

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

In February of each year, the Rental Housing Commission publishes the CPI-W, which is the regional “consumer price index for workers” used to calculate the maximum annual rent increase for every rental unit in the District that is subject to rent control. The “rent control year” begins on May 1st of that year and ends on April 30th of the following year. For elderly tenants and tenants with disabilities, the maximum standard annual rent increase is equal to the CPI, and for all other tenants, it is equal to the CPI + 2 percent. The following is a list of the CPI-W for each “rent control” year starting in 1981:

1981	10%	1997	2.8%
1982	8.9%	1998	1.8%
1983	4.2%	1999	1.0%
1984	4.5%	2000	2.1%
1985	4.4%	2001	3.3%
1986	4.0%	2002	2.6%
1987	1.6%	2003	2.1%
1988	4.7%	2004	2.9%
1989	4.6%	2005	2.7%
1990	5.6%	2006	4.2%
1991	5.4%	2007	3.5%
1992	2.7%	2008	3.4%
1993	2.9%	2009	4.8%
1994	2.1%	2010	0.05%
1995	1.7%	2011	2.2%
1996	1.9%	2012	3.6%