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Contact:

John Meetz
Wholesale & Specialty Insurance Association (WSIA), Senior State Relations Manager
816.799.0863 | john@wsia.org



2021 Stamping Office Premium and Transaction Report
Surplus lines premium growth continues in 2021



Kansas City, MO – Kansas City, MO – According to the 2021 Annual Report of the U.S. Surplus Lines Stamping Offices, surplus lines premium increased 22% and transactions rebounded almost 6.6% over their 2020 totals in the states with surplus lines stamping offices. The increases represented record levels of premium (\$51 billion) and transactions (5.3 million) since the stamping offices began reporting aggregated data on an annual and semi-annual basis.



Each state reported double digit premium increases with Illinois leading the way at over 40%. David Ocasek, CEO of the Surplus Line Association of Illinois said, “Our numbers were incredibly strong, especially in the 3rd and 4th quarters. General and excess liability categories, including commercial general liability, cyber, pollution, products, and employment practices liability, led the way with a 60% increase versus prior year. Property, including all risk, increased 23%.”



North Carolina recorded the third highest premium increases of the stamping office states at almost 35%. “We saw greater than 100% increases in premium on classes of business such as cyber liability, excess personal liability and miscellaneous liability,” said Geoff Allen, Chief Operating Officer of the North Carolina Surplus Lines Association. “The largest increase in the number of transactions filed for a class of business in 2021 was primary residential flood insurance.”



California, the country’s largest surplus lines insurance market, reported premium increases of 18% and a 7% increase in transactions. David Kodama, Executive Vice President of the California SLA said, “The SLA recorded significant increases in item count and average premium for various coverages, including cyber, property and commercial auto. This growth coincides with reported increased activity in data breaches, ransomware attacks, wildfires, increased auto loss severity and emerging social and cost inflation.”



Even though transactions haven’t kept pace with premium, each state increased their total transactions over 2020, with the exception of Texas. Western states such as Idaho and Utah led the way with transaction increases of 23% and 13% respectively, likely due to their substantial increases in population growth.

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In all, the stamping office data indicates that the surplus lines industry continues to thrive as the economy recovers and inflation continues upward. “The data is quite telling and confirms what many industry leaders have been saying for the last two years,” said Dan Maher, Executive Director of the Excess Line Association of New York. “Premiums on renewals have increased substantially and at the same time the admitted market has retrenched in several areas, which is causing business to shift to the E&S market. The shift is across numerous lines of business from property with CAT loss exposures to liability risks such as excess, umbrella, D&O and cyber where social inflation and new exposures are of serious concern. I see a lot of new capacity in the E&S market which should moderate or stabilize pricing as that capacity is deployed in 2022.”

Stamping office states accounted for 63% of all U.S. surplus lines premium volume in 2020 providing a valuable indicator of the state of the total U.S. surplus lines market. State stamping and service offices are non-governmental entities that play a vital role in the surplus lines industry by facilitating compliance with surplus lines insurance regulations and tax filings as well as additional services for their respective memberships. A full list of stamping office contact information can be [found here](#).

These statistics are gathered and reported individually by each state stamping office and the data is aggregated and summarized by WSIA on their behalf.

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U.S. Surplus Lines Stamping Offices

Annual Report

	% of Change		2021		2020		Rates		Comments
	Premium	Items	Premium	Items	Premium	Items	Stamping Fee	S/L Tax	
Arizona	37.61%	10.10%	\$ 1,049,172,899	102,213	\$ 762,416,961	92,839	0.20%	3.00%	
California	18.35%	7.09%	13,198,659,432	830,700	11,152,070,780	775,731	0.25%	3.00%	
Florida	25.92%	10.43%	9,522,287,983	1,691,404	7,562,394,241	1,531,661	0.06%	4.94%	
Idaho	22.76%	23.14%	259,543,347	26,515	211,420,085	21,533	0.50%	1.50%	
Illinois	40.12%	10.43%	2,954,549,226	161,014	2,108,551,065	145,809	0.075%	3.50%	
Minnesota	18.80%	9.70%	875,515,950	54,761	736,945,086	49,921	0.04%	3.00%	
Mississippi	16.64%	7.59%	663,504,676	209,413	568,866,662	194,638	0.25%	4.00%	
Nevada	25.69%	6.35%	553,715,994	44,089	440,526,765	41,457	0.04%	3.50%	
New York	25.83%	6.43%	6,355,638,051	355,368	5,050,934,366	333,902	0.17%	3.60%	
North Carolina	34.70%	4.84%	1,359,142,801	204,135	1,009,020,889	194,712	0.40%	5.00%	
Oregon	26.93%	5.88%	747,924,502	76,146	589,263,333	71,916	\$10	2.30%	
Pennsylvania	23.60%	6.57%	2,140,806,918	238,013	1,732,009,949	223,345	\$20	3.00%	
Texas	14.87%	0.00%	9,101,554,699	1,059,939	7,923,685,230	1,059,958	0.075%	4.85%	Stamping fee changed to 0.075% for items with inception date on or after 1/1/2021
Utah	23.03%	12.90%	590,847,736	58,043	480,231,388	51,413	0.18%	4.25%	
Washington	17.98%	2.66%	1,628,400,276	147,905	1,380,208,260	144,067	0.10%	2.00%	
Totals	22.28%	6.62%	\$ 51,001,264,490	5,259,658	\$ 41,708,545,060	4,932,902			