

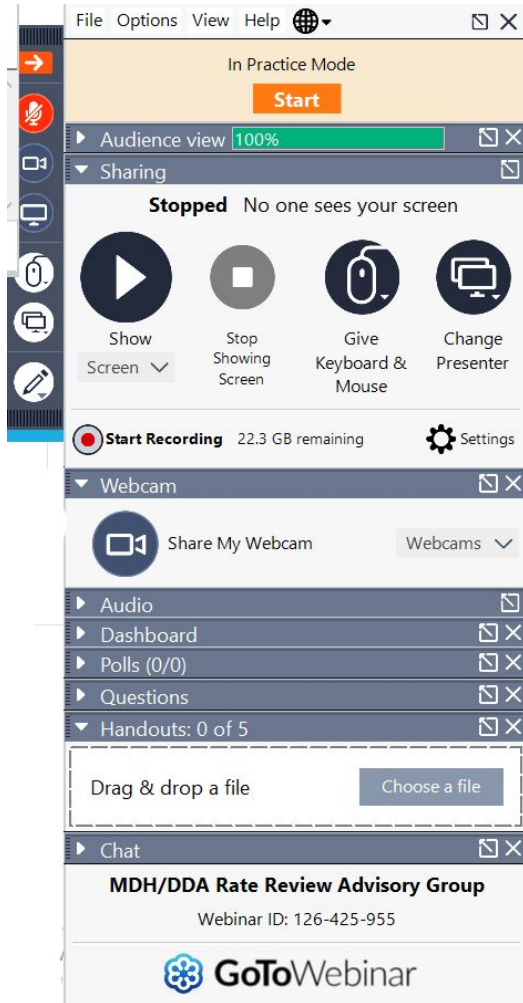


Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Rate Review Advisory Group

May 28, 2024



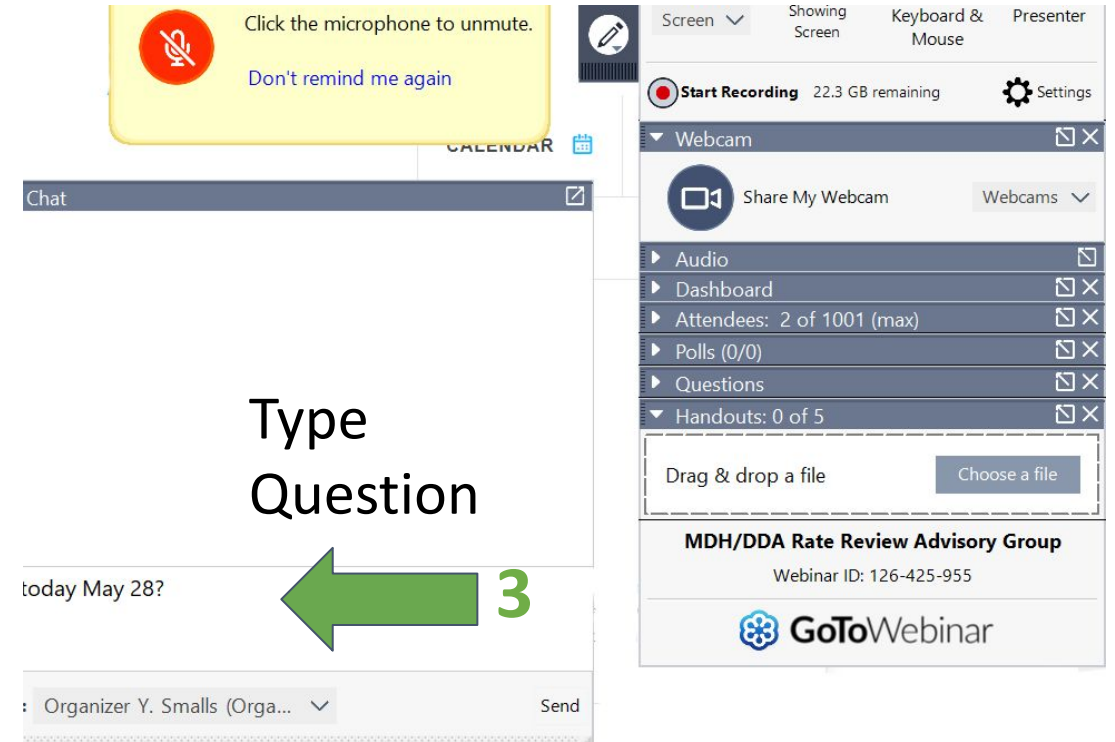
RRAG Members: How Do I Ask a Question?



