DEPARTMENT OF
Professional & Financial Regulation
STATE OF MAINE

- OFFICE OF SECURITIES
- BUREAU OF INSURANCE
- CONSUMER CREDIT PROTECTION
- BUREAU OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
- OFFICE OF PROF. AND OCC. REGULATION

THE STATE OF COMPETITION IN THE MAINE WORKERS' COMPENSATION MARKET

PREPARED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF INSURANCE
DECEMBER 30, 2014

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pursuant to 24-A M.R.S.A. § 2383-A the Superintendent of Insurance must report annually to the Governor and the Joint Standing Committee on Insurance and Financial Services on the status of competition in the workers' compensation market. This report examines different measures of market conditions. Workers' compensation insurance in Maine operates in a prior approval rating system. The National Council on Compensation Insurance (NCCI), the state's designated statistical agent, files annual advisory loss costs on behalf of insurers for approval with the Superintendent. Advisory loss costs represent the portion of the rates that accounts for losses and loss adjustment expenses. Each insurer files factors called loss cost multipliers for the Superintendent's approval. These multipliers account for company experience, overhead expenses, taxes, contingencies, investment income and profit. Each insurer reaches its rates by multiplying the advisory loss costs by the loss cost multipliers. Other rating rules, such as experience rating, schedule rating, and premium discounts, also affect the ultimate premium amount paid by an individual employer.

On February 5, 2014, NCCI filed with the Superintendent for an overall 7.7% decrease in the advisory loss costs effective April 1, 2014. According to NCCI, the loss-time claim frequency has been exhibiting a declining trend since 2000 and the average indemnity cost—a measure of severity—has also been declining with a slight increase in policy year 2011. Medical costs continue to increase and now consume 55% of Maine's total benefit costs. Indemnity costs accounts for the other 45% of total benefit costs. The Superintendent approved NCCI's filing effective April 1, 2014.

Maine Employers' Mutual Insurance Company (MEMIC) actively competes in the voluntary market and is the insurer of last resort in Maine. MEMIC's market share rose from 59% in 2011 to 63% in 2013, a 4% increase. The workers' compensation insurance market is very concentrated with much of the business being written by a small number of companies. Twenty-three insurers wrote more than $1 million each in annual premium in 2013, two fewer companies than in 2012. The top 10 insurance groups wrote over 92% of the workers' compensation insurance in the state in 2013, about 1% more than in 2012. Employers that maintain a safe work environment and control their losses should continue to see insurers competing for their business.

Some insurers have lowered their rates in hopes of attracting business. Additionally, the number of insurance companies with workers' compensation authority has increased for several years. Insurers other than MEMIC do not have to offer coverage to employers and can be more selective in choosing which employers to underwrite. In order to become eligible for lower rates, an employer needs to have a history of few or no losses, maintain a safe work environment, and follow loss control recommendations. New businesses and businesses with unfavorable loss experience have limited options available in the voluntary market.

Self-insurance continues to be a viable alternative to the insurance market for employers. Self-insured employers represented nearly 42% (as measured by standard premium) of the overall workers' compensation market in 2013, a 3% decline from 2012.

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1. Introduction & Background

This report examines different measures of competition in the Maine workers' compensation insurance market. The measures are: 1) the number of insurers providing coverage; 2) insurer market share; 3) changes in market share; 4) ease of entry into and out of the workers' compensation insurance market; and 5) comparison of variations in rates.

The tables in this report for accident year and calendar year loss ratios contain five years of information. Loss ratios are updated each year to account for how costs have developed for claims opened, the number of claims closed, and the number of claims reopened during the year. Other tables and graphs contain up to 10 years of information.

On February 5, 2014, NCCI filed with the Superintendent for an overall 7.7% decrease in the advisory loss costs effective April 1, 2014. According to NCCI, the loss-time claim frequency has been exhibiting a declining trend since 2000 and the average indemnity cost—a measure of severity—has also been declining with a slight increase in policy year 2011. Medical costs continue to increase and now consume 55% of Maine's total benefit costs. Indemnity costs account for the other 45% of benefit costs. The Superintendent approved NCCI's filing effective April 1, 2014.

The decrease in the advisory loss costs is not evenly distributed across all five principal rating classifications, as seen below.

Industry Group	Percentage Change
Miscellaneous	-5.1%
Manufacturing	-7.9%
Office & Clerical	-8.6%
Contracting	-9.2%
Goods & Services	-7.9%

The change in loss costs for individual classification within each group varies depending on the experience of the classification.

Although Maine's market has become quite concentrated and MEMIC writes a large volume of business, there are still many insurers writing workers' compensation coverage in Maine. Insurers, however, continue to be conservative in selecting businesses to cover or to renew. An insurer can decide to non-renew a business for any reason as long as it provides the policyholder with the statutorily required advance written notice. Self-insurance provides a viable alternative for some Maine employers.

I. Accident Year, Calendar Year and Policy Year

Workers' compensation is a long-tail line of insurance. This means that payments for claims can continue for a long time after the year in which the injury occurred. Thus, amounts to be paid on open claims must be estimated. Insurers collect claim, premium and expense information to calculate financial ratios and assess whether they have collected enough premium to cover claims and expenses. This information may be presented on an accident year, calendar year, or policy year basis. This report primarily shows information on an accident year basis. A description of each method and its use in understanding workers' compensation follows:

- **Accident year** experience as of a specific evaluation date matches 1) all paid losses and loss reserves as of the specific evaluation date for injuries occurring during a given 12-month period (regardless of when the losses are reported) with 2) all premiums earned during the same period of time (regardless of when the premium was written). The accident year loss ratio as of a specific evaluation date shows the percentage of earned premium that is expected to be paid out on claims. Therefore, the loss ratio for each accident year needs to be updated until the losses are finally settled.

