

# COMMERCIAL AUTO

Why premiums are up since 2015



Auto accidents – and their severity – have been on the increase in recent years, with insurance companies paying more in claims, and policyholders paying more for insurance. Some factors include:



## Technology Usage

At any given daylight moment across America, approximately 660,000 drivers are using cell phones or manipulating electronic devices while driving. <sup>1</sup>



## Distracted Driving

Every day there are 8 deaths and 1,161 injuries due to distracted driving—that's almost 3,000 deaths and 425,000 injuries a year. <sup>2</sup>



## Rising Medical Costs

Medical costs in the United States have risen at an average annual rate of 3.3% for the past five years. <sup>3</sup>



## Inexperienced Drivers

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among 15- to 20-year olds, and in 2012, 10% of all drivers in that age group involved in fatal crashes were distracted at the time of the crash. <sup>4</sup>



## Auto Repair Costs

The cost of fixing a vehicle has increased every year since 2010. Average collision claims are almost 24% higher than they were in 2010. <sup>5</sup>



## Accidents Increasing

3.22 trillion miles were driven on the nation's roads in 2016, up 2.8% from the year before. The more people drive, the more frequently they get into accidents. <sup>6</sup>



## Educate Distracted Drivers

Distracted driving is a serious problem that is grows every year among all ages of drivers, but especially the young. Texting while driving poses the biggest threat, affecting a driver's visual, manual and cognitive function. Read more in our blog, ["Phones a huge distraction, and it's killing us."](#)



## Learn How Medical Expenses Affect Premiums

While the overall economy has trended toward deflation in recent years, medical costs have done just the opposite. Medical costs in the United States have risen at an average annual rate of 3.3%. Read more in our blog, ["How medical expenses affect premiums."](#)



## Know the Rules of the Road

Company-owned vehicles are used in daily the operations of most businesses. Protect employees, clients and the general public with safe operating procedures that all drivers must follow. [Review sample procedures.](#)



## Evaluate Motor Vehicle Records

State-issued Motor Vehicle Records can be used to verify that a driver has a current license and to determine the driver's history of safe driving. [Learn how to interpret MVRs.](#)



## Hire Qualified Drivers

The success of a company rests on the quality of its employees, and this extends to how the employees conduct themselves when behind the wheel. Establish and enforce a company driving policy to ensure employees' safety and that of other motorists. [See sample policy.](#)

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