

Research Report

Lapse Experience under Term-to-100 Insurance Policies

**Bob Howard, FCIA, and the
CIA Experience Research Committee**

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1 Introduction

1.1 Overview

This is the seventh lapse experience study covering Term-to-100 and similar insurance policies (collectively referred to as “T100”). That is, policies are included if they have a significant degree of lapse support; some policies may have cash values, but beginning at a higher duration than for normal policies, and the lapse support may continue even after cash values emerge.

Lapses have a significant impact on the financial results of these products. This study covers calendar years 2013–2019; the prior study covered 2005–2012. These studies have been useful to establish a benchmark for the possible level of the ultimate lapse rates.

Overall, compared to the prior study, lapse rates are lower than those observed before.

1.2 Data in study

The scope of this study is limited to Term-to-100 and similar products. This study includes all data received, but there are few data after the first 30 policy years. Less than 3% of exposure is after the 30th policy year, and less than 0.2% after the 35th.

All of the companies contributed data for the seven calendar years of the study: 2013–2019. However, not all were able to contribute data for all requested fields. For example, some lacked information on cash values and premiums. For most, cash-value information was missing or poor in quality. Accordingly, this report contains no reporting by cash values.

Some records were rejected for reasons such as being outside the study period and missing essential information, like date of birth.

A pivot table is available based on the data – see Section 8.

Policies that are on waiver or are paid-up are excluded from the study because the motivation for lapse or surrender is different from the majority of policies. Section 5.9 is the only one that includes paid-up policies for comparison with premium-paying ones.

1.3 Issue age, policy year, and duration

Data were submitted with dates of birth¹ and issue, and if appropriate dates of termination and conversion. The age used throughout this report is age nearest birthday. In the case of a conversion, issue age is the age at time of conversion, and not at the issue of the underlying policy.

“Policy year” and “duration” are often used as if synonyms. In this report a policy year is taken as starting on a policy anniversary and ending just before the next anniversary, a closed-open interval. By tradition, policy years are referred to by ordinals: first, second, third, etc., relative to the issue date. Duration is the exact number of years since issue and may be fractional. “Duration” can also refer to a year-long interval beginning at an integral number of years since

¹ Two companies submitted issue age rather than date of birth in accordance with their policy of not disclosing date of birth. In those cases, issue age was used directly.

issue; in that case, duration is referred to by cardinals: 0, 1, 2, etc. Both² terms are used in this report. Generally, “policy year” is used to refer to a one-year time interval, and “duration” to an exact time.

1.4 Table of lapse rates (*LapseT100*)

This study, like the prior one, compares lapse experience to that of a table developed from the submitted data, called [LapseT100](#). This table is the same one as in the prior study; that is, the table has not been updated for experience since 2012. Note that the table was developed on experience for issue ages 0–70 and policy years 1–30 and data of 2005–2012. The rates are extrapolated for another 10 policy years. Rates for issue age 70 are used for older ages, and rates for the 40th policy year are used for later policy years. There are separate rates for males and females, and for non-smokers, smokers, and smoking unknown.

LapseT100 is used to calculate actual-to-expected ratios that appear throughout the report. The actual-to-expected ratios are helpful in quantifying the variation in lapse rates between various subsets of the data and in highlighting the differences between this report and the prior one.

1.5 Data by subset

Table 1 shows a summary of all valid data and various subsets of them. Data that did not conform to the specifications for the study are excluded.

For this study, unlike the prior one, records for paid-up policies are distinguished. A policy that is paid-up cannot terminate in a lapse, although it can be surrendered if there are cash values.

In most cases in this report, the subset used, referred to as the “standard subset of data”, is all policies that are not paid-up or on disability waiver, have guaranteed rates, are base policies as opposed to riders, are single-life, and were issued as standard and not as a result of a conversion or a guaranteed insurability election (GIE). Although the standard subset is only about 63% of the valid data, it is more useful to consider because it is more homogeneous. Additional comparisons in Section 5 extend beyond the standard subset.

Table 1 includes columns of aggregate lapse rates; however, these columns should be used with care. The distribution by age and duration may differ substantially between the various subsets.

² Policy years are sometimes referred to by cardinals, but not in this report. Thus, the experience underlying the calculation of $q_{[x]+2}$, for example, might be referred to as “duration 2”, “third policy year”, or “policy year 3”. To avoid confusion, this report uses the second form almost exclusively.

Table 1. Summary of valid records submitted by category. Volume in thousands.						
	Exposure		Lapses		Agg Lapse Rate	
	Count	Vol (000)	Count	Vol (000)	Count	Vol (000)
All valid records	3,792,158	327,690,649	30,552	2,274,813	0.8%	0.7%
<i>less</i> Paid-up	276,559	18,380,481	1,586	113,621	0.6%	0.6%
Premium-paying	3,515,599	309,310,168	28,966	2,161,192	0.8%	0.7%
<i>less</i> Adjustable	90,004	8,024,430	693	63,863	0.8%	0.8%
Guaranteed policies	3,425,595	301,285,738	28,273	2,097,329	0.8%	0.7%
<i>less</i> Riders	415,148	26,146,441	5,512	261,721	1.3%	1.0%
Guaranteed, Base records	3,010,447	275,139,297	22,761	1,835,608	0.8%	0.7%
<i>less</i> Joint	176,523	31,076,402	893	166,193	0.5%	0.5%
Single, Gtd, Base records	2,833,925	244,062,895	21,868	1,669,414	0.8%	0.7%
<i>less</i> Substd, Conv, GIE	533,245	38,836,223	4,899	362,589	0.9%	0.9%
Standard subset of data	2,300,680	205,226,672	16,969	1,306,825	0.7%	0.6%

1.6 Contributing companies

On behalf of the CIA, we wish to thank the companies that contributed data to the study. We acknowledge their work and diligence in ensuring that their data were accurate.

There were eight contributing companies³ – see Table 2. The distribution of data by company differs from that of the prior study, as is to be expected with a seven-year gap between. In order to protect the confidentiality of company-specific experience, no comments will be made on the impact of the change.

Table 2. Distribution of exposure by volume by contributing company within the standard subset of data.	
Company	Distribution
Canada Life	10.3%
Desjardins	12.4%
Empire Life	3.9%
Industrial Alliance	10.3%
ivari	19.9%
Manulife	32.9%
RBC Insurance	7.5%
Sun Life	2.9%
All	100.0%

³ In the previous report, London Life was shown separately, but here is combined with Canada Life; Standard Life was distinguished, but it has been merged into Manulife; and ivari was known as Transamerica Life.

The overall ratios of actual to expected lapses vary considerably by company. Most have lower ratios in this study than in the prior one. After dropping the two highest and lowest ratios, the remaining ones are 75%, 76%, 77%, and 90%. Standard deviations are mostly in the neighbourhood of 5% but some are much higher. (Further details are not provided in order to keep company-specific information confidential.)

1.7 *Standard deviation*

Standard deviations are important in experience studies because they indicate how much fluctuation one might expect in the mean. Very approximately one might expect the “true” actual-to-expected ratio to be within one standard deviation either side of the observed mean two-thirds of the time, and within two standard deviations 95% of the time. If two ratios differ by more than the sum of their standard deviations, it is very likely that the difference is statistically significant. If the difference is more than double the sum of the standard deviations, the difference is highly significant.

It is important to note that the standard deviations calculated for this report are accurate if the underlying true lapse rates are those of LapseT100 and if policies are independent of each other with respect to their risk of lapsing. The formula for standard deviation is the one for the binomial distribution. To the extent that factors are at play other than age, duration, gender, and smoking, the actual standard deviation could be different from that calculated. For example, the variation in the overall actual-to-expected ratio by calendar year is greater than can be accounted for solely by statistical fluctuation; the volatility needs to be explained by some additional factors, such as changes in the economic environment. Nonetheless, the standard deviation is useful in assessing how much credibility to attach to a particular observation.

1.8 *Calculating exposure and standard deviation*

Exposure commences when a policy enters the study, either on January 1, 2013, or at issue if later, and continues until December 31, 2019, or the date of termination if earlier. The exception is that for a lapse, under the Balducci hypothesis, exposure continues to the next policy anniversary even if it be after December 31, 2019. Exposure by volume of insurance or premium is obtained by multiplying the exposure by policy by the relevant amount.