- **Calendar year** experience matches 1) all paid losses and reserve change incurred within a given calendar year (though not necessarily for injuries occurring during that calendar year) with 2) all premiums earned during that year. Because workers' compensation claims are often paid out over a long period, only a small portion of calendar year losses is attributable to premiums earned that year. Many of the losses paid during the current calendar year are for claims occurring in past calendar years. Calendar year loss ratios also reflect aggregate reserve adjustments for past years. For claims expected to cost more, reserves are adjusted upward; for those expected to cost less, reserves are adjusted downward. Calendar year incurred losses are used primarily for financial reporting. Once calculated for a year, calendar year experience never changes.

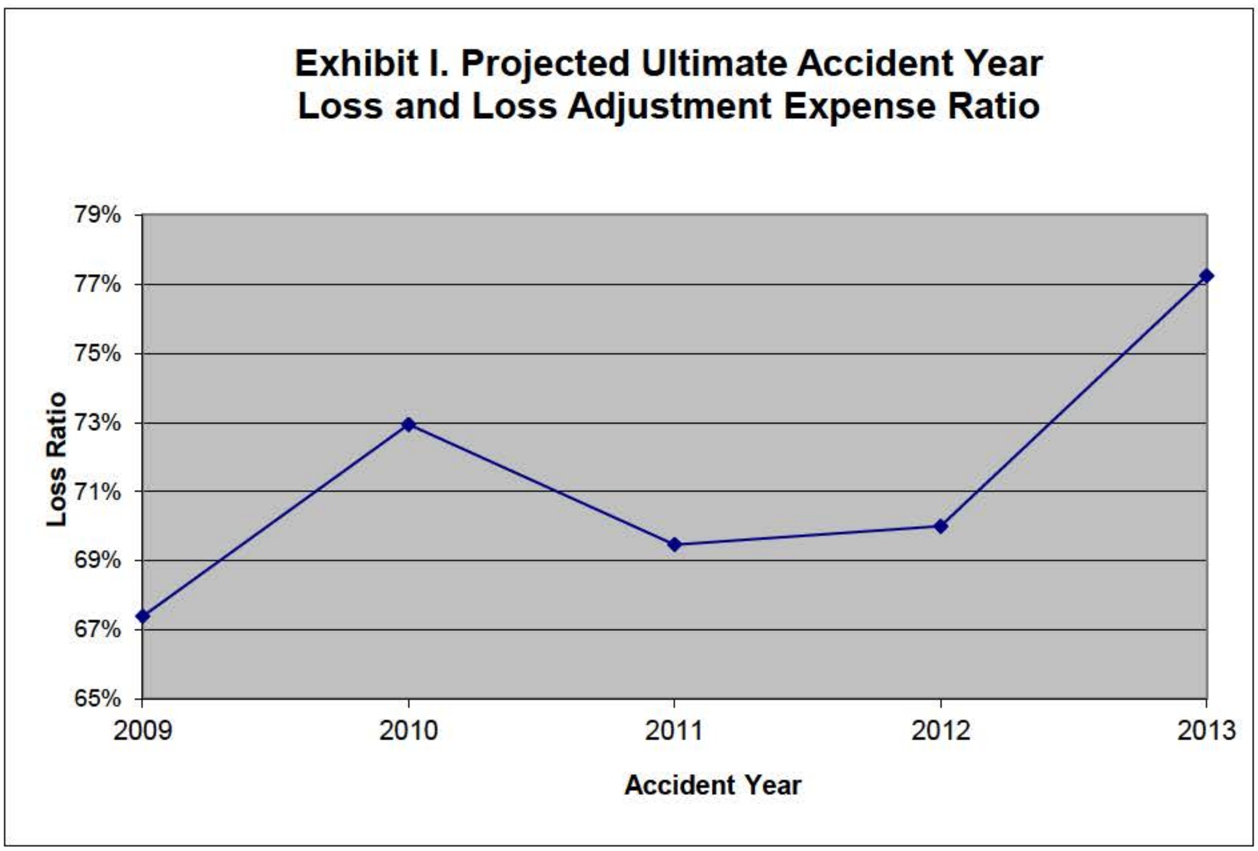
- **Policy year** experience as of a specific evaluation date segregates all premiums and losses and loss reserves, as of the specific evaluation date, attributed to policies having an inception or a renewal date within a given 12-month period. The total value of all losses for injuries occurring during the policy year (losses paid plus loss reserves) is assigned to the period regardless of when the losses are actually reported. The losses are matched to the fully developed earned premium for those same policies. The ultimate policy year incurred loss result cannot be finalized until all losses are settled. Policy year data is used to determine advisory loss costs. Advisory loss costs are the portion of rates that accounts for losses and loss adjustment expenses.

2. Recent Experience

I. Projected Ultimate Accident Year Loss and Loss Adjustment Expense Ratios

The accident year loss and loss adjustment expense ratio shows the percent of earned premium used to fund losses and their settlement expenses. The loss and loss adjustment expense ratio does not include insurers' general expenses, taxes and contingencies, profit or investment income. Loss and loss adjustment expense ratios that exceed 100% mean that insurers are paying out more in benefits than they collect in premiums. A decrease in these ratios over time may reflect increased rates, improved loss experience, or decrease in reserve (i.e., the amount of money expected to be paid out on claims). Conversely, an increase in the loss ratios may reflect decreased rates, worsening loss experience or increase in reserve.

