# Climate Trends and its Impact on Workplace Safety Insurance

Eden Ng 26th May 2023

### **Problem Statement**

#### Presenter:

 Data analyst at an insurance company who is concerned about the climate impact on workplace safety insurance

#### Audience:

Actuarial and Marketing team

# **Background Research**

Studies have explored the relationship between weather and workplace safety and found that climate trends can have an adverse impact on workplace safety and actuarial models.

### Example:

 "Hotter temperature increases workplace injuries significantly, causing approximately 20,000 additional injuries per year" (Park et al., 2021)

### **Datasets**

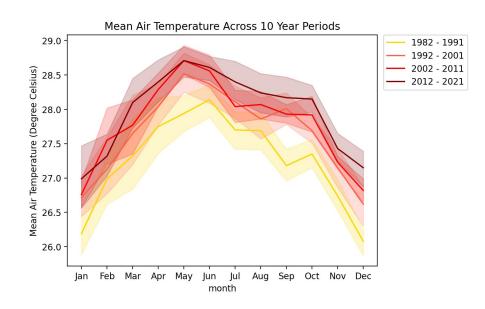
#### Weather Datasets:

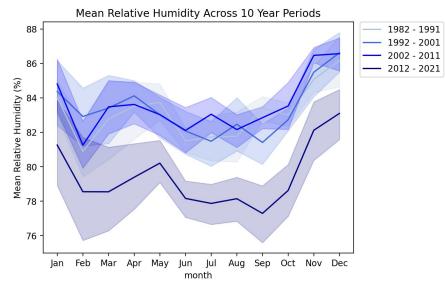
- Data.gov.sg
- 1982 2022

### Workplace Accidents Dataset:

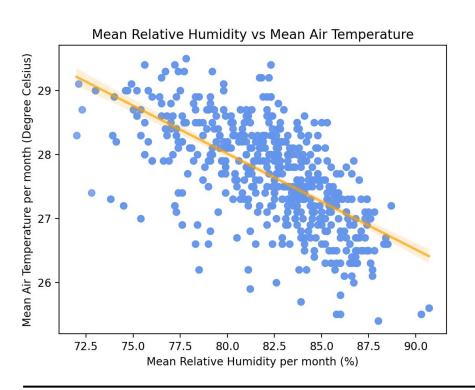
- Ministry of Manpower's annual workplace safety and health (WSH) reports.
- 2015 2022

## **Climate Trends**





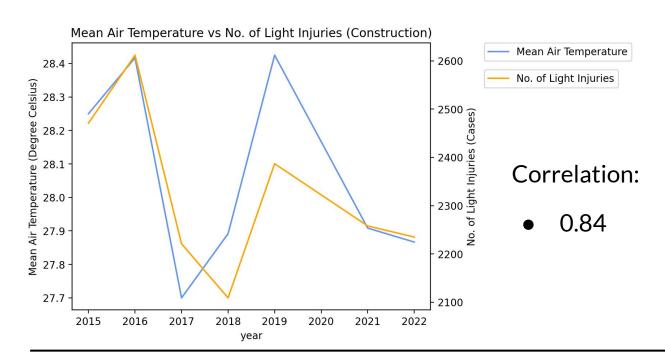
## **Climate Trends**



### Correlation:

• -0.63

# Correlation between Mean Temperature and Light Injuries (Construction)

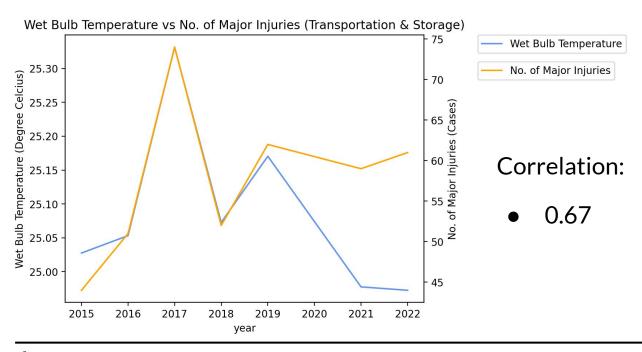


### Recommendations

- 1. Actuarial team should look into adequately accounting for the increase in temperature to their long-term workplace safety pricing models and prevent adverse selection<sup>1</sup> by policyholders (Storey et al., 2019).
- Develop an Actuaries Climate Index (ACI), which seeks to quantify changes in the climate.

