

# **California Workers Compensation: Are We There Yet?**

A MILLIMAN GLOBAL FIRM



**Milliman**  
*Consultants and Actuaries*

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Milliman, Inc.  
September 13, 2005**

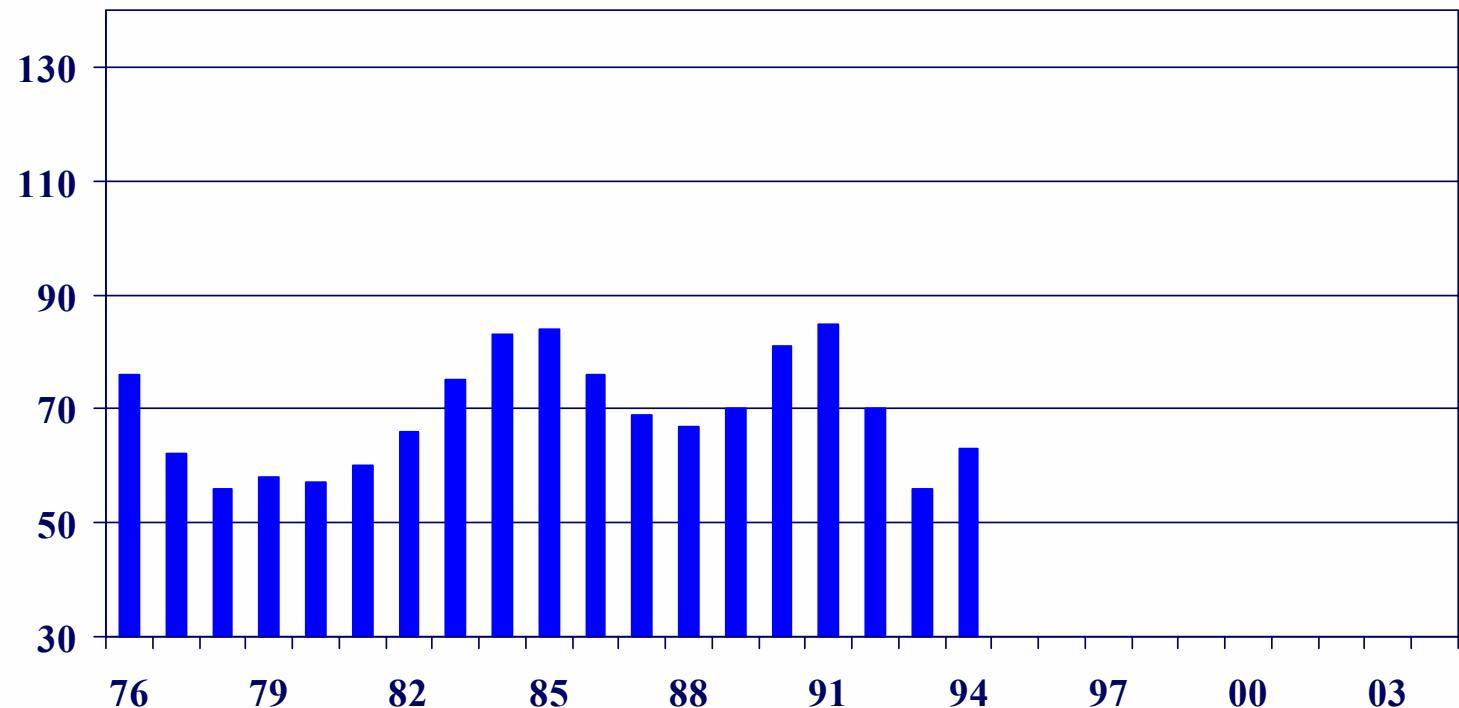
# A Brief History

## ■ 1992-94: Low Loss Ratios

- Effective anti-fraud measures
- Low medical inflation
- Normal loss ratio cycle



# WCIRB Ultimate Loss Ratios @ 3/05

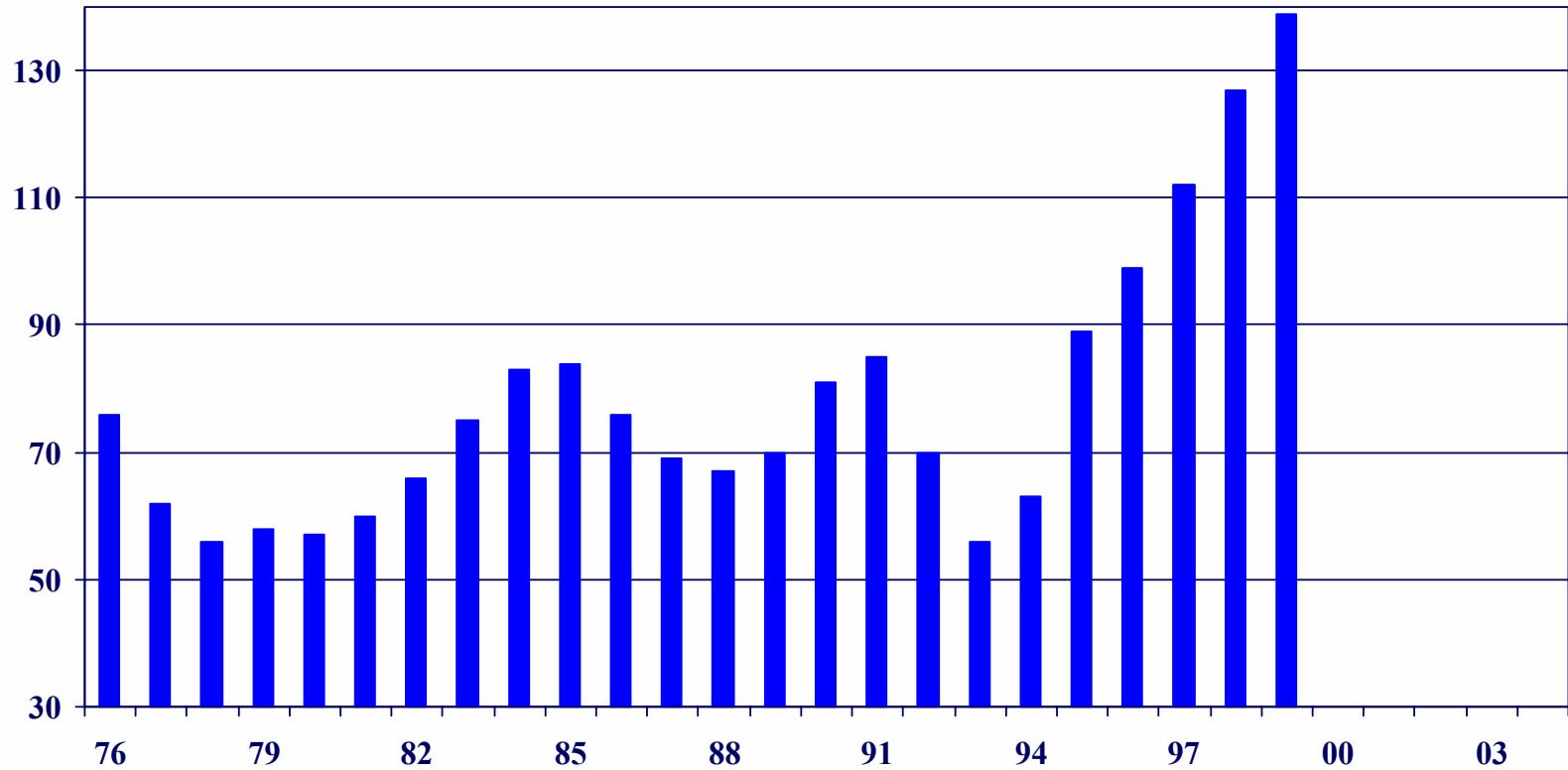


# A Brief History

- **1992-94: Low Loss Ratios**
- **1995-99: Increasing Loss Ratios**
  - Deep discounts in pricing (open rating)
  - Inadequate pure premiums
  - Cheap reinsurance
  - High severity trends, especially for medical



