OFFICE OF THE
HEALTH INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Health Insurance Bulletin 2021-05

Effective January 1, 2022

2022 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 2022. This determination of CPI-Urban is made pursuant to 230-RICR-20-30-4.10, subsections 4.10(D)(2) and 4.10(D)(6). 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)(6)(e)(1)), and in connection with maximum, annual increases for population-based contracts (230-RICR-20-30-4.10(D)(2)(f)).

b) **Definitions.** The terms in this Bulletin shall have the meaning of those terms as defined in 230-RICR-20-30-4.

c) **2022 CPI-Urban.** The CPI-Urban percentage increase for calendar year 2022 shall be: **2.7%**. 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 (August 2021) averaged with the 12-month CPI-Urban percentage increase published in August of 2019 and August 2020. Reference series ID: CUUR0000SA0L1E. The Commissioner's decision to average three years of inflation data is a temporary measure to address volatility in the CPI due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the U.S. economy.

d) **Hospital contracts.** In connection with maximum, annual hospital rate increases, the contractual rate of increase shall be no more than 3.7% during the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

e) **Population-based contracts.** In connection with maximum, annual increases for population-based contracts, the contractual rate of increase shall be no more than 4.2% during the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

Dated at Cranston, Rhode Island this 12th day of October 2021.

Patrick M. Tigue, Health Insurance Commissioner