1 Click the chat box



2



Type Question

2

Select Organizer Y.Smalls

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Agenda

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes
3. Update on BLS Wage Analysis
4. General Ledger Supplemental Updates
5. General Ledger Template
6. Acuity
7. Open Discussion
8. Public Comment
9. Next Steps and Adjournment

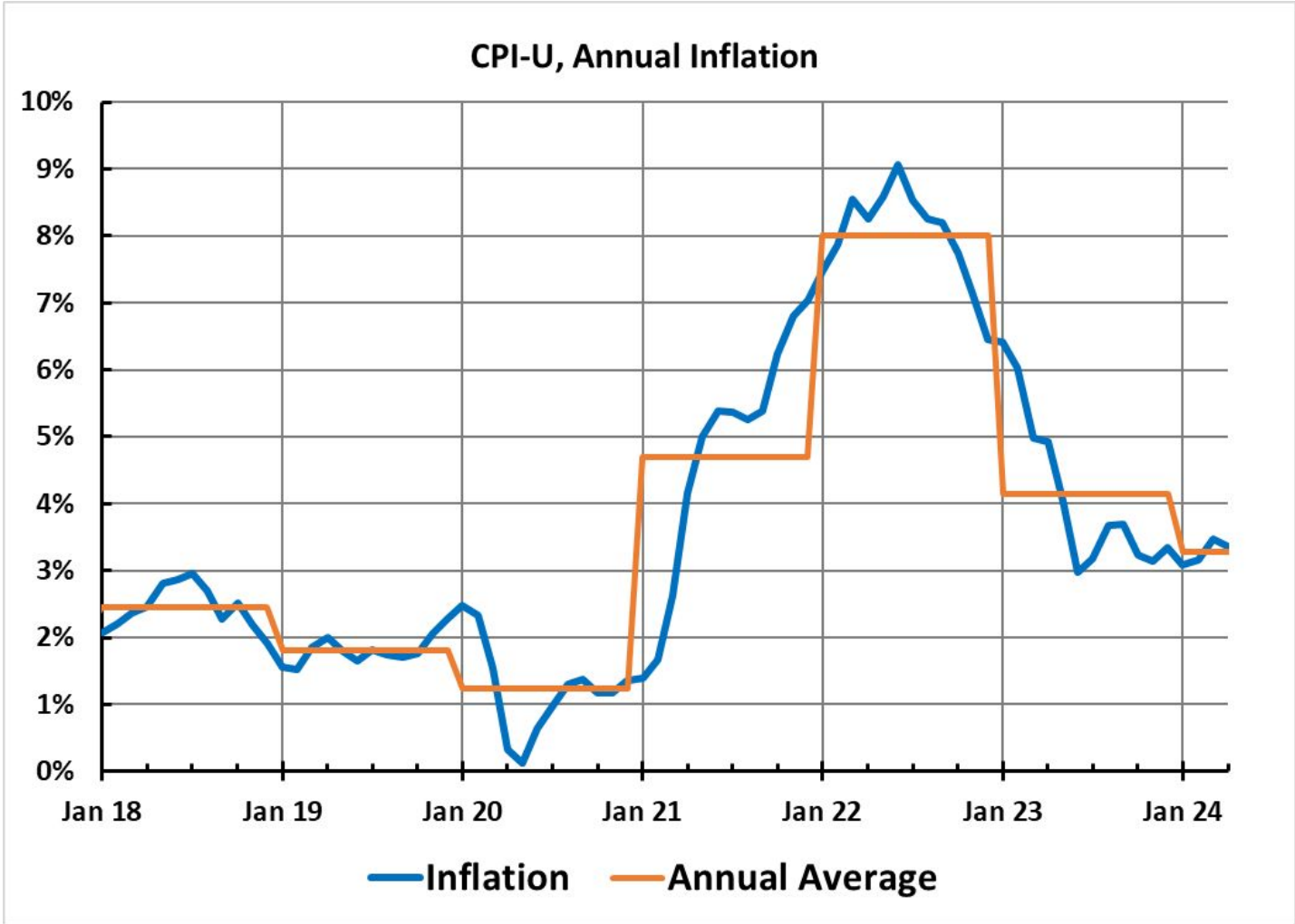
Approval of Meeting Minutes

Update on BLS Wage Analysis

Wage Trending

- The BRICK model is intended to capture the stable relationships between the wage expenses and the other expenses in providing the service.
- When wages are trended each year, the BRICK model automatically captures the other changes in expenses.
- The wage trend is an estimate of the annual percentage change in the wage rate.
- The wage trend is applied to the period between when the data used to estimate the wage is collected and when the services are provided.

Inflation as a Proxy for Wage Trends



The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) is the headline inflation value reported in the news and used in most inflation calculations.



Process for Calculating the Wage Trend

- Wage data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is available for the most recent calendar year (2023).
- To calculate the appropriate wages for use in the FY 2026 rates, we need to trend wages forward to what we would expect them to be in FY 2026.
- The process developed and approved by MDH-DDA is to use the actual and forecasted CPI-U for that period to estimate the wage trend.
- For the forecasted portion, we use the median estimate of external CPI-U forecasts.

