MONTHLY RATE BRIEFING

A quiet month for comp and auto in the Southeast — and the one story that cleared the screen is a rate cut.

This cycle's screen — approved rate changes touching 1,000+ policyholders at severity 4–5 in workers comp and commercial auto — surfaced no qualifying rate increases in either line. Not one WC hike, not one commercial-auto hike. The single filing worth your attention runs the other way: Progressive cut Mississippi commercial auto 11.9%. It's the exception that proves how quiet the front of the book is — and a talking point for the insureds who benefit. The action this month is on Pages 2 and 3.

INDUSTRIES IN THIS ISSUE'S FILINGS

MS Commercial Auto Fleets
PROGRESSIVE −11.9%

Physical Damage
COMP & COLLISION −27%+

Workers Comp
NO QUALIFYING INCREASE

LEAD FILING

MS · COMMERCIAL AUTO · FAVORABLE

Progressive cuts Mississippi commercial auto 11.9% — deeper than its own indication, led by 27%+ off comprehensive and collision

Approved August 20, effective October 7. Progressive lowered its Mississippi business-auto book — 8,342 policyholders and $47.1M in premium — an average 11.9%, more than double the 5.3% decrease its own actuarial indication supported. The give-back is concentrated in physical damage: comprehensive and collision base rates fall 27% or more, so fleets that carry full coverage on newer equipment feel it most. Underneath the number, Progressive revised Rule DR01 so that G11 driver-class factors now recalculate on listed drivers at renewal, bypassing the 20% mid-term change threshold — a mechanic that can move an individual account either way as its roster changes. This is the rare filing to bring your insured proactively: a carrier pricing below indication is signaling appetite, and it's worth shopping comparable Mississippi fleets against it before renewal.

−11.9%	5.3%	−27%+	8,342	$47.1M	$5,645
AVERAGE CUT	INDICATED	COMP & COLLISION	POLICYHOLDERS	PREMIUM	AVG PREM/POLICY

ALSO APPROVED THIS CYCLE

Why is Page 1 quiet this month?

Because the Southeast produced no qualifying workers-comp or commercial-auto rate increase this cycle. Nothing in either line cleared our impact bar — severity 4–5, rate-increase effect, 1,000+ policyholders — so there is no hike to lead with. That's genuinely favorable for comp and fleet insureds in the region right now, and Progressive's Mississippi cut is the clearest sign of it. The market isn't sitting still, though; it's just moved off the front of the book. Every pressure story this month is in the wider commercial market (Page 2) or buried in scoring models, cat-model swaps and a market exit (Page 3) — that's where your renewal conversations are this cycle.

How we screen. SERFF filings via Xdate, filtered for: disposition (approval) in August 2026, severity 4–5, rate-change effect, Workers Comp (16.0) and Commercial Auto (20.0), 1,000+ policyholders. This month surfaced no qualifying rate increase in either line; the lead is the cycle's one qualifying rate change — a favorable one — flagged as the exception. Florida is unavailable from this source — the state files most commercial rates outside this multi-state SERFF feed, so its absence reflects data coverage, not a quiet market. Figures are filing-level SERFF snapshots; individual impacts vary.

BEYOND WC & AUTO

The pressure is in the package market — and Georgia is where the pent-up need shows.

Same screen, every other commercial line: the qualifying increases this cycle cluster in Georgia's package and umbrella books. AmTrust leads it with a 13.9% businessowners hike filed against a 94.8% indicated need — one of the widest gaps we've charted — while Auto-Owners' 5.8% package move reaches nearly 28,000 policyholders. The headline rates look modest; the indicated-vs-filed gaps behind them do not.

INDUSTRIES IN THIS ISSUE'S FILINGS

Restaurants & Retail
AMTRUST GA BOP +13.9%

Real Estate & Habitational
AUTO-OWNERS GA PACKAGE

Auto Dealers & Repair
AMTRUST BOP CLASSES

Specialty Trades & Contractors
CENTRAL GA UMBRELLA +12.8%

LEAD FILING

GA · BUSINESSOWNERS · SEVERITY 4/5

AmTrust takes 13.9% on Georgia businessowners — against a 94.8% indicated need, its second straight double-digit hike

Approved August 26, effective December 1. AmTrust raised its Georgia BOP book — 2,419 policyholders and $12.1M in premium — an average 13.9%. The number to hold onto is the gap behind it: AmTrust's own actuarial indication was 94.8%, so this filing closes barely a seventh of what the carrier says it needs, and it's the second straight double-digit increase on this book. That's a book being walked up in stages, not corrected in one, so the next filing is already loading. Wesco-tier policyholders in the highest band feel it most. The exposed classes read like Main Street — retail, restaurants, real estate, auto parts and repair, personal services — so any Georgia BOP account placed here should model a stacked, multi-year path, not a one-time 13.9%, and start looking at alternatives now while the market still has softer package capacity.