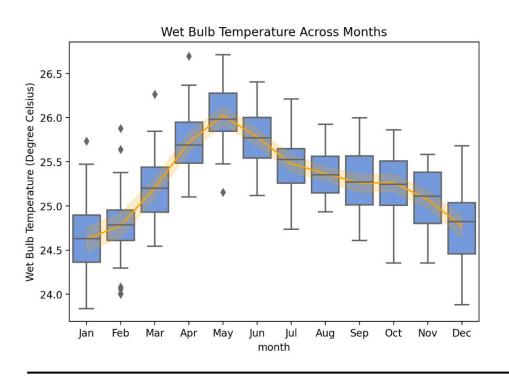
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Adverse selection refers to a scenario where either the buyer or the seller has information about an aspect of product quality that the other party does not have. Adverse selection is a common scenario in the insurance sector, where those who are high-risk are more likely to sign up for insurance. (CFI, 2022)

# Correlation between Wet Bulb Temperature<sup>2</sup> and Major Injuries (Transportation & Storage)



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> wet bulb temperature mirrors how the human body cools itself with sweat

## Wet Bulb Temperature Across Months



### Highest:

Apr to Jul

#### Lowest:

Dec to Jan

### Recommendations

- 1. Actuarial team should look into increasing prices for Collision Damage Waiver<sup>3</sup> for the months between April and July to prevent adverse selection by policyholders.
- 2. Marketing team should increase marketing efforts for the months between April and July.

 $<sup>^{3}</sup>$  a temporary vehicle insurance one can purchase on a monthly basis to cover a large portion of their insurance premiums, typically around 90%, should they get into an accident

## Conclusion

Strong correlation between climate trends and workplace accidents

Proactively seek out implications of climate trends to:

- prevent adverse selection
- improve pricing models
- gather marketing insights

### **Citations**

CFI Team, C. (2022, December 27). Adverse Selection. Corporate Finance Institute. Retrieved May 26, 2023, from <a href="https://corporatefinanceinstitute.com/resources/wealth-management/adverse-selection/">https://corporatefinanceinstitute.com/resources/wealth-management/adverse-selection/</a>

McQuillan, L. (2022, July 20). Too hot to handle: How to survive amid extreme heat and humidity. CBC. Retrieved May 25, 2023, from

 $\frac{\text{https://www.cbc.ca/news/health/heat-humidity-bodies-wet-bulb-1.6525711\#:} \sim : \text{text=The\%20hotter\%20and\%20more\%20humid.others\%2C\%20according\%20to\%20Health\%20Canada.}$ 

Medvigy, D., & Beaulieu, C. (2012). Trends in Daily Solar Radiation and Precipitation Coefficients of Variation since 1984. Journal of Climate, Volume 25(Issue 4), 1330–1339. https://doi.org/10.1175/2011JCLI4115.1

Park, RJ, Pankratz, N, Behrer, AP (2021) Temperature, workplace safety, and labor market inequality. Discussion Paper Series 14560, IZA Institute of Labor Economics. Retrieved May 25, 2023, from <a href="https://ftp.iza.org/dp14560.pdf">https://ftp.iza.org/dp14560.pdf</a>

Storey, C., MacFarlane, A., Spira, J., Davangere, M., Thulliez, M., Bagree, N., Hughes, R., & Watt, S. (2019). Climate Change for Actuaries: An Introduction. Institute and Faculty of Actuaries. Retrieved May 25, 2023, from <a href="https://www.actuaries.org.uk/system/files/field/document/Climate-change-report-29072020.pdf">https://www.actuaries.org.uk/system/files/field/document/Climate-change-report-29072020.pdf</a>

Willett, K. (2020, December 1). Guest post: Investigating climate change's 'humidity paradox.' Carbon Brief. Retrieved May 25, 2023, from <a href="https://www.carbonbrief.org/guest-post-investigating-climate-changes-humidity-paradox/">https://www.carbonbrief.org/guest-post-investigating-climate-changes-humidity-paradox/</a>

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# Thank You