Estimated Wage Trend for FY 2026 Rates

	CPI-U Estimate	SPF	CBO	Nowcast
2024	1.45% *	2.49%	2.71%	2.70%
2025	2.54%	2.20%	2.54%	2.55%
2026	2.35%	2.25%	2.35%	2.46%

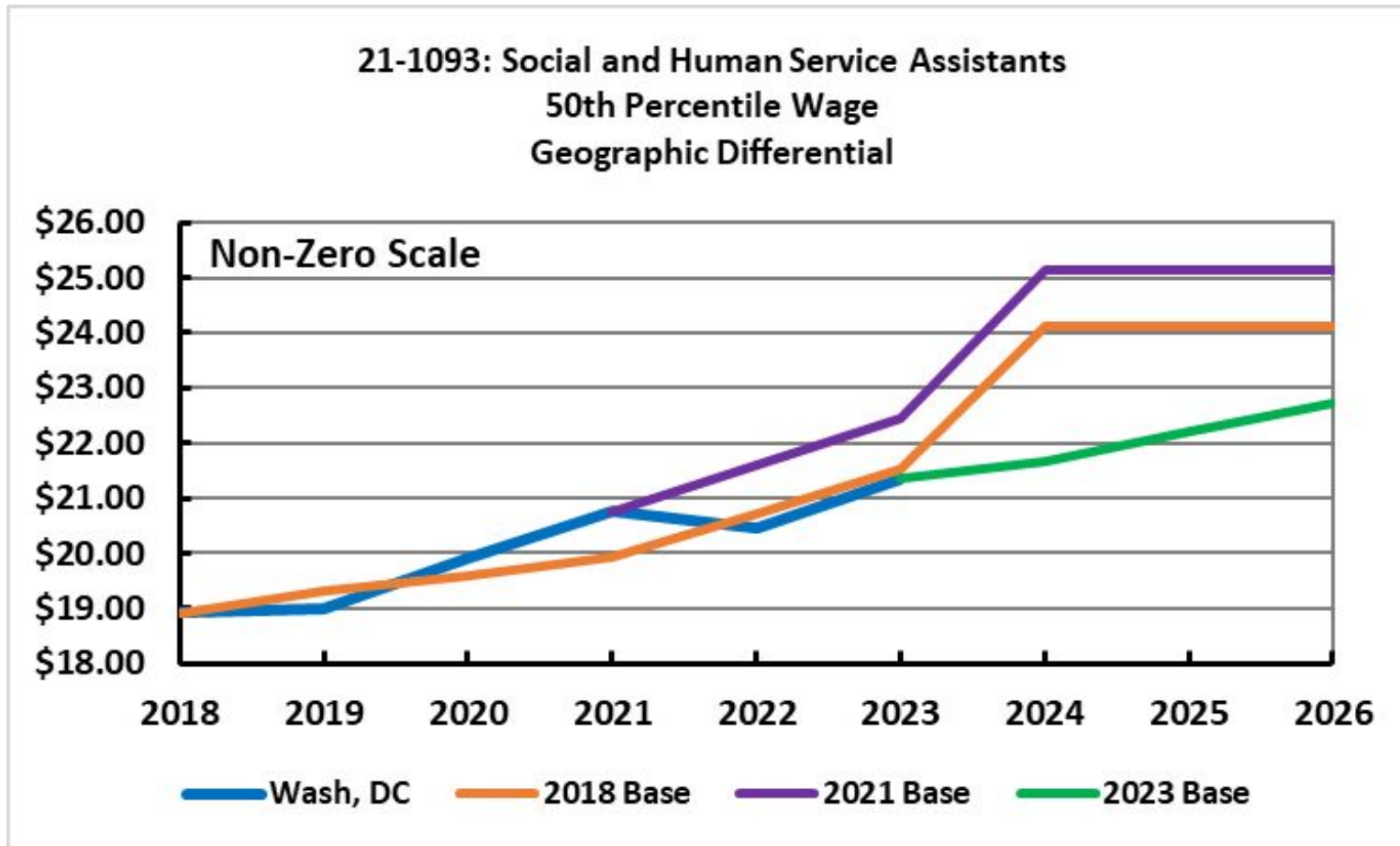
6.47% Total Estimated Inflation from CY2023 to FY2026

* 6-Month Inflation Estimate based on the average 6-month inflation over the last 10 months (July 2023 to April 2024) for CPI-U as reported by the BLS in May 2024.

Rebasing BLS Wages Used in FY 2026 Rate Model

- The wages for the Geographic Differential Region and Rest of State are estimated separately.
- The **FY 2025** rates use BLS wages from 2018 and 2021 trended forward with a combination of CPI/COLA. The most recent available wage data from the BLS is for 2023.
- Using more recent wage data reduces the amount of wage trending necessary and the potential risk.
- We update the raw wage data, but otherwise use the same occupation codes for each service and the same processes for all calculations.

Example of Wage Trends



Used for services such as Community Living, Supported Living, Career Exploration, and Personal Supports. Those services use the 2018 Wage Base.

