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FOREWORD

Integrated risk and capital management is emerging as a source of competitive advantage in the insurance industry.

The days of viewing risk and capital management as purely defensive business processes are nearing an end. Insurers have come to recognize enterprise risk management as fundamental to creating and improving shareholder value through better risk-based decision making and capital allocation.

The Tillinghast business of Towers Perrin conducted its third biennial survey on risk and capital management issues in an effort to provide industry leaders with a better perspective on the state of risk and capital management approaches. Responses were received from 150 insurance industry executives worldwide. Overall, the survey confirmed that significant strides have been made over the last two years, but there remains much work to be done.

As evidence of the growing importance of risk and capital management, survey respondents told us the following:

- Senior executives are giving integrated risk and capital management greater priority and attention than ever before, establishing high-level accountabilities befitting a legitimate strategic function.
- Risk management considerations have begun influencing business decisions in such mainstream areas as asset/investment strategy, product pricing, annual business planning and reinsurance purchasing.
- Economic capital is emerging as a critical tool in risk and capital management.
- While a prime senior executive objective is to create value through better risk-based decision making, most companies are still in the process of improving basic risk processes.

We thank all those who participated in our most recent study for taking the time to share their thoughts on these important issues. We anticipate that senior insurance executives who read this report will find this information valuable in shaping their future risk management efforts as they strive to improve value for their organization.

Tillinghast is committed to helping our clients add value through integrated risk and capital management. Our global Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) practice helps insurers leverage risk to create value. We provide senior management — in particular, Chief Risk Officers — innovative economic capital methodologies and proprietary techniques to understand, quantify and derive benefit from risk taking.

Regards,

Linda Chase-Jenkins Principal and Survey Leader

Linda Chase-Jenkins

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Principal and Survey Leader

The third Tillinghast biennial survey of risk and capital management practices among global insurers documents what many of us in the industry have already experienced: insurers around the world are moving ahead systematically — and in some areas quickly — to make integrated risk and capital management a strong driver of success in every major market and in every line of business.

Our earlier surveys pointed to the promise inherent in this strategic approach to the holistic management of risk and capital at the enterprise level. This survey shows how that promise is starting to be fulfilled — and what steps insurers are taking to complete this work in progress. In particular, developing "economic capital" as an important tool for quantifying risk and making risk-based decisions has taken center stage.

The 2004 survey reveals five major findings regarding risk and capital management among insurers worldwide:

- Enterprise-level risk management has come of age. Insurers are giving enterprise-level risk management increasing attention, high-level accountability and clear responsibilities befitting a legitimate strategic function and discipline.
- ERM is ultimately about creating shareholder value. Insurers see the principal objectives for enterprise risk management (ERM) as helping them create and improve shareholder value through better risk-based decision making and capital allocation.
- Economic capital is a key decisionmaking tool that is on the fast track. Economic capital is becoming an important tool for insurers in guiding decision making at all levels in their organizations.

- Risk and capital management are already making a difference. Enhanced risk and capital management approaches are already guiding business decisions made by insurers and are likely to do so more frequently as their use increases in a wide variety of areas.
- We're not done yet. Despite the progress that insurers have made since we began these surveys, both risk management approaches and economic capital calculations are still very much works in progress with major gaps to fill; in particular, a standard methodology for calculating economic capital is still evolving.

In addition to these major findings, this report documents risk management reporting practices and the level of success insurers have experienced when integrating risk and capital management with performance management. We also look at how satisfied insurers are with their core capabilities that underlie effective risk and capital management.

The report details findings from our Web-based survey of chief risk officers (CRO), chief financial officers (CFO) and chief actuaries in insurance companies around the world that was conducted in the summer of 2004. Forty-seven percent of respondents came from North American-headquartered companies, 39% from Europe, 10% from Asia/Pacific and 4% from South America. Seventy-two percent of respondents are writing property/casualty business, 69% life/health business, 39% reinsurance, and 26% are active in other financial services. We are grateful to the 150 executives from around the globe who participated in this survey.

THE FIVE MAJOR FINDINGS

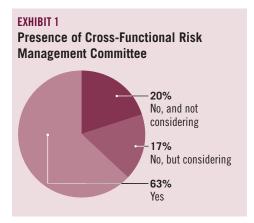
ONE: ENTERPRISE-LEVEL RISK MANAGEMENT HAS COME OF AGE

Four specific results from the 2004 survey make the compelling case that risk management is coming of age — gaining the attention, high-level accountability and clear responsibilities that are the due of a legitimate strategic function and discipline.

First, an overwhelming number of respondents (86%) say that enterprise-level risk management is more of a priority today than it was a year ago.

Second, since our last survey in 2002, there has been a strong shift in the positioning of the risk management function within organizations. Among 39% of the 2004 survey respondents, a CRO has been given primary responsibility for risk management, an increase from 19% in 2002, when the CFO more frequently had such responsibility. Additionally, the person responsible for risk management now reports directly to the CEO in 49% of companies. That includes 40% of CROs who now report to the CEO, an increase from 26% in 2002.

Third, the number of companies that have cross-functional risk management committees has also markedly increased. Currently, 63% of respondents report the existence of such committees in their companies, a significant increase from the 38% of industry executives who reported having an ERM committee in the 2002 survey (see *Exhibit 1*).



Another 17% in the 2004 study said that they are considering the creation of a cross-functional risk management committee for their companies, compared to the 21% who said that they were thinking about establishing such a committee in 2002. Clearly, many of these respondents did create such a committee, as evidenced by the increase to 63% of companies who have them in 2004. These figures suggest that, very shortly, 80% of the industry will have cross-functional risk management committees.

The survey data also shows that more companies have chosen to move away from the risk silo approach in order to improve communication on risk management throughout their organizations. This trend is particularly prevalent in Asia, Canada and Europe, where approximately 70% or more have set up such committees, while slightly less than half of U.S. respondents have established committees.

Fourth, the 2004 survey results show that insurers are clearly delineating roles and responsibilities for eight key business processes, especially for managing market risk and insurance risk. These processes are: risk modeling and measurement; economic capital calculation; risk identification and prioritization; internal risk monitoring and reporting; risk control and mitigation; risk aggregation; external risk communication; and risk-related performance measures.

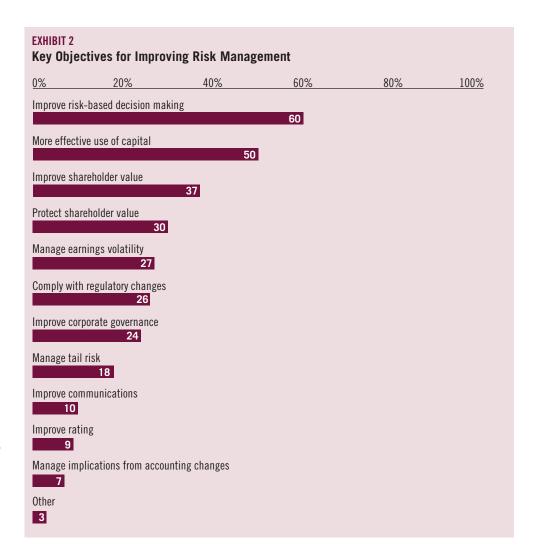
For example, 89% of our 2004 survey respondents have implemented clearly defined and assigned roles and responsibilities for risk modeling and measurement when managing insurance risk, and 72% have done so for managing market risk. Similar percentages appear in the 2004 results for risk identification and prioritization, with 87% of respondents reporting clear lines of roles and responsibilities for insurance risk and 76% for market risks (see *Exhibit 14*, *Roles and Responsibilities for Risk Management*, on page 17, for additional findings).

The notable exception to insurers creating clear roles and responsibilities for managing risk processes is in the quantification of operational risk. In this area, the numbers fall dramatically — by roughly 25 to 50 percentage points — regarding most operational risk management processes. For example, for risk-related performance measures in managing operational risks, only 29% of survey respondents reported clear lines of roles and responsibilities; for risk modeling and measurement, 30%; and for risk aggregation, 33% (also see *Exhibit 14*, page 17).

If "risk management" was at one time a strictly defensive activity for insurers, it no longer is. Insurers today see the principal objectives for ERM as helping them create and improve shareholder value through better risk-based decision making and capital allocation.

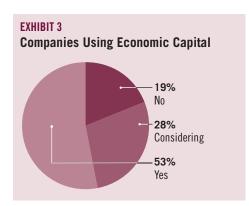
In fact, 60% of the respondents in 2004 said that one of the top three objectives of ERM was to "improve risk-based decision making," while half said their objective was to make "more effective use of capital," and nearly 40% responded that they wanted to "improve shareholder value" (see *Exhibit 2*).

Fewer respondents today cite defensive actions as one of their principal objectives for improving integrated risk management. Only 30% reported that their goal was to "protect shareholder value." Only 26% overall cited "comply with regulatory changes" as a principal objective, although compliance with regulatory changes was an objective for 48% of European firms. Nine percent cited "improve rating" as a key objective and only 7% said "manage implications from accounting changes."



