# International reinsurance market current trends

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## Reinsurance Sector Trends



### A Marathon Rather Than a Sprint

#### Global Reinsurers Take A Breather After 2017 Catastrophe Losses

	Business conditions (current)	Business outlook (12 months)	Sector outlook (12 months)
Global reinsurers	Weak	Somewhat stronger	Stable

- Business conditions continue to be weak, albeit outlook has improved slightly.
  - Capacity remains plentiful
  - Alternative capital continues to erode traditional reinsurers margins
  - Pricing after large cat losses in 2017 has improved in 2018 but increases are fading out
  - Slightly improved revised earnings outlook 2018-2019
- We maintain a stable outlook for the sector and on the ratings for the majority of reinsurers.
  - Capitalization remains robust and a strength to the sector even after 2017 losses
  - Strong ERM has helped to maintain relatively disciplined underwriting
  - Traditional reinsurers are using increasingly alternative capital for retro capacity
  - M&A remains an option to remain relevant
- Negative Outlook Trigger: Reinsurers' return on capital falls sustainably below their cost of capital.
  - Even incorporating the benefits of modest rate increases in 2018, reinsurers' profitability is likely to barely exceed their cost of capital in 2018 and 2019

### **Business Conditions: Still Weak But Somewhat Improved**

#### **Drivers For Still Weak Business Conditions**

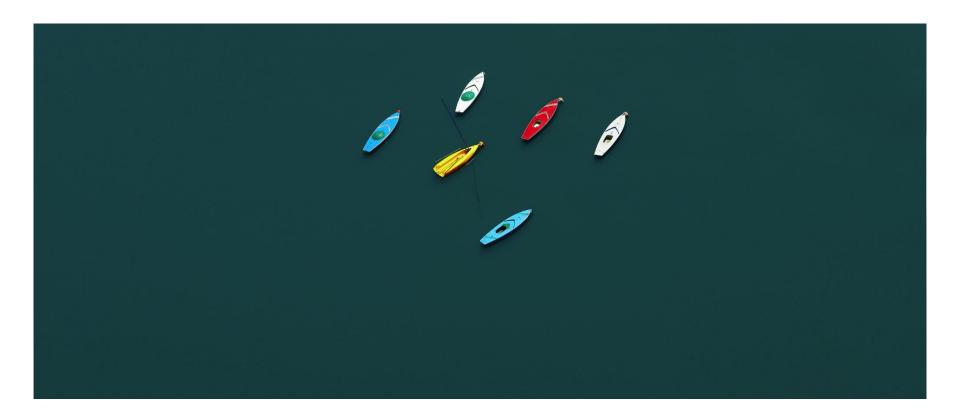
Potential driver	Trend for 2018 -2019	Observations
		Reinsurance pricing declines have modestly reversed in 2018, with average
Deiaina	Novemble modified	price increases of 0%-5% expected for 2018 but with wide variations among
Pricing	Neutral to positive	lines and regions. However, momentum is fading heading into 2019.
Loosening of		Large reinsurers appear to have been able to push back on cedents
terms and		demanding wider terms and conditions. They didn't slip further, while ceding
conditions	Neutral to negative	commissions slightly improved (200 bps-300 bps) but remained high.
		Opportunities for organic growth (outside large/teilered transactions for a select
		Opportunities for organic growth (outside large/tailored transactions for a select few reinsurers) are limited. There are pockets of growth, but companies pursue
Organic growth	Neutral to negative	them quickly.
	3	
		There is some evidence of greater arbitrage (cheaper to front business then
	NI ( 14 30	reinsure it on the back-end) as rates continue to remain low, together with
Cedent demand	Neutral to positive	large/tailored one-off transactions.
		After a brief lull following a hectic 2015, M&A within the sector has resumed in
		2018. We do not expect transactions to have a material impact on industry
		capital. Future deals will be partially inhibited because of high market
M&A activity	Neutral	valuations.

