Why are umbrella rates on the rise?

The frequency and severity of umbrella claims have significantly increased over the past decade.



SINCE 2010



Umbrella claims frequency has more than doubled

Umbrella claim payouts have increased 67%, reaching an average payout of over \$500,000

AUTO ACCIDENTS

A strong economy, affordable gas prices and a growing elderly population have led to more vehicles on the road² – and more accidents³. Vehicles now have safety features that may allow people to survive accidents but with disabling injuries which may require a lifetime of care.



80% of umbrella claimsare the result of
an auto accident¹



Pedestrian deaths have **increased 53%** since 2009; that represents **17% of all vehicle fatalities**⁴



In 2017, **9% of all traffic fatalities** were linked to distracted driving (cell phones, eating/drinking, etc.)⁵

LIABILITY CLAIMS

Health insurance and medical care costs have increased rapidly over the past couple decades⁶, which has had a significant impact on umbrella claims.



The cost of dog bite claims has **increased by 134%** from 2003 to 2019⁷



Falls and auto accidents are the leading causes of traumatic brain injuries, which **increased 53%** between 2006 and 2014⁸



Claims regarding slander, internet libel, personal defense, slip-and-falls and social host liability have increased over the last 10 years¹

LEGAL TRENDS

Juries have become desensitized to large verdicts, with many jurors feeling a sense of social obligation to ensure the injured are financially compensated, regardless of negligence⁹. Jury awards in excess of \$1 million are no longer noteworthy.



Liability claims with attorney representation increased by nearly 10% between 2014 and 2018¹



Legal services advertisement spending **more than tripled** between 2007 and 2017¹⁰



Law firms reported a **414% increase** in the use of litigation finance between 2013 and 2017¹¹

Contact your local Safeco® independent agent for more information.

'Safeco claims data 'Federal Highway Administration, Highway Statistics 2018 'Anational Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 2020 Report 'Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, Fatality Facts 2018 'PNational Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Distracted Driving in Fatal Crashes 2017 'Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, National Health Expenditures 2019 7Insurance Information Institute, Spotlight on: Dog bite liability

⁸Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Traumatic Brain Injury & Concussion

9Insurance Information Institute, Advisen Conference: Claims are getting bigger and nastier 10U.S. Chamber Institute for Legal Reform, Bad for Your Health: Lawsuit Advertising Implication and Solutions

Implication and Solutions

1Burford Capital, 2017 Litigation Finance Survey