











Table of Contents

- Written Premium
- **Industry Average Charged Rates**
- <u>Ultimate Accident Year Loss Ratios</u>
- Projected Accident Year Combined Ratios
- Percent of Open Indemnity Claims Closed in Next Year
- Change in Indemnity Claim Frequency
- Cumulative Trauma Claims per 100 Indemnity Claims
- Ultimate Total Loss & ALAE Severities
- **Ultimate Indemnity Severities**
- 10. <u>Ultimate Medical Severities</u>
- 11. Ultimate ALAE (excl. MCCP) Severities

- 12. Ultimate Medical Cost Containment (MCCP) Severities
- 13. Change in Medical Service Cost Levels
- 14. Change in Pharmaceutical Cost Levels
- 15. Number of Liens Filed
- 16. Ratios of Paid ALAE to Paid Losses
- 17. Projected Ultimate Losses Less Reported Losses

General Notes

More Info









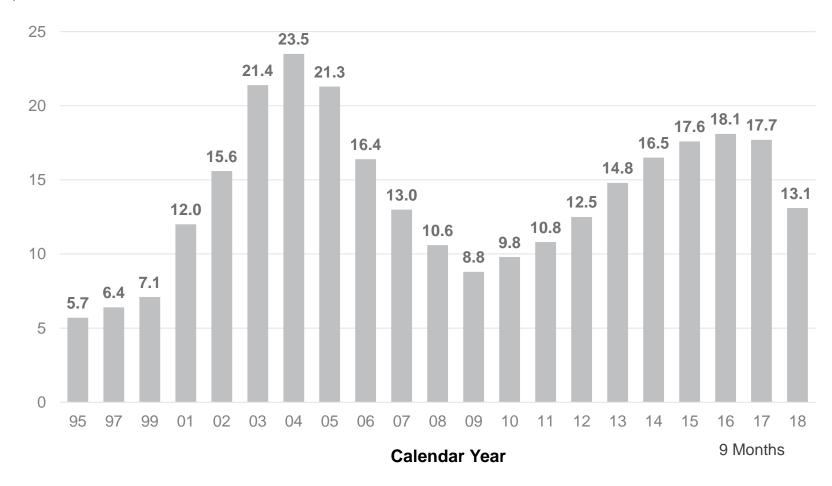


- Written premium for 2017 is 2% below that for 2016.
- The decrease in 2017 following 7 consecutive years of increases is primarily driven by decreases in insurer charged rates more than offsetting increases in employer payroll.
- Written premium for the first nine months of 2018 is 3% below the same period for 2017.

Written Premium | Gross of Deductible Credits

As of September 30, 2018

\$ Billions











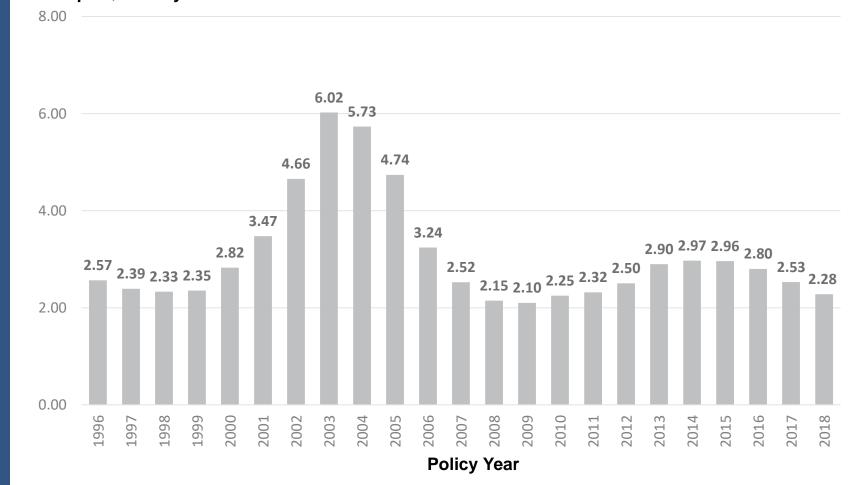


- Average charged rates for the first nine months of 2018 are 10% below those for 2017 and 23% below the peak in 2014.
- The January 1, 2019 approved advisory pure premium rates are on average 42% below those for January 1, 2015.

