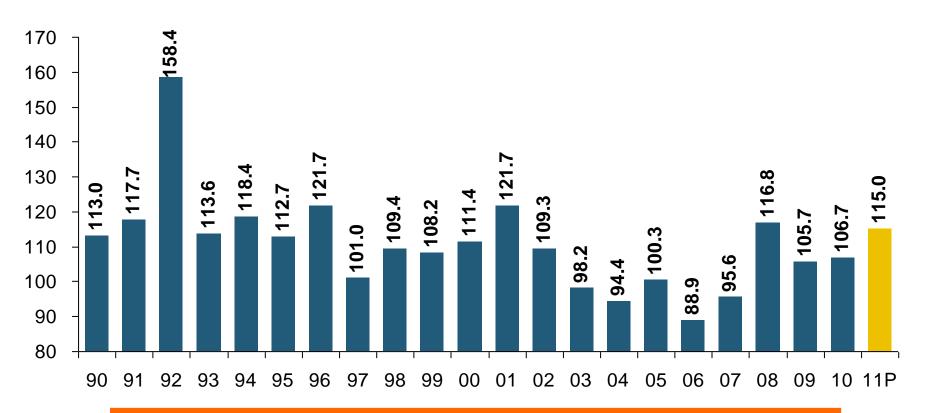




Performance by Segment: Commercial Lines & Reinsurance

Homeowners Insurance Combined Ratio: 1990–2011P

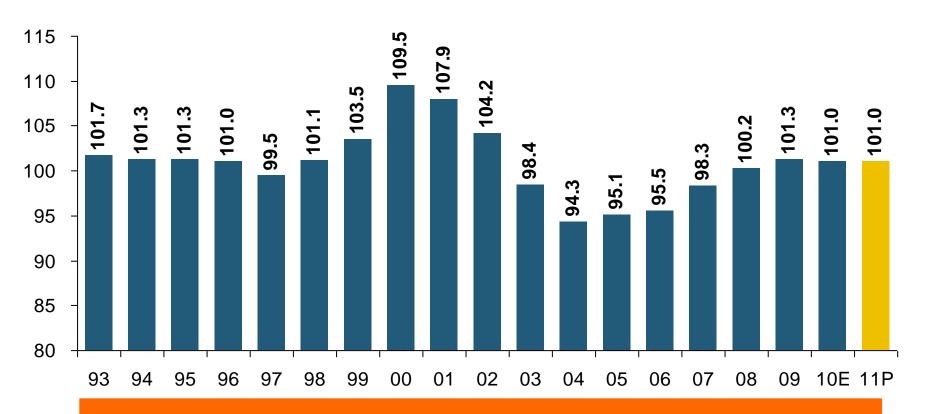




Homeowners Line Could Deteriorate in 2011 Due to Large Cat Losses. Extreme Regional Variation Can Be Expected Due to Local Catastrophe Loss Activity

Private Passenger Auto Combined Ratio: 1993–2011P





Private Passenger Auto Accounts for 34% of Industry Premiums and Remains the Profit Juggernaut of the P/C Insurance Industry

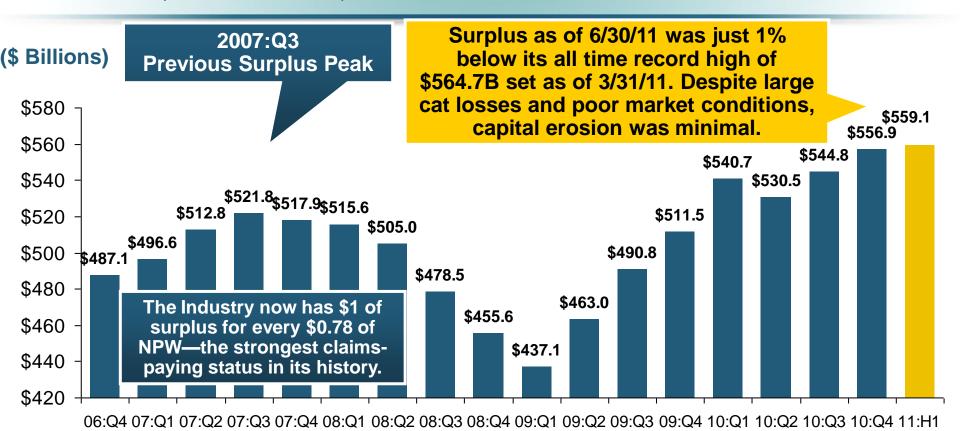


2. SURPLUS/CAPITAL/CAPACITY

Have Large Global Losses Reduced Capacity in the Industry, Setting the Stage for a Market Turn?

Policyholder Surplus, 2006:Q4–2011:Q1





*Includes \$22.5B of paid-in capital from a holding company parent for one insurer's investment in a non-insurance business in early 2010.

Sources: ISO, A.M .Best.

Quarterly Surplus Changes Since 2007:Q3 Peak

 09:Q1: -\$84.7B (-16.2%)
 10:Q2: +\$8.7B (+1.7%)

 09:Q2: -\$58.8B (-11.2%)
 10:Q3: +\$23.0B (+4.4%)

 09:Q3: -\$31.0B (-5.9%)
 10:Q4: +\$35.1B (+6.7%)

 09:Q4: -\$10.3B (-2.0%)
 11:Q1: +\$42.9B (+8.2%)

 10:Q2: +\$37.3B (+7.1%)



3. REINSURANCE MARKET CONDITIONS

Has Record Global Catastrophes Activity Erased Enough Capacity to Turn Markets?

