

FACT SHEET

For Immediate Release:

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Friday, September 30, 2005

SNF PPS FY 2006:  
CORRECTIONS TO THE WAGE INDEX

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is correcting technical errors that appeared in the August 4, 2005 **Federal Register**, entitled “Medicare Program; Prospective Payment System and Consolidated Billing for Skilled Nursing Facilities for FY 2006.”

The corrections apply to two tables, Table 8 and Table A, published in the final rule. Most of the corrections are to CBSA and transition wage index values, however several typographical errors to other entries have also been corrected for clarity.

The labor market areas that change due to data corrections are the following:

- CBSA code 31900 (Mansfield, OH)

The applicable CBSA wage index for this CBSA, and all counties contained in this CBSA, was inadvertently omitted. The CBSA wage index and the transition wage index should read “0.9891”.

- CBSA code 26420 (Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, TX)

The wage index data for a provider was erroneously omitted from the wage index calculation. This affected the CBSA wage index and transition wage index for this CBSA and all counties contained in this CBSA. The CBSA wage index value for this area should read “0.9996”. The transition wage index varies by county depending on the MSA. Accordingly, we are revising Tables 8 and Table A to reflect the correct information.

- CBSA code 34980 (Nashville-Davidson-Murfreesboro, TN)

The wage index data for a provider was erroneously omitted from the wage index calculation. This affected the CBSA wage index and transition wage index for this CBSA and all counties contained in this CBSA. The CBSA wage index value for this area should read “0.9790”. The transition wage index varies by county depending on the MSA. Accordingly, we are revising Tables 8 and Table A to reflect the correct information.

The corrected wage index values for these areas are higher than those published in the final rule.

Though the areas mentioned above highlight most of the changes, CMS-1282-CN, “Medicare Program; Prospective Payment System and Consolidated Billing for Skilled Nursing Facilities for FY 2006, Correction Notice” is a comprehensive list of all changes.

## List of Wage Index Changes

**Table 8 -- FY 2006 Wage Index for Urban Areas Based on CBSA Labor Market Areas:**

| <u>CBSA Code</u> | <u>Urban Area (constituent counties)</u> | <u>Corrected Wage Index</u> |
|------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 26420            | Houston-Baytown-Sugar Land, TX           | 0.9996                      |
| 31900            | Mansfield, OH                            | 0.9891                      |
| 34980            | Nashville-Davidson-Murfreesboro, TN      | 0.9790                      |

**Table A – FY 2006 SNF PPS Transition Wage Index Table:**

The highlighted cells in the table below indicate changes from what was published in the final rule.

| SSA State/<br>County Code | County name                | MSA Number | MSA Urban/<br>Rural | 2006 MSA-based WI | 2006 CBSA-based WI | CBSA Number | CBSA Urban/<br>Rural | Transition Wage Index |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 01330                     | Geneva County, Alabama     | 01         | Rural               | 0.7432            | 0.7721             | 20020       | Urban                | 0.7577                |
| 04280                     | Hempstead County, Arkansas | 04         | Rural               | 0.7744            | 0.7466             | 99904       | Rural                | 0.7605                |
| 11451                     | Fayette County, Georgia    | 0520       | Urban               | 0.9793            | 0.9793             | 12060       | Urban                | 0.9793                |
| 11840                     | Richmond County, Georgia   | 0600       | Urban               | 0.9808            | 0.9748             | 12260       | Urban                | 0.9778                |
| 16350                     | Fremont County, Iowa       | 16         | Rural               | 0.8594            | 0.8509             | 99916       | Rural                | 0.8552                |
| 27130                     | Fergus County, Montana     | 27         | Rural               | 0.8762            | 0.8762             | 99927       | Rural                | 0.8762                |
| 36710                     | Richland County, Ohio      | 4800       | Urban               | 0.9891            | 0.9891             | 31900       | Urban                | 0.9891                |
| 44070                     | Cannon County, Tennessee   | 44         | Rural               | 0.7935            | 0.9790             | 34980       | Urban                | 0.8863                |
| 44100                     | Cheatham County, Tennessee | 5360       | Urban               | 0.9808            | 0.9790             | 34980       | Urban                | 0.9799                |
| 44180                     | Davidson County, Tennessee | 5360       | Urban               | 0.9808            | 0.9790             | 34980       | Urban                | 0.9799                |
| 44210                     | Dickson County, Tennessee  | 5360       | Urban               | 0.9808            | 0.9790             | 34980       | Urban                | 0.9799                |
| 44400                     | Hickman County, Tennessee  | 44         | Rural               | 0.7935            | 0.9790             | 34980       | Urban                | 0.8863                |
| 44550                     | Macon County, Tennessee    | 44         | Rural               | 0.7935            | 0.9790             | 34980       | Urban                | 0.8863                |