Industry Average Charged Rates

As of September 30, 2018

Rate per \$100 Payroll









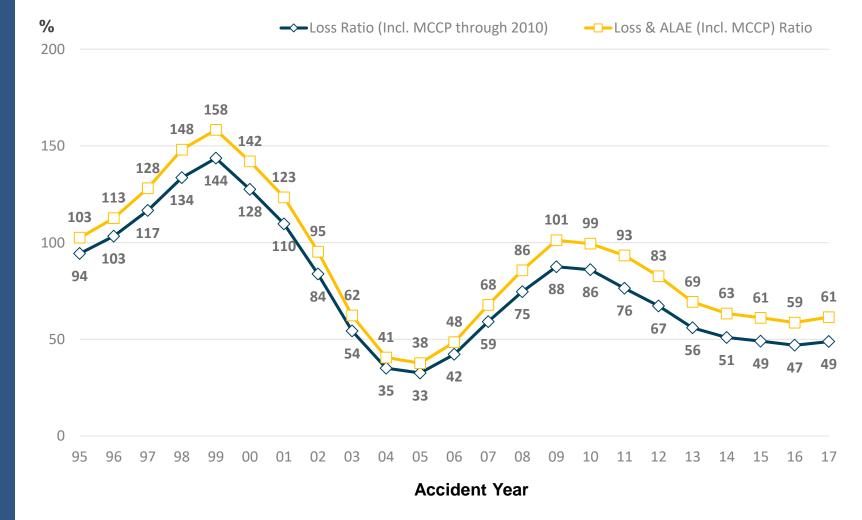




- The projected loss ratio for 2017 is 2 points above that for 2016, driven by higher medical severities for 2017 and lower premium rates.
- Despite the increase in 2017, projections for other years are below those projected in prior quarters as a result of favorable loss development continuing to emerge.

Ultimate Accident Year Loss Ratios













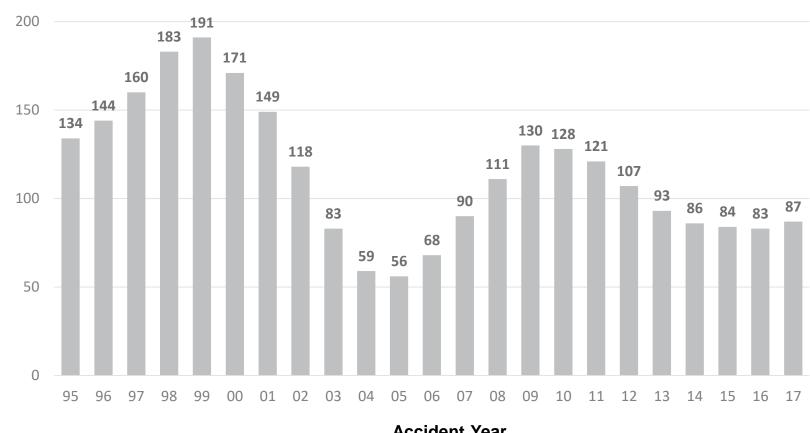




- The projected combined ratio for 2017 is 4 points higher than 2016 as premium levels have lowered while average claim severities increased moderately.
- Despite the recent increase, combined ratios for 2014 to 2017 remain the lowest since the 2004 through 2006 period.

Projected Accident Year Combined Ratios









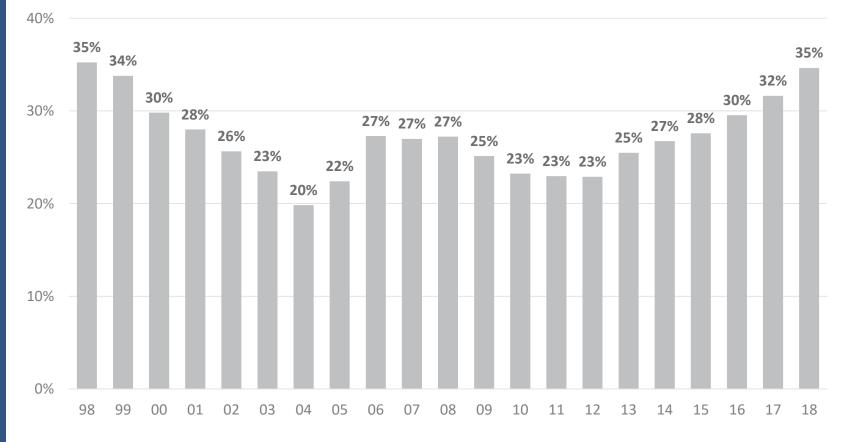






- Indemnity claims continue to settle quicker, improving significantly over the last 6 years.
- The ratio for 2018 represents a 19-year high.

