



Outlook for the insurance sector

How insurance roles and skills are changing

> Breakout discussion





EY's Global Insurance Outlook focuses on three issues that are driving the strategic agenda in markets around the world



Preparing for the transformative impact of Al

Generative AI (GenAI) promises to revolutionize **risk** assessment, claims processing, marketing, sales and service and other essential aspects of the business.



Spotlight on delivering societal value

Product innovation, new business models and purposeful investments can help insurers unlock growth.



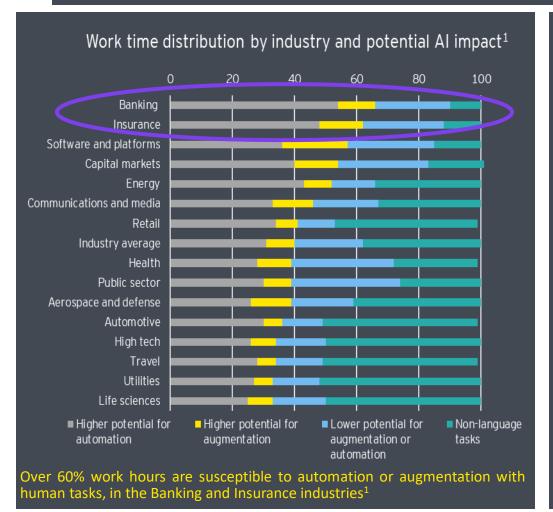
Ever-evolving customer needs and blurring industry lines

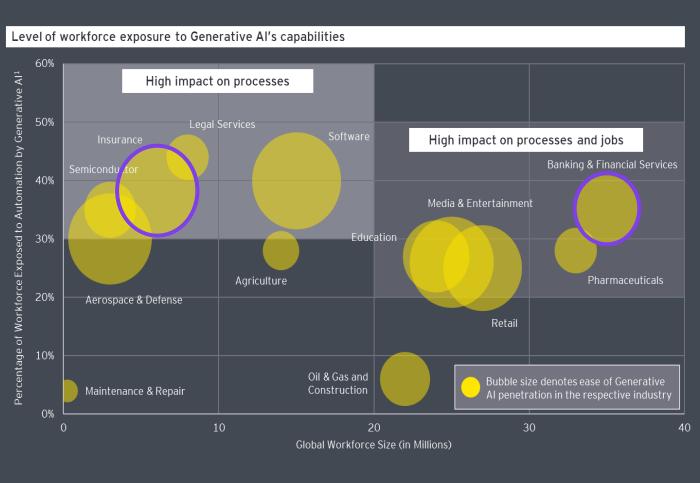
Evolving customer needs can be the strategic "north star" for all types of insurance companies.



Insurance is forecast to be at the heart of Generative AI disruption challenges

We think Generative AI will be a **big disruptor** as it has the potential to **automate numerous human-aided tasks** across industries, especially in Insurance and Banking.







Preparing for the transformative impact of Al

The top 4 generative AI capabilities that insurance companies typically leverage are:



Content Generation

- Automatically generate responses to customer inquiries
- Generate personalized UI for your website



Knowledge Mgmt. & Summarization

- Create knowledge-based articles
- Summarize customer conversation
- Document content summarization
- Question & Answer



Semantic Search & Reviews

- Question & answer
- Cognitive and semantics search
- Search reviews for a specific product/service
- Information discovery and knowledge mining



Code Generation & Conversion

- Auto convert programs from one language to another
- Auto document legacy and modern code
- Generate SQL queries and apps
- Convert natural language to query proprietary data models



Spotlight on delivering societal value



Business priorities for making a positive societal impact

- Managing seasonal peaks in claims and high peaks when there are major events effectively
- More understandable, affordable and accessible products
- Collaborations for increased financial security and wellness for more citizens
- Enhanced protection from climate risk and services to facilitate the transition to a greener economy
- Increased engagement with regulators and more detailed ESG reporting

Impact on HR practices



Employee value proposition



Hiring practices that enable a more diverse workforce



Non-traditional employment



25% of top 500 US companies say they will actively recruit neurodivergent talent by 2027



Evolving customer needs and blurring industry lines



Emerging trends in the sector to address evolving customer needs

- Explore more flexible product design, with modular, addon features
- Evaluate options and impacts of embedded insurance
- Look for ways to help financially stressed consumers with tight budgets
- Responsible use of customer data to enhance products and services
- Explore ecosystems partnerships, both from an Insurtech, as well as cross-industry perspective

Impact on HR practices



Redesign of overall operating model, organization structure and roles



Shifts in skillset and hence upskilling/reskilling



Concurrent employee experience and customer experience design



1% of insurers say existing ecosystems are critical to their company's success





Shifting industry trends are reshaping business capabilities across the value chain...