Global Property Catastrophe Rate on Line Index, 1990-2011 YTD (6/1/11)





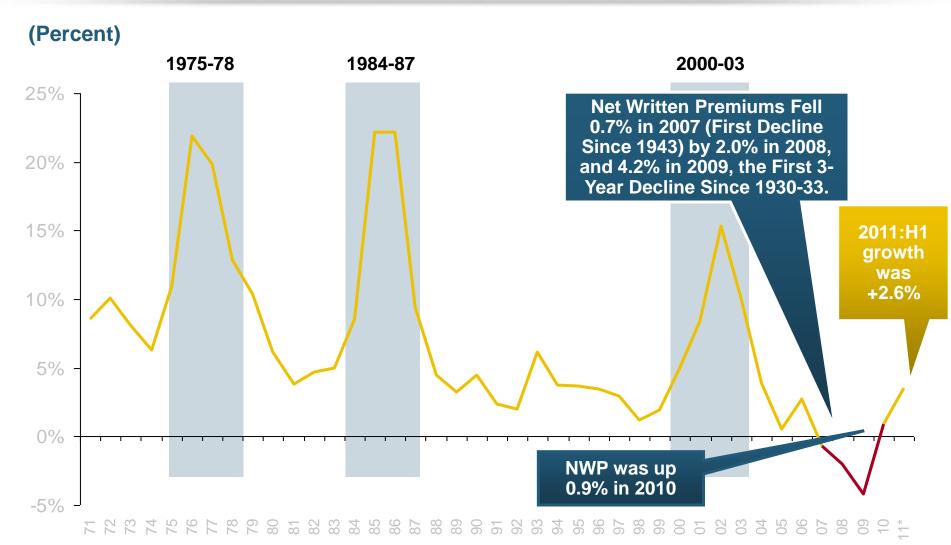


4. RENEWED PRICING DISCIPLINE

Is There Evidence of a Broad and Sustained Shift in Pricing?

Soft Market Persisted in 2010 but Growth Returned: More in 2011?

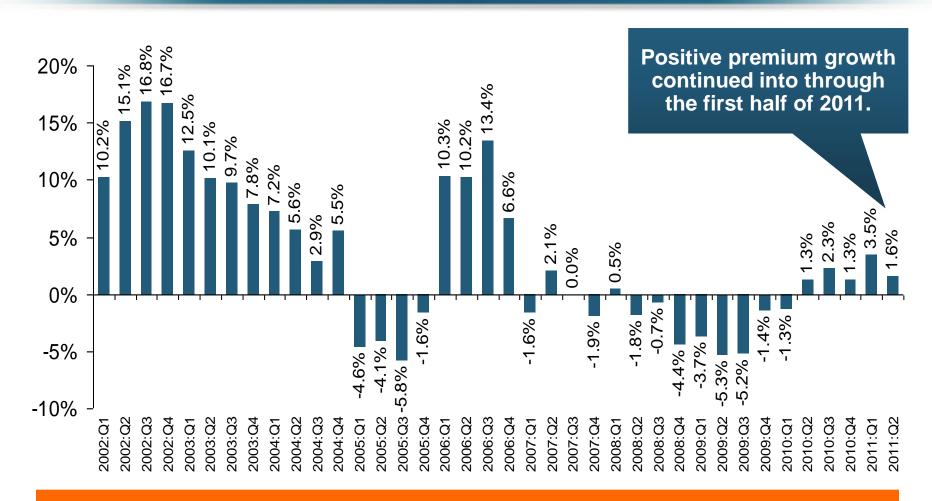




*2011 figure is for H1 vs. 2010:H1. Shaded areas denote "hard market" periods Sources: A.M. Best (historical and forecast), ISO, Insurance Information Institute.

P/C Net Premiums Written: % Change, Quarter vs. Year-Prior Quarter



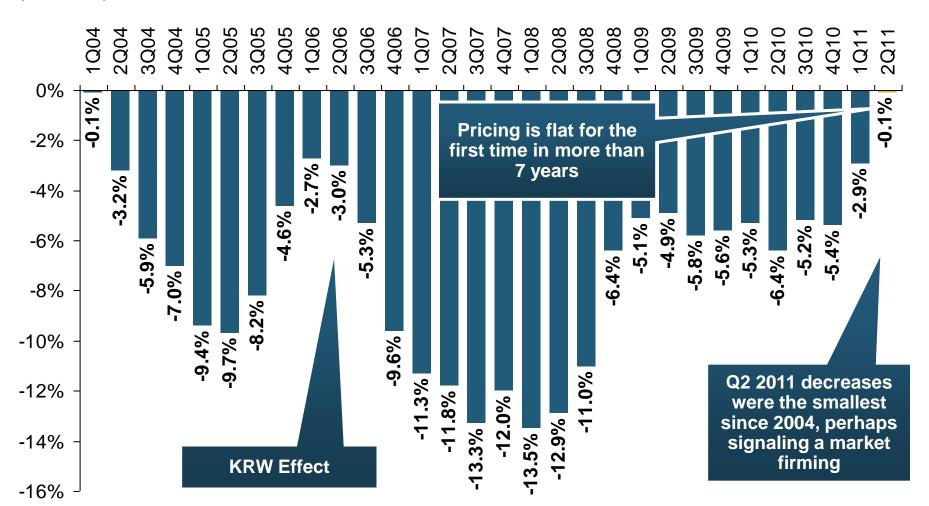


Finally! Back-to-back quarters of net written premium growth (vs. the same quarter, prior year)

