



OFFICE OF THE
HEALTH INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Health Insurance Bulletin 2017-2

Effective January 1, 2018

2018 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 2018. This determination of CPI-Urban is made in accordance with OHIC Regulation 2, Section 10 (Affordability Standards), subsections (d)(4)(E) and (d)(5)(B). The CPI-Urban percentage increase identified below must be used by health insurers in connection with maximum, annual hospital rate increases (OHIC Regulation 2, Section 10(d)(4)(E)), and in connection with maximum, annual increases for population-based contracts (OHIC Regulation 2, Section 10(d)(5)(B)).
- b) **Definitions.** The terms in this Bulletin shall have the meaning of those terms as defined in OHIC Regulation 2.
- c) **2018 CPI-Urban.** The CPI-Urban percentage increase for calendar year 2018 shall be: **1.7%**. 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 (September 2017). 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 2.7% during the period January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.
- 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, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

Dated at Cranston, Rhode Island this 16th day of October, 2017.

Marie Ganim, PhD, Commissioner