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2025 Requested Commercial Health Insurance Rates Have Been Submitted to OHIC for Review

CRANSTON, R.I. (June 14, 2024) – The Office of Health Insurance Commissioner (OHIC) today released the individual, small group, and large group market premium rates requested by Rhode Island’s insurers. The requests were filed as part of OHIC’s rate review process (for rates effective in 2025). Tables 1 – 3, below, summarize the insurers’ requests for 2025. Two insurers, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rhode Island (BCBSRI) and Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island (NHPRI) filed plans to be sold on the individual market to persons who do not receive insurance through their employer. In addition to BCBSRI and NHPRI, UnitedHealthcare, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care of New England (HPHC), and Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Insurance Company (HPIC) filed small group market rates. Five insurers (BCBSRI, UnitedHealthcare, HPHC/HPIC, Aetna, and Cigna) filed large group rates.

Requested average rate increases range from 5.6% to 14.3% in the individual market. In the small group market, insurers requested average increases ranging from 8.8% to 22.7%. Large group market requested average rate increases range from 2.5% to 14.9%. Key factors influencing the rate requests for 2025 are expected increases in the cost of health care services due to increases in utilization, provider prices, and pharmaceuticals. OHIC will review all pricing assumptions, administrative charges, and other information to assess the reasonability of the premium requests by each insurer. The Commissioner may approve as filed, modify, or reject an insurer’s rate filing in accordance with powers vested in the Office by the Rhode Island General Laws. Additionally, the Rhode Island Attorney General’s Office is conducting an independent review of the rate filings and will offer recommendations to OHIC prior to the final decision on the rate filings.

The proposed rates do not apply to self-funded employer groups that account for approximately 65% of Rhode Islanders with employer-sponsored coverage. Self-funded employers pay the health care expenses of their employees and dependents directly, commonly relying on health insurance companies for administrative services, such as member enrollment, provider contracting, and claims processing.

OHIC will also review each health insurer’s coverage and benefit contracts with consumers to ensure that plans sold in Rhode Island meet all benefit, access, and member cost sharing standards required by state and federal law. OHIC’s final decision to approve, modify, or reject the proposed rates is expected in August.

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Table 1: Individual Market Requests – Weighted Average Rate Change

Insurer	Enrollment	2025 – Requested
BCBSRI	17,614	14.3%
NHPRI	29,713	5.6%
Total / Wt. Avg.	47,327	8.8%

Table 2: Small Group Market Requests – Weighted Average Rate Change

Insurer	Enrollment	2025 – Requested
BCBSRI	39,660	15.6%
NHPRI	2,203	8.9%
UHCNE	403	8.8%
UHIC	1,644	22.7%
HPIC	435	10.2%
HPHC	427	11.0%
Total / Wt. Avg.	44,772	15.4%

Table 3: Large Group Market Requests – Weighted Average Rate Change

Insurer	Enrollment	2025 - Requested
BCBSRI	59,990	13.5%
UnitedHealthcare	12,314	14.9%
HPIC/HPHC	6,606	13.5%
Aetna	74	7.9%
Cigna	383	2.5%
Total / Wt. Avg.	79,367	13.6%

OHIC will accept public comment on the proposed rates through July 19, 2024. Comments may be submitted in writing via email to OHIC.HealthInsInq@ohic.ri.gov or via postal mail to:

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Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner
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OHIC will also hear public comment at a virtual town hall to be held on Monday July 15, 2024 from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM. The virtual town hall will be held on the Zoom platform at the following link: Rate Review Virtual Town Hall: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86730182538?pwd=t7Qmbx-6DuQV0on5i-tZVKfoPHDMqg.-Us1-uxjIM7JRpuJ>

For more detailed information on the filings please visit: <https://ohic.ri.gov/regulatory-review/rate-review>

For more detailed information on the health insurance market in Rhode Island see: [Rhode Island 2024 Market Summary](#).

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