Average Commercial Rate Change, All Lines, (1Q:2004–2Q:2011)

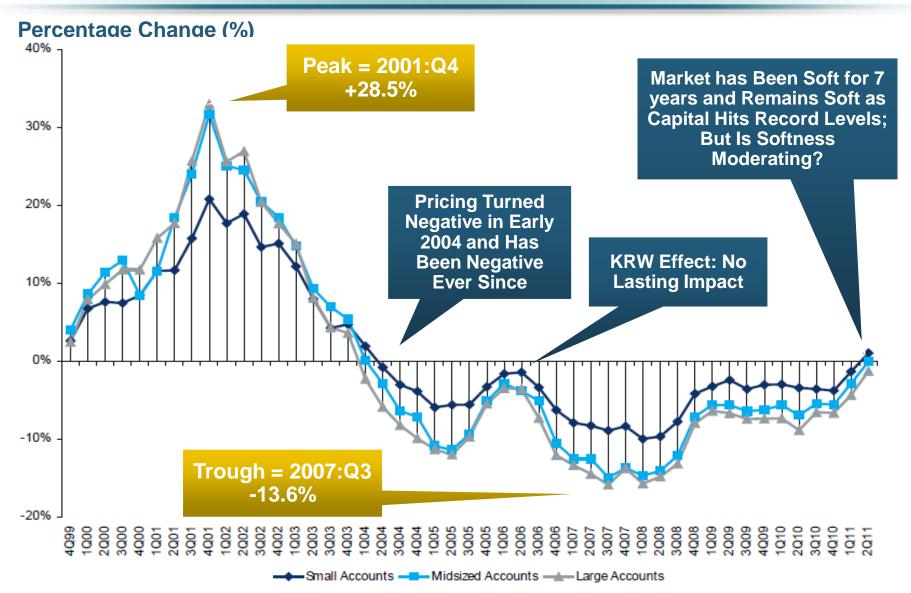


(Percent)



Change in Commercial Rate Renewals, by Account Size: 1999:Q4 to 2011:Q2

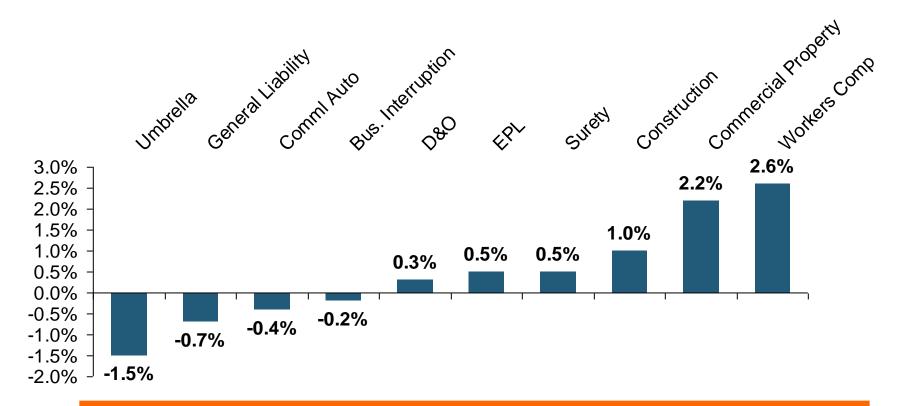




Change in Commercial Rate Renewals, by Line: 2011:Q2



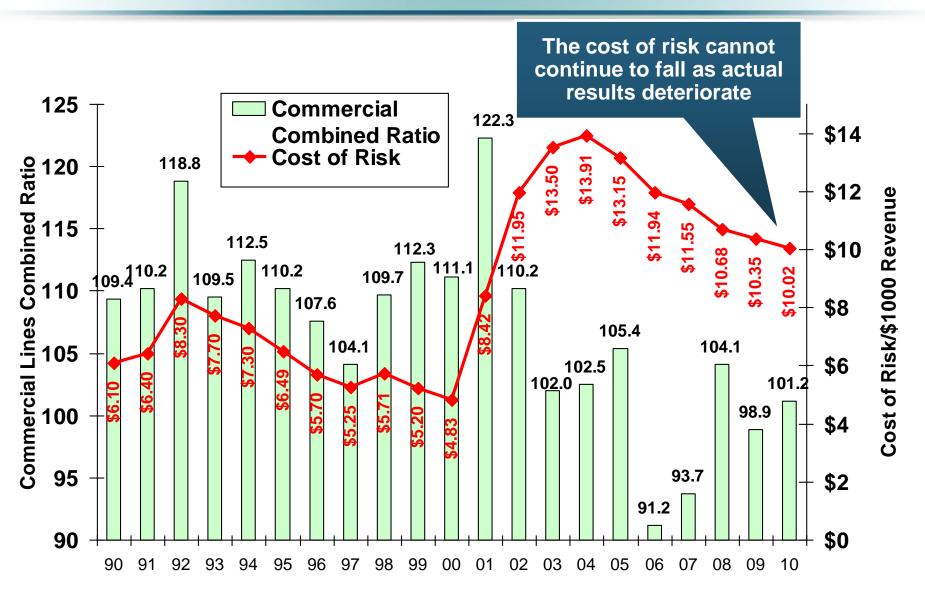
Percentage Change (%)