Percent of Open Indemnity Claims Closed in Next Year



Calendar Year Ending September 30





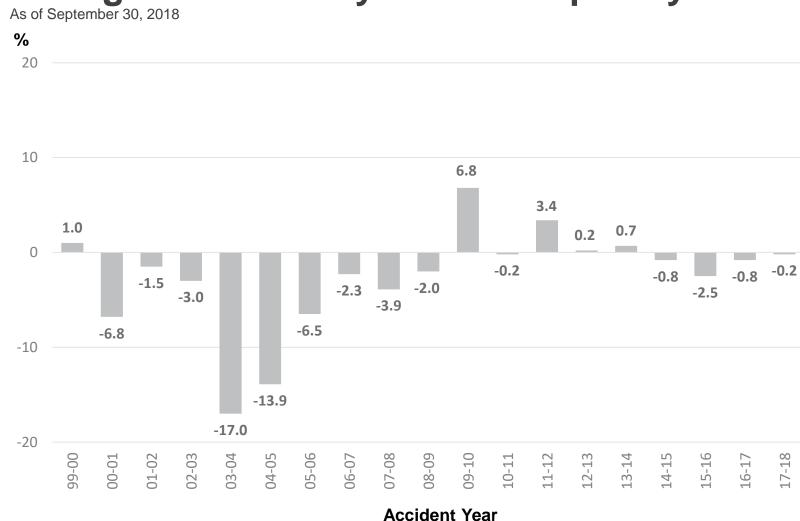






- Claim frequency increased by 11% from 2009 to 2014, but has decreased by 4% from 2014 through the first 9 months of 2018.
- Frequency increases since 2011 have largely been attributed to increases in cumulative injury claims and claims from the Los Angeles Basin area.

Change in Indemnity Claim Frequency







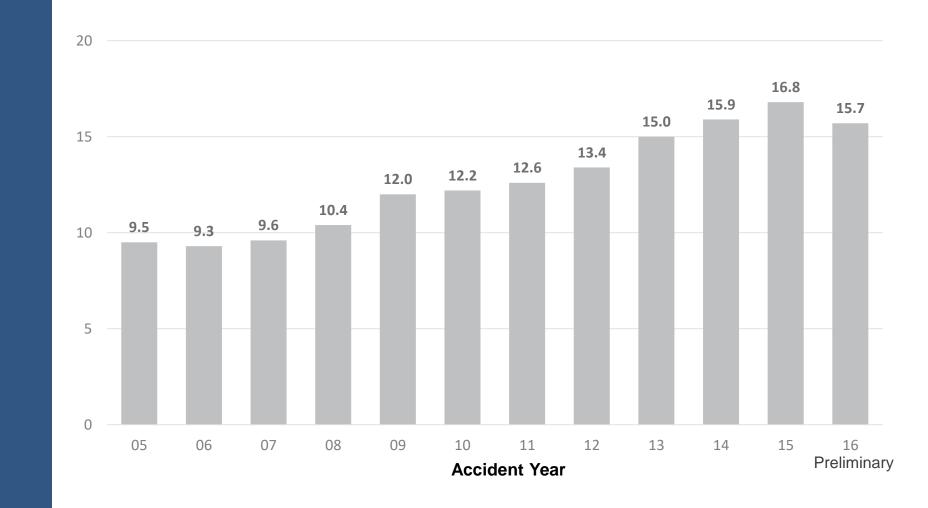






- Cumulative trauma (CT) claim rates increased by over 75% from 2005 to 2015.
- The ratio for 2016 declined modestly suggesting the CT claim growth is beginning to level off.
- Recent sharp increases in CT claims is focused entirely in the Los Angeles and San Diego areas.
- See the WCIRB's recent report on the world of CT claims for more information.