THREE: ECONOMIC CAPITAL IS A KEY TOOL THAT IS ON THE FAST TRACK

The 2004 study clearly shows how important and widespread economic capital has become in the global insurance industry. An overwhelming majority of respondents, in fact, state that they either use, or plan to use, economic capital to improve capital allocation and risk-based decision making. Specifically, 53% of respondents are currently using economic capital as a critical decision-making tool and 28% plan to do so (see *Exhibit 3*).



Currently, economic capital is widely used in risk-based decision making at the company, business unit and product level around the globe. Roughly three-quarters of respondents use economic capital in actual organizational decision making. In particular, of those already using economic capital:

- 75% use economic capital to allocate capital at the company level, 70% at the business unit level, and 53% at product level.
- 74% use economic capital at the company and business unit levels to measure risk-adjusted performance, while 50% use economic capital at the product level for that purpose.

- 74% use economic capital at the company level to make strategic or tactical decisions; 58% do so at the business level, and 30% at the product level.
- 90% of respondents use economic capital in product design and pricing.

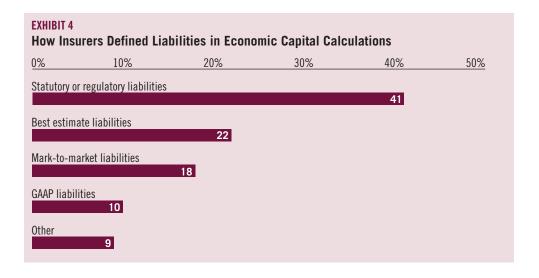
Industry executives also use economic capital calculations to communicate at the company level with shareholders, rating agencies and regulatory bodies. Such communication is widespread, with the focus being on shareholders (96%), rating agencies (92%) and regulators (84%).

Regional Differences in Current Practice

While there is widespread agreement around the globe about the desirability of using economic capital in risk management programs and strong similarities in the way global insurers currently use economic capital, there are some clear regional differences in the way insurers define liabilities in their economic capital calculations and in the measures they use to determine their level of risk tolerance.

The North American "bias" toward a regulatory view is clear in the way that firms define the liabilities they include in economic capital calculations.

■ In aggregate, 41% of our respondents define them as regulatory or statutory liabilities. But in North America, the number goes up to 55% and in Europe, it is just 28%.



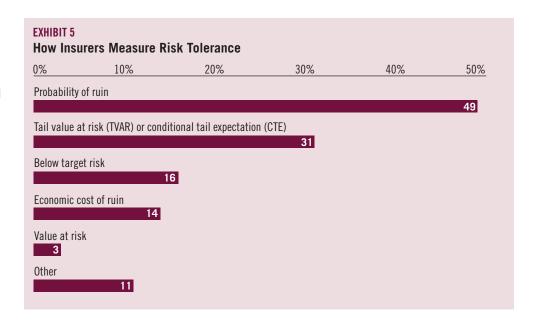
- 10% of total respondents define them as GAAP liabilities, but that number is 13% in North America and only 7% in Europe.
- 40% of all respondents define them as economically determined liabilities in the following ways: 22% as best estimate liabilities and 18% as mark-to-market liabilities, while 9% use other definitions. But in North America, only 28% of the 2004 respondents use "pure" economic definitions of liabilities, while in Europe, 52% of companies use such economic definitions and, in Asia, 55% do (see *Exhibit 4*).

We believe the best practice for determining economic capital is to look beyond statutory requirements to a more realistic economic measure, independent of accounting and regulatory biases. Economic measures are intended to provide a better representation of the reality of the business.

Insurers around the world currently also use a wide variety of measures to determine their risk tolerance levels, with significant differences by region and line of business. Overall, among all respondents to the 2004 survey, 49% use "probability of ruin" as their primary risk tolerance measure, but that percentage varies widely by region: 76% in Europe, 44% in Asia and only 33% in North America.

Overall, 31% of companies use tail value at risk (TVAR) or conditional tail expectation (CTE) as their primary risk tolerance measures. In North America, the number is 48%, compared to 14% in Europe and 22% in Asia. Forty-three percent of life/health companies use these measures, compared to 26% of P/C companies (see *Exhibit 5*).

We believe there are a number of explanations for the variation in risk tolerance measures. First, different regions have different drivers for the use of economic capital. For example, as we saw earlier, North American companies are much more attuned to rating agency and regulatory considerations for determining economic capital. For that reason, too, they are more likely to measure risk tolerance based on TVAR or CTE, since that is what regulators in North America most often request. The Canadian regulator (OSFI) introduced the use of a CTE measure for defining required



capital on segregated fund products in 2000. In the U.S., proposed regulation expected to be enacted by year-end 2005 for variable annuity risk-based capital and reserves will also be based on CTE measures.

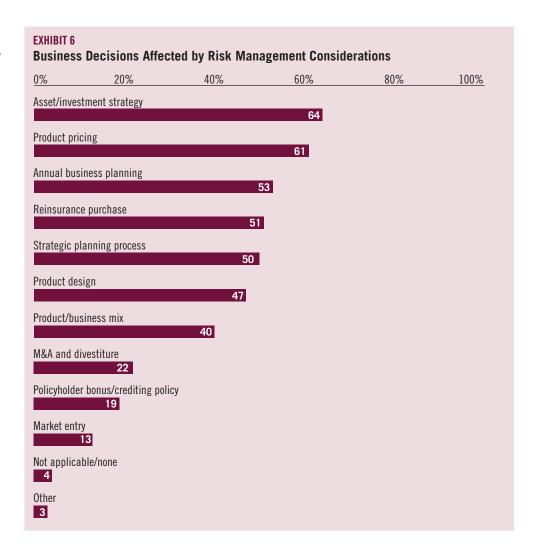
Second, the different ways that insurers use economic capital account for some of the variation in measures. As we saw above, currently the predominant use of economic capital is to communicate with shareholders, regulators and rating agencies. This use may explain why so many companies, especially in Europe, use "probability of ruin" as their key measure of economic risk. This is easier to explain to stakeholders than other measures, such as below-target risk or economic cost of ruin. Thus, at this stage in the development of economic

capital as a strategic tool for insurers, some industry executives may be making a trade-off between the technical sophistication of a measure and its internal and external "explainability." A clear communication of methodology and rationale for setting economic capital should do more to help increase shareholder value than technical sophistication. We would expect that the methodologies for developing and implementing economic capital will be further enhanced over time, making economic capital a standard tool for risk and capital management in insurance companies worldwide.

FOUR: ENHANCED RISK AND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT ARE ALREADY MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Enhanced risk and capital management approaches are already influencing key decision making in major areas of the insurance business. For instance, insurers report that risk management considerations have caused them to change business decisions in such critical areas as (see *Exhibit 6*):

- Asset/investment strategy (64%)
- Product pricing (61%)
- Annual business planning (53%)
- Reinsurance purchase (51%)
- Strategic planning process (50%)
- Product design (47%)
- Product/business mix (40%).

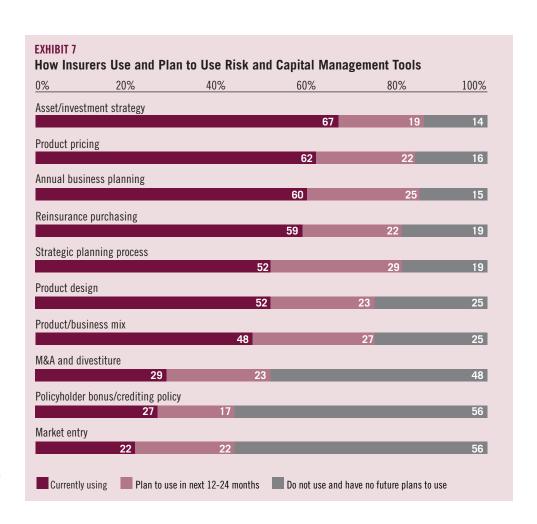


Moreover, the 2004 survey results suggest that the effects of risk management strategies on business decisions will likely increase because of the widening use of risk and capital management tools by industry executives. For instance, 67% of respondents said that they currently use these tools for asset/investment strategy, while another 19% plan to do so in the next 12 to 24 months.

In product pricing, 62% of insurers already use risk and capital management tools and another 22% say they will do so in the next two years. In annual business planning, the number of executives who already use these tools is 60%; those who plan to do so, 25%; for business reinsurance purchasing, the figure for current usage is 59%, and those planning to begin usage, 22%.

Fifty-two percent reported using risk and capital management tools in their strategic planning process and 29% more said that they plan to do so. In product design, 52% of industry executives said that they currently employ these tools, and another 23% expect to do so. For product/business mix decisions, the numbers were 48% for current usage and 27% for planned usage (see *Exhibit 7*).

In addition, insurers are planning to take specific actions to optimize asset liability risk and return trade-off. Their plans include closer duration matching (68%), purchasing derivative instruments (39%) and dynamic hedging (29%).



