

EMERGING ISSUES IN THE REINSURANCE INDUSTRY

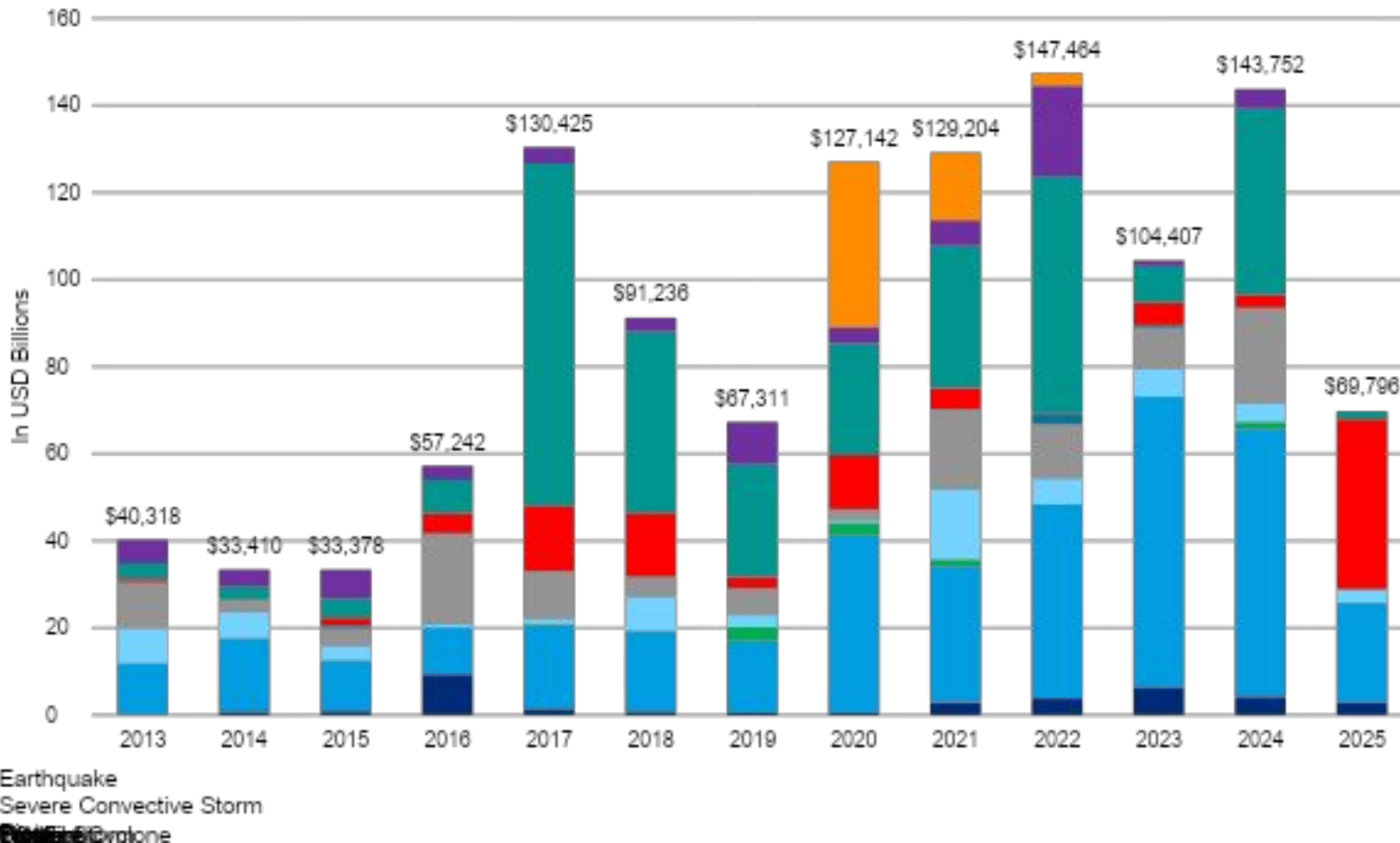
A Weather & Climate Perspective

July, 2025

James Waller, PhD, CCRMP
Research Meteorologist
GC Global Analytics & Advisory – Toronto
Guy Carpenter & Co., LLC
james.waller@guycarp.com

