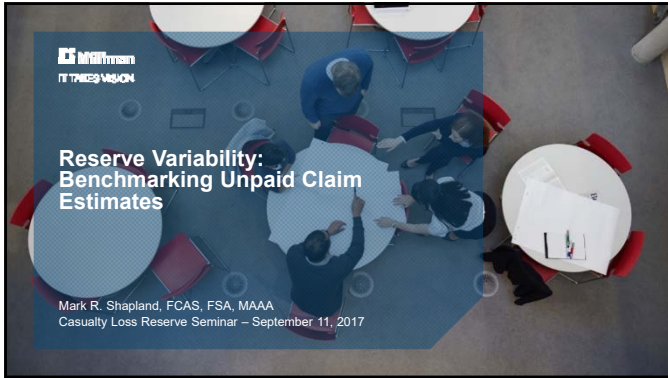


# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates



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**Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates**

- **Benchmark:** A standard, or a set of standards, used as a point of reference for evaluating performance or level of quality. Benchmarks may be drawn from a firm's own experience, from the experience of other firms in the industry, or from legal requirements such as environmental regulations.

Source: businessdictionary.com

Milliman 2

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**Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates**

- Have you ever calculated an estimate of unpaid claims?
  - P&C (General) Insurance, any LOB or segment
  - For any reason, reserves, pricing, ERM, etc.
- Have you ever used a benchmark to help with your estimated unpaid claims or range of estimates?

Milliman 3

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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates

**Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates**

Outline

1	Background
2	Analysis Summary
3	Model Limitations
4	Model Projections – Are they Unbiased?
5	Proposed Adjustments
6	Conclusions
7	Claim Variability Guidelines

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## Background

Hindsight Analysis

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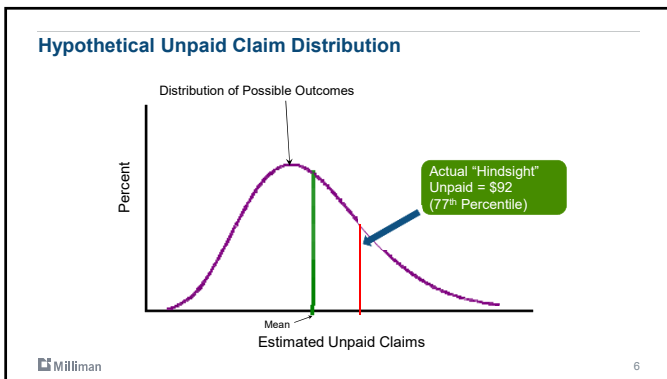
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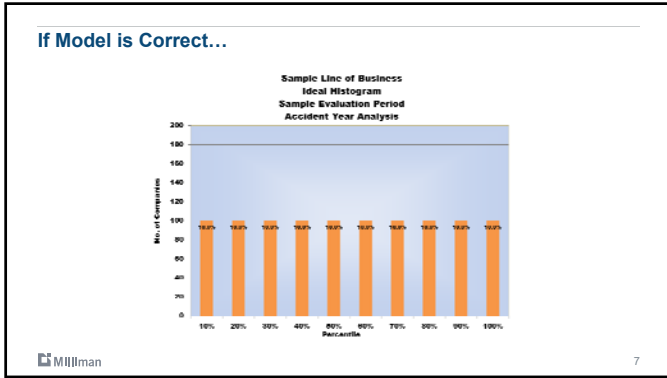
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates




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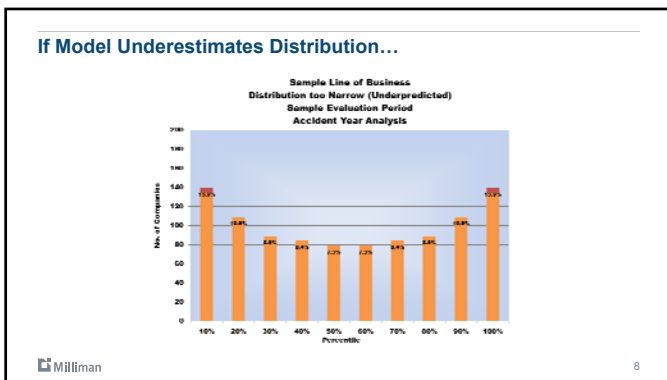
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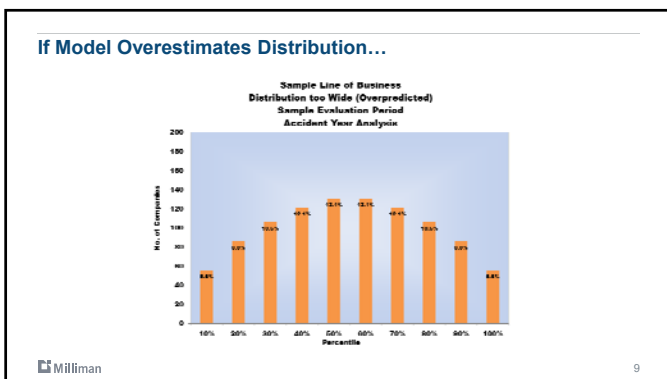
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates

**Background**  
Prior Research

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**Meyers & Shi**

“...study suggests that there might be environmental changes that no single model can identify.”

“If this continues to hold, the actuarial profession cannot rely solely on stochastic loss reserve models to manage its reserve risk.”

Milliman 11

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**Leong, Wang & Chen**

Heteroscedastic & Parametric Assisted Years 1989 - 2008  
ODP Paid Chain Ladder Method @ 12 MMD

Parameter	Value (Millions)
00%	350
20%	80
30%	70
40%	70
50%	80
60%	60
70%	60
80%	60
90%	70
95%	200

Leong, Jessica (Weng Kah), Shaun Wang, and Han Chen, “Back-Testing the ODP Bootstrap of the Paid Chain-Ladder Model with Actual Historical Claims Data,” CAS E-Forum, Summer 2012, 1-34.

Milliman 12

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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates

## Leong, Wang & Chen

“...the popular ODP bootstrap of the paid chain-ladder method is underestimating reserve risk.”

“...the bootstrap model does not consider systemic risk, or, to put it another way, the risk that future trends in the claims environment – such as inflation, trends in tort reform, legislative changes, etc. – may deviate from what we saw in the past.”

Leong, Jessica (Weng Kah), Shaun Wang, and Han Chen, “Back-Testing the ODP Bootstrap of the Paid Chain-Ladder Model with Actual Historical Claims Data,” CAS E-Forum, Summer 2012, 1-34.



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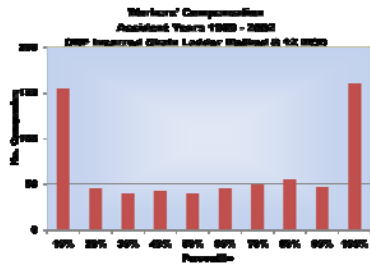
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## Leong, Wang & Chen



Leong, Jessica (Weng Kah), Shaun Wang, and Han Chen, “Back-Testing the ODP Bootstrap of the Paid Chain-Ladder Model with Actual Historical Claims Data,” CAS E-Forum, Summer 2012, 1-34.



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## Leong, Wang & Chen

“...it appears that the incurred bootstrap model is also underestimating the risk of falling in these extreme percentiles.”