### **Business Conditions: Still Weak But Somewhat Improved**

#### **Reinsurers' Business Models Being Hit On All Fronts**

Potential driver	Trend for 2018 -2019	Observations
Alternative capital	Neutral to negative	The influx of alternative capital continued in 2017 and through the first quarter of 2018 despite the temporary uncertainties caused by 2017 hurricanes, limiting reinsurance price increases.
Low investment returns	Neutral to negative	Investment returns remain low, but it seems that we have seen the bottom in 2017. As interest rates are risingat least in the U.Swe expect slight improvements in net investment returns as new money is invested in higher-yielding securities. However, reinsurers' total returns could be affected by unrealized capital losses.
		Overall, the reinsurance sector's reserves have been stable averaging 6.3% of favorable development impact on the combined ratios during the past five years. In addition, 2017 was the 12th consecutive year in which the U.S. primary property/casualty industry generated favorable reserve developments. However, in 2017, the re/insurance industry incurred unfavorable developments in U.K. motor. Furthermore, the following U.S. lines of business continue to be challenging: commercial auto liability, other liability-occurrence, excess casualty, and private passenger auto liability. Lastly, if inflation unexpectedly increases
Reserves	Neutral	materially, reserve adequacy would be adversely affected.

### Weak Business Conditions

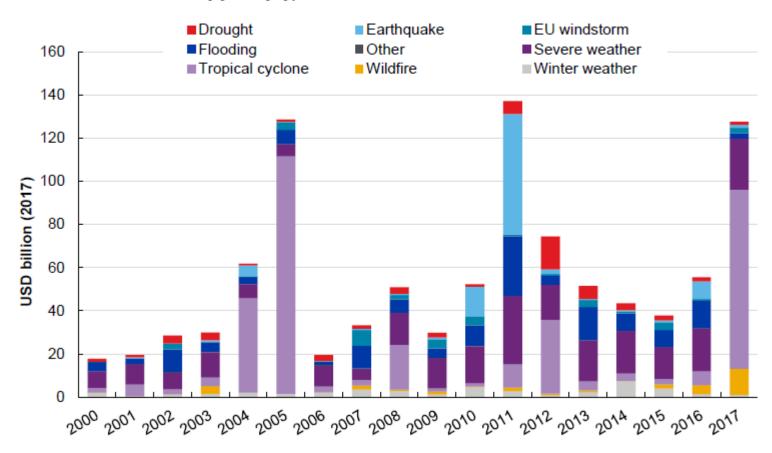




### **2017 Cat Losses Summary**

#### Hurt by HIM...but not just HIM

Exhibit 1: Insured losses by year by type



Source: Aon Benfield Analytics

### **2017 Cat Losses Summary**

#### 2017 was a 1-in-25 year event, with reinsurers bearing c. 20% of market losses

Natural catastrophe net exposure estimate

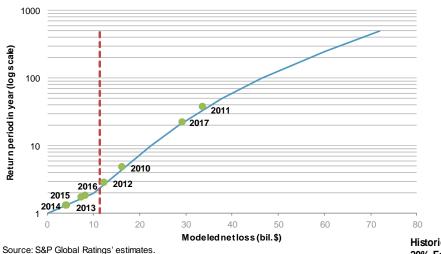
Annual expected net

Actual annual aggregate net catastrophe loss (restated for premium

20% For The Top-20 Global Reinsurers

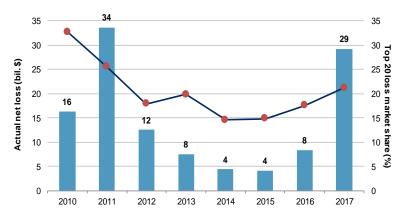
growth)

Net Aggregate Catastrophe Loss In 2017 Is A 1-In-25-Year Loss For The Top-20 **Global Reinsurers** 



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Historical Annual Catastrophe Losses Show An Average Loss Market Share Of



Sources: S&P Global Ratings, Sw iss Re Sigma.