FIVE: WE'RE NOT DONE YET

Clearly, insurers have made great progress, especially over the past two years, in using integrated risk management processes and economic capital to improve risk-based decision making at all levels of their organizations. But it is also clear that holistic risk management, especially using economic capital as a critical tool, is still a work in progress.

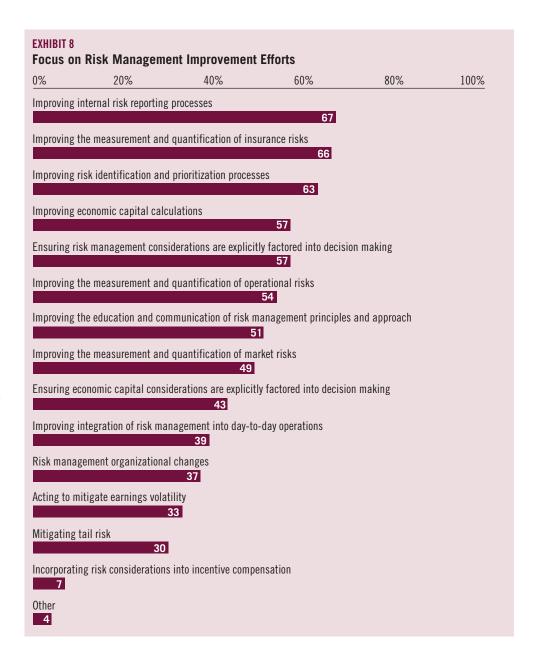
RISK MANAGEMENT

It is clear from the specific survey results that enterprise-level risk management is still a work in progress.

Gap Between Objectives and Current Efforts

First, a "gap" exists between what insurers want ERM to do and what they are currently doing to improve their efforts. As we saw in Finding Two, insurers want ERM to help build shareholder value through improved decision making, especially for using capital more effectively. But the leading current improvement efforts of insurers still focus on some of the fundamentals of integrated risk management, for example, improving internal risk reporting procedures (67%), improving the measurement and quantification of insurance risks (66%), and improving risk identification and prioritization processes (63%).

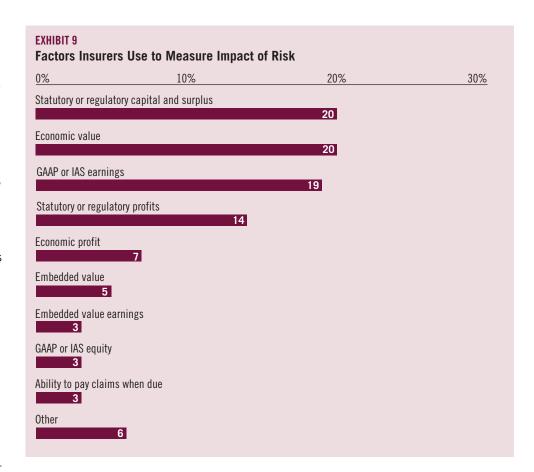
Current risk management improvement efforts focus less on the more sophisticated and advanced actions that would ensure an organization's ability to create shareholder value. Only about 40% are incorporating economic capital considerations and risk management into regular decision making, and less than 10% are incorporating risk considerations into incentive compensation (see *Exhibit 8*).



Variety of Factors to Measure Risk Impact

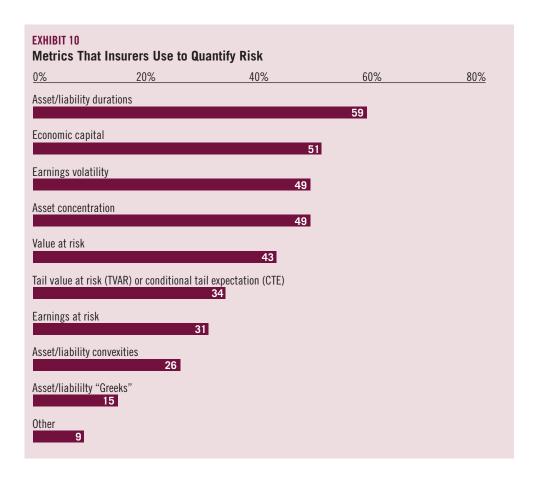
A second indication that integrated risk management remains a work in progress shows up in the variety of different bases that insurers primarily use to measure the impact of risk. About one-third use regulatory or statutory bases; a little more than 20% use a GAAP or IAS basis, while just under 40% use an "economic" basis (see *Exhibit 9*).

The choice of basis gives an indication of the orientation of the company in terms of its risk focus. The use of regulatory or statutory bases suggests a focus on regulatory compliance and policyholder protection. The use of GAAP and IAS bases suggests a focus on shareholder interests, but only to the extent that these are represented by published accounting statements. Use of an economic basis signifies recognition that neither regulatory nor accounting statements are perfectly aligned with the interests of policyholders and shareholders. Thus, an economic basis gives a more comprehensive and sophisticated understanding of the totality of risks to which the firm is exposed. And for this reason, we believe using an economic basis constitutes a "best practice" that we think more insurers will move to.



There are also similar signs that integrated risk management continues to be a work in progress in the various metrics that insurers around the world use to measure and quantify risk. Asset/liability durations are the most generally used metric, by 59% of all respondents. Economic capital is used by just over half (51%). Other measures are used by less than half of our respondents: earnings volatility by 49%; asset concentration by 49%; value at risk by 43%; tail value at risk (TVAR) or conditional tail expectation (CTE) by 34%; earnings at risk by 31%; asset/liabilities convexities by 26%; asset/liability "Greeks" by 15% (see Exhibit 10).

Different risks can require different metrics for their quantification. Therefore, to some degree we would expect to find a variety of metrics in a robust risk management program. In addition, different regulatory and business environments may also require different metrics. That seems to be the case with TVAR used by 50% of North American companies, largely because of regulatory concerns, compared to 21% of European companies. It is also somewhat the case for value at risk, which is much more likely to be used by European companies than companies in other regions. And it seems to be the case for earnings



volatility, which is used by 65% of North American companies — which are somewhat more sensitive to and driven by shareholder expectations — compared to 36% of European companies.

But some of the variety also seems to reflect insurers trying out increasingly sophisticated measures to quantify risk. That is clearest in the metrics associated with measuring asset/liability risk.

The majority of companies use the simplest metric, asset/liability durations, for measuring this risk. But a sizable — and we suspect growing — minority are using much more technically sophisticated measures as well: asset/liability convexities (26%) and asset/liability "Greeks" (15%). They may very well be at the leading edge of this work in progress.

Risks Included and Not in Risk Processes

A fourth indication that integrated risk management remains a work in progress for insurers is their report on the risks they include in their risk management processes and those that they quantitatively measure. Overall, insurers are more likely to include market and insurance risks in their risk management programs than operational risks (see *Exhibit 11*).

For example, for market risks:

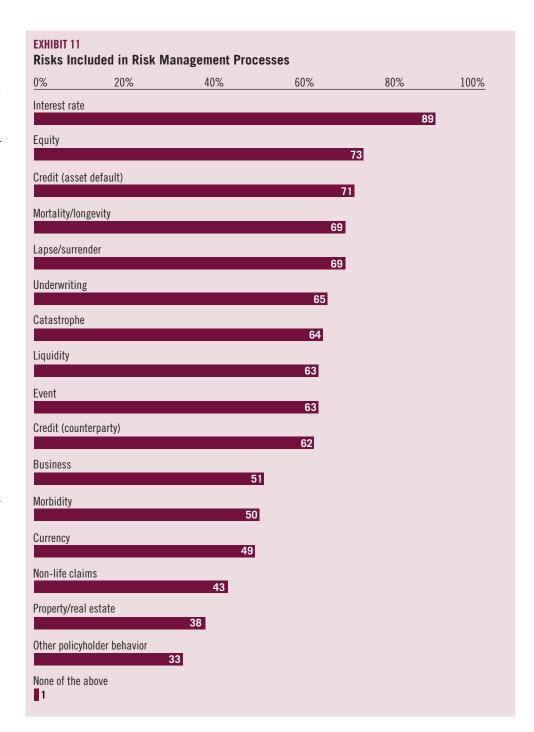
- 73% include equity risk.
- 89% include interest rate risk.
- 71% include credit (asset default) risk.

For insurance risks:

- 69% of all companies include lapse/ surrender risk — 49% of P/C companies do that and 88% of life/health.
- 69% of all companies include mortality/longevity risk 54% of P/C companies and 88% of life/health.
- 65% of all companies include underwriting risk 69% of P/C companies and 64% of life/health.
- 64% of all companies include catastrophe risk 83% of P/C companies and 52% of life/health.

But for operational risks:

- Only 63% of all respondents include event risks, such as technology failure and fraud.
- Just 51% include business risks, such as risks arising from sales practices, distribution, key person loss.

