

Colorado Homeowners Insurance Facts

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The average Colorado homeowners insurance premium was \$1,160 in 2013 - ranking 15th highest. The average U.S. homeowners insurance premium was \$1,096.

Homeowners insurance losses, net of reinsurance, rose from \$35.5 billion in 2013 to \$39.9 billion in 2014.

From 2009 to 2013, Colorado experienced a 179% increase in the average claim payment compared to the previous 12 years - the largest spike in the U.S. During this period, Colorado ranked 2nd highest in the U.S. for insured catastrophes.

- There are more than 14,000 producers licensed to sell P & C insurance in Colorado.
- Jewelry losses were the highest claim category for personal contents—for both claim cost and number of claims. Followed by electronics, furniture and apparel.
- A 2015 Insurance Information Institute poll found that 95 percent of homeowners had homeowners insurance, but only 40 percent of renters had renters insurance.
- Dog bites account for more than one-third of all homeowners insurance liability claims, costing more than \$530 million annually with an average claim costing \$32,072 in 2014.
- Nearly 23,000 flood insurance policies are in force in Colorado, even though it is the most common natural disaster and up to 25 percent of claims are in lower flood risk areas.

- Colorado is in the top 10 states with catastrophe-related claims. Colorado's most costly catastrophe is a \$1.1 billion hail storm that battered the Front Range on July 11, 1990.
- 2009 is ranked as Colorado's most costly catastrophe season with three major storms causing an estimated \$1.4 billion in insured losses.
- Windsor, Colorado experienced a tornado and hail storm in May 2008 causing an estimated \$212.2 million in insured losses.
- 2012's wildfire season is the most expensive in Colorado history with insured losses totaling more than \$583.6 million. Colorado Springs' Waldo Canyon Fire is the state's most costly wildfire with an estimated \$466.7 million in insured losses. 2013's Black Forest Fire is estimated at \$426.3 million in insured losses.
- The blizzard of March 2003 was the most expensive winter storm from snow and ice damage in Colorado history. The estimated price tag was nearly \$119.7 million from more than 28,000 claims filed.

Sources: National Association of Insurance Commissioners, ISO—a Verisk Analytics company, Insurance Information Institute Rocky Mountain Insurance Information Association, Insurance Research Council, SNL Financial, Enservio.

From 2010-2014, fire, lightning, and debris removal had the most expensive average claim cost of \$39,791 with a frequency of 0.38. That compares to wind/hail average claim of \$8,041.

Annually, about 5 percent of insured homeowners file a claim. About 97 percent of those claims are for property damage, including theft.