# WCIRB Ultimate Loss Ratios @ 3/05

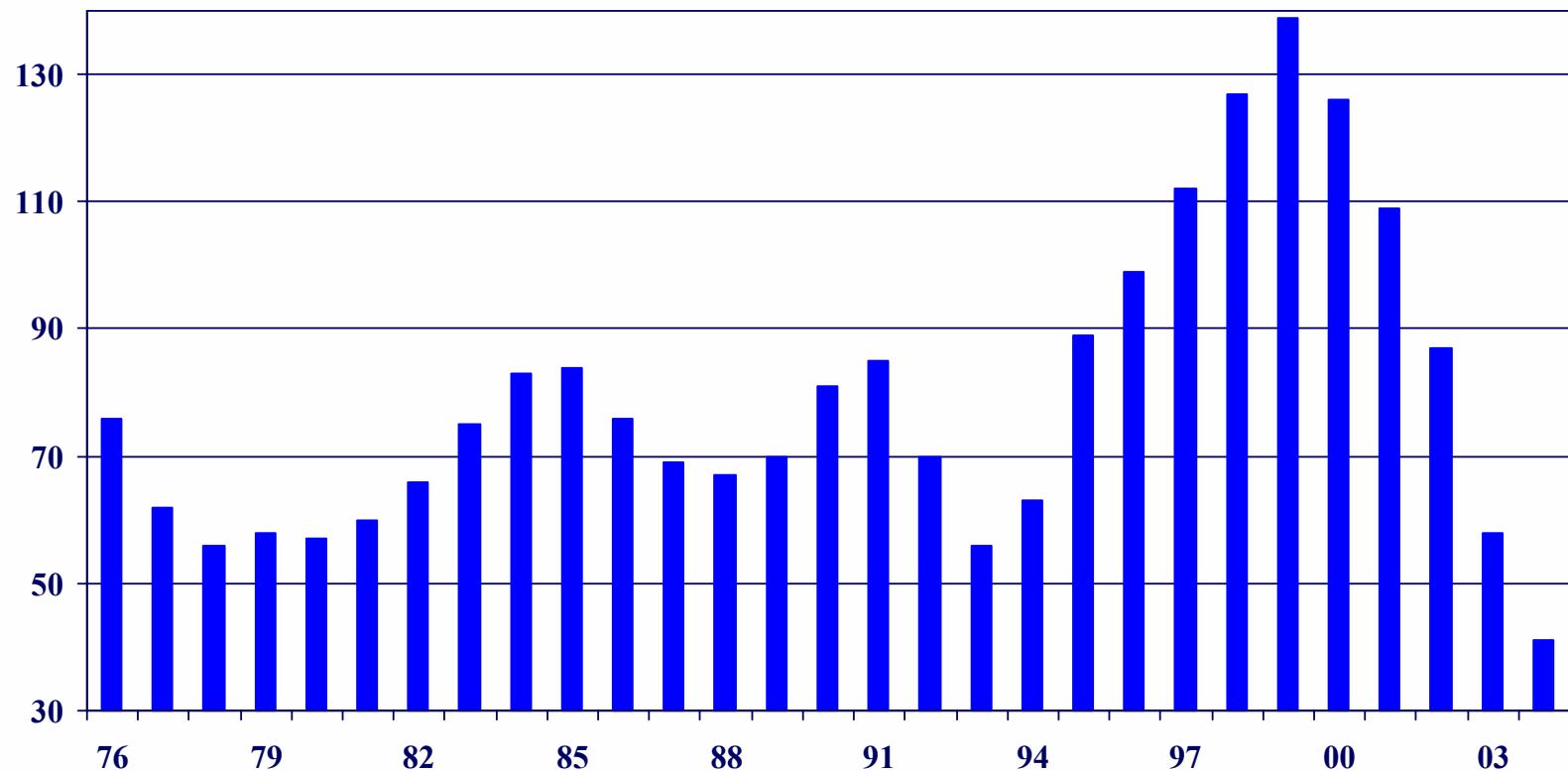


# A Brief History

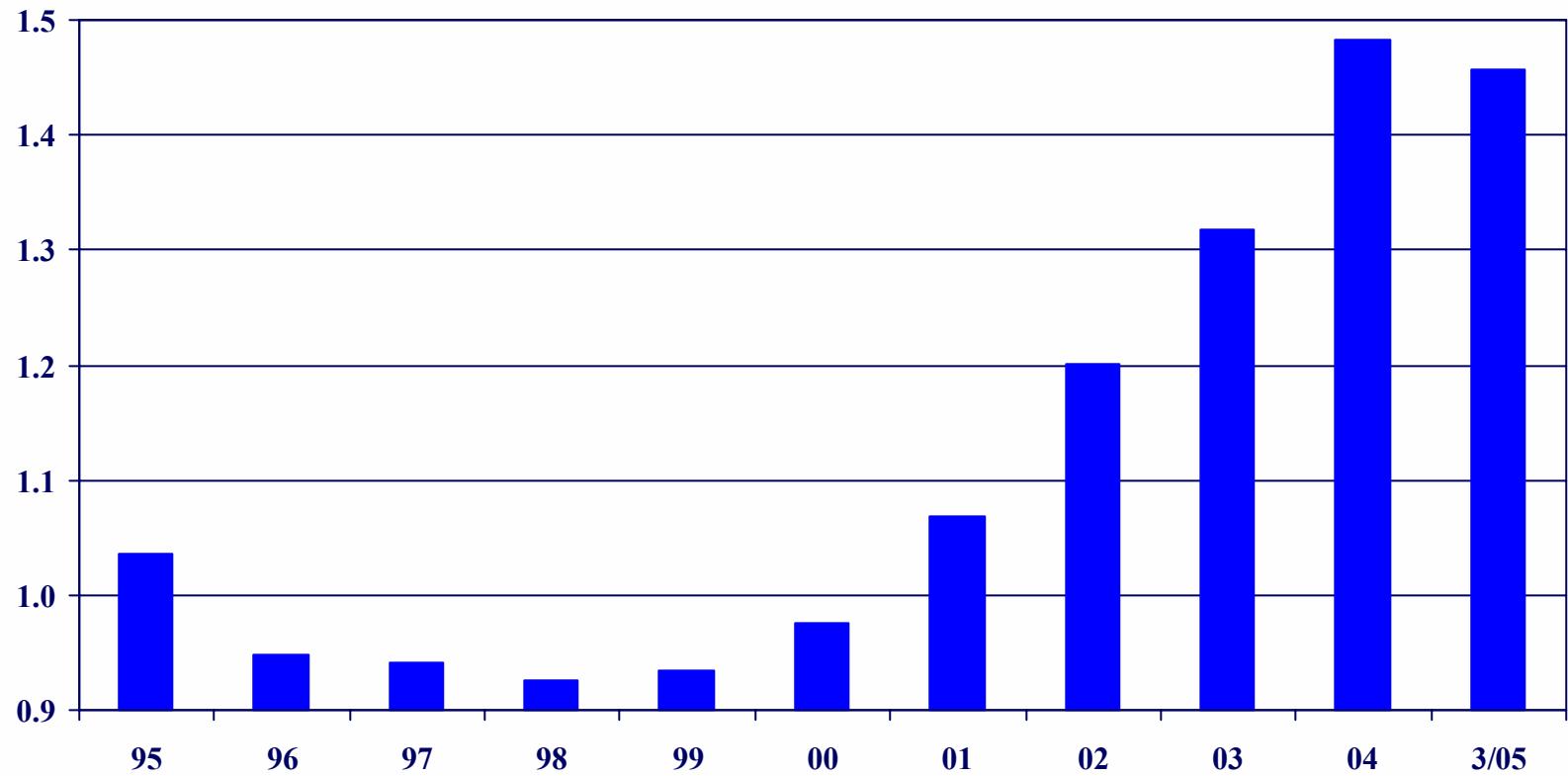
- **1992-94: Low Loss Ratios**
- **1995-99: Increasing Loss Ratios**
- **2000-04: Improving Loss Ratios**
  - Rate increases (advisory)
  - Rate increases (effective)
  - Major legislative changes
  - Declining frequency