**Note:** This is not the same incurred ODP bootstrap model as described in the Shapland Monograph.

Leong, Jessica (Weng Kah), Shaun Wang, and Han Chen, “Back-Testing the ODP Bootstrap of the Paid Chain-Ladder Model with Actual Historical Claims Data,” CAS E-Forum, Summer 2012, 1-34.



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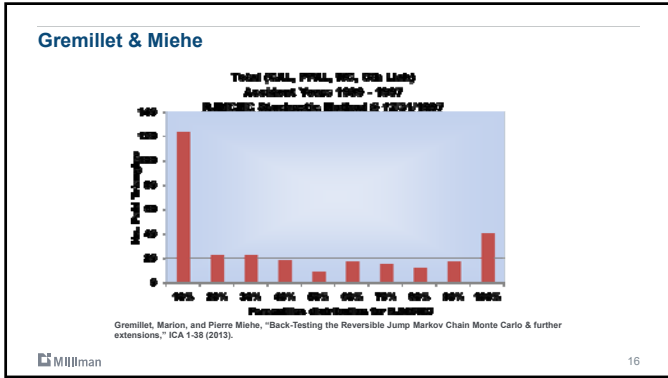
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates




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**Gremillet & Miehé**

"...it is core to have adjustments by actuaries prior to running the stochastic methods 'automatically.' "

"Actuary in the box" dream for stochastic reserves valuation not yet happening

Gremillet, Marion, and Pierre Miehé, "Back-Testing the Reversible Jump Markov Chain Monte Carlo & further extensions," ICA 1-38 (2013).

Milliman 17

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**Background**  
Communication Issues

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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates

## Communication Issues

- Intended audience
- Intended use of the work product
- Measurement objective
- Reliability of the estimates
- Disclosures

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## ASOP 43

- [Purpose or Use of the Unpaid Claim Estimate](#) – The actuary should identify the intended purpose or use of the unpaid claim estimate.
- Who will be using the work product?
  - What is their training and experience?
- How do they intend to use it?

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## Examples of Intended Uses

- Support for a Statement of Actuarial Opinion
- M&A
- ERM risk assessment, capital modeling, ORSA
- Internal strategic planning
- SEC filings

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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates

**ASOP 43**

3.3 Scope of the Unpaid Claim Estimate The actuary should identify the following:

a. the intended measure of the unpaid claim estimate;

1. Examples of various types of measures for the unpaid claim estimate include, but are not limited to, high estimate, low estimate, median, mean, mode, actuarial central estimate, mean plus risk margin, actuarial central estimate plus risk margin, or specified percentile.

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**Basis of Presentation**

- Standard deviation
- Coefficient of variation
- Probability distribution
- Probability levels / Confidence Levels / Percentiles

Arguably satisfies the letter of the law, but the spirit of the law too?

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**Sources of Uncertainty**

Process Risk	Parameter Risk	Model Risk
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inherent randomness of future payments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Random noise in historical data used to estimate parameters</li> <li>Risk that past is not predictive of future values</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All models are wrong</li> <li>Simplifying assumptions are inherent to the modeling process</li> </ul>

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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates

**Sources of Uncertainty**

Independent Risk	Internal Systemic Risk	External Systemic Risk
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Inherent randomness of future payments</li><li>Random noise in historical data used to estimate parameters</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Simplifying assumptions inherent to the modeling process</li><li>Unconscious biases of the reserving actuary</li><li>Other sources of risk related to the reserve estimation process</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Risk that historical experience is not predictive of future values</li></ul>

Milliman 25

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**ASOP 43**

3.6.1 Methods and Models – The actuary should consider methods or models for estimating unpaid claims that, in the actuary's professional judgment, are appropriate. The actuary should select specific methods or models, modify such methods or models, or develop new methods or models based on relevant factors including, but not limited to, the following:

...

e. the reasonableness of the assumptions underlying each method or model.

Milliman 26

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**ASOP 43 Cont.**

The actuary should consider the use of multiple methods or models appropriate to the purpose, nature and scope of the assignment and the characteristics of the claims unless, in the actuary's professional judgment, reliance upon a single method or model is reasonable given the circumstances. If for any material component of the unpaid claim estimate the actuary does not use multiple methods or models, the actuary should disclose and discuss the rationale for this decision in the actuarial communication.

Milliman 27

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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates

## Reliability of the Estimates

- Suitability of the data for bootstrapping calculations?
- Data issues that could impact bootstrapping
  - Calendar Year Effects
  - Trend
  - Known material changes to exposure (e.g. Law change)
- Others?

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## Other Disclosures

- Judgmentally selected risk drivers for bootstrap?
  - Coefficient of variation for Bornhuetter-Ferguson expected loss ratio
  - Coefficient of variation for tail factors
- Correlation between lines of business?
- Indications from multiple models?
- Known risks not captured by statistical analysis of loss development triangles?
- Others?

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Analysis Summary

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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates

**Comparison of Analyses**

Item	Meyers & Shi	Leong, Wang & Chen	Gremillet & Miehe	Shapland
Data	50 Companies	21 (MPL) to 78 (PPAL) Companies	?	1,679 Companies
Evaluations	1	11	5	9
Models	2	2	3	8
Lines of Business	1	9	4	16
Triangle Sets	50	~4,950	296	30,707

Milliman 31

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- Analysis Details**
- **ODP Bootstrap**
    - Paid Chain Ladder
    - Incurred Chain Ladder
    - Paid Bornhuetter-Ferguson
    - Incurred Bornhuetter-Ferguson
    - Paid Cape Cod
    - Incurred Cape Cod
    - Weighted
  - **Mack Bootstrap**
    - Paid Chain Ladder
- Milliman 32

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- Analysis Details**
- **Beginning Data**
    - NAIC Schedule P – 4,796 Companies (& Groups)
    - Remove all triangles without 10 years of data (Paid, Incurred, etc.)
    - Other data quality tests → “quality data”
    - Test whether next 9 years are identical → “complete data”
  - **Test Data**
    - 2,104 Companies with at least 2 Schedule P LOBs of “quality data”
    - Total of 75,000+ LOBs with “quality data”
    - 1,679 Companies with at least 1 Schedule P LOB of “complete data”
    - Total of 30,707 LOBs with “complete data”
    - Approx. 27,000 LOBs with at least 2 for same Company
- Milliman 33

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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates

## Analysis Details

### Model Output

- Accident Year Totals (by Year & All Years Combined)
- Calendar Year Totals (by Year)
- Calendar Year Runoff Totals (by Year)
- Ultimate Loss Ratios (by Year)
- Incremental Results (by Year and Development Period)
- Diagnostic Statistics

Milliman

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## Analysis Details

### Model Options (Tests)

- Test 1 – Defaults
  - No Tail factors (i.e., 1.000)
  - BF – a priori based on hindsight L/R, **No CoV**
  - CC – Trend = 2.5%, Decay Ratio = 90%
- Test 2 – Selected Limiting of Incrementals
- Test 3 – Selected Limiting & Suggested Heteroscedasticity Groups

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Model Limitations

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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates

**Model Limitations**

- **Model Risk**
  - Limited to known data
  - A single model can underestimate variability
- **Systemic risk**
  - In addition to model risk
  - A shift in claims environment
- **Need to Understand Assumptions**

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**Major Assumption**

Bootstrap models (ODP & Mack) assume Chain Ladder projections are unbiased

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**Model Projections**  
Are they Unbiased?