Major Commercial Lines Renewed Mixed in Q2:2011, With Workers Up More than Any Other Line

Cost of Risk vs. Commercial Lines Combined Ratio



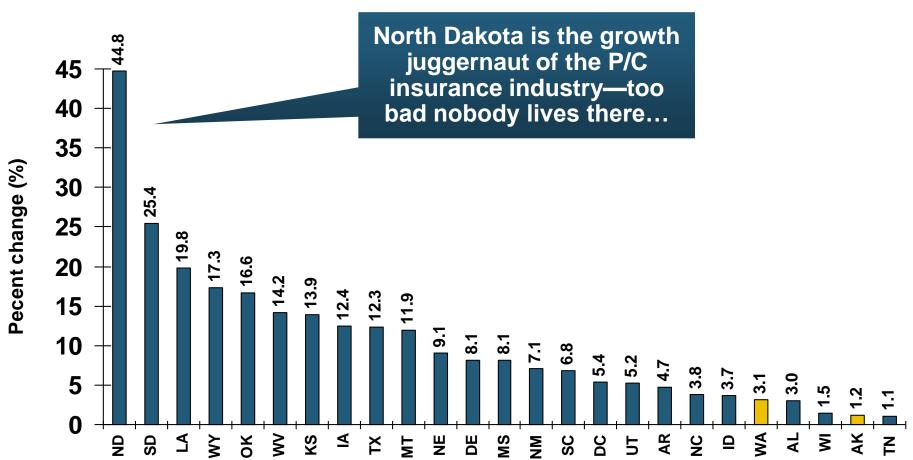


Source: 2011 RIMS Benchmark Survey; A.M. Best; Insurance Information Institute

Direct Premiums Written: All P/C Lines Percent Change by State, 2005-2010



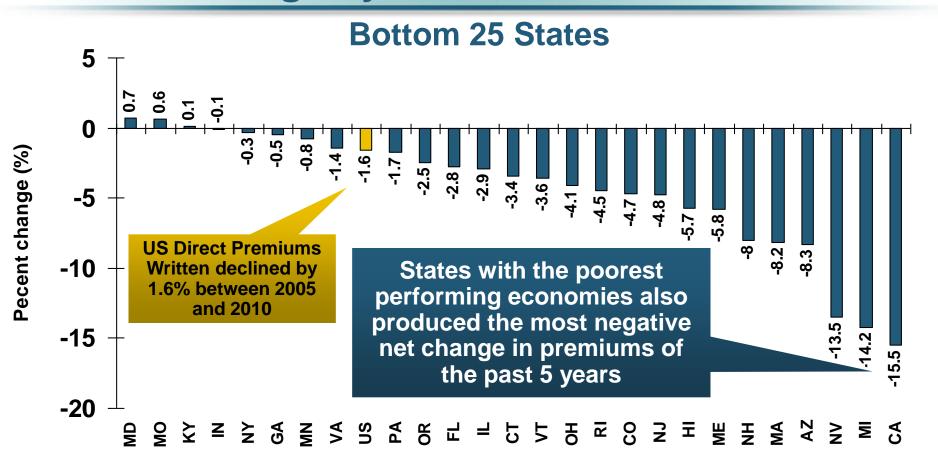




Sources: SNL Financial LC.; Insurance Information Institute.

Direct Premiums Written: All P/C Lines Percent Change by State, 2005-2010







Other Cycle-Influencing Factors

Could Other Factors Act as a Catalyst to Turn the Market?



INVESTMENTS: THE NEW REALITY

Investment Performance is a Key Driver of Profitability

Does It Influence

Underwriting or Cyclicality?

Property/Casualty Insurance Industry Investment Gain: 1994–2011:H1¹



(\$ Billions)



Investment Gains Recovered Significantly in 2010 Due to Realized Investment Gains; The Financial Crisis Caused Investment Gains to Fall by 50% in 2008

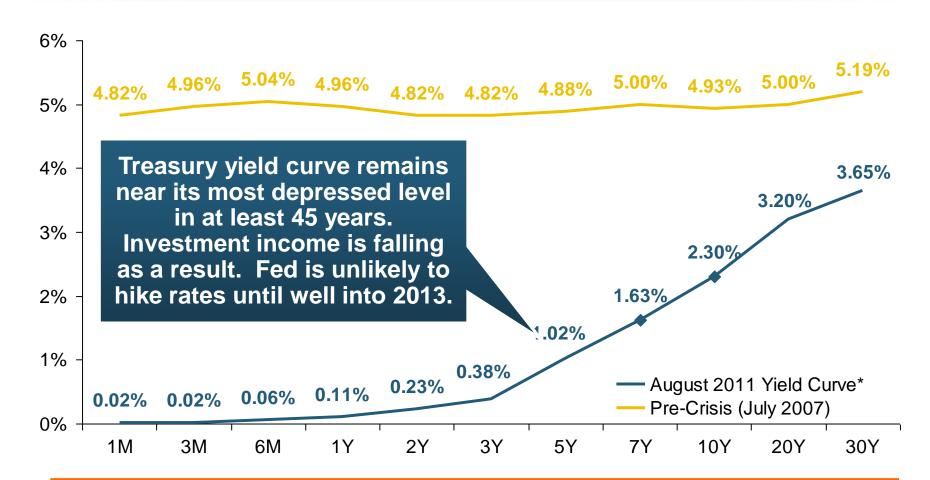
Sources: ISO; Insurance Information Institute.