+13.9%	94.8%	2,419	$12.1M	~$5,011
INCREASE	INDICATED	POLICYHOLDERS	PREMIUM	AVG PREM/POLICY

TWO FILINGS WORTH A CLOSER LOOK

GA · COMMERCIAL PACKAGE · SEV 4

Auto-Owners takes 5.8% on Georgia commercial package — the month's reach story at nearly 28,000 policyholders, against a 12% indicated need

This is the filing that touches the most Georgia businesses this cycle: Auto-Owners raised its commercial-package book 5.8% across 27,872 policyholders and $136.6M in premium, against a 12.0% indicated need — so the headline is roughly half of what the carrier says it needs, and monoline habitational GL risks face the steepest pressure inside the average. The coverage edits matter as much as the rate: a new Broad Abuse or Molestation exclusion is added, Named Perils coverage is withdrawn on monoline equipment and tools floaters, Inflation Guard is replaced by an Adjusted Value Provision endorsement, and the property minimum deductible rises from $100 to $250. Apartment, hospitality and habitational accounts should read the exclusion and floater language, not just the 5.8%.

27,872 policyholders · $136.6M premium · effective Oct 8, 2026 · ~$4,900/policy

GA · COMMERCIAL UMBRELLA · SEV 4

Central Mutual raises Georgia commercial umbrella 12.8% — and rebuilds how it rates auto-umbrella exposure

Central Mutual took 12.8% on its Georgia commercial umbrella book — 1,928 policyholders, $6.1M in premium — but the structural change is the story: its single auto-umbrella factor table is replaced with seven separate tables keyed to vehicle weight and type, so accounts running heavier or mixed fleets under an umbrella can move well beyond the 12.8% average. The filing also raises the per-layer minimum premium $100 and moves golf courses, stone cutting and cabinetmaking into a higher minimum-premium group. Contractors, specialty trades and any insured leaning on an umbrella over a heavy-vehicle schedule should price the new weight tiers, not the book average.

1,928 policyholders · $6.1M premium · effective Dec 1, 2026 · ~$3,187/policy

THE REST OF THE QUALIFYING LIST

STATE	CARRIER	LINE / SUB-TYPE	SEVERITY	POLICYHOLDERS	EFFECTIVE
NC	Auto-Owners Insurance Group	CMP — Commercial Package	3 / 5	31,223	Nov 14, 2026

Also on the radar

The abuse-and-molestation exclusion is quietly becoming standard package language in the Southeast: **Auto-Owners added a Broad Abuse or Molestation exclusion** to its Georgia commercial-package book above, and **Philadelphia Indemnity's new Georgia BOP program carries a mandatory abuse/molestation exclusion** (plus a new PFAS exclusion) — both carried on Page 3, where the structure is the story. And in a very small but sharp move, **AmTrust took 47% on a 13-policy North Carolina commercial-auto book** as an "ISO catchup" after a 206% liability loss ratio — a preview of the correction pressure that hasn't yet reached the region's larger auto books.

How we screen, page 2. Same filters as Page 1 — approved August 2026, unfavorable impact, severity 4–5, rate-increase effect, 1,000+ policyholders — across every commercial line except Workers Comp (16.0) and Commercial Auto (20.0). Personal lines, including personal umbrella, are excluded. Auto-Owners appears once as a feature (Georgia package) and once on the table (North Carolina package) — two distinct filings. Figures are filing-level SERFF snapshots; individual impacts vary. Not placement advice.

INSURANCE XDATE

BEYOND THE RATE NUMBER

Under the rate line: a class gets non-renewed, predictive models keep spreading, and a cat-model swap redraws coastal pricing.

Same region, the filings whose real story isn't the headline rate: a market exit, three new predictive-scoring builds, a catastrophe-model switch and an advisory loss-cost cut, all approved in August. In a quiet rate month, this is where the Southeast actually moved — insureds get sorted, re-tiered, or shown the door regardless of what the average says.

INDUSTRIES IN THIS PAGE'S FILINGS

Child Care & Social Services	Restaurants & Small Business	Coastal Property	Green Energy & Farms
NEXT INSURANCE MS EXIT	AMTRUST MS 250-BAND MODEL	ZURICH FRAME/METAL +89.8%	AAIS CLASS CHANGES

LEAD FILING · MARKET EXIT

MS | DAY-CARE CGL | SEVERITY 5/5

Next Insurance exits the Mississippi day-care class — non-renewing every in-force daycare CGL policy

Approved August 7, effective September 28. Next Insurance (Munich Re Group) discontinued the Day Care classification under its Mississippi commercial general-liability program and will non-renew all in-force daycare policies at their next renewal from September 28 forward. There's no rate number here because there's no book left to rate — the class is simply gone. Day care is a hard class to place, sitting squarely in the abuse-and-molestation exposure that carriers across the Southeast are re-pricing and excluding this cycle, so an exit like this pushes those insureds into a thinning market at exactly the wrong moment. Any Mississippi child-care or day-care account written through Next needs a replacement market lined up now, well ahead of its renewal date — not after the non-renewal notice lands.

