

3.3.5 → Insurance to value

→ overview → For many property insurance policies, such as homeowners insurance, the policy limit is set according to the home's value or its replacement cost, influencing the rate based on the claim policy. Theorem to value (ITV) describes the relationship between the claim's insurance amount & the face value or replacement cost of the insured item. For instance, when an item is insured to full value, the insurance amount aligns with the face value or replacement cost.

→ This section explores the significance of ITV & how such insurers might fail to ensure that policies are adequately insured in alignment w/ the rates.

→ To help clarify the concept & issues associated w/ ITV, let's examine the example below.

→ You are given the following information on three homes:

- Home 1 is worth \$200,000 and is insured for the full amount.
- Home 2 is worth \$250,000 and is insured for the full amount.
- Home 3 is worth \$250,000 and is insured for \$200,000.
- Expected claim frequency for all homes is assumed to be 1%.
- Expected losses are uniformly distributed.

→ Based on the information above, the expected rate w/ loss distributions on the three homes are as follows:

Home 1			Home 2			Home 3		
Loss Size (\$000s)	Loss Distribution	Average Reported Loss (\$000s)	Loss Size (\$000s)	Loss Distribution	Average Reported Loss (\$000s)	Loss Size (\$000s)	Loss Distribution	Average Reported Loss (\$000s)
0 < X ≤ 25	12.5%	12.5	10%	12.5	10%	12.5	10%	12.5
25 < X ≤ 50	37.5	37.5	10%	37.5	10%	37.5	10%	37.5
50 < X ≤ 75	62.5	62.5	10%	62.5	10%	62.5	10%	62.5
75 < X ≤ 100	87.5	87.5	10%	87.5	10%	87.5	10%	87.5
100 < X ≤ 125	112.5	112.5	10%	112.5	10%	112.5	10%	112.5
125 < X ≤ 150	137.5	137.5	10%	137.5	10%	137.5	10%	137.5
150 < X ≤ 175	162.5	162.5	10%	162.5	10%	162.5	10%	162.5
175 < X ≤ 200	187.5	187.5	10%	187.5	10%	187.5	10%	187.5
200 < X ≤ 225	-	-	10%	212.5	10%	200	10%	200
225 < X ≤ 250	-	-	10%	237.5	10%	200	10%	200
Total	100%	100		100%	125		100%	120

→ Since the expected losses are uniformly distributed, the average reported loss for each home is 10% weighted by the range:

→ For Home 1 + Home 2, this applies to all ranges since both homes are fully insured. For example, for Home 3, the average reported loss is \$87.5.
 $\text{for } 0 < X \leq 25 \approx \frac{0+25}{2} = 12.5$.

→ For Home 3, the average reported loss is capped at \$200,000, as the home is only insured for \$200,000. This is why the average reported loss is \$87.5 for Home 3, as $200 \times 0.01 \times 225 + 225 \times 0.1 \leq 200$ is \$87.5.

→ The total average reported loss for each home, or the severity, is calculated as the sum of the product of the loss distribution & the average reported loss for each home as follows:

Property	Expected Severity
Home 1	\$100,000
Home 2	\$125,000
Home 3	\$120,000

→ The expected pure premium for each home can be calculated as the product of the expected frequency & the expected severity, assuming no expenses or profit; the expected rate per \$1000 of amount of insurance can be calculated as the expected pure premium divided by the amount of insurance over \$1000.

Property	Amount of Insurance	Expected Frequency	Expected Severity	Expected Pure Premium	Rate per \$1000 of Amount of Insurance
Home 1	\$200,000	1%	\$100,000	1% × \$100,000 = \$1,000	\$1,000 / \$200,000 = \$5
Home 2	\$250,000	1%	\$125,000	1% × \$125,000 = \$1,250	\$1,250 / \$250,000 = \$5
Home 3	\$200,000	1%	\$120,000	1% × \$120,000 = \$1,200	\$1,200 / \$200,000 = \$6

→ From the example, we can see that these three fully insured properties are not insured to their full value or replacement cost.

