

From: Chris Elliott <CElliott@barberni.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 9, 2021 11:43 AM
To: Smith, Rick; Melanie Opalka Bentler; Thomas Crofcheck
Cc: Bill Harriger; Tonja Smith; Saylor, Kristine; Fawver, Trish; eyth.john@archumanservices.org; Kenneth Gibat; Bill Schoppe; Ahrens, Kristin
Subject: RE: [External] RE: ODP Financial Workgroup - CPS Transportation Costs

After spending some time looking at the survey and speaking with my residential leadership, our thoughts are that the hours remain fairly consistent and over long periods of time. Yes, there are instances where individual homes and clients needs increase or decrease and we have to add or subtract hours, but overall we don't really think hours have changed in a material or significant amount since the last survey. The key thing to remember is that we staff our homes based upon the needs of the most intensive client. Therefore, only when that most intensive client has been discharged from a home would our staffing really change. Any of the other clients could change and the overall staffing would be consistent over time due to that one intensive client.

I don't have the answer, but our thoughts are that the crosswalk that feeds the hours chart we talked through yesterday has some assumptions that are not matching our real world experience. A new survey showing more hours would increase the hours across all NG levels in theory, which I guess would be good in the end, but I don't think that solves the issues that we see when we have additional staffing for our NG3 and NG4 level clients.

I wanted to just share those thoughts prior to the meeting tomorrow to see if anyone else had similar thoughts. I look forward to the discussion tomorrow.

Thanks and have a good day,

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From: Smith, Rick [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 3:28 PM
To: Melanie Opalka Bentler <mopalka@stjosephscenter.org>; Thomas Crofcheck <ThomasCrofcheck@melmark.org>; Chris Elliott <CElliott@barberni.org>
Cc: Bill Harriger <BHarriger@verland.org>; Tonja Smith <tonja.smith@achomecare.org>; Saylor, Kristine <Ksaylor@khs.org>; Fawver, Trish <TFawver@merakey.org>; eyth.john@archumanservices.org; Kenneth Gibat <klgibat@persondirectedsupports.com>; Bill Schoppe <bschoppe@pathcenter.org>; Ahrens, Kristin <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: [External] RE: ODP Financial Workgroup - CPS Transportation Costs

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Thanks for the productive discussion today. Attached is the residential survey from 2016 that we discussed. Perhaps we could have a brief discussion Friday at noon to agree on a relevant time period to report on and an expected response time?

From: Melanie Opalka <mopalka@stjosephscenter.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 1:34 PM
To: Smith, Rick [REDACTED]; Thomas Crofcheck <ThomasCrofcheck@melmark.org>; Chris Elliott <CElliott@barberni.org>
Cc: Gilligan, Gloria [REDACTED]; Race, Andrea <[REDACTED]>; Bill Harriger <BHarriger@verland.org>; Tonja Smith <tonja.smith@achomecare.org>; Saylor, Kristine <Ksaylor@khs.org>; Fawver, Trish <TFawver@merakey.org>; eyth.john@archumanservices.org; Kenneth Gibat <klgibat@persondirectedsupports.com>; Bill Schoppe <bschoppe@pathcenter.org>; Ahrens, Kristin [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: [External] RE: ODP Financial Workgroup - CPS Transportation Costs

[Wage survey from 2017](#)

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From: Smith, Rick [mailto:████████████████████]
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 10:45 AM
To: Thomas Crofcheck <ThomasCrofcheck@melmark.org>; Chris Elliott <CElliott@barberni.org>
Cc: Gilligan, Gloria <████████████████████>; Race, Andrea <████████████████████>; Bill Harriger <BHarriger@verland.org>; Tonja Smith <tonja.smith@achomecare.org>; Saylor, Kristine <KSaylor@khs.org>; Fawver, Trish <TFawver@merakey.org>; eyth.john@archumanservices.org; Kenneth Gibat <klgibat@persondirectedsupports.com>; Bill Schoppe <bschoppe@pathcenter.org>; Ahrens, Kristin <████████████████████>; Melanie Opalka <mopalka@stjosephscenter.org>
Subject: RE: [External] RE: ODP Financial Workgroup - CPS Transportation Costs

Thank you.

