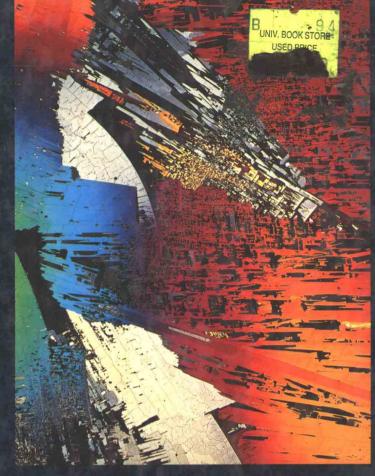
EIGHTH EDITION



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GREENE TRIESCHMANN GUSTAVSON

RISK & INSURANCE

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PREFACE

The first edition of *Risk & Insurance* was published in 1962. The field of risk management and insurance has undergone many changes since then. The eighth edition of *Risk & Insurance* represents a major change in both content and authors. Dr. Sandra Gustavson joins the team as a new co-author. She has considerable expertise in the life and health insurance fields as well as in employee benefits and has completely rewritten these parts of the text.

With Sandra becoming part of the author team, we have taken the opportunity to reorganize the text, placing more emphasis on risk management.

Part 1 explores the nature of risk and the risk management process. In Part 2, insurance as a risk management tool is reviewed. Also, the legal principles of insurance and the common characteristics of insurance contracts are discussed.

The next three sections of the text are divided into three risk management compartments. In Part 3, the first of two parts on personal risk management, exposures related to the loss of life, health, and income are explored, with emphasis on the ways in which insurance contracts can be used to deal with these exposures. Part 4, the second section on personal risk management issues, studies property-liability exposures and their treatment. Because of the way the material is organized, either Part 3 or Part 4 can be covered after the introductory material is studied. Continuity of thought will be maintained because the two parts stand on an independent basis. Both Part 3 and Part 4 have a considerable amount of new material and address personal risk management issues of the 1990s.

Business risk management exposures and treatment are contained in Part 5. These materials have been reorganized and consolidated. Workers' compensation and liability insurance have been combined into one chapter and property exposures separated into two chapters so that there is more selectivity of businesses' property exposures to teach.

iv Preface

In the last section, Part 6, institutional aspects of the insurance industry are covered. Topics include an overview of the industry, functions of insurers, regulation of insurance, and government insurance. The analysis of these topics reflects new developments in insurance regulation, in Social Security, and in government property insurance programs.

The last chapter in Part 6 reflects the growing importance of international business and world commerce. This chapter treats international issues in insurance and has been updated to include an analysis of the effect on insurance of the 1992 harmonization in the European Community.

Previous editions of *Risk & Insurance* have contained mathematical applications to risk management, and the present edition continues that tradition. However, rather than having a chapter on this material, it is now contained in Appendix B.

The eighth edition retains many of the features of the seventh edition text. Statement of key terms and learning objectives are included for each chapter. There is a separation of "Questions for Review" and "Questions for Discussion" at the end of each chapter. Each chapter contains boxed materials taken from current literature that illustrate basic principles and practices in the insurance industry and in risk management.

The Glossary, Appendix A, has been expanded and includes all the key terms presented throughout the text. Finally, the latest editions of policy forms being used in auto, life, and homeowners' insurance are included in the appendices.

A fundamental concept has been retained in this edition: to recognize that one book in risk and insurance is the maximum that most college students will ever study. Hence, nearly all fields of insurance have been covered, and problems caused by risk in our world have been emphasized before posing solutions. In this way it is hoped that analysis of insurance will be more meaningful than would be possible by factual discussion of insurance contracts without any analysis of the problems that established the need for such contracts. Emphasis has also been placed on teaching how contracts may be analyzed so that students may apply this knowledge to new policies as they are developed.

The original goals in writing the text have been preserved: (1) to cover basic ideas, problems, and principles found in all types of modern insurance and other methods of handling risk; (2) to emphasize the fundamental unifying elements of risk and insurance; and (3) to stimulate thought about the problems of risk management and insurance through questions that often cannot be answered by short, factual statements taken directly from text material.

Supplements

The instructor's manual for *Risk & Insurance* contains additional discussion questions and objective questions. Their addition will give instructors more choices in composing tests. Test questions are also available in an easy-to-use test bank. Also, several cases that can be used for class discussion are included.

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Mark R. Greene James S. Trieschmann Sandra G. Gustavson

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PART 1

Nature of Risk and Risk Management

> Chapter 1 Introduction to Risk Chapter 2 Managing Risk

CHAPTER 1

Introduction to Risk

CHAPTER OBJECTIVES

After studying this chapter, the student should be able to:

- 1. Explain three ways to categorize risk.
- 2. Give several examples of pure risks involving property, liability, and personal risks.
- 3. Distinguish between chance of loss and degree of risk.
- 4. Give examples of three types of hazards.
- 5. Identify the difference between hazards and perils.
- 6. Explain how the law of large numbers works in reducing risk.
- 7. Explain the four steps in the risk management process.