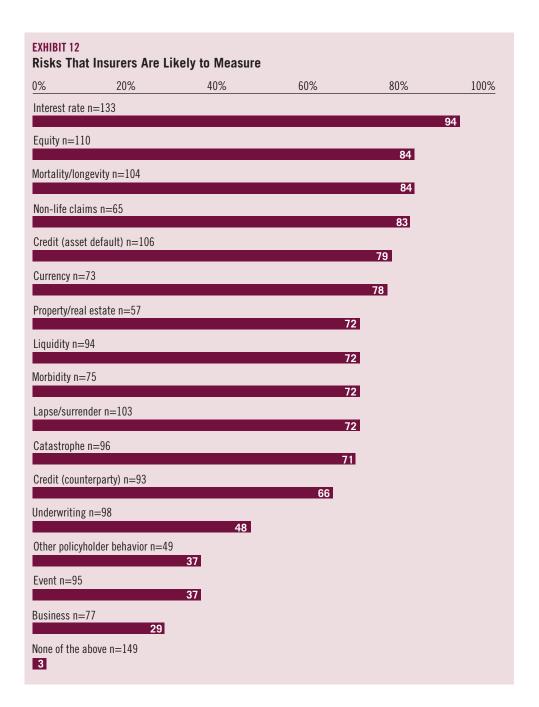


Similarly, insurers are more likely to quantitatively measure market and insurance risks than operational risks. For example, for those who include these market risks in their risk management programs: 94% quantitatively measure interest rate risk; 84% measure equity risk; 79% measure credit (asset default) risk; 78% measure currency risk, and 72% measure liquidity risk.

For those who include these insurance risks: 84% measure mortality/longevity; 83% measure non-life claims; 72% measure morbidity; 72% measure lapse/surrender; 71% measure catastrophe risk, and 48% measure underwriting risk.

But for those who include operational risks in their risk management processes, only 37% quantitatively measure event risk and only 29% measure business risk (see *Exhibit 12*).

The findings suggest, first, that there are still a number of risks that many insurers who wish to practice holistic risk management have not yet incorporated into their risk management processes (especially operational risks) and second, that many insurers remain challenged to quantitatively measure important risks — operational, to be sure, but also insurance risks.

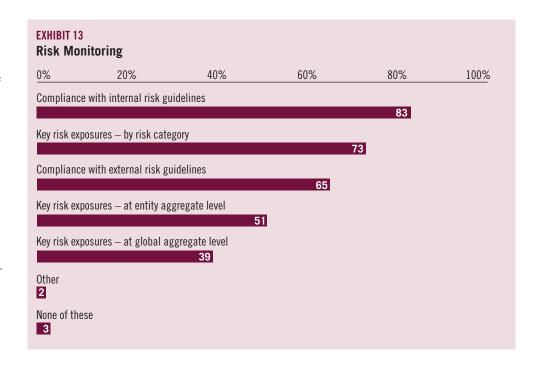


Risk Aggregation Underdeveloped

A fifth indication that integrated risk management is still a work in progress — and perhaps the most telling sign — is the underdeveloped use of risk aggregation, supposedly the sine qua non of holistic risk management.

For instance, the most prevalent answer to the question, "What methodology do you use for aggregating risk?" is "None." That answer is tied (at 31%) with "multiple risks are included in stochastic modeling." Another quarter of respondents use a correlation matrix to aggregate risk, and 13% use a variety of other methods.

Insurers also do not monitor aggregate risks to the degree one would expect if they were implementing a true holistic risk management system. For instance, only 51% monitor key risk exposures at an entity aggregate level. Even fewer — 39% — monitor at the global aggregate level.



Both aggregate risk monitoring approaches trail (see *Exhibit 13*):

- Monitoring compliance with internal risk guidelines a practice followed by 83% of our respondents
- Monitoring risk exposures by risk category followed by 73%
- Monitoring compliance with external risk guidelines, such as Sarbanes-Oxley
 followed by 65%.

Moreover, insurers express the *least* satisfaction with their capability "to aggregate risks across functions or businesses." Only 7% say they are very satisfied with this organizational capability. In fact, they give this capability an average score of 2.15 out of a possible 5,

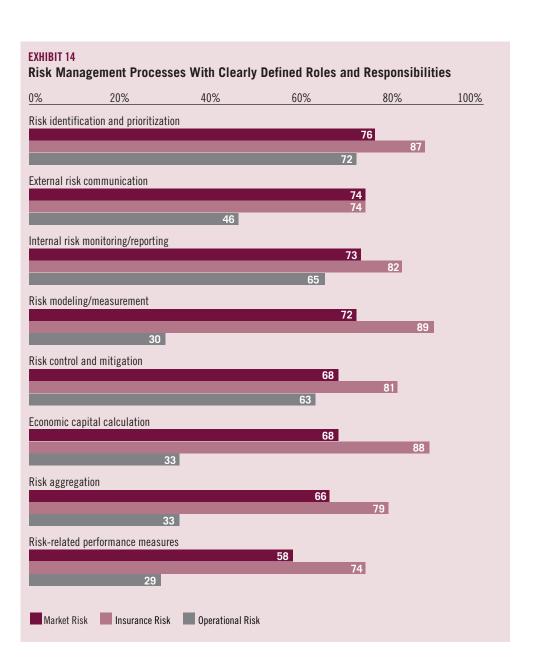
making this one of the lowest-ranked capabilities out of 20 assessed by our respondents.

Finally, the widening use of ERM committees, which is a sound step in and of itself, does suggest that, at present, insurers are attempting to use an organizational structure to make up for the lack of tools and other technical capabilities to aggregate risks. That is, they may be attempting to capture aggregated risks by literally getting all of the risk "owners" in the same room, rather than attempting to use sophisticated modeling tools.

A sixth indication of the work that remains to be done on holistic risk management is a continuing major gap in managing operational risks. As we documented earlier, roles and responsibilities for managing operational risks are less clearly defined than for market and insurance risks.

Responsibility for risk identification, internal risk monitoring and risk control for operational risks are most prevalent among all companies: risk identification (72%), internal risk monitoring (65%), and risk control (63%) (see *Exhibit 14*).

But only about one-third of respondents, or less, have clearly delineated the other roles and responsibilities for managing operational risks: risk modeling (30%), economic capital calculation (33%), risk aggregation (33%), and risk-related performance measures (29%).

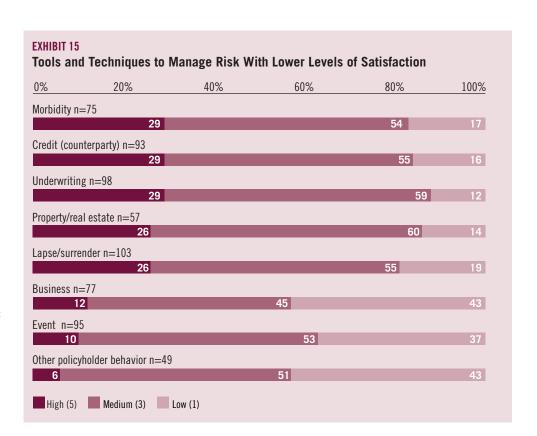


Insurers also express less satisfaction with the *tools and techniques* to manage operational risks, as well as their overall *capability* to manage them, than for nearly any other set of risk management tools, techniques and capabilities (see *Exhibit 15*).

For example:

- Only 10% are very satisfied with the *tools and techniques* they have to manage event risks; the mean score of 2.47 for these tools ranks them second lowest out of 16 tools and techniques.
- Only 12% are very satisfied with *tools* and techniques to manage business risks; the mean score of 2.38 for these tools ranks them third lowest.
- Only 10% are very satisfied with their capability to "quantify the important operational risks;" the mean score of 2.2 for this capability ranks it third lowest out of 20 capabilities assessed by respondents (see *Exhibit 26*, page 27).

Our respondents' dissatisfaction with these tools is in marked contrast to their general satisfaction with most of the tools and processes for managing market and insurance risk.

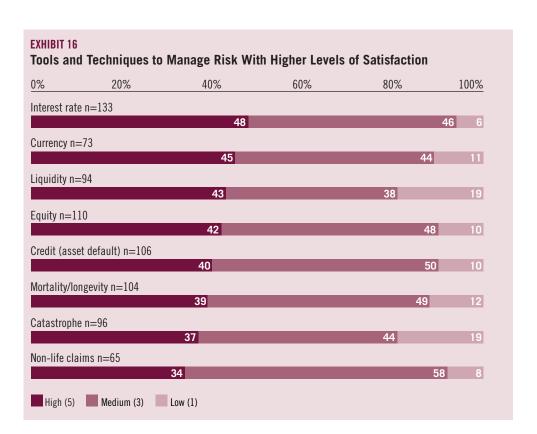


For example, for market risk:

- 48% are very satisfied with the tools and techniques to manage interest rate risk, giving this capability a mean score of 3.84, which makes it the highestrated set of tools and techniques.
- 45% are very satisfied with the tools and techniques to manage currency risk, giving this capability a mean score of 3.68, making it the second highestrated set of tools.
- 43% are very satisfied with the tools to manage liquidity risk, giving this capability a mean score of 3.47, making it the third highest-rated set of tools.

