

What's in this booklet

This booklet gives the rates of payment from the Department of Social and Family Affairs. It also contains the percentage rates of pay-related social insurance (PRSI) contributions for employees, employers and for self-employed people.

Tugann an leabhrán seo liosta dos na rátaí íocaíochtaí a chuireann an Roinn Gnóthaí Sóisialacha agus Teaghlaigh ar fáil. Chomh maith leis sin taispeánann sé na rátaí árachais sóisialaigh pá-choibhneasa (ÁSPC) a bhaineann le fostaithe, fostóirí agus daoine atá féin-fhostaithe.

Detailed information booklets on all our schemes are available free of charge from:

- your local Social Welfare Office
- or*
- **Information Services**
Department of Social and Family Affairs
Oisín House
212-213 Pearse Street
Dublin 2.
Telephone: (01) 704 3000
Leaflet Line: 1890 20 23 25

Rates of payment:	Paid:
— From the Department	→ from the 1 January 2004
— PRSI Contributions	→ from 1 Jan 2004 to 31 Dec 2004

Please note that the tables contained in this booklet for some of the means-tested payments are not exhaustive and the relevant rate should be checked with the section of the Department dealing with that payment.

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Pay-Related Social Insurance (PRSI)

The rates of PRSI given in the following tables, are applicable from 1 January to 31 December 2004 and include the Social Insurance Contribution and the Health Contribution (2%).

The employee's portion of the Social Insurance Contribution is paid on reckonable pay up to a ceiling of €42,160 in 2004. The employer's portion continues to be paid on **all** reckonable earnings of each employee.

The employee pays the 2% Health Contribution on **all** reckonable earnings under Subclasses A1, J1, B1, C1, D1, H1, K1 and S1.

PRSI exemption on low earnings

Employees covered under Classes A, B, C, D, E and H with reckonable weekly pay of €287 or less are exempt from paying PRSI for that week. However, the employer must pay his or her share of PRSI as normal. **This will not affect employee's entitlement to benefits and pensions.** Employees whose weekly pay fluctuates above and below the €287 exemption limit are not entitled to an annual refund.

Employee's PRSI-Free Allowance

The PRSI-free Allowance for employees in Classes A and H with weekly pay of **more than** €287 remains at €127 per week and at €26 per week for all employees in Classes B, C and D.

This allowance does not apply to the Health Contribution nor to the employer's share of PRSI. The allowance only applies for weeks of insurable employment in which PRSI is paid. **Remember** that this allowance does not affect the gross reckonable weekly pay thresholds in deciding the appropriate contribution subclass.

Recipients of Widow's or Widower's Pension and One-Parent Family Payment

Men and women receiving a Social Welfare Widow's or Widower's Pension, a widow's or widower's pension acquired under the Social Security legislation of another country covered by EC Regulations, Deserted Wife's Benefit or Allowance or One-Parent Family Payment do not have to pay the 2% Health Contribution. **Medical card holders** and everybody aged 70 or over are also exempt.

Earnings limits for PRSI

In general PRSI deductions are determined by the type of employment and the amount of the employee's gross reckonable pay in any week. The following earnings limits apply to Class A (employees in industrial, commercial and service-type employment under a contract of service and new entrants to the Public Service) **except where otherwise indicated.**

- **Pay of up to €37.99 (from ALL Employments)**
PRSI paid at Subclass J0, regardless of hours worked
- **Pay of €38.00-€287.00 (individual Employments)**
The exemption from PRSI applies to **all** employees with weekly reckonable earnings of €287 or less. PRSI Subclass A0, B0, C0, D0, E0 and H0 applies.
- **Pay of €287.01-€356.00 (individual Employments)**
This earnings band applies to Subclass AX, BX, CX, DX, E1 and HX.

Note

In all other classes when reckonable pay or income is €356 or less per week, PRSI is paid at Subclass J0, S0 and M (for people within Class K).

- **Pay of more than €356.00 (individual Employments)**
Once employees earn €356 or more a week, they must pay the 2% Health Contribution. So people who earn €356.01 or more in any week pay PRSI at:
 - Subclass A1, B1, C1, D1, E1, H1, J1, S1 or K1, as appropriate, or
 - Subclass A2, B2, C2, D2, E1, H2, J2, S2 or Class M for medical card holders and people getting Social Welfare Widow's or Widower's Pension, a widow's or widower's pension acquired under the Social Security legislation of another country covered by EC Regulations, One-Parent Family Payment, or Deserted Wife's Benefit or Allowance.

