

## Annual Home Health Agency Prospective Payment System (HHA PPS) Wage Index Updates - CY 2015

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In 2013 the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued changes in the delineation of Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA), Micropolitan Statistical Areas, and Combined Statistical Areas. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) finalized changes to the wage index based on the revised Core Based Statistical Area (CBSA) delineations for the Calendar Year (CY) 2015 HH PPS wage index. These changes are made to the wage index using a blended wage index for a one-year transition. For each county, a blended wage index is calculated as 50% of the CY 2015 wage index using the current OMB delineations and 50% of the CY 2015 wage index using the revised OMB delineations. Beginning January 1, 2016, the wage index for all HH PPS payments will be fully based on the new OMB delineations.

■ The CY 2015 transitional wage index is available for download at <http://www.health.mil/rates>.

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