

# 2016 Oregon Workers' Compensation Premium Rate Ranking Summary

Department of Consumer and Business Services

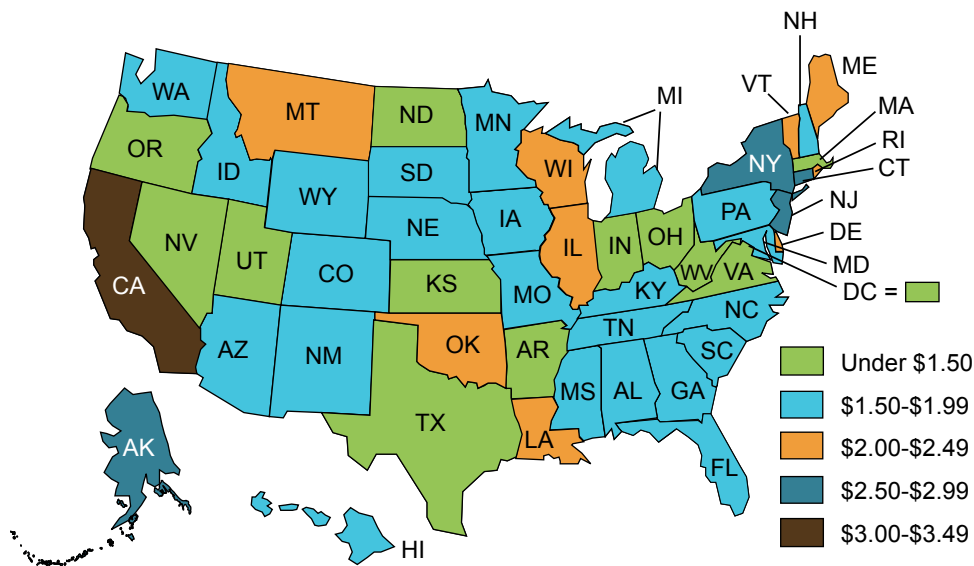
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Oregon employers in the voluntary market pay, on average, the seventh lowest workers' compensation premium rates in the nation. Oregon's rates are 31 percent below those of the median state in the study.

Premium rate indices are calculated based on data from 51 jurisdictions, for rates in effect as of Jan. 1, 2016. The 2016 median value is \$1.84, which is a drop of less than 1 percent from the \$1.85 median of the 2014 study. Oregon's premium rate index is \$1.28 per \$100 of payroll, or 69 percent of the national median. National premium rate indices range from a low of \$0.89 in North Dakota, to a high of \$3.24 in California. There were 21 states that had an index rate that was within plus or minus 10 percent of this benchmark value. In the upper part of the rate distribution, 12 states had index rates higher than 110 percent of the median, while 18 states were below 90 percent of the median. For an interactive map of the state rankings, [click here](#).

**Figure 1. 2016 Workers' compensation premium index rates**



**Table 1. Oregon's ranking in the top 10 classifications**

Occupation	Ranking
Clerical office employees	46
Salespersons - outside	49
College: professional employees and clerical	41
Physician and clerical	34
Restaurant	43
Hospital: professional employees	45
Store: retail	48
Automobile service/repair center and drivers	29
Trucking: all employees and drivers	39
Retirement living centers: health care employees	34

The study is based on methods that put states' workers' compensation rates on a comparable basis, using a constant set of risk classifications for each state. This study used classification codes from the National Council on Compensation Insurance (NCCI). Of approximately 450 active classes in Oregon, 50 were selected based on relative importance as measured by share of losses in Oregon. To control for differences in industry distributions, each state's rates were weighted by 2010-2012 Oregon payroll to obtain an average manual rate for that state. Listed in Table 1 are Oregon's rankings in the top 10 (by payroll) of the 50 classifications used.