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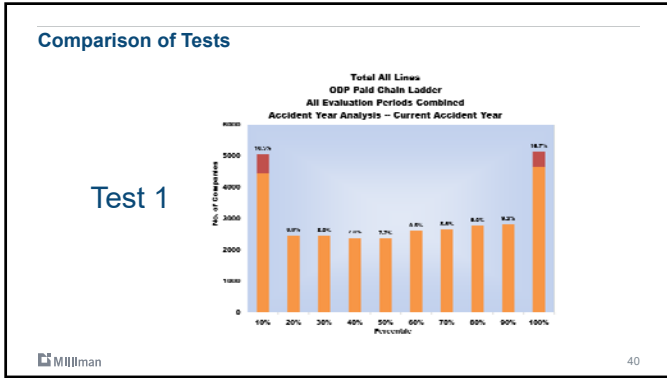
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates




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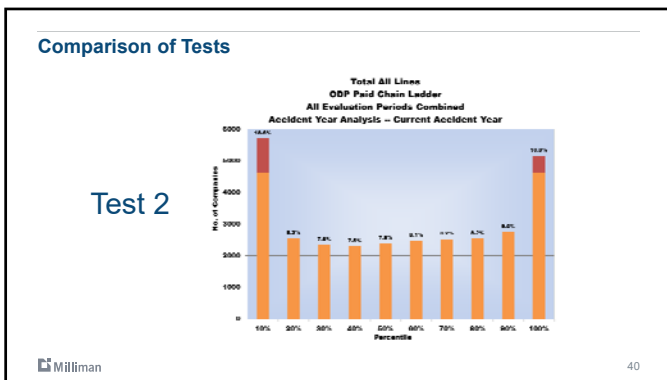
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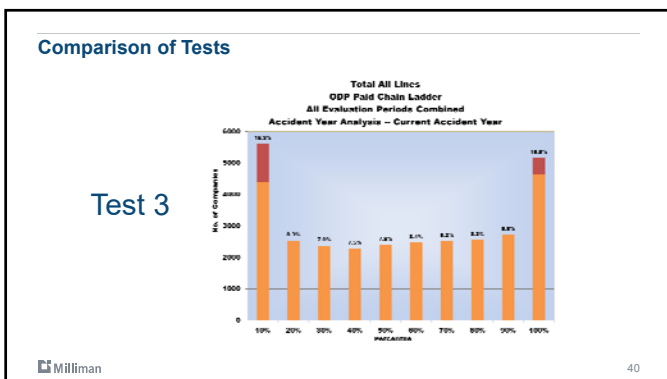
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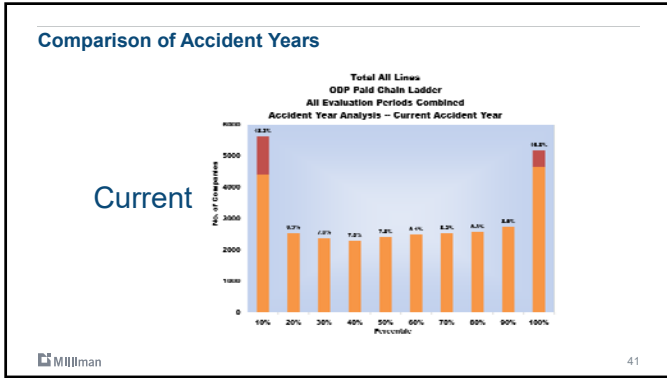
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates




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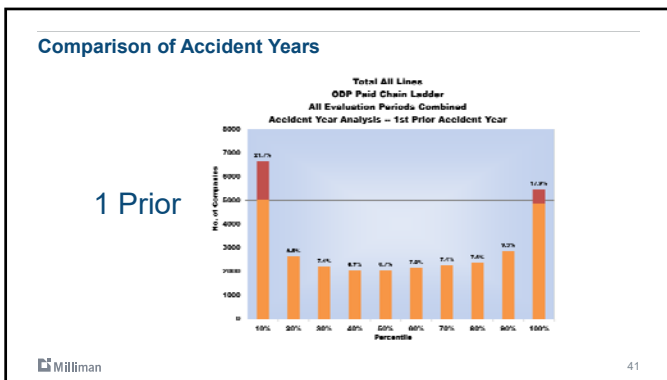
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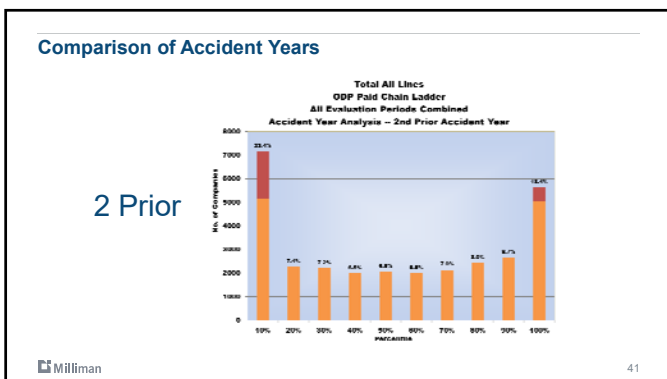
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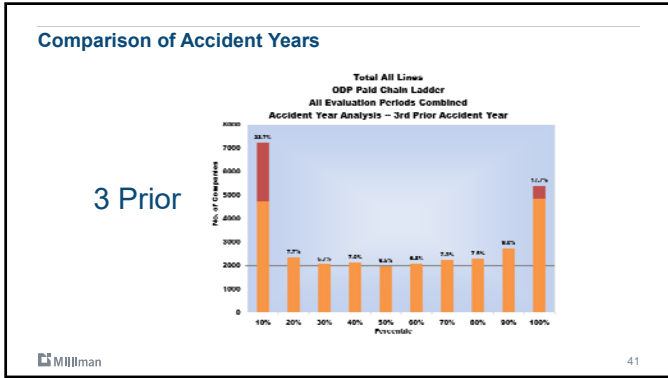
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates




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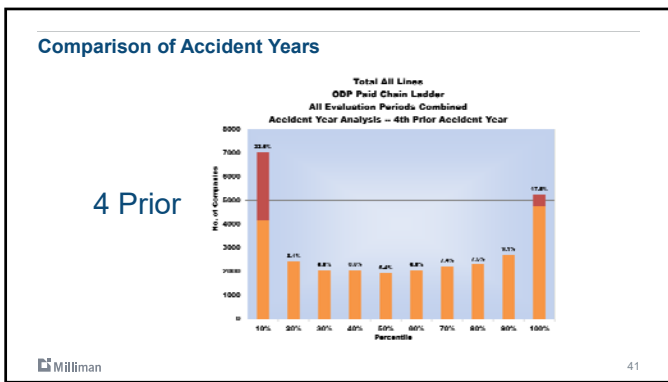
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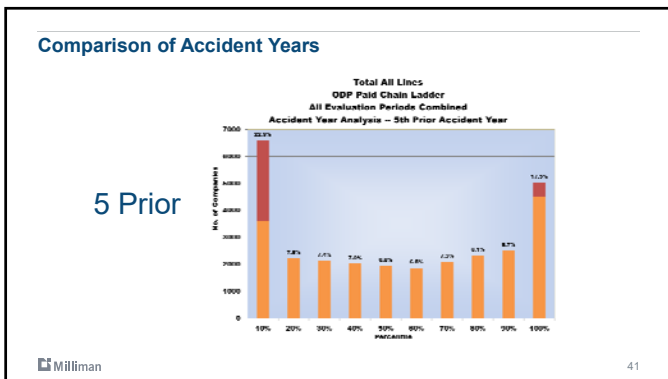
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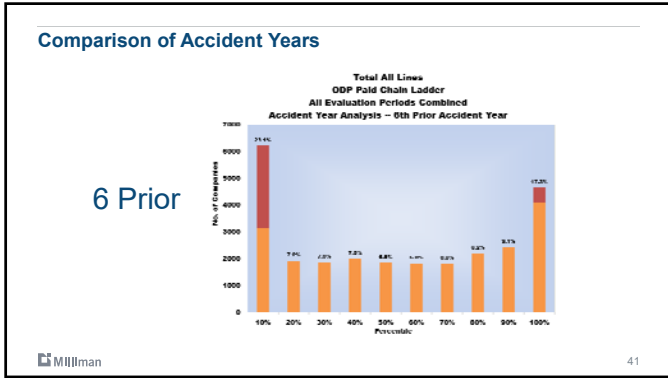
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates




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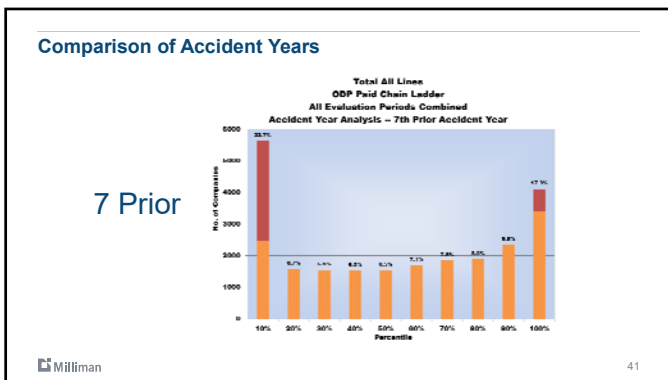
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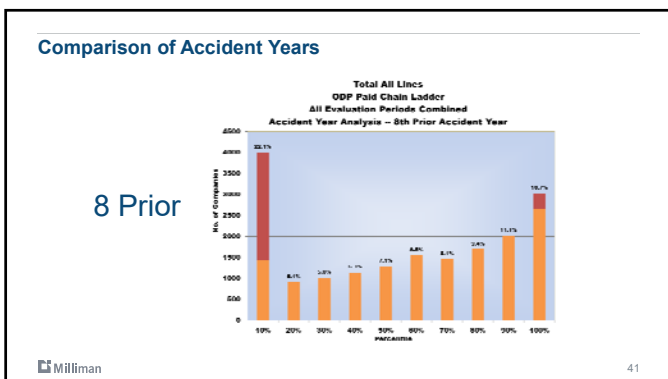
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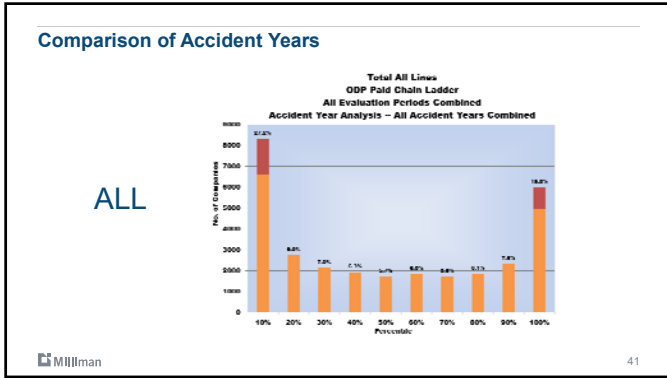
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates




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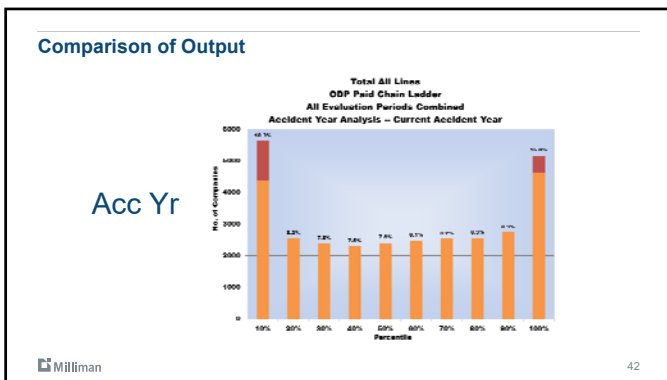
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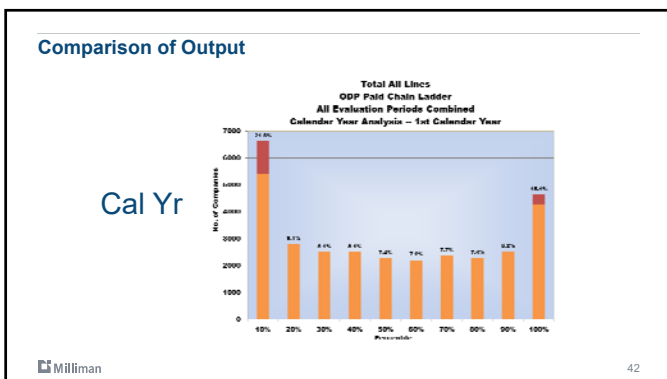
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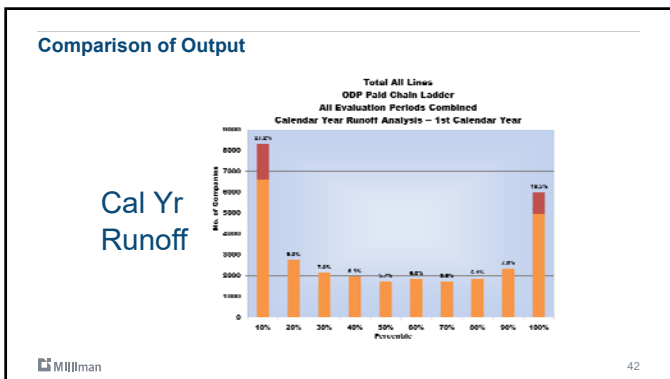
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates




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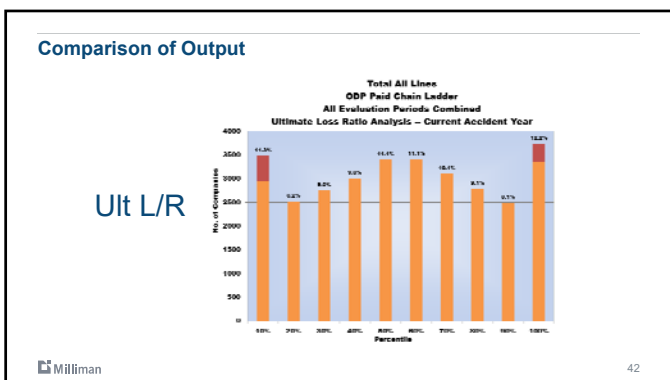
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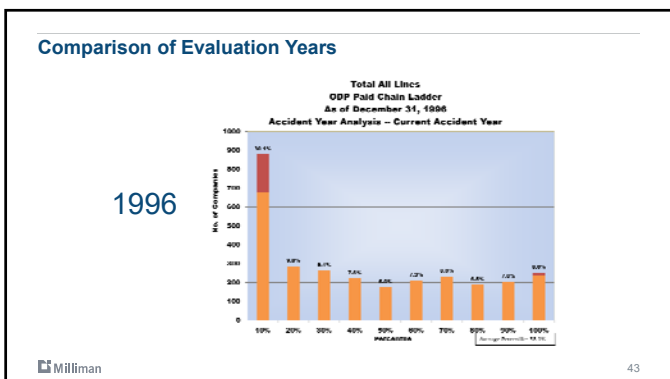
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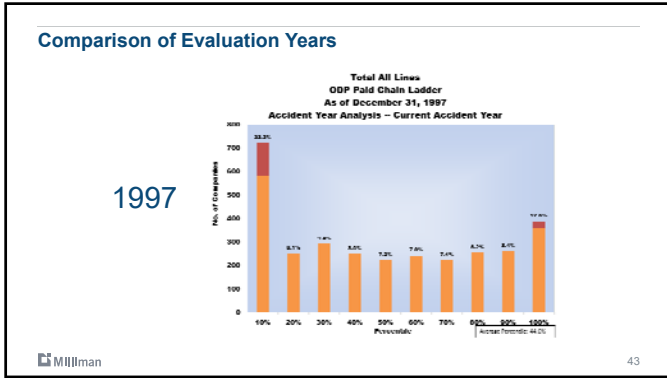
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates




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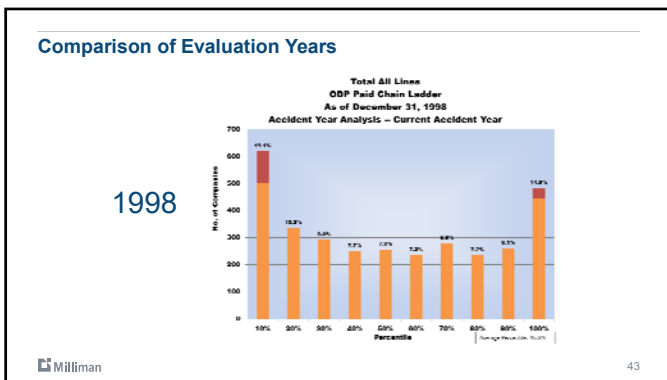
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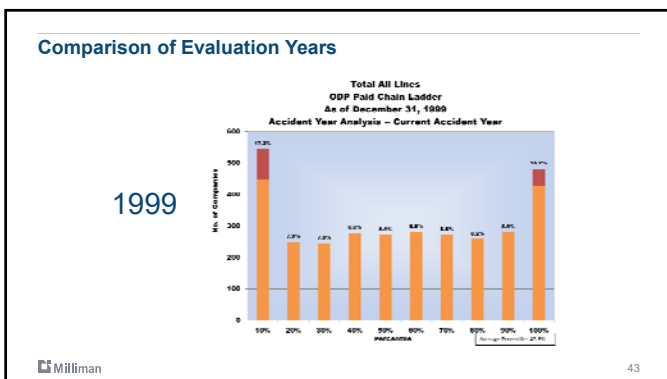
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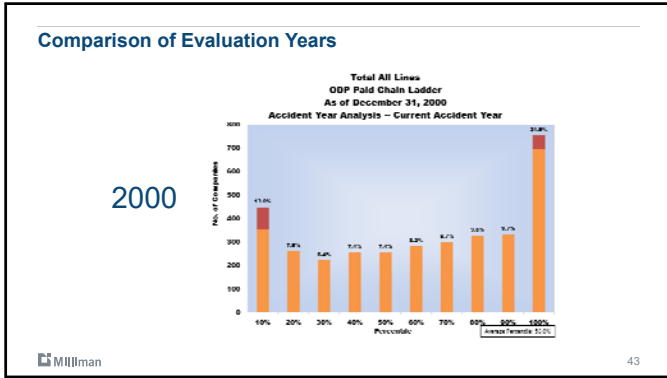
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates




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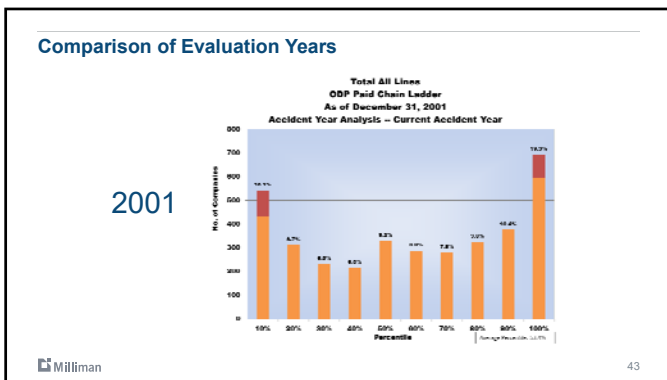
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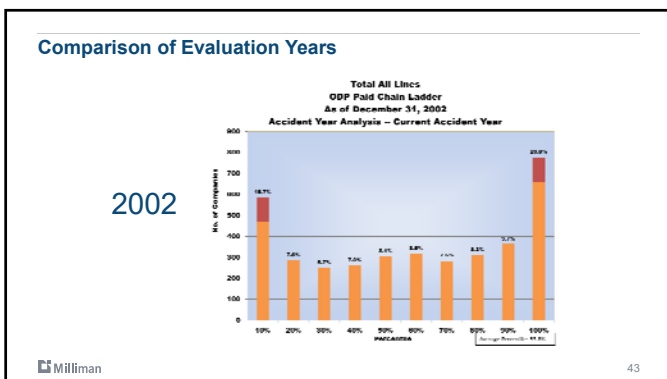
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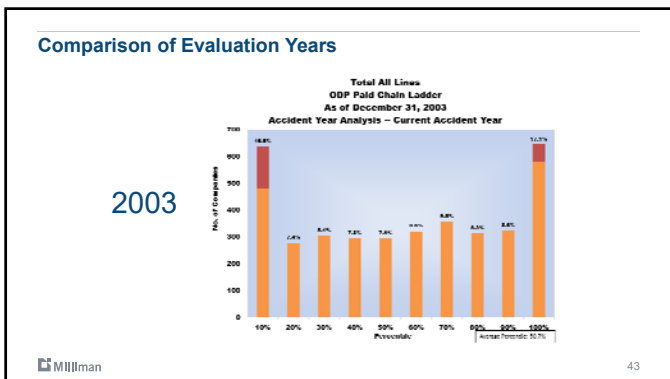
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates