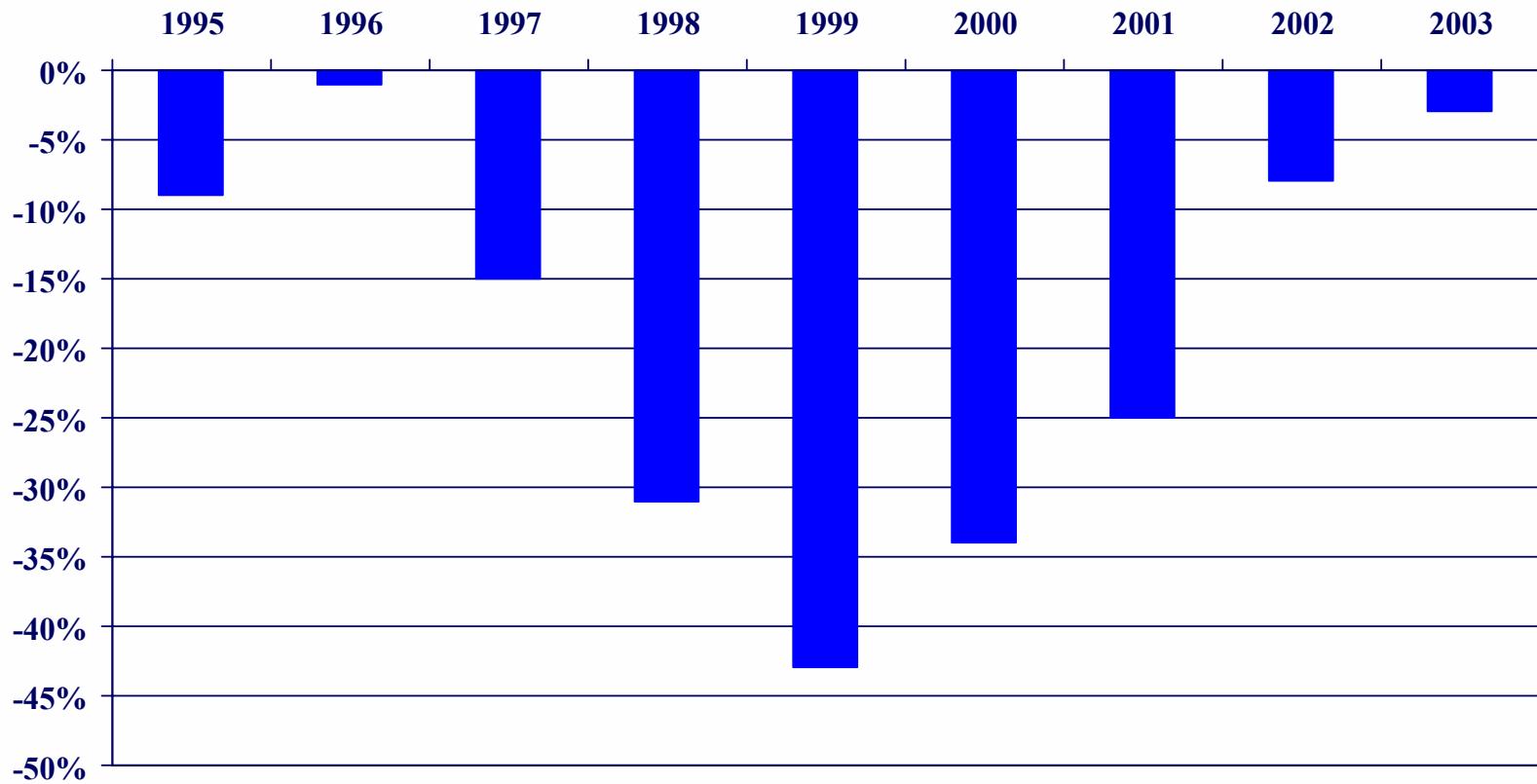
# WCIRB Ultimate Loss Ratios @ 3/05



# Effective LCM (vs. Advisory PP)



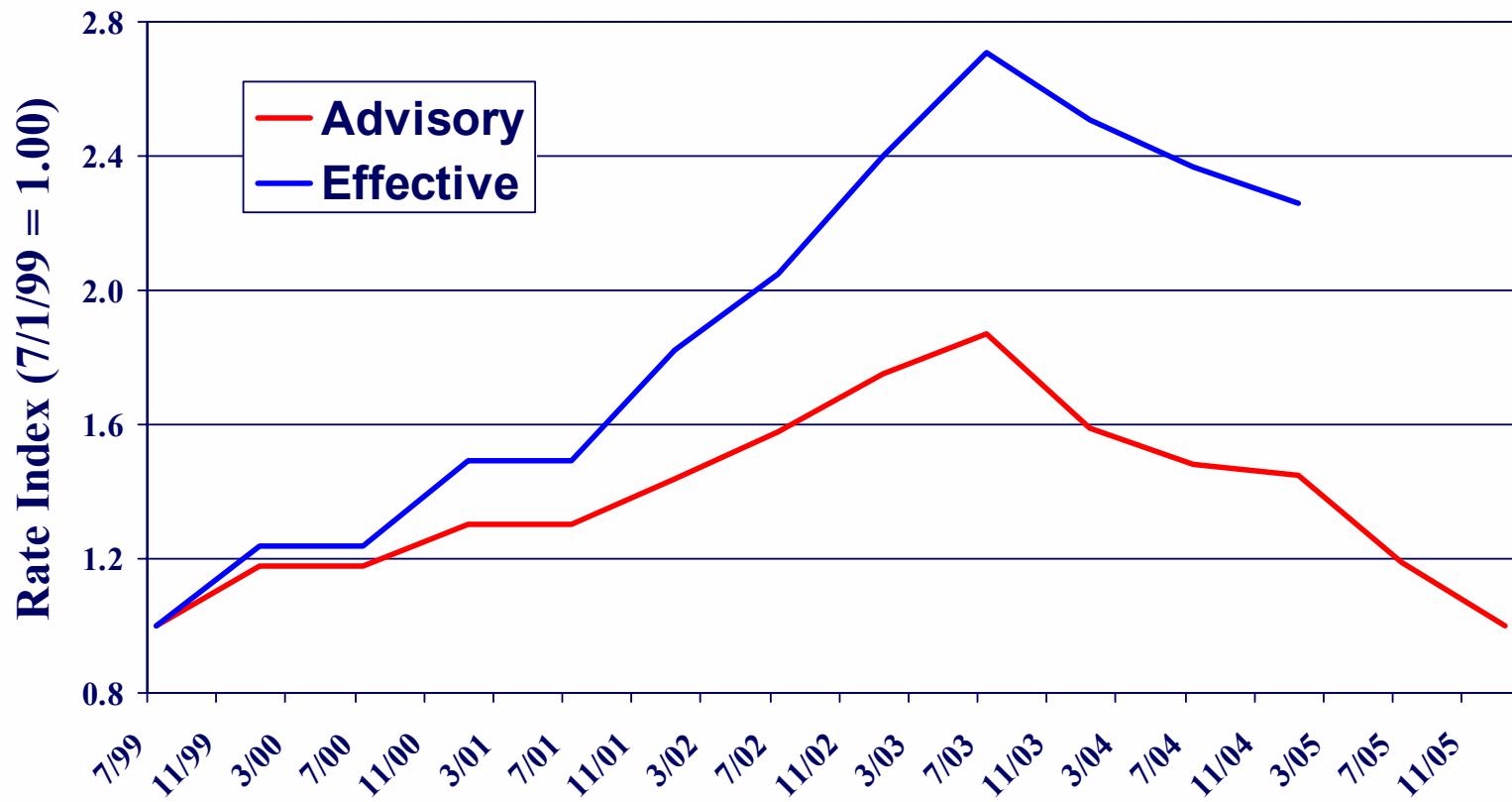
# Retrospective Pure Premium Adequacy



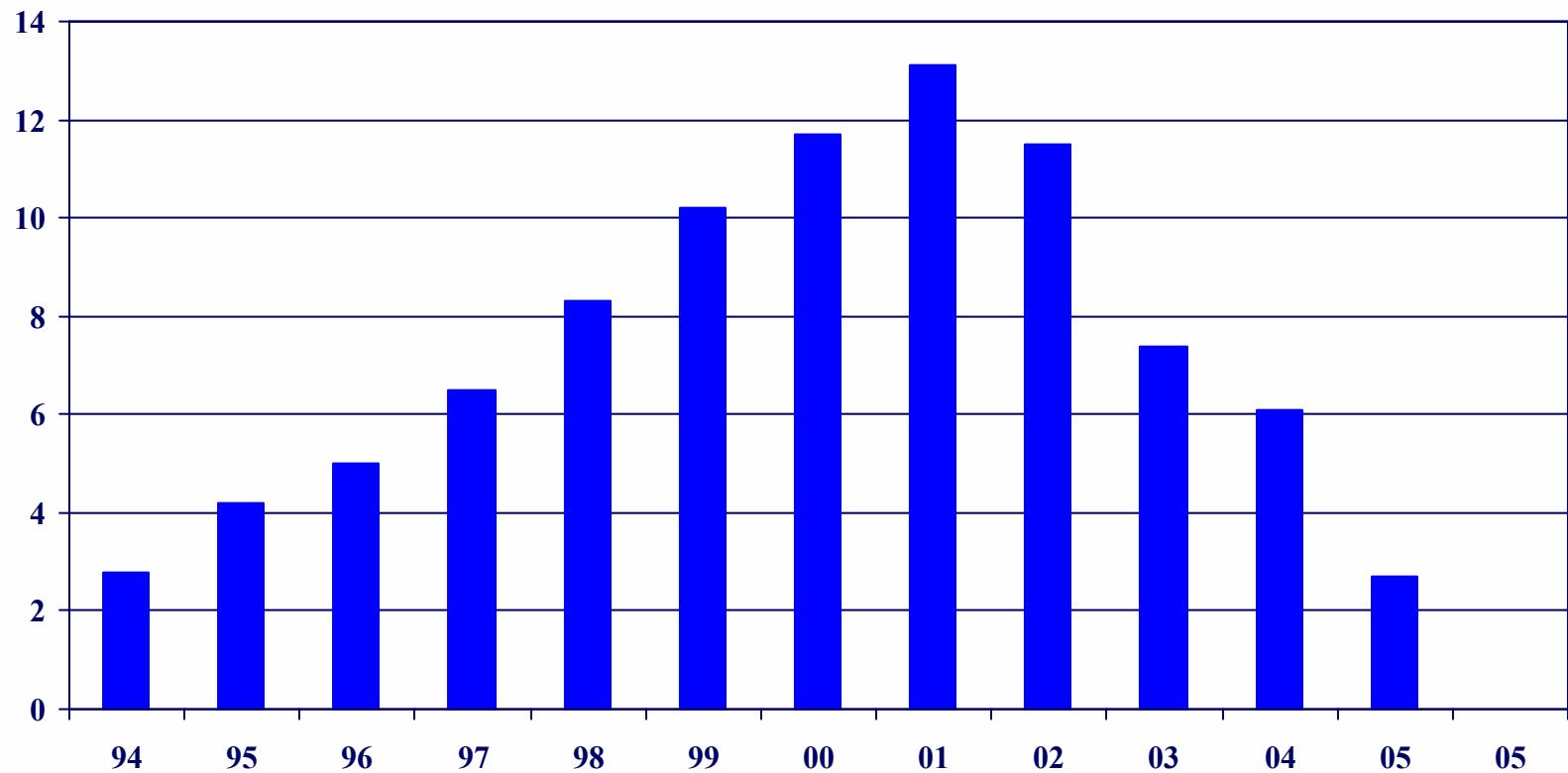
# Rate Changes

Effective	Approved	Effective
1/00	+18%	+24%
1/01	+10%	+21%
1/02, 7/02	+10%, +10%	+23%, +13%
1/03, 7/03	+11%, +7%	+17%, +13%
1/04, 7/04	-15%, -7%	-8%, -6%
1/05, 7/05	-2%, -18%	-5%, n/a
1/06 (filed)	-16%	n/a

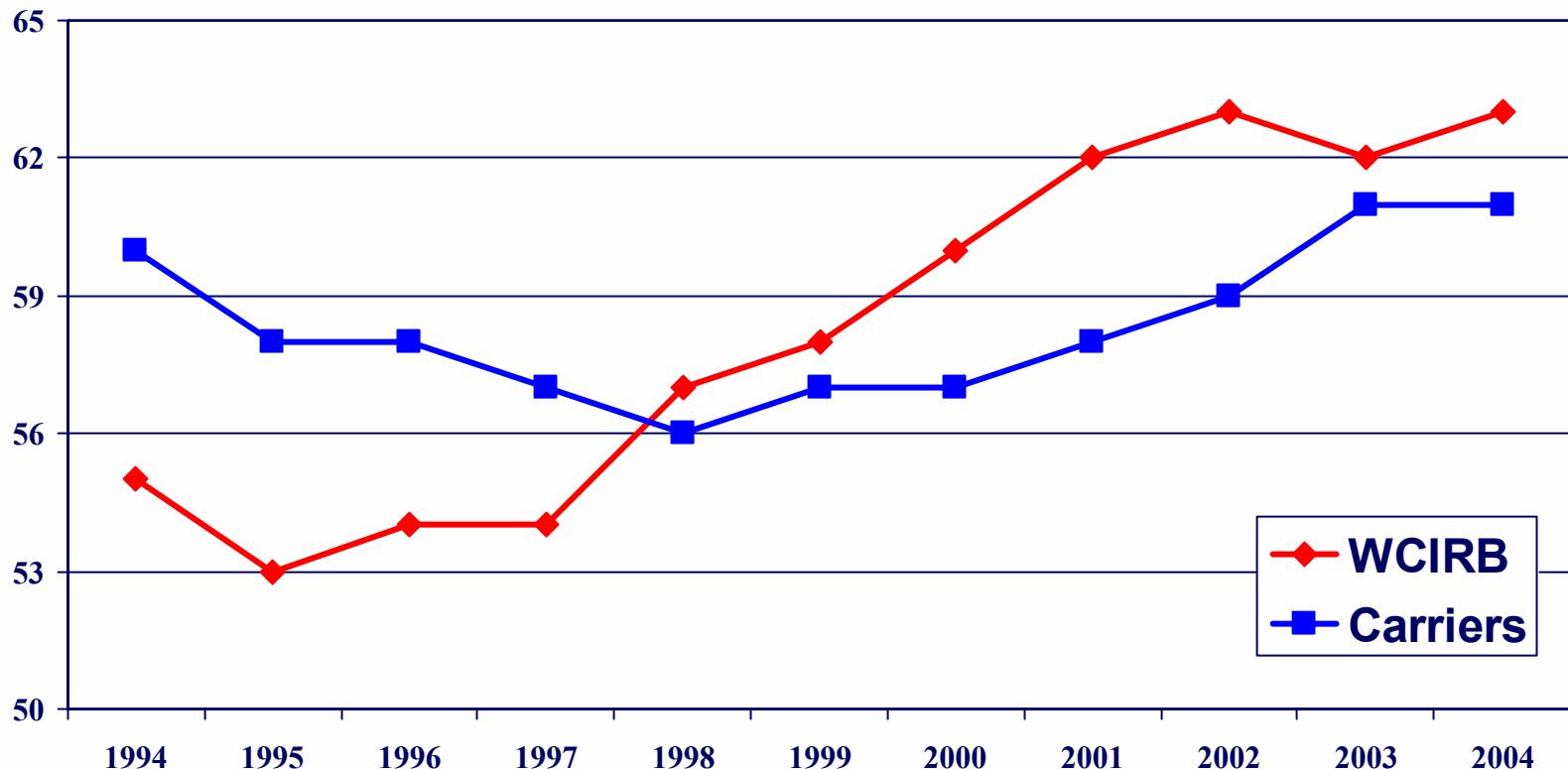
# Rate Index



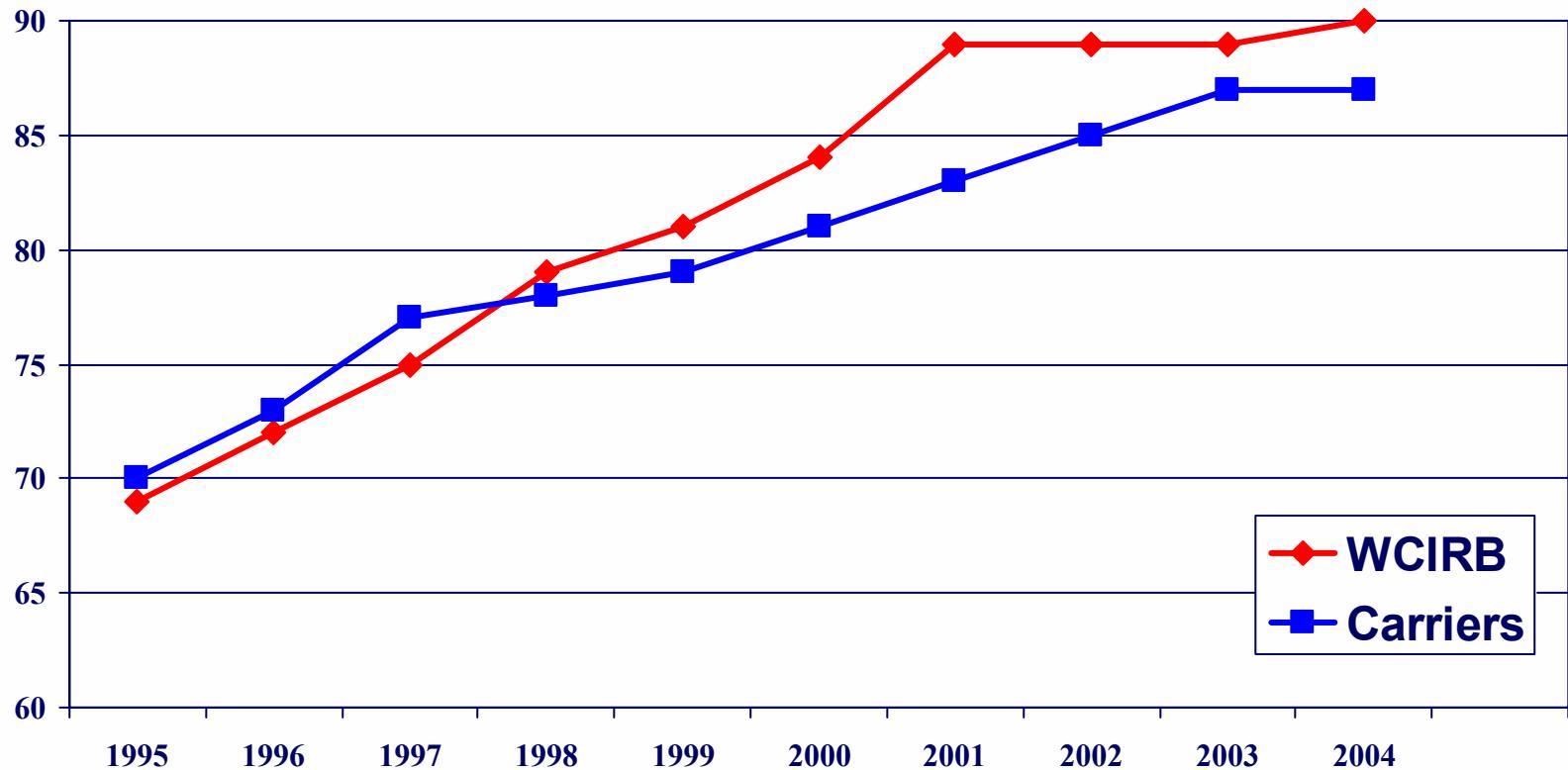
# WCIRB Indicated Deficiency (\$B)