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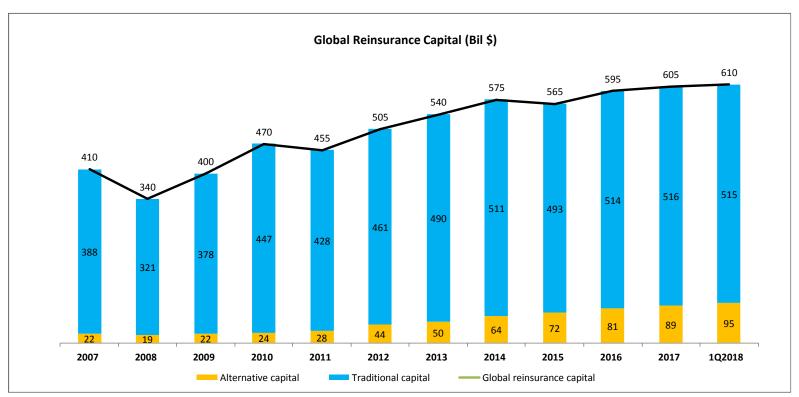
Actual annual aggregate net catastrophe loss (restated for premium growth) (Left scale) Top-20 loss market share

(Right scale)

### **Supply And Demand**

#### Alternative capital proves to be resilient and passed its first major test in 2017

- Alternative capital proves to be resilient and passed its first major test in 2017
- Alternative capital accounted for about 16% of the \$610 billion global reinsurance capital as of the end of first-quarter 2018

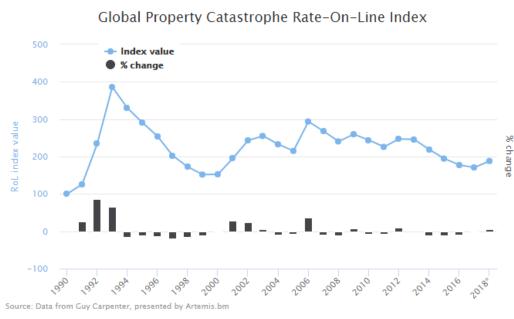


Sources: Company financial statements, Aon Benfield Analytics, and Aon Securities Inc.

### **Supply And Demand**

#### **Reinsurance Pricing Momentum Is Running Out Of Steam**

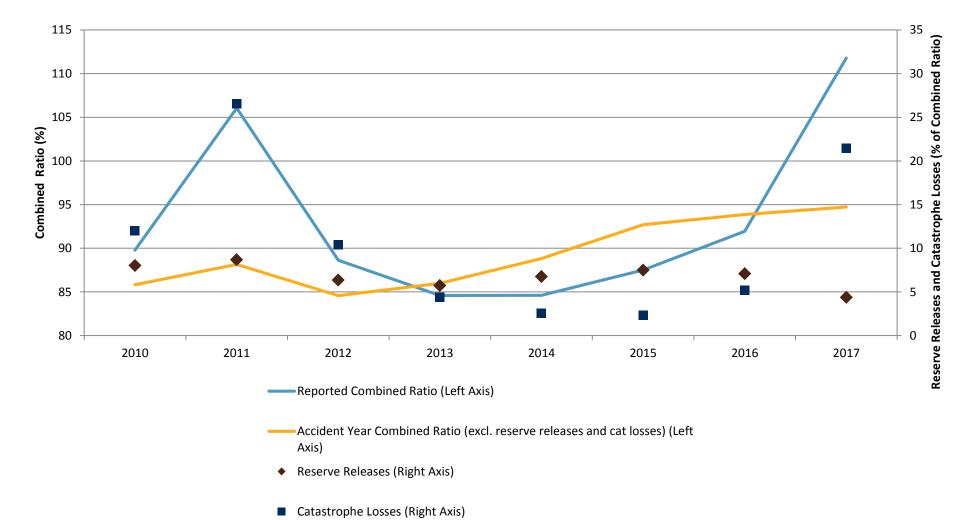
- Global reinsurance pricing was up slightly (0%–5%, in aggregate) during the year-to-date renewals.
- Specific increases varied by line of business, region, and whether reinsurance contracts had experienced any losses.
- During the 2018 Florida renewals, reinsurance rates increased by low single digits on average but were below industry expectations.