For *insurance risk:*

- 39% are very satisfied with the tools to manage mortality/longevity risk, giving this capability a mean rating of 3.56.
- 37% are very satisfied with the tools to manage catastrophe risk, giving this capability a mean rating of 3.38.
- 34% are very satisfied with the tools to manage risk from non-life claims, giving this capability a mean rating of 3.52 (see Exhibit 16).



ECONOMIC CAPITAL

Targeted Improvements

While calculating and using economic capital is now relatively common, it is clear that there is no standard methodology and that the techniques are still evolving. Insurers overwhelmingly say they have more work to do and have a good idea of what that work is. Nearly all (87%) say they intend to improve their economic capital calculations and methodology by:

■ Improving their modeling or measurement capabilities — 89% for all respondents. Ninety-six percent of European companies say they are planning to do so; 81% of North American companies intend to do so.

- Improving the applications of economic capital 71% for all respondents. Eighty-two percent of European companies will make this process an improvement focus; only 56% of North American companies will do so a finding that suggests that North American companies still need to get more of the basic economic capital processes in place before they can improve applications of economic capital.
- Extending the risks covered 61% for all respondents. Forty-eight percent of European countries will do so, a finding that is consistent with the fact that European companies already include more risks in their economic capital calculations than do North American companies. Seventy-two percent of North American companies will do so, suggesting that this aspect is one of the critical, fundamental areas that they will have to improve before extending the applications of economic capital.

Other areas targeted for improvement are: including correlation factors (34%) and improving the buy-in of stakeholders (30%) (see *Exhibit17*).

Risks Included in Economic Capital Calculations

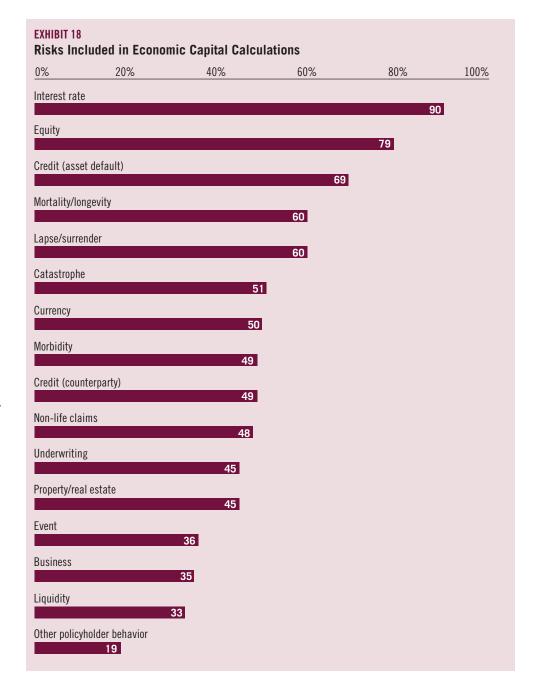
The emphasis on extending the risks covered by economic capital calculations, especially for North American companies, makes a good deal of sense in light of insurers' current practice, whereas, with risk management, they are more likely to include market and insurance risks in the calculations than operational risks (see *Exhibit 18*).

For market risks:

- 90% include interest rate risks in economic capital calculations.
- 79% include equity risks.
- 69% include credit (asset default) risks.
- 50% include currency risk.
- 49% include counterparty credit risk.
- 45% include property/real estate risk.
- 33% include liquidity risk.

For *insurance risks*:

- 60% of all respondents include mortality/longevity risk 43% of P/C companies include this risk and 86% of life/health.
- 60% of all respondents include lapse/surrender risk 48% of P/C companies include it and 75% of life/health.
- 51% of all respondents include catastrophe risk P/C, 79% and life/health, 25%.
- 49% of all respondents include morbidity risk P/C, 33% and life/health, 75%.
- 48% of all respondents include non-life claims risk P/C, 76% and life/health, 14%.



- 45% of all respondents include underwriting risk P/C, 62% and life/health, 32%.
- 19% of all companies include other policyholder behavior P/C, 14% and life/health, 29%.

But for operational risks:

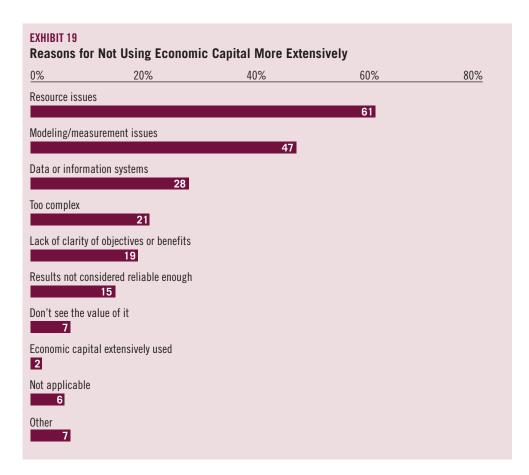
- Only 36% include event risks.
- And only 35% include business risks.

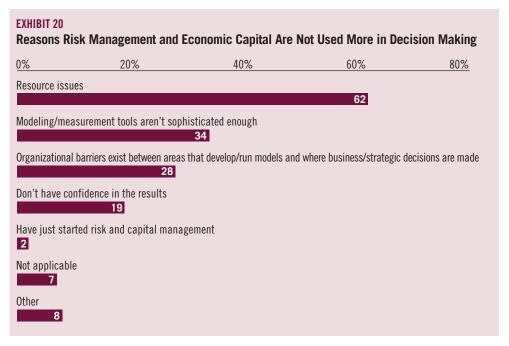
Barriers to Improvement

Even though insurers say they intend to continue to improve their ability to use ERM and economic capital in decision making, they also cite important barriers to doing so.

For example, insurers cite a number of barriers specifically to using economic capital and its applications more extensively, including resource issues (61%), modeling/measurement issues (47%), data or information systems (28%), complexity of economic capital (21%), lack of clarity about goals and objectives (19%), results not considered reliable enough (15%) and value not clear (7%) (see *Exhibit 19*).

Insurers cite similar barriers to using risk (as well as economic capital) tools more extensively in decision making: resource issues (62%), modeling/measurement tools are not sophisticated enough (34%), organizational barriers between areas that develop models and those where decisions are made (28%), do not have confidence in the results (19%) and have only just started risk and capital management (2%) (see *Exhibit 20*).





ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

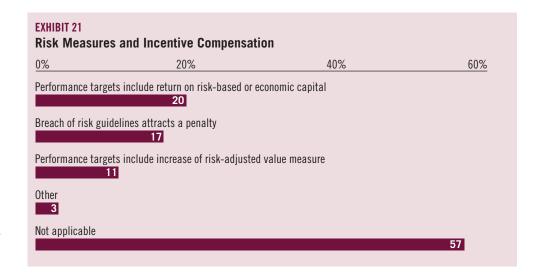
Our survey also uncovered three additional areas where insurers will need to do more work to effectively implement ERM, including economic capital, in their organizations:

- Performance management
- Reporting and monitoring
- Capability development.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

While insurers have made significant progress in creating appropriate organizational structures for ERM and delineating roles and responsibilities, especially for managing risk, they still have not gone very far in integrating risk and capital management with their organizations' performance management systems. In our view, until they do, they will have great difficulty in realizing their objective of improving decision making with these tools.

For example, 57% of our respondents indicated that they do not incorporate risk measures into their organizations' incentive compensation systems at all. That is, three out of every five insurance companies today make no systematic attempt to link risk management with pay. Yet we live in a pay-for-performance world, and this measure provides the possibility of truly being able to pay for performance (see *Exhibit 21*).



Of the minority of companies (43%) who do link pay and risk management, 47% say their performance targets include return on risk-based or economic capital. Twenty-five percent say their performance targets include an increase of risk-adjusted value measure, and just 39% say they impose penalties for breaching risk guidelines. In other words, for the vast majority of companies, there is no carrot for using risk measures in decision making, and there is no stick for violating risk policies.

REPORTING AND MONITORING

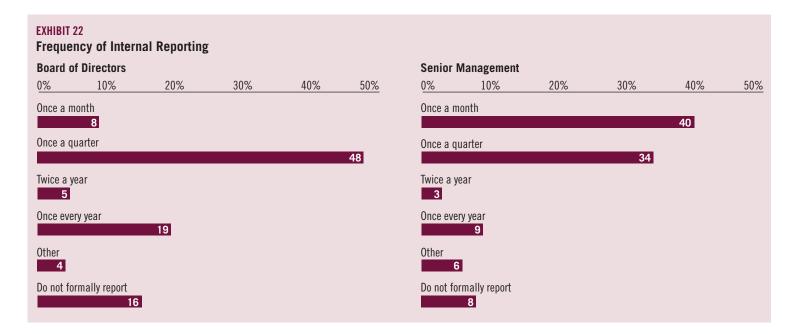
As we saw earlier in the major findings, improving internal risk reporting is now a major focus for insurers. That makes a great deal of sense, based on insurers' current practice of reporting and monitoring risk management activity. In our view, a great many insurers do not report frequently enough, consistently enough, or use the most appropriate means of doing so. That is true for reports on risk

to directors and for reports to senior management — those charged with strategic decision making for the enterprise.