Exhibit I shows the projected ultimate accident year loss and loss adjustment expense ratios for the most recent five years. Ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense ratios in this report are based on more recent claim and loss adjustment expense data and may not match the projected ultimate accident year loss and loss adjustment ratios for the same accident years in prior reports. The accident year ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense ratio has ranged from 67% to 77% for the past five years. The 2013 ratio was 77.2%, indicating that $77.20 is expected to be paid out for losses and loss adjustment expenses for every $100 earned in premium.



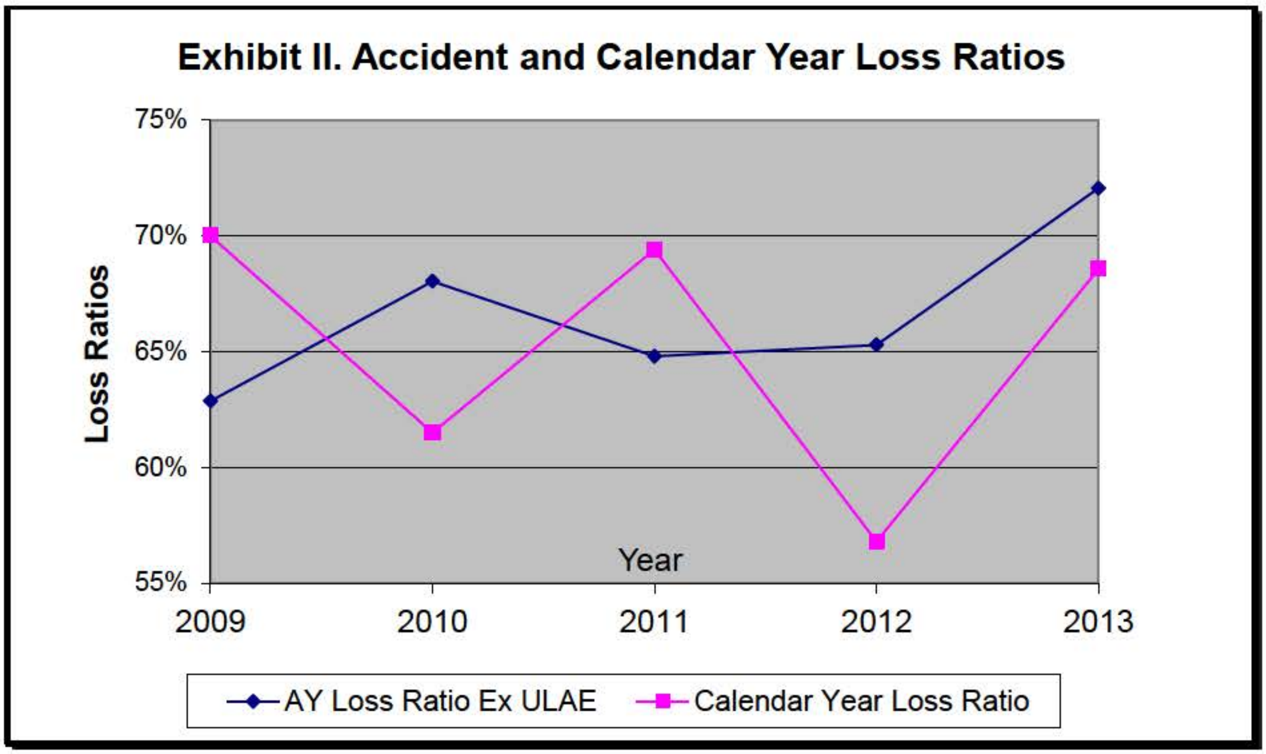
Source: NCCI

II. Calendar Year and Accident Year Loss Ratios

Calendar year loss ratios compare losses incurred with premium earned in the same year). Calendar year loss ratios reflect loss payments, adjustments to case reserves, and changes to IBNR ("incurred but not reported") reserves, on all claims during a specific year, including those adjustments from prior injury years. Calendar year data is relatively easy to compile but can be distorted by large changes in case or IBNR reserves.

However, accident year data is more useful in evaluating the claim experience during a particular period because it better matches the earned premium used to pay losses for injuries occurring in the year. In addition, the accident year experience is not distorted by reserve adjustments on claims that occurred in prior periods, possibly under a different law. Calendar and accident year ratios also do not include amounts paid by insurers for sales, general expenses and taxes, nor do they reflect investment income. Fluctuations in calendar year loss ratios from below to above accident year loss ratios may reflect increases or decreases in reserves on prior accident years.

Exhibit II shows calendar year and accident year loss ratios for the most recent five years. The calendar year loss ratios ranged between 70% in 2009 and 57% in 2012. Accident year loss ratios ranged from a low of 63% in 2009 to a high of 72% in 2013. Calendar year loss ratios show a slight downward trend, and accident year loss ratios show an upward trend.