Cumulative Trauma Claims per 100 Indemnity Claims







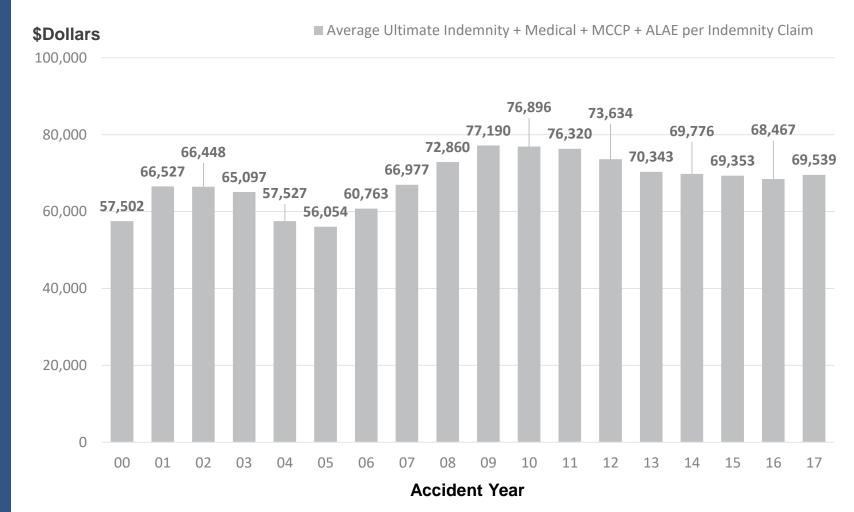






- Projected claim severity for 2017 is 2% higher than that for 2016, following several years of relatively flat severities.
- Severity growth over the last several years has been relatively modest as increases in average indemnity and ALAE costs have been in part offset by declines in average medical costs.

Ultimate Total Loss and ALAE Severities











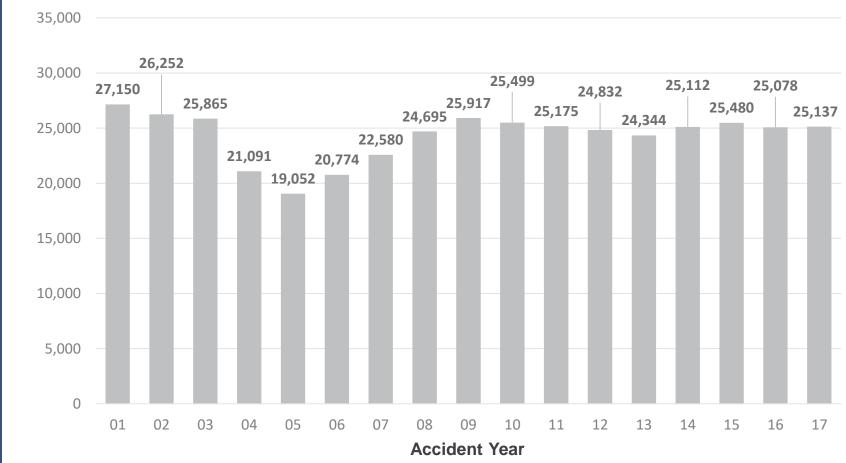




- Indemnity severity increases in 2014 are largely attributable to SB 863 increases to PD benefits.
- Indemnity severities since 2014 have been relatively flat.

Ultimate Indemnity Severities











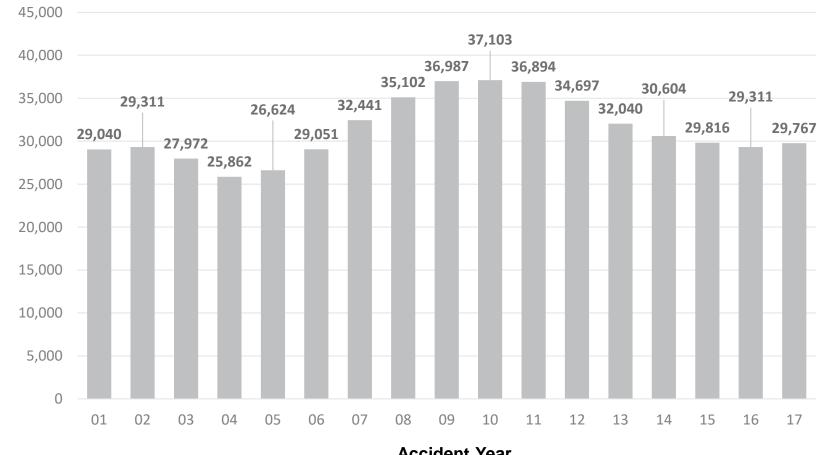




- Decreases in medical severities from 2011 to 2015 were driven by the medical cost savings arising from SB 863.
- The projected 2017 medical severity increase of 2% represents very modest growth compared to other post-reform periods of medical inflation in California.