We expect efficiencies in the 'core' insurance competencies of underwriting and claims, but with increased data skills in hybrid roles: data remains a key asset for decision-making to predict trends, rethink products and services and scale capabilities.



Distribution

- Increase in personalization with Al algorithms supporting brokers or digital channels to tailor offerings to individual behaviour and needs
- Increased digital channel take up in the personal lines space, though Canada continues to lag comparable economies
- · Upskilling, supported by tech, to take advantage of cross-selling opportunities to drive higher share of wallet (e.g. multiproduct)



Underwriting

- · Increased use of underwriting rules and automation to drive straight through underwriting
- Innovate new types of products and coverages, with innovation reducing pure price competition
- Increased focus on deep technical and specialist industry knowledge
- Strengthen data analytics skills within and applied to underwriting



Actuarial & Pricing

- · Customer expectations drive a move to more real-time pricing across non-complex risks
- Adopt a data driven and technology focused approach to manage more complex challenges such as parametric insurance
- Incorporate artificial intelligence (AI) to assist statistical analysis with transparent machine learningbased models with full traceability



Claims

- Foster self-serve in the claim journey where appropriate, such as portal use, regular push notifications etc.
- Increased automation in existing manual tasks, via a combination of robotics and AI, particularly impacting 'entry roles'
- Roles will be focused on technical expertise and customer service skills to handle complex cases



Loss prevention

- Ensure a robust capability to proactively manage loss prevention and fraud through prediction and prevention
- Define the skills and practices required to reduce the frequency and severity of losses, both for insurer and insured. **Embed the skills required** across the insurance value chain, e.g. considering loss prevention in marketing, distribution, pricing etc.







Declining















Level of skills change













Role Volume outlook











How are the changes impacting specific roles? Zoom in on the strategic shifts for a key role: Underwriter



According to the BLS*, the Underwriter role will see a decline of ~4% from 2021 – 2031



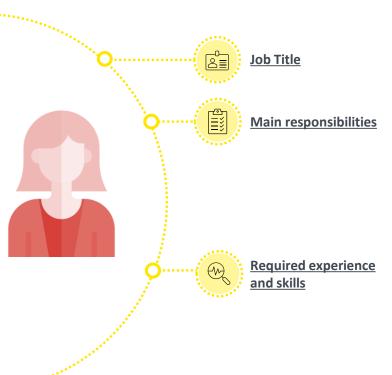
The Underwriter role title may no longer be as relevant as it is today



The future Underwriter success profile requires significant upskilling due to the major skills gap

Today

In the coming years



Insurance Underwriter, Group Underwriter, Liability Underwriter, Property Underwriter

- Assess insurance risks, decide whether or not insurance should be offered and determine the pricing of premiums in accordance with authority
- Determine policy terms, write quotes and negotiate terms with brokers and clients
- Providing input on settlement of claims
- Build and maintain relationships with brokers and clients
- Previous experience within administrative, case management or underwriting roles
- Strong analytical skills
- ✓ Proficiency in the use of underwriting tools
- ✓ Good market knowledge of underwriting practices
- A good eye for detail and accuracy
- ✓ Demonstrated commercial and negotiation skills