	Business Line	January 1, 2018 (broker)	April 1, 2018 (broker)
	Global PropCat		
	US	+0% to +7.5%	+5% to -5%
	Caribbean	+0% to +20%	+10% to +25%
	Europe	+0% to +5%	N/A
	Asia	-5% to +5%	+2% to -5%
	Assumed Retro	+10% to +20%	N/A
	Aviation & Marine	+0% to +15%	+0% to +10%
	Casualty Lines	-5% to +10%	+2.5% to -10%
	EU Motor	+0% to +5%	N/A

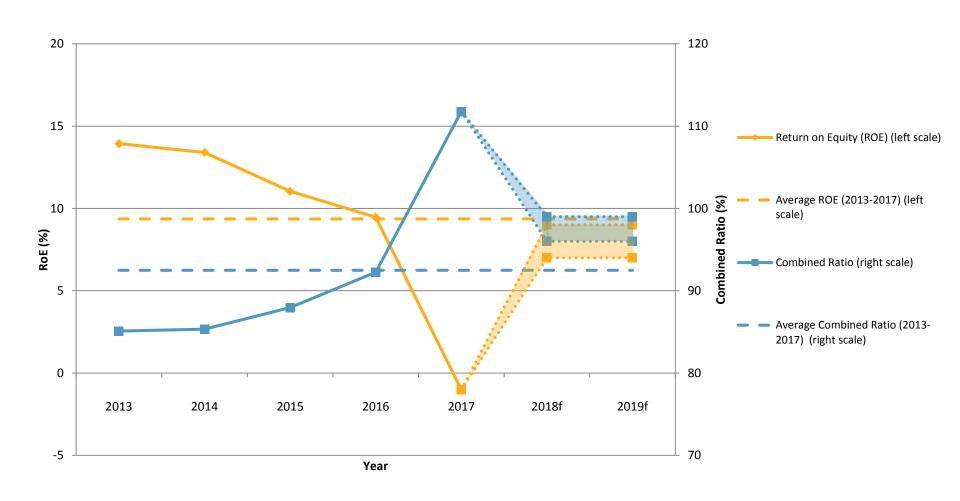
### **Looking Under The Hood**

#### **Underlying Combined Ratios Have Been Trending Upwards Since 2012**



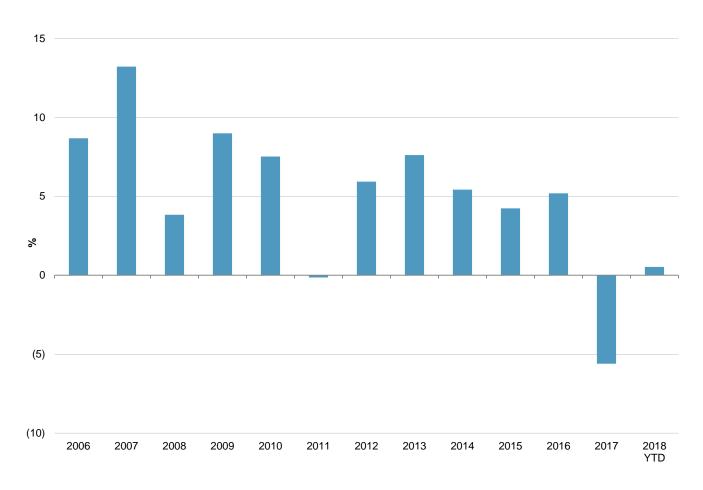