Ultimate Medical Severities

















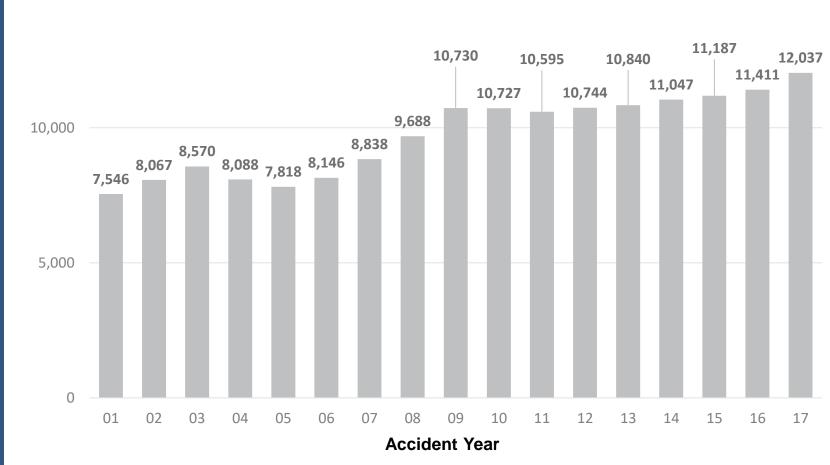
- Projected ALAE severity for 2017 is 5% higher than that for 2016 and 14% higher than that for 2011.
- Average ALAE costs have tended to rise shortly after the implementation of reforms, even during periods where medical costs have declined.

Ultimate ALAE (excl. MCCP) Severities

As of March 31, 2018















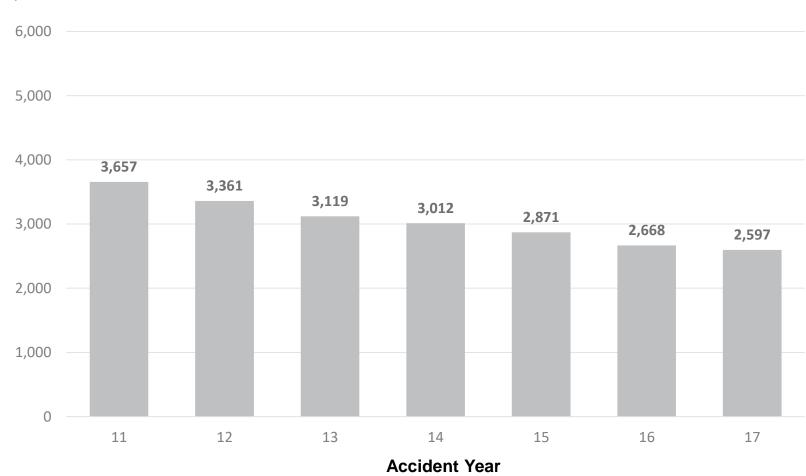


- Projected MCCP severity for 2017 is 3% below that for 2016 and 29% below that for 2011.
- Average MCCP costs have declined in recent years as average medical costs have moderated and claim settlement rates have accelerated.

Ultimate Medical Cost Containment (MCCP) Severities

As of March 31, 2018











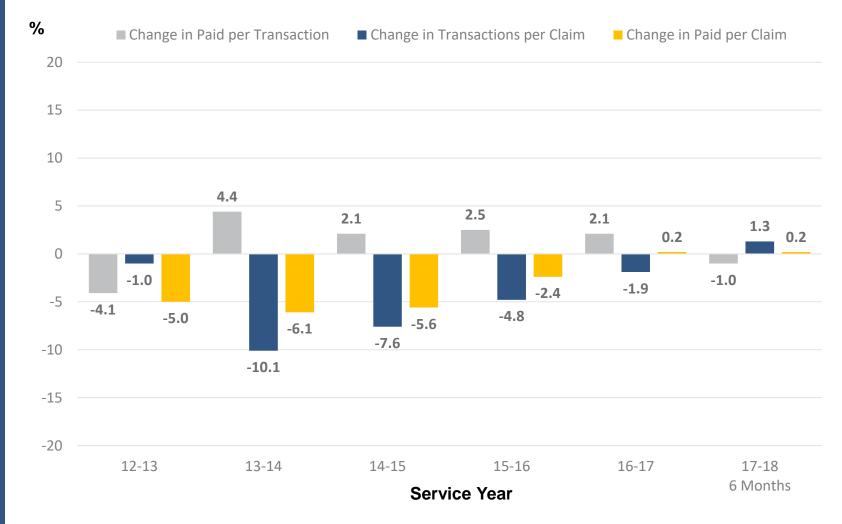




- Medical service costs per claim decreased 18% from 2012 to 2016, primarily driven by a 22% decrease in the number of transactions per claim.
- Overall medical cost levels were relatively flat for both 2017 and the first six months of 2018.

