

**↑ 57.9%** 

average increase in homeowners' premium rate in Colorado from 2018 to 2023.

d 2

of the costliest wildfires in state history occurred in the last 4 years, resulting in

\$2.5B+
in damage and

1,500+

48

billion-dollar disasters in the 13 years between 2010 and 2023, compared to

24

billion-dollar disasters in the 29 years between 1980 and 2009.

个 5

billion-dollar disaster events per year on average.

# The Blueprint of Rising Homeowner's Insurance Rates in Colorado

Recent research shows that the average homeowner's premium rate increased nationwide from 2018 to 2023 by 33.8%. During that same period, homeowners in Colorado have seen an average 57.9% increase. A combination of inflation, market pressures, severe weather events, and catastrophic losses are to blame for this increase.

# Average Home Insurance Premiums, 2023

\$4,000 \$2,500 \$1,000

## **Inflation & Market Pressures**

Homes are increasingly more expensive to repair and rebuild. Since 2019, construction labor has increased 38.4% and building materials have increased over 37%. **2022 saw a 40-year high for inflation**, which has resulted in cumulative increases in the cost of most goods and services.

A homeowner's insurance availability study commissioned by the Colorado Department of Insurance in 2023 showed that the Colorado homeowner's insurance market has been consistently reporting underwriting losses over the last five years. This means that the losses covered by insurers have exceeded the premium dollars collected.

Since 2017, Colorado loss ratios have been above countrywide averages, leading to yearly underwriting losses for the insurance industry.



## **Severe Weather Events**

Extreme weather is a significant driver of insured losses. These losses are compounded by rapid population growth in areas that are disasterprone, especially the Wildland-Urban Interface.

Some of Colorado's areas at high risk of wildfire run close to the densely populated areas of the state, increasing the potential for large losses to insurers.

Colorado ranks second in the US for hail claims based on data from 2017 to 2019, with policyholders filing more than 380,000 claims.

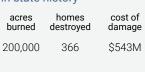
#### Costliest wildfires in state history

(2020)

(2022)

Marshall

East Troublesome



1,000+

Costliest hailstorm in state history



\$2B+

**May 2017** 100,000+ claims \$2.3B+ damage

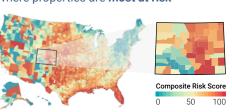
6,000+

# **Catastrophic Losses**

Over the last decade, the frequency and severity of catastrophic losses has increased in Colorado.

According to the National Centers for Environmental Information, from 1980 to 2009, the state experienced 24 billion-dollar disasters (adjusted for inflation). From 2010 to 2023, the state experienced 48 billion-dollar disasters, with the frequency increasing to nearly 5 events per year on average.

#### Where properties are most at risk



# The Bottom Line

The last decade has seen a shift in the homeowners' insurance market in Colorado, affecting all consumers. Learn more at rmiia.org.