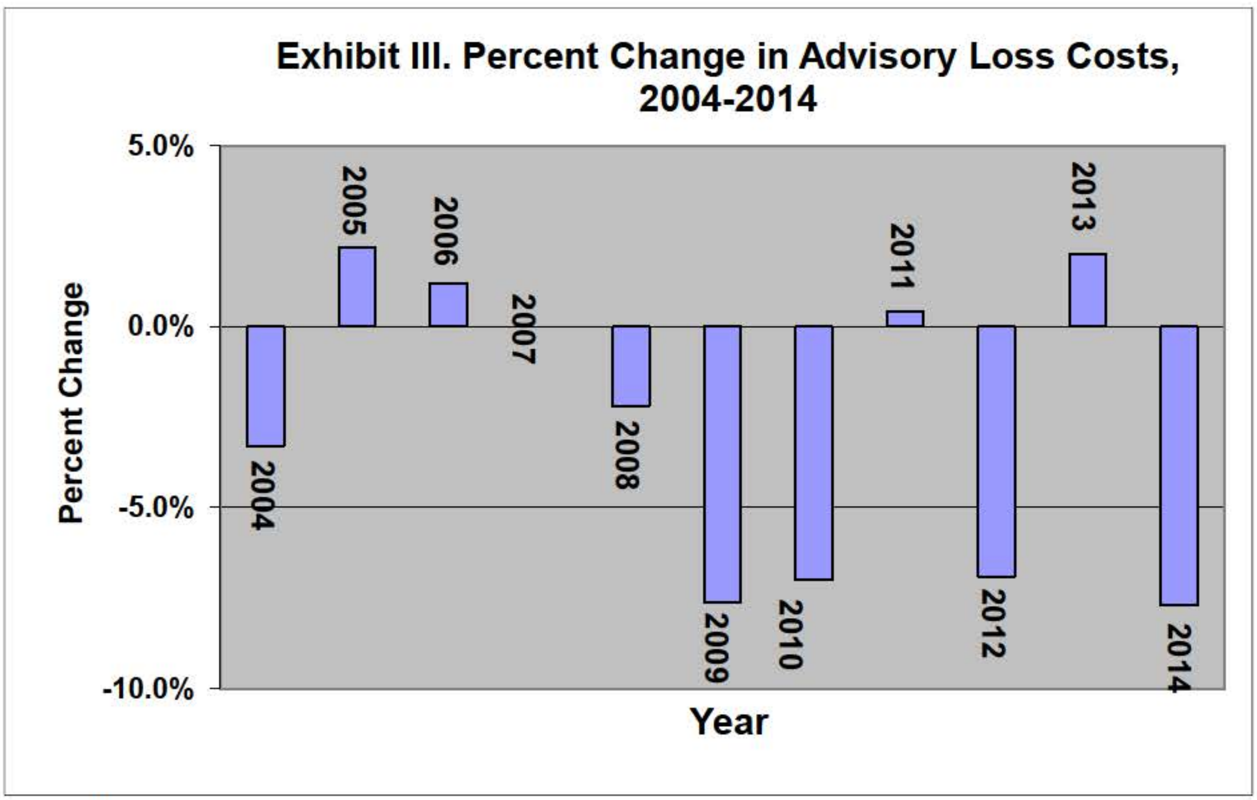
Note: ULAE means Unallocated Loss Adjustment Expense
Source: NCCI

3. LOSSES IN WORKERS' COMPENSATION

I. CHANGES IN ADVISORY LOSS COSTS

NCCI files advisory loss costs on behalf of workers' compensation carriers. Advisory loss costs reflect the portion of the rate that applies to losses and loss adjustment expenses. Advisory loss costs do not account for what insurers pay for commissions, general expenses, taxes and contingencies, nor do they account for profits and investment income. Under Maine's competitive rating law, each insurance carrier determines what to load into premium to cover those items.

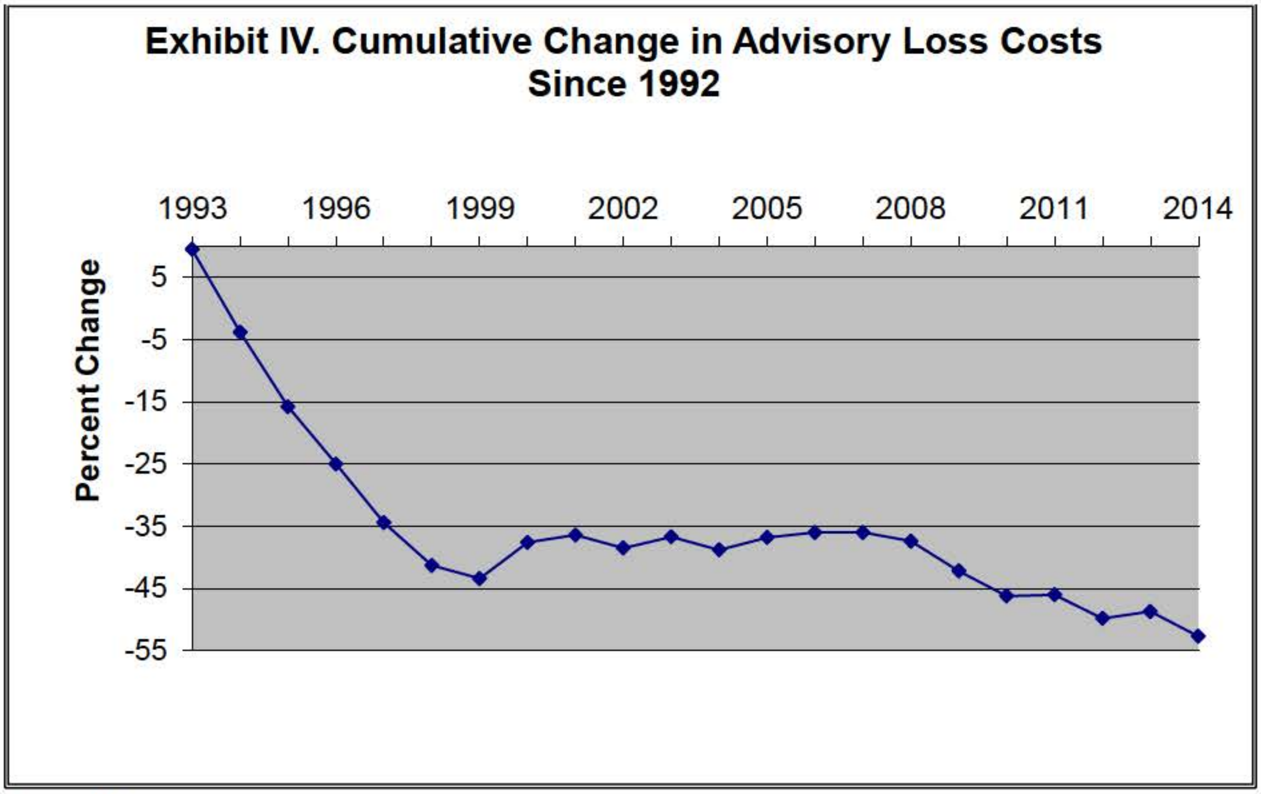
Effective April 1, 2014, the Superintendent approved a 7.7% decrease in the workers' compensation advisory loss costs. Advisory loss costs are now about 14% lower than they were five years ago and nearly 53% lower than when the major reform of the workers' compensation system took effect in 1993. Changes in the advisory loss costs tend to lag behind actual changes in statewide loss experience because of the time needed to accumulate and evaluate loss data.



