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Predictive Analytics in Life and Annuity Reinsurance

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Predictive Analytics in Life and Annuity Reinsurance

Executive Summary

This report consolidates the findings from literature research and informal interviews with subject matter experts (SMEs) on the adoption and challenges of predictive analytics in the insurance industry, focusing particularly on life and annuity reinsurance. The research team conducted a comprehensive investigation into various areas of the insurance industry to understand the current landscape and the role of predictive analytics.

The adoption of predictive analytics in the reinsurance industry has been slow but is gradually growing, with reinsurers focusing on areas such as risk selection, underwriting efficiency, and portfolio optimization. Despite the continued reliance on manual processes, the integration of predictive analytics is transforming traditional practices, creating new opportunities for growth and efficiency. These advanced tools have the potential to enhance risk assessment, streamline operations, and improve customer experiences. However, challenges such as fragmented data architecture, outdated technologies, a shortage of skilled professionals, and regulatory compliance must be addressed to fully realize their benefits.

The life, annuity, and property and casualty (P&C) insurance industries are increasingly adopting predictive analytics to streamline claims processing, enhance underwriting accuracy, and improve customer engagement. Techniques such as supervised and unsupervised learning, natural language processing, and computer vision, which are utilized in these sectors, can also be applied in reinsurance to improve risk assessment, operational efficiency, and decision-making processes.

Regulatory developments in various regions stress the importance of transparency, fairness, and accountability in predictive analytics applications, highlighting the necessity for compliance and ethical considerations. By adopting responsible artificial intelligence (AI) and ensuring explainability, advancements can be aligned with industry ethical standards. This approach would enable reinsurers to utilize predictive analytics for strategic decision-making and provide superior value to their clients.



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Section 1 Adoption of Predictive Analytics in Life and Annuity Reinsurance

Predictive analytics is the practice of using historical and current data, combined with statistical modeling, machine learning, and data mining techniques, to forecast future trends, behaviors, or outcomes. The adoption of predictive analytics in life and annuity reinsurance is progressing, but it shows a slow adoption pace despite the growing need for data-driven insights. Reinsurers are not fully leveraging the available data from submissions by ceding companies and third-party sources such as granular bordereaux reports.¹ Many reinsurers still rely heavily on Excel for pricing, reserving, and capital modeling processes. Forward-looking reinsurers aim to offer valuable insights to cedants for better commercial relationships, optimize their own capital through analytics, and enhance operational efficiency.

1.1 CURRENT TRENDS IN ADOPTION OF PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS

Reinsurers, usually working in the background, are now facing increasing challenges due to the limitations of conventional risk assessment tools amid more frequent and severe loss events such as the COVID-19 pandemic or natural disasters. Advanced analytics can be used to help adapt to this environment. Traditional models, reliant on historical data, are less effective in predicting risks influenced by social and environmental challenges. Therefore, reinsurers are progressively focusing on adopting predictive analytics with emphasis on:²

- **Comprehensive Data Governance Framework:** Data governance frameworks empower reinsurers to manage their data assets efficiently, ensuring compliance with regulations such as California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), safeguarding sensitive information, and enhancing decision-making processes.
- **Utilizing Third-Party Data:** Third-party data is widely used in the reinsurance industry, with companies leveraging information from broker data, public health databases like Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), or geospatial data.
- **Implementing Advanced Analytics:** By utilizing various forms of predictive analytics, reinsurers are automating data preparation and improving decision-making in areas such as claims and underwriting.
- **Portfolio Analytics:** Centralizing data and enhancing intelligence significantly impacts portfolio analytics, thereby increasing carrier profitability. This process automates the identification and attachment of reinsurance cessions to target desired areas based on company business goals.

A study of predictive analytics adoption in the reinsurance industry conducted by Aon found that few reinsurers in the market have started to move ahead of the industry through investing in targeted areas as follows:²

- Improved risk selection to extract deeper insights by combining internal and external data.
- Enhanced underwriting efficiency by automating manual tasks.
- Portfolio optimization through data-driven decision making on ideal business mix and fine tuning of pricing, lines of business, and net positions.
- Enhanced client proposition through data-driven services in the long-term such as providing exposure information for risk selection, aggregation and portfolio analysis, and pricing.

¹ A bordereaux report is a detailed document prepared by an insurance company (the cedant) and sent to its reinsurer. The primary function of a bordereaux report is to keep the reinsurer informed about its share of liabilities or premiums, and it is usually compiled and sent on a periodic basis.

² Unde A., Althoff D., 2024. Insurance technology trends radar 2025. Available at: https://www.ltimindtree.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/LTIMindtree_Insurance_Technology_Trends_Radar_2025_Report.pdf?pdf=download. [Accessed 8 May 2025]

1.2 PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS LANDSCAPE IN LIFE AND ANNUITY REINSURANCE

According to findings from research, reinsurers can be categorized into followers, average, and leaders based on their adoption of predictive analytics.³ This categorization is driven by the following criteria:

- Data ingestion: Involves gathering data from the direct insurer and other third-party sources, processing treaty relation documents, and cleansing the data.
- Pricing tools: Utilized for pricing reinsurance deals and underwriting.
- Portfolio analytics: aggregating deals and analyzing profitability and other metrics at the portfolio level.
- Functional systems: Used to calculate capital requirements, reserves, and other key balances for statutory and financial reporting.
- Predictive analytics professionals: The team responsible for the conception, development, and implementation of predictive analytics-enabled processes.