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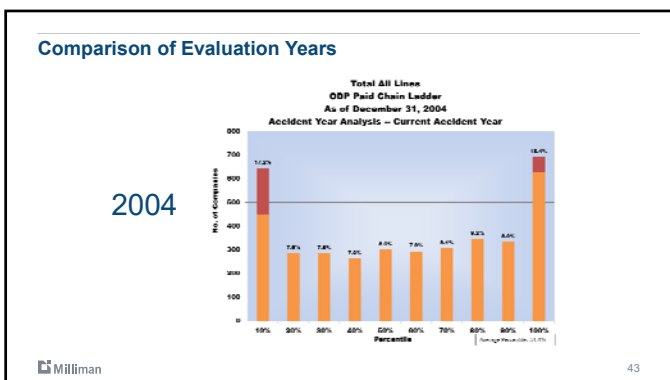
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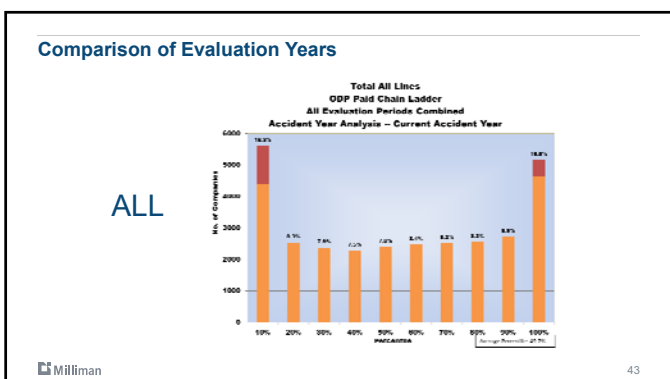
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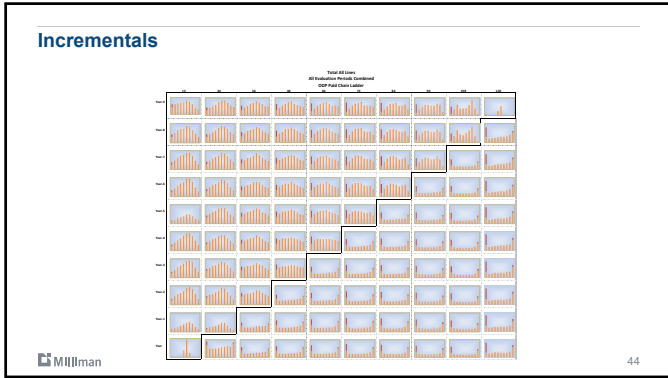
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates




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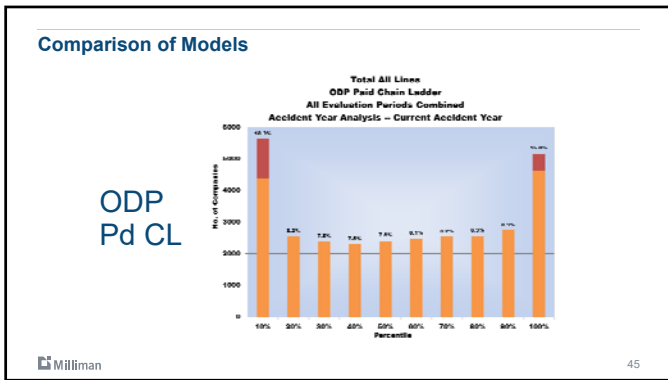
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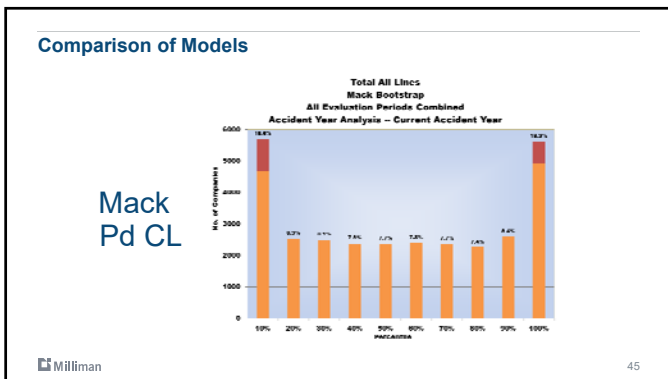
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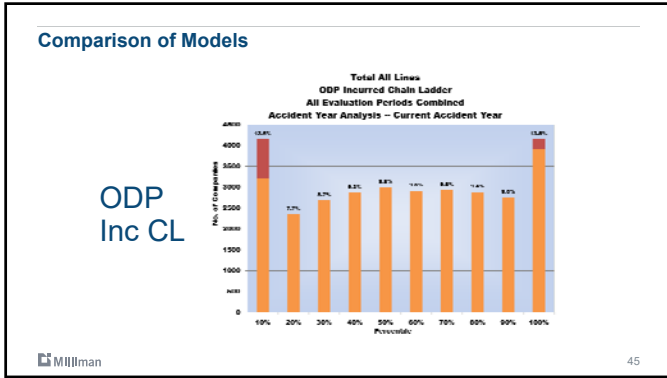
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates




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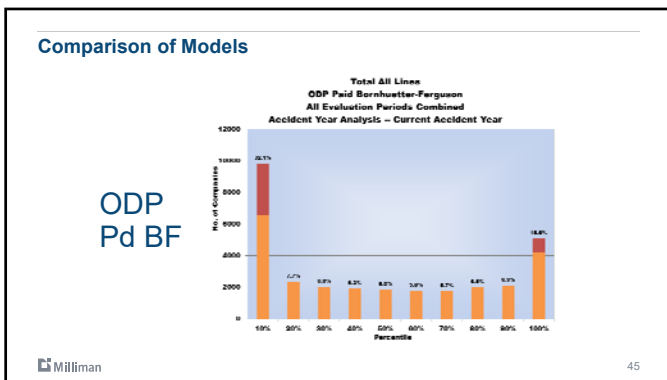
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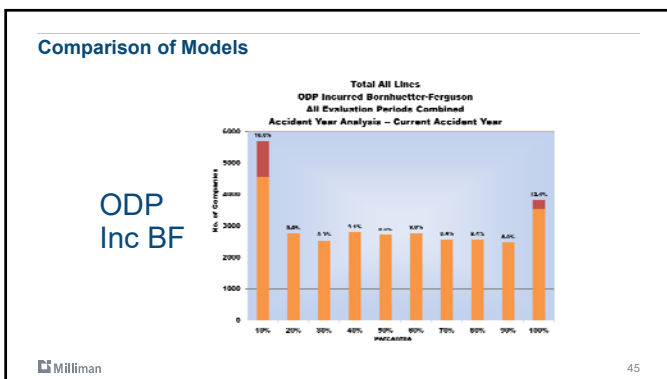
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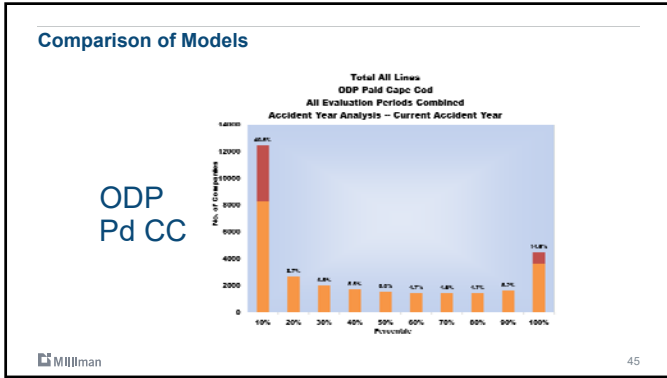
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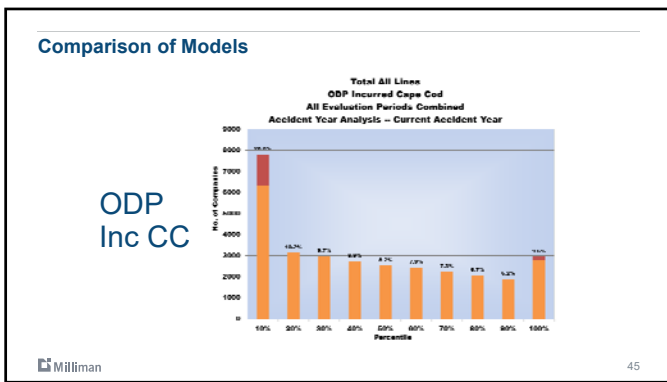
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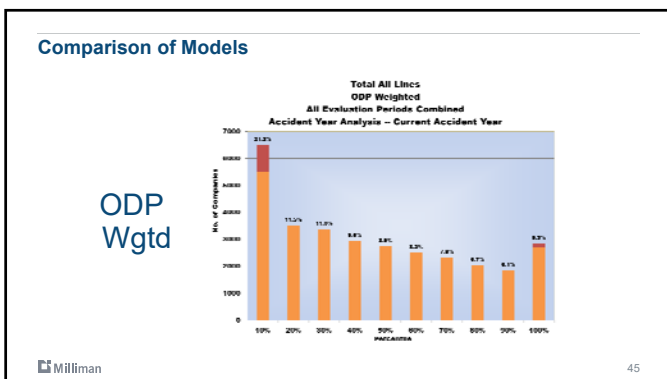
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**Leong, Wang & Chen**