Source: NCCI

II. CUMULATIVE CHANGES IN ADVISORY LOSS COSTS

Exhibit IV shows the cumulative changes in loss costs since 1993. Average loss costs have declined 14% over the past five years.



Source: NCCI

4. Market Structure and Competition

I. Market Concentration

Market concentration is one measure of competition. Greater concentration means that there are fewer insurers in the market or that relatively few insurers are issuing a disproportionate amount of coverage. The result is less competition. Conversely, less concentration indicates greater competition.

As of October 1, 2014, the Superintendent had authorized 328 companies to write workers' compensation coverage. This number is not the best indicator of market concentration because some insurers have no written premium. In 2013 MEMIC, the insurer of last resort, accounted for more than 62% of the written premium in the market. Although MEMIC has succeeded in retaining business, voluntary market insurers are able to be more selective about which risks they accept. The following table shows the number of carriers by premium level that wrote workers' compensation insurance in 2013. Two fewer companies in 2013 had more than $1 million in written premium than in 2012.

Table I:
Number of Companies by Level of Written Premium—2013

Amount of Written Premium	Number of Companies At That Level
>$10,000	144
>$100,000	95
>$1,000,000	23

Source: Annual Statements Filed with the Bureau of Insurance. Total written premium for 2013 was more than $203 million.

Market concentration alone does not give a complete picture of market competition. That is because a significant portion of Maine's workers' compensation coverage is self-insured. See the Alternative Risk Markets section below for more complete information.

II. Herfindahl-Hirschman Index

The Herfindahl-Hirschman Index (HHI) measures market concentration. The HHI is calculated by summing the squares of the market shares (percentages) of all groups in the market. The NAIC's (National Association of Insurance Commissioners) annual Competition Database Report compiles various data elements that measure the competitiveness of state insurance markets. The HHI is one data element.

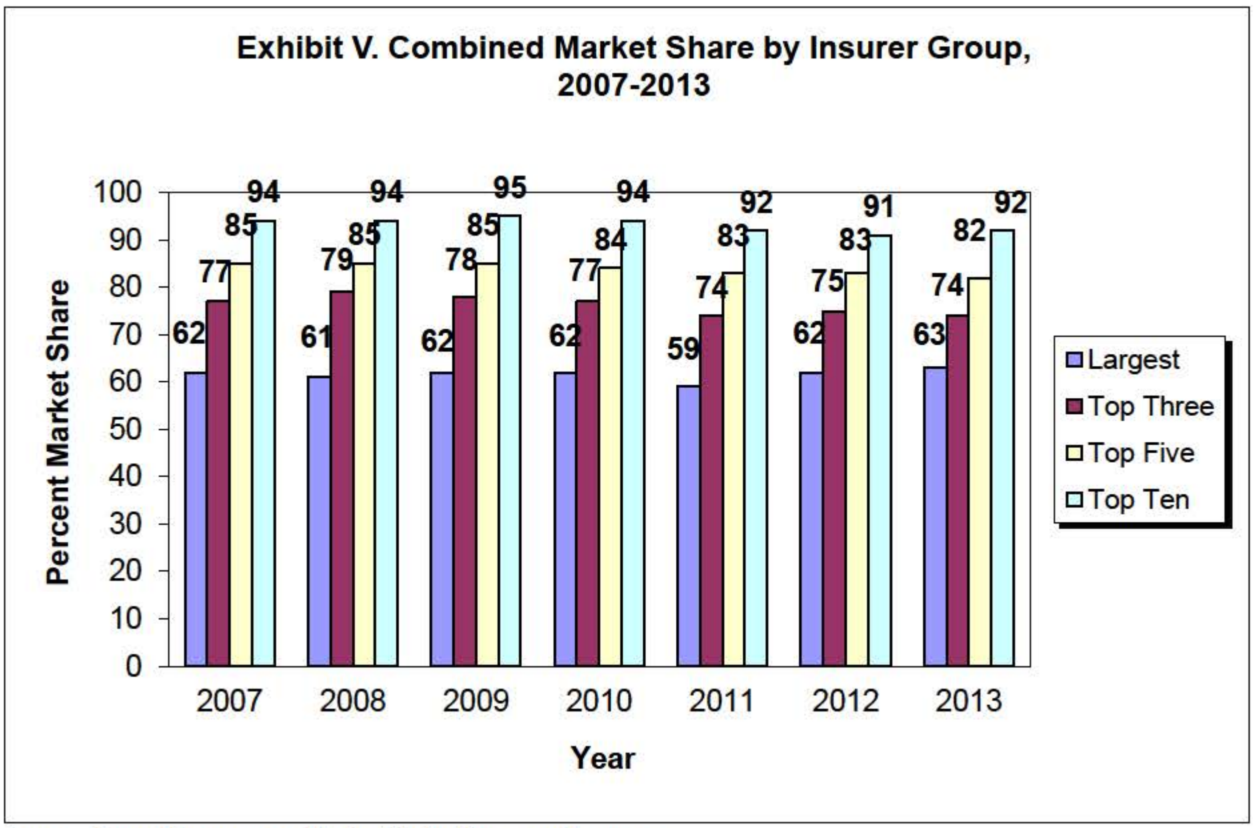
The 2012 Competition Database Report, which was prepared in 2013, showed that the HHI for workers' compensation insurance in Maine was 3,943 in 2012. This is the third highest for all commercial lines in Maine, behind Financial Guaranty and Medical Professional Liability. There is no precise point at which the HHI indicates that a market or industry is so concentrated that competition is restricted. The U.S. Department of Justice's guidelines for corporate mergers use 1,800 to indicate highly concentrated markets and the range from 1,000 to 1,800 to indicate moderately concentrated markets. A market with an HHI below 1,000 is considered not concentrated. Applying the HHI to Maine's workers' compensation market might not be a helpful gauge of this market for two reasons. First, the Maine Legislature created