Standard deviations in the actual-to-expected ratios are calculated by the following formula,⁴ where K represents the relevant amount (volume of insurance or simply 1 if used for policy count) for a policy and n is the exposure by policy for that duration. The amounts are summed over all the policies included in the calculation. The formula assumes that the lapse amount is a linear combination of binomial distributions within each sex–smoking–age–duration cell.

⁴ A more precise formula could have been used instead, as was done in the recently published [individual life mortality study](#), but LapseT100 was considered to be close enough to the observed experience that the simpler formula is sufficiently accurate.

$$\text{Standard deviation of A/E by relevant amount} = \frac{\left(\sum_i K_i^2 n_i p_i q_i \right)^{0.5}}{\sum_i K_i n_i q_i}$$

2 Overall Results and Comparison with 2005–2012

Table 3 shows the overall exposure and lapse rates by policy count and by volume⁵ of insurance in thousands of dollars. The numbers for both the current and prior study use the standard subset of data.

Three observations are immediately apparent. The lapse rates for the current study are lower in every duration other than the first. The amount of data has decreased significantly, particularly in the earlier policy years, suggesting that much less T100 is being sold. The amount of data after about the 25th policy year has increased substantially, thereby improving the credibility of the lapse rates in those years.

⁵ In this report “volume” is synonymous with “sum assured” and “face amount”.

Table 3. Ungraduated lapse rates by policy year for the current and prior studies for the standard subset of data. Volume is sum assured in thousands of dollars.

Study of 2013–2019				Policy Year	Study of 2005–2012			
Exposure		Lapse Rates			Exposure		Lapse Rates	
Count	Vol (000)	Count	Volume		Count	Vol (000)	Count	Volume
28,191	1,944,786	6.2%	5.0%	1st	93,590	7,540,503	4.8%	4.2%
25,578	1,928,973	4.1%	3.9%	2nd	102,373	8,183,301	3.8%	4.0%
25,283	2,174,267	2.8%	2.8%	3rd	107,843	8,495,181	3.6%	3.5%
26,063	2,340,510	2.5%	2.4%	4th	111,829	8,688,229	2.8%	2.9%
28,242	2,704,896	2.0%	1.8%	5th	114,963	8,668,689	2.4%	2.6%
31,488	3,087,468	1.6%	1.5%	6th	120,482	8,809,975	1.9%	1.9%
36,424	3,620,427	1.5%	1.5%	7th	120,414	8,423,105	1.7%	1.6%
42,008	4,221,990	1.2%	1.1%	8th	126,776	8,194,009	1.5%	1.6%
47,917	4,702,655	1.1%	0.9%	9th	136,912	8,326,237	1.4%	1.5%
53,169	5,029,967	1.1%	1.0%	10th	149,351	8,787,573	1.6%	2.7%
55,339	5,170,975	1.3%	1.5%	11th	166,337	9,687,039	1.3%	1.6%
56,797	5,103,187	0.8%	0.7%	12th	189,945	11,963,632	1.0%	1.0%
56,732	4,885,617	0.8%	0.8%	13th	215,240	14,490,978	0.9%	0.9%
58,440	4,741,023	0.7%	0.7%	14th	228,414	15,991,309	0.8%	0.8%
60,630	4,586,805	0.6%	0.6%	15th	235,545	16,983,963	0.8%	0.7%
68,820	4,760,784	0.6%	0.6%	16th	236,640	17,756,950	0.8%	0.6%
79,701	5,094,279	0.5%	0.5%	17th	236,523	18,433,395	0.6%	0.5%
89,327	5,482,502	0.5%	0.4%	18th	228,167	18,349,027	0.5%	0.4%
101,368	6,445,752	0.5%	0.4%	19th	205,183	16,894,271	0.5%	0.4%
120,467	8,728,768	0.5%	0.4%	20th	172,833	14,101,863	0.8%	0.7%
123,380	10,325,164	0.8%	0.7%	21st	138,423	11,074,917	0.7%	0.8%
131,498	11,803,769	0.5%	0.4%	22nd	112,205	8,844,182	0.5%	0.5%
132,813	12,742,110	0.4%	0.4%	23rd	90,250	6,945,253	0.5%	0.4%
130,097	13,418,704	0.4%	0.3%	24th	66,979	4,991,599	0.4%	0.4%
131,581	14,227,735	0.4%	0.3%	25th	41,593	2,935,185	0.5%	0.5%
126,074	13,867,798	0.3%	0.3%	26th	22,672	1,488,561	0.5%	0.4%
108,315	11,805,150	0.3%	0.3%	27th	14,147	875,121	0.4%	0.4%
87,897	9,191,237	0.3%	0.2%	28th	9,784	566,048	0.5%	0.4%
71,918	7,168,415	0.3%	0.2%	29th	6,111	317,441	0.5%	0.3%
57,845	5,559,545	0.3%	0.2%	30th	2,764	88,780	0.6%	0.3%
107,277	8,361,414	0.3%	0.3%	>30th	1,947	47,953	1.0%	0.9%
2,300,680	205,226,672	0.7%	0.6%	All	3,806,236	276,944,268	1.3%	1.3%

Table 4 shows exposure and lapse rates by policy year for the standard subset of data for issue ages 18 and up, for non-smokers only, separately for males and females, and Table 5 similarly for smokers only. Policies classified as aggregate (not smoker-distinct) or issued under age 18 are excluded from both tables.

Table 4. Ungraduated lapse rates by policy year for the standard subset of data, for non-smokers only, issue ages 18+. Volume is sum assured in thousands of dollars.								
Adult Male Non-Smokers				Policy Year	Adult Female Non-Smokers			
Exposure		Lapse Rates			Exposure		Lapse Rates	
Count	Vol (000)	Count	Volume		Count	Vol (000)	Count	Volume
9,667	755,570	5.3%	3.8%	1st	13,856	978,439	5.6%	5.1%
9,008	789,275	4.1%	4.2%	2nd	12,602	954,765	3.5%	3.2%
9,200	934,473	2.8%	2.6%	3rd	12,432	1,049,933	2.4%	2.7%
9,641	1,002,721	2.4%	2.2%	4th	12,689	1,130,673	2.2%	2.3%
10,536	1,173,251	2.0%	1.7%	5th	13,501	1,275,625	1.8%	1.6%
11,780	1,374,050	1.6%	1.5%	6th	14,684	1,396,783	1.4%	1.2%
13,625	1,629,076	1.6%	1.8%	7th	16,690	1,597,646	1.2%	1.1%
15,668	1,907,738	1.2%	1.1%	8th	19,091	1,833,099	1.0%	0.9%
17,799	2,114,856	1.0%	0.8%	9th	21,532	2,023,571	0.9%	0.9%
19,688	2,277,585	1.1%	1.1%	10th	23,723	2,129,954	0.8%	0.8%
20,740	2,373,679	1.6%	1.8%	11th	24,898	2,182,917	0.9%	1.0%
21,097	2,331,922	0.8%	0.7%	12th	25,626	2,165,266	0.6%	0.6%
20,964	2,233,965	0.8%	0.9%	13th	25,630	2,077,250	0.7%	0.6%
21,438	2,165,472	0.7%	0.8%	14th	26,106	1,998,485	0.5%	0.5%
21,871	2,067,577	0.6%	0.7%	15th	26,858	1,937,930	0.4%	0.3%
24,130	2,111,640	0.7%	0.6%	16th	30,679	2,020,169	0.5%	0.7%
27,317	2,248,241	0.5%	0.5%	17th	35,396	2,126,941	0.4%	0.4%
30,390	2,452,625	0.4%	0.4%	18th	39,467	2,228,734	0.4%	0.4%
34,826	2,971,989	0.5%	0.4%	19th	44,260	2,516,464	0.4%	0.3%
43,001	4,344,764	0.5%	0.4%	20th	51,322	3,142,729	0.4%	0.3%
46,649	5,502,294	0.8%	0.7%	21st	52,196	3,514,658	0.6%	0.5%
50,521	6,456,928	0.5%	0.4%	22nd	54,866	3,889,536	0.4%	0.4%
52,466	7,108,303	0.4%	0.4%	23rd	53,828	4,070,585	0.3%	0.3%
53,061	7,633,815	0.3%	0.3%	24th	51,192	4,150,042	0.4%	0.3%
55,106	8,219,461	0.3%	0.2%	25th	50,341	4,271,915	0.3%	0.2%
53,975	8,145,545	0.3%	0.2%	26th	47,269	4,062,311	0.3%	0.2%
46,792	6,962,684	0.3%	0.3%	27th	40,194	3,446,631	0.2%	0.2%
38,077	5,422,150	0.2%	0.2%	28th	32,225	2,652,780	0.3%	0.2%

31,474	4,220,267	0.3%	0.3%	29th	25,935	2,047,150	0.2%	0.2%
25,443	3,291,916	0.2%	0.2%	30th	20,629	1,564,016	0.2%	0.2%
44,705	4,960,855	0.3%	0.3%	>30th	37,710	2,280,489	0.2%	0.2%
890,654	107,184,689	0.7%	0.6%	All	957,424	72,717,487	0.6%	0.6%

Table 5. Ungraduated lapse rates by policy year for the standard subset of data, for smokers only, issue ages 18+. Volume is sum assured in thousands of dollars.

