

Changing Environment of Auto Insurance and Modern World Dynamics

Blending Traditional Methods with Modern Telematics

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Introduction to Auto Insurance Underwriting

Definition

Auto insurance underwriting is the process through which an insurer evaluates the risk of insuring a driver and vehicle.

It involves assessing various factors that can impact the likelihood and severity of potential claims.



Introduction to Auto Insurance Underwriting

Importance of Underwriting:

- Ensures that insurance providers are financially protected from undue risk.
- ▶ Helps establish the correct premium based on perceived risk.
- Determines policy terms, including coverage limits and exclusions.



Introduction to Auto Insurance Underwriting

Traditional vs Modern Approaches:

- Traditional: Relies primarily on static, historical data (e.g., driver's record, car's details).
- Modern (Telematics): Incorporates dynamic, real-time data that reflects a driver's actual behavior and car usage.



Conventional Auto Insurance Underwriting Process

- Core Factors in Traditional Underwriting:
 - **Driver's History**:
 - Claims history, traffic violations, DUI offenses, and credit score.
 - Age, gender, marital status, and driving experience (e.g., years of experience).
 - **Vehicle Type**:
 - ▶ Make, model, and age of the vehicle.
 - Safety features (e.g., airbags, anti-lock brakes) and repair costs.
 - Vehicle's market value and the likelihood of theft or damage.



Conventional Auto Insurance Underwriting Process

Location:

- Urban vs rural location, affecting traffic density, accident rates, and weather risks.
- Crime rates, natural disaster frequency, and local infrastructure impact claims.

Driving Experience & Behavior:

- Age and driving history often play a significant role in premium pricing.
- Historically, drivers under 25 and over 75 face higher premiums due to higher risk.



Conventional Auto Insurance Underwriting Process - Pakistan

- ► Loss experience.
- Other classes exposure (losses)
- ► Type of vehicle
- Market competition
- DrawbackS
 - Most of the time its not experienced based
 - No true market competition
 - Unfair practices



Auto Insurance - Across the Globe

Where the world is heading?



Introduction to Telematics in Auto Insurance

What is Telematics?

Telematics involves the use of GPS, onboard diagnostics (OBD), and other sensors to collect data about a driver's behavior and vehicle conditions. This data is sent to the insurer in real-time for analysis.

Types of Telematics Devices:

- OBD-II Devices:
 - Plugged into the car's OBD port to capture driving behavior, mileage, engine diagnostics, etc.
- Smartphone Apps:
 - Mobile applications that track driving metrics such as speed, braking habits, and route.
- Connected Cars:
 - Newer vehicles with integrated systems like OnStar or Tesla's built-in connectivity can provide real-time driving data.



Introduction to Telematics in Auto Insurance

- **Key Data Collected via Telematics**:
 - Driving Behavior:
 - Speeding, harsh braking, rapid acceleration, cornering speed.
 - Mileage:
 - Total distance driven, which impacts the likelihood of accidents and vehicle wear.
 - Time of Day/Driving Conditions:
 - Time (e.g., nighttime driving may indicate higher risk), and environmental factors (e.g., weather conditions).
 - Location Data:
 - Mapping driving routes and identifying geographic risks (e.g., high-traffic areas or accident-prone zones).



The Role of Telematics in Modern Underwriting

Personalized Risk Assessment:

- Real-time Insights: Provides a detailed, real-time snapshot of driving habits, allowing for more accurate risk evaluations than static data.
- Risk Mitigation: Safe drivers who demonstrate cautious behavior can be rewarded with discounts, whereas risky drivers may face higher premiums.
- Usage-Based Insurance (UBI):
 - Pay-How-You-Drive: Premiums are determined by actual driving habits, encouraging safe driving to lower premiums.
 - Pay-As-You-Drive: Based on mileage, so lower mileage drivers (such as those who work from home) may pay less for insurance.



The Role of Telematics in Modern Underwriting

Behavioral-Driven Discounts:

- Drivers who show good behavior (e.g., no harsh braking or speeding) can enjoy discounts, encouraging safer driving habits.
- Risk Prediction with Machine Learning:
 - Data collected from telematics devices can be processed using AI algorithms to predict the likelihood of future claims, which refines underwriting models and improves risk pricing.



Advantages of Combining Telematics with Traditional Underwriting

More Accurate Risk Assessment:

Traditional underwriting relies on general data points, while telematics allows for dynamic, precise data. This combination ensures a more individualized risk profile.

Real-Time Risk Adjustment:

Telematics provides a continuous stream of data that allows insurers to adjust premiums in real-time (for example, if a driver reduces risky behavior).

Improved Pricing Models:

Traditional underwriting methods sometimes involve broad assumptions. Telematics helps tailor premiums based on actual behavior, creating fairer pricing models.



Advantages of Combining Telematics with Traditional Underwriting

Enhanced Fraud Detection:

Telematics can help identify fraudulent claims or inconsistencies, as it records exact data about vehicle activity, such as location and speed.

Cost Efficiency for Insurers:

By using real-time data, insurers can better predict losses and avoid overpricing or underpricing premiums.



Challenges of Integrating Telematics with Conventional Underwriting

Privacy Concerns:

Consumers may be uncomfortable sharing detailed data about their driving habits, fearing surveillance or misuse of their personal data.

Data Overload & Interpretation:

- The volume of data produced by telematics systems can overwhelm insurers. Extracting actionable insights from this data is a complex task requiring sophisticated analytics.
- Technological & Infrastructure Barriers:
 - Not all drivers may have access to the latest technology (e.g., OBD devices or connected vehicles). Additionally, there may be discrepancies in device accuracy.



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Challenges of Integrating Telematics with Conventional Underwriting

Regulatory & Legal Issues:

Various regions have specific regulations governing data privacy and insurance practices. The introduction of telematics raises new legal questions, such as how to safeguard personal data and ensure fairness in underwriting.

• Customer Acceptance:

Some customers may find it difficult to accept dynamic pricing or the idea of being monitored. There can also be a barrier to entry for older drivers who are less familiar with technology.



Future Trends in Auto Insurance Underwriting

Pakistan Insuran

Wider Adoption of Al & Big Data:

As more data is collected, insurers will rely more on AI and machine learning models to analyze driving behavior and predict claims more accurately.

Integration with Other Data Streams:

Future underwriting models might integrate telematics with other data sources, such as weather reports, traffic data, and even smart home systems, to predict risks more holistically.

More Personalized and Flexible Policies:

Insurance policies will become more tailored to the individual's unique driving behavior, lifestyle, and preferences, moving away from the traditional "one-sizefits-all" model.

Future Trends in Auto Insurance Underwriting

Advancements in Connected Vehicles:

With the rise of connected cars, more real-time information (e.g., driving condition, accident alerts) will enable insurers to further refine risk assessments.

Regulatory Developments:

As telematics becomes more prevalent, insurance regulators may impose stricter rules regarding data protection and privacy. The future will likely see clearer frameworks for how insurers handle data.



Conclusion

Summary:

- The integration of telematics with traditional underwriting methods is transforming how auto insurance premiums are assessed.
- Telematics enables more personalized, accurate pricing, rewarding safe driving and penalizing risky behavior.
- Challenges such as privacy concerns and technology adoption must be addressed to ensure widespread acceptance and efficiency.

Looking Forward:

The future of auto insurance will likely see greater integration of telematics data, AI, and more personalized policies, making insurance fairer and more customer-centric

