



OFFICE OF THE
HEALTH INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Health Insurance Bulletin 2018-3

Effective January 1, 2019

2019 CPI- Urban (Affordability Standards)

- a) **Purpose and Authority.** This Bulletin is issued by the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner for the purpose of determining and identifying the US All Urban Consumer Less Food and Energy CPI (CPI-Urban) percentage increase for calendar year 2019. This determination of CPI-Urban is made in accordance with 230-RICR-20-30-4.10, subsections 4.10(D)(4) and 4.10(D)(5). The CPI-Urban percentage increase identified below must be used by health insurers in connection with maximum, annual hospital rate increases (230-RICR-20-30-4.10(D)(4)(e)(1)), and in connection with maximum, annual increases for population-based contracts (230-RICR-20-30-4.10(D)(5)(b)).
- b) **Definitions.** The terms in this Bulletin shall have the meaning of those terms as defined in 230-RICR-20-30-4.
- c) **2019 CPI-Urban.** The CPI-Urban percentage increase for calendar year 2019 shall be: **2.2%**. The figure is based on the most recently published 12-month percentage change in the CPI-Urban (less Food & Energy) by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (August 2018). Reference series ID: CUUR0000SA0L1E
- d) **Hospital Contracts.** In connection with maximum, annual hospital rate increases, the contractual rate of increase shall be no more than 3.2% during the period January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.
- e) **Population-based Contracts.** In connection with maximum, annual increases for population-based contracts, the contractual rate of increase shall be no more than 3.7% during the period January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

Dated at Cranston, Rhode Island this 2nd day of October 2018.

Marie Ganim, PhD, Commissioner