Overview of BLS Analysis by Service

- Almost all trended wages showed a decrease compared to the previously estimated wage. See Appendix for details.
- The changes ranged from +11.9% to -20.2%.
- The average relative decrease was larger in the Geographic Differential Region than the Rest of State.
- For the Geographic Differential Region, over the 62 service wages, the average decrease was -9.5 percent.
- For the Rest of State, the average decrease was -5.3 percent.
- **However, there have not been any final decisions on the rate models, particularly the funding level for each rate.**

General Ledger Supplemental Updates

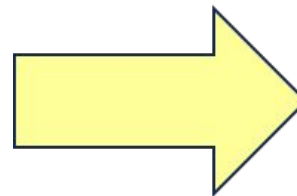
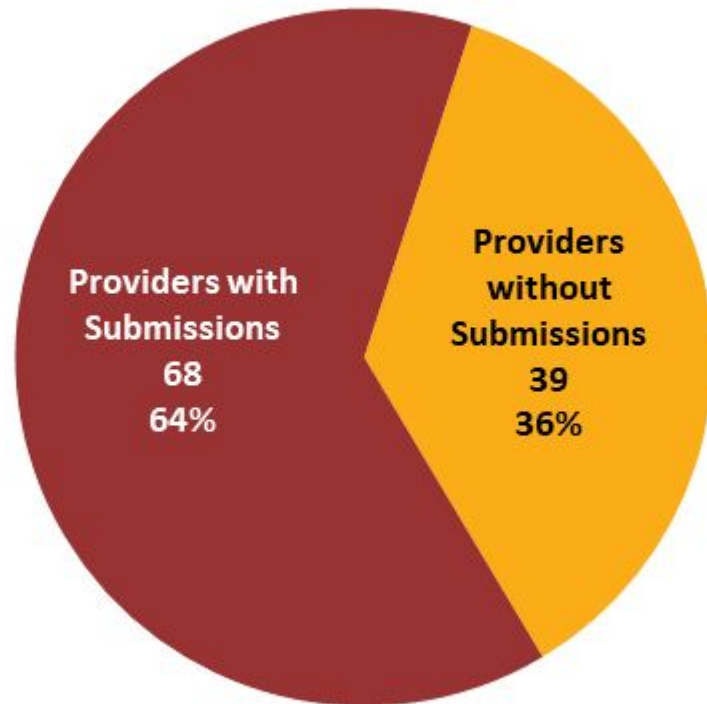
Productivity Factor GLS Templates: General Overview

- Productivity factor data was required to be submitted by all Day Habilitation providers who received payments for services from July 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023.
- Goal: Minimum of 80% of providers submitting complete and usable GLS data.
- 68 of the 107 providers who received reimbursements submitted templates.*
 - A fraction of providers fully completed the productivity factor table in the template.
 - A small number of providers submitted completely blank templates (no cost data).
 - A small number of providers submitted cost data with no cost category descriptions.