¹ Investment gains consist primarily of interest, stock dividends and realized capital gains and losses.

^{* 2005} figure includes special one-time dividend of \$3.2B.

Treasury Yield Curves: Pre-Crisis (July 2007) vs. August 2011*





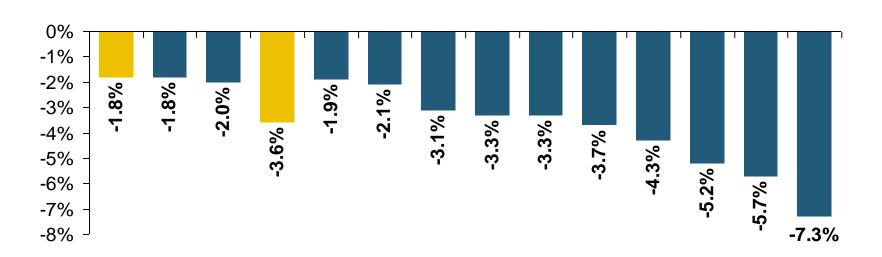
The End of the Fed's Quantitative Easing Is Unlikely to Push Interest Rates Up Substantially Given Ongoing Economic Weakness

^{*}Average of daily rates.

Reduction in Combined Ratio Necessary to Offset 1% Decline in Investment Yield to Maintain Constant ROE, by Line*







Lower Investment Earnings Place a Greater Burden on Underwriting and Pricing Discipline

Source: A.M. Best; Insurance Information Institute.

^{*}Based on 2008 Invested Assets and Earned Premiums

^{**}US domestic reinsurance only

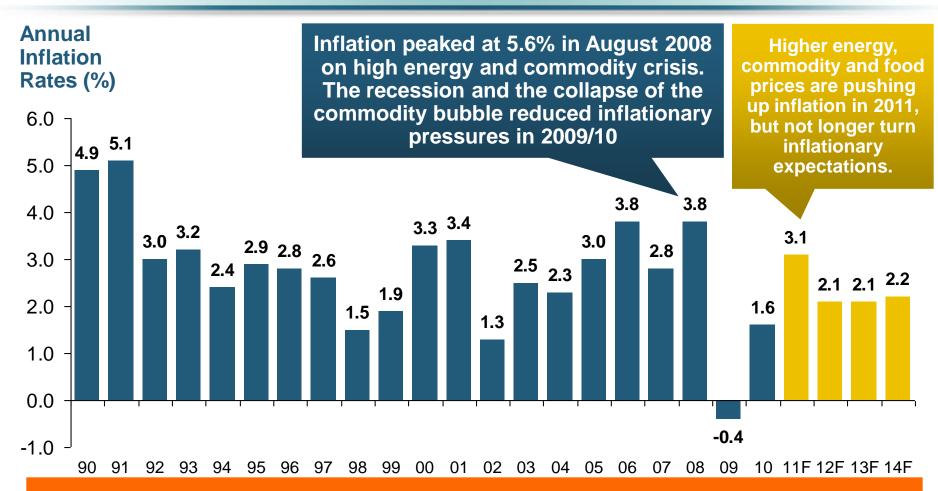


Inflation

Is it a Threat to Claim Cost Severities

Annual Inflation Rates, (CPI-U, %), 1990–2014F





The slack in the U.S. economy suggests that inflation should not heat up before 2012, but other forces (commodity prices, inflation in countries from which we import, etc.), plus U.S. debt burden, remain longer-run concerns

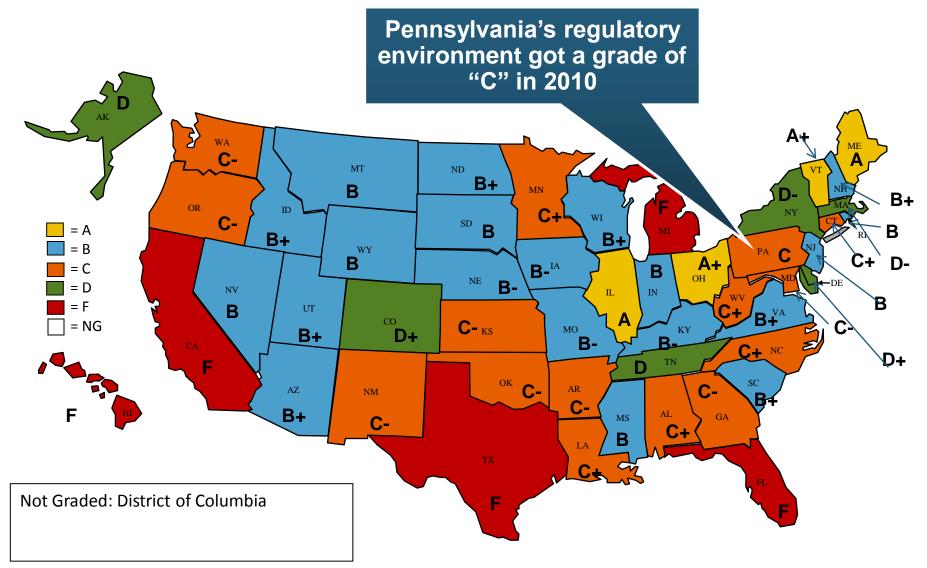


Regulatory Environment & Financial Services Reform

Insurers Not as Impacted as Banks, But Dodd-Frank Implementation Has Been a Concern for Insurers