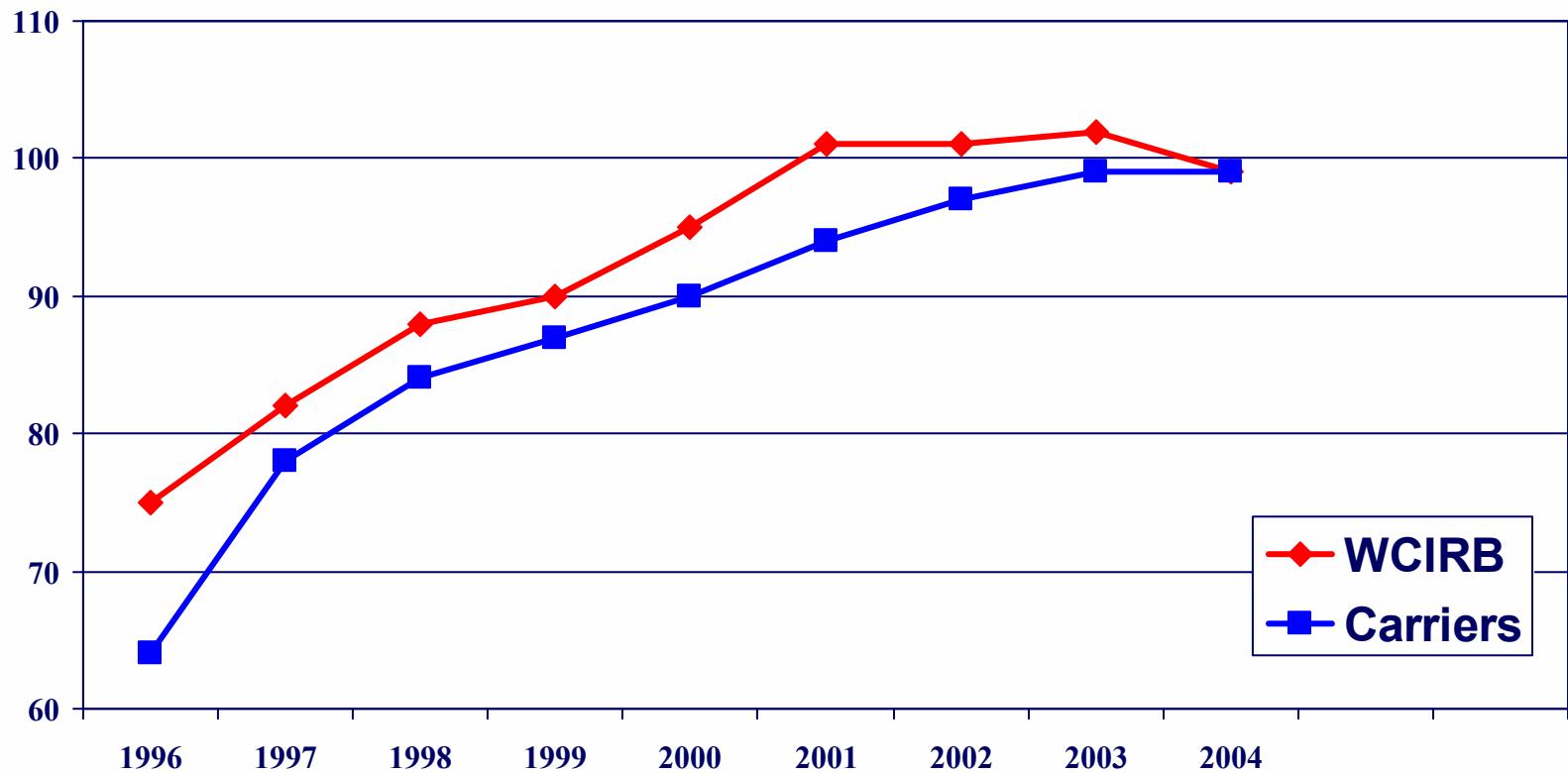
# Development: Accident Year 1994



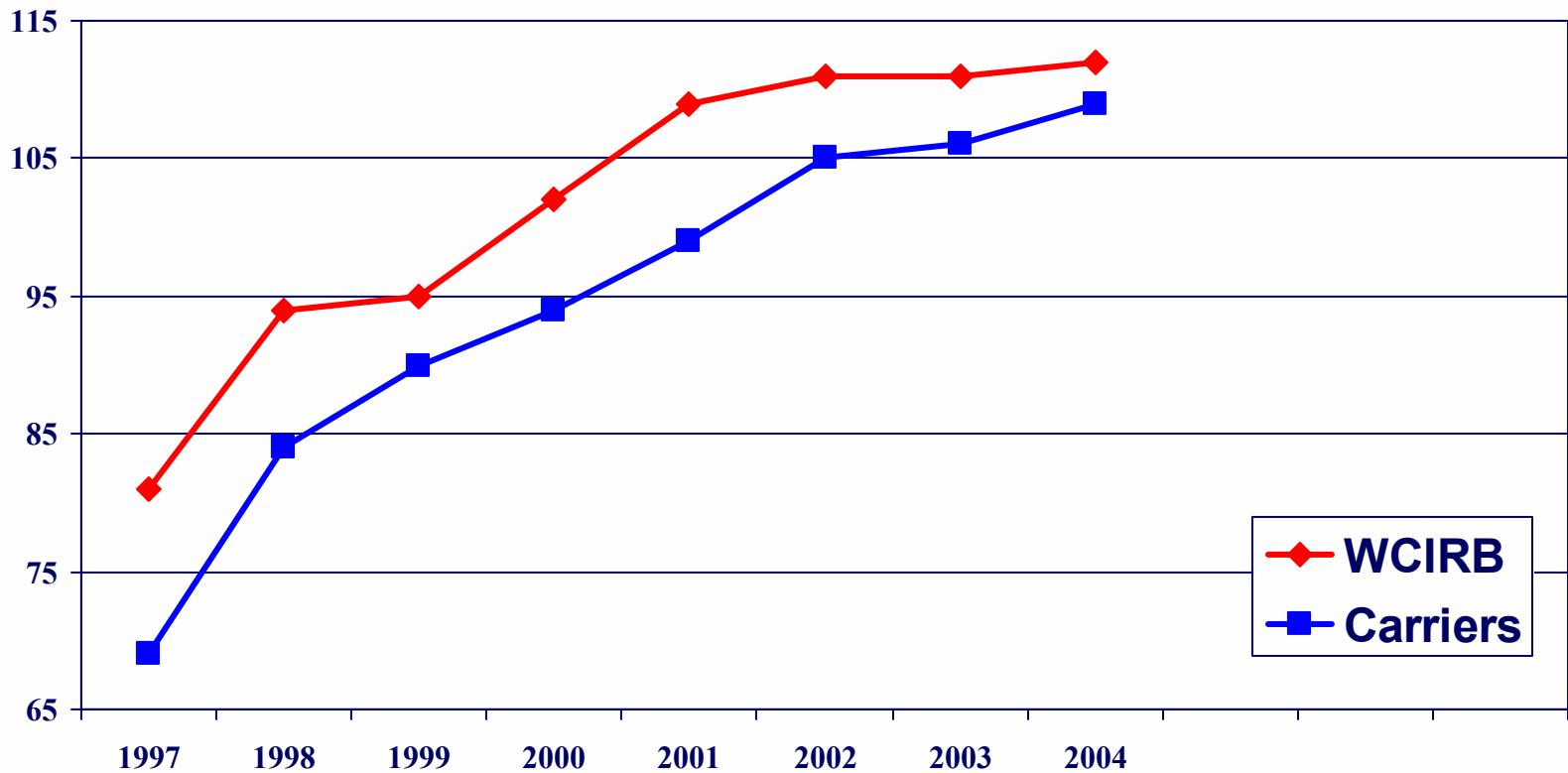
# Development: Accident Year 1995



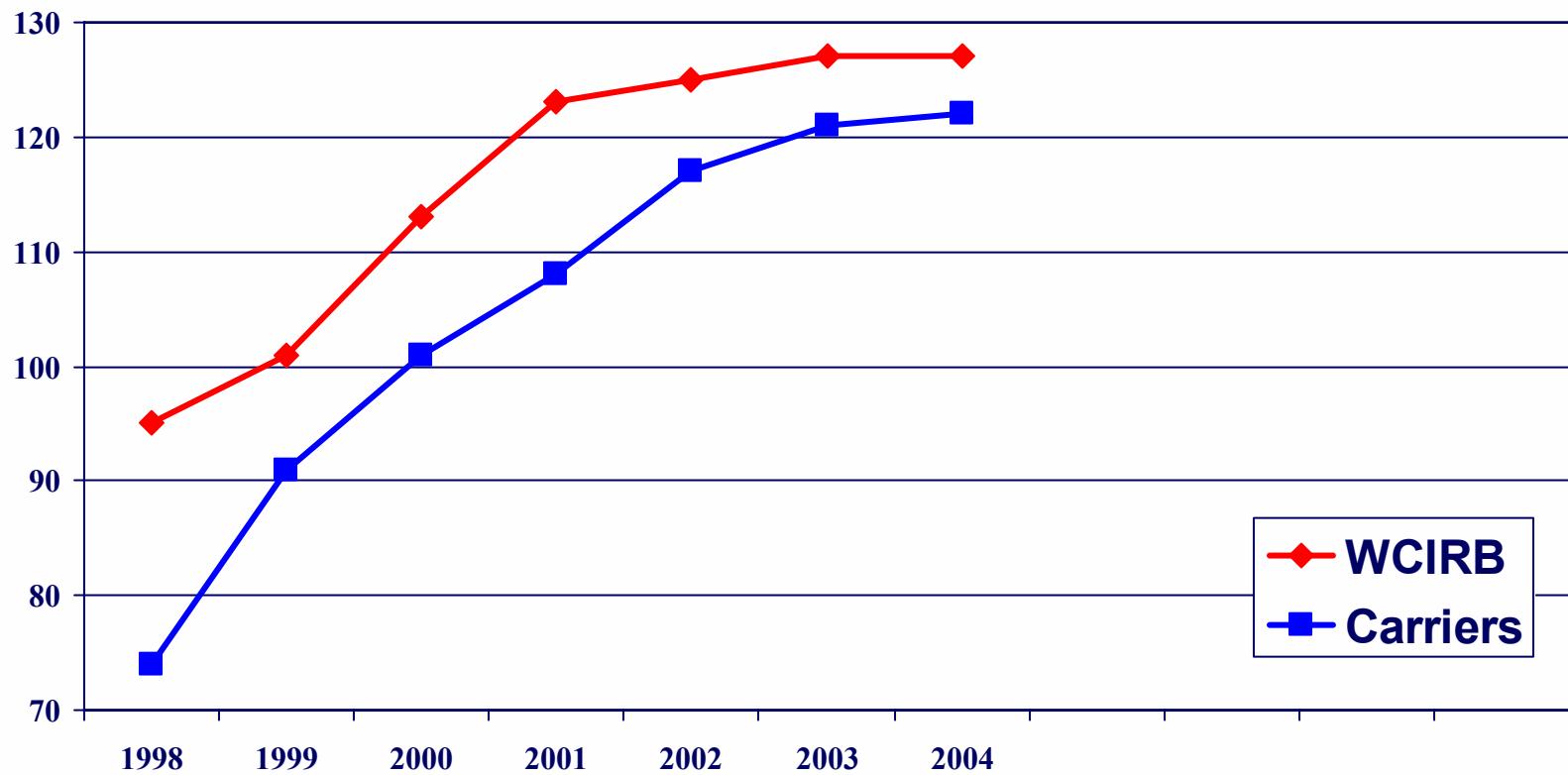
# Development: Accident Year 1996



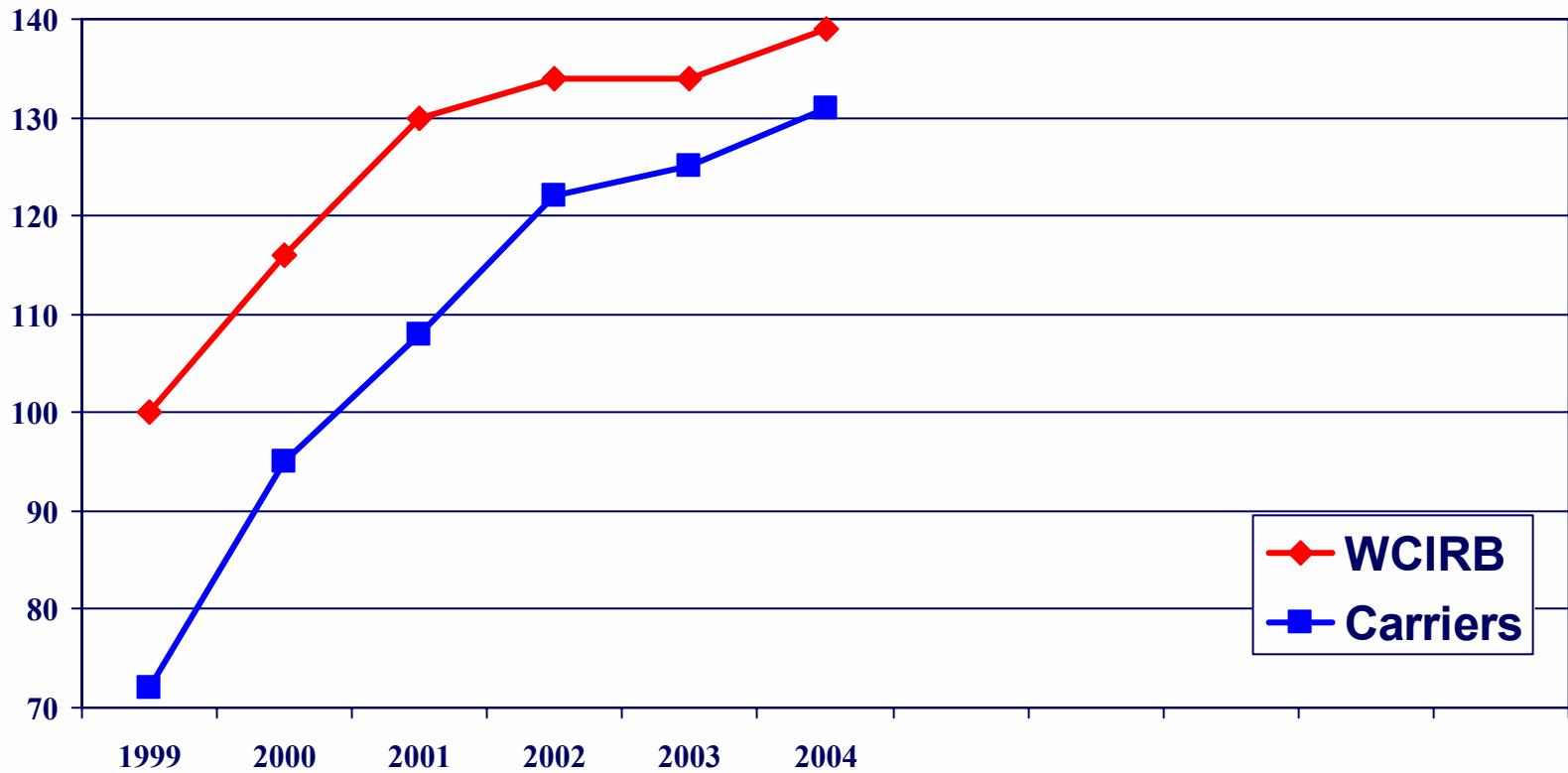
# Development: Accident Year 1997



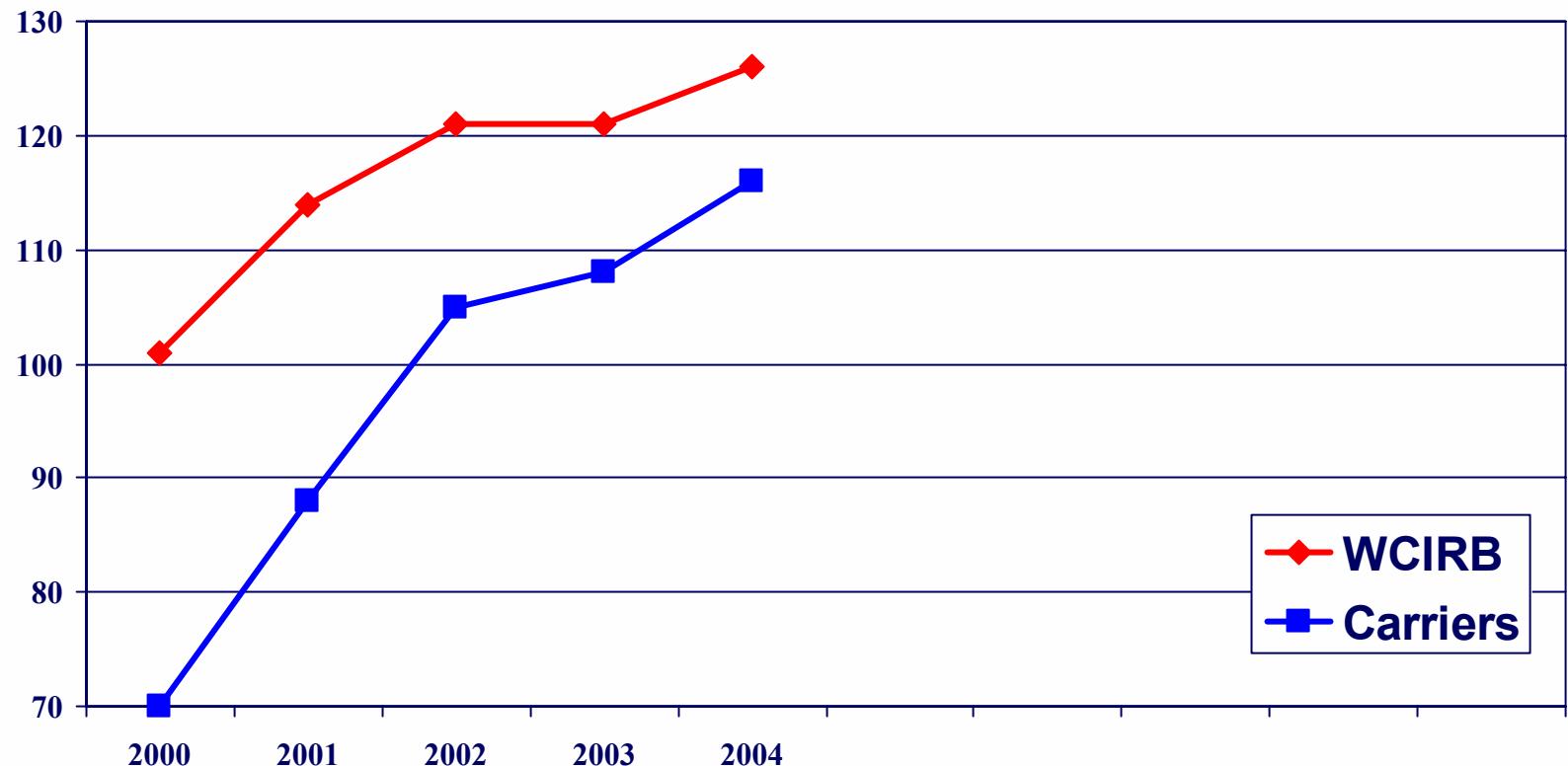
# Development: Accident Year 1998



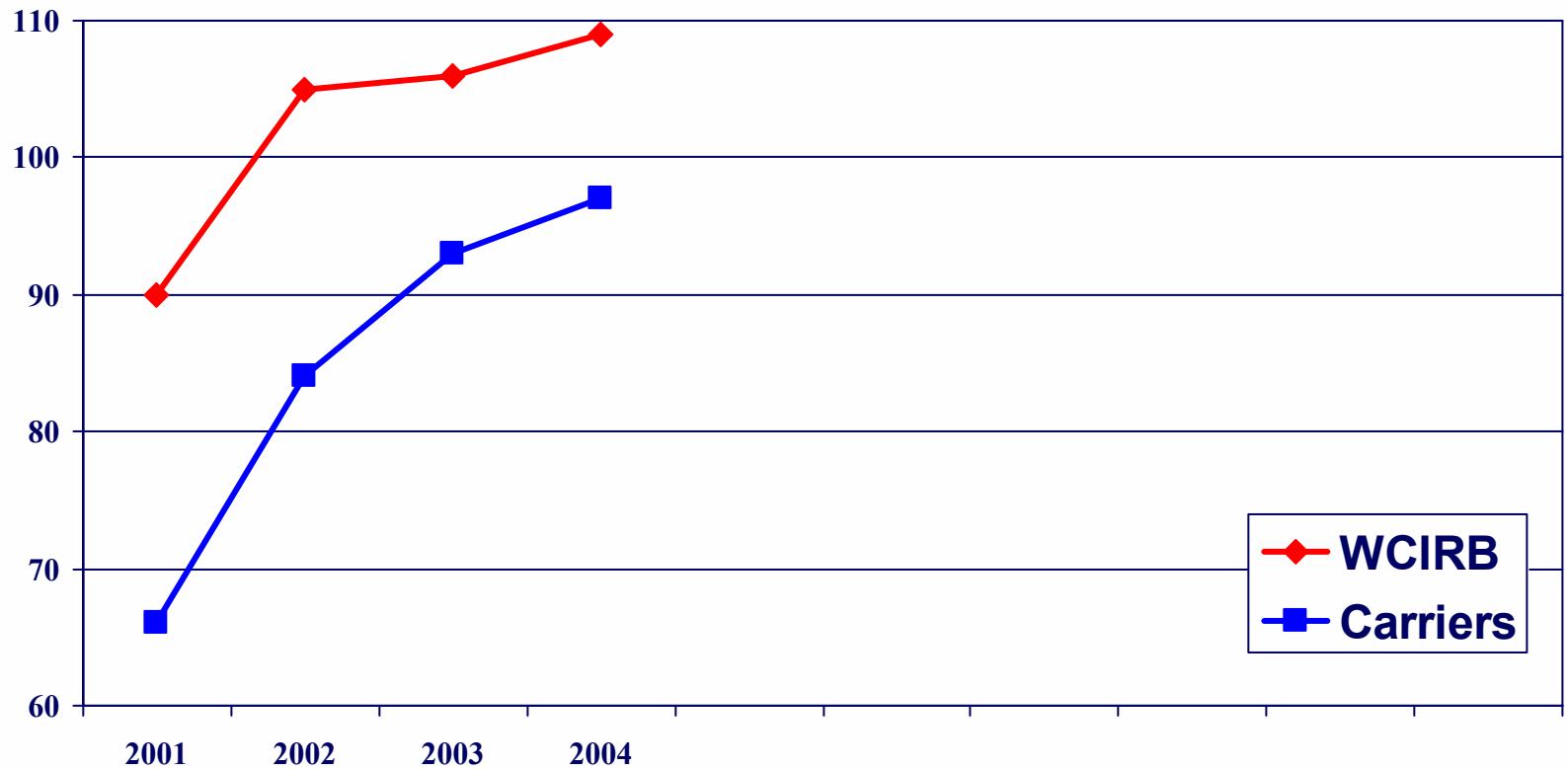
# Development: Accident Year 1999



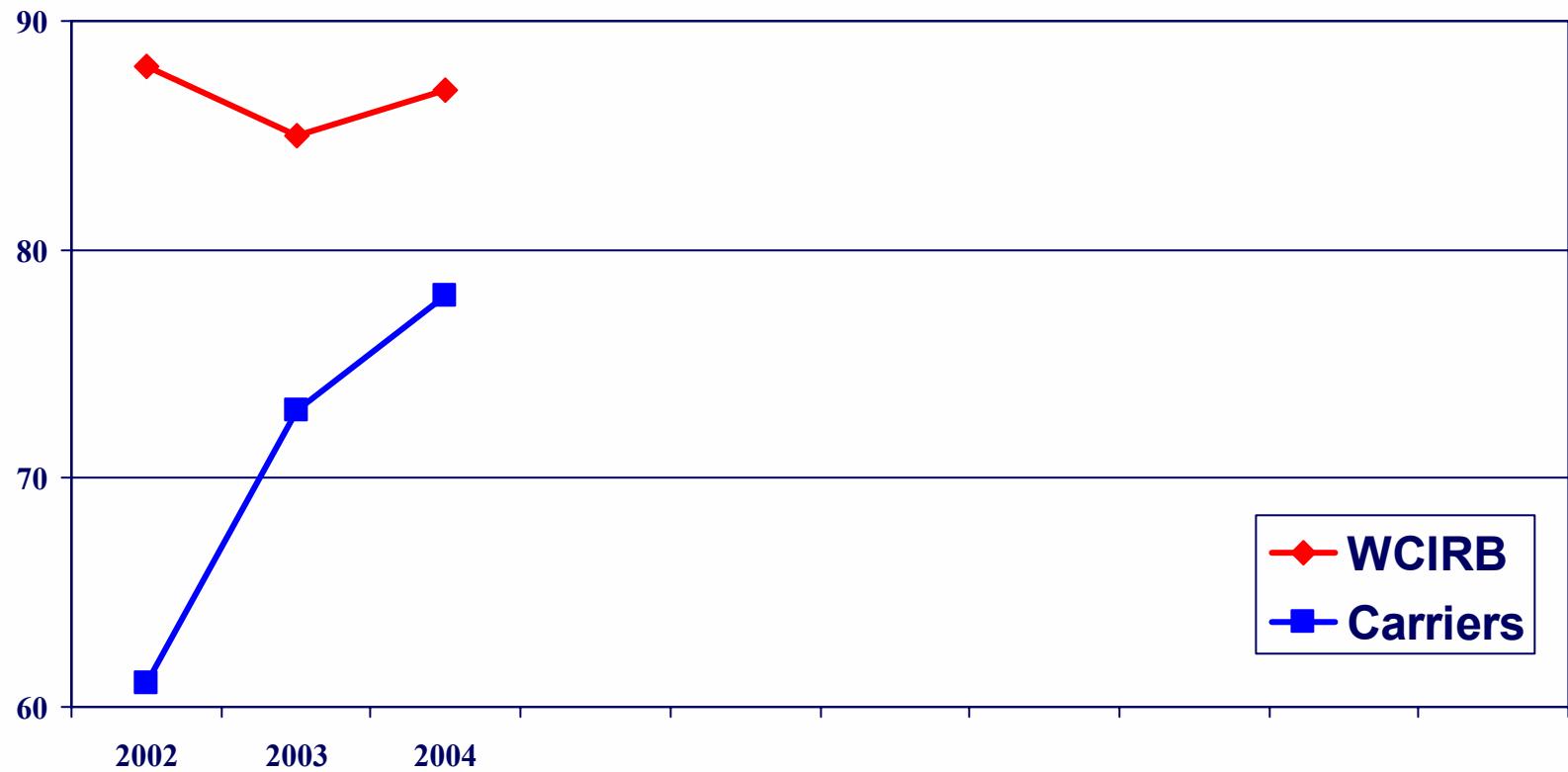
