

TABLE 2.—PROPOSED LONG-TERM CARE HOSPITAL WAGE INDEX FOR RURAL AREAS FOR DISCHARGES OCCURRING FROM JULY 1, 2003 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2004

Nonurban area	Full wage index ¹	1/5 wage index ²	2/5 wage index ³
Alabama	0.7660	0.9532	0.9064
Alaska	1.2293	1.0459	1.0917
Arizona	0.8493	0.9699	0.9397
Arkansas	0.7666	0.9533	0.9066
California	0.9899	0.9980	0.9960
Colorado	0.9015	0.9803	0.9606
Connecticut	1.2394	1.0479	1.0958
Delaware	0.9128	0.9826	0.9651
Florida	0.8827	0.9765	0.9531
Georgia	0.8230	0.9646	0.9292
Hawaii	1.0255	1.0051	1.0102
Idaho	0.8747	0.9749	0.9499
Illinois	0.8204	0.9641	0.9282
Indiana	0.8755	0.9751	0.9502
Iowa	0.8315	0.9663	0.9326
Kansas	0.7900	0.9580	0.9160
Kentucky	0.8079	0.9616	0.9232
Louisiana	0.7580	0.9516	0.9032
Maine	0.8874	0.9775	0.9550
Maryland	0.8946	0.9789	0.9578
Massachusetts	1.1288	1.0258	1.0515
Michigan	0.9009	0.9802	0.9604
Minnesota	0.9151	0.9830	0.9660
Mississippi	0.7680	0.9536	0.9072
Missouri	0.7881	0.9576	0.9152
Montana	0.8481	0.9696	0.9392
Nebraska	0.8204	0.9641	0.9282
Nevada	0.9577	0.9915	0.9831
New Hampshire	0.9839	0.9968	0.9936
New Jersey ⁴
New Mexico	0.8872	0.9774	0.9549
New York	0.8542	0.9708	0.9417
North Carolina	0.8669	0.9734	0.9468
North Dakota	0.7788	0.9558	0.9115
Ohio	0.8613	0.9723	0.9445
Oklahoma	0.7590	0.9518	0.9036
Oregon	1.0259	1.0052	1.0104
Pennsylvania	0.8462	0.9692	0.9385
Puerto Rico	0.4356	0.8871	0.7742
Rhode Island ⁴
South Carolina	0.8607	0.9721	0.9443
South Dakota	0.7815	0.9563	0.9126
Tennessee	0.7877	0.9575	0.9151
Texas	0.7821	0.9564	0.9128
Utah	0.9312	0.9862	0.9725
Vermont	0.9345	0.9869	0.9738
Virginia	0.8504	0.9701	0.9402
Washington	1.0179	1.0036	1.0072
West Virginia	0.7975	0.9595	0.9190
Wisconsin	0.9162	0.9832	0.9665
Wyoming	0.9007	0.9801	0.9603

¹ Pre-reclassification wage index from Federal FY 2003 based on fiscal year 1999 audited acute care hospital inpatient wage data that exclude wages for services provided by teaching physicians, residents, and nonphysician anesthetists under Part B of the Medicare program.

² One-fifth of the full wage index value, applicable for LTCH's cost reporting period beginning on or after October 1, 2002 through September 30, 2003 (Federal FY 2203). For example, for a LTCH's cost reporting period begins during Federal in FY 2003 and located in rural Illinois, the 1/5 of the wage index value is computed as $(0.8204 + 4)/5 = 0.9641$. For further details on the 5-year phase-in of the wage index, see section VI.C.1. of this proposed rule.

³ Two-fifths of the full wage index value, applicable for LTCH's cost reporting period beginning on or after October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2003 (Federal FY 2004). For example, for a LTCH's cost reporting period begins during Federal in FY 2004 and located in rural Illinois, the 2/5 of the wage index value is computed as $((2 \times 0.8204) + 3)/5 = 0.9282$. For further details on the 5-year phase-in of the wage index, see section VI.C.1. of this proposed rule.

⁴ All counties within the State are classified as urban.