The Table 1 shows the comparison of these categories.^{1,2}

Table 1
CATEGORIZATION OF REINSURERS

| | Followers | Average | Leaders |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Data ingestion | Manual | Automated | Automated + augmented with third-party data |
| Pricing tools | Manual, Excel spreadsheet | Partial automation | Automated + centralized pricing tool |
| Portfolio analytics | Ad-hoc analysis | Expedited, granular analytics | Real-time advanced analytics |
| Functional systems (actuarial and capital modeling, accounting, and reporting) | Disconnected | Some systems linked | Systems connected end-to-end |
| Predictive analytics professionals | No dedicated team | Partially dedicated | Dedicated team |

Leaders in the industry have invested heavily in PA, serving both their own businesses and generating income by developing and selling PA-enabled solutions to their clients (direct insurers). Based on research, there are no clear indications how many reinsurers are in each of these categories. However, it is understood that the reinsurance industry is starting to embrace advanced technologies and therefore, the maturity level of the overall reinsurance industry may be somewhere between followers and average.

1.3 APPLICATIONS OF PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS IN LIFE AND ANNUITY REINSURANCE²

Predictive analytics is increasingly revolutionizing life and annuity reinsurance by improving risk assessment, pricing precision, and operational efficiency.¹ While the overall adoption levels are very slow, the adoption rate in some areas is greater than others. Figure 1 illustrates the current relative maturity level of predictive analytics adoption in key areas for life and annuity reinsurance companies.⁴ The relative maturity is the comparison of maturity in one

³ Griffiths, T., Cremin, J. and MacRichie, J., 2023. "How to Futureproof Data and Analytics Capabilities for Reinsurers." Aon. Available at: <https://www.aon.com/en/insights/articles/how-to-futureproof-data-and-analytics-capabilities-for-reinsurers?collection=65b4896d-8843-4831-b61a-b9ac31196758>. [Accessed 11 March 2025]

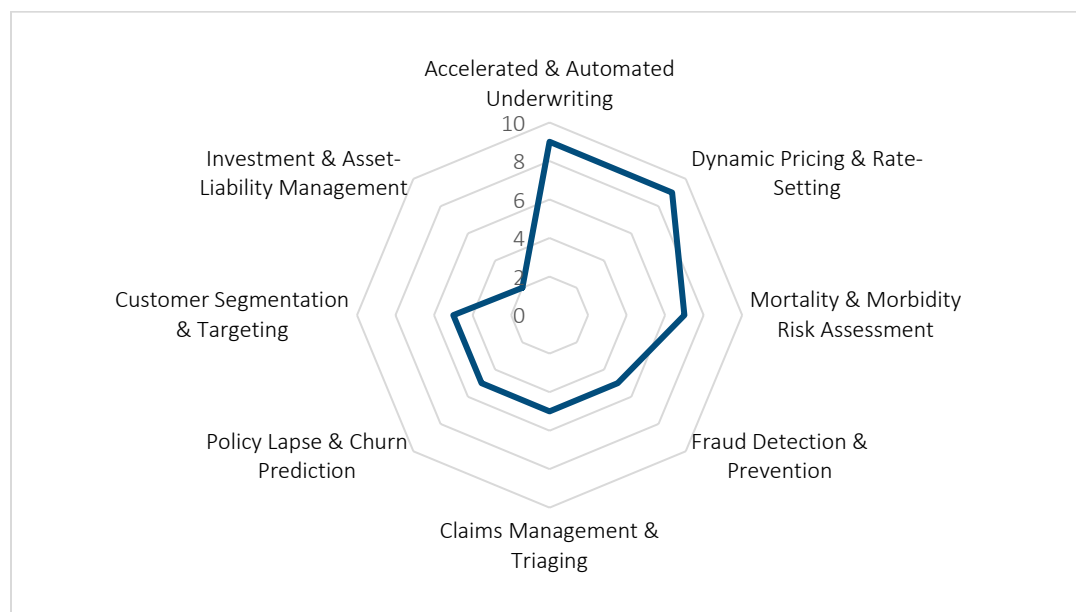
⁴ Welch, M., 2024. "Predictive analytics in insurance: Benefits and use cases." Available at: <https://www.luxoft.com/blog/benefits-and-use-cases-of-predictive-analytics-in-insurance>. [Accessed 14 April 2025]⁴ ForMotiv, 2024. "Predictive Analytics in Life Insurance." ForMotiv. Available at: <https://www.formotiv.com/blog/predictive-analytics-in-life-insurance>. [Accessed 11 Mar. 2025]

area with that in other areas. The relative maturity level is depicted on a scale from 0 to 10, where 10 represents high relative maturity and 0 represents low relative maturity. The maturity level for each area is discussed below:

- Accelerated & Automated Underwriting: High relative maturity (9). Leading reinsurers and insurers are actively utilizing predictive analytics and third-party data for risk scoring.