# Development: Accident Year 2000



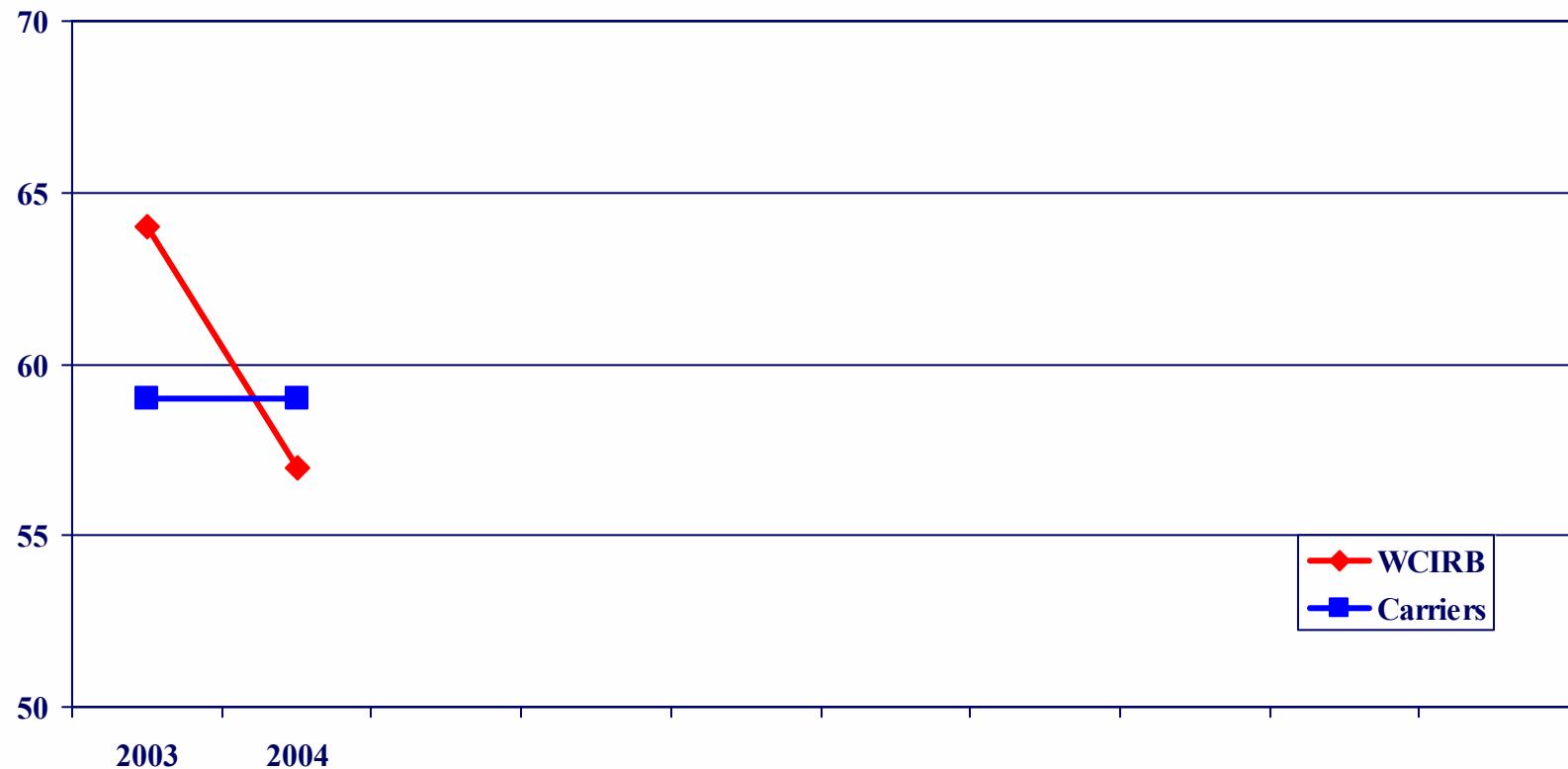
# Development: Accident Year 2001



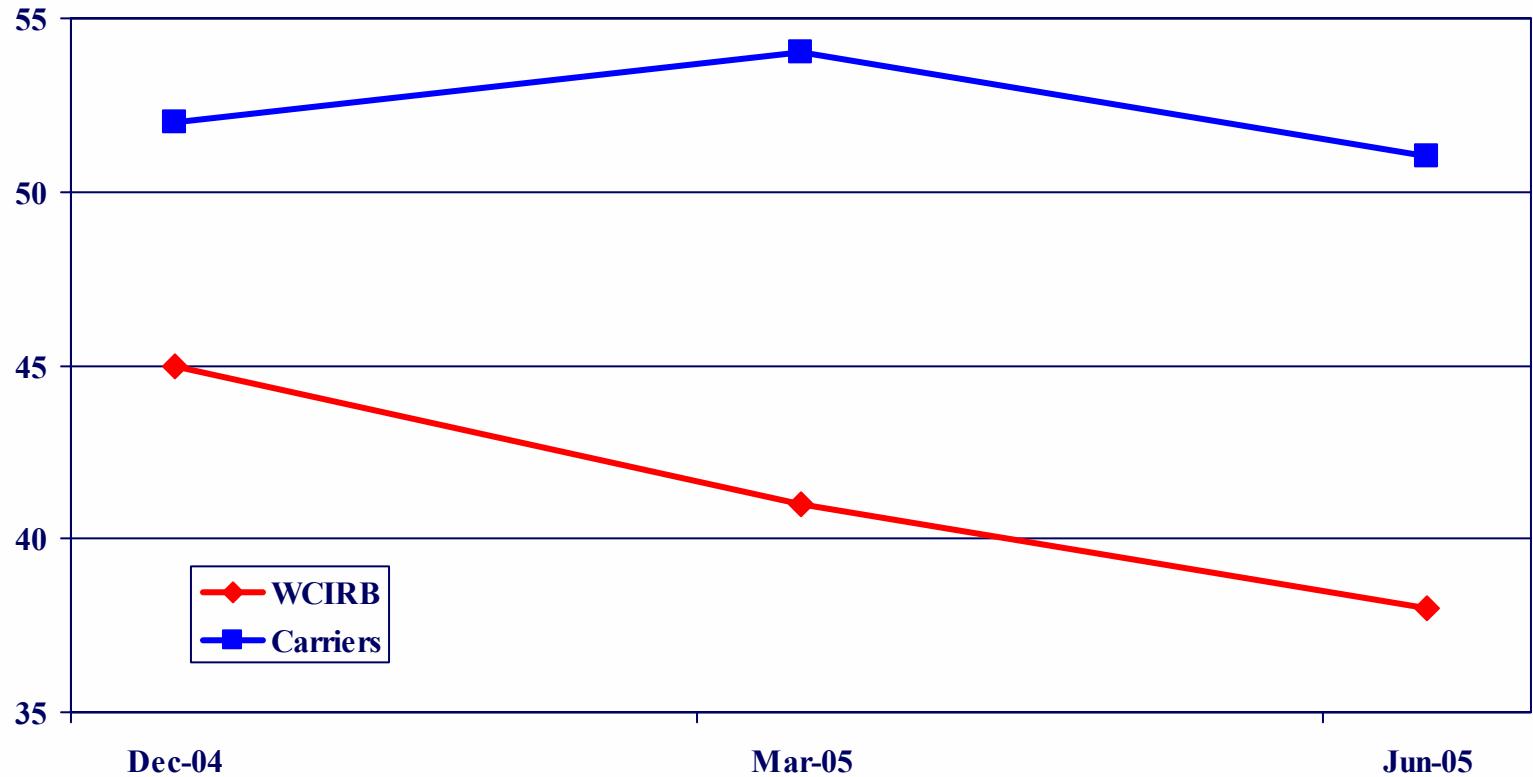
# Development: Accident Year 2002



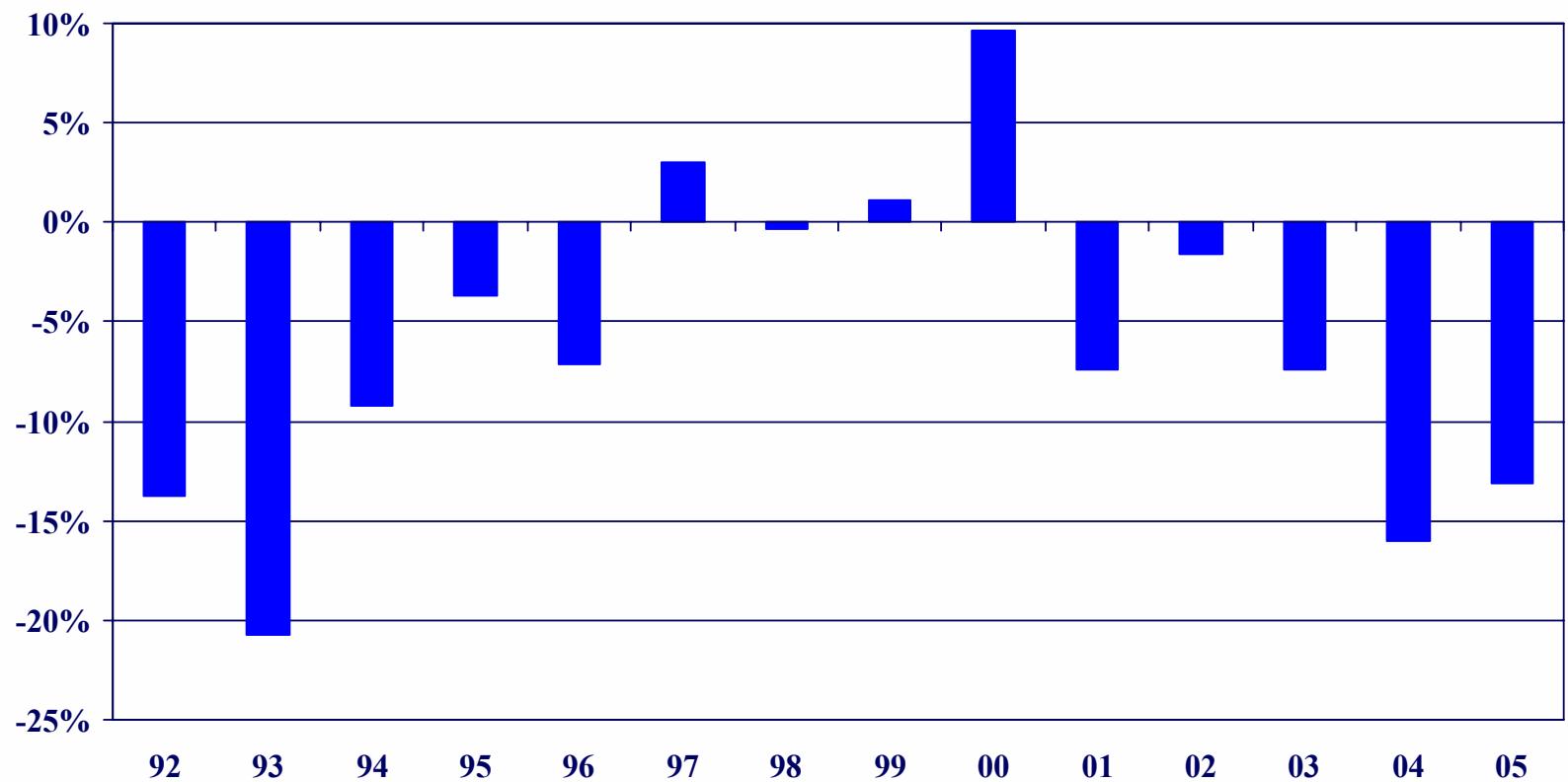
# Development: Accident Year 2003



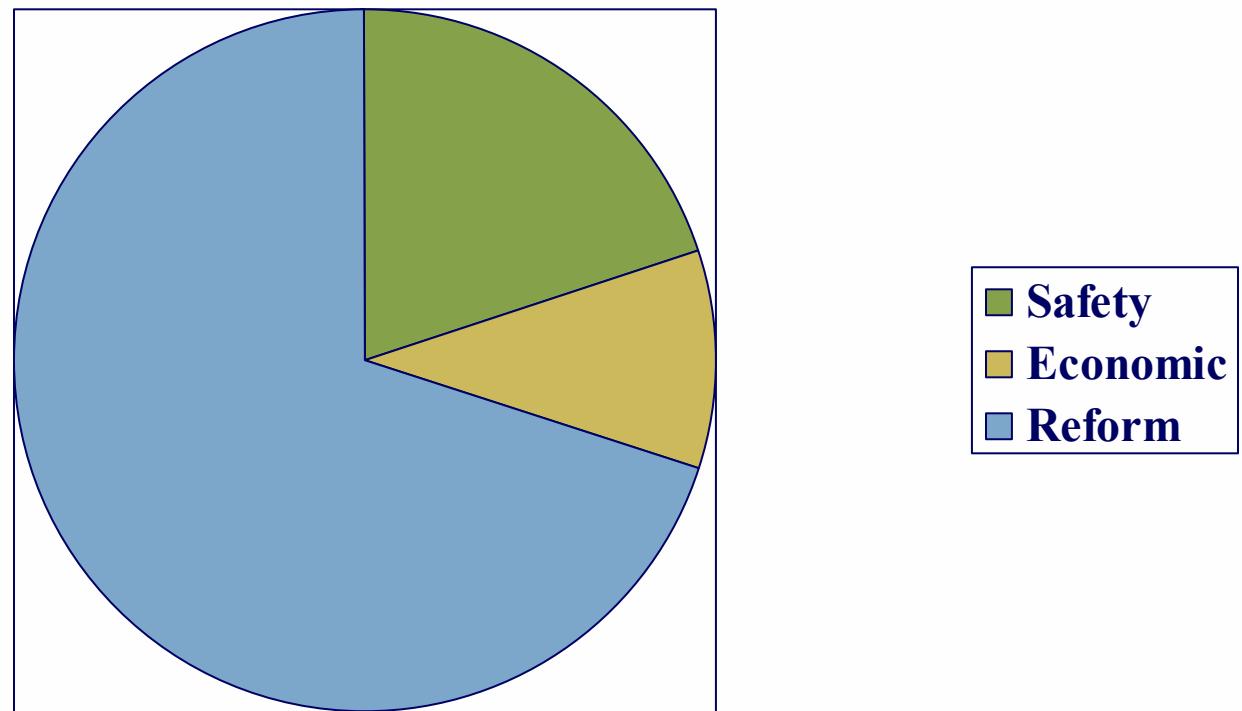
# Development: Accident Year 2004



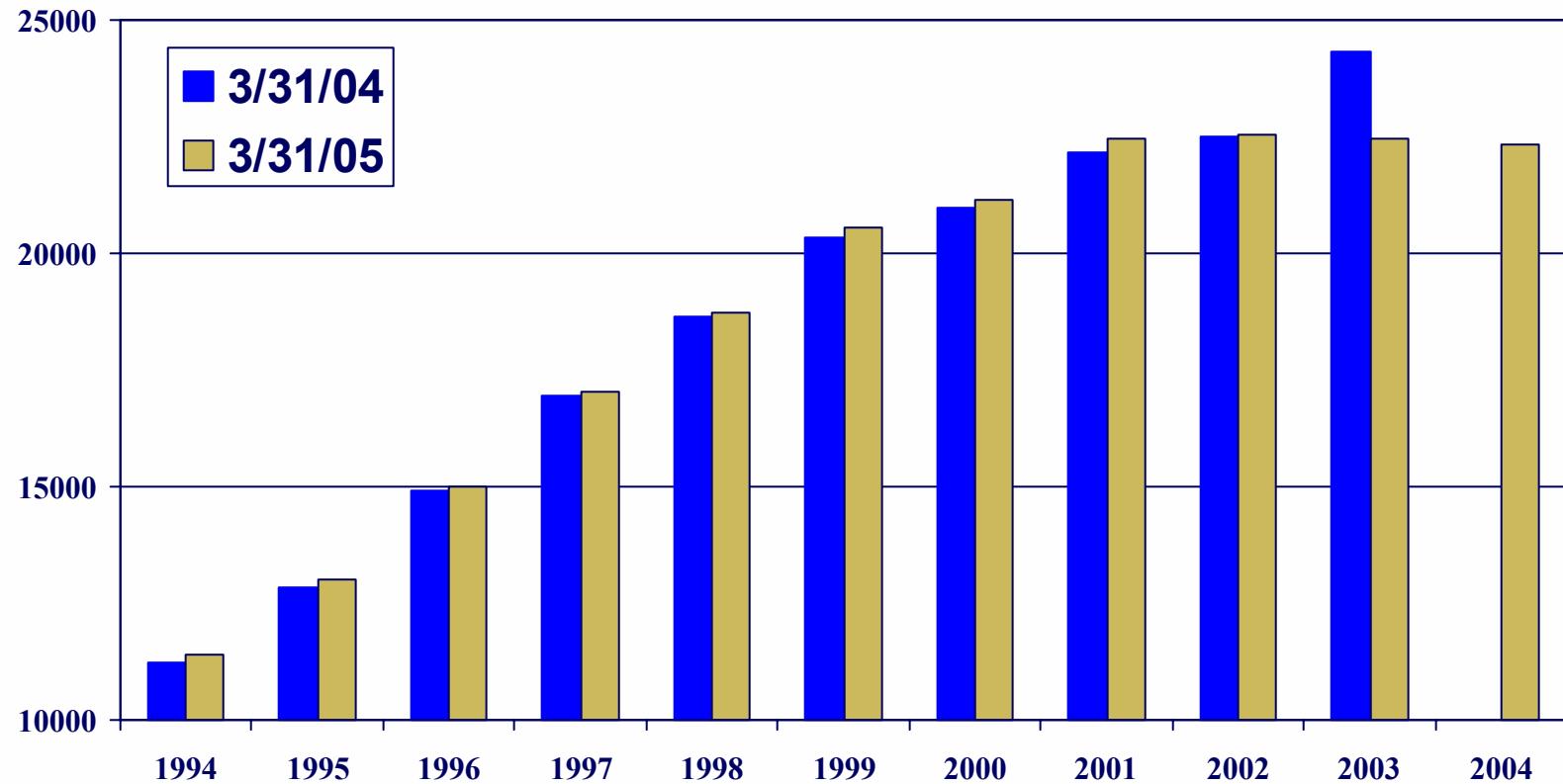
# Changes in On-Level Frequency



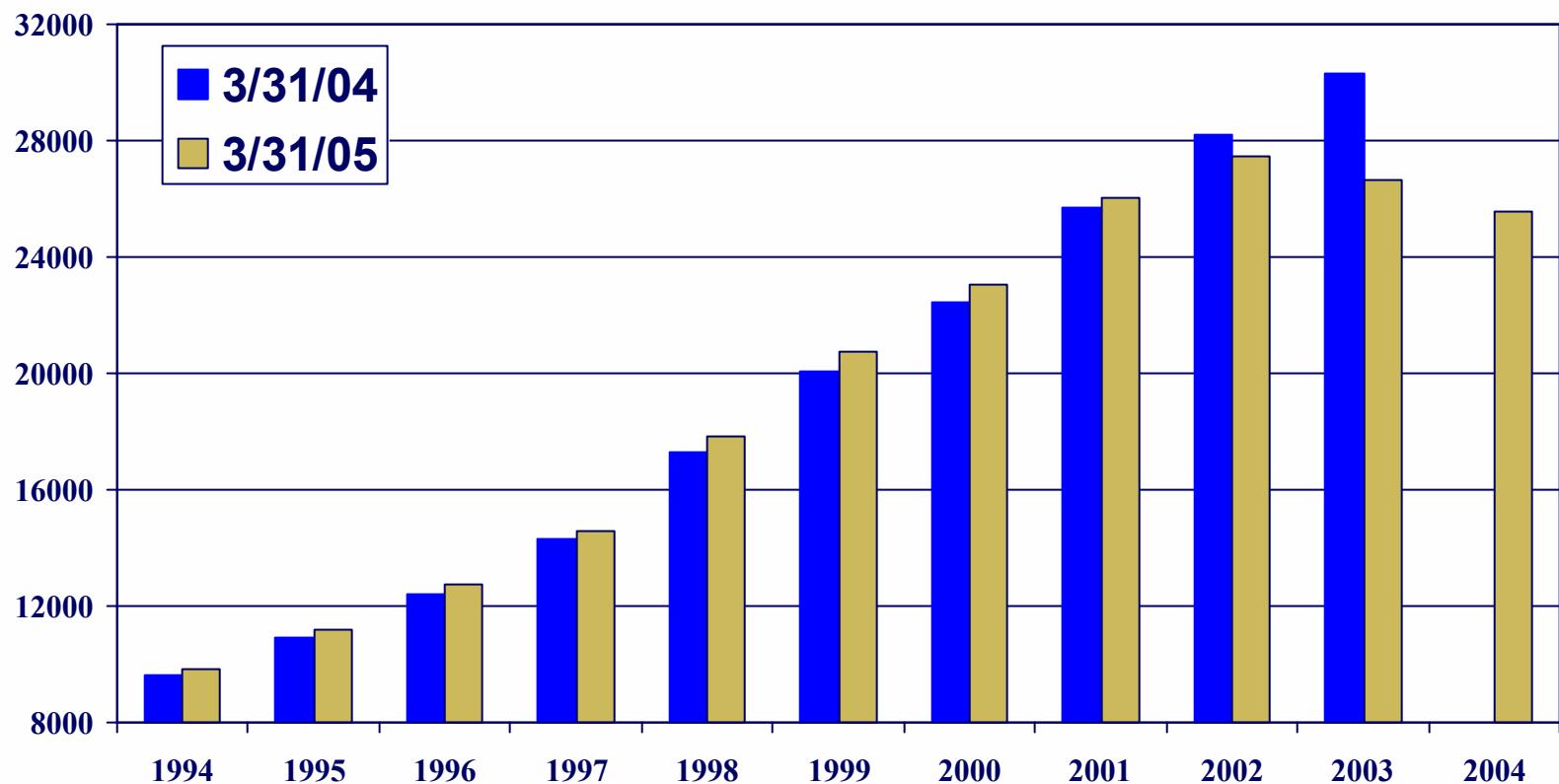
