

upon the 2010 Decennial Census data) beginning in FY 2015. Our analysis shows that a total of 37 counties (and county equivalents) and 12 hospitals

that were once considered part of an urban CBSA would be considered to be located in a rural area, beginning in FY 2015, under these new OMB

delineations. The following chart lists the 37 urban counties that would be rural if we finalize our proposal to implement the new OMB delineations.

COUNTIES THAT WOULD LOSE URBAN STATUS

County	State	Previous CBSA number	CBSA
Greene County	IN	14020	Bloomington, IN.
Anson County	NC	16740	Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC.
Franklin County	IN	17140	Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN.
Stewart County	TN	17300	Clarksville, TN-KY.
Howard County	MO	17860	Columbia, MO.
Delta County	TX	19124	Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX.
Pittsylvania County	VA	19260	Danville, VA.
Danville City	VA	19260	Danville, VA.
Preble County	OH	19380	Dayton, OH.
Gibson County	IN	21780	Evansville, IN-KY.
Webster County	KY	21780	Evansville, IN-KY.
Franklin County	AR	22900	Fort Smith, AR-OK.
Ionia County	MI	24340	Grand Rapids-Wyoming, MI.
Newaygo County	MI	24340	Grand Rapids-Wyoming, MI.
Greene County	NC	24780	Greenville, NC.
Stone County	MS	25060	Gulfport-Biloxi, MS.
Morgan County	WV	25180	Hagerstown-Martinsburg, MD-WV.
San Jacinto County	TX	26420	Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, TX.
Franklin County	KS	28140	Kansas City, MO-KS.
Tipton County	IN	29020	Kokomo, IN.
Nelson County	KY	31140	Louisville/Jefferson County, KY-IN.
Geary County	KS	31740	Manhattan, KS.
Washington County	OH	37620	Parkersburg-Marietta-Vienna, WV-OH.
Pleasants County	WV	37620	Parkersburg-Marietta-Vienna, WV-OH.
George County	MS	37700	Pascagoula, MS.
Power County	ID	38540	Pocatello, ID.
Cumberland County	VA	40060	Richmond, VA.
King and Queen County	VA	40060	Richmond, VA.
Louisa County	VA	40060	Richmond, VA.
Washington County	MO	41180	St. Louis, MO-IL.
Summit County	UT	41620	Salt Lake City, UT.
Erie County	OH	41780	Sandusky, OH.
Franklin County	MA	44140	Springfield, MA.
Ottawa County	OH	45780	Toledo, OH.
Greene County	AL	46220	Tuscaloosa, AL.
Calhoun County	TX	47020	Victoria, TX.
Surry County	VA	47260	Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, VA-NC.

We are proposing that the wage data for all hospitals located in the counties listed above would now be considered rural when calculating their respective State's rural wage index. We recognize that rural areas typically have lower area wage index values than urban areas, and hospitals located in these counties may experience a negative impact in their IPPS payment due to the proposed adoption of the new OMB delineations. We refer readers to section

III.B.2.e. of the preamble of this proposed rule for a discussion of the proposed wage index transition period, in particular, the discussion regarding the 3-year transition for hospitals located in these specific counties.

c. Rural Counties That Would Become Urban Under the New OMB Delineations

As previously discussed, we are proposing to implement the new OMB

labor market area delineations (based upon the 2010 Decennial Census data) beginning in FY 2015. Analysis of these OMB labor market area delineations shows that a total of 105 counties (and county equivalents) and 81 hospitals that were located in rural areas would be located in urban areas under the new OMB delineations. The following chart lists the 105 rural counties that would be urban if we finalize our proposal to implement the new OMB delineations.

COUNTIES THAT WOULD GAIN URBAN STATUS

County	State	New CBSA number	CBSA.
Utuaod Municipio	PR	10380	Aguadilla-Isabela, PR.
Linn County	OR	10540	Albany, OR.
Oldham County	TX	11100	Amarillo, TX.
Morgan County	GA	12060	Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA.
Lincoln County	GA	12260	Augusta-Richmond County, GA-SC.