→ As the insurance payout will not be sufficient to cover a total or partial loss, leaving the insured liable to fully recover their fair market valuation.

→ In the example above, Home 3 has a value of \$250,000, but is only insured for \$200,000. If it experiences a loss greater than \$200,000, the insurance payout will be capped at \$200,000, which does not cover the entire loss.

→ As the insurer has the right to assume the assumption that all homes are insured to their full value, no premium charge will not be sufficient to cover the expected loss on undervalued homes.

→ In the example above, assume the insurer charges a rate of \$5 per \$1000 of amount of insurance for all three homes. Home 3, which is undervalued, will be charged disproportionately because it has an indicated rate of \$6 per \$1000 insured. This leads to inequitable rates.

→ When properties are not insured to the same level, it leads to rate inequality. And if all homes are underinsured by the same percentage, the resulting premium may not be adequate to cover all losses, but it would be equitable over time. The insurer will need to base rate so that the aggregate premium covers the expected aggregate losses. However, in this scenario, fully insured homes end up bearing part of the cost of the undervalued homes.

→ It is important to note that the rates of inequality & inadequacy are only valid if partial losses are possible. If all losses are total losses, or total premium collected will be enough to cover in total, & rates will be equitable, even if some homes are undervalued.

→ Typically, most bills are paid on a total basis. To ensure rates that are both equitable & adequate, insurers should charge rates based on the ITV level. Using our example above, if the insurer charges Home 1 + Home 2 + a rate of \$5 per \$1000 of amount of insurance & Home 3 a rate of \$6 per \$1000 of amount of insurance, then the premium would have been equitable & adequate.

→ Varying rates based on ITV level

→ Note that Home 3, which is undervalued, has an indicated rate that is higher than the fully insured homes. In general, insuring partial losses are possible, the rate for amount of insurance decreases as the face value approaches the value of the insured property. The rate of this decrease varies based on the shape of the loss distribution:

→ In a right-skewed distribution, where small losses are more likely, the rate decreases at a decreasing rate as the ratio of the face value to the value of insured property decreases.

→ In a uniform distribution, where all losses are equally likely, the rate decreases at a constant rate as the ratio of the face value to the value of insured property decreases.

→ In a left-skewed distribution, where large losses are more likely, the rate decreases at an increasing rate as the ratio of the face value increases.

→ Insurance to value initiatives

→ To encourage insurance for full value, insurers employ a feature known as guaranteed replacement cost (GRC). With GRC, the insurer would pay for the actual replacement cost of the losses, even if it exceeds the policy limit, provided the property is insured to full value. However, a few large catastrophes in the last 20 years have shown that catastrophes like Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Sandy, and Hurricane Harvey have led to significant price increases in insurance premiums.

→ By reducing the amount of insurance an underinsured home to align with the ITV level assigned in pricing, insurers can generate additional revenue w/o raising rates. Given that homeowners' loss distributions are generally right skewed (meaning smaller losses are more common), the added premium often offsets the cost savings. However, it is true to expect to increase premium more readily when it results in lower claims, rather than a rate increase.

→ Beyond explanation tools, the industry has improved its use of property insurance risk adjustment features, & such education efforts as well as operational changes, actuaries must ensure the impact of any ITV initiative on overall company performance.

→ Coinsurance clause

→ In addition to adjusting rates based on the ITV level, insurers have chosen not to offer deductibles to achieve greater equity among rates. Coinsurance refers to two or more parties jointly covering a portion of the insured risk.

→ In property insurance, coinsurance is a policy provision where the insurer agrees to maintain coverage at a greater ITV level (usually 80 to 90%). If the insured fails to meet this requirement, they may be subject to a penalty in the event of a claim, unless the insurance agreement specifically waives the deduction.