Figure 1

MATURITY LEVEL OF PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS ADOPTION IN LIFE AND ANNUITY REINSURANCE



- Dynamic Pricing & Rate-Setting: High relative maturity level (9). Reinsurers now routinely employ advanced analytics for real-time pricing and risk selection.
- Mortality & Morbidity Risk Assessment: Rapidly evolving (7). Predictive models are well-established, but the integration of new data sources (such as genomics and Internet of Things (IoT)) is still in progress.
- Fraud Detection & Prevention: Medium relative maturity (5). AI and anomaly detection are increasingly used, but sophistication and adoption vary among reinsurers.
- Claims Management & Triaging: In the evolving phase (5). Automation and predictive analytics are being piloted and increasingly adopted, but reinsurers are still working towards full automation and seamless integration.
- Policy Lapse & Churn Prediction: Evolving (5). Predictive analytics are being piloted and adopted for retention strategies, but complete maturity across all organizations has not yet been achieved.
- Customer Segmentation & Targeting: Medium relative maturity (5). Hyper-personalization and segmentation are growing, but full omnichannel integration and real-time personalization are still emerging.
- Investment & Asset Liability Management: Low relative maturity (2). Predictive analytics tools are being explored, but adoption lags behind core insurance functions like claims and underwriting.

Section 2 Lessons Learned from Predictive Analytics Adoption by Direct Insurance

This research investigates how direct insurance carriers are utilizing predictive analytics. The analysis focused on specific business processes where predictive analytics are being applied to enhance operational efficiency, improve decision-making, and streamline workflows in life, annuity, and P&C insurance sectors. The comprehensive review aimed to identify practices and emerging trends that can drive innovation in the life and annuity reinsurance industry.

2.1 ADOPTION IN LIFE AND ANNUITY INSURANCE

Predictive analytics are becoming more prevalent in the life insurance and annuity sectors, with adoption rates differing according to product type and carrier size. Table 2 illustrates the adoption levels based on a survey conducted by a technology firm. Based on this research, these adoption levels may slightly differ from other sources in the industry. However, the distribution of adoption levels is similar. For example, larger carriers tend to achieve higher adoption levels compared to smaller carriers because they have more capital available to invest in these initiatives.⁵

Table 2

LEVEL OF PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS ADOPTION BY PRODUCT IN LIFE AND ANNUITY INSURANCE INDUSTRY

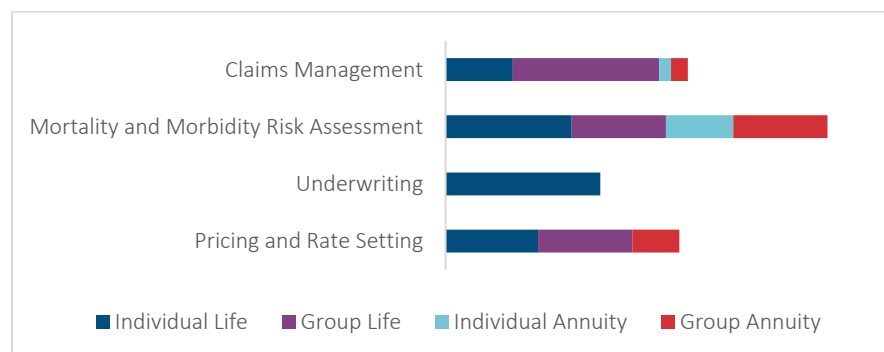
| Product | Large carriers | Small to medium carriers |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Individual life | 70% | 55% |
| Group life | 71% | 65% |
| Individual annuity | 71% | 15% |
| Group annuity | 50% | 30% |

2.1.1 APPLICATIONS OF PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS IN LIFE AND ANNUITY INSURANCE

Life insurance companies are heavily investing in improving the efficiency and performance of business processes. Figure 2 shows the maturity of predictive analytics in key areas for various products.⁴ The greater the contribution of a product line to the bar, the higher its maturity level for that particular area.

Figure 2

MATURITY LEVEL OF PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS ADOPTION IN KEY AREAS OF LIFE AND ANNUITY INSURANCE



⁵ ForMotiv, 2024. "Predictive Analytics in Life Insurance." ForMotiv. Available at: <https://www.formotiv.com/blog/predictive-analytics-in-life-insurance>. [Accessed 11 Mar. 2025]

It is observed that predictive analytics has reached a high level of maturity in claims management for group life business. The adoption of predictive analytics in mortality and morbidity assessment is progressing almost equally across all four products. In the individual life business, there is a strong focus on integrating predictive analytics into underwriting. Additionally, the adoption of predictive analytics in pricing and rate setting is prevalent in both group and individual life business.