Class exit	All in-force	Sep 28, 2026	MS
DAY CARE CGL	NON-RENEWED	EFFECTIVE	STATE

NEW SCORING & PREDICTIVE MODELS — THE TREND IS REAL

MS | BUSINESSOWNERS | SEV 4

AmTrust rebuilds Mississippi BOP pricing on a 250-band gradient-boosted-tree model — some restaurants and offices up 100%+

AmTrust's Mississippi businessowners filing shows 25.9% on average against a 74.8% indicated need, but the engine is the story: pricing is rebuilt around 250 Risk Assessment Bands driven by a gradient-boosted-tree model, so individual accounts scatter far from the average — some restaurants and offices see increases above 100%. A 1.60 renewal stabilization cap softens year one and a new $150 minimum liability premium is added. The book is tiny, but the model is the same one AmTrust is pushing region-wide; where each small account lands is decided by the tier, not the headline.

30 policyholders · $203K premium · effective Jan 1, 2027 · +25.9% (74.8% indicated)

LA | BUSINESSOWNERS | SEV 4

Federated goes rate-neutral in Louisiana — and swaps underwriter judgment for predictive tiering that swings –42.8% to +81.5%

Federated's Louisiana BOP filing is 0% overall, but revenue-neutral hides a total re-sort: discretionary hazard credits are withdrawn and replaced with mandatory predictive Property and Liability tiering that pulls in Betterview aerial roof data. The result is individual swings from –42.8% to +81.5% on a flat book average — the same account can win big or lose big depending purely on where the model and its roof score place it. Accounts with older or lower-scoring roofs are the ones to review before the February 2027 effective date.

280 policyholders · $4.5M premium · effective Feb 15, 2027 · 0% overall · ~$15,921/policy

GA | BUSINESSOWNERS | SEV 3

Philadelphia launches a new Georgia BOP program built on LexisNexis / ISO Risk Analyzer scoring — with mandatory coastal deductibles

Philadelphia Indemnity rolled out a brand-new Georgia businessowners program at 0% — new business on an empty book — but the framework is the tell: LexisNexis and ISO Risk Analyzer scoring drive placement from day one, mandatory 1–5% wind/hail deductibles attach to coastal locations with TIV over $250k, and PFAS and abuse/molestation exclusions are mandatory. Add-on Cyber, MPL and EPL suites and new PHLY PAC enhancement endorsements round it out. It's a pricing-and-coverage architecture, not a rate action — and the coastal-deductible and exclusion terms are what new Georgia accounts inherit at bind.

count not reported · effective Oct 1, 2026 · new program, 0%

CAT MODELS, DRIVER TIERS & COVERAGE CUTS

MS | COMMERCIAL PACKAGE | SEV 4

Zurich cuts Mississippi package 17.9% after switching cat models — but frame and metal coastal risks spike up to 89.8%

Zurich's Mississippi commercial-package (P3) book falls 17.9% overall, and the driver is a catastrophe-model swap from RMS to Verisk Touchstone. The new model rewards masonry and concrete construction — but the same switch pushes frame and metal coastal risks up as much as 89.8%, so a favorable book average masks a punishing move for one construction class. The filing also expands Life Sciences Transitional Business rating to include Business Income and clarifies earth-movement and flood limit references. Coastal frame and metal buildings are the class to check before the March 2027 effective date.

112 policyholders · $2.7M premium · effective Mar 1, 2027 · –17.9% (frame/metal coastal to +89.8%) · ~$23,889/policy

ALSO FILED THIS CYCLE

- MS **BITCO cuts Mississippi business auto 4.8% — but a new 45-tier driver model and 90-day MVR monitoring is the real change**
- NC **AmTrust takes 47% on a North Carolina commercial-auto book as an "ISO catchup" — after a 206% liability loss ratio**
- GA/NC **AAIS cuts commercial-GL advisory loss costs in Georgia and North Carolina — and reshapes the class plan**
- GA **AF Group files –0.8% on Georgia workers' comp — and acquired Star Insurance policyholders see 18.6% off**

Also on the radar

The through-line this month is abuse and molestation exposure being written out of the market from every direction. **Next Insurance exited Mississippi day care entirely** (this page's lead), while **Auto-Owners added a Broad Abuse or Molestation exclusion** to its Georgia package book (Page 2) and **Philadelphia's new Georgia BOP program made the exclusion mandatory** (above). Youth-serving, child-care and social-service accounts across the Southeast are the ones feeling the combined squeeze of exclusions and exits — and they're the accounts to review first this cycle.

How we screen, page 3. SERFF filings via Xdate, approved August 2026, Southeast states, all commercial lines, severity 3–5, filing effects SCORING_MODEL / UNDERWRITING_REVISION / COVERAGE_MODIFICATION / MARKET_EXIT / TIERING_REVISION. Rate-driven filings live on Pages 1–2; here the guideline, scoring, cat-model or coverage change is the story. The 1,000+ policyholder floor is relaxed where the structural change itself warrants coverage. Florida is unavailable from this SERFF source. Not placement advice.