Adult Male Smokers				Policy Year	Adult Female Smokers			
Exposure		Lapse Rates			Exposure		Lapse Rates	
Count	Vol (000)	Count	Volume		Count	Vol (000)	Count	Volume
1,959	92,627	10.0%	8.4%	1st	2,189	81,908	9.9%	10.0%
1,703	83,677	6.5%	4.6%	2nd	1,842	74,513	6.1%	6.8%
1,591	87,970	5.0%	4.2%	3rd	1,709	78,265	3.9%	4.2%
1,634	94,604	4.0%	4.3%	4th	1,730	86,023	3.8%	4.0%
1,747	108,458	3.2%	3.2%	5th	1,815	97,199	2.5%	2.6%
1,944	119,307	2.5%	3.2%	6th	2,014	111,397	2.5%	1.9%
2,236	136,361	2.3%	1.8%	7th	2,304	129,881	2.3%	2.5%
2,565	163,547	2.2%	2.7%	8th	2,671	153,964	1.6%	1.4%
2,957	186,417	2.0%	2.0%	9th	3,126	180,470	1.5%	1.0%
3,292	204,191	2.0%	1.6%	10th	3,532	196,693	1.4%	1.6%
3,403	210,557	2.7%	2.5%	11th	3,740	207,312	1.6%	2.3%
3,494	203,063	1.2%	1.5%	12th	3,995	214,386	0.8%	0.7%
3,588	198,094	1.6%	2.0%	13th	4,159	213,561	1.0%	0.8%
3,833	204,757	1.1%	1.3%	14th	4,548	224,370	0.7%	0.4%
4,132	213,154	1.1%	0.9%	15th	4,941	226,243	0.8%	0.6%
4,825	236,354	0.8%	0.5%	16th	6,079	255,038	0.7%	0.8%
5,881	275,514	0.9%	1.4%	17th	7,518	296,832	0.5%	0.4%
6,734	308,072	0.5%	0.3%	18th	8,656	331,938	0.6%	0.5%
7,695	373,419	0.7%	0.7%	19th	9,817	387,657	0.5%	0.8%
9,092	520,301	0.7%	0.7%	20th	11,354	484,027	0.5%	0.5%
9,280	596,354	1.0%	0.8%	21st	11,280	523,486	0.8%	0.9%
9,831	677,864	0.7%	0.7%	22nd	11,842	577,071	0.5%	0.5%
9,919	727,390	0.5%	0.3%	23rd	11,550	600,627	0.5%	0.4%
9,736	772,045	0.5%	0.5%	24th	10,887	604,627	0.4%	0.4%
10,062	830,730	0.4%	0.3%	25th	10,895	640,633	0.3%	0.2%
9,874	820,723	0.5%	0.4%	26th	10,388	611,129	0.4%	0.4%
8,573	696,081	0.4%	0.4%	27th	9,011	517,098	0.2%	0.2%

7,118	554,349	0.4%	0.4%	28th	7,465	413,723	0.2%	0.2%
5,924	440,318	0.3%	0.2%	29th	6,163	337,084	0.3%	0.3%
4,854	350,277	0.3%	0.3%	30th	4,999	262,227	0.2%	0.2%
8,874	533,080	0.3%	0.3%	>30th	9,489	393,044	0.3%	0.2%
168,348	11,019,654	1.1%	0.9%	All	191,708	9,512,427	0.8%	0.8%

Tables 6 and 7 are based on the same data as tables 4 and 5, but by volume of insurance only. The columns are exposure, lapse rates, the ratio of actual to expected lapses, and the standard deviation in the actual-to-expected ratios. The volume of expected lapses and the standard deviations are calculated on LapseT100.

Table 6. Ungraduated lapse rates by policy year for the standard subset of data, for non-smokers only, issue ages 18+. Expected on LapseT100. Volume is sum assured in thousands of dollars.

Adult Male Non-Smokers				Policy Year	Adult Female Non-Smokers			
Vol (000)	Lapse Rate	A/E	Std Dev		Vol (000)	Lapse Rate	A/E	Std Dev
755,570	3.8%	113%	15%	1st	978,439	5.1%	145%	15%
789,275	4.2%	136%	16%	2nd	954,765	3.2%	105%	16%
934,473	2.6%	94%	17%	3rd	1,049,933	2.7%	99%	16%
1,002,721	2.2%	83%	15%	4th	1,130,673	2.3%	100%	16%
1,173,251	1.7%	69%	15%	5th	1,275,625	1.6%	81%	16%
1,374,050	1.5%	65%	14%	6th	1,396,783	1.2%	71%	14%
1,629,076	1.8%	78%	13%	7th	1,597,646	1.1%	75%	12%
1,907,738	1.1%	53%	14%	8th	1,833,099	0.9%	65%	12%
2,114,856	0.8%	42%	13%	9th	2,023,571	0.9%	76%	12%
2,277,585	1.1%	58%	13%	10th	2,129,954	0.8%	73%	12%
2,373,679	1.8%	111%	13%	11th	2,182,917	1.0%	107%	13%
2,331,922	0.7%	55%	14%	12th	2,165,266	0.6%	72%	14%
2,233,965	0.9%	78%	16%	13th	2,077,250	0.6%	88%	17%
2,165,472	0.8%	90%	18%	14th	1,998,485	0.5%	85%	18%
2,067,577	0.7%	111%	18%	15th	1,937,930	0.3%	61%	19%
2,111,640	0.6%	104%	19%	16th	2,020,169	0.7%	145%	19%
2,248,241	0.5%	100%	24%	17th	2,126,941	0.4%	82%	18%
2,452,625	0.4%	84%	23%	18th	2,228,734	0.4%	98%	18%
2,971,989	0.4%	94%	21%	19th	2,516,464	0.3%	73%	17%
4,344,764	0.4%	86%	17%	20th	3,142,729	0.3%	84%	16%
5,502,294	0.7%	146%	16%	21st	3,514,658	0.5%	131%	19%
6,456,928	0.4%	69%	17%	22nd	3,889,536	0.4%	87%	19%
7,108,303	0.4%	71%	16%	23rd	4,070,585	0.3%	71%	19%
7,633,815	0.3%	50%	16%	24th	4,150,042	0.3%	70%	19%
8,219,461	0.2%	50%	15%	25th	4,271,915	0.2%	58%	18%
8,145,545	0.2%	54%	16%	26th	4,062,311	0.2%	56%	19%
6,962,684	0.3%	67%	18%	27th	3,446,631	0.2%	53%	21%
5,422,150	0.2%	58%	22%	28th	2,652,780	0.2%	70%	21%

4,220,267	0.3%	82%	22%	29th	2,047,150	0.2%	56%	22%
3,291,916	0.2%	56%	25%	30th	1,564,016	0.2%	52%	23%
4,960,855	0.3%	106%	19%	>30th	2,280,489	0.2%	67%	17%
107,184,689	0.6%	77%	3%	All	72,717,487	0.6%	86%	3%

Table 7. Ungraduated lapse rates by policy year for the standard subset of data, for smokers only, issue ages 18+. Expected on Lapset100. Volume is sum assured in thousands of dollars.