For instance, more than 40% of our respondents say they report on risk to their directors fewer than four times a year. In fact, 16% say they do not report on risk *at all* to their directors; 5% report semiannually, and 19% report annually.

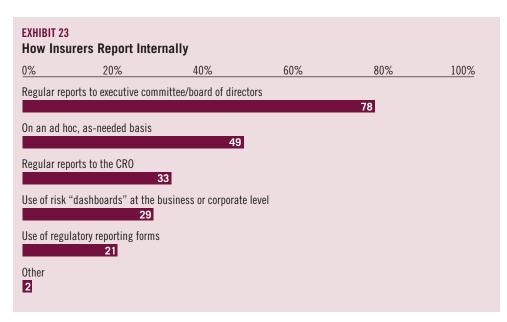
The good news for the industry is that about half (48%) of global insurers report on risk to their directors quarterly, and 8% report monthly.

The majority of reporting practices with senior management also do not represent best practice in our view. Only 40% report monthly; 34% report quarterly; 3% semiannually; 9% annually, and 8% not at all. It is difficult to see how



insurers will use risk management to improve decision making if executives do not have timely information about the risks they are supposed to manage (see *Exhibit 22*).

In our view, too, the methods of reporting in the industry are, for the most part, not conducive to good decision making. For example, only 29% say they use risk "dashboards" for reporting, a tool that in our experience helps managers quickly grasp the information they need to make better decisions. Seventy-eight percent say they make regular reports to the executive committee and the board — though, as we saw above, "regular" can cover a great deal of territory in the industry. Forty-nine percent say they report risks on an ad hoc basis; 33% make reports to the CRO, and 21% say they use regulatory risk formats in their internal reporting (see Exhibit 23).

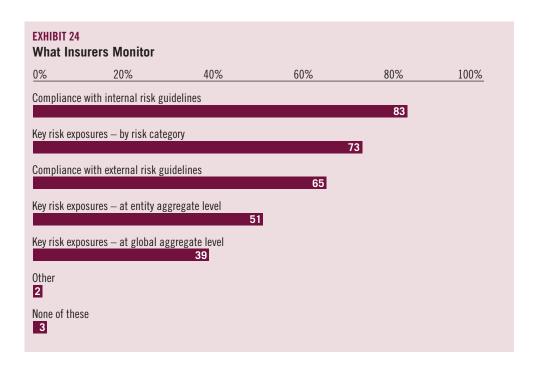


Insurers also report gaps in what they monitor and report, which makes improving decision making a more difficult task. For example, 83% say they monitor compliance with internal risk guidelines. But that means 17% of the industry worldwide do not take steps to see to it that their own people comply with their own rules on risk. That especially appears to be the case in North America, where just 78% say they monitor compliance with internal guidelines. In Europe, 90% monitor compliance.

As for compliance with external risk guidelines, such as Sarbanes-Oxley, only 65% of respondents say they do so: 69% do so in North America, and 71% in Europe.

In other areas that insurers should monitor in order to enable better decision making:

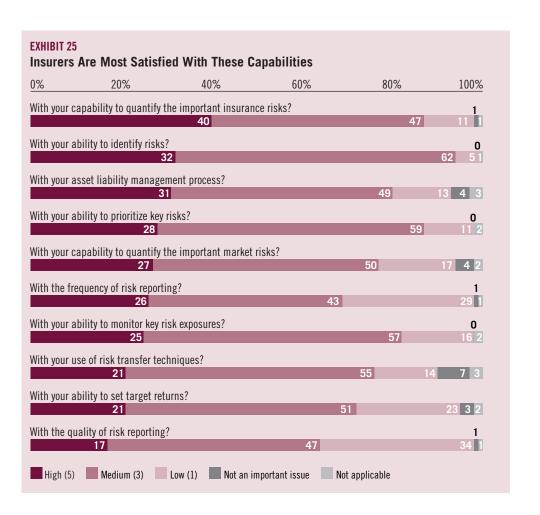
- 73% monitor key risk exposures by risk category 79% in Europe and 65% in North America.
- 51% monitor aggregate risk exposures at the entity level.
- Only 39% monitor aggregate risk exposures at the global level (see *Exhibit 24*).



As in our previous surveys, insurers continue to show concerns about their capabilities to effectively implement integrated risk management, including economic capital.

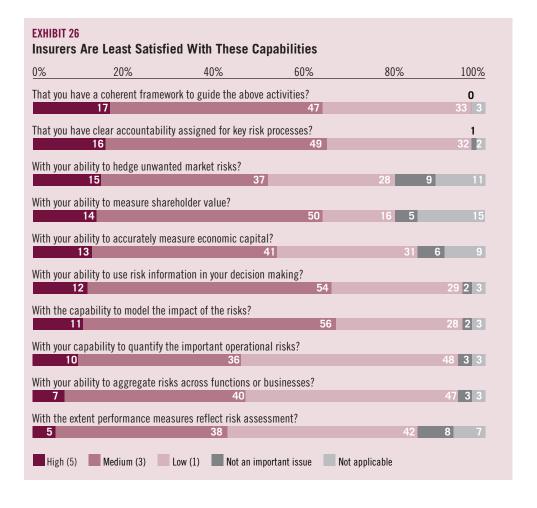
Overall, insurers are *most satisfied* with their:

- Ability to quantify important insurance risks (40% very satisfied)
- Ability to identify risks (32% very satisfied)
- Asset liability management process
 (31% very satisfied)
- Ability to prioritize key risks (28% very satisfied)
- Capability to quantify important market risks (27% very satisfied) (see *Exhibit 25*).

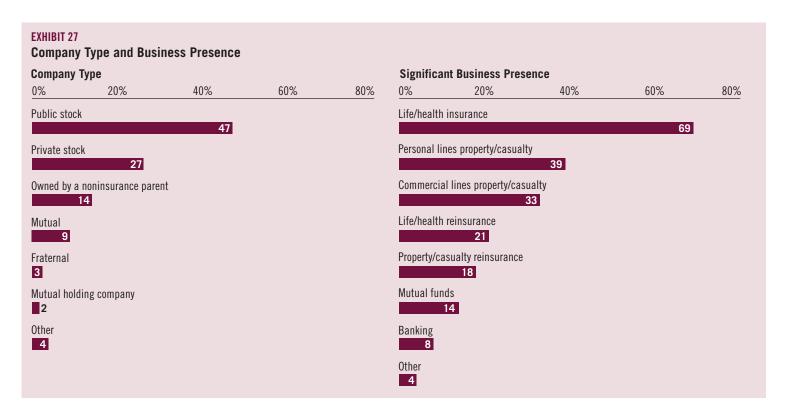


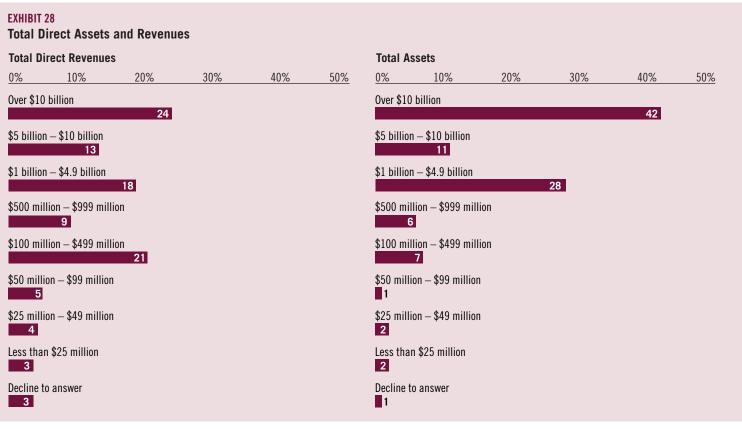
Insurers are least satisfied with:

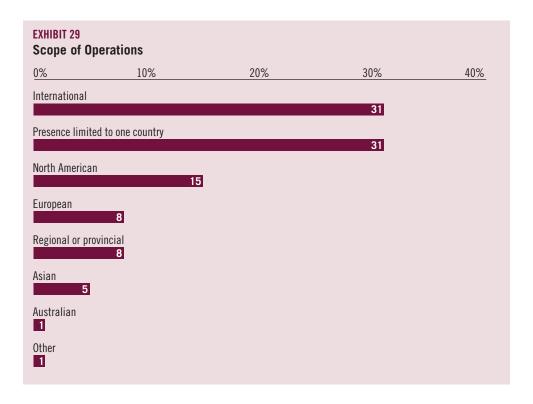
- The extent that performance measures reflect risk assessment (5% very satisfied)
- Their ability to aggregate risks across functions and businesses (7% very satisfied)
- Their capability to quantify important operational risks (10% very satisfied) (see *Exhibit 26*).

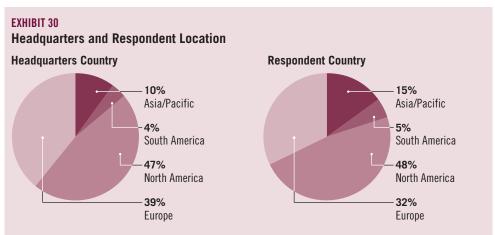


PARTICIPANTS PROFILE









APPENDIX A: SELECT LIST OF PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

AAA Mid-Atlantic Insurance Group

ACE European Group

Acordia Northwest

AEGON

AEGON Canada Inc.