Contributions for self-employed people

Self-employed people, with a total income of €3,174 or more in the 2004 tax year, pay Class S social insurance contributions. The contributions are paid on a person's gross income less capital allowances and allowable superannuation. The arrangements for paying self-employed contributions are described below.

- Those who pay their tax direct to the Collector-General will pay their Social Insurance Contribution and Health Contribution with their income tax. They will have to pay a Social Insurance Contribution of 3% of **all** income or €253, whichever is greater, as well as the Health Contribution, where applicable.
- Those paying PAYE tax will have their contributions deducted from their income by their employers
- Those who have been told by an Inspector of Taxes that they need not make a return of income, must pay a flat rate contribution of €157 to the Department of Social and Family Affairs. These contributions can be paid by installments.

- Those whose main income comes from share fishing and who have been classified as self-employed may opt to pay an extra contribution for certain benefits under Class P. In addition to the Class S contribution, they will pay a contribution of 4% of income over the PRSI-free allowance of €2,500 per annum up to a ceiling of €42,160 or pay €200, whichever is the greater.

Voluntary contributions

If you are no longer covered by compulsory PRSI, either as an employee or as a self-employed person, and you are under age 66, you may opt to become insured on a voluntary basis, as long as you satisfy certain conditions. The amount of a Voluntary Contribution in any contribution year is calculated as a percentage of your reckonable income, subject to a minimum and a maximum payment. There are three rates of voluntary contributions:

- High rate:** 6.6% for people who paid PRSI at Classes A, E and H
Low rate: 2.6% for people who paid PRSI at Classes B, C and D
Special rate: Flat rate of €253 for people who paid PRSI at Class S.

See information booklet **SW 8** for details.

High rate:	Low rate:	Special rate:	Benefits covered:
✓			Retirement Pension
✓		✓	Old Age (Contributory) Pension
✓	✓	✓	Widow's and Widower's (Contributory) Pension
✓	✓	✓	Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance
✓	✓	✓	Bereavement Grant

EE: employee; ER: employer

Class A			Annual pay ceiling			
Weekly pay band	PRSI Sub-class	How much of weekly pay	First €42,160		Balance over €42,160	
			EE %	ER %	EE %	ER %
€38-€287	A0	All	Nil	8.50	Nil	8.50
€287.01-€356	AX	First €127	Nil	8.50	Nil	8.50
		Balance	4.00	8.50	Nil	8.50
More than €356	A1	First €127	2.00	10.75	2.00	10.75
		Balance	6.00	10.75	2.00	10.75
	*A2	First €127	Nil	10.75	Nil	10.75
		Balance	4.00	10.75	Nil	10.75

Community employment scheme participants only

Up to €287	A8	ER	on full allowance	0.50%
		EE	on full allowance	Nil
More than €287	A9	ER	on full allowance	0.50%
		EE	4% on allowance over €127	

* Subclass A2 applies to medical card holders and people getting a Social Welfare Widow's or Widower's Pension, One-Parent Family Payment or Deserted Wife's Benefit or Allowance.

People within Class A

- People in industrial, commercial and service-type employment who are employed under a contract of service with reckonable pay of €38 or more per week from all employments.
- Civil and Public Servants recruited from 6 April, 1995.

Class A benefits

- Unemployment Benefit
- Disability Benefit
- Maternity Benefit
- Adoptive Benefit
- Health and Safety Benefit
- Invalidity Pension
- Widow's or Widower's (Contributory) Pension
- Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance
- Old Age (Contributory) Pension
- Retirement Pension
- Bereavement Grant
- Treatment Benefit
- Occupational Injuries Benefit
- Carer's Benefit

EE: employee; ER: employer

Class J			Annual pay ceiling			
Weekly pay band	PRSI Sub-class	How much of weekly pay	First €42,160		Balance over €42,160	
			EE %	ER %	EE %	ER %
Up to €356	J0	All	Nil	0.50	Nil	0.50
More than €356	J1	All	2.00	0.50	Nil	0.50
	*J2	All	Nil	0.50	Nil	0.50

* Subclass J2 applies to medical card holders and people getting a Social Welfare Widow's or Widower's Pension, One-Parent Family Payment or Deserted Wife's Benefit or Allowance.

People within Class J

- Normally people with reckonable pay of less than €38 per week (from **all** Employments). However, a small number of employees are insurable at Class J no matter how much they earn, such as employees over age 66 or people in subsidiary employment. See **SW 14** for details.