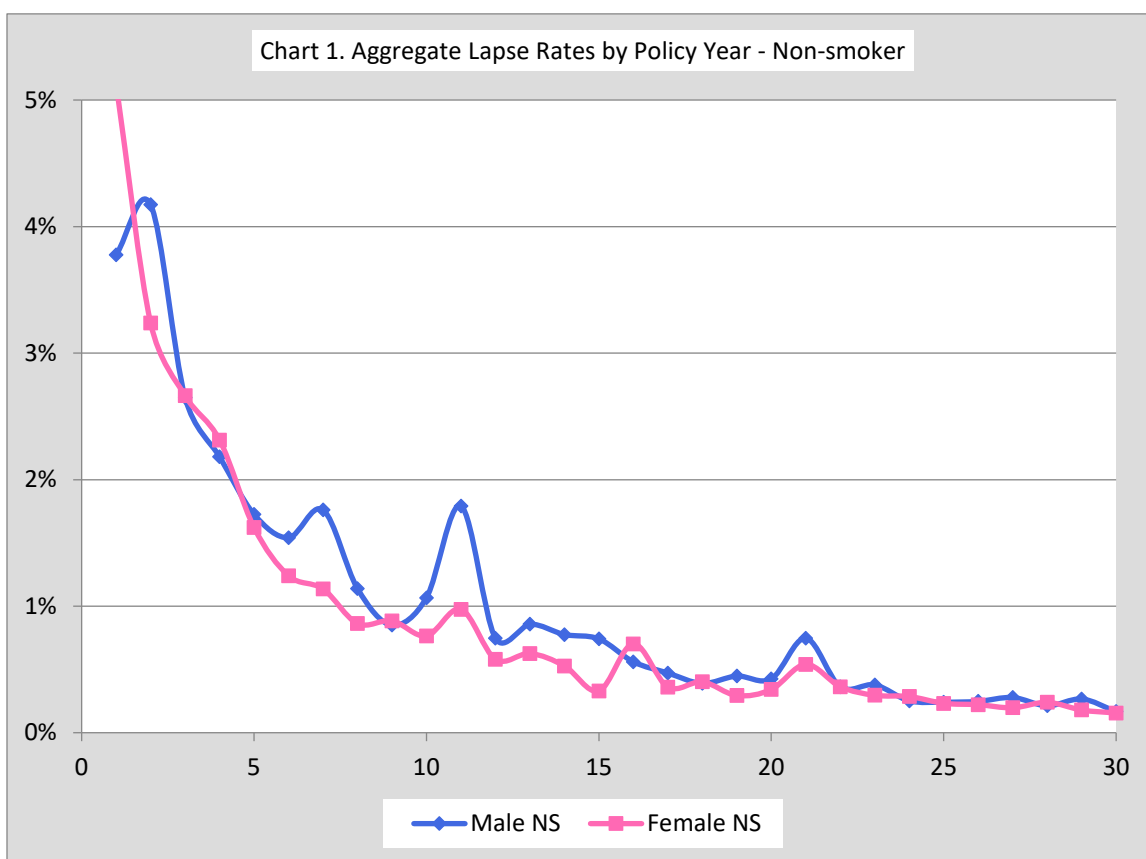
Adult Male Smokers				Policy Year	Adult Female Smokers			
Vol (000)	Lapse Rate	A/E	Std Dev		Vol (000)	Lapse Rate	A/E	Std Dev
92,627	8.4%	103%	18%	1st	81,908	10.0%	144%	14%
83,677	4.6%	66%	17%	2nd	74,513	6.8%	115%	15%
87,970	4.2%	70%	18%	3rd	78,265	4.2%	89%	17%
94,604	4.3%	85%	19%	4th	86,023	4.0%	100%	18%
108,458	3.2%	75%	20%	5th	97,199	2.6%	77%	19%
119,307	3.2%	87%	20%	6th	111,397	1.9%	69%	20%
136,361	1.8%	59%	20%	7th	129,881	2.5%	109%	20%
163,547	2.7%	100%	22%	8th	153,964	1.4%	74%	35%
186,417	2.0%	87%	22%	9th	180,470	1.0%	65%	42%
204,191	1.6%	76%	23%	10th	196,693	1.6%	113%	42%
210,557	2.5%	135%	25%	11th	207,312	2.3%	195%	46%
203,063	1.5%	94%	26%	12th	214,386	0.7%	72%	59%
198,094	2.0%	137%	27%	13th	213,561	0.8%	86%	72%
204,757	1.3%	103%	28%	14th	224,370	0.4%	46%	72%
213,154	0.9%	77%	27%	15th	226,243	0.6%	77%	65%
236,354	0.5%	52%	26%	16th	255,038	0.8%	119%	53%
275,514	1.4%	157%	28%	17th	296,832	0.4%	66%	47%
308,072	0.3%	40%	26%	18th	331,938	0.5%	81%	43%
373,419	0.7%	88%	24%	19th	387,657	0.8%	129%	30%
520,301	0.7%	89%	32%	20th	484,027	0.5%	95%	24%
596,354	0.8%	112%	32%	21st	523,486	0.9%	163%	28%
677,864	0.7%	97%	31%	22nd	577,071	0.5%	93%	33%
727,390	0.3%	43%	30%	23rd	600,627	0.4%	90%	33%
772,045	0.5%	86%	31%	24th	604,627	0.4%	89%	34%
830,730	0.3%	53%	32%	25th	640,633	0.2%	50%	35%
820,723	0.4%	80%	33%	26th	611,129	0.4%	101%	36%
696,081	0.4%	109%	31%	27th	517,098	0.2%	54%	30%

554,349	0.4%	118%	34%	28th	413,723	0.2%	71%	28%
440,318	0.2%	53%	37%	29th	337,084	0.3%	97%	30%
350,277	0.3%	95%	41%	30th	262,227	0.2%	58%	34%
533,080	0.3%	86%	31%	>30th	393,044	0.2%	65%	26%
11,019,654	0.9%	86%	5%	All	9,512,427	0.8%	97%	6%

As shown in the tables above, there are peaks in actual lapse rates relative to expected for the 11th, 16th, and 21st policy years with valleys in-between. A study of the durations of cash-value onset shows that there is a heaping at durations 10 and 20, and at 15 to a lesser extent. It is likely that there are higher lapses at these policy years because cash values have become available and some policyholders were holding off on lapsing until cash values commenced. Ideally the experience for policy years in which cash values are available would be analyzed separately from policy years with no cash values, but unfortunately not enough companies were able to provide information on cash values, their size, or when they commenced.

It is worth noting that although in the prior study the overall actual-to-expected ratios are close to 100% in each of the four cases, in this study only female smokers are statistically close to 100%. This is confirmation that actual lapse rates have continued to decline.

Charts 1 and 2 show the raw aggregate lapse rates for non-smokers and smokers, respectively. The information is taken from tables 6 and 7. The blue lines are for males and the pink for females.