### **Profitability**

#### **Modest Price Increases Should Slightly Improve Operating Performance**



### **Profitability**

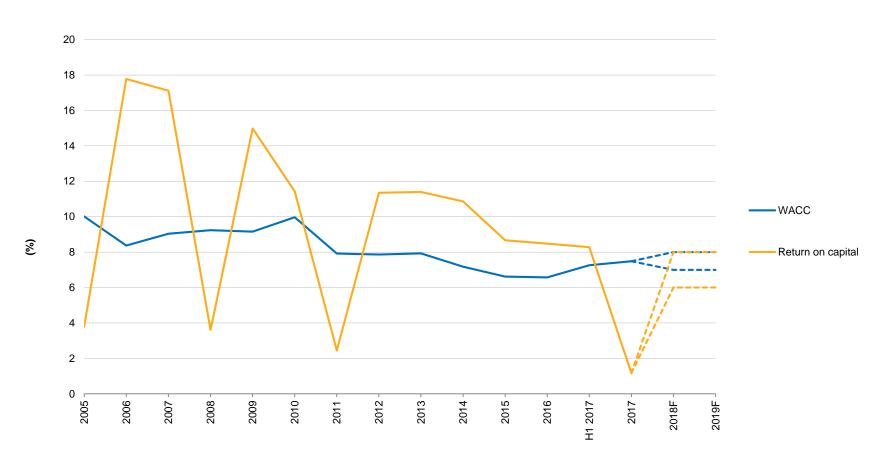
#### **ILS Took A Hit Too In 2017**



Source: Eurekahedge. YTD--Year to date.

### **Profitability**

#### Reinsurers Profitability Is Likely To Barely Exceed Their Cost Of Capital in 2018 and 2019

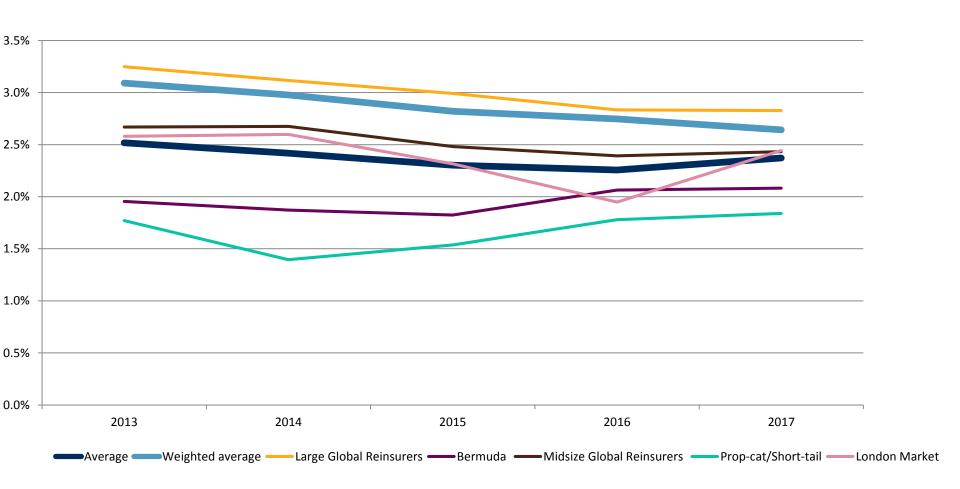


F--Forecasts. Source: S&P Global Ratings, Bloomberg



### **Investment performance**

#### Net investment income bottomed out in 2016



### **Asset Risk Aversion**

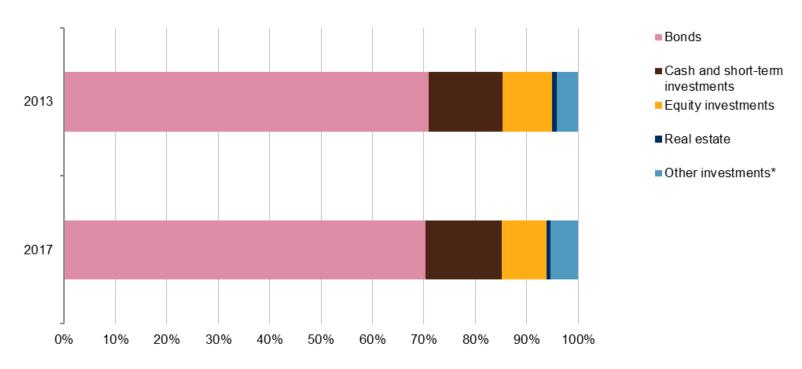
#### **Salvation Will Not Come Through Investment Returns**