2.1.2 LESSONS FROM LIFE AND ANNUITY INSURERS

Predictive analytics in life and annuity insurance is poised to expand its applications to encompass claim management, pricing, and customer data analysis. Based on the authors' research, this adoption in direct carriers offers several lessons for the reinsurance industry as summarized below:

- Enhance underwriting and operational efficiency: Direct insurers have shown that predictive analytics can significantly improve the underwriting process. Reinsurers, who handle complex and aggregated risks, can adopt similar predictive analytics strategies to assist direct carriers in implementing accelerated underwriting, refining their own treaty underwriting, speeding up facultative assessments, and optimizing portfolio management.
- Enhanced risk assessment and pricing: Direct insurers have utilized predictive analytics to accurately price policies and identify high-risk applicants. Reinsurers can continue to further improve risk assessment and pricing models for direct carriers using adoption of predictive analytics and leveraging additional data sources like Electronic Health Records (EHR), Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) data, etc.
- Data integration and quality: Prioritizing building scalable data ecosystems and investing in data partnerships with cedants will help ensure access to high-quality, relevant data for predictive modeling.
- Change management and cultural shifts: Direct insurers have learned that successful analytics implementation requires a cultural shift towards embracing data-driven decision-making, upskilling staff, and fostering collaboration between actuarial, underwriting, and IT teams. The same will be needed in the reinsurance industry.

2.2 ADOPTION IN P&C INSURANCE

The P&C insurance sector is increasingly embracing predictive analytics to enhance its operations, improve customer service, and maintain a competitive edge.⁶

2.2.1 APPLICATIONS OF PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS IN P&C INSURANCE

The integration of AI and machine learning (ML), both types of predictive analytics, into business operations for P&C insurers is revolutionizing how they evaluate risks, handle claims, and engage with customers. The adoption levels for various processes in P&C insurance companies are as follows:

- Claims Management: Predictive analytics is employed by 82% of insurers to streamline the claims settlement process, enhancing speed and efficiency.
- Underwriting: 72% of insurers utilize predictive analytics to improve their underwriting processes, enabling more accurate risk assessment and better determination of policy terms.

⁶ Harman, P.L., 2025. "Predicting the future for insurance: Areas to watch in 2025." *Digital Insurance*. Available at: <https://www.dig-in.com/research-report/predicting-the-future-for-insurance-areas-to-watch-in-2025>. [Accessed 3 March 2025].

- Customer Engagement: Approximately 23% of insurance companies use predictive analytics to enhance customer interactions and support, including personalized communication, quicker response times, and overall better customer experience.
- Finance and Operations: Between 5-15% of insurers have adopted predictive analytics to boost efficiency in finance and operational processes, such as automating routine tasks and improving decision-making.

2.2.2 LESSONS FROM P&C INSURERS

The success of the P&C insurance industry with predictive analytics highlights the benefits of adopting data-driven strategies to improve risk management, operational efficiency, and customer engagement.⁷ The research shows that life and annuity reinsurers can fast-track their digital transformation by leveraging proven methods from P&C, broadening data sources, and concentrating on automation, fraud detection, and personalized solutions. The experiences of P&C carriers provide valuable insights for the life and annuity reinsurance sector, which are summarized as follows:

- Data-driven risk assessment and underwriting: P&C carriers utilize non-traditional and expanded data sources, such as telematics and geospatial data. Life and annuity reinsurance companies can similarly broaden their data sources, including health records, wearable devices, and lifestyle indicators, to enhance mortality, longevity, and lapse risk models, resulting in potentially improved underwriting solutions for direct life and annuity carriers.
- Fraud detection and prevention: P&C insurers use predictive analytics to identify fraudulent claims, streamlining claims management. Life and annuity reinsurers can adopt these techniques to help direct insurers flag suspicious claims, detect misrepresentation in applications, and proactively manage contestable claims.
- Customer retention and personalization: P&C carriers employ predictive analytics to identify policyholders at risk of churn, enabling targeted retention strategies. Although life and annuity reinsurers are one step removed from direct customers, they can support primary insurers with retention analytics, aiding in the design of products and interventions to improve persistency.
- Product innovation and market insights: P&C carriers leverage predictive analytics to identify emerging risks and customer needs. Life and annuity reinsurers can use predictive analytics to anticipate demographic shifts, longevity trends, and new risk pools, while supporting product design and reinsurance solutions for direct life and annuity carriers.

⁷ Mistry, M., 2025. "How Predictive Analytics in Insurance Is Transforming Pricing, Claims, and Fraud Prevention." Available at: <https://kodytechnolab.com/blog/predictive-analytics-in-insurance-industry/>. [Accessed 10 May 2025].⁷ Callaway, J., 2017. "The Internet of Things: Key Considerations for Life Insurers." RGA. Available at: <https://www.rgare.com/knowledge-center/article/the-internet-of-things-key-considerations-for-life-insurers>. [Accessed 11 April 2025]

Section 3 Data, Techniques, and Challenges for Predictive Analytics

3.1 DATA UTILIZED IN PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS IN REINSURANCE / INSURANCE

In the dynamic reinsurance industry, effectively utilizing diverse data sources is crucial for driving predictive analytics and enhancing decision-making processes. Life and annuity reinsurers and insurers leverage a wide array of data to gain deeper insights into risks, customer behaviors, and market trends. These data sources include historical claims data, economic data, medical records, granular bordereaux report for reinsurers, SDOH, credit data, and customer interactions data.^{8 9}

Insurance companies increasingly rely on third-party data providers to boost their predictive analytics capabilities and improve decision-making processes. These third-party sources offer a wealth of information that complement internal data, providing insurers with comprehensive insights into various risk factors and customer behaviors. Some third-party data providers to life and annuity reinsurers and insurers are shown in Table 3.