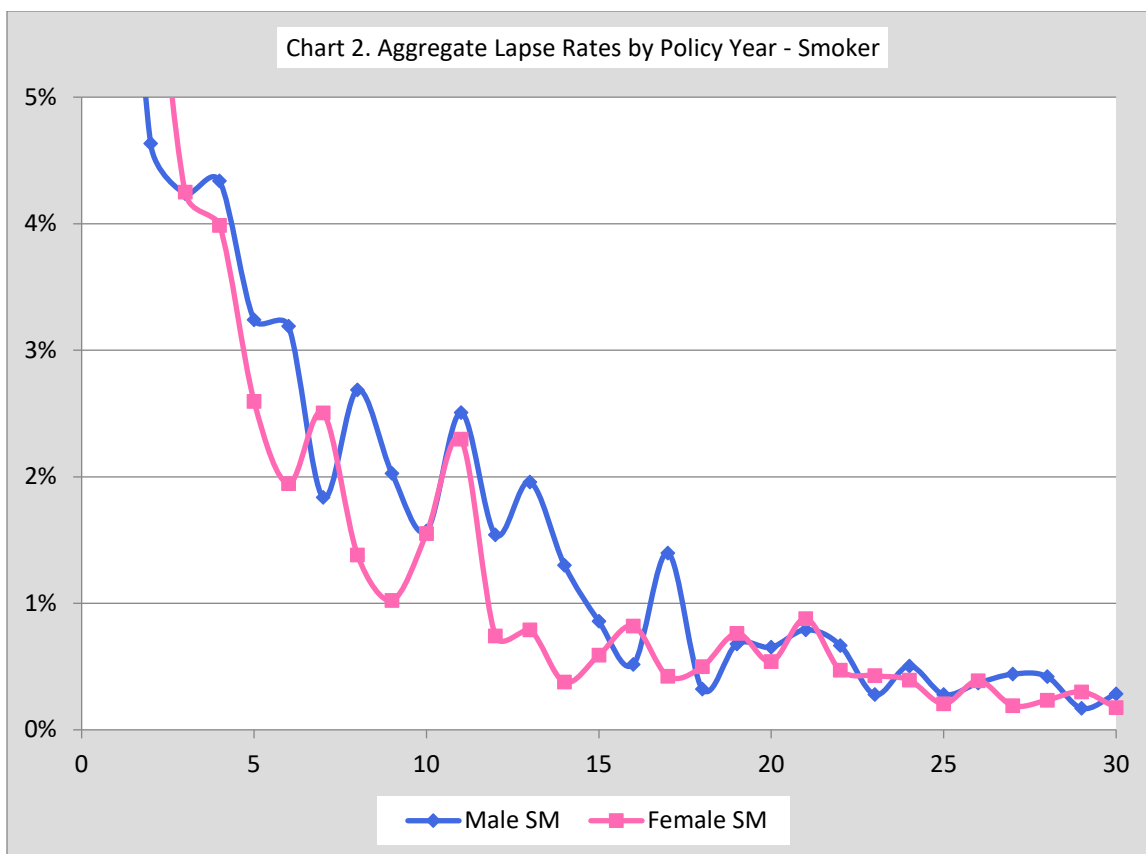


Table 8 shows the ratio of actual lapses to tabular lapses on male non-smoker LapseT100; that is, the male non-smoker table is used to calculate the tabular lapses for all four subsets. (The word “tabular” is used rather than “expected” because one does not expect lapses to be consistent with rates for male non-smokers in the other three cases.) The same tabular is used for all to emphasize the variation in lapse rates across sex and smoking status.

Pol Yr	M NS	M Sm	F NS	F Sm
1–5th	98%	166%	103%	187%
6–10th	59%	104%	46%	75%
11–15th	88%	141%	56%	81%
16–20th	93%	137%	84%	115%
21–25th	73%	95%	66%	90%
26–30th	62%	91%	52%	70%
>25th	67%	91%	54%	69%
>15th	75%	103%	67%	91%
All	77%	119%	68%	101%

The difference in ratios is much larger between smoker and non-smoker than between male and female. The differentials generally trend downward with increasing duration. Male lapse ratios are generally higher than female, and those for smoker higher than non-smoker.

For those who relate better to lapse rates than actual-to-tabular ratios, Table 9 presents the same data as Table 8 but with the aggregate lapse rates for each cell.

Pol Yr	M NS	M Sm	F NS	F Sm
1–5th	2.8%	4.9%	2.9%	5.4%
6–10th	1.2%	2.2%	1.0%	1.6%
11–15th	1.0%	1.6%	0.6%	0.9%
16–20th	0.5%	0.7%	0.4%	0.6%
21–25th	0.4%	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%
26–30th	0.2%	0.4%	0.2%	0.3%
>25th	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%
>15th	0.3%	0.5%	0.3%	0.4%
All	0.6%	0.9%	0.6%	0.8%

3 Experience by Calendar Year

Table 10 shows ratios of actual to expected lapses by volume of insurance for each calendar year included in the study. The last column shows the standard deviation in the actual-to-expected ratio for 2019 only; the standard deviations for other years are fairly similar.

Policy Year	Calendar Year of Experience								Std Dev 2019
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2013–19	
1–5th	72%	106%	116%	102%	108%	103%	131%	102%	13%
6–10th	58%	69%	75%	59%	71%	61%	74%	66%	15%
11–15th	100%	84%	91%	66%	95%	84%	99%	88%	14%
16–20th	85%	119%	98%	69%	83%	78%	82%	90%	19%
21–25th	82%	83%	71%	68%	71%	78%	93%	77%	15%
26–30th	46%	43%	55%	65%	72%	67%	70%	64%	15%
>25th	46%	42%	76%	64%	74%	69%	69%	67%	12%
>15th	80%	86%	79%	67%	74%	74%	77%	77%	9%
All	74%	86%	87%	71%	84%	79%	92%	81%	6%

There is no clear pattern of increase or decrease by year of experience. Actual-to-expected ratios were lowest in 2016 and highest in 2019. The difference between the ratios for those two

years is greater than could be accounted for on statistical fluctuation alone, but there is nothing in the data to suggest another explanation.

Table 11 is based on the same data as Table 10, but it shows the aggregate lapse rate each year for the ranges of policy years shown.

Table 11. Aggregate lapse rates for the standard subset of data by calendar year of experience.									
Policy Year	Calendar Year of Experience								Std Dev 2019
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2013–19	
1–5th	2.14%	3.10%	3.39%	3.03%	3.26%	3.08%	3.91%	3.04%	0.37%
6–10th	1.05%	1.24%	1.32%	1.04%	1.25%	1.04%	1.22%	1.17%	0.24%
11–15th	0.96%	0.83%	0.91%	0.66%	0.92%	0.80%	0.94%	0.86%	0.14%
16–20th	0.44%	0.61%	0.50%	0.35%	0.42%	0.39%	0.40%	0.46%	0.09%
21–25th	0.41%	0.42%	0.36%	0.34%	0.35%	0.38%	0.45%	0.38%	0.08%
26–30th	0.19%	0.18%	0.22%	0.25%	0.27%	0.26%	0.27%	0.25%	0.06%
>25th	0.18%	0.17%	0.30%	0.24%	0.28%	0.26%	0.25%	0.25%	0.04%
>15th	0.40%	0.42%	0.37%	0.31%	0.33%	0.31%	0.31%	0.35%	0.04%
All	0.68%	0.74%	0.71%	0.55%	0.62%	0.55%	0.61%	0.64%	0.04%

4 Experience by Age and Policy Year

Tables 12–15 show actual-to-expected ratios of lapses by volume for quinquennial groups of policy years and decennial groups of adult issue ages. There is a separate table for each of male non-smoker, female non-smoker, male smoker, and female smoker. To provide a wider range of information each table also includes a section with standard deviations of the actual-to-expected ratios and the aggregate lapse rates.

In all four tables, we see lapse rates tend to decrease with increasing issue age within each policy-year group. The trend in actual-to-expected ratios is less clear, but there appears to be a general downward trend in the ratios with increasing issue age; that implies that the negative slope in lapse rates by age is somewhat steeper in 2013–2019 than in 2005–2012.

Table 12. Actual-to-expected ratios, standard deviations and lapse rates for the standard subset of data by groups of issue ages and policy years. Expected is calculated on LapseT100.								
	Policy Year	Male Non-Smoker by Issue Age Group						
		18–29	30–39	40–49	50–59	60–69	70+	18+
Actual-to-Expected	1–5th	103%	100%	76%	113%	102%	91%	98%
	6–10th	64%	71%	60%	46%	51%	112%	59%
	11–15th	91%	87%	98%	66%	113%	163%	88%
	16–20th	72%	100%	104%	110%	68%	47%	93%
	21–25th	87%	75%	83%	63%	36%	46%	73%
	26–30th	69%	70%	64%	30%	33%	25%	62%

	>25th	73%	76%	68%	33%	51%	25%	67%
	>15th	78%	79%	82%	63%	47%	45%	75%
	All	81%	81%	78%	66%	74%	100%	77%
Standard Deviation	1–5th	13%	20%	17%	16%	10%	28%	7%
	6–10th	11%	13%	14%	10%	14%	58%	6%
	11–15th	14%	14%	16%	11%	22%	98%	7%
	16–20th	16%	14%	16%	19%	48%	104%	9%
	21–25th	16%	13%	13%	16%	33%	69%	7%
	26–30th	15%	14%	19%	25%	55%	163%	9%
	>25th	13%	13%	17%	24%	53%	162%	8%
	>15th	9%	8%	9%	11%	24%	60%	5%
	All	6%	6%	6%	6%	9%	27%	3%
	Aggregate Lapse Rate	1–5th	3.7%	3.0%	2.2%	2.9%	2.8%	2.1%
6–10th		1.3%	1.2%	1.3%	1.3%	0.8%	1.2%	1.2%
11–15th		1.0%	0.9%	1.1%	1.1%	0.9%	0.7%	1.0%
16–20th		0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.5%
21–25th		0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.4%
26–30th		0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%
>25th		0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%
>15th		0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%
All		0.6%	0.5%	0.6%	0.7%	0.7%	0.8%	0.6%

Table 13. Actual-to-expected ratios, standard deviations and lapse rates for the standard subset of data by groups of issue ages and policy years. Expected is calculated on LapseT100.

