

Emergency Medical Care Committee  
 Informational Item Only  
 July 9, 2021

**Authority**

As specified in Division 9, Title 4 of the Codified Ordinances of the County of Orange (Ambulance Ordinance 3517), the Board of Supervisors establishes the maximum Basic Life Support (BLS) emergency ground ambulance rates applicable within the County’s unincorporated area and cities that have agreed with the Ordinance for the provision of licensing and regulation of ambulance services. Ordinance 3517 also establishes the authority to adjust the maximum Advanced Life Support (ALS) Paramedic Assessment and Transport rate applicable for the Orange County Fire Authority’s (OCFA) jurisdictional areas, with the exception of three cities that establish their own ALS rate.

Orange County Emergency Medical Services (OCEMS) policy #715.00 Ground Emergency Ambulance Service Rates – Adjustment identifies the process for annual rate adjustments. On August 8, 2017, the Orange County Board of Supervisors passed Board Resolution No. 17-094 which approved the revision of the ambulance rates and adopted the recommended methodology for calculation and application of future annual adjustments. The Board authorized the Health Care Agency (HCA) to make an annual adjustment effective July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Data is appointed from the US Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics ([www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)) to determine the percentage from the prior year and applied to the current rate.

**2021 Maximum 911 Emergency Basic Life Support Rates FY 2021-22**

Due to the discontinuation of the Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange Counties “all items” CPI index by the US Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics in 2018, the Health Care Agency currently uses the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim “all items” CPI index to adjust the rates for mileage, oxygen, standby, and medical supplies for 2019 and thereafter. The emergency base rate continues to be adjusted using the percentage adjustment of State or Federal minimum wage increases. The Ambulance Association of Orange County agreed to the change of the new CPI method in 2019.

Description	2020 Rate	Effects of Minimum Wage <sup>1</sup>	CPI % change	\$ increase	2021 Rates (effective 7/1/21)
Emergency Base Rate	\$1,197.91	7.7%		\$92.24	\$1,290.15
Mileage	\$ 18.75		1.6%	\$ 0.30	\$ 19.05
Oxygen	\$ 91.93		1.6%	\$ 1.47	\$ 93.40
Standby	\$ 45.04		1.6%	\$ 0.72	\$ 45.76
Expendable Medical Supplies	\$ 36.29		1.6%	\$ 0.58	\$ 36.87

<sup>1</sup>Effects of Minimum Wage

<sup>2</sup>CPI (Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim “all items”)

New Minimum Wage Phase in Requirement 2017-2023  
SB 3 (Leno, Chapter 4, Statutes of 2016)

Date	Minimum Wage for Employers with 26 Employees or More	Percentage Increase in Minimum Wage
January 1, 2017	\$10.50/hour	
January 1, 2018	\$11.00/hour	
January 1, 2019	\$12.00/hour	
January 1, 2020	\$13.00/hour	
January 1, 2021	\$14.00/hour	7.7%
January 1, 2022	\$15.00/hour	7.1%

$$\frac{\$14.00 - \$13.00}{\$13.00} = \frac{\$1}{\$13.00} = .0769 \text{ or } 7.7\%$$

# Databases, Tables & Calculators by Subject

Data extracted on: June 2, 2021 (11:39:55 AM)

## CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

**Series Id:** CUURS49ASA0,CUUSS49ASA0  
Not Seasonally Adjusted  
**Series Title:** All items in Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA, all urban consumers, not seasonally adjusted  
**Area:** Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA  
**Item:** All items  
**Base Period:** 1982-84=100



Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual	HALF1	HALF2
2011	228.652	229.729	232.241	233.319	233.367	232.328	231.303	231.833	233.022	233.049	232.731	231.567	231.928	231.606	232.251
2012	233.441	234.537	236.941	236.866	237.032	236.025	235.776	237.222	238.104	240.111	237.675	236.042	236.648	235.807	237.488
2013	238.015	239.753	239.995	239.043	239.346	239.223	238.920	239.219	239.611	239.940	238.677	238.742	239.207	239.229	239.185
2014	239.857	241.059	242.491	242.437	243.362	243.528	243.727	243.556	243.623	243.341	241.753	240.475	242.434	242.122	242.746
2015	239.724	241.297	243.738	243.569	246.093	245.459	247.066	246.328	245.431	245.812	245.711	245.357	244.632	243.313	245.951
2016	247.155	247.113	247.873	248.368	249.554	249.789	249.784	249.700	250.145	251.098	250.185	250.189	249.246	248.309	250.184
2017	252.373	253.815	254.525	254.971	255.674	255.275	256.023	256.739	257.890	258.883	259.135	259.220	256.210	254.439	257.982
2018	261.235	263.012	264.158	265.095	266.148	265.522	266.007	266.665	268.032	269.482	268.560	267.631	265.962	264.195	267.730
2019	269.468	269.608	271.311	273.945	274.479	274.380	274.682	274.579	276.054	278.075	277.239	275.553	274.114	272.199	276.030
2020	277.755	278.657	276.589	275.853	276.842	278.121	279.899	280.116	279.366	279.947	280.102	279.560	278.567	277.303	279.832
2021	280.178	281.347	282.648	285.808											



**Source:** [https://data.bls.gov/pdq/SurveyOutputServlet?data\\_tool=dropmap&series\\_id=CUURS49ASA0,CUUSS49ASA0](https://data.bls.gov/pdq/SurveyOutputServlet?data_tool=dropmap&series_id=CUURS49ASA0,CUUSS49ASA0)

$$\frac{278.567 - 274.114}{274.114} = \frac{4.453}{274.114} = .0162 \text{ or } 1.6\%$$