- **Systemic Risk Distribution Method**
  - Multiply each simulated bootstrap result by a "systemic" factor
- **Wang Transform Adjustment**
  - Increase the variability of the original unpaid loss distribution
  - Shift the percentiles to account for bias in methods over time
  - Relies on a parameter "Lambda" targeting an ideal histogram

**Assumes Model Risk is Systemic!**  
**Based on Hindsight only!**

Leong, Jessica (Weng Kah), Shaun Wang, and Han Chen, "Back-Testing the ODP Bootstrap of the Paid Chain-Ladder Model with Actual Historical Claims Data," CAS E-Forum, Summer 2012, 1-34.

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**Leong, Wang & Chen**

Workers' Compensation  
Accident Years 1993 - 2003  
ODP Incurred Chain Ladder Method # 12 MOD

Accident Year	Average Percentiles (%)	Lambda
1993	45	1.5
1994	50	1.5
1995	55	1.5
1996	50	1.5
1997	55	1.5
1998	55	1.5
1999	55	1.5
2000	55	1.5
2001	55	1.5
2002	55	1.5
2003	55	1.5

Leong, Jessica (Weng Kah), Shaun Wang, and Han Chen, "Back-Testing the ODP Bootstrap of the Paid Chain-Ladder Model with Actual Historical Claims Data," CAS E-Forum, Summer 2012, 1-34.

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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates

## HDR Adjustment

- Shift distribution by multiplying unpaid claim estimates by the HDR
- Coefficient of variation unchanged
- Additive shift – will not address variance
- Hindsight adjustment, but we are not advocating, just testing how much bias vs. not enough variance

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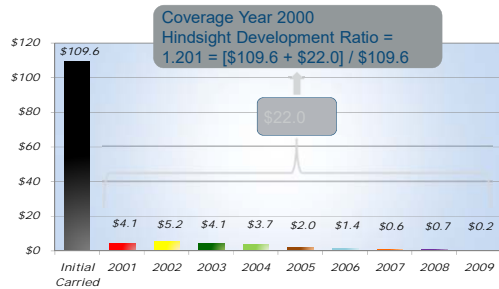
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## Example – Coverage Year 2000 (\$B)



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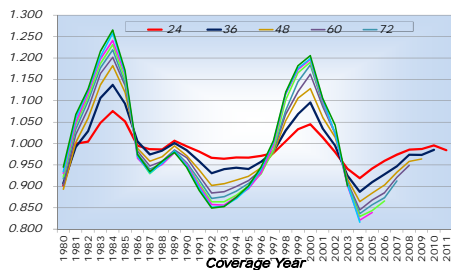
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## HDR by Evaluation Month



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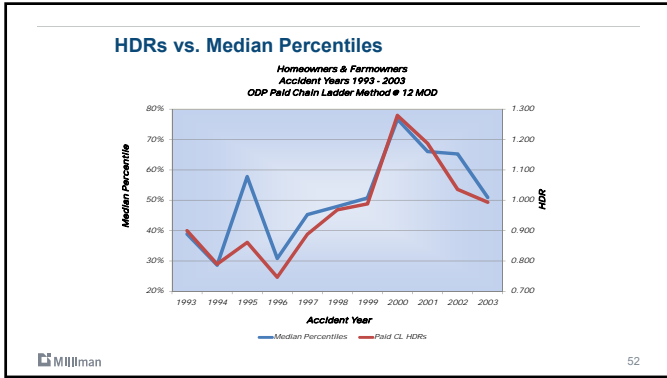
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates




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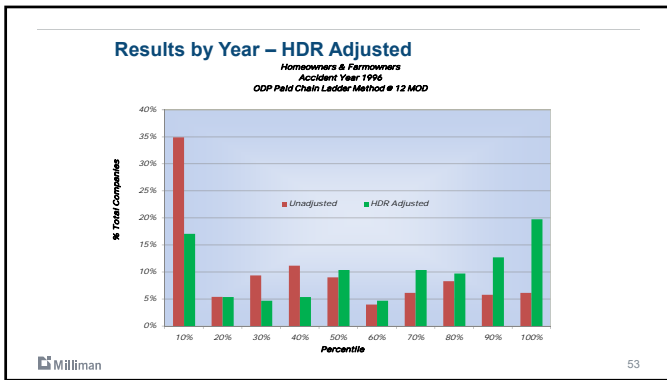
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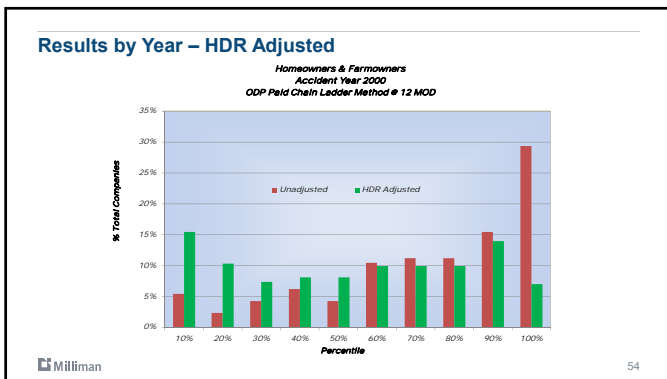
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates



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**Conclusions**

- **Goal of Ideal Histogram Unrealized by Paid CL Bootstrap**
  - Both ODP Bootstrap and Mack Bootstrap
  - Confirms Other Research
- **Other ODP Bootstraps – Much Closer to Theoretical Ideal**
  - Milliman Incurred models different (Shapland Monograph)
  - Bornhuetter-Ferguson and Cape Cod models
- **Cyclical Bias in Reserve Distributions – Paid and Incurred**
  - Consistent with Deterministic Projections