Table 3
EXAMPLES OF THE THIRD-PARTY DATA PROVIDERS

| Data Provider | Description |
|-------------------------|---|
| Lexis Nexis | Offers the Risk Classifier tool for enhanced risk assessment. HumanAPI—facilitates access to electronic health records (EHR), health information exchanges, and pharmacies. |
| Verisk | Specializes in data analytics and risk assessment solutions for Life and Annuity EHR Automation Engine—automates the retrieval and processing of electronic health records. |
| Experian and Transunion | Supply credit data and other financial information. |
| Milliman | Milliman Intelliscript IRIX Suite—Interpreted clinical, credit, and criminal data for unprecedented protective value and risk stratification |

These data sources enable insurers to develop more accurate predictive models, improve risk selection, and optimize underwriting and claims processes.

P&C reinsurance and insurance companies utilize a diverse array of third-party data, including telematics and smart device data, motor vehicle data, weather and property data, geospatial data, customer interactions data, credit data, and social media data. Some data providers, such as Lexis Nexis and Verisk, are common to both life and annuity as well as P&C businesses.^{10 11}

Insurers struggle with effective data management programs due to inconsistent, untimely, and inaccurate data.¹² One of the primary challenges is dealing with aging technology and manual processing. Additionally, there is often a lack of data governance, strategy, and quality controls. Data is frequently dispersed across multiple locations,

⁸ Callaway, J., 2017. "The Internet of Things: Key Considerations for Life Insurers." RGA. Available at: <https://www.rgare.com/knowledge-center/article/the-internet-of-things-key-considerations-for-life-insurers>. [Accessed 11 April 2025]

⁹ Green Leaf, 2024. "Anticipating Risks and Opportunities in Reinsurance." *Green Leaf Consulting Group*. Available at: <https://greenleafgrp.com/insights/anticipating-risks-and-opportunities-in-reinsurance>. [Accessed 11 April 2025]

¹⁰ BCG, 2021. "The Power of the Internet of Things in Commercial Insurance." BCG. Available at: <https://www.bcg.com/publications/2021/commercial-insurance-should-start-testing-the-power-of-the-internet-of-things> [Accessed 11 April 2025]

¹¹ Woody, 2023. "Top Real-Time Data Providers for Underwriting." *ForMotiv*. Available at: <https://formotiv.com/top-data-providers-for-underwriting>. [Accessed 11 April 2025]

¹² Hargreave, J., 2024. "Master data management: A strategic imperative for the insurance industry." *Moody's*. Available at: <https://www.moody's.com/web/en/us/insights/underwriting/master-data-management-in-insurance-a-strategic-imperative.html>. [Accessed 12 February 2025]

leading to inconsistent historical data. Therefore, key focus areas to address in data management include inconsistent, inaccurate, or untimely external data, as well as siloed systems and data managed by different functions. High Merger and Acquisition (M&A) rates and weak integration of systems in the industry exacerbate these issues. Additionally, the insurance industry is highly regulated, with requirements around Know Your Customer (KYC) and Anti-Money Laundering (AML) to maintain integrity, prevent fraudulent activity, and minimize financial and reputational risk. These requirements can lead to a substantial increase in operational costs.

3.2 TECHNIQUES USED IN PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS IN REINSURANCE / INSURANCE

In the realm of predictive analytics, the reinsurance and insurance industries employ a variety of advanced techniques to forecast future trends, assess risks, and enhance decision-making processes.^{13 14} These techniques span across different domains of predictive analytics, including supervised and unsupervised learning methods. The application of these techniques in the industry is shown in the Table 4:^{15 16}

Table 4

PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS TECHNIQUES EMPLOYED IN THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY

| Function | Activities | Predictive Analytics Techniques | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|--|---|--|----------------------------|------------------|
| | | ML — Unsupervised Learning (clustering) | ML — Supervised Learning (Random Forest and similar) | ML — Natural Language Processing (NLP) | ML — Computer Vision | Generative AI |
| Underwriting | Segregate incoming applicants | ● | | | | |
| | Predict applicant risk category | | ● | ● | ● | |
| Claims | Segregate incoming claims | ● | | | | |
| | Predict claims risk category | | ● | ● | ● (P&C only) | |
| Fraud detection | Segregate incoming claims | ● | | | | |
| | Predict fraud propensity | | ● | ● | ● | |
| Customers engagement | Personalized engagement | | | | | ● |
| Manage data | Transform data to forecast future trends | ● | ● | ● | | |

*ML – Machine Learning

Each of these techniques plays a crucial role in various insurance functions, such as underwriting, claims processing, fraud detection, customer engagement, and data management, ultimately driving efficiency and accuracy in the industry. Some of these techniques are discussed below:

- ML – unsupervised learning: these models are trained on data without labeled responses. They identify patterns and structures in the data by clustering or grouping similar data points. These models are used in identifying patterns for fraud detection, customer segmentation, and risk assessment.