**Table 2. Workers' compensation premium rate ranking**

2016 Ranking	2014 Ranking	State	Index Rate	Percent of study median	Effective Date	Percent of 2014 study median
1	1	California	3.24	176%	January 1, 2016	188%
2	3	New Jersey	2.92	158%	January 1, 2016	152%
3	4	New York	2.83	154%	October 1, 2015	148%
5	2	Connecticut	2.74	149%	January 1, 2016	155%
5	5	Alaska	2.74	149%	January 1, 2016	145%
6	9	Delaware	2.32	126%	December 1, 2015	125%
8	6	Oklahoma	2.23	121%	January 1, 2016	137%
8	7	Illinois	2.23	121%	January 1, 2015	127%
9	20	Rhode Island	2.20	119%	August 1, 2014	107%
10	10	Louisiana	2.11	115%	January 1, 2016	120%
11	11	Montana	2.10	114%	July 1, 2015	119%
12	23	Wisconsin	2.06	112%	October 1, 2015	104%
14	8	Vermont	2.02	110%	April 1, 2015	125%
14	13	Maine	2.02	110%	April 1, 2015	116%
15	17	Washington	1.97	107%	January 1, 2016	108%
17	27	Hawaii	1.96	107%	January 1, 2016	100%
17	12	New Hampshire	1.96	106%	January 1, 2016	118%
18	17	South Carolina	1.94	105%	September 1, 2015	108%
20	21	Missouri	1.92	104%	January 1, 2016	107%
20	20	New Mexico	1.92	104%	January 1, 2016	108%
22	20	Minnesota	1.91	104%	January 1, 2016	107%
22	27	North Carolina	1.91	103%	April 1, 2015	100%
23	31	Wyoming	1.87	101%	January 1, 2016	95%
24	24	Iowa	1.86	101%	January 1, 2016	101%
25	29	Alabama	1.85	100%	March 1, 2015	97%
26	17	Pennsylvania	1.84	100%	April 1, 2015	108%
27	32	Georgia	1.80	98%	March 1, 2015	95%
28	14	Idaho	1.79	97%	January 1, 2016	109%
29	38	Mississippi	1.70	92%	March 1, 2015	85%
30	22	Tennessee	1.68	91%	March 1, 2015	105%
32	30	Nebraska	1.67	91%	February 1, 2015	96%
32	25	South Dakota	1.67	91%	July 1, 2015	100%
33	28	Florida	1.66	90%	January 1, 2016	98%
34	34	Michigan	1.57	85%	January 1, 2015	91%
35	41	Colorado	1.56	84%	January 1, 2016	81%
36	40	Kentucky	1.52	82%	October 1, 2015	82%
38	37	Arizona	1.50	82%	January 1, 2016	86%
38	35	Maryland	1.50	82%	January 1, 2016	88%
40	36	Texas	1.45	79%	July 1, 2015	87%
40	33	Ohio	1.45	79%	July 1, 2015	94%
41	39	Kansas	1.41	77%	January 1, 2016	83%
42	45	District of Columbia	1.37	74%	November 1, 2015	70%
43	46	Nevada	1.31	71%	March 1, 2015	68%
44	48	Massachusetts	1.29	70%	April 1, 2014	63%
<b>45</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>OREGON</b>	<b>1.28</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>January 1, 2016</b>	<b>74%</b>
46	45	Utah	1.27	69%	December 1, 2015	71%
47	48	Virginia	1.24	67%	April 1, 2015	63%
48	43	West Virginia	1.22	66%	November 1, 2015	74%
49	49	Arkansas	1.06	57%	July 1, 2015	58%
50	50	Indiana	1.05	57%	January 1, 2016	57%
51	51	North Dakota	0.89	48%	July 1, 2015	47%

Notes: Starting with the 2008 study, when two or more states' Index Rate values are the same, they are assigned the same ranking. The index rates reflect adjustments for the characteristics of each individual state's residual market. Rates vary by classification and insurer in each state. Actual cost to an employer can be adjusted by the employer's experience rating, premium discount, retrospective rating, and dividends. [Link to previous reports and summaries.](#)

Employers can reduce their workers' compensation rates through accident prevention, safety training, and by helping injured workers return to work quickly.

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