Below are also a few answers from questions from the last meeting...

Which assumption are dedicated training staff and schedulers captured in? **This would be captured in the Other Program Staff wages cost category, if it applies to the service. If the training and scheduling staff is not specific to a service, these costs would be covered by the administrative factor that is built into each service fee.**

Other program staff or admin? **Same as above.**

Do we have a more detailed description of the costs captured by the admin % assumption? **The administrative factor captures costs related to operations and not related to the direct provision of services (e.g., administrative staff, executive leadership, accounting, human resources, office supplies, office leases, etc.). This is consistent with the factor definition from CMS ([Slide 1 \(medicaid.gov\)](#)).**

From: Thomas Crofcheck <ThomasCrofcheck@melmark.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 10:00 AM
To: Chris Elliott <CElliott@barberni.org>; Smith, Rick <████████████████████>
Cc: Gilligan, Gloria <████████████████████>; Race, Andrea <████████████████████>; Bill Harriger <BHarriger@verland.org>; Tonja Smith <tonja.smith@achomecare.org>; Saylor, Kristine <KSaylor@khs.org>; Fawver, Trish <TFawver@merakey.org>; eyth.john@archumanservices.org; Kenneth Gibat <klgibat@persondirectedsupports.com>; Bill Schoppe <bschoppe@pathcenter.org>; Ahrens, Kristin <████████████████████>; Melanie Opalka Bentler <mopalka@stjosephscenter.org>
Subject: [External] RE: ODP Financial Workgroup - CPS Transportation Costs

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Chris – This is a very helpful analysis

Rick – When developing this (and other) assumptions please consider that these historic costs have increased considerably with inflation and we anticipate they will not decrease back to Feb. 2020 levels. For example:

- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics consumer price index, the cost of a new vehicle has increased by 6.8% since February 2020. The cost of used cars has increased 41.7%.



Databases, Tables & Calculators by Subject

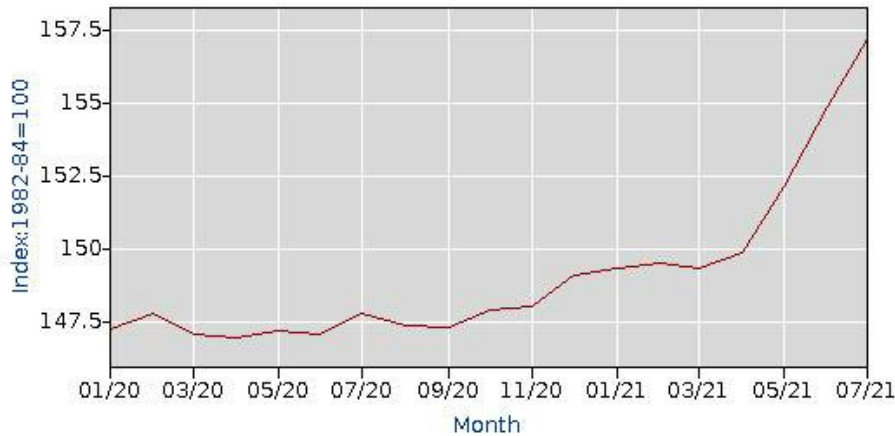
Change Output Options: From: To:

include graphs include annual averages [More Formatting Options](#)

Data extracted on: August 26, 2021 (2:51:42 PM)

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

Series Id: CUUR0000SETA01
 Not Seasonally Adjusted
Series Title: New vehicles in U.S. city average, all urban consumers, not seasonally adjusted
Area: U.S. city average
Item: New vehicles
Base Period: 1982-84=100



Download: [xlsx](#)

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	HALF1	HALF2
2020	147.253	147.803	147.124	147.007	147.222	147.108	147.803	147.412	147.361	147.956	148.063	149.091	147.253	147.948
2021	149.377	149.515	149.321	149.892	152.143	154.847	157.203						150.849	

- As far as gas prices: According to federal government data gas prices have increased 43.5% as compared the period covered by Chris's cost summary.