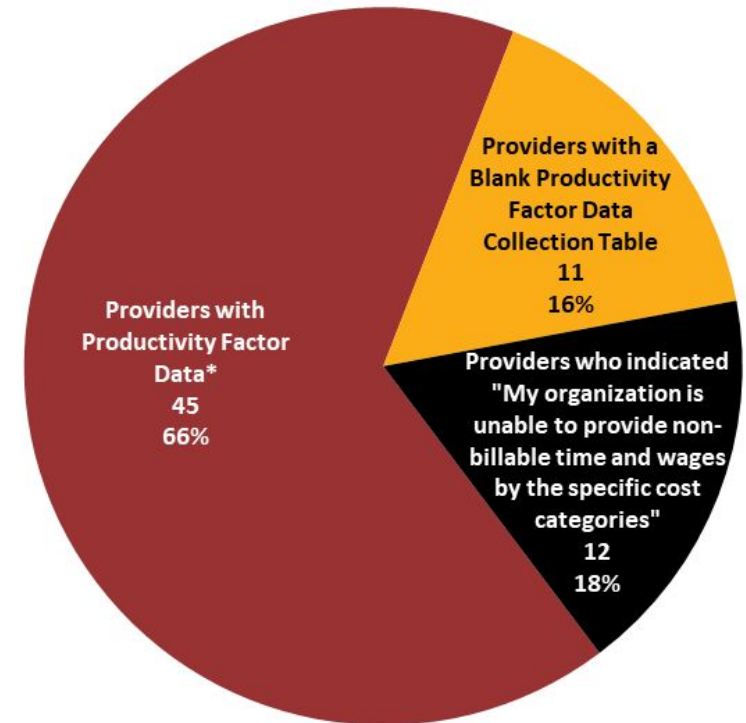
As of May 15, 2024

Productivity Factor GLS Templates: Submission Update

N=107



N=68

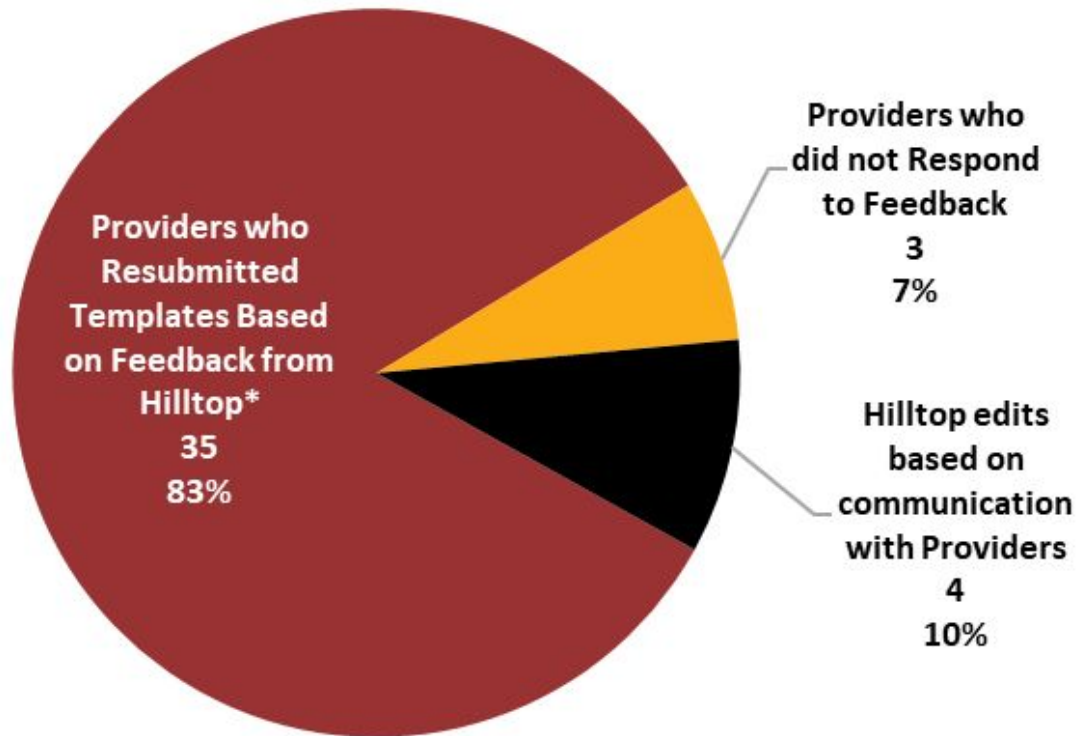


**This includes complete and incomplete Productivity Factor Data Collection tables. Some providers only included wages with no hours, filled in a subset of cost categories, and/or left data fields blank.*

As of May 15, 2024

GLS Template Feedback to Day Habilitation Providers

N= 42



Note: Hilltop prioritized review of submissions with data in the Productivity Factor Data Collection (PFDC) Table before sending feedback to providers with no PFDC table data.

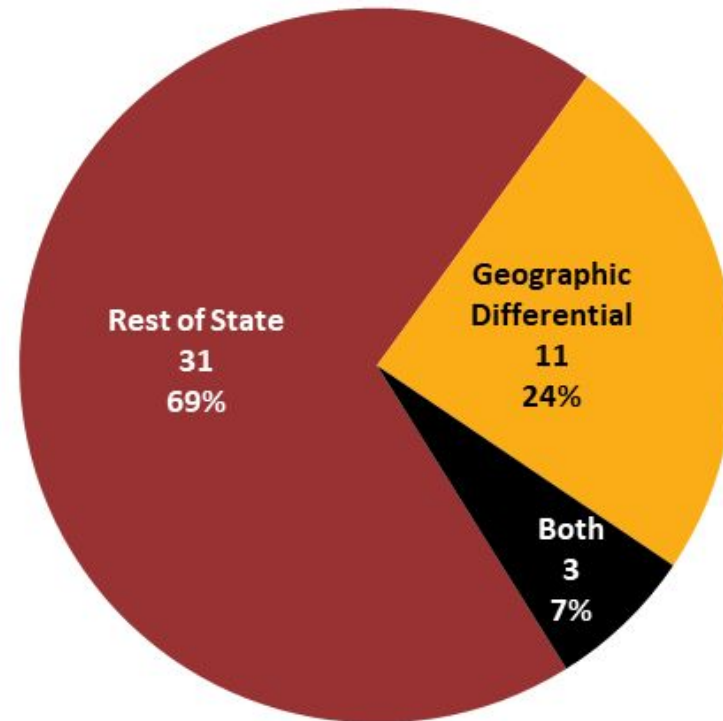
*GLS templates edited by Hilltop after a resubmission have only been included in the resubmission count.

As of May 15, 2024

GLS Template Submissions: Geographic Breakdown

Total Day Habilitation Providers who Submitted GLS Templates with Productivity Factor Data*

N= 45

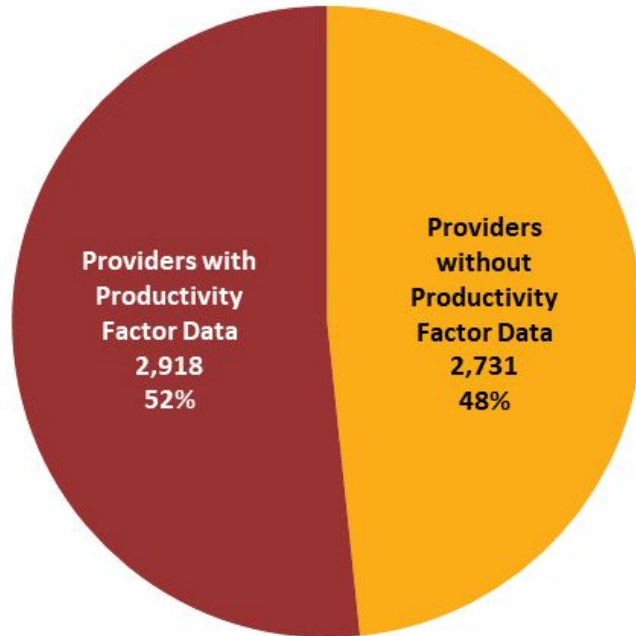


**This includes complete and incomplete Productivity Factor Data Collection tables. Some providers only included wages with no hours, filled in a subset of cost categories, and/or left data fields blank.*

