

2002 Oregon Workers' Compensation Premium Rate Ranking

Research & Analysis Section

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Oregon employers in the voluntary market pay, on average, the 35th highest workers' compensation premium rates in the nation.

Oregon's premium rate index is \$2.06 per \$100 of payroll. National premium rate indices range from a

low of \$1.24 in North Dakota to a high of \$5.23 in California. Two jurisdictions have an index rating above \$4; nine are in the \$3.00-\$3.99 range; 25 are in the \$2.00-\$2.99 range; and 15 have indices under \$2.00. Indices are based on data from 51 jurisdictions, for rates in effect as of January 1, 2002.

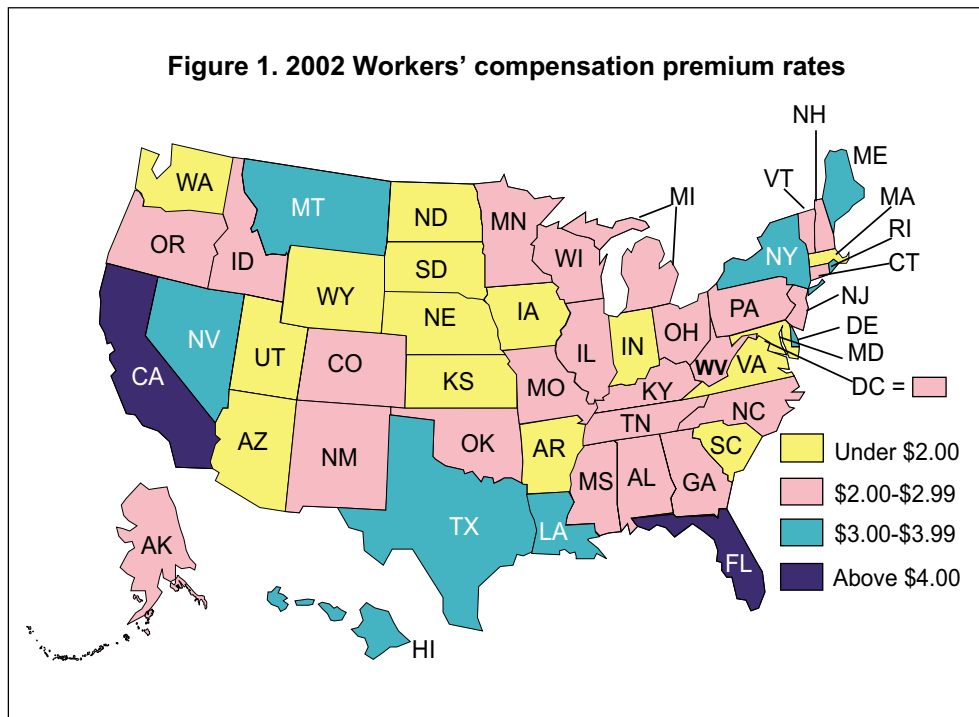


Table 1. Oregon's ranking in the top 10 classifications

Occupations	Ranking
Clerical Office Employees NOC	41
College: Professional Employees & Clerical	40
Salespersons - Outside	46
Physician and Clerical	24
Automobile Service/Repair Center & Drivers	29
Store: Retail, NOC	39
Hospital: Professional Employees	32
Electrical Wiring - Within buildings & Drivers	47
Chauffeurs NOC	32
Hotel: Restaurant Employees	29

Classification codes from the National Council on Compensation Insurance (NCCI) were used in this study. Of the approximately 450 active classes in Oregon, 50 were selected based on relative importance as measured by share of losses in Oregon. To control for differences in industry distributions, each state's rates were weighted by 1996-1998 Oregon payroll to obtain an average manual rate for that state. Listed in Table 1 are Oregon's rankings in the top 10 of the 50 classifications used.

Table 2 (on the back) contains the premium rate ranking for all 51 jurisdictions.

Table 2. Workers' compensation premium rate ranking

2002 Ranking	2000 Ranking	State	Index Rate	Effective Date
1	3	California	5.23	January 1, 2002
2	1	Florida	4.47	January 1, 2001
3	8	Hawaii	3.51	July 1, 2001
4	16	Delaware	3.38	December 1, 2001
5	7	Texas	3.30	January 1, 2002
6	4	Rhode Island	3.29	November 1, 1998
7	2	Louisiana	3.19	May 1, 2001
8	19	Maine	3.19	January 1, 2002
9	6	New York	3.14	October 1, 2001
10	12	Montana	3.05	July 1, 2001
11	5	Nevada	3.03	July 1, 2001
12	18	Alabama	2.96	March 1, 2001
13	17	Connecticut	2.90	January 1, 2002
14	9	Ohio	2.89	July 1, 2001
15	28	Alaska	2.87	January 1, 2002
16	24	Kentucky	2.87	September 1, 2001
17	10	District of Columbia	2.86	June 1, 2001
18	20	New Hampshire	2.85	January 1, 2002
19	11	Oklahoma	2.82	8/1/99 State Fund, 12/1/01 private
20	15	Illinois	2.74	January 1, 2002
21	14	Colorado	2.73	January 1, 2002
22	22	Minnesota	2.60	January 1, 2002
23	25	Pennsylvania	2.57	April 1, 2001
24	13	West Virginia	2.54	July 1, 2001
25	33	Vermont	2.45	April 1, 2001
26	26	Missouri	2.42	January 1, 2002
27	29	Idaho	2.37	January 1, 2002
28	21	Georgia	2.32	November 1, 2001
29	31	Tennessee	2.30	March 1, 2000
30	23	Michigan	2.25	January 1, 2002
31	27	New Jersey	2.25	January 1, 2002
32	32	Wisconsin	2.22	January 1, 2002
33	30	Mississippi	2.21	March 1, 2001
34	43	North Carolina	2.24	April 1, 2001
35	34	OREGON	2.06	January 1, 2002
36	42	New Mexico	2.01	January 1, 2002
37	36	Massachusetts	1.98	July 1, 2001
38	39	Wyoming	1.97	January 1, 2002
39	45	Nebraska	1.93	February 1, 2001
40	46	Maryland	1.84	January 1, 2002
41	48	Kansas	1.84	January 1, 2002
42	49	South Carolina	1.82	May 1, 2001
43	41	Iowa	1.74	January 1, 2002
44	47	Utah	1.67	December 1, 2001
45	38	Washington	1.66	January 1, 2002
46	37	Arizona	1.63	October 1, 2001
47	40	Arkansas	1.62	July 1, 2001
48	44	South Dakota	1.61	July 1, 2001
49	51	Virginia	1.50	April 1, 2001
50	50	Indiana	1.37	January 1, 2002
51	35	North Dakota	1.24	July 1, 2001

Based on updated information, the 2002 ranking has been revised since it was originally published.

Although some states may appear to have the same index rate, the ranking is based on calculations prior to rounding to two decimal places. The index rates reflect appropriate adjustments for the characteristics of each individual state's residual market. Rates vary by classification and insurer in each state. Actual cost to an employer can be adjusted by the employer's experience rating, premium discount, retrospective rating, and dividends.

Employers can reduce their workers' compensation rates through accident prevention, safety training and by helping injured workers return to work.

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