2010 Property and Casualty Insurance Regulatory Report Card





Source: Heartland Institute, May 2011

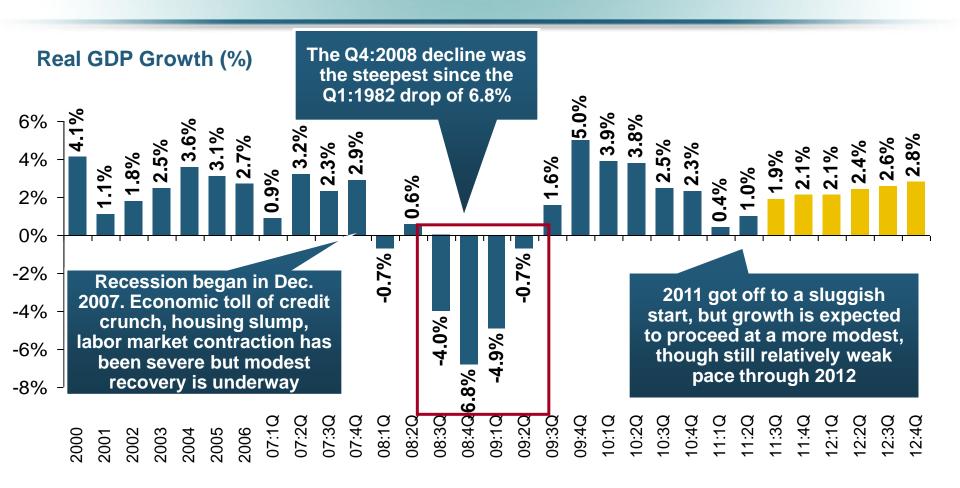


The Strength of the Economy Will Influence P/C Insurer Growth Opportunities

Growth Would Also Help Absorb Excess Capital

US Real GDP Growth*



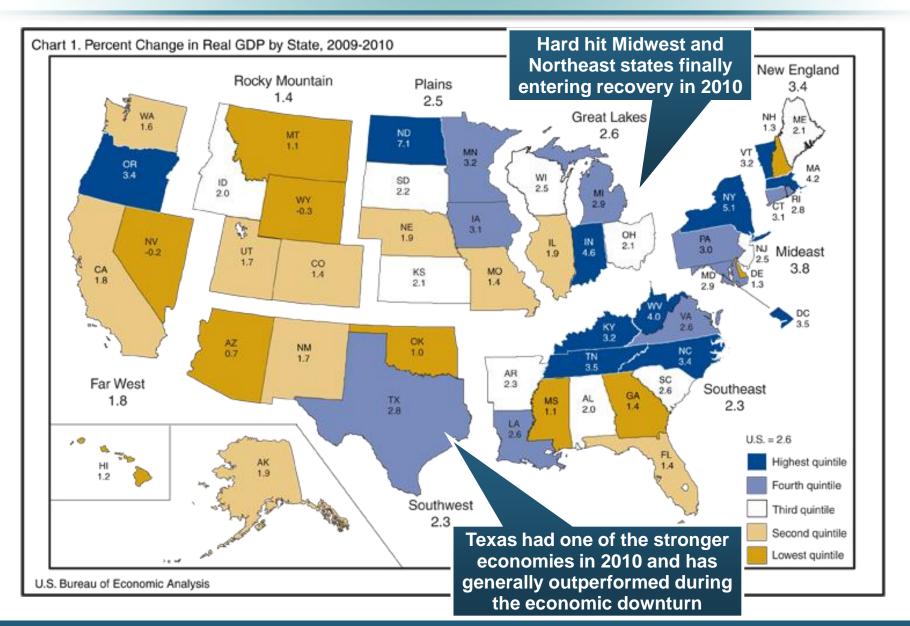


Demand for Insurance Continues To Be Impacted by Sluggish Economic Conditions, but the Benefits of Even Slow Growth Will Compound and Gradually Benefit the Economy Broadly

^{*} Estimates/Forecasts from Blue Chip Economic Indicators.