- We've observed some shift to riskier assets in order to prop up investment returns but asset quality remains high:
  - Just 6% of bonds invested in BB+ and lower rated/unrated bonds at YE2017 (YE2014/1516: 4%/6%/5%),
  - Allocation has shifted by 1 category over the past 6 years, remaining mostly in the AA/A range slowly reducing towards BBB bonds.
- There is scope for further risk taking, as capital buffers could absorb an increased allocation to riskier assets.
- However, conservative investment policies and rating migration risk will constrain reinsurers' willingness to take on additional asset exposure.
- Average asset duration of 3.4 years still slightly short compared to average liability duration (approx. 0.2 years short).

### **Asset Risk Aversion**

#### **Salvation Will Not Come Through Investment Returns**

#### Top 20 Global Reinsurers Investment Portfolio Allocation



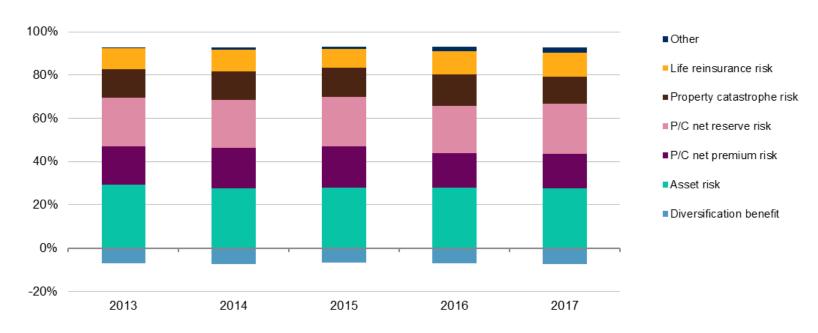
<sup>\*</sup>Other investments include: loans, underwritten mortgages, investments in affiliates, joint ventures, and alternatives investments.



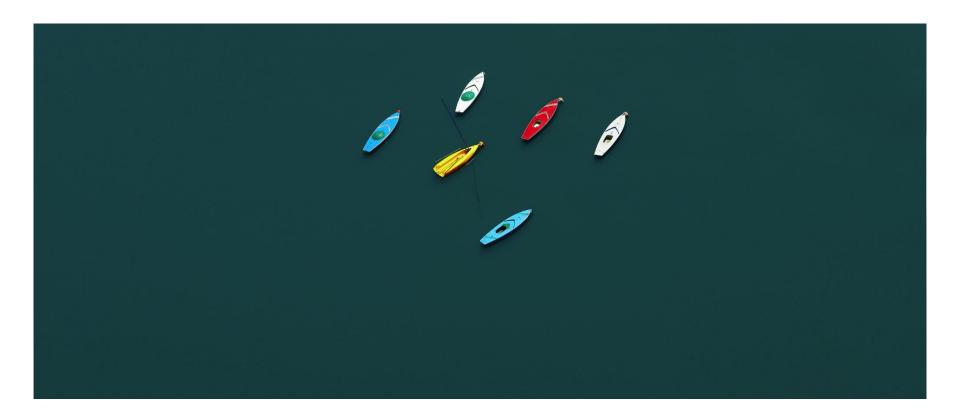
### Focus On Underwriting Risk Instead Of Asset Risk

#### **Salvation Will Not Come Through Investment Returns**

Top 20 Global Reinsurers Capital Charges Allocation Per S&P Global Ratings' Capital Model At The 'A' Confidence Level