¹³ Agency Forward Editorial Team, 2024. "Predictive analytics in the insurance industry." *Agency Forward*. Available at: <https://agentblog.nationwide.com/agency-management/technology/predictive-analytics-in-the-insurance-industry/>. [Accessed 11 April 2025]

¹⁴ Choudhary, R., 2025. "Exploring the Benefits and Use Cases for Predictive Analytics in Insurance." Available at: <https://www.sparxitsolutions.com/blog/predictive-analytics-in-insurance/>. [Accessed 12 April 2025]

¹⁵ Barinov, A., 2025. "Machine Learning for Underwriting: Use Cases and Challenges." Available at: <https://intelliarts.com/blog/using-machine-learning-to-increase-underwriting-efficiency/>. [Accessed 28 March 2025]

¹⁶ Data, Analytics and AI team, 2025. "Comparative Analysis of Machine Learning Techniques for Detecting Insurance Claims Fraud." Available at: <https://www.wipro.com/analytics/comparative-analysis-of-machine-learning-techniques-for-detectin/>. [Accessed 15 April 2025].

- ML – supervised learning: these models use ML algorithms such as random forest, XGBoost, and Support Vector Method (SVM).
 - A random forest model is an ensemble learning method that combines multiple decision trees to improve accuracy and reduce overfitting. It works by averaging the predictions of these trees for regression tasks or selecting the most common class for classification tasks.
 - XGBoost (Extreme Gradient Boosting) is a powerful machine learning algorithm that uses an ensemble of decision trees to optimize predictive accuracy. It is highly efficient and scalable, making it popular for both regression and classification tasks.
 - A Support Vector Machine (SVM) is a supervised learning model used for classification and regression tasks. It works by finding the optimal hyperplane that maximizes the margin between different classes in the data.

These models have moderate interpretability and can manage structured data more efficiently than deep neural networks (DNNs).

- Deep Neural Networks (DNNs): these models have complex architectures which process unstructured data (images, text).
 - A Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) uses convolutional layers to automatically extract features from images, making it highly effective for tasks like image classification, object detection, and segmentation.
 - A Recurrent Neural Network (RNN) maintains hidden states that capture information from previous time steps, making it effective for tasks like language modeling, speech recognition, and time series prediction.
 - Transformers are designed to handle sequential data, excelling particularly in natural language processing (NLP) tasks. They use a mechanism called multi-head attention to process input data in parallel, which allows them to capture long-range dependencies more efficiently than other DNN models like RNNs.

These models are well suited for Natural Language Processing (NLP) and computer vision techniques leveraged for various processes in insurance.

3.3 PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS ADOPTION CHALLENGES

The adoption of predictive analytics in the insurance industry, while promising significant benefits, is not without its challenges.¹⁷ Insurers face major challenges such as outdated systems, fragmented data, compliance requirements, and skillset gaps, which hinder the seamless integration and implementation of advanced analytics.^{17 18} Some of these challenges are discussed below:

- Legacy systems and data silos: average age of data systems for insurers is 18 years with fragmented data across different departments and formats, leading to silos that impede unified analytics and model accuracy.
- Data quality and governance: challenges around lack of high-quality, consistent, and diverse data. This requires data cleansing, rigorous data governance frameworks, and unified data management strategies that are resource intensive to implement.

¹⁷ Harman, P.L., 2025. "Predicting the future for insurance: Areas to watch in 2025." *Digital Insurance*. Available at: <https://www.dig-in.com/research-report/predicting-the-future-for-insurance-areas-to-watch-in-2025>. [Accessed 3 March 2025]

¹⁸ Pine, T., 2024. "From Governance to Insurance: Frontline Perspectives on Mitigating Corporate AI Risk." *Munich Re*. Available at: https://www.munichre.com/content/dam/munichre/contentlounge/website-pieces/documents/MunichRe-Whitepaper-Risk-Mitigation-2024.pdf/jcr_content/renditions/original/MunichRe-Whitepaper-Risk-Mitigation-2024.pdf. [Accessed 27 February 2025]

- Regulatory and compliance barriers: compliance with data privacy laws (CCPA, GDPR, etc.) is critical, especially when handling personal identifiable data. Insurers must ensure encrypted storage, access controls, and data anonymization to avoid breaches and penalties.
- Talent and skills gap: shortage of data scientists and AI engineers, upskilling existing staff or engaging external consultants may be necessary but can also be expensive and time consuming.
- Ethical and fairness concerns: historical data may reflect past biases or inequalities, potentially skewing risk scoring and leading to unfair underwriting or pricing decisions. Regular audits and the use of synthetic data may be necessary to ensure fairness and avoid discriminatory outcomes.

Some of the mitigation strategies¹⁷ for these challenges are:

- Corporate AI Governance Policy: Formulate a policy including model risk management.
- Modernize data security measures: deploy zero-trust architecture, data encryption, and AI-driven anomaly detection to protect sensitive data
- Use robust data integration tools
- Insurance Coverage for AI-Driven Losses: Consider coverage for AI-driven losses.

Section 4 Regulatory Development—AI and Predictive Analytics

Regulatory developments play a crucial role in the adoption of predictive analytics in the overall insurance industry that includes both direct insurers and reinsurers:

United States:¹⁹

- The National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) is developing model laws focusing on transparency, fairness, and accountability. Its 2024 survey found 88% of auto insurers and 58% of life insurers already use or plan to use AI.
- Specific regulations and guidance have been issued by states like Colorado, New York, California, and Texas.
- Additionally, the NAIC model bulletin has been adopted by 23 other states, reflecting a broader trend towards standardized oversight.