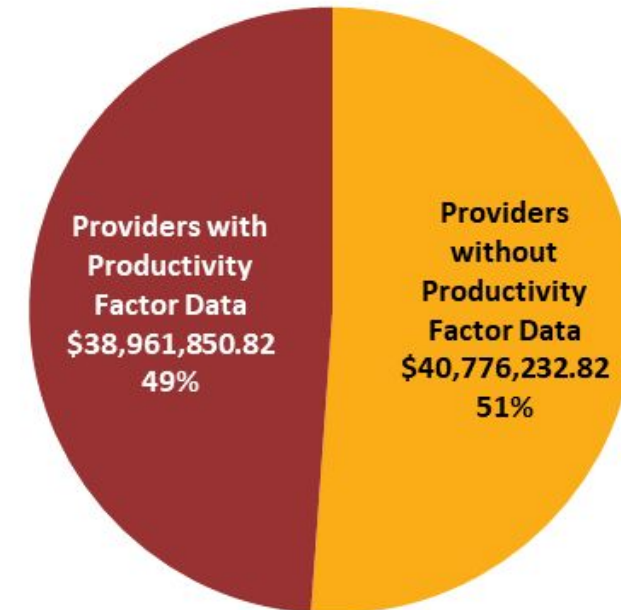
As of May 15, 2024

GLS Template Submissions: Users and Payments

Total Day Habilitation Service Users Represented by Providers who Submitted GLS Templates with Productivity Factor Data
N = 5,649



Total Day Habilitation Service Payments for Providers who Submitted GLS Templates with Productivity Factor Data
N = \$79,738,083.64



Note: Users and payments are for day habilitation services only and include data from 7/1/2023 - 12/31/23. GLS data is still under review to determine quality and completeness.

General Ledger Template

General Ledger Templates – FY 2024

- All providers are required to submit a GL Template with FY 2024 cost data.
- Completed templates are due on September 30, 2024.
- No new data elements will be added to the GL Template that was shared in spring 2023.
 - The template and documents available on the [DDA/RRAG website](#) include updates to instructions and formatting for clarity.
- Additional training sessions will be offered in June:
 - June 17, 2024: 2–3 p.m.
 - June 27, 2024: Noon–1 p.m.

General Ledger Templates – Key Information

- Hilltop is available for questions and technical assistance. Contact via email at dda_rate@hilltop.umbc.edu.
- [GL Data Collection Tool](#)
 - Template, instructions, sample template, frequently asked questions and recorded trainings are posted on the RRAG website.
- Additional training sessions scheduled for June:
 - June 17, 2024: 2–3 p.m.
 - June 27, 2024: Noon–1 p.m.

All templates are due September 30, 2024

Acuity

Acuity: Next Steps

- Acuity analyses will not be completed for the FY 2026 rate cycle
- Focus on current DDA services and policies
 - Assessed Needs
 - Enhanced Services
 - Overnight Supports and Overnight Supervision
 - Dedicated Support Hours (1:1 and 2:1 staff-to-participant supports)
 - Enhanced Rates

Acuity: Next Steps

- **Acuity Lunch and Learn Sessions** will highlight current strategies and range of services
 - Specific examples and strategies related to:
 - Medical and/or behavioral needs
 - PCP requirements
 - Utilization of services
 - Stacking, Braiding and Blending vs. Dedicated Supports, Enhanced Rates and Overnight Supports

Acuity

Virtual Lunch and Learn Series Sessions

- Tuesday, July 9th, 2024: 1–2 p.m.
- Friday, July 19th, 2024: Noon–1 p.m.
- Monday, July 22, 2024: 1–2 p.m.

Registration coming soon!

Open Discussion

Public Comment

Next Steps and Adjournment

JULY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

Meetings occur approximately every 6 weeks until August 2024 and will be posted on the [DDA's Training Calendar](#).