MEMIC to replace a highly concentrated residual market in which other insurers were reluctant to write actively in this state. Second, the market has a high percentage of employers who self-insure either individually or in groups.

III. COMBINED MARKET SHARE

An insurance group is a one or more carriers under common ownership. Exhibit V illustrates the percent market share of the largest commercial insurance group, in terms of written premium, as well as the percent market share for the top three, top five and top 10 insurer groups. MEMIC has the largest market share at over 62 percent. The market share of the top 10 insurer groups was nearly 92% in 2013; all other groups accounted for just over 8% of the workers' compensation premium in Maine, excluding self-insured premium.

MEMIC wrote more than $127 million in premium in 2013. The top three groups, including MEMIC, wrote over $149 million in business. The top five groups wrote over $166 million, and the top 10 groups had over $186 in written premium. The reported amounts of written premium for the top 10 groups rose by $6 million from 2012 to 2013.



Source: Annual Statements Filed with the Bureau of Insurance

IV. NUMBER OF CARRIERS IN MAINE'S WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE MARKET

The number of carriers in the workers' compensation market has increased throughout much of the 15-year period shown in the table below. The number of carriers who may file rates and are eligible to write workers' compensation coverage has increased by over 56 percent since 2000. There currently are no significant barriers to entry.

Table II:
Number of Workers' Compensation Carriers, 2000-2014

Year	Number of Carriers	Net Change (Percent)
2014	328	-0.6
2013	330	0.3
2012	329	5.1
2011	313	6.8
2010	293	0.3
2009	292	3.6
2008	282	3.3
2007	273	2.3
2006	267	3.9
2005	257	1.1
2004	254	1.2
2003	251	4.2
2002	241	5.7
2001	228	8.6
2000	210	6.1

Source: Bureau of Insurance Records

Notes: Totals are based on the number of carriers licensed to transact workers' compensation insurance as of October 1 of each year.

V. PERCENT MARKET SHARE OF THE TOP TEN INSURANCE GROUPS

Table III shows market share for the ten largest insurance groups from 2007-2013. These groups wrote nearly 92 percent of business. Information by group is more relevant when assessing competition because carriers in a group are under common control and are not likely to compete with one another. The Berkshire Hathaway Group became one of the top 10 writers in 2012 when it acquired the Guard Insurance Group, which had been the 9th largest group writing workers' compensation in 2011. Great Falls Insurance Company, a Maine domestic insurance company, continues to be one of the top 10 writers of workers' compensation business.

Table III:
Percent Market Share for Top Insurance Groups, By Amount of Written Premium, 2007-2013

Insurance Group	2013 Share	2012 Share	2011 Share	2010 Share	2009 Share	2008 Share	2007 Share
Maine Employers' Mutual	62.6	62.3	59.4	61.5	62.2	61.3	61.6
Liberty Mutual Group	6.1	8.0	9.7	10.0	10.4	11.0	8.8
Travelers Group	4.9	4.7	4.4	3.9	3.5	2.7	2.2
WR Berkeley Group	4.5	4.6	5.1	5.2	5.7	6.1	6.3
Hartford Fire & Casualty	3.5	3.5	3.1	3.2	3.4	3.7	3.6
Great Falls Ins Co	2.8	1.8	0.7	-	-	-	-
American International Group	2.8	1.7	4.2	3.6	2.3	2.8	5.2
Berkshire Hathaway Group	1.5	1.8	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Zurich Insurance Group	1.5	1.6	2.0	2.1	2.0	1.2	1.3
The Hanover Ins Group	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.7

Source: Annual Statements Filed with the Bureau by Insurance Carriers

VI. PERCENT MARKET SHARE OF THE TOP TEN INSURANCE CARRIERS

Table IV shows the percent of market share for the ten largest carriers for each calendar year from 2007 through 2013. Throughout this period MEMIC has had more than 59% of the market. No other carrier attained a 5% market share during this period. The top 10 companies combined held nearly 76% of the market. Great Falls Insurance Company, which was licensed by the Maine Bureau of Insurance at the end of 2010 and commenced writing workers' compensation in 2011, is now the second largest company writing workers' compensation in Maine.