Class J benefits

- Occupational injuries benefit.

Class E			Annual pay ceiling			
Weekly pay band	PRSI Sub-class	How much of weekly pay	First €42,160		Balance over €42,160	
			EE %	ER %	EE %	ER %
Up to €287	E0	All	Nil	6.87	Nil	6.87
More than €287	E1	First €127 Balance	Nil	6.87	Nil	6.87
			3.33	6.87	Nil	6.87

People within Class E

- Ministers of Religion employed by the Church of Ireland Representative Body. PRSI is paid under the Special Collection System and the rates quoted do not include the Health Contribution. This contribution should be paid directly to Revenue when paying income tax.

Class E benefits

- Disability Benefit
- Maternity Benefit

- Adoptive Benefit
- Health and Safety Benefit
- Invalidity Pension
- Widow's or Widower's (Contributory) Pension
- Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance
- Old Age (Contributory) Pension
- Retirement Pension
- Bereavement Grant
- Treatment Benefit
- Carer's Benefit

Pay-Related Social Insurance

EE: employee; ER: employer

Class B			Annual pay ceiling			
Weekly pay band	PRSI Sub-class	How much of weekly pay	First €42,160		Balance over €42,160	
			EE %	ER %	EE %	ER %
Up to €287	B0	All	Nil	2.01	Nil	2.01
€287.01 -€356	BX	First €26	Nil	2.01	Nil	2.01
		Balance	0.90	2.01	Nil	2.01
More than €356	B1	First €26	2.00	2.01	2.00	2.01
		Balance	2.90	2.01	2.00	2.01
	*B2	First €26	Nil	2.01	Nil	2.01
		Balance	0.90	2.01	Nil	2.01

* Subclass B2 applies to medical card holders and people getting a Social Welfare Widow's or Widower's Pension, One-Parent Family Payment or Deserted Wife's Benefit or Allowance.

People within Class B

- Permanent and pensionable civil servants recruited prior to 6 April, 1995
- Registered doctors and dentists employed in the civil service
- Gardaí, recruited prior to 6 April, 1995

Class B benefits

- Widow's or Widower's (Contributory) Pension
- Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance
- Limited Occupational Injuries Benefits
- Bereavement Grant
- Carer's Benefit

EE: employee; ER: employer

Class C			Annual pay ceiling			
Weekly pay band	PRSI Sub-class	How much of weekly pay	First €42,160		Balance over €42,160	
			EE %	ER %	EE %	ER %
Up to €287	C0	All	Nil	1.85	Nil	1.85
€287.01 -€356	CX	First €26	Nil	1.85	Nil	1.85
		Balance	0.90	1.85	Nil	1.85
More than €356	C1	First €26	2.00	1.85	2.00	1.85
		Balance	2.90	1.85	2.00	1.85
	*C2	First €26	Nil	1.85	Nil	1.85
		Balance	0.90	1.85	Nil	1.85

* Subclass C2 applies to medical card holders and people getting a Social Welfare Widow's or Widower's Pension, One-Parent Family Payment or Deserted Wife's Benefits or Allowance.

People within Class C

- Commissioned Army Officers and members of the Army Nursing Service, recruited prior to 6 April, 1995

Class C benefits

- Widow's or Widower's (Contributory) Pension
- Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance
- Bereavement Grant
- Carer's Benefit

EE: employee; ER: employer

Class D			Annual pay ceiling			
Weekly pay band	PRSI Sub-class	How much of weekly pay	First €42,160		Balance over €42,160	
			EE %	ER %	EE %	ER %
Up to €287	D0	All	Nil	2.35	Nil	2.35
€287.01 -€356	DX	First €26 Balance	Nil 0.90	2.35 2.35	Nil Nil	2.35 2.35
More than €356	D1	First €26 Balance	2.00 2.90	2.35 2.35	2.00 2.00	2.35 2.35
	*D2	First €26 Balance	Nil 0.90	2.35 2.35	Nil Nil	2.35 2.35

* Subclass D2 applies to medical card holders and people getting a Social Welfare Widow's or Widower's Pension, One-Parent Family Payment or Deserted Wife's Benefit or Allowance.

People within Class D

- Permanent and pensionable employees in the public service other than those mentioned in Classes B and C, recruited prior to 6 April, 1995

Class D benefits

- Widow's or Widower's (Contributory) Pension
- Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance
- Occupational Injuries Benefits
- Bereavement Grant
- Carer's Benefit

EE: employee; ER: employer

Class H			