| SSA State/<br>County<br>Code | County<br>name                     | MSA<br>Number | MSA<br>Urban/<br>Rural | 2006<br>MSA-<br>based WI | 2006<br>CBSA-<br>based WI | CBSA<br>Number | CBSA<br>Urban/<br>Rural | Transition<br>Wage<br>Index |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 44730                        | Robertson<br>County,<br>Tennessee  | 5360          | Urban                  | 0.9808                   | 0.9790                    | 34980          | Urban                   | 0.9799                      |
| 44740                        | Rutherford<br>County,<br>Tennessee | 5360          | Urban                  | 0.9808                   | 0.9790                    | 34980          | Urban                   | 0.9799                      |
| 44790                        | Smith<br>County,<br>Tennessee      | 44            | Rural                  | 0.7935                   | 0.9790                    | 34980          | Urban                   | 0.8863                      |
| 44820                        | Sumner<br>County,<br>Tennessee     | 5360          | Urban                  | 0.9808                   | 0.9790                    | 34980          | Urban                   | 0.9799                      |
| 44840                        | Trousdale<br>County,<br>Tennessee  | 44            | Rural                  | 0.7935                   | 0.9790                    | 34980          | Urban                   | 0.8863                      |
| 44930                        | Williamson<br>County,<br>Tennessee | 5360          | Urban                  | 0.9808                   | 0.9790                    | 34980          | Urban                   | 0.9799                      |
| 44940                        | Wilson<br>County,<br>Tennessee     | 5360          | Urban                  | 0.9808                   | 0.9790                    | 34980          | Urban                   | 0.9799                      |
| 45070                        | Austin<br>County,<br>Texas         | 45            | Rural                  | 0.7931                   | 0.9996                    | 26420          | Urban                   | 0.8964                      |
| 45180                        | Brazoria<br>County,<br>Texas       | 1145          | Urban                  | 0.8563                   | 0.9996                    | 26420          | Urban                   | 0.9280                      |
| 45280                        | Chambers<br>County,<br>Texas       | 3360          | Urban                  | 1.0091                   | 0.9996                    | 26420          | Urban                   | 1.0044                      |
| 45341                        | Coryell<br>County,<br>Texas        | 3810          | Urban                  | 0.8526                   | 0.8526                    | 28660          | Urban                   | 0.8526                      |
| 45530                        | Fort Bend<br>County,<br>Texas      | 3360          | Urban                  | 1.0091                   | 0.9996                    | 26420          | Urban                   | 1.0044                      |
| 45550                        | Galveston<br>County,<br>Texas      | 2920          | Urban                  | 0.9635                   | 0.9996                    | 26420          | Urban                   | 0.9816                      |
| 45610                        | Harris<br>County,<br>Texas         | 3360          | Urban                  | 1.0091                   | 0.9996                    | 26420          | Urban                   | 1.0044                      |
| 45757                        | Liberty<br>County,<br>Texas        | 3360          | Urban                  | 1.0091                   | 0.9996                    | 26420          | Urban                   | 1.0044                      |
| 45801                        | Montgomery<br>County,<br>Texas     | 3360          | Urban                  | 1.0091                   | 0.9996                    | 26420          | Urban                   | 1.0044                      |
| 45884                        | San Jacinto<br>County,<br>Texas    | 45            | Rural                  | 0.7931                   | 0.9996                    | 26420          | Urban                   | 0.8964                      |
| 45950                        | Waller<br>County,<br>Texas         | 3360          | Urban                  | 1.0091                   | 0.9996                    | 26420          | Urban                   | 1.0044                      |