

**D.C. Office of the Tenant Advocate
History of Rent Control CPI-Ws**

In February of each year, the Rental Housing Commission publishes the “rent control CPI” figure that determines the maximum standard annual rent increase for any rental unit in the District that is subject to rent control. That figure is based on the regional “consumer price index for workers” (CPI-W) as determined by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics. For elderly tenants and tenants with disabilities, the maximum standard annual rent increase is equal to the CPI-W. For all other tenants, it is equal to the CPI-W + 2 percent. The “rent control CPI” applies to the “rent control year” starting on May 1st of that year and ending on April 30th of the following year. The following is a list of the CPI-W for each “rent control” year starting in 1981:

YEAR	Rent Control CPI-W	YEAR	Rent Control CPI-W
1985	4.4%	2000	2.1%
1986	4.0%	2001	3.3%
1987	1.6%	2002	2.6%
1988	4.7%	2003	2.1%
1989	4.6%	2004	2.9%
1990	5.6%	2005	2.7%
1991	5.4%	2006	4.2%
1992	2.7%	2007	3.5%
1993	2.9%	2008	3.4%
1994	2.1%	2009	4.8%
1995	1.7%	2010	0.05%
1996	1.9%	2011	2.2%
1997	2.8%	2012	3.6%
1998	1.8%	2013	2.2%
1999	1.0%		