	Policy Year	Female Non-Smoker by Issue Age Group						
		18–29	30–39	40–49	50–59	60–69	70+	18+
Actual-to-Expected	1–5th	128%	118%	122%	106%	78%	131%	108%
	6–10th	65%	83%	62%	78%	84%	58%	72%
	11–15th	71%	72%	90%	106%	104%	47%	85%
	16–20th	77%	96%	87%	180%	61%	45%	96%
	21–25th	96%	104%	73%	54%	45%	43%	82%
	26–30th	55%	65%	58%	44%	33%	16%	57%
	>25th	56%	67%	57%	49%	31%	16%	59%
	>15th	77%	89%	73%	93%	49%	43%	79%
	All	82%	91%	84%	96%	73%	85%	86%
rd Deviat	1–5th	13%	21%	18%	15%	14%	23%	7%
	6–10th	9%	12%	10%	15%	19%	47%	6%

Aggregate Lapse Rate	11–15th	12%	15%	13%	18%	21%	65%	7%
	16–20th	13%	13%	17%	20%	30%	59%	8%
	21–25th	15%	13%	15%	36%	28%	46%	8%
	26–30th	14%	15%	21%	58%	51%	108%	10%
	>25th	12%	13%	20%	54%	50%	107%	9%
	>15th	8%	8%	10%	21%	19%	38%	5%
	All	5%	6%	6%	9%	9%	19%	3%
	1–5th	4.6%	3.8%	3.5%	2.6%	1.8%	2.7%	2.9%
	6–10th	1.2%	1.4%	1.0%	0.8%	0.6%	0.4%	1.0%
	11–15th	0.8%	0.6%	0.9%	0.6%	0.3%	0.1%	0.6%
	16–20th	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.6%	0.2%	0.1%	0.4%
	21–25th	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%
	26–30th	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%
	>25th	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%
	>15th	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%
	All	0.6%	0.6%	0.7%	0.7%	0.5%	0.5%	0.6%

Table 14. Actual-to-expected ratios, standard deviations and lapse rates for the standard subset of data by groups of issue ages and policy years. Expected is calculated on LapseT100.

	Policy Year	Male Smoker by Issue Age Group						
		18–29	30–39	40–49	50–59	60–69	70+	18+
Actual-to-Expected	1–5th	88%	74%	92%	60%	103%	81%	81%
	6–10th	79%	74%	79%	85%	106%	228%	82%
	11–15th	107%	58%	139%	125%	338%	166%	112%
	16–20th	54%	100%	63%	73%	546%	0%	86%
	21–25th	97%	76%	74%	69%	50%	0%	78%
	26–30th	138%	68%	120%	34%	41%	0%	92%
	>25th	132%	68%	120%	34%	40%	0%	91%
	>15th	91%	79%	81%	66%	233%	0%	84%
	All	90%	75%	92%	74%	141%	129%	86%
Standard Deviation	1–5th	16%	18%	24%	15%	17%	52%	8%
	6–10th	18%	20%	20%	20%	20%	72%	10%
	11–15th	21%	25%	23%	22%	66%	188%	12%
	16–20th	25%	28%	21%	22%	103%	294%	13%
	21–25th	23%	25%	22%	37%	92%	222%	14%
	26–30th	24%	25%	35%	82%	147%	505%	16%

Aggregate Lapse Rate	>25th	22%	23%	33%	77%	143%	505%	15%
	>15th	14%	15%	14%	22%	64%	178%	8%
	All	8%	10%	10%	10%	15%	41%	5%
	1–5th	6.5%	4.7%	5.5%	3.8%	4.4%	2.5%	4.9%
	6–10th	2.3%	2.6%	2.2%	1.6%	2.0%	3.4%	2.2%
	11–15th	2.0%	1.0%	2.2%	1.3%	1.6%	0.7%	1.6%
	16–20th	0.7%	0.7%	0.5%	0.5%	1.9%	0.0%	0.7%
	21–25th	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%	0.3%	0.0%	0.5%
	26–30th	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.4%
	>25th	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.3%
	>15th	0.6%	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%	1.1%	0.0%	0.5%
	All	1.1%	0.6%	1.0%	1.0%	1.9%	1.7%	0.9%

Table 15. Actual-to-expected ratios, standard deviations and lapse rates for the standard subset of data by groups of issue ages and policy years. Expected is calculated on LapseT100.								
	Policy Year	Female Smoker by Issue Age Group						
		18–29	30–39	40–49	50–59	60–69	70+	18+
Actual-to-Expected	1–5th	76%	98%	164%	112%	110%	156%	110%
	6–10th	85%	59%	119%	87%	111%	46%	86%
	11–15th	79%	91%	94%	106%	241%	790%	100%
	16–20th	77%	141%	79%	94%	118%	0%	98%
	21–25th	117%	90%	114%	82%	20%	32%	98%
	26–30th	81%	84%	59%	88%	21%	0%	79%
	>25th	76%	84%	54%	94%	19%	0%	77%
	>15th	91%	100%	90%	88%	63%	12%	93%
	All	85%	91%	112%	100%	108%	151%	97%
Standard Deviation	1–5th	16%	13%	20%	16%	20%	115%	7%
	6–10th	19%	15%	51%	27%	43%	141%	15%
	11–15th	20%	24%	78%	42%	64%	155%	28%
	16–20th	17%	21%	60%	27%	59%	166%	17%
	21–25th	23%	17%	32%	87%	61%	199%	14%
	26–30th	22%	18%	43%	182%	182%	659%	16%
	>25th	20%	16%	39%	166%	177%	659%	14%
	>15th	12%	10%	28%	46%	42%	126%	9%
	All	8%	7%	22%	17%	17%	68%	6%
Aggregate Lapse Rate	1–5th	5.9%	9.0%	7.2%	4.2%	3.0%	2.4%	5.4%
	6–10th	2.3%	2.2%	1.8%	1.0%	0.8%	0.4%	1.6%
	11–15th	1.2%	1.1%	0.9%	0.6%	0.9%	2.5%	0.9%
	16–20th	0.6%	0.9%	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.6%
	21–25th	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%	0.1%	0.2%	0.5%
	26–30th	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%
	>25th	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%
	>15th	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.1%	0.4%
	All	0.7%	0.7%	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%	0.8%

Table 16 completes the picture of Tables 12–15 by showing quinquennial issue age groups for juveniles. Neither gender nor smoking status is distinguished.

Table 16. Actual-to-expected ratios, standard deviations and lapse rates for the standard subset of data by groups of issue ages and policy years. Expected is calculated on LapseT100.					
	Policy Year	Male and Female, All Smoking Types			
		0-4	5-9	10-17	0-17
Actual-to-Expected	1-5th	145%	98%	182%	153%
	6-10th	91%	81%	68%	79%
	11-15th	67%	34%	72%	65%
	16-20th	37%	35%	57%	47%
	21-25th	63%	75%	77%	72%
	26-30th	65%	105%	91%	87%
	>25th	65%	103%	82%	82%
	>15th	54%	66%	71%	65%
	All	75%	67%	79%	76%
Standard Deviation	1-5th	44%	34%	21%	20%
	6-10th	15%	25%	15%	10%
	11-15th	18%	27%	14%	10%
	16-20th	14%	20%	13%	9%
	21-25th	14%	23%	14%	9%
	26-30th	22%	29%	22%	14%
	>25th	21%	27%	20%	13%
	>15th	9%	13%	9%	6%
	All	8%	10%	6%	4%
Aggregate Lapse Rate	1-5th	3.9%	3.1%	5.7%	4.5%
	6-10th	1.6%	1.4%	1.2%	1.4%
	11-15th	0.7%	0.5%	1.2%	0.9%
	16-20th	0.4%	0.5%	0.8%	0.6%
	21-25th	0.7%	0.9%	0.9%	0.8%
	26-30th	0.8%	1.2%	1.1%	1.0%
	>25th	0.8%	1.2%	1.0%	1.0%
	>15th	0.6%	0.8%	0.9%	0.8%
	All	1.0%	1.0%	1.2%	1.1%

Table 17 is organized similarly to the five tables above. However, it shows numbers by groups of attained ages for experience after the first 15 policy years. The section for lapse rates shows that smoker lapse rates continue to be higher than non-smoker. There is a general downward trend as attained age increases.