Change in Medical Service Cost Levels

As of June 30, 2018











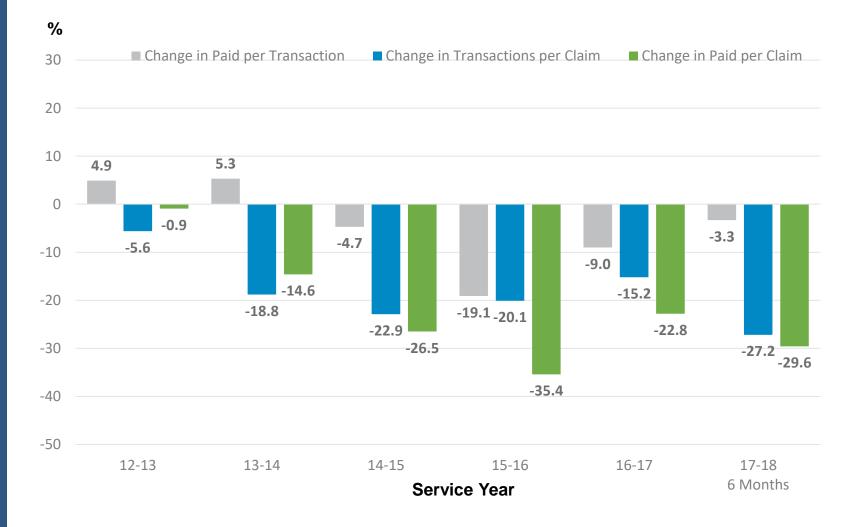




- Pharmaceutical costs per claim decreased
 69% from 2012 to 2017.
- These reductions have been driven by SB 863's IMR & IBR, reduced utilization of opioids, and changes to Medi-Cal reimbursement rates.
- Pharmaceutical costs continued to decrease significantly through the first six months of 2018, the first period in which the new drug formulary is in effect.

Change in Pharmaceutical Cost Levels

As of June 30, 2018



More Info









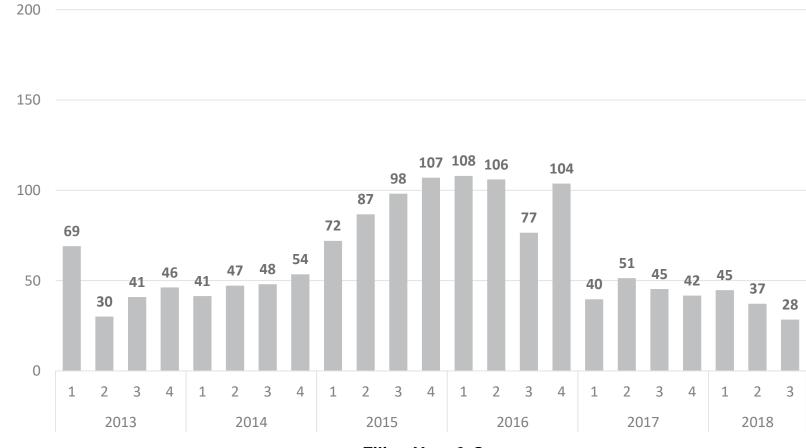




- SB 1160 and AB 1244 made changes to the lien filing process effective 1/1/2017.
- Some of the lien activity in the fourth quarter of 2016 through the first quarter of 2017 may be impacted by the transition to the reforms.
- The number of liens filed in the most recent four quarters are 50% below pre-SB 1160 and AB 1244 levels.

Number of Liens Filed





Filing Year & Quarter





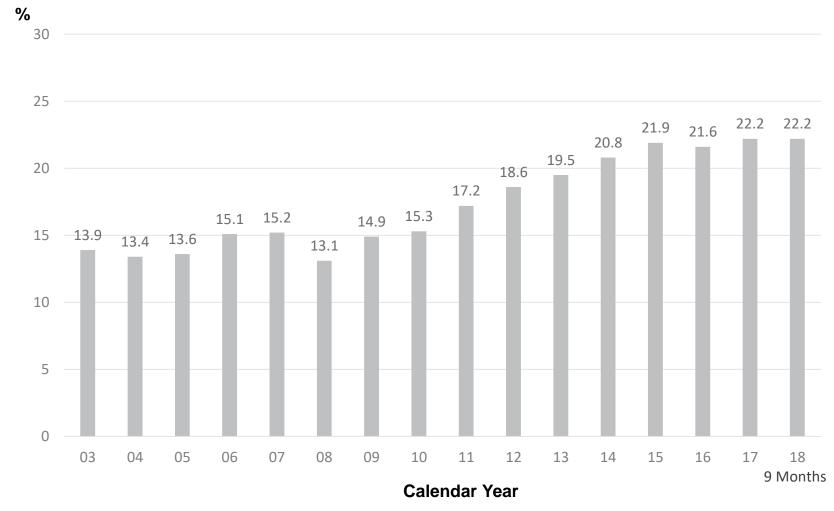






- Ratios of ALAE to loss increased significantly from 2011 to 2015 in part due to increased cumulative injury claim filings and the transition to SB 863.
- From 2015 through the first nine months of 2018, ALAE costs have generally paced with total benefit payments though remaining at the higher post-SB 863 level.