Databases, Tables & Calculators by Subject

Change Output Options:

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include graphs include annual averages

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Data extracted on: August 26, 2021 (3:00:13 PM)

PPI Commodity Data

Series Id: WPU0571

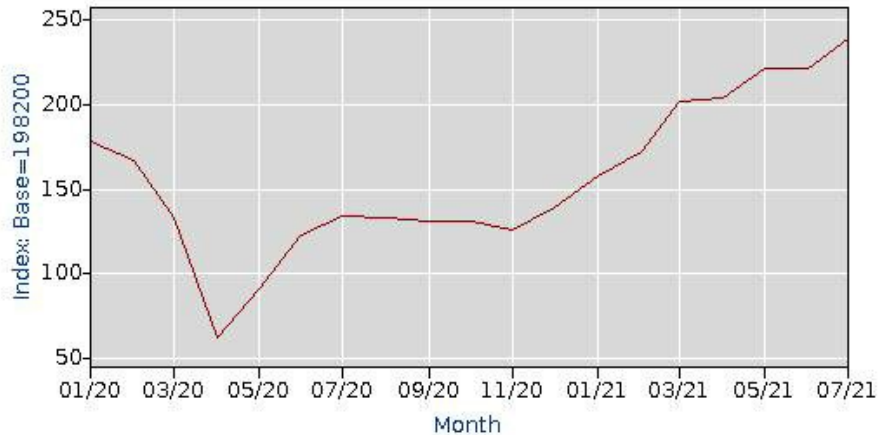
Not Seasonally Adjusted


Series Title: PPI Commodity data for Fuels and related products and power-Gasoline, not seasonally adjusted

Group: Fuels and related products and power

Item: Gasoline

Base Date: 198200



Download:  [xlsx](#)

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020	178.5	167.0	133.3	62.6	90.8	122.5	134.6	133.5	131.5	131.3	126.2	139.2
2021	157.5	171.8	202.4	203.9(P)	221.5(P)	221.8(P)	239.6(P)					

P : Preliminary. All indexes are subject to revision four months after original publication.

Tom

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From: Chris Elliott <CElliott@barberni.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2021 10:52 AM
To: Smith, Rick [REDACTED]; Bill Harriger <BHarriger@verland.org>; Tonja Smith <tonja.smith@achomecare.org>; Saylor, Kristine <Ksaylor@khs.org>; Mary Beth Horner (<mhorner@lifepath.org> <mhorner@lifepath.org>); Thomas Crofcheck <ThomasCrofcheck@melmark.org>; Fawver, Trish <TFawver@merakey.org>; eyth.john@archumanservices.org; Kenneth Gibat <klgibat@persondirectedsupports.com>; Bill Schoppe <bschoppe@pathcenter.org>
Cc: Ahrens, Kristin [REDACTED]; Gilligan, Gloria [REDACTED]; Race, Andrea [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: [External] RE: ODP Financial Workgroup

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Good morning,

I wanted to add to the discussion yesterday about CPS and in particular the transportation costs. I pulled our transportation/vehicle related costs in one of our CPS service locations from July 2019 Through Feb 2020 and annualized it for a full fiscal year. This location, as can be seen below, was right at 25% of time in the community in terms of total units provided thru Feb 2020. I then pulled our client census as of February 2020. What can be seen is that for 3 individuals within this CPS program, which was out in the community 25% of the time, our transportation costs were roughly \$11,000. This is more than double the assumption of \$5,000. Therefore, if we just rollforward using an index the \$5,000, we will still be drastically short in terms of the costs it takes to take our clients out into the community. If you have any questions about this, please let me know but I think it is important to capture the true costs we are seeing when spending time out in the community.