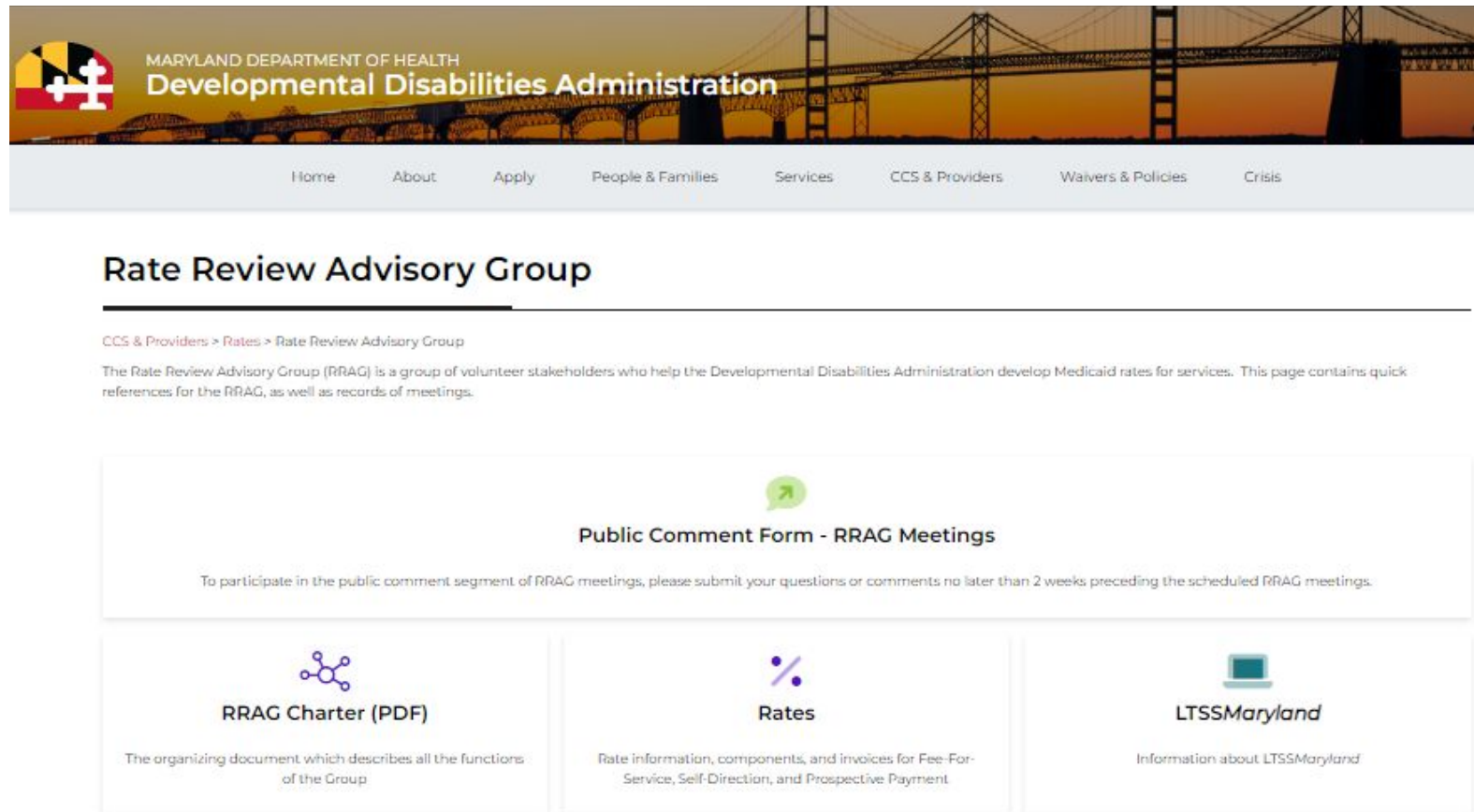
Upcoming Meeting Dates

The next RRAG meeting will be held Wednesday, July 10, 12:30–1:45 p.m.

Remaining RRAG Dates
Thursday, August 22, 2024: 12:30–1:45 p.m.

Rate Review Advisory Group Materials

<https://health.maryland.gov/dda/Pages/LTSSMaryland/RRAG.aspx>



The screenshot shows the website header for the Maryland Department of Health Developmental Disabilities Administration. The navigation menu includes: Home, About, Apply, People & Families, Services, CCS & Providers, Waivers & Policies, and Crisis. The main heading is "Rate Review Advisory Group". Below the heading is a breadcrumb trail: "CCS & Providers > Rates > Rate Review Advisory Group". A paragraph explains that the Rrag is a group of volunteer stakeholders who help develop Medicaid rates for services. Below this are three main content blocks: "Public Comment Form - RRAG Meetings" with a subtext about submitting comments 2 weeks before meetings; "RRAG Charter (PDF)" with a subtext describing it as the organizing document; "Rates" with a subtext about rate information and invoices; and "LTSSMaryland" with a subtext about information about the program.

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Developmental Disabilities Administration

Home About Apply People & Families Services CCS & Providers Waivers & Policies Crisis

Rate Review Advisory Group

CCS & Providers > Rates > Rate Review Advisory Group

The Rate Review Advisory Group (RRAG) is a group of volunteer stakeholders who help the Developmental Disabilities Administration develop Medicaid rates for services. This page contains quick references for the RRAG, as well as records of meetings.

Public Comment Form - RRAG Meetings

To participate in the public comment segment of RRAG meetings, please submit your questions or comments no later than 2 weeks preceding the scheduled RRAG meetings.

RRAG Charter (PDF)

The organizing document which describes all the functions of the Group

Rates

Rate information, components, and invoices for Fee-For-Service, Self-Direction, and Prospective Payment

LTSSMaryland

Information about LTSSMaryland

Thank You!