Table IV:
Percent Market Share for Top Insurance Carriers, By Amount of Written Premium, 2007-2013

Insurance Carrier	2013 Share	2012 Share	2011 Share	2010 Share	2009 Share	2008 Share	2007 Share
Maine Employers' Mutual	62.5	62.1	59.3	61.5	62.2	61.3	61.6
Great Falls Ins Co	2.8	1.8	0.7	-	-	-	-
Firemen's Ins Co of Wash DC	2.1	1.9	2.3	2.1	1.9	1.3	1.3
Acadia Insurance Company	1.6	2.1	2.2	2.6	3.4	4.2	4.5
New Hampshire Ins Co	1.3	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.0	0.5
Charter Oak Fire Ins Co	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.8
Insurance Company of the State of PA	1.2	0.8	0.6	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.4
Liberty Mutual Fire Ins Co	1.1	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.8	1.0
Twin City Fire Ins Co	1.1	1.1	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.4
Netherlands	1.0	1.7	2.3	2.7	2.6	2.1	1.4

Source: Annual Statements Filed with the Bureau by Insurance Carriers

5. Differences In Rates and Factors Affecting Rates

I. Rate Differentials

There is a wide range of potential rates for workers' compensation policyholders in Maine, but most employers are not able to get the lowest rates. Insurers are selective in accepting risks for the lower-priced plans. Their underwriting is based on such factors as prior-claims history, safety programs and classifications. An indication that the current workers' compensation market may not be fully price-competitive is the distribution of policyholders among companies with different loss cost multipliers or among a single company with multiple rating tiers.

The Bureau of Insurance surveyed all of the companies in the ten largest insurance groups, requesting the number of policyholders and the amount of written premium for in-force policies in Maine within each of their rating tiers. Carriers in these groups accounted for about 92% of the market and nearly $187 million in written premium in Maine for calendar year 2013. The table below shows the percentage of policies written at rates compared to the MEMIC Standard Rating tier.

Table V:
Percent of Reported Policyholders At, Above or Below MEMIC's Standard Rating Tier Rates

Rate Comparison	2014 Percent	2013 Percent
Below MEMIC Standard Rate	19.5%	20.3%
At MEMIC Standard Rate	66.1%	64.7%
Above MEMIC Standard Rate	14.4%	15.0%

Note: Based upon the results of a survey conducted by the Bureau of Insurance

Possible reasons that policyholders accept rates higher than MEMIC's Standard Rating tier are: 1) an insurer other than MEMIC that might not otherwise provide workers' compensation coverage provides it as part of a package with other lines of insurance at an overall competitive price to the insured; 2) an insurer other than MEMIC charges a higher rate but offers enough credits to lower the overall premium; or 3) the insured's poor loss history resulted in its being placed in MEMIC's High Risk Rating tier.

II. Additional Factors Affecting Premiums

Some insurers offer employers other options that may affect their workers' compensation premium. Common options include:

- **Tiered rating** means that an insurer uses more than one loss cost multiplier, based on where a potential insured falls in its underwriting criteria. Tiered rating may apply to groups of insurers that have different loss cost multipliers for different companies in the group. Our records indicate that over 71% of insurers either have different loss cost multipliers on file or are part of a group that does.

- **Scheduled rating** allows an insurer to consider other factors in setting premium that an employer's experience rating might not reflect. Factors including safety plans, medical facilities, safety devices and premises are considered and can result in a change in premium of up to 25%. More than 81% of insurers with filed rates in Maine have received approval to use scheduled rating.

- **Small deductible plans** must be offered by insurers. These plans include medical benefit deductibles of $250 per occurrence for non-experience-rated accounts and either $250 or $500 per occurrence for experience rated accounts. Insurers must also offer deductibles of either $1,000 or $5,000 per claim for indemnity benefits. Payments are initially made by the insurer and then reimbursed by the employer. Each insurer files the percentage reductions in premium applicable to their small deductible plan. The Bureau must review and approve this filing.

- **Managed Care Credits** are offered to employers who use managed care plans for workers' compensation injuries. Eighteen percent of insurers offer managed care credits.

- **Dividend Plans** provide a return premium to the insured after the policy expires if losses are lower than average. Premiums are not increased if losses are greater than average. Because losses may still be open for several years after policy expiration, dividends are usually paid periodically after the insurer has accounted for changes in its incurred losses. Dividends are not guaranteed. In calendar year 2013, MEMIC declared dividends of $16 million. In October 2014, MEMIC announced it would pay a dividend totaling $18 million to 17,000 qualified policyholders in November 2014. Including this payment, MEMIC will have returned nearly than $180 million to policyholders in the form of capital returns and dividends since 1998.

- **Retrospective rating** means that an employer's final premium is a direct function of its loss experience for that policy period. If an employer has lower than expected losses, it receives a reduced premium; conversely, if the employer has a bad loss experience, it receives an increased premium. Retrospective rating uses minimum and maximum amounts for a policy and is typically written for larger employers.

- **Large deductible plans** are for employers who do not want to self-insure for worker's compensation but have a discounted premium in exchange for assuming more of the risk than the statutory deductibles offer. Large deductibles can be in excess of $100,000 per claim. The law requires that the insurer pay all losses associated with this type of policy and then bill the deductible amounts to the insured employer.

- **Merit Rating Plan.** If an employer is not eligible for the experience rating plan than a merit rating plan must be offered by the insurer pursuant to 24-A M.R.S.A. § 2382-D.

While these options might lower an employer's premium, they may also carry some risk of greater exposure. Employers should carefully analyze these options, especially retrospective rating (retros) and large deductible policies, before opting for them.

