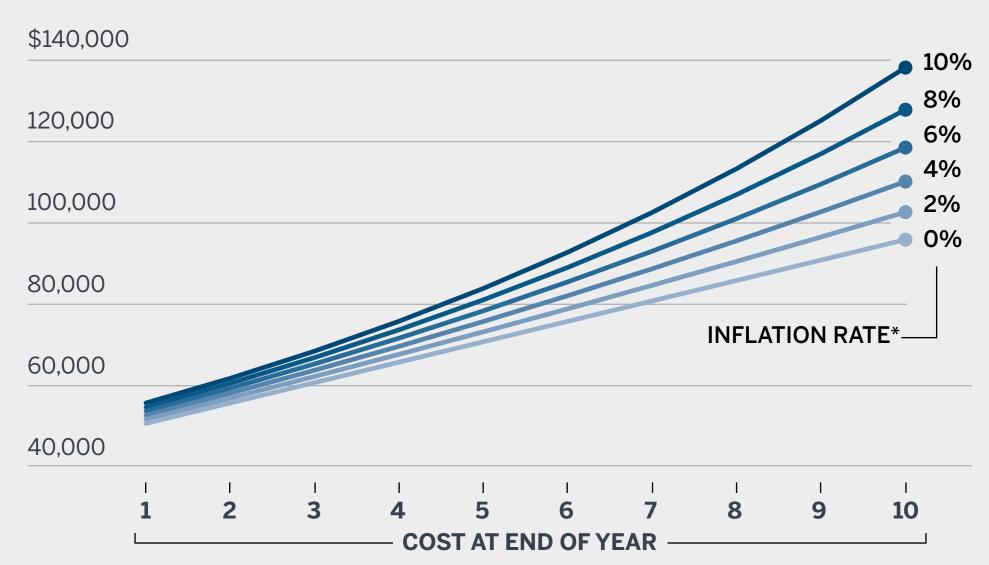
# How does inflation affect workers' compensation?

U.S. inflation hit a 40-year high in 2022. Because workers' compensation claims take a long time to settle, they are particularly vulnerable if this trend continues. To help insurers prepare, Milliman analyzed what would happen to a hypothetical lost-time claim that pays out \$50,000 for surgery in the first year and \$5,000 annually for follow-up medical services in years two through 10.

# WITH PROLONGED HIGH INFLATION, THE OVERALL CLAIM COST IS HIGHER ...

Due to compounding, the total cost of this claim could range from \$95,000 to \$137,000, depending on inflation levels.



<sup>\*</sup> THROUGHOUT EACH SCENARIO, WORKERS' COMP SEVERITY TREND ASSUMED EQUAL TO INFLATION AND INFLATION ASSUMED CONSTANT.

## **\$**

### ... MORE CLAIMS REACH THE EXCESS CARRIER ...

The excess insurer pays more, pays sooner, and may be forced to raise rates.

INFLATION RATE	10-YEAR TOTAL PAYMENT FOR THIS CLAIM, IN EXCESS OF A \$100,000 RETENTION	EXCESS LAYER REACHED
0%	\$0	NEVER
2%	\$1,744	YEAR 10
4%	\$9,232	YEAR 9
6%	\$17,558	YEAR 8
8%	\$26,828	YEAR 8
10%	\$37,156	YEAR 7

#### ... AND ULTIMATE LOSSES COULD SOAR BY 20%

The higher the retention, the greater the impact from inflation.