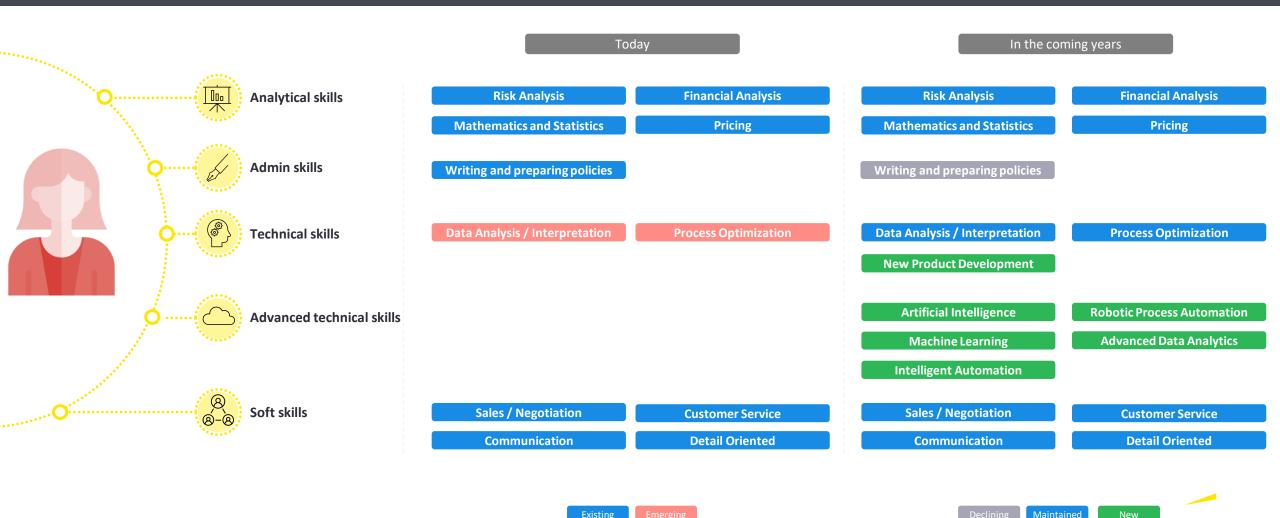
Digital Underwriter, Algorithmic Underwriter

- ✓ Build data models to facilitate and automate risks analysis
- Use advanced systems supported by machine learning and deep learning to make ex-ante decisions on insurance applications and pricing
- Be able to wear several hats, such as Data Scientist, Data Pioneer,
 Portfolio Optimizer
- Build and maintain relationships with brokers and clients
- Previous experience within underwriting or tech roles
- Data oriented with advanced technical capabilities
- Hands-on experience on digital tools: Python, R, SAS, Apache Hadoop, TensorFlow, MS PowerBI, UI Path, Blue Prism, Selenium
- Insurance domain knowledge
- Demonstrated commercial and negotiation skills

How are the changes impacting specific roles? Zoom in on the strategic shifts for a key role: Underwriter



The existing Underwriter must have strong analytical and soft skills. The current role includes some administrative tasks that will soon be fully automated. Some emerging qualifications include data and process optimization that are becoming more and more predominant. The future Digital / Algorithmic Underwriter moves towards strong computer programming capabilities.



.. And across supporting functions

Supporting functions need to balance operational cost pressure with an increasingly complex landscape to navigate



Finance

- Drive competitive advantage as a strategic and responsive partner
- Enable real-time dashboarding by improving the financial reporting and increasing transparency following IFRS 17
- Build a skilled team that is proficient in tools such as automation and data analytics
- Need for increased understanding across Finance, Actuarial and IT



Technology

- Integrate the Internet of Things (IoT) into insurance offerings by including the use of telematics, wearables and sensors. These will assist insurers to focus on loss prevention rather than fix and repair
- Supplier ecosystem management will become a core competency
- Support transition to more specialist roles due to increasing migration to cloud technologies



Data Analytics

- Improve contextual analysis to assess trends and patterns to extract valuable insights
- Support cloud innovation to support the shift to real-time data
- Diversify sources of data, leveraging external, as well as internal data in decision making. Manage complex data ecosystem
- Facilitate decision-making process through insights, not data manipulation



Compliance & Privacy

- Strengthen risk management to prevent data and privacy breaches
- Implement robust privacy policies and security measures to protect personal information from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, or alteration
- Consider how AI and analytics can be used to improve efficiency and effectiveness of Compliance, as well as controls required to oversee AI and automation



ESG

- Put climate change at the center of business decisions by prioritizing decarbonization initiatives and sustainable investments to reduce negative impacts
- Accelerate equity and inclusion, ethical business conduct. workforce diversity
- Set up effective governance structures and demonstrating transparency through regular public disclosures





















Level of skills change





Moderate











Role Volume outlook







Increasing



Talent strategies need to consider roles and skills changes



Breakout Discussion

Where do you think the biggest changes will be in roles and skills?

To what extent do you see roles and skills changing on a 5-year horizon for your organization?

How well equipped are HR and L&D to support this transition?



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