KEY TERMS AND CONCEPTS

Chance of loss
Degree of risk
Dynamic risks
Frequency
Hazards
Law of large numbers
Morale hazard

Moral hazard
Objective risk
Peril
Physical hazard
Pure risk
Risk
Risk management

Risk management process
Risk manager
Severity
Speculative risk
Static risks
Subjective risk
Uncertainty

Risk, defined as **uncertainty** as to loss, poses a problem to individuals in nearly every walk of life. Students, householders, business people, employees, travelers, investors, and farmers all must face risk and develop ways to handle it. If a cost or a loss is certain to occur, it may be planned for in advance and treated as a definite, known expense. It is when there is uncertainty about the occurrence of a loss that risk becomes an important problem. For example, if a merchant knows for sure that a certain amount of shoplifting will occur, this loss may be recovered by marking up all goods by some percentage. There is little or no risk involved unless actual shoplifting is greater than normal. The merchant is usually more concerned about the risk of abnormal losses than about normal or expected losses.

THE BURDEN OF RISK

To some people the idea of risk bearing is tantalizing, an element that makes life more interesting. They probably have in mind the uncertainty of making a profit or a gain, and not the uncertainty of incurring a disastrous loss. This book deals primarily with the latter type of uncertainty. Recognizing that risk carries with it the possibility of losses as well as gains, most individuals constantly seek ways to avoid the losses in as efficient a manner as possible without destroying the possibility of gains.

How does risk create an economic burden? It does so in several ways. First, risk may necessitate the setting aside of a reserve fund to meet losses if and when they do occur. Such a reserve fund, if it were not used for this purpose, could be employed in other ways, presumably at greater advantage than is offered by deposits at the low interest rates that often apply to investments readily convertible into cash.

Second, the existence of risk not only raises the cost to society of certain services, but may also deprive society altogether of services "too risky" to warrant the investment of savings. There is a shortage of "risk capital" in all nations because most investors prefer a significant degree of safety. Mark Twain epitomized this attitude when he commented that he was more interested in the return of his money than he was in the return on his money. In other words, the riskier the venture, the greater the return that must be promised to investors; hence the more costly that particular service is to society. And if risk is too great, the service may be withdrawn altogether.

A member of the American Medical Society once commented that without malpractice insurance many physicians would refuse to practice medicine. The comment arose from publicity given to reports that many insurers planned to withdraw malpractice coverage from the market because of heavy losses and inadequate rates. Thus, the inability to transfer risk to others threatened the reduction of vital medical services because physicians perceived risk of loss by legal suits from patients on the medical treatment they had received.

Most people try to avoid risk as much as possible or to reduce its negative consequences. Unfortunately, not all risk can be minimized or avoided. To minimize the adverse effects of risk, one must study the subject scientifically,

learn more about the specific nature of the different types of risk, and find ways to deal with risk more effectively.

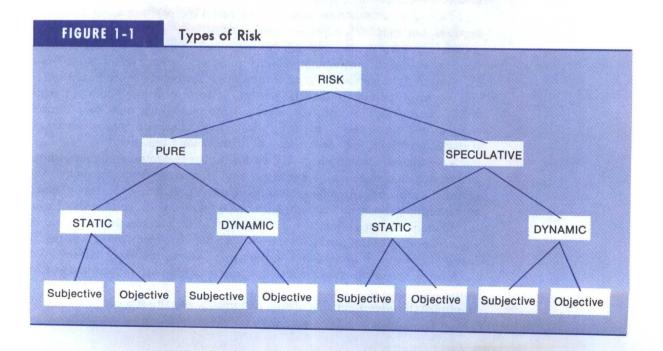
DEFINITIONS OF RISK

Thus far, the terms *risk* and *uncertainty* have been used interchangeably. However, many forms of uncertainty exist, and in a comprehensive study of risk, it is helpful to define the concept more precisely. Three common ways to classify risk are described in this section. As illustrated in Figure 1-1, these groupings are not mutually exclusive. Rather, risks can be categorized simultaneously according to all three types of classifications.

Pure Versus Speculative Risk

An important classification of risk involves the concepts of pure risk and speculative risk. **Pure risk** exists when there is uncertainty as to whether loss will occur. No possibility of gain is presented by pure risk—only the potential for loss. Examples of pure risk include the uncertainty of damage to property by fire or flood, or the prospect of premature death caused by accident or illness. In contrast to pure risk, **speculative risk** exists when there is uncertainty about an event that could produce either a profit or a loss. Business ventures and gambling transactions are examples of situations involving speculative risk. Gains as well as losses may occur, changing the nature of the uncertainty that is present.

The distinction between pure and speculative risks is especially significant for the study of insurance because not all risks are insurable. Speculative risks usually cannot be insured, but insurance protection for many different pure



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