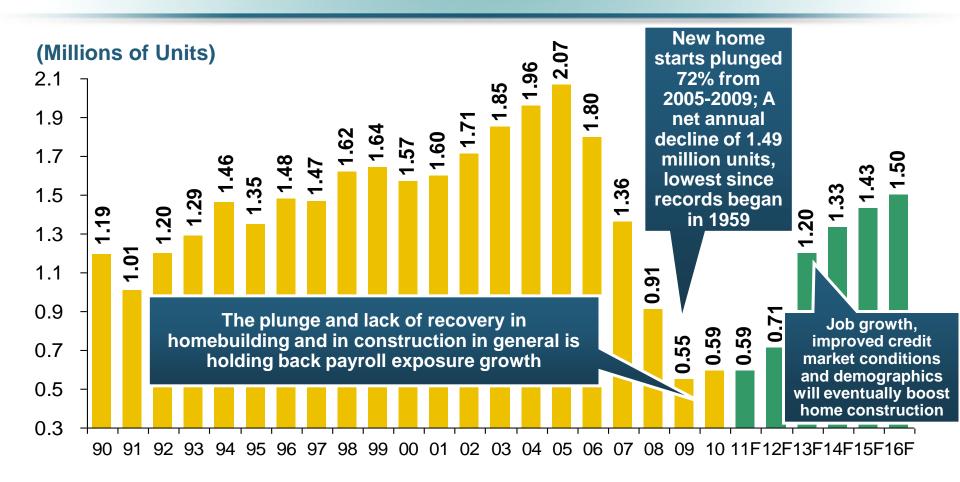
2011 Financial Overview State Economic Growth Varied in 2010





New Private Housing Starts, 1990-2016F

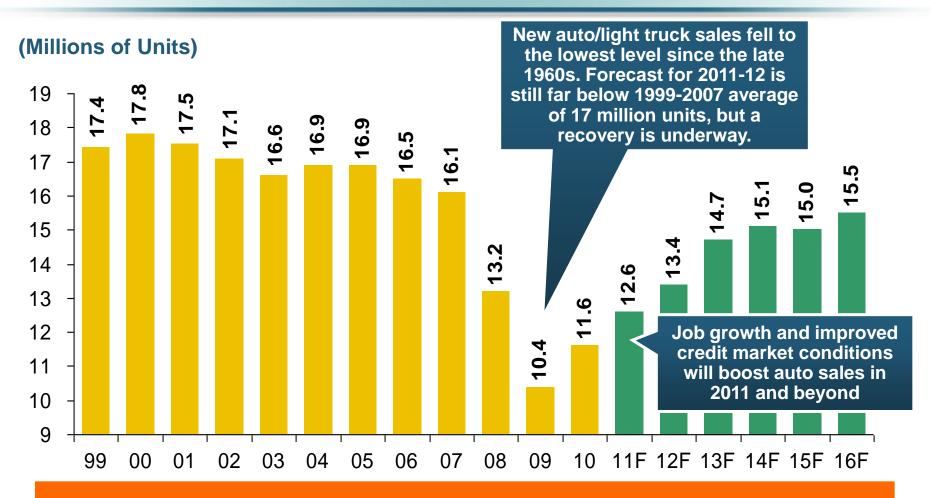




Little Exposure Growth Likely for Homeowners Insurers Until 2013. Also Affects Commercial Insurers with Construction Risk Exposure, Surety

Auto/Light Truck Sales, 1999-2016F





Car/Light Truck Sales Will Continue to Recover from the 2009 Low Point, Bolstering the Manufacturing Sector.

11 Industries for the Next 10 Years: Insurance Solutions Needed



Health Care

Health Sciences

Energy (Traditional)

Alternative Energy

Agriculture

Natural Resources

Environmental

Technology (incl. Biotechnology)

Light Manufacturing

Export-Oriented Industries

Shipping (Rail, Marine, Trucking)

Many
industries are
poised for
growth, but
many insurers
do not write in
these
economic
segments

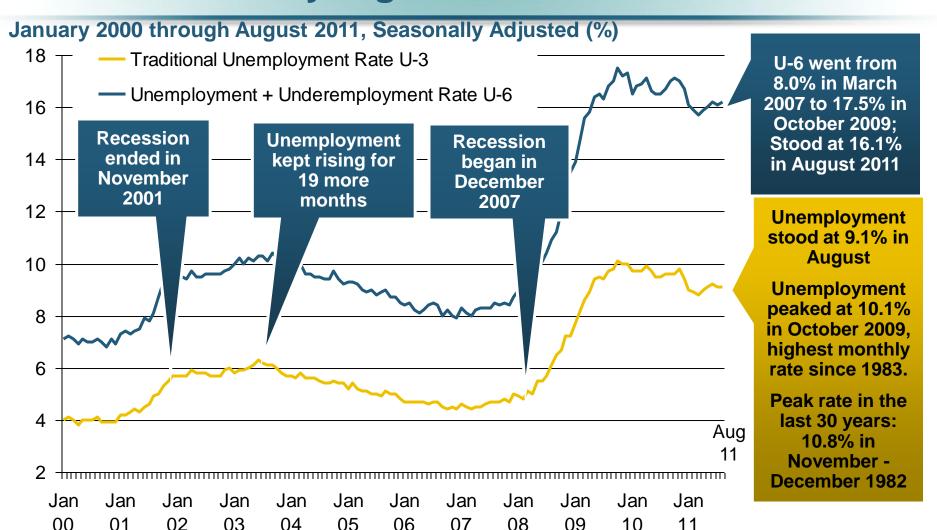


Labor Market Trends

Massive Job Losses Sapped the Economy and Commercial/Personal Lines Exposure, But Trend is Improving