Expense	YTD Feb FY20	Annualized YTD Feb FY20
Vehicle Insurance	\$ 87,287	\$ 30,885
Motor Vehicle Repairs	\$ 74,861	\$ 35,992
Fuel, Parking, Tolls	\$ 40,326	\$ 60,639
Vehicle Interest	\$ 9,240	\$ 13,874
Depreciation - Motor Vehicles	\$ 19,911	\$ 71,856
Total Vehicle Costs	\$ 231,504	\$ 317,256
Client Census Feb FY20	87	87
Vehicle Costs / Client	\$ 2,661	\$ 3,647
Vehicle Costs X 3 Clients	\$ 7,995	\$ 10,940

Unit Type	Units	% in Community
CPS - Community	69,003	24.5%
CPS - Facility	213,157	75.5%
Total Units	282,160	100.0%

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From: Smith, Rick [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2021 10:10 AM
To: Chris Elliott <CElliott@barberni.org>; Bill Harriger <BHarriger@verland.org>; Tonja Smith <tonja.smith@achomecare.org>; Saylor, Kristine <Ksaylor@khs.org>; Mary Beth Horner (<mhorner@lifepath.org> <mhorner@lifepath.org>); Thomas Crofcheck <ThomasCrofcheck@melmark.org>; Fawver, Trish <TFawver@merakey.org>; eyth.john@archumanservices.org; Kenneth Gibat <klgibat@persondirectedsupports.com>; Bill Schoppe <bschoppe@pathcenter.org>
Cc: Ahrens, Kristin [REDACTED]; Gilligan, Gloria [REDACTED]; Race, Andrea [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: [External] RE: ODP Financial Workgroup

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Will add to agenda. Thanks

From: Chris Elliott <CElliott@barberni.org>

Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2021 10:06 AM

To: Smith, Rick [REDACTED]; Bill Harriger <BHarriger@verland.org>; Tonja Smith <tonja.smith@achomecare.org>; Saylor, Kristine <Ksaylor@khs.org>; Mary Beth Horner (<mhorner@lifepath.org> <mhorner@lifepath.org>); Thomas Crofcheck <ThomasCrofcheck@melmark.org>; Fawver, Trish <TFawver@merakey.org>; eyth.john@archumanservices.org; Kenneth Gibat <klgibat@persondirectedsupports.com>; Bill Schoppe <bschoppe@pathcenter.org>

Cc: Ahrens, Kristin [REDACTED]; Gilligan, Gloria [REDACTED]; Race, Andrea [REDACTED]

Subject: [External] RE: ODP Financial Workgroup

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Good morning Rick,

Thanks for sending this. I should have asked this last meeting but I was wondering if we could add a quick discussion to the agenda. There are a number of us who are new to working through this process with you, so what are the goals that ODP hopes to accomplish from this workgroup? More importantly, what are the goals that ODP hopes to accomplish through the rate refresh process?

Thanks and I look forward to the discussion,

Chris Elliott, CPA

VP of Finance

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From: Smith, Rick [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 10:39 AM

To: Bill Harriger <BHarriger@verland.org>; Chris Elliott <CElliott@barberni.org>; Tonja Smith <tonja.smith@achomecare.org>; Saylor, Kristine <Ksaylor@khs.org>; Mary Beth Horner (<mhorner@lifepath.org> <mhorner@lifepath.org>); Thomas Crofcheck <ThomasCrofcheck@melmark.org>; Fawver, Trish <TFawver@merakey.org>; eyth.john@archumanservices.org; Kenneth Gibat <klgibat@persondirectedsupports.com>; Bill Schoppe <bschoppe@pathcenter.org>

Cc: Ahrens, Kristin [REDACTED]; Gilligan, Gloria [REDACTED]; Race, Andrea [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: ODP Financial Workgroup

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Good morning,

Here is a rough agenda for the Non-Residential discussion tomorrow from 12-2...

