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Today's Headlines

7. Bureau of Labor Statistics seeks hospitals' participation in survey

The Bureau of Labor Statistics' consumer price index and producer price index are two of the most familiar measures in economics. The CPI is an estimate of the average change in prices that Americans pay over time for a market basket of consumer goods and services; whereas, the PPI measures the average change over time in the selling prices received by domestic producers for their output. These indices affect nearly everything, including the hospital market basket, and factor in the calculations that adjust hospitals' Medicare reimbursements every year. The accuracy of BLS surveys relies on strong hospital participation. The agency visits about 500 hospitals for its price surveys and needs to maintain that level to ensure that it continues to represent the real pricing picture for hospital services. To learn more about the surveys, see the BLS survey respondent page at <https://www.bls.gov/respondents/home.htm>. For more information about CPI email Brian Parker at Parker.Brian@bls.gov and for PPI email Charles Jackson at Jackson.Charles@bls.gov.

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