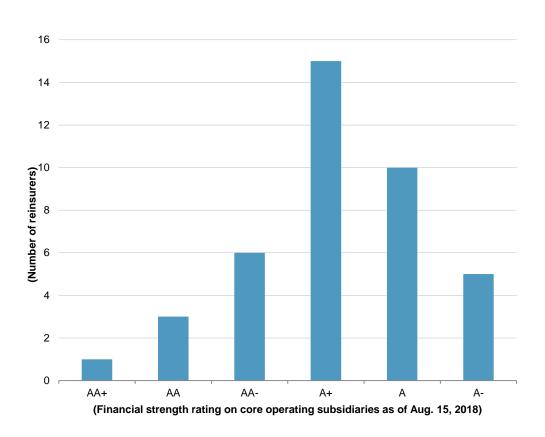


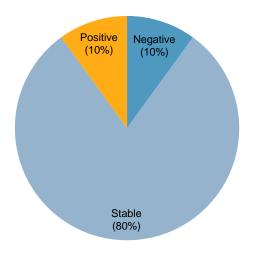
# Stable Sector Outlook



### **Stable Sector Outlook**

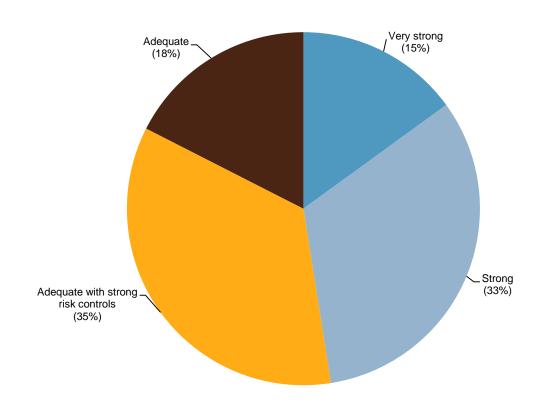
#### Three Quarters Of Our Top-40 Reinsurer Financial Strength Ratings Are in the 'A' Category





