**DA 19-235**

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**MEDIA BUREAU ACTION**

**FOURTH QUARTER 2018 INFLATION ADJUSTMENT FIGURES FOR CABLE OPERATORS USING FCC FORM 1240 NOW AVAILABLE**

This Public Notice is applicable to rate-regulated cable operators that use FCC Forms to justify their cable rates.[[1]](#footnote-3)  Cable operators adjusting the non-external cost portion of their rates for inflation should follow the instructions provided with the applicable FCC Form. All inflation adjustment figures are based on changes in the Gross National Product Price Index (GNP-PI) published by the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). The Media Bureau obtained the chain-type price indexes from the BEA news release dated March 28, 2019 (BEA 19-12) at Table 1.7.4 (Price Indexes for Gross Domestic Product, Gross National Product, and Net National Product) Line 4 (Gross National Product).[[2]](#footnote-4)

Operators filing FCC Form 1240 may make an adjustment based on quarterly figures. The fourth quarter of 2018 inflation factor for operators using FCC Form 1240 is 1.68%. The adjustment factor of 1.68% is a measure of the annualized change in prices occurring over the period from October 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018. The inflation adjustment factor is calculated by dividing the GNP-PI for the fourth quarter of 2018 (111.058) by the GNP-PI for the third quarter of 2018 (110.596). The result of this calculation is converted from a quarterly change measurement factor to an annual change measurement factor by raising it to the fourth power.

Operators calculating the Inflation Factor for a True-Up Period which includes some portion of the fourth quarter of 2018 should enter the inflation factor on the appropriate lines of Worksheet 1 of FCC Form 1240 as “0.0168”. Operators using this factor for calculating the Projected Period Inflation Segment of FCC Form 1240 should enter this number on Line C3 (January 1996 version), or Line C5 (July 1996 version) as “1.0168”.

To date, the Commission has released ninety quarterly inflation factors for use with FCC Form 1240. The following table lists these factors beginning in 2013:[[3]](#footnote-5)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year**  | **Quarter** | **Dates Covered** | **Inflation Factor** |
| 2013 | First | Jan.1, 2013 – Mar. 31, 2013 | 1.24% |
| 2013 | Second | Apr. 1, 2013 – Jun. 30, 2013 | 0.65% |
| 2013 | Third | Jul. 1, 2013 – Sep. 30, 2013 | 1.97% |
| 2013 | Fourth | Oct.1, 2013 – Dec. 31, 2013 | 1.56% |
| 2014 | First | Jan. 1, 2014 – Mar. 31, 2014 | 1.28% |
| 2014 | Second | Apr. 1, 2014 – Jun. 30, 2014 | 2.11% |
| 2014 | Third | Jul. 1, 2014 – Sep. 30, 2014 | 1.42% |
| 2014 | Fourth | Oct. 1, 2014 – Dec. 31, 2014 | 0.12% |
| 2015 | First | Jan. 1, 2015 – Mar. 31, 2015 | -0.03% |
| 2015 | Second | Apr. 1, 2015 – Jun. 30, 2015 |  2.10% |
| 2015 | Third | Jul. 1, 2015 – Sep. 30, 2015 | 1.32% |
| 2015 | Fourth | Oct. 1, 2015 – Dec. 31, 2015 | 0.87% |
| 2016 | First | Jan. 1, 2016 – Mar. 31, 2016 | 0.41% |
| 2016 | Second | Apr. 1, 2016 – Jun. 30, 2016 | 2.30% |
| 2016 | Third | Jul. 1, 2016 – Sep. 30, 2016 | 1.42% |
| 2016 | Fourth | Oct. 1, 2016 – Dec. 31, 2016 | 2.07% |
| 2017 | First | Jan. 1, 2017 – Mar. 31, 2017 | 1.96% |
| 2017 | Second | Apr. 1, 2017 – Jun. 30, 2017 | 1.01% |
| 2017 | Third | Jul. 1, 2017 – Sep. 30, 2017 | 2.09% |
| 2017 | Fourth | Oct. 1, 2017 – Dec. 31, 2017 | 2.33% |
| 2018 | First | Jan. 1, 2018 – Mar. 31, 2018 | 2.20% |
| 2018 | Second | Apr. 1, 2018 – Jun. 30, 2018 | 3.04% |
| 2018 | Third | Jul. 1, 2018 – Sep. 30, 2018 | 1.81% |
| 2018 | Fourth | Oct. 1, 2018 – Dec. 31, 2018 | 1.68% |

The Commission releases a new quarterly inflation factor for operators using FCC Form 1240 four times each year. The inflation factor for a given quarter is usually released between three and four months after the end of the quarter, depending on the schedule of the Department of Commerce. The release of a new factor is posted on the Commission's Internet site at: <https://www.fcc.gov/general/inflation-updates-forms-1210-and-1240>.

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1. Pursuant to 47 CFR § 76.922(d)(2) and § 76.922(e)(2) of the Commission’s rules, cable operators may adjust the non-external cost portion of their rates for inflation. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
2. Table 1.7.4 can be found at this link: <https://apps.bea.gov/iTable/iTable.cfm?reqid=19&step=3&isuri=1&1921=survey&1903=42> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
3. For pre-2013 inflation figures *see* DA 13-2056, 28 FCC Rcd 14654 (rel. October 23, 2013), available at https://www.fcc.gov/general/inflation-updates-forms-1210-and-1240. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)