Unemployment and Underemployment Rates: Stubbornly High in 2011



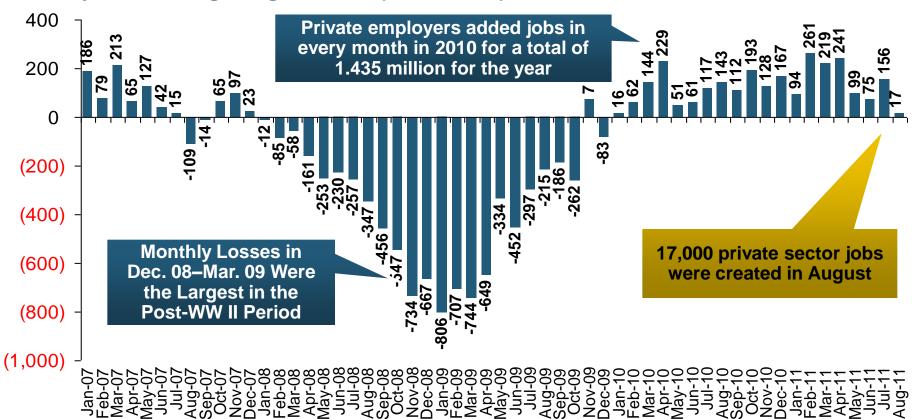


Stubbornly high unemployment and underemployment will constrain payroll growth, which directly affects WC exposure

Monthly Change in Private Employment



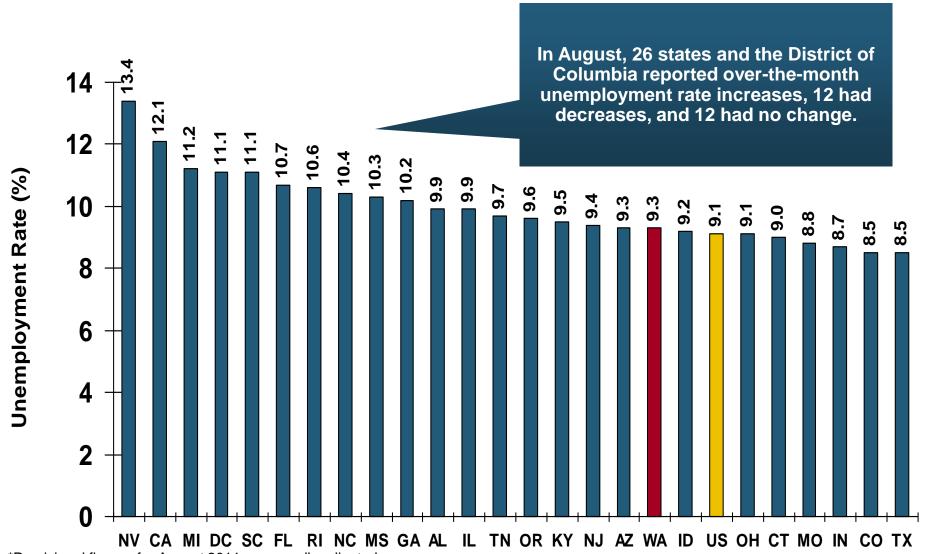




Private Employers Added 2.585 million Jobs Since Jan. 2010 After Having Shed 4.66 Million Jobs in 2009 and 3.81 Million in 2008 (State and Local Governments Have Shed Hundreds of Thousands of Jobs

Unemployment Rates by State, August 2011: Highest 25 States*



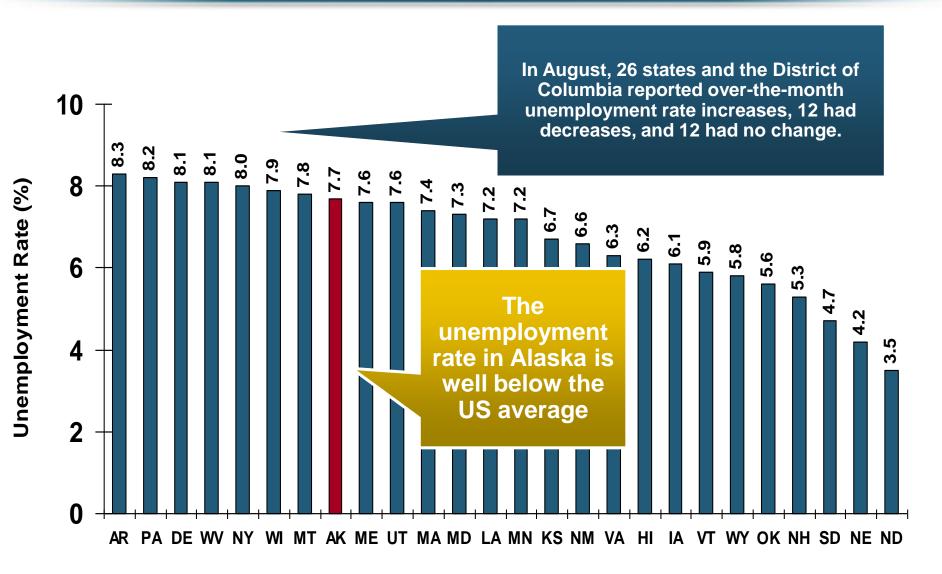


*Provisional figures for August 2011, seasonally adjusted.

Sources: US Bureau of Labor Statistics; Insurance Information Institute.

Unemployment Rates By State, August 2011: Lowest 25 States*







Insurance Information Institute Online:

www.iii.org

Thank you for your time and your attention!

Twitter: twitter.com/bob_hartwig