Insurers in Maine's top ten groups reported that nearly $10 in credits (for policies in force as of August 31, 2013) was provided for every $1 in debits. These credits were more than $16.5 million, an increase of $11 million over the prior year. The debits for these policies were nearly $1.7 million, $160,000 less than in 2012.

6. ALTERNATIVE RISK MARKETS

I. PERCENT OF OVERALL MARKET HELD BY SELF-INSURED EMPLOYERS

Self-insurance plays an important role in Maine's workers' compensation market. Self-insured employers pay for losses with their own resources rather than by purchasing insurance. They may, however, choose or be required by the Bureau of Insurance to purchase insurance for losses that exceed a certain limit. One advantage of being self-insured is better cash flow. Employers who self-insure anticipate that they would be better off not paying premiums. They are likely to have active programs in safety training and injury prevention. In 2013, nearly 42% of Maine's total workers' compensation insurance market, as measured by standard premium, consisted of self-insured employers and groups. The self-insured workers' compensation market has exceeded 40 percent in each of the twelve years listed in the table below.

The estimated standard premium for individual self-insurance is determined by multiplying the advisory loss cost by a factor of 1.2 as specified in statute, multiplying that figure by the payroll amount, dividing the result by 100, and then applying experience modification. As advisory loss costs, and therefore rates, decline, so does the estimated standard premium. Group self-insurers determine their own rates subject to review by the Bureau of Insurance.

Table VI:
Estimated Total of All Standard Premiums for Self-Insured Employers and Percent of the Workers' Compensation Market Held by Self-Insurers, 2002-2013

Year	Estimated Total of All Standard Premiums	Percent of Workers' Comp. Market (in annual standard premium)
2013	$147,032,582	41.9
2012	$159,230,371	44.6
2011	$166,712,916	44.7
2010	$171,478,611	47.5
2009	$160,359,285	44.5
2008	$179,280,965	44.6
2007	$174,830,526	42.1
2006	$167,535,911	40.9
2005	$167,278,509	40.3
2004	$171,662,347	41.7
2003	$182,379,567	43.1
2002	$167,803,123	43.0

Source: Annual Statements Filed with the Bureau of Insurance
Notes: Estimated standard premium figures are as of December 31 of the year listed.

The percent of the self-insured workers' compensation market is calculated by dividing the estimated standard premium for self-insured employers by the sum of the estimated standard premium for self-insured employers and the written premium in the regular insurance market, and then multiplying the result by 100.

II. NUMBER OF SELF-INSURED EMPLOYERS AND GROUPS

As of October 1, 2014 there were 19 self-insured groups representing 1,336 employers. The number of self-insured groups has remained the same for the past eight years. The number of employers in self-insured groups increased from 58 to 62 in the past year and is at its highest number since 2008.

Table VII:
Number of Self-Insured Groups, Employers in Groups, and Individually Self-Insured Employers 2000-2014

Year	# of Self-Insured Groups	# of Employers In Groups	# of Individually Self-Insured Employers
2014	19	1,336	62
2013	19	1,363	58
2012	19	1,370	59
2011	19	1378	59
2010	19	1382	58
2009	19	1459	58
2008	19	1,461	70
2007	19	1,478	70
2006	20	1,437	71
2005	20	1,416	80
2004	20	1,417	86
2003	19	1,351	91
2002	19	1,235	98
2001	19	1,281	92
2000	19	1,247	98

Source: Bureau of Insurance Records

Notes: For the purposes of self-insurance, affiliated employers are considered separate employers.
The number of individually self-insured employers and self-insured group information beginning in 2001 is as of October 1 of the year listed. Figures for 2000 are as of January 1.

7. A Look Nationally

I. Oregon Workers' Compensation Premium Rate Ranking

The State of Oregon ranks the states and the District of Columbia bi-annually by premium. The Oregon premium rate rankings focus on 50 classifications based on their relative importance as measured by their share of losses in Oregon. In 2014, Maine had the 13th highest workers' compensation premium rates for all industries. In 2012, Maine was 10th highest overall, and it was 8th in 2010.

II. Average Loss Costs by State Based on Maine's Payroll Distribution

NCCI reports average loss costs for 38 states and the District of Columbia. In 2013, Maine had the 15th highest average loss cost and, in 2012, the 9th highest.

State	Average Loss Cost	Rank
Connecticut	2.15	1
Montana	1.81	2
Vermont	1.75	3
Illinois	1.71	4
Alaska	1.71	4
New Hampshire	1.67	6
Oklahoma	1.58	7
Rhode Island	1.53	8
Iowa	1.51	9
New Mexico	1.44	10
Georgia	1.43	11
Maryland	1.42	12
North Carolina	1.40	13
Alabama	1.39	14
Maine	**1.38**	**15**
Louisiana	1.38	15
Idaho	1.31	17
South Carolina	1.28	18
Colorado	1.28	18
Nebraska	1.26	20
Missouri	1.25	21
Florida	1.24	22

State	Average Loss Cost	Rank
Tennessee	1.20	23
Mississippi	1.19	24
South Dakota	1.16	25
Kansas	1.16	25
Arizona	1.16	25
Kentucky	1.12	28
Oregon	1.10	29
Hawaii	1.07	30
Nevada	0.97	31
Virginia	0.90	32
Utah	0.86	33
D.C.	0.84	34
West Virginia	0.82	35
Indiana	0.82	35
Arkansas	0.65	37
Texas	0.63	38
Countrywide	1.22	

Note: Average loss cost does not include expense and profit loading and is an average using all payrolls. The actual average for an employer will depend on the type of business and payroll mix.