Significant Insured Losses To Q2 2025

Escalating insured losses over time, especially severe thunderstorm

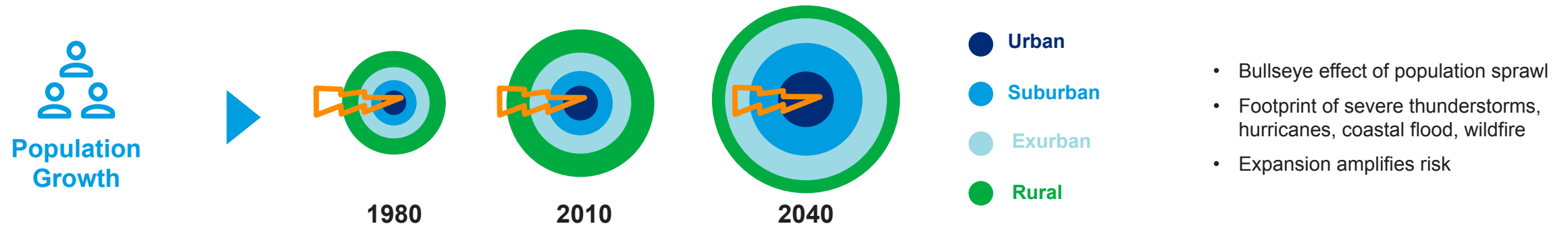


*Significant Insured Losses (Insured Loss estimates >\$100M), includes NFIP estimate. Figures are not adjusted for inflation.
 Source: PCS, PERILS, ICA, GC, Floodsmart.org, and other news sources. Russia-Ukraine conflict losses estimated by S&P Global.
 Data updated as of July 7, 2025

- Total insured industry losses through Q2 2025 were **USD 70 billion**, after USD 144 billion in 2024.
- **California wildfire losses to date ~USD 40 billion.** Highest on record, and roughly 50% of all industry losses through Q2 2025.
- Additional losses included US severe convective storm (SCS), Cyclone Alfred in Australia, and the Myanmar/Thailand earthquake.
- **US SCS** accounts for ~28% of total losses through Q2 2025 – after roughly 40% in 2024.
- **Hurricane Helene: USD 14.6 billion**
Hurricane Milton: USD 18.5 billion
- US hurricane accounted for roughly 30% of global insured losses in 2024
- **Event definitions, modeling capability, knowledge of what “normal” is and the state of the science are fundamentally different among each hazard, and have evolved with time.**

What Is Driving Loss Escalation?

Factors in the Global Insurance Marketplace



Climate Change



Slow trends in the physical hazard affecting higher population areas



Our confidence in any trends, and state of the science, varies greatly from hazard to hazard (ie sea level rise and intense rainfall versus severe thunderstorm)

Optimizing Clarity in View of Risk

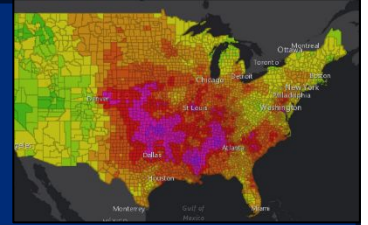
Different lenses to complement the essential role of catastrophe models



Claims Experience

Valuable context shorter return periods
Limited value for tails

Hazard Layers



Valuable for accumulation analysis by
risk classification



Deterministic Scenarios

Assess peak concentrations with known
events or ring analysis

Catastrophe Models



Physically plausible & unobserved
events for tails, loss estimates



How Do Insurance Companies Estimate What “Normal” Is?

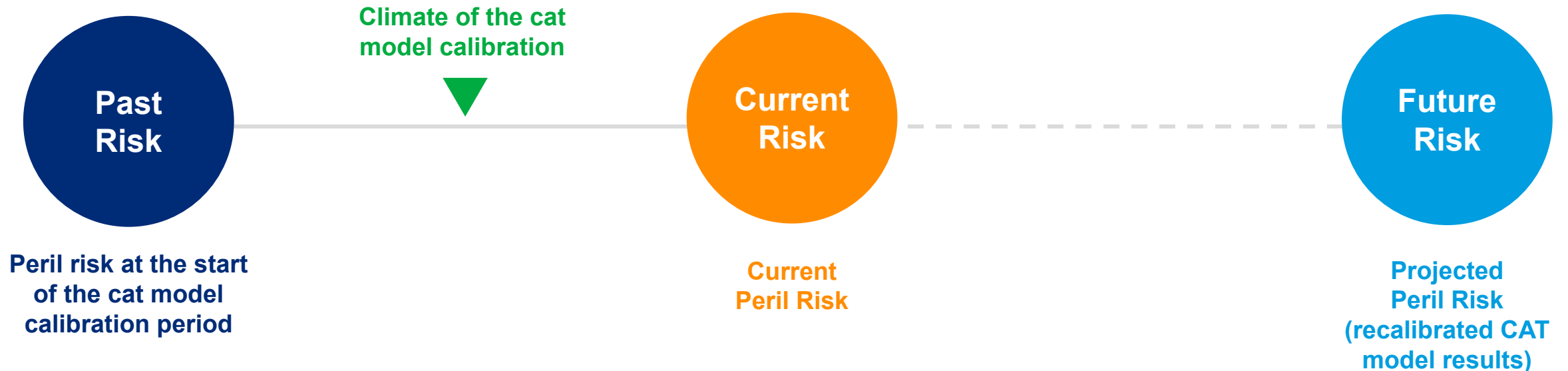


With difficulty

But...

