

Are substandard lives charged appropriate loadings? A mortality experience study

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Overview

- Introduction and overview
- Features of substandard policies
- Method of analysis
- Comparison of substandard experience with loadings charged
- Conclusions and future work



Introduction and overview



Purpose of the study and caution

- To assist:
 - underwriters, in setting loadings
 - actuaries, in determining profitability
 - legislators and insurance companies, in ensuring compliance with the *Disability Discrimination Act*
 - consumers, by helping to ensure that loadings are fair
- Adds to information about insured lives
- Results should be interpreted with caution



Overview – scope of study

- Based on Personal Business Insured Lives Investigation overseen by IAAust LRIC
- Covers Death Only policies
- Covers substandard policies charged premium loadings (not exclusions etc.)
- Covers all non-annuity policy types
- Data is from nine insurance groups



Overview – size of study

- Covers 1995-2000 (previous study 1990-94)
- Substandard lives are 3% of exposed-to-risk

| | | Exposed-to-risk | Claims |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------|--------|
| 1995-2000 | Standard | 9,317,449.5 | 41,732 |
| | Substandard | 285,912.5 | 1,214 |
| | Total | 9,603,362.0 | 42,946 |
| 1990-1994 | Standard | 12,704,119.5 | 56,279 |
| | Substandard | 301,415.5 | 1,503 |
| | Total | 13,005,535.0 | 57,782 |



Features of substandard policies



Substandard loadings

- Individual loadings recorded since end 1994
- A little over half rated at 50% exactly
- Average loading: 60% (policies), 75% (SI)
- There is some tendency for higher loadings to be linked with higher sums insured
- Males have somewhat higher loadings



Features of substandard policies

- Compared with standard lives:
 - more likely to be medically underwritten
 - older on average
 - weighted more toward the shorter durations
 - more likely to be of policy type "temporary insurances with reviewable premiums"
 - higher average sums insured (males only)
 - more likely to be smoker-rated



Method of analysis



Actual to weighted expected ratio

 Most results are presented as the ratio of actual to weighted expected deaths, ie.

$$\frac{\sum_{\text{policyholders}} \text{actual deaths}}{\sum_{\text{policyholders}} \left(1 + \text{loading}\right) \times \text{ETR}_x \times q_x^{IA95-97}}$$

 Female/male and smoker/non-smoker comparisons are a ratio of two actual to weighted expected ratios (same expected)



Comparison of substandard experience with loadings charged



Substandard mortality by loading





Substandard mortality by loading, 10+





Whole of life and endowment policies





Reviewable temporary policies





Substandard experience by underwriting

Male lives

| Underwriting | Standard | Light Subst. | Heavy Subst. |
|--------------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Non-medical | 85 (1) | 82 (13) | 85 (17) |
| Medical | 79 (1) | 76 (4) | 65 (6) |
| Unknown | 108 (1) | 153 (10) | 91 (14) |
| AII | 94 (0) | 93 (4) | 71 (5) |

Caution required - variations in company mix



Within substandard comparisons

- Ratio of female to male mortality:
 - substandard: 69% (5%)
 - standard: 66% (1%)
- Ratio of male smoker to male non-smoker mortality:
 - substandard: 179% (33%)
 - standard: 190% (10%)



Conclusions and future work



Conclusions and future work

- Substandard mortality experience:
 - Overall, substandard loadings in line with experience
 - Short duration substandard mortality is light
 - Heavy substandard mortality is light (overall and in many subgroups including medically underwritten)
 - Very light substandard mortality is heavy
 - Female / male 69%: Smoker / non-smoker 179%
- Significant variations by company
- Future work TPD / Trauma experience



Thank you