Ratios of Paid ALAE to Paid Losses







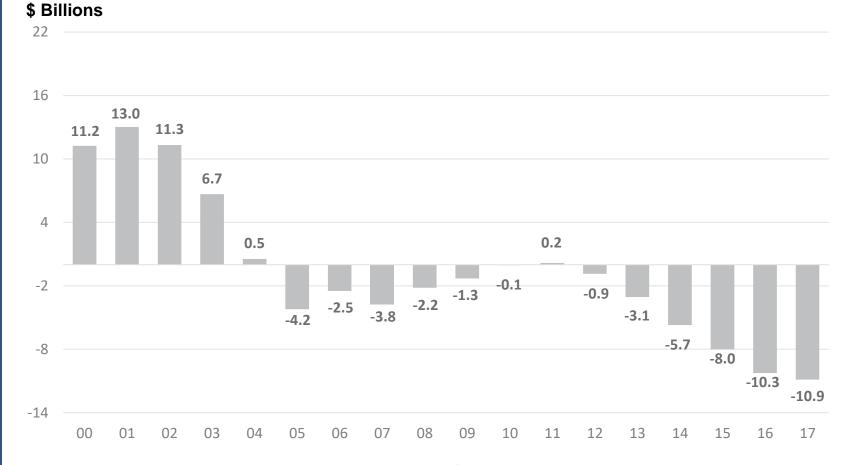






Projected total statewide ultimate losses for 2012 through 2017 evaluations are below the amounts reported by insurers.

Projected Ultimate Losses Less Reported Losses













General Notes

- This report reflects a compilation of individual insurer submissions of accident year and calendar year premium and loss data to the WCIRB. While the individual insurer data submissions are regularly checked for consistency and comparability with other data submitted by the insurer as well as with data submitted by other insurers, the source information underlying each insurer's data submission is not verified by the WCIRB.
- Some of the figures and ratios shown are based on WCIRB actuarial projections of future claim payments using information reported by insurers through September 30, 2018. Although the actuarial methodologies and assumptions upon which these projections are predicated are periodically reviewed by the WCIRB's Actuarial Committee, the actual costs that will ultimately emerge could differ from the amounts projected. Many of these projections will be updated regularly by the WCIRB as more mature information on these claims is reported in subsequent quarters.
- The amounts and ratios shown represent statewide totals based on the amounts reported by insurers writing workers' compensation insurance in California. The results for any individual insurer can differ significantly from the statewide average. An individual insurer's results are related to its underwriting book of business, claims and reserving practices, as well as the nature of its reinsurance arrangements.
- Beginning with claims incurred on policies incepting on or after July 1, 2010, the cost of medical cost containment programs (MCCP) is reported to the WCIRB as allocated loss adjustment expense (ALAE) rather than as medical loss. As a result, some portion of MCCP costs for accident years 2010 and 2011 has been reported as medical loss and some portion has been reported as ALAE. For consistency, the amounts and ratios shown in these exhibits are adjusted to either include or exclude MCCP costs for all years shown to the extent possible.











More Info

Chart 1: Written Premium

- Source: WCIRB aggregate financial data calls.
- Written premium is gross of deductible credits.

Chart 2: Industry Average Charged Rates

- Rates are based on WCIRB unit statistical data through 2015 and estimated based on aggregate financial data calls for 2016 and later.
- Rates are per \$100 of payroll.
- Rates are averages over policies incepting in the year (December 1 to December 31).

Chart 3: Ultimate Accident Year Loss Ratios

- Ratios are projected based on WCIRB aggregate financial data call data as of September 30, 2018.
- MCCP costs are included in loss ratios for accident years 2010 and prior.
- MCCP costs are included in loss and ALAE ratios for all years shown.

Chart 4: Projected Accident Year Combined Ratios

- Ratios are projected based on WCIRB aggregate financial data call data as of September 30, 2018.
- Combined ratios include losses, loss adjustment expenses, and other insurer expenses.