Rough estimates
are possible with
**Catastrophe
Models**

- CAT Models are a software tool to estimate what “normal” insured losses might be
- Relies on generation of millions of physically plausible and unobserved “events” (HU, FLD, WF etc.)
 - Coupled with damage characteristics on each event and on each site in a portfolio
 - Coupled with insured loss relative to value, deductible/policy terms, reinsurance contracts
 - To produce estimates of expected insured loss on an annual basis
 - “Average”, “average of worst”, “worst of worst”
- Used as a rough guide for pricing, risk selection, portfolio management with other tools...
- Calibrated to the best of view of science and engineering knowledge
- A model can only be so good as the science and engineering knowledge supporting it



What Datasets Are Essential for The Insurance Industry?

Scientifically defensible, independent frequency/severity views on {past : active : projected} hazards

Best view of current risk

- Scientifically defensible, vendor independent datasets informed by past events
- *Some* examples include HURDAT2, HURSAT, SPC datasets, basic station observations
- Reanalysis datasets for standard met variables but also severe weather parameters
- Use to create spatial hazard surfaces for portfolio analysis
- Informs synthetic datasets to reproduce physically plausible but unobserved events (cat models)
- Always treated as consistent with the scientific literature for best view of “normal”

Active events

- What happened, where, to what extent, and to what severity?
- SPC LSRs, NOAA damage assessment toolkit, hurricane ATCF, MODIS hotspots, weather analysis
- We use both raw and vendor upgraded datasets from NOAA

Best view of projected risk

- Use best view of the scientific literature, IPCC, NCA, and background datasets
- Rescale hazard maps and CAT models to account for known, scientifically defensible trends
- Trends have different meaning and confidence levels by peril (coastal flood, inland flood, hurricane intensity, hurricane frequency, severe thunderstorm, wildfire, winter storm)
- Our view of “normal” continues to evolve, and in some cases is still clarifying

Role of NOAA and the Research Community

- **Essential**...and...
- Formal & informal **dialogue** with **academic leads**
- Scientific depth varies with (re)insurance companies
- **NOAA Industry Proving Grounds** initiative can help with distilling data with greater accessibility
- NOAA **Coastal Hazards & Sea-Level Rise** tool suite are considered a **flagship offering** in the industry – actively used to assess changing risk in flood-prone areas using best available scientific view
- Vast **improvements** in **recent years**
 - data availability, quality, accessibility
 - Operational products (ATCF, MRMS, etc.)
 - Raw + value-add vendors
- **Further research developments**
 - ICECHIP project for hail characteristics
 - IBHS for engineering resilience
 - IPCC and NCA (and underlying research)
- We use these all as **essential reference points** to understand **present & projected views** of the physical hazards & **review active events**.

Enables viability of the insurance industry



Guy Carpenter & Company, LLC provides this report for general information only. The information contained herein is based on sources we believe reliable, but we do not guarantee its accuracy, and it should be understood to be general insurance/reinsurance information only. Guy Carpenter & Company, LLC makes no representations or warranties, express or implied. The information is not intended to be taken as advice with respect to any individual situation and cannot be relied upon as such. Please consult your insurance/reinsurance advisors with respect to individual coverage issues.

Statements concerning tax, accounting, legal or regulatory matters should be understood to be general observations based solely on our experience as reinsurance brokers and risk consultants, and may not be relied upon as tax, accounting, legal or regulatory advice, which we are not authorized to provide. All such matters should be reviewed with your own qualified advisors in these areas.

Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any historical, current or forward-looking statements. Guy Carpenter & Company, LLC undertakes no obligation to update or revise publicly any historical, current or forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, research, future events or otherwise.

This document or any portion of the information it contains may not be copied or reproduced in any form without the permission of Guy Carpenter & Company, LLC, except that clients of Guy Carpenter & Company, LLC need not obtain such permission when using this report for their internal purposes.

The trademarks and service marks contained herein are the property of their respective owners.



A business of Marsh McLennan