30 min – Follow up from initial meeting (Rick)

TPA Survey Questions

Current BLS Data

Current assumptions versus historical cost reports

90 min – Discussion of service level assumptions

CPS

IHCS

Supported Employment
Nursing
Housing Tenancy & Transition Sustaining
Other non-res service priorities

For those of you attending in person, we have reserved room 327 which will hopefully give us sufficient technology to make a hybrid meeting work. Look forward to the discussion.

Thanks,
Rick

From: Smith, Rick
Sent: Thursday, August 19, 2021 8:23 AM
To: Bill Harriger <BHarriger@verland.org>; Chris Elliott <CElliott@barberni.org>; tonja.smith@achomecare.org; Saylor, Kristine <Ksaylor@khs.org>; Mary Beth Horner (mhorner@lifepath.org) <mhorner@lifepath.org>; Thomas Crofcheck <ThomasCrofcheck@melmark.org>; Fawver, Trish <TFawver@merakey.org>; eyth.john@archumanservices.org; Kenneth Gibat <klgibat@persondirectedsupports.com>; Bill Schoppe <bschoppe@pathcenter.org>
Cc: Ahrens, Kristin [REDACTED]; Gilligan, Gloria [REDACTED]; Race, Andrea [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: ODP Financial Workgroup

Good morning,

Here is a rough agenda for this afternoon discussion...

15 min-Introductions (all)

Name/role

What services does your agency provide?

Approximate annual funding received from ODP?

How many individuals do you support?

15 min-Expectations/Rate setting process (Kristin/Rick)

Cost Components:

Wages (direct care and other program staff)

Employee Related Expenses

Paid Time Off

Full time/part-time split

Billable Hours Per Day

Absentee Factor

Staffing Ratios

Transportation

Occupancy

Food and supply costs

Training costs

Administration Percentage

30 min-General discussion

Where are pain points in system (services)? i.e. which services cause most financial distress

Covid impacts on staffing

Thoughts on gathering staff vacancy and overtime data

Plan for next two meetings – Propose 8/25 11-1 for non-residential services

Thanks and looking forward to talking to you,
Rick

From: Smith, Rick
Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 10:53 AM

To: Bill Harriger <BHarriger@verland.org>; Chris Elliott <CElliott@barberni.org>; tonja.smith@achomecare.org; Saylor, Kristine <Ksaylor@khs.org>; Mary Beth Horner (mhorner@lifepath.org) <mhorner@lifepath.org>; Thomas Crofcheck <ThomasCrofcheck@melmark.org>; Fawver, Trish <TFawver@merakey.org>; eyth.john@archumanservices.org; Kenneth Gibat <klgibat@persondirectedsupports.com>; Bill Schoppe <bschoppe@pathcenter.org>

Cc: Ahrens, Kristin [REDACTED]

Subject: ODP Financial Workgroup

Thank you for agreeing to be part of our financial workgroup. The main task of the workgroup is to provide current input and perspective on ODP's fee schedule rate assumptions. The existing rate assumptions can be found at <https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/ODP-Rates.aspx>. If you are not familiar with these assumptions, I would ask that you review them prior to the first meeting. We anticipate scheduling a 1-hour kickoff meeting where we talk through process and expectations and two longer meetings (2-3 hours) where we get into details of the assumptions, probably focusing on non-residential services at one meeting and residential at the next. The kickoff meeting will be virtual, but depending on feedback, we may want to schedule the detailed meetings with an in-person option. Please let me know if **Thursday Aug 19 from 3-4pm** would work for the initial meeting.

Best,
Rick

Rick Smith | Director

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625 Forster Street Room 412 | Harrisburg, PA 17120
717.783.4873

www.dhs.pa.gov www.myodp.org

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