COUNTIES THAT WOULD GAIN URBAN STATUS—Continued

County	State	New CBSA number	CBSA.
Newton County	TX	13140	Beaumont-Port Arthur, TX.
Fayette County	WV	13220	Beckley, WV.
Raleigh County	WV	13220	Beckley, WV.
Golden Valley County	MT	13740	Billings, MT.
Oliver County	ND	13900	Bismarck, ND.
Sioux County	ND	13900	Bismarck, ND.
Floyd County	VI	13980	Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford, VA.
De Witt County	IL	14010	Bloomington, IL.
Columbia County	PA	14100	Bloomsburg-Berwick, PA.
Montour County	PA	14100	Bloomsburg-Berwick, PA.
Allen County	KY	14540	Bowling Green, KY.
Butler County	KY	14540	Bowling Green, KY.
St. Mary's County	MD	15680	California-Lexington Park, MD.
Jackson County	IL	16060	Carbondale-Marion, IL.
Williamson County	IL	16060	Carbondale-Marion, IL.
Franklin County	PA	16540	Chambersburg-Waynesboro, PA.
Iredell County	NC	16740	Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia, NC-SC.
Lincoln County	NC	16740	Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia, NC-SC.
Rowan County	NC	16740	Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia, NC-SC.
Chester County	SC	16740	Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia, NC-SC.
Lancaster County	SC	16740	Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia, NC-SC.
Buckingham County	VA	16820	Charlottesville, VA.
Union County	IN	17140	Cincinnati, OH-KY-IN.
Hocking County	OH	18140	Columbus, OH.
Perry County	OH	18140	Columbus, OH.
Walton County	FL	18880	Crestview-Fort Walton Beach-Destin, FL.
Hood County	TX	23104	Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX.
Somervell County	TX	23104	Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX.
Baldwin County	AL	19300	Daphne-Fairhope-Foley, AL.
Monroe County	PA	20700	East Stroudsburg, PA.
Hudspeth County	TX	21340	El Paso, TX.
Adams County	PA	23900	Gettysburg, PA.
Hall County	NE	24260	Grand Island, NE.
Hamilton County	NE	24260	Grand Island, NE.
Howard County	NE	24260	Grand Island, NE.
Merrick County	NE	24260	Grand Island, NE.
Montcalm County	MI	24340	Grand Rapids-Wyoming, MI.
Josephine County	OR	24420	Grants Pass, OR.
Tangipahoa Parish	LA	25220	Hammond, LA.
Beaufort County	SC	25940	Hilton Head Island-Bluffton-Beaufort, SC.
Jasper County	SC	25940	Hilton Head Island-Bluffton-Beaufort, SC.
Citrus County	FL	26140	Homosassa Springs, FL.
Butte County	ID	26820	Idaho Falls, ID.
Yazoo County	MS	27140	Jackson, MS.
Crockett County	TN	27180	Jackson, TN.
Kalawao County	HI	27980	Kahului-Wailuku-Lahaina, HI.
Maui County	HI	27980	Kahului-Wailuku-Lahaina, HI.
Campbell County	TN	28940	Knoxville, TN.
Morgan County	TN	28940	Knoxville, TN.
Roane County	TN	28940	Knoxville, TN.
Acadia Parish	LA	29180	Lafayette, LA.
Iberia Parish	LA	29180	Lafayette, LA.
Vermilion Parish	LA	29180	Lafayette, LA.
Cotton County	OK	30020	Lawton, OK.
Scott County	IN	31140	Louisville/Jefferson County, KY-IN.
Lynn County	TX	31180	Lubbock, TX.
Green County	WI	31540	Madison, WI.
Benton County	MS	32820	Memphis, TN-MS-AR.
Midland County	MI	33220	Midland, MI.
Martin County	TX	33260	Midland, TX.
Le Sueur County	MN	33460	Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI.
Mille Lacs County	MN	33460	Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI.
Sibley County	MN	33460	Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI.
Maury County	TN	34980	Nashville-Davidson-Murfreesboro-Franklin, TN.
Craven County	NC	35100	New Bern, NC.
Jones County	NC	35100	New Bern, NC.
Pamlico County	NC	35100	New Bern, NC.
St. James Parish	LA	35380	New Orleans-Metairie, LA.
Box Elder County	UT	36260	Ogden-Clearfield, UT.
Gulf County	FL	37460	Panama City, FL.
Custer County	SD	39660	Rapid City, SD.