AIOI Insurance Company

AIU Insurance Company

Allianz Life of North America

Allianz Worldwide Care Limited

Allstate Life

AMB Gernerali Holdinh

American Fidelity Group

ASEGURADORA MUNDIAL

AXA Financial

AXA Verzekeringen B.V.

Basler Versicherungs-Gesellschaft

The Black Diamond Group

Century Life plc

CiV Lebensversicherung AG

Co-operators Life Insurance Company

DBV Leven

DBV-Winterthur

Desigrdins Financial Security

Employers Reassurance Canada

Endurance Specialty Holdings Ltd.

Eureko

Foresters

FORTIS

GF FRC

Generali USA Life Reassurance

GNP Grupo Nacional Provincial

Guardian Life Insurance

The Hartford Financial Services

Group, Inc.

Hartford Life Ins. Companies

HDI Assicurazioni

HHG Life Services

IAG

International Financial Group/Guilford

Specialty Group/Burlington

Insurance Group

Interpolis

Kansas City Life

Manulife Financial

Marketform Managing Agency Ltd.

Max New York Life Insurance Company

Max Re

Meloche Monnex

Mitsui Sumitomo Fire & Marine

Montipaschi Vita Spa

Mutual of Omaha

National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society Limited

National Guardian Life

New York Life Insurance

Northwestern Mutual

Prudential plc

RBC Insurance

RGA Life Reinsurance Co. of Canada

RGA

Sara Assicurazioni

Seguros Atlas, S.A.

Skandia

Sonpo Japan

SSQ, Société d'assurance-vie inc.

Sun Life Assurance Co of Canada

Sun Life Financial

Swiss Life

Swiss Re Life & Health

Tokio Marine & Fire Insurance Co.

TORO ASSICURAZIONI

UnumProvident Corporation

VantisLife Insurance Company

Winterthur Insurance

APPENDIX B: COMPLETE SURVEY FINDINGS

I. Risk Management Objectives

1. Is risk management more of a priority for your company than it was a year ago?

86% Yes 14% No

2. Where are your risk management efforts now being focused? Please select all that apply.

- 37% Risk management organizational changes
- 63% Improving risk identification and prioritization processes
- 49% Improving the measurement and quantification of market risks
- 66% Improving the measurement and quantification of insurance risks
- 54% Improving the measurement and quantification of operational risks
- 57% Improving economic capital calculations
- 33% Acting to mitigate earnings volatility
- 30% Mitigating tail risk
- 43% Ensuring economic capital considerations are explicitly factored into decision making
- 57% Ensuring risk management considerations are explicitly factored into decision making
- 67% Improving internal risk reporting processes
- 51% Improving education and communication of risk management principles and approach
- 39% Improving integration of risk management into day-to-day operations
- 7% Incorporating risk considerations into incentive compensation
- 4% Other

3. What are your top three objectives for improving risk management? Please select your top three priorities.

30% Protect shareholder value 18% Manage tail risk

37% Improve shareholder value 24% Improve corporate governance

50% More effective use of capital 60% Improve risk-based decision making

26% Comply with regulatory changes 9% Improve rating

7% Manage implications from 10% Improve communications (e.g., with regulators, accounting changes shareholders, rating agencies)

27% Manage earnings volatility 3% Other

II. Risk Management Organization

4. Who is responsible for risk management in your organization? Please select one response.

39% Chief Risk Officer (CRO) 17% Risk Management Committee

9% Chief Actuary 4% Risk Management Director

1% Internal Audit 7% Other

23% Chief Financial Officer (CFO)

To whom does the person responsible for risk management primarily report? Please select one response. 5.

49% CEO 13% Board of Directors 28% CFO Audit Committee

1% Chief Actuary External Supervisors or Advisory Board

 Chief Audit Officer 3% COO 6% Other Chief Investment Officer

Does your organization have a cross-functional risk management committee? 6.

63% Yes 17% No, but considering 20% No, and not considering

7. For which of the following risk management processes are roles and responsibilities clearly delineated and assigned? Please select all that apply in each row.

Roles and Responsibilities Assigned

Risk Management Processes	Market Risk	Insurance Risk	Operational Risk	Not Applicable
Risk identification and prioritization	70%	81%	67%	7%
Risk modeling/measurement	63%	78%	26%	13%
Risk aggregation	50%	59%	25%	25%
Economic capital calculation	49%	63%	23%	29%
Risk control and mitigation	59%	71%	55%	13%
Risk-related performance measures	35%	45%	18%	39%
nternal risk monitoring/reporting	66%	75%	59%	9%
External risk communication	41%	41%	25%	45%

III. Risk Measurement

51% Economic capital

8. When measuring risk, what is the primary factor you measure the impact on? Please select one response.

14% Statutory or regulatory profits 3% GAAP or IAS equity 19% GAAP or IAS earnings 5% Embedded value 3% Embedded value earnings 20% Economic value

7% Economic profit 3% Ability to pay claims when due

20% Statutory or regulatory capital and surplus 6% Other (please specify)

9. What metrics does your organization use for measuring and quantifying risk? Please select all that apply.

49% Earnings volatility 59% Asset/liability durations 31% Earnings at risk 26% Asset/liability convexities 43% Value at risk 15% Asset/liability "Greeks" 34% Tail value at risk or conditional 49% Asset concentration tail expectation (CTE) 9% Other

- 10. From the list of risks below, please select the risks that are actively included in your risk management processes. Please select all that apply.
- 11. For each risk source, please indicate your level of satisfaction with the tools, techniques and processes available to identify, measure and manage that risk. Please select one response for each risk.
- 12. Of the risks that are included in your risk processes, please select the risks that are quantitatively measured. Please select all that apply.

	Question 10		Quest	ion 11		Question 12
	Currently included in risk processes?		Is this risk measured?			
		High (5)	Medium (3)	Low (1)	Mean	
Market Risks:						
Interest rate	89%	48%	46%	6%	3.84	94%
Equity	73%	42%	48%	10%	3.64	84%
Property/real estate	38%	26%	60%	14%	3.25	72%
Credit (asset default)	71%	40%	50%	10%	3.58	79%
Credit (counterparty)	62%	29%	55%	16%	3.26	66%
Currency	49%	45%	44%	11%	3.68	78%
Liquidity	63%	43%	38%	19%	3.47	72%
Insurance Risks:						
Mortality/longevity	69%	39%	49%	12%	3.56	84%
Morbidity	50%	29%	54%	17%	3.24	72%
Underwriting	65%	29%	59%	12%	3.33	48%
Non-life claims	43%	34%	58%	8%	3.52	83%
Catastrophe	64%	37%	44%	19%	3.38	71%
Lapse/surrender	69%	26%	55%	19%	3.16	72%
Other policyholder behavior	33%	6%	51%	43%	2.27	37%
Operational Risks:						
Event (e.g., technology failure, fraud, natural disasters)	63%	10%	53%	37%	2.47	37%
Business (e.g., sales practices, distribution, key person)	51%	12%	45%	43%	2.38	29%
None of the above	1%					3%

13. What methodology do you use for aggregating risk? Please select one response.

31% None 31% Multiple risks included in stochastic modeling

25% Correlation matrix 13% Other

IV. Economic Capital

14. Does your organization calculate economic capital (EC) (e.g., measure the amount of capital needed based on the risk of the business)? Please select one response.

53% Yes 28% Considering (continue with question 22) 19% No (continue with question 22)

15. Of the risks that are included in your risk processes, please select the risks that are included in your economic capital calculations. Please select all that apply.

Market Risks:	Insurance Risks:	Operational Risks:
90% Interest rate	60% Mortality/longevity	36% Event (e.g., technology failure, fraud, natural disasters)
79% Equity	49% Morbidity	35% Business (e.g., sales practices, distribution, key person)
45% Property/real estate	45% Underwriting	
69% Credit (asset default)	48% Non-life claims	
49% Credit (counterparty)	51% Catastrophe	
50% Currency	60% Lapse/surrender	
33% Liquidity	19% Other policyholder beha	avior

0% None of the above

16. Economic capital is normally defined as the assets, in excess of liabilities, required to cover losses at a certain risk tolerance level. For this purpose, what definition of liabilities do you use? Please select one response.