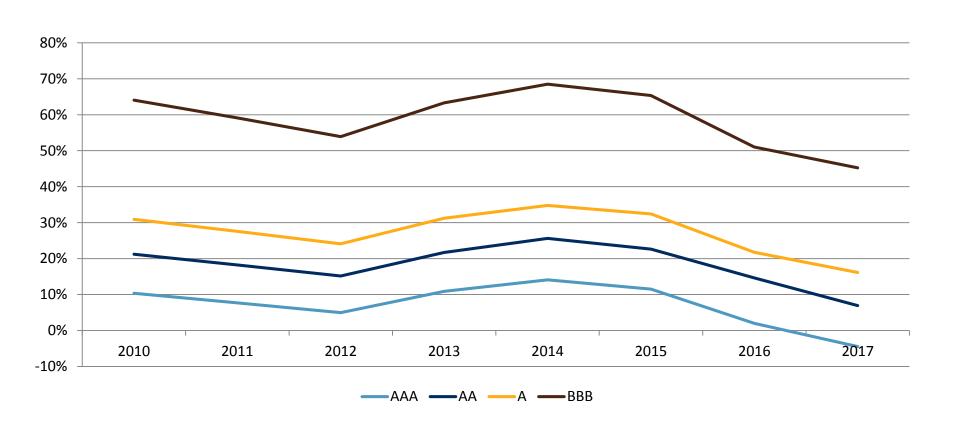
### **ERM Is A Differentiating Factor**

#### **ERM Assessment Distribution Of Top 40 Global Reinsurers\***

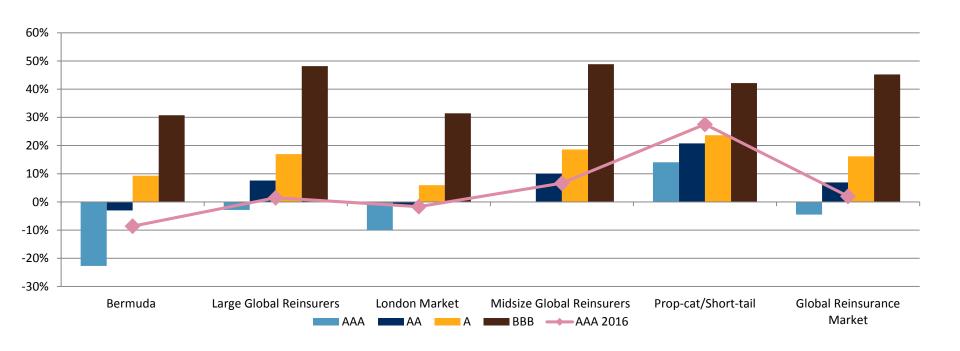


\*As Of Aug. 15, 2018.

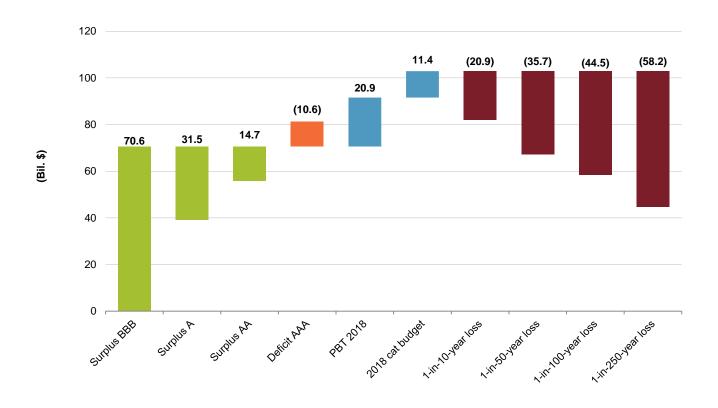
#### **Historical Sector Capital Adequacy By Rating Level**



#### 2017 Average Capital Adequacy By Peer Group



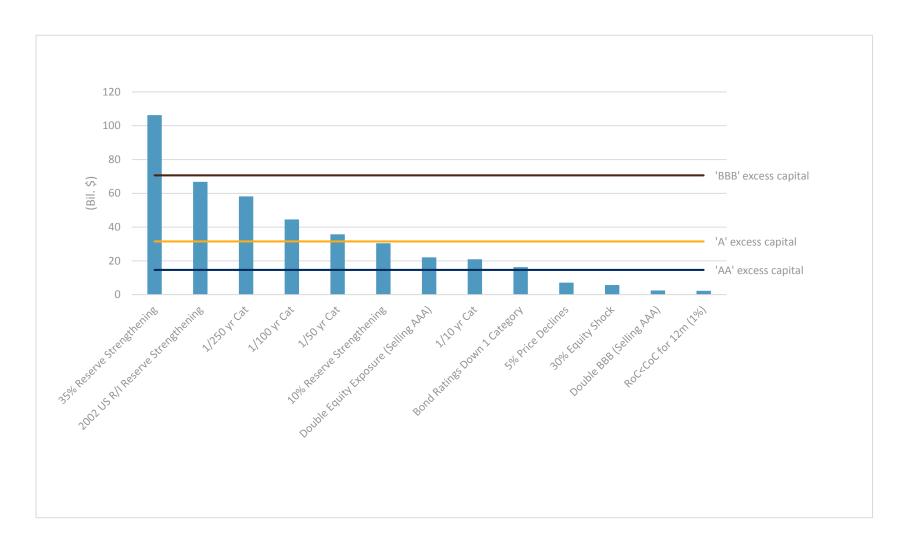
#### Top-20 Reinsurers' Aggregate Capital Surplus Resilience To Stress At Year-End 2017



PBT--Profit before tax. Source: S&P Global Ratings' estimates.



#### **Global Reinsurance Capital Stress Tests**



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