Chart 5: Percent of Open Indemnity Claims Closed in Next Year

- Source: WCIRB aggregate financial data call data as of September 30, 2018.
- Figures represent the number of indemnity claims aged between 21 to 105 months closed during the year as a ratio of the number of claims open as of September 30 of the prior year.

Chart 6: Change in Indemnity Claim Frequency

 Frequency is based on indemnity claim counts per exposure adjusted for wage level changes based on WCIRB unit statistical data through accident year 2016, and changes in reported indemnity claim counts compared to changes in statewide employment based on WCIRB aggregate financial data call data for accident year 2017 and the first three guarters of 2018.

Chart 7: Cumulative Trauma Claims per 100 Indemnity Claims

- Source is WCIRB unit statistical data based on partial accident years. Claim counts are developed to an estimated ultimate level.
- Accident year 2016 data is preliminary.

Chart 8: Ultimate Loss & ALAE Severities

- Severities are projected based on WCIRB aggregate financial data call data as of September 30, 2018.
- Includes data for indemnity claims only.











More Info (...continued)

Chart 9: Ultimate Indemnity Severities

 Severities are projected based on WCIRB aggregate financial data call data as of September 30, 2018.

Chart 10: Ultimate Medical Severities

- Severities are projected based on WCIRB aggregate financial data call data as of September 30, 2018.
- Includes data for indemnity claims only. MCCP costs have been excluded from all years for consistency of comparison.

Chart 11: Ultimate ALAE (excl. MCCP) Severities

- Severities are projected based on WCIRB aggregate financial data call data as of March 31, 2018.
- Includes data for indemnity claims only. MCCP costs are excluded from all years for consistency of comparison.

Chart 12: Ultimate Medical Cost Containment (MCCP) Severities

- Severities are projected based on WCIRB aggregate financial data call data as of March 31, 2018.
- Includes data for indemnity claims only.

Chart 13: Change in Medical Service Cost Levels

Source: WCIRB Medical Data Call data as of June 30, 2018.

Chart 14: Change in Pharmaceutical Cost Levels

Source: WCIRB Medical Data Call data as of June 30, 2018.

Chart 15: Number of Liens Filed

Source: the Division of Workers' Compensation.

Chart 16: Ratios of Paid ALAE to Paid Losses

- Source: WCIRB aggregate financial data calls.
- MCCP costs paid on policies incepting prior to July 1, 2010 are considered loss and costs paid on policies incepting after July 1, 2010 are considered ALAE.

Chart 17: Projected Ultimate Losses Less Reported Losses

- Insurer-reported losses include insurers' estimates of incurred but not reported (IBNR) losses that may, in part, reflect allocations of IBNR losses to line of business, state, and accident year, and are on a basis that does not reflect anticipated reinsurance recoveries or employer-paid deductibles. As a result, the amounts shown do not necessarily equate to specific estimates of the adequacy of insurers' reserves for unpaid losses.
- Projected ultimate losses are based on WCIRB aggregate financial data call data as of September 30, 2018.











Notice & Copyright

The WCIRB Quarterly Experience Report (Report) was developed by the Workers' Compensation Insurance Rating Bureau of California (WCIRB) for the convenience of its users. The WCIRB has made reasonable efforts to ensure the accuracy of this Report. You must make an independent assessment regarding the use of this Report based upon your particular facts and circumstances.

© 2018 Workers' Compensation Insurance Rating Bureau of California. All rights reserved.

No part of this work may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including, without limitation, photocopying and recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system without the prior written permission of the Workers' Compensation Insurance Rating Bureau of California (WCIRB), unless such copying is expressly permitted in this copyright notice or by federal copyright law. No copyright is claimed in the text of statutes and regulations quoted within this work.

Workers' Compensation Insurance Rating Bureau of California, WCIRB, WCIRB California, WCIRB Connect, WCIRB Inquiry, WCIRB CompEssentials, X-Mod Direct, eSCAD, Comprehensive Risk Summary and the WCIRB California logo (WCIRB Marks) are registered trademarks or service marks of the WCIRB. WCIRB Marks may not be displayed or used in any manner without the WCIRB's prior written permission. Any permitted copying of this work must maintain any and all trademarks and/or service marks on all copies.

To seek permission to use any of the WCIRB Marks or any copyrighted material, please contact the WCIRB at customerservice@wcirb.com.

Workers' Compensation Insurance Rating Bureau of California 1221 Broadway, Suite 900 Oakland, CA 94612 888.CA.WCIRB (888.229.2472)