41% Statutory or regulatory liabilities 22% Best estimate liabilities

10% GAAP liabilities 9% Other

18% Mark-to-market liabilities

17. What measures of risk tolerance do you use? Please select all that apply.

49% Probability of ruin
16% Below target risk
14% Economic cost of ruin
3% Value at risk
31% Tail value at risk or conditional
tail expectation (CTE)

tail expectation (CTE)

18. Over what period do you assess risk? Please select one response.

4% Instantaneous 29% Run off of portfolio

32% 1 year 13% Other

22% 2-5 years

Economic Capital Applications	At Company Level	At Business Unit Level	At Product Level	Not Applicable
Measure risk-adjusted performance	65%	65%	44%	13%
Allocation of capital	71%	66%	50%	5%
Product pricing and design	20%	33%	78%	14%
Making strategic or tactical decisions	71%	56%	29%	4%
Shareholder communication	61%	16%	_	36%
Rating agency communication	71%	21%	3%	23%
Regulatory communication	59%	26%	3%	30%
Other	1%	_	_	99%

20. Are you planning to make further improvements or enhancements to your economic capital calculations or framework?

87% Yes 13% No (continue with question 22)

21. What are the goals of the planned or future improvements to the economic capital calculations or framework? Please select all that apply.

61% Extending the risks covered

89% Improving the modeling or measurement capabilities

71% Improving the applications of economic capital (e.g., performance measurement, decision making)

30% Improving the buy-in of stakeholders

34% Including correlation factors

3% Other

22. What are the main reasons you are not using economic capital or its applications more extensively? Please select all that apply.

47% Modeling/measurement issues 21% Too complex

61% Resource issues 7% Don't see the value of it

28% Data or information systems 2% Economic capital extensively used

19% Lack of clarity of objectives or benefits 6% Not applicable

15% Results not considered reliable enough 7% Other

23. How frequently do you report on risk to these two groups? Please select one response in each column.

	Board of Directors	Senior Management	
Once a month	8%	40%	
Once a quarter	48%	34%	
Once every year	19%	9%	
Do not formally report	16%	8%	
Twice each year	5%	3%	
Other	4%	6%	

24. Does your organization regularly monitor any of the following? Please select all that apply.

- 83% Compliance with internal risk guidelines
- 65% Compliance with external risk guidelines (e.g., Sarbanes-Oxley)
- 73% Key risk exposures by risk category
- 51% Key risk exposures at entity aggregate level
- 39% Key risk exposures at global aggregate level
- 2% Other
- 3% None of these

25. How does your organization internally communicate its key risk exposures and risk management activities? Please select all that apply.

- 78% Regular reports to executive committee/board of directors
- 29% Use of risk "dashboards" at the business or corporate level
- 49% On an ad hoc, as-needed basis
- 33% Regular reports to CRO
- 21% Use of regulatory reporting formats
 - 2% Other

26. How does your organization externally communicate with key stakeholders about risks and risk management activities? Please select all that apply.

- 41% Separate section devoted to risk management in annual report
- 29% Provide separate information to financial analysts
- 52% Provide separate information to rating agencies
- 35% Use regulatory reporting formats
- 3% Focus groups with key customers/suppliers/community
- 7% Do not externally communicate with stakeholders
- 5% Other

VI. Decision Making

27. Do you currently, or plan to, use any risk and capital management tools in your decision making regarding the following? Please select one response in each row.

	Currently Using	Plan to Use in Next 12-24 Months	Do Not Use and Have No Future Plans to Use
Strategic planning process	52%	29%	19%
Annual business planning	60%	25%	15%
Product pricing	62%	22%	16%
Product/business mix	48%	27%	25%
Product design	52%	23%	25%
Reinsurance purchasing	59%	22%	19%
M&A and divestiture	29%	23%	48%
Policyholder bonus/crediting policy	27%	17%	56%
Asset/investment strategy	67%	19%	14%
Market entry	22%	22%	56%

28. In which areas have risk management considerations resulted in a change of business decisions? Please select all that apply.

50% Strategic planning process 22% M&A and divestiture

53% Annual business planning 19% Policyholder bonus/crediting policy

61% Product pricing 64% Asset/investment strategy

40% Product/business mix 13% Market entry

47% Product design 4% Not applicable/none

51% Reinsurance purchasing 3% Other

29. What actions are you considering taking to optimize asset liability risk and return trade-off? Please select all that apply.

68% Closer duration matching 41% Analyzing tail risk

29% Dynamic hedging 7% None 39% Purchasing derivative instruments 6% Other

30. What are the reasons you are not using risk and capital management tools more in decision making? Please select all that apply.

34% Modeling/measurement tools aren't sophisticated enough

19% Don't have confidence in the results

28% Organizational barriers exist between areas that develop/run models and where business/strategic decisions are made

62% Resource issues

2% Have only just started risk and capital management

7% Not applicable

8% Other

20% Performance targets include return on risk-based or economic capital

11% Performance targets include increase of risk-adjusted value measure

17% Breach of risk guidelines attracts a penalty

3% Other

57% Not applicable

VII. Summary

32. How satisfied are you...

now satisfied are you	Satisfaction Level					
	High	Medium	Low	Not an Important Issue	Not Applicable	Mean
With your ability to identify risks?	32%	62%	5%	_	1%	3.53
With your ability to prioritize key risks?	28%	59%	11%	_	2%	3.34
With your capability to quantify the important market risks?	27%	50%	17%	4%	2%	3.23
With your capability to quantify the important insurance risks?	40%	47%	11%	1%	1%	3.59
With your capability to quantify the important operational risks?	10%	36%	48%	3%	3%	2.20
With your ability to accurately measure economic capital?	13%	41%	31%	6%	9%	2.59
With the capability to model the impact of the risks?	11%	56%	28%	2%	3%	2.66
With your asset liability management process?	31%	49%	13%	4%	3%	3.37
With your ability to hedge unwanted market risks?	15%	37%	28%	9%	11%	2.68
With your use of risk transfer techniques (e.g., reinsurance and securitization)?	21%	55%	14%	7%	3%	3.16
With your ability to set target returns?	21%	51%	23%	3%	2%	2.97
With your ability to use risk information in your decision making?	12%	54%	29%	2%	3%	2.65
With the extent performance measures reflect risk assessment?	5%	38%	42%	8%	7%	2.15
With your ability to measure shareholder value?	14%	50%	16%	5%	15%	2.95
With your ability to monitor key risk exposures?	25%	57%	16%	_	2%	3.18
With the quality of risk reporting?	17%	47%	34%	1%	1%	2.66
With the frequency of risk reporting?	26%	43%	29%	1%	1%	2.95
With your ability to aggregate risks across functions or businesses?	7%	40%	47%	3%	3%	2.15
That you have clear accountability assigned for key risk processes?	16%	49%	32%	1%	2%	2.67
That you have a coherent framework to guide the above activities?	17%	47%	33%	_	3%	2.66

VIII. Company Profile

33. What type of company are you? Please select all that apply.

47% Public stock 3% Fraternal

27% Private stock 14% Owned by a noninsurance parent

9% Mutual 4% Other

2% Mutual holding company

34. In which of the following businesses do you have a significant presence? Please select all that apply.

39% Personal lines property/casualty 21% Life/health reinsurance

33% Commercial lines property/casualty 8% Banking 18% Property/casualty reinsurance 14% Mutual funds

69% Life/health insurance 4% Other

35. In U.S. dollars, what were your total direct revenues for your last accounting year?

24% Over \$10 billion5% \$50 million to \$99 million13% \$5 billion to \$10 billion4% \$25 million to \$49 million18% \$1 billion to \$4.9 billion3% Less than \$25 million9% \$500 million to \$999 million3% Decline to answer21% \$100 million to \$499 millionMean: \$4.73 billion

36. In U.S. dollars, what were your total assets at the end of your last accounting year?

42% Over \$10 billion1% \$50 million to \$99 million11% \$5 billion to \$10 billion2% \$25 million to \$49 million28% \$1 billion to \$4.9 billion2% Less than \$25 million6% \$500 million to \$999 million1% Decline to answer7% \$100 million to \$499 millionMean: \$7.02 billion

37. Which best describes the scope of your operations? Please select one response.

31% International 8% European

15% North American 31% Presence limited to one country

South American
 8% Regional or provincial

5% Asian 1% Other

1% Australian

38. What is your headquarters country? Please select one response.

10% Asia/Paci	fic 39%	Europe			47%	North America	4%	South America
2% Australia	1%	Belgium	9%	Netherlands	4%	Bermuda	3%	Mexico
1% Hong Ko	ng 1%	Denmark	1%	Norway	11%	Canada	1%	Panama
1% India	2%	France	1%	Sweden	32%	United States		
3% Japan	5%	Germany	6%	Switzerland				
1% South Ko	rea 5%	Ireland	6%	United Kingdom				
1% Taiwan	2%	Italy						
1% Thailand								

ABOUT TOWERS PERRIN

Towers Perrin is a global professional services firm that helps organizations around the world optimize performance through effective people, risk and financial management. The firm provides innovative solutions to client issues in the areas of human resource consulting and administration services; management and actuarial consulting to the financial services industry; and reinsurance intermediary services.

The Tillinghast business of Towers Perrin provides global actuarial and management consulting to insurance and financial services companies and advises other organizations on risk financing and self-insurance. We help our clients with issues related to mergers, acquisitions and restructuring; financial and regulatory reporting; risk, capital and value management; products, markets and distribution; and financial modeling software solutions. More information about Tillinghast is available at www.towersperrin.com/tillinghast.