Table 17. Actual-to-expected ratios, standard deviations and lapse rates for the standard subset of data by groups of attained age. Expected is calculated on LapseT100.								
	Risk Class	Attained Ages, Excluding First 15 Policy Years						
		18–39	40–49	50–59	60–69	70–79	80+	18+
Act/Exp	M NS	82%	92%	77%	85%	65%	43%	75%
	M Sm	44%	98%	88%	70%	98%	84%	84%
	F NS	80%	90%	84%	95%	58%	46%	79%
	F Sm	55%	122%	95%	85%	90%	42%	93%
Std Dev	M NS	22%	12%	9%	8%	11%	18%	5%
	M Sm	31%	19%	15%	14%	22%	51%	8%
	F NS	21%	11%	7%	9%	14%	22%	5%
	F Sm	28%	16%	10%	22%	35%	62%	9%
Lapse Rate	M NS	0.8%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%
	M Sm	0.6%	0.8%	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%
	F NS	0.6%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%
	F Sm	0.5%	0.7%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.2%	0.4%

5 Experience for Other Subsets

5.1 Joint type

Records submitted distinguish between single life policies, joint first-to-die, joint last-to-die, and other or unknown joint policies. (Because not many companies classified records as Other or Unknown, and because the experience could vary considerably by the actual joint type, these records are excluded from this report and from the pivot table.) The lapse experience varies markedly between these joint types. Note that LapseT100 was constructed on single life policies only.

Table 18 shows the actual-to-expected ratios for the various joint types for issue ages 18 and higher. The table is based on the standard subset of data expanded to include joint policies. There is one note of caution for the expected lapses for joint policies. The expected lapses are calculated on LapseT100 for sex and smoking status of the older life in the case of joint policies. The reason is that the records for joint policies show only the older life. Nothing is known of the other life.

Table 18. Experience by joint type for ages 18+ for standard subset expanded for joint. Expected lapses are calculated on LapseT100. Volume in thousands.					
Policy Year	Joint Type	Exposure		Actual/Expected	
		Count	Vol (000)	Count	Volume
All	Single	2,218,217	200,969,920	95%	82%
	First to die	101,011	9,768,703	99%	100%
	Last to die	50,492	18,181,566	49%	72%
	All	2,369,720	228,920,190	94%	81%
1–15th	Single	607,098	54,448,840	97%	84%
	First to die	11,962	1,299,343	111%	132%
	Last to die	18,108	5,328,824	55%	53%
	All	637,168	61,077,008	96%	83%
>15th	Single	1,611,119	146,521,080	92%	77%
	First to die	89,049	8,469,360	93%	83%
	Last to die	32,384	12,852,743	40%	94%
	All	1,732,552	167,843,182	91%	79%
All	Other	3,659	1,266,210	59%	45%
1–15th	Other	1,214	588,646	68%	56%
>15th	Other	2,444	677,564	46%	21%

Actual-to-expected ratios for joint first-to-die are a little higher than for single life. The ratios for joint last-to-dies are markedly lower than for single life, especially for earlier policy years. However, the mix of business within each category can be very different. Note that the average face amount for single is \$91k, for first-to-die \$97k, and \$360k for last-to-die.

5.2 Base/rider

Records distinguish between base coverages and riders. LapseT100 was constructed using records from base coverages only. Table 19 shows summaries for base coverages compared to riders. The table is based on the standard subset expanded to include riders.

Table 19. Experience by base or rider for standard subset expanded for coverage type. Expected lapses are calculated on LapseT100. Volume is sum assured in thousands.

Policy Year	Coverage Type	Exposure		Actual/Expected	
		Count	Vol (000)	Count	Volume
All	Base	2,300,680	205,226,672	95%	81%
	Rider	377,865	24,244,375	109%	80%
	All	2,678,544	229,471,047	98%	81%
1–15th	Base	632,302	56,243,546	97%	84%
	Rider	234,874	15,943,450	95%	69%
	All	867,176	72,186,997	97%	81%
>15th	Base	1,668,377	148,983,126	92%	77%
	Rider	142,990	8,300,925	163%	139%
	All	1,811,368	157,284,050	100%	81%

Riders experience lower actual-to-expected ratios than base plans in earlier policy years and higher in later policy years.

5.3 Rating

Most companies indicated the mortality rating on each record. Two could not distinguish, and all records were marked as standard. LapseT100 was constructed from records marked as standard only.

Table 20 compares the lapse experience of standard policies and two bands of substandard ratings. The table is based on the standard subset expanded to include all ratings.

Table 20. Experience by mortality rating for standard subset expanded to all ratings. Expected lapses are calculated on LapseT100. Volume is sum assured in thousands.

Policy Year	Rating	Exposure		Actual/Expected	
		Count	Vol (000)	Count	Volume
All	Standard	2,300,680	205,226,672	95%	81%
	101–200%	174,612	8,080,780	89%	87%
	>200%	8,959	370,765	204%	194%
	All	2,484,251	213,678,217	95%	82%
1–15th	Standard	632,302	56,243,546	97%	84%
	101–200%	152,190	7,030,187	88%	87%
	>200%	3,060	119,203	214%	195%
	All	787,552	63,392,936	96%	85%
>15th	Standard	1,668,377	148,983,126	92%	77%
	101–200%	22,422	1,050,593	129%	104%
	>200%	5,900	251,562	188%	191%
	All	1,696,699	150,285,281	93%	77%

The ratios are slightly higher for moderately substandard policies, and markedly higher for heavier ratings when compared to standard. This is in contrast to the 2015 study, which showed markedly higher ratios for all substandard ratings. Overall, the low level of exposure could explain the variability observed over time.

5.4 Conversion type

Five of the eight companies were able to identify policies that issued by conversion. The other three companies either excluded converted policies or were unable to distinguish them. The allowed types were “group”, “term”, and “Other”. Because only a quarter of conversions were other than “term”, all conversion types are reported here combined. Table 21 shows the experience for not converted, converted, and both. In the case of converted policies, duration for expected lapses is measured from the date of conversion, not from the date of the original policy.

The table is based on the standard subset expanded to include conversions. Note that “no” may include unidentified conversions. Records with a conversion type identified were excluded for the data underlying Lapset100.

Table 21. Experience by converted or not for the standard subset expanded for conversion. Expected lapses are calculated on Lapset100. Volume is sum assured in thousands.					
Policy Year	Converted	Exposure		Actual/Expected	
		Count	Vol (000)	Count	Volume
All	No	2,300,680	205,226,672	95%	81%
	Yes	342,526	29,713,869	58%	70%
	All	2,643,206	234,940,540	89%	80%
1–15th	No	632,302	56,243,546	97%	84%
	Yes	145,026	12,568,781	55%	71%
	All	777,328	68,812,327	88%	82%
>15th	No	1,668,377	148,983,126	92%	77%
	Yes	197,500	17,145,088	68%	70%
	All	1,865,877	166,128,213	90%	76%

For the first 15 years after issue, there seems to be strong evidence that converted policies have lower lapse rates than those that were not converted. This observation certainly applies to term conversions, but it is not necessarily the case for other types of conversion.

5.5 Volume of insurance

Table 22 summarizes experience into several ranges of volume of insurance. The table is based on the standard subset of data. The classification into ranges is based on the “current” volume indicated on the records submitted and ignores the fact that volume may be different in other years covered by the record.

Table 22. Experience by ranges of volume of insurance for the standard subset of data. Expected lapses are calculated on LapseT100. Volume is sum assured in thousands.

Policy Year	Volume	Exposure		Actual/Expected	
		Count	Vol (000)	Count	Volume
All	0–49K	832,002	16,254,278	109%	100%
	50–99K	580,227	30,560,161	93%	87%
	100–249K	747,738	85,573,834	83%	80%
	250–499K	87,028	24,468,225	92%	87%
	500–999K	35,371	18,944,894	93%	91%
	1–2M	14,204	15,112,160	83%	81%
	2M+	4,110	14,313,119	38%	29%
	All	2,300,680	205,226,672	95%	81%
1–15th	0–49K	254,476	5,107,042	108%	101%
	50–99K	126,675	6,521,124	100%	96%
	100–249K	208,948	23,920,700	85%	84%
	250–499K	26,844	7,464,102	86%	82%
	500–999K	10,392	5,522,966	94%	91%
	1–2M	3,900	4,088,330	94%	94%
	2M+	1,066	3,619,282	43%	31%
	All	632,302	56,243,546	97%	84%
>15th	0–49K	577,526	11,147,236	109%	98%
	50–99K	453,552	24,039,037	85%	76%
	100–249K	538,790	61,653,134	80%	76%
	250–499K	60,183	17,004,124	101%	96%
	500–999K	24,979	13,421,928	92%	92%
	1–2M	10,304	11,023,830	65%	63%
	2M+	3,044	10,693,837	30%	27%
	All	1,668,377	148,983,126	92%	77%

There is no clear trend in actual-to-expected ratios by volume except for volumes of at least \$2 million, for which the actual-to-expected ratios are substantially lower.