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**Conclusions**

- **“Corrections” to Other ODP Models may be Unnecessary**
- **Addressing Model Risk is very important**
  - Can't “blindly” accept model results
  - Use diagnostics to assess model strengths / weaknesses
  - Implications for weighting
  - Still need to address systemic risks
- **Guidelines (i.e., benchmarks) to Assess Results**
  - Based on hindsight, but forward looking
  - Correlations
- **Distributions by LOB and Premium**

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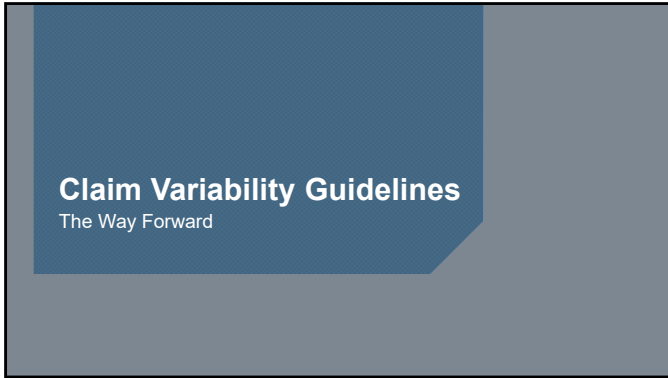
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates



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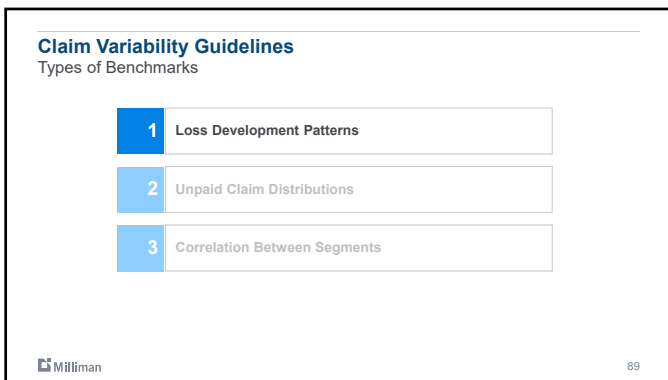
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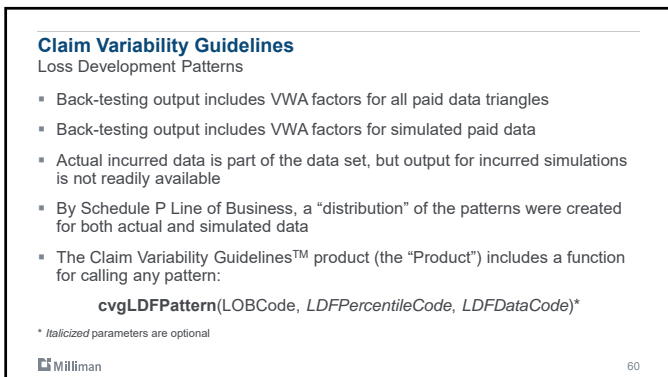
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates

**Claim Variability Guidelines**  
Types of Benchmarks

- 1 Loss Development Patterns
- 2 **Unpaid Claim Distributions**
- 3 Correlation Between Segments

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**Claim Variability Guidelines**  
Unpaid Claim Distributions

- For each Schedule P LOB, the back-testing results contain thousands of simulated distributions for companies of all different sizes
- Regression models were used to fit the distributions by premium volume for each of the Acc Yr, Cal Yr, Cal Yr Runoff, and Loss Ratio distributions
- Fitted results were smoothed to be consistent between distribution types and to conform with statistical properties
- This resulted in a Product function to calculate the unpaid claim benchmark:  

$$\text{cvgUnpaid}(\text{EarnPrem}, \text{APrioriLR}, \text{LOBCode}, \text{UnpaidCode}, \dots)^*$$

\* Additional optional parameters not shown  
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**Claim Variability Guidelines**  
Unpaid Claim Distributions

- Algorithm also includes Variance Adjustment Factors to correct for back-testing results
- Separate variance adjustments factors for Loss Ratio distributions
- For example, this is the Acc Yr adjustment for Commercial Auto
- Optional parameters allow the user to further increase or decrease the variance

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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates

## Claim Variability Guidelines

### Correlation Between Segments

- Back-testing output includes correlation statistics between all pairs of LOBs within a company (i.e., if there was more than one 'complete' LOB)
- Data for all years combined or individual years is available
- Output includes both paid and incurred, before and after optimal hetero adjustments
- The mean and std dev (unweighted and weighted) for all specific pairs (i.e., between two specific LOBs) was measured
- The Product includes a function for calling any statistic:

**cvgCorrelation**(LOBCodes, DataCode, ValueCode, TypeCode, Output)\*

\* Italicized parameters are optional



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## Claim Variability Guidelines

### Correlation Between Segments

- For example, consider the weighted results for 5 LOBs using 1996 data:

Means						Standard Deviations						Counts					
Paid After Hetero Adjustments (1996 Only)						Paid After Hetero Adjustments (1996 Only)						Paid After Hetero Adjustments (1996 Only)					
Mean Values [Wgtd Values (Using 1 - P-Value)]						Standard Deviation Values [Wgtd Values (Using 1 - P-Value)]						Count of Pairs					
	MPL-O	HO	WC	CA	PPA		MPL-O	HO	WC	CA	PPA		MPL-O	HO	WC	CA	PPA
MPL-O	100%	0.0%	-16.2%	5.9%	-1.7%	MPL-O	14.0%	14.6%	18.8%	18.6%	18.6%	MPL-O	57	62	59	48	
HO	0.0%	100%	5.4%	9.5%	16.7%	HO	14.0%	23.6%	22.9%	22.9%	22.9%	HO	57	618	618	757	851
WC	-16.2%	5.4%	100%	17.1%	18.9%	WC	14.6%	23.6%	26.6%	26.0%	26.0%	WC	62	618	688	688	570
CA	5.9%	9.5%	17.1%	100%	19.3%	CA	18.8%	22.9%	26.6%	27.1%	27.1%	CA	59	757	688	784	784
PPA	-1.7%	16.7%	18.9%	19.3%	100%	PPA	18.6%	22.9%	26.0%	27.1%	27.1%	PPA	48	851	570	784	784



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## Claim Variability Guidelines

### Potential Uses of Software

- Creating aggregate distributions for guidelines at the company level
- Calculating average durations for future cash flows
- Calculating reserve risk margins based on the expected unpaid claim runoff
- Assessing the variance parameter for a priori loss ratio assumptions in models
- Other uses which are only limited by your imagination



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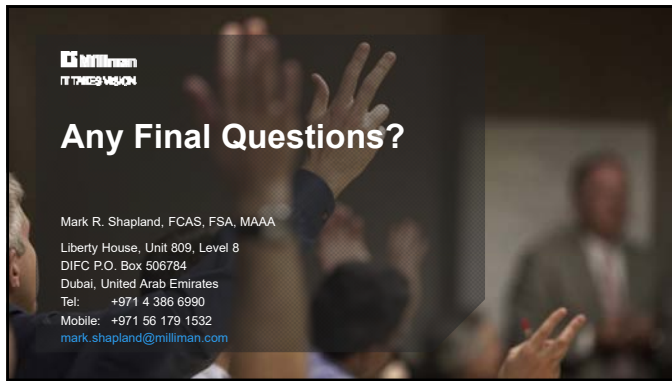
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# Reserve Variability: Benchmarking Unpaid Claim Estimates



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