# Drivers of 2004 Frequency Decrease



# Indemnity Severity per Indemnity Claim



# Medical Severity per Indemnity Claim



# Legislation: AB 749

- Effective 2003 through 2006
- Significant benefit increases
- Indexing of some benefits
- Partial Repeal of Primary Treating Physician Presumption
- Similar legislation vetoed three times



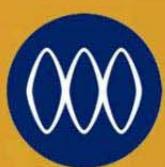
# **Legislation: AB 227 & SB 228**

- **Effective 1/1/04 (mostly)**
- **Fee Schedule Changes**
  - Physician, pharmaceuticals
  - Inpatient, outpatient
- **Medical Utilization**
  - Utilization standards (ACOEM, CHSWC)
  - Hard caps on chiropractors, physical therapists
- **Voc rehab replaced with education vouchers**



# Legislation: SB 899

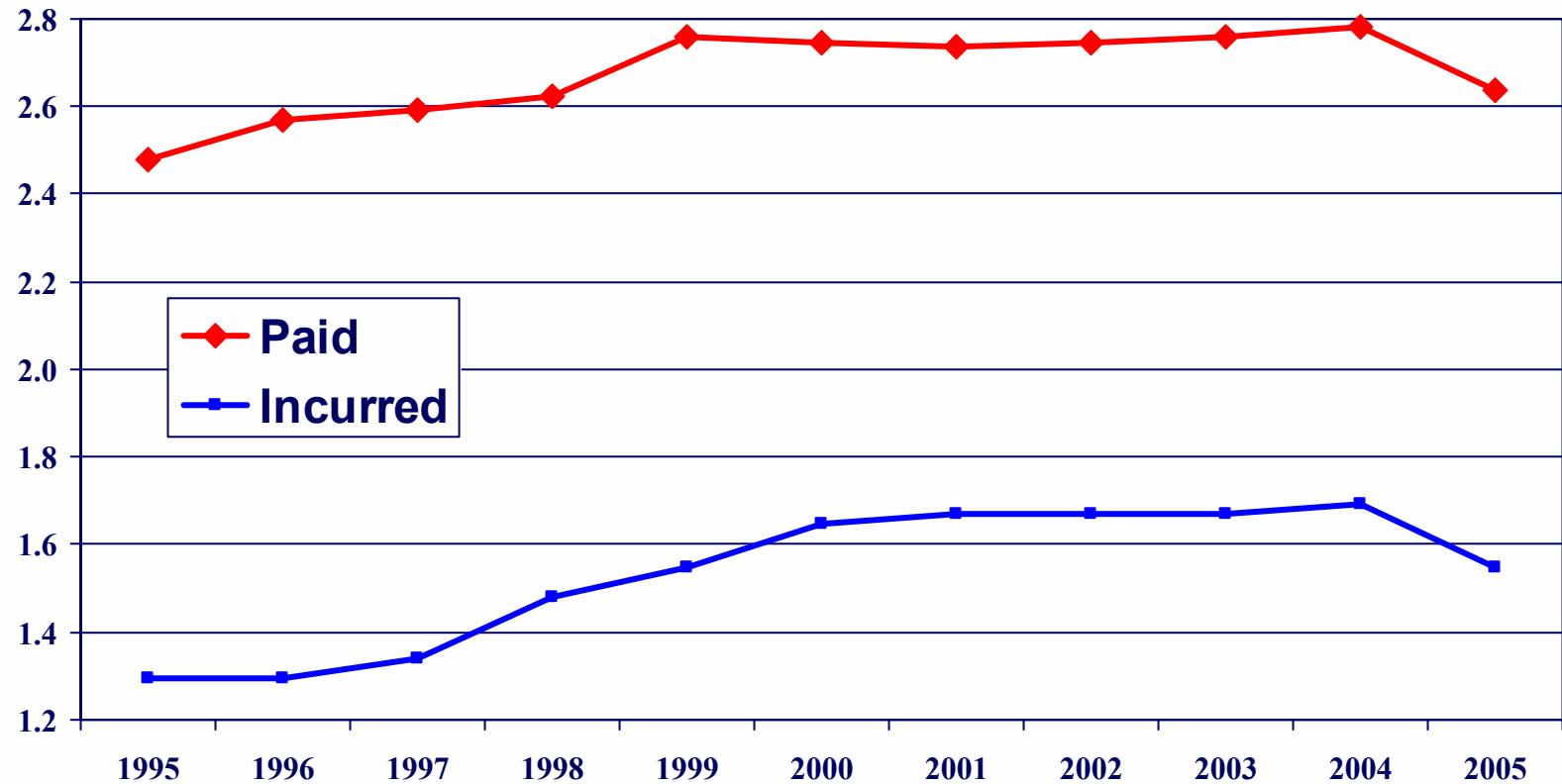
- Effective 4/19/04 & 1/1/05
- TD caps (104/240 weeks)
- Apportionment
- PD (weeks, two-tiers, new schedule)
  - Savings estimates: -50%
- Utilization Guidelines
- Medical Networks
- 5814 Penalties