Appendix

Wage Adjustment for 2023 Rebase by Service

Service	Source Selection	Percentile	Comparison: 2023 to 2018 or 2021	
			Rest of State	Geographic Differential
Community Living - Enhanced Supports: 1 w/Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	75%	-8.1%	-13.7%
Community Living - Enhanced Supports: 2 w/Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	75%	-8.1%	-13.7%
Community Living - Enhanced Supports: 3 w/Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	75%	-8.1%	-13.7%
Community Living - Enhanced Supports: 4 w/Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	75%	-8.1%	-13.7%
Dedicated Hours for Community Living-Enhanced Supports (1:1)	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	75%	-8.1%	-13.7%
Dedicated Hours for Community Living-Enhanced Supports (2:1)	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	75%	-8.1%	-13.7%
Dedicated Hours for Community Living-Group Home (1:1)	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	75%	-8.1%	-13.7%
Dedicated Hours for Community Living - Group Home (2:1)	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	75%	-8.1%	-13.7%
Community Living/Group Home: 1 w/ Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Community Living/Group Home: 2 w/ Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Community Living/Group Home: 3 w/ Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Community Living/Group Home: 4 w/ Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Community Living/Group Home: 5 w/ Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Community Living/Group Home: 6 w/ Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Community Living/Group Home: 7 w/ Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Community Living/Group Home: 8 w/ Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%

Wage Adjustment for 2023 Rebase by Service (Cont.)

Service	Source Selection	Percentile	Comparison: 2023 to 2018 or 2021	
			Rest of State	Geographic Differential
Community Living/Group Home: 1 w/o Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Community Living/Group Home: 2 w/o Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Community Living/Group Home: 3 w/o Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Community Living/Group Home: 4 w/o Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Community Living/Group Home: 5 w/o Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Community Living/Group Home: 6 w/o Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Community Living/Group Home: 7 w/o Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Community Living/Group Home: 8 w/o Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Supported Living: 1 w/ Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Supported Living: 2 w/ Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Supported Living: 3 w/ Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Supported Living: 4 w/ Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Supported Living: 1 w/o Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Supported Living: 2 w/o Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Supported Living: 3 w/o Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Supported Living: 4 w/o Overnight Supervision	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%

Wage Adjustment for 2023 Rebase by Service (Cont.)

Service	Source Selection	Percentile	Comparison: 2023 to 2018 or 2021	
			Rest of State	Geographic Differential
Dedicated Hours for Supported Living (1:1)	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	75%	-8.1%	-13.7%
Dedicated Hours for Supported Living (2:1)	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	75%	-8.1%	-13.7%
Career Exploration Services: Facility Based	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Career Exploration - Large Group	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	90%	-5.8%	-14.8%
Career Exploration - Small Group	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Community Development Service 2:1 Staffing Ratio	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	75%	-8.9%	-18.5%
Community Development Service 1:1 Staffing Ratio	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	75%	-8.9%	-18.5%
Community Development Service: Group - (1-4)	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	75%	-8.9%	-18.5%
Day Habilitation 2:1 Staffing Ratio	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	75%	-8.9%	-18.5%
Day Habilitation 1:1 Staffing Ratio	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	75%	-8.9%	-18.5%
Day Habilitation Small Group (2-5)	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	75%	-8.9%	-18.5%
Day Habilitation Large Group (6-10)	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	90%	-5.8%	-14.8%

Wage Adjustment for 2023 Rebase by Service (Cont.)

Service	Source Selection	Percentile	Comparison: 2023 to 2018 or 2021	
			Rest of State	Geographic Differential
Employment Services - Job Development	21-1012: Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	50%	-8.5%	-15.6%
Employment Services - Customized Self-Employment	21-1012: Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	50%	-8.5%	-15.6%
Employment Services - Follow Along Supports	21-1012: Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	75%	-9.7%	-11.8%
Employment Services - Ongoing Job Supports	21-1012: Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	50%	-8.5%	-15.6%
Employment Services - Discovery Milestone 1	21-1012: Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	50%	-8.5%	-15.6%
Employment Services - Discovery Milestone 2	21-1012: Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	50%	-8.5%	-15.6%
Employment Services - Discovery Milestone 3	21-1012: Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	50%	-8.5%	-15.6%
BSS - Brief Support Implementation Services	19-4099: Life, Physical, and Social Science Technicians, All Other	50%	-20.2%	-2.0%
BSS - Behavioral Consultation	19-3039: Psychologists, All Other	75%	-3.0%	-9.9%
BSS - Behavioral Plan	19-3039: Psychologists, All Other	50%	-2.6%	-12.3%
BSS - Behavioral Assessment	19-3039: Psychologists, All Other	50%	-2.6%	-12.3%
Environmental Assessment	29-1122: Occupational Therapists	50%	-9.0%	-3.1%
Housing Support Services	21-1012: Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	50%	-7.1%	-9.2%
Personal Supports	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	50%	-3.0%	-5.8%
Personal Supports Enhanced	21-1093: Social and Human Service Assistants	75%	-8.1%	-13.7%
Nursing Support Services	29-1141: Registered Nurses	75%	-4.2%	-4.0%
Respite Care Services - Day	39-9021: Personal Care Aides	50%	11.9%	8.6%
Respite Care Services - Hour	39-9021: Personal Care Aides	75%	1.3%	4.9%