

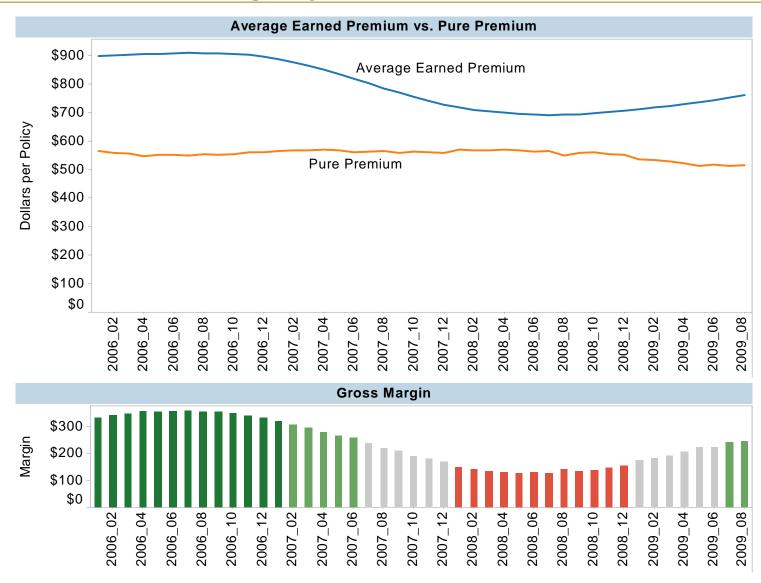
USAA® Do Actuaries Have Street Cred?

October 5, 2009

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The Underwriting Cycle in Action





What's the word on the street?

- The underwriting cycle affects how your rating plan is applied
- Impacts may or may <u>not</u> be contemplated in your indications
- Size and scope depends on many factors

Goal: Ensure rate equity while minimizing "enforcement" costs



Impact of Response to Underwriting Cycle

<u>Challenge</u>: Gaining market share

Change made that results in lower premiums for segment

Charged rate below actuarial rate

Improved conversion rate

Result: Losing market gains

Need to raise rates

Action

Pressure on loss and premium trends

Underpriced segment grows as % of book

Uncoordinated actions can lead to "boomerang effect"



Sources of Rate Dissonance

Agents

- Application process
- Qualification for discounts
- Incentives
- Experience level

Underwriting

- Tier placement
- Acceptability criteria
- Change in guidelines
- Insurance-to-value
- Rate integrity programs

Claims

- Change in claims handling
- "Coaching" claimants
- Accident coding
- Application of surcharges
- Referrals to Underwriting

Customers

- Undisclosed operators
- Failure to update information
- Unverifiable rating factors
- Online applications



Implications of Rate Dissonance

Ratemaking

- Premium Trend
- Loss Trend
- Equity

Loss Reserving

- Continual need to strengthen reserves
- Slow reaction to shifts in mix of business

Can impact single customer or entire segments of business



Ensuring "Street Rates" = Intended Rates

- 1. Meet regularly with agents, claims, and underwriting personnel.
- 2. Identify common areas where gaps can occur.
- 3. Be familiar with ongoing rate integrity programs.
- 4. Stay aware of new business initiatives such as sales campaigns, streamlining efforts, etc.
- 5. Ensure ratemaking and loss reserving actuaries hear the same messages.

Networking is the key to finding unexplained sources of trend