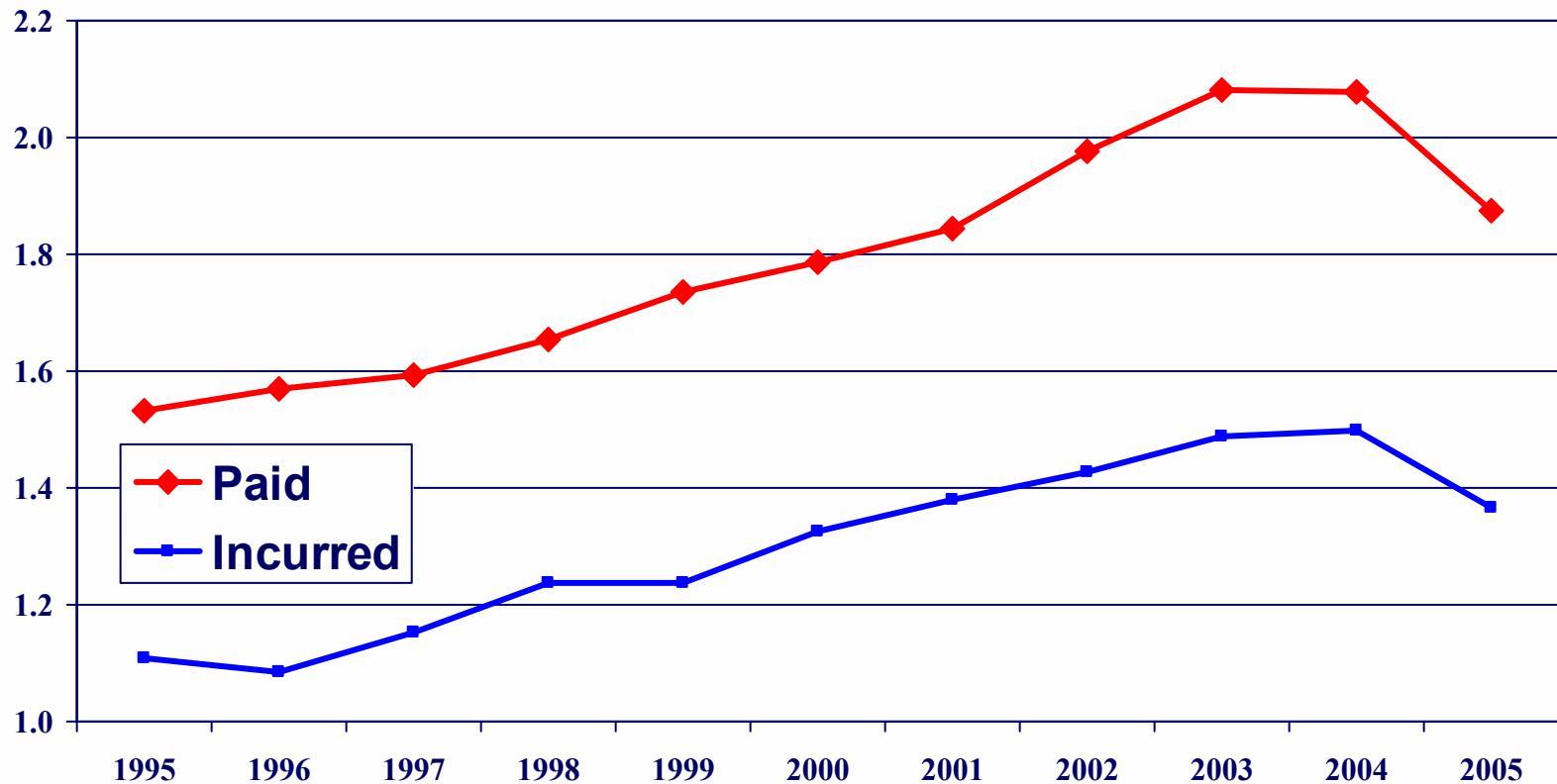
# Legislation: Impact on Policy Year 2005

Legislation	Indemnity	Medical	Combined
<b>AB 227 &amp; SB 228</b>	<b>-12.6%</b>	<b>-14.5%</b>	<b>-13.7%</b>
<b>SB 899</b>	<b>-11.6%</b>	<b>-1.0%</b>	<b>-5.4%</b>
<b>Medical Utilization</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>-25.0%</b>	<b>-14.9%</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>-30.9%</b>

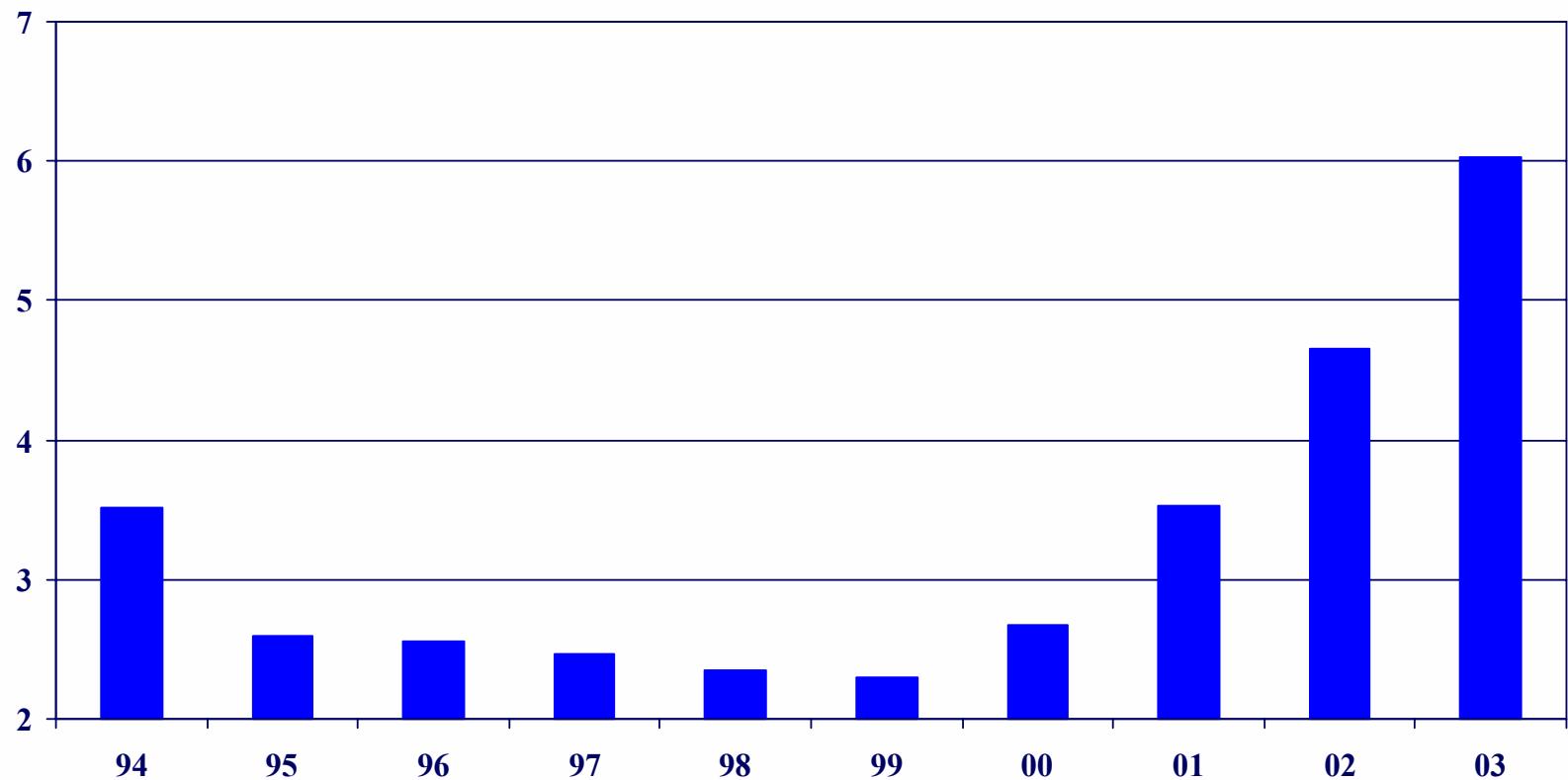
# Indemnity Development (15-27)



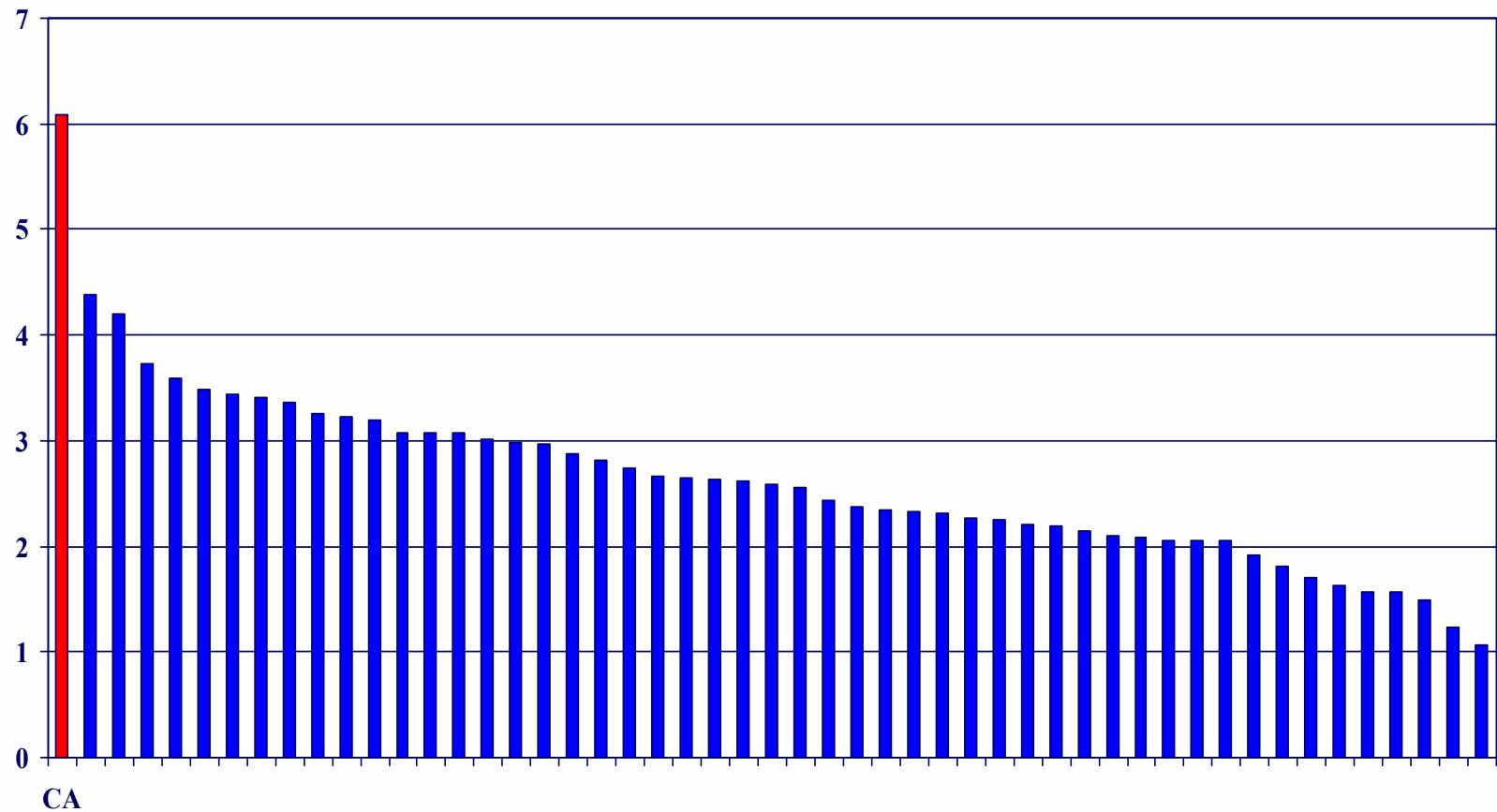
# Medical Development (15-27)



# Average Rate per \$100 of Payroll



# WC Cost By State (2003)



# Projected Average Rate

- Could drop below \$4 for 2006
- Watch out Alaska:

We're Number 49!