European Union:²⁰

- The EU (European Union) AI Act categorizes AI uses in insurance (for underwriting, fraud detection) as high-risk, requiring strict compliance with data governance and bias mitigation.
- The EU AI Act comprises various aspects for AI risk management such as classification rules for high-risk AI systems, specific requirements for high-risk AI systems, quality management systems, human oversight requirements (also known as Human in the Loop—HITL), technical documentation, etc.

Asia-Pacific:²¹

- The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) published guidelines focusing on ethical AI use in claims processing and customer service.
- This also includes establishing a consistent and comprehensive AI framework for managing AI risks, assessment of the risk materiality of AI systems, and procedures to ensure completeness of AI inventories.

Global Coordination:²²

- The International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS) advocates for a risk-based approach, urging alignment with existing regulations.
- The Global Federation of Insurance Associations (GFIA) supports localized, dialogue-driven supervision over rigid global mandates.

¹⁹ NAIC Bulletin, 2023. “Use of Artificial Intelligence Systems by Insurers.” Available at: https://content.naic.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/2023-12-4%20Model%20Bulletin_Adopted_0.pdf. [Accessed 23 March 2025]

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²¹ MAS Information Paper, 2024. Artificial Intelligence Model Risk Management. Available at: <https://www.mas.gov.sg/-/media/mas-media-library/publications/monographs-or-information-paper/imd/2024/information-paper-on-ai-risk-management-final.pdf>. [Accessed 10 April 2025]

²² IAIS Consultation Paper, 2024. “Public consultation on draft Application Paper on the supervision of artificial intelligence.” Available at: <https://www.iais.org/2024/11/public-consultation-on-draft-application-paper-on-the-supervision-of-artificial-intelligence/>. [Accessed 10 April 2025]

Section 5 Other Topics

5.1 RESPONSIBLE AI

Responsible AI²³ (RAI) encompasses a set of principles and processes designed to guide the ethical development and use of AI systems. In the context of the growing importance of Generative AI, RAI addresses emerging risks such as misinformation, hallucinations, ethical concerns, and unknown risks. Table 5 shows some of the key principles of RAI.

Table 5
KEY PRINCIPLES OF RAI

| Principle | Description |
|---|--|
| Fairness | Ensuring AI models do not unfairly discriminate. |
| Transparency and Explainability | Providing clear explanations for AI decisions. |
| Robustness, Security, and Safety | Guaranteeing that AI systems are accurate, reliable, and secure. |
| Accountability | Establishing clear responsibilities for AI outcomes. |
| Privacy | Protecting personal information within AI systems. |

5.2 EXPLAINABLE AI

Explainable AI²⁴ (XAI) refers to the methods and processes used to make AI models transparent and understandable to humans. The primary goals of XAI are to ensure that AI models are value-generating, compliant, representative, and reliable.

- Techniques used: Feature importance using SHapley Additive exPlanations (SHAP) and Local Interpretable Model-agnostic Explanations (LIME), surrogate models, counterfactual explanations, rule extraction.
- Key Trends: Integration with regulatory compliance, human-centered design, bias detection and mitigation, real-time explanations.

5.3 GENERATIVE AI

Generative AI²⁵ (GenAI) involves training computers and systems to use generative models to create new content, such as images, text, audio, music, video, code, 3D objects, and synthetic data.

- Use Cases: Compliance regulation, fraud prevention, expedited claims processing, settlement offers generation, broker productivity enhancement, accelerated underwriting.
- Concerns: Potential for hallucinations and false information, generating content that appears plausible but is factually incorrect.

²³ Angelakopoulou, A. and Feddersen, M., 2024. "Responsible AI: what it is and why it matters for Life & Health insurers." *Swiss Re*. Available at: <https://www.swissre.com/reinsurance/insights/responsible-ai-for-life-and-health-insurers.html>. [Accessed 25 February 2025].

²⁴ Holzinger, A., Saranti, A., Molnar C., Biecek, P., and Samek, W., 2020. "Explainable AI Methods - A Brief Overview." *xxAI - Beyond Explainable AI*. https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-04083-2_2#Sec20. [Accessed 11 April 2025]

²⁵ Devriese, I., Li, Y., and Lin, Y., 2024. Insuring Generative AI: Risks and Mitigation Strategies. *Munich Re*. Available at: https://www.munichre.com/content/dam/munichre/contentlounge/website-pieces/documents/MR_AI-Whitepaper-Insuring-Generative-AI.pdf/_jcr_content/renditions/original/MR_AI-Whitepaper-Insuring-Generative-AI.pdf. [Accessed 26 February 2025]

Section 6 Adopting Predictive Analytics in Reinsurance

To remain competitive and innovative in the evolving landscape of the insurance industry, reinsurers will likely want to consider embracing data and predictive analytics technologies. These technologies hold immense potential to enhance operational efficiency, improve risk assessment, and boost value proposition for the ceding insurers through cutting edge predictive analytics solutions. However, the successful implementation of these technologies requires a strategic approach to data management and governance. Reinsurers face significant challenges with aging technology, manual processing, and inconsistent data management.