→ Assume a required coinsurance percentage (c) or a policy is underinsured (i.e. $F < cV$). To determine the indemnity payment, we first need to calculate the adjustment ratio (a), which is the ratio of the current amount (or face value, F) to the coinsurance requirement (cV).

$$a = \min\left(\frac{F}{cV}, 1\right) = \frac{F}{cV}, F < cV$$

→ Then, the indemnity payment (I) is the ratio (a) of the loss (L), capped at face value.

$$I = \min\left(aL, F\right) = \frac{aL}{F}, L \leq cV$$

→ There will be a coinsurance penalty (P) when the policy is underinsured ($F < cV$) + experience a partial loss less than the coinsurance requirement ($L < cV$)

$$P = \min\left(1-a, L\right) = \begin{cases} (1-a)L, & L > cV \\ F-aL, & F \leq L \leq cV \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

→ Notes → The situation above does not account for deductibles. If the policy includes a deductible, we calculate $a + S$ in the same way, with L representing the amount of loss L minus the deductible. In this case, I is the indemnity payment before the deductible.

→ Example → A home is valued at \$500,000. The insured purchases a policy with a face value of \$300,000 despite a coinsurance requirement of 80%. Assume there is no deductible.

Calculate the indemnity payment and coinsurance penalty for each of the following:

1. A \$200,000 loss
2. A \$300,000 loss
3. A \$350,000 loss
4. A \$450,000 loss

→ i) The coinsurance requirement is:

$$cV = 80\% \times \$500,000 = \$400,000$$

since the face value, F , is only \$300,000, the insured fails to meet the coinsurance requirement. In this case, the adjustment ratio will be less than 1.

$$a = \min\left(\frac{F}{cV}, 1\right) = \frac{F}{cV}, F < cV$$

$$= \min\left(\frac{\$300,000}{\$400,000}, 1\right) = 0.75$$

The indemnity payment (I):

$$I = \min\left(aL, F\right) = \min\left(0.75 \times \$300,000, \$300,000\right) = \$225,000$$

→ For this property, there will be a coinsurance penalty as long as the loss is less than the coinsurance requirement (i.e. the face amount is less than the coinsurance requirement). The amount of penalty for a loss of \$300,000 is:

$$\text{penalty} = \min\left(L, F\right) - I = \min\left(\$300,000, \$300,000\right) - \$225,000 = \$75,000$$

→ For the example, we can see that the penalty goes up + then down as the loss amount increases. The chart below shows the magnitude of the coinsurance penalty for all loss values between \$0 to + value on the Y-axis, when $F = \$300,000$.

→ The diagram above shows that the dollar coinsurance penalty increases linearly between \$0 & the face value, where the penalty is the largest. It then decreases for loss sizes between the face amount & the coinsurance requirement. For losses greater than the coinsurance requirement, this is an insurance penalty, but it is much less than anticipated due to a shortfall as the payment doesn't cover the entire loss.

→ For the coinsurance mechanism to function properly in the event of a loss, it's essential to establish a coinsurance clause.

→ Given the following information on an individual property policy, answer the questions below. Show all work.

- The property value is \$200,000.
- Assume no deductible applies.
- The frequency of non-zero loss is 10%.
- The severity of loss distribution is as follows:

• 70% at 10% of value

• 20% at 50% of value

• 8% at 80% of value

• 2% at 90% of value

• Permissible loss ratio is 65%.

(a) (2 points) Calculate the coinsurance requirement for this policy.

(b) (1 point) The insured instead purchases a policy insuring the property to 70% of value. Assuming the same rate per \$100 of insured value as in part (a) above, determine the expected loss ratio for this policy.

(c) (1 point) Assume the insurer incorporates a coinsurance clause into the policy with a coinsurance requirement of 80%. The insured continues to insure the property to 70% of value. What is the expected loss ratio for this policy? Briefly explain your answer.

→ You are given the following information on