COUNTIES THAT WOULD GAIN URBAN STATUS—Continued

County	State	New CBSA number	CBSA.
Fillmore County	MN	40340	Rochester, MN.
Yates County	NY	40380	Rochester, NY.
Sussex County	DE	41540	Salisbury, MD-DE.
Worcester County	MA	41540	Salisbury, MD-DE.
Highlands County	FL	42700	Sebring, FL.
Webster Parish	LA	43340	Shreveport-Bossier City, LA.
Cochise County	AZ	43420	Sierra Vista-Douglas, AZ.
Plymouth County	IA	43580	Sioux City, IA-NE-SD.
Union County	SC	43900	Spartanburg, SC.
Pend Oreille County	WA	44060	Spokane-Spokane Valley, WA.
Stevens County	WA	44060	Spokane-Spokane Valley, WA.
Augusta County	VA	44420	Staunton-Waynesboro, VA.
Staunton City	VA	44420	Staunton-Waynesboro, VA.
Waynesboro City	VA	44420	Staunton-Waynesboro, VA.
Little River County	AR	45500	Texarkana, TX-AR.
Sumter County	FL	45540	The Villages, FL.
Pickens County	AL	46220	Tuscaloosa, AL.
Gates County	NC	47260	Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, VA-NC.
Falls County	TX	47380	Waco, TX.
Columbia County	WA	47460	Walla Walla, WA.
Walla Walla County	WA	47460	Walla Walla, WA.
Peach County	GA	47580	Warner Robins, GA.
Pulaski County	GA	47580	Warner Robins, GA.
Culpeper County	VA	47894	Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV.
Rappahannock County	VA	47894	Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV.
Jefferson County	NY	48060	Watertown-Fort Drum, NY.
Kingman County	KS	48620	Wichita, KS.
Davidson County	NC	49180	Winston-Salem, NC.
Windham County	CT	49340	Worcester, MA-CT.

We are proposing that when calculating the area wage index, the wage data for hospitals located in these counties would be included in their new respective urban CBSAs. Typically, hospitals located in an urban area would receive a higher wage index value than hospitals located in their State's rural area. However, with regard to the wage index applicable to individual hospitals, we are proposing to implement a transitional wage index adjustment for any hospital that would receive a lower wage index under the new OMB delineations than it would have received under the current CBSA

definitions. We refer readers to section III.B.2.e. of the preamble of this proposed rule for further discussion of this proposed transition.

d. Urban Counties That Would Move to a Different Urban CBSA Under the New OMB Delineations

In addition to rural counties becoming urban and urban counties becoming rural, several urban counties would shift from one urban CBSA to another urban CBSA under our proposal to adopt the new OMB delineations. In certain cases, adopting the new OMB delineations would involve a change only in CBSA

name or number, while the CBSA continues to encompass the same constituent counties. For example, CBSA 29140 (Lafayette, IN) would experience both a change to its number and its name, and become CBSA 29200 (Lafayette-West Lafayette, IN), while all of its three constituent counties would remain the same. We have identified 19 counties that would remain in a CBSA that experienced a change in name or number under the new delineations, but would retain the same constituent counties, as shown in the following table.

COUNTIES THAT WOULD REMAIN IN CBSA THAT CHANGED NUMBER

Prior CBSA No.	New CBSA No.	County	State
14484	14454	Norfolk County	MA.
14484	14454	Plymouth County	MA.
14484	14454	Suffolk County	MA.
47644	47664	Lapeer County	MI.
47644	47664	Livingston County	MI.
47644	47664	Macomb County	MI.
47644	47664	Oakland County	MI.
47644	47664	St. Clair County	MI.
26180	46520	Honolulu County	HI.
29140	29200	Benton County	IN.
29140	29200	Carroll County	IN.
29140	29200	Tippecanoe County	IN.
42044	11244	Orange County	CA.
42060	42200	Santa Barbara County	CA.
44600	48260	Jefferson County	OH.
44600	48260	Brooke County	WV.