The following key actions, if not already adopted, may assist effective adoption of predictive analytics in reinsurance business processes:

1. Optimizing data flows at the source:²⁶ build the capability to capture and structure the data provided by each cedent with high accuracy and efficiency by investing in developing:
 - a. A strong data culture—utilize data to extract valuable insights for managing risk and processes,
 - b. Efficient data processes—deploy end-to-end automation from ingestion to producing valuation analytics, and
 - c. Partnerships—build synergies with data technology firms and third-party data providers to enrich the data to expand the impact of data analytics on business.
2. Integrating systems for effective underwriting:²⁷ build a streamlined workflow, improve data management, and enhance decision-making capabilities for effective and efficient pricing and underwriting by building:
 - a. Centralized data repository—establish a unified system for storing and managing data securely and use cloud-native architectures for scalability and performance,
 - b. Integrated workflow—implement underwriting workstations that integrate seamlessly with internal policy administration and claims data, third-party data, and other relevant data in the organization.
3. Leveraging data to improve risk understanding:² with efficient data ingestion and integrated systems provisioning more granular data, reinsurers can conduct sophisticated analysis to enhance their decision making:
 - a. Leverage predictive analytics for portfolio optimization, treaty deal marginal impact analysis, and sensitivity testing of parameters,
 - b. Use granular bordereaux reports and external data sources to enhance decision-making,
 - c. Offer data-driven insights to cedents, such as detailed exposure analysis and portfolio benchmarking, fostering loyalty, and commercial partnerships.

Responsible adoption of predictive analytics is accompanied by embracing AI governance framework that promote fairness, transparency, and accountability in predictive analytics-enabled systems. Responsible adoption also includes applying explainable AI techniques to provide clear, understandable explanations for systems decisions, thereby enhancing the interpretability and reliability of predictive models. Robust predictive analytics governance frameworks often include continuous training for underwriters and data scientists, fostering collaboration to support appropriate tool usage and minimize biases.

²⁶ Wilkinson, B., 2011. "Reinsurance Data Management – the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly." SOA. Available at: <https://www.soa.org/globalassets/assets/library/newsletters/reinsurance-section-news/2011/november/rsn-2011-iss71-wilkinson.pdf>. [Accessed 20 April 2025]

²⁷ Ullah, R., 2025. "How Reinsurers Can Get Started with AI for Risk Management." NTT DATA. Available at: <https://uk.nttdata.com/insights/blog/how-reinsurers-can-get-started-with-ai-for-risk-management>. [Accessed 11 April 2025]

Reinsurers that invest in advanced data frameworks and predictive analytics technologies are likely to gain a competitive edge by improving the accuracy of their risk models while reducing uncertainties. Reinsurers have an opportunity to move beyond traditional risk transfer and become strategic partners offering valuable insights across the insurance value chain.

Section 7 Conclusions

The integration of predictive analytics in the insurance industry is reshaping traditional practices and unlocking new opportunities for growth and efficiency. This report has explored the substantial impact of predictive analytics on life and annuity insurance and the reinsurance industry, highlighting its potential to enhance risk assessment, streamline operations, and improve customer experiences.

The adoption of predictive analytics, however, comes with its own set of challenges. Issues such as fragmented data architecture, outdated technologies, and a shortage of skilled professionals must be addressed to fully realize the benefits of these advanced tools. Additionally, regulatory developments across various regions, including the United States, European Union, and Asia-Pacific, emphasize the importance of transparency, fairness, and accountability in predictive analytics applications, underscoring the need for compliance and ethical considerations.

For the reinsurance industry to embrace these technologies while addressing the associated challenges will likely require a concerted effort to modernize infrastructure, invest in talent development, and adhere to regulatory guidelines. By doing so, insurers can leverage predictive analytics to drive strategic decision-making, enhance operational efficiency, and deliver superior value to customers.

In conclusion, the journey towards a data-driven future in reinsurance is both complex and promising. As the industry continues to explore and innovate, the principles of responsible AI and explainability will serve as guiding principles, ensuring that the advancements made are aligned with ethical standards and societal expectations.

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Section 9 Key Activities Performed by the Research Team

The research team executed the following activities to gather insights on predictive analytics in life and annuity reinsurance and other related areas:

1. Literature Research
 - Sourced information from over 85 relevant articles, including research by reinsurers, consulting firm whitepapers, insurance, and actuarial institute journals, whitepapers by technology companies, and research by rating agencies.
 - Investigated areas using and not using predictive analytics within life and annuity reinsurance and other insurance companies.
 - Examined current data sources utilized by these companies.
 - Explored topics such as Responsible AI, Explainable AI, and Generative AI.
2. Interviews with SMEs
 - Identified Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) at Risk and Regulatory Consulting (RRC) inclusive of its affiliate, RSM US, to gain insights into the adoption of predictive analytics.
 - Created an informal survey to gather initial feedback from these SMEs.
 - Conducted follow-up interviews to finalize their views on the adoption of predictive analytics in life and annuity reinsurance.

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