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2015 Public Exchange Premiums to Increase

According to a preliminary analysis from PricewaterhouseCoopers' Health Research Institute, the average premiums under public exchanges/marketplaces are slated to increase by an average of 7.5% in 2015. Researchers analyzed filings from 27 states and the District of Columbia and found that the average premium will be \$384, before subsidies. The highest proposed rate increase so far came in Nevada, where consumers might see their premiums rise by 36%. Some consumers in Arizona could see their premiums drop by 23%, according to HRI.

The report also noted the "bellwether" carriers such as Blue Cross Blue Shield plans have submitted increases that are typically above 9%. The report further found that new healthcare co-ops, nonprofits created under the healthcare law, were priced lower than competitors in Colorado, Arizona, Connecticut, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Nevada, and Tennessee.

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