5.6 Premium amount

Most companies provided premium amounts, but for some companies the premium amount is not reliable. For example, some companies appear often unable to get the premium after lapse. Table 23 shows experience by count and volume for each of several bands of premium. In all cases the annualized premium is used. The table is based on the standard subset of data. The numbers with a positive premium may be usable, but the numbers with premium shown as “none” are clearly not usable.

Table 23. Experience by ranges of annualized premium for the standard subset of data. Expected lapses are calculated on LapseT100. Volume is sum assured in thousands.

Policy Year	Annualized Premium	Exposure		Actual/Expected	
		Count	Vol (000)	Count	Volume
All	Unknown	228,065	21,153,170	114%	90%
	None	214,268	20,444,656	159%	178%
	1–249	570,046	25,771,993	99%	69%
	250–499	603,089	37,544,701	87%	73%
	500–999	375,313	30,196,785	82%	71%
	1000–1999	191,389	24,363,522	69%	63%
	2000+	118,509	45,751,846	60%	46%
	All	2,300,680	205,226,672	95%	81%
1–15th	Unknown	41,608	5,706,886	97%	71%
	None	105,235	11,445,598	130%	144%
	1–249	48,597	1,414,668	140%	111%
	250–499	136,592	5,349,054	104%	100%
	500–999	144,954	7,514,990	87%	82%
	1000–1999	94,542	8,178,249	70%	65%
	2000+	60,775	16,634,103	61%	51%
	All	632,302	56,243,546	97%	84%
>15th	Unknown	186,457	15,446,284	122%	105%
	None	109,033	8,999,059	239%	318%
	1–249	521,449	24,357,325	86%	61%
	250–499	466,498	32,195,647	68%	56%
	500–999	230,359	22,681,795	68%	57%
	1000–1999	96,847	16,185,273	66%	60%
	2000+	57,734	29,117,743	55%	35%
	All	1,668,377	148,983,126	92%	77%

A decreasing trend with increasing premium is evident for earlier policy years, but there is little variation by amount of premium for later policy years except for the highest premium band.

5.7 Preferred class

The specifications for data provided distinct codes for non-preferred (that is, no preferred underwriting for that plan), residual of preferred classes (that is, preferred rates were available, but the policy did not qualify), and various preferred classes as defined by the company (that is, preferred rates were available, and the policy qualified). There was also a code in this field for policies issued by GIE. Not all companies were able to distinguish GIE, and there is no consistency in the use of preferred classes between companies, and not necessarily even within companies. Only four of the companies provided data by preferred class. Therefore, Table 24, which summarizes experience by preferred, should be used with caution. Table 24 shows only

the first 15 policy years because there is little preferred experience at higher durations; only adult issue ages are included.

Table 24. Experience by preferred class for the standard subset of data, for issue ages 18+ and the first 15 policy years. Expected lapses are calculated on LapseT100. Volume is sum assured in thousands.					
Smoking	Preferred Class	Exposure		Actual/Expected	
		Count	Vol (000)	Count	Volume
No	Not pref	320,363	29,383,093	94%	81%
	Residual	127,136	8,145,305	102%	99%
	Preferred	75,140	12,335,150	81%	76%
	All	522,639	49,863,548	94%	83%
Yes	Not pref	50,672	3,028,790	103%	82%
	Residual	28,382	963,807	113%	104%
	Preferred	5,336	590,373	114%	124%
	All	84,390	4,582,970	108%	93%
Unknown	All	68	2,323	82%	124%
All	All	607,098	54,448,840	97%	84%

5.8 Adjustability

Records submitted distinguish between guaranteed policies, those for which premiums are adjustable, those for which benefits are adjustable, and those for which both are adjustable. No records were submitted for the last category. Too few companies submitted data for either adjustable type to justify displaying results in this report.

5.9 Premium-paying or paid-up

Some companies provide the date on which premiums cease. It can then be deduced whether a policy is in a premium-paying state or has become paid-up. One would expect that lapse⁶ rates would be much lower after premiums have ceased, but of course that would depend on the presence and magnitude of cash values. Table 25 shows that lapse rates are considerably lower in the earlier policy years. There is insufficient information to assess the influence of cash values on the decision to terminate the policy.

⁶ Strictly speaking, they are not “lapse” rates but “voluntary termination” rates. There is no reason to terminate the policy voluntarily unless the policyholder receives some compensation for doing so.

Table 25. Experience by premium-paying or paid-up for standard subset expanded to include paid-up. Expected lapses are calculated on LapseT100. Volume is sum assured in thousands.

Policy Year	Coverage Type	Exposure		Actual/Expected	
		Count	Vol (000)	Count	Volume
All	Prem-paying	2,300,680	205,226,672	95%	81%
	Paid-up	231,453	14,275,994	60%	62%
	All	2,532,132	219,502,666	92%	80%
0–14	Prem-paying	632,302	56,243,546	97%	84%
	Paid-up	28,907	1,667,496	17%	9%
	All	661,209	57,911,042	95%	83%
15+	Prem-paying	1,668,377	148,983,126	92%	77%
	Paid-up	202,546	12,608,498	71%	77%
	All	1,870,923	161,591,623	89%	77%

6 Main Observations

The most significant observations from the study are:

1. Lapse rates for virtually all issue ages and policy years over 15 are under 1%, and most are under 0.5%;
2. Lapse rates continue to decrease as duration increases;
3. Lapse rates are generally lower than those reported in the prior studies;
4. Joint type is very important;
5. Lapse rates tend to decrease with increasing issue age;
6. Smoking status is more important than gender;
7. Variation by size is small except for very large policies; and
8. There is considerable variation in lapse ratios by year of experience.

7 Limitations

These observations are based on this industry study, which covers a range of product designs from different companies and different issue years. Lapse behaviour is sensitive to product design. The observations here may not be valid for any particular product, company, or year.

LapseT100 reflects the experience contributed for 2005–2012. LapseT100 is not a table officially endorsed by the CIA. It may not be appropriate as a best estimate assumption for any particular company. Because lapse rates can vary widely by company, it may be unwise for a company to adopt LapseT100, as is, for its own use. It is likely to be more appropriate for a company to develop its own lapse table or to modify LapseT100 to fit its own business and experience.

8 Pivot tables

Pivot tables of the UL-LCOI data are [available](#) on the CIA website. The pivot data include policies and volume, exposure, actual lapses and expected lapses, by sex, smoking, preferred, size group, and by issue age and policy year. More categories are available with groups of issue ages and policy years. The pivot data do not include adjustable policies and joint policies classified as Other. See the worksheet “Describe”. A sample pivot table is shown below.

PolYrGrp	Pol Exposed	Pol Lapsed	P Lap Rate	P A/E Ratio	StdDev P A/E	Vol Exposed	Vol Lapsed	V Lap Rate	V A/E Ratio	StdDev V A/E
01-05	4,473	165	3.7%	142%	9.2%	490,504	15,211	3.1%	120%	19.8%
06-10	8,140	97	1.2%	41%	6.4%	1,036,643	9,535	0.9%	32%	14.7%
11-15	13,004	125	1.0%	59%	6.8%	1,372,573	17,148	1.2%	74%	16.9%
16-20	20,119	85	0.4%	119%	11.8%	1,399,334	5,860	0.4%	116%	27.5%
21-25	28,416	104	0.4%	74%	8.4%	3,339,246	12,114	0.4%	73%	21.9%
26-30	13,511	27	0.2%	50%	13.6%	1,933,240	1,742	0.1%	22%	34.2%
31-35	2,291	5	0.2%	73%	38.1%	222,589	463	0.2%	69%	92.0%
36+	285	0	0.0%	%	108.0%	14,306	0	0.0%	%	258.0%
Total	90,239	608	0.7%	73%	3.4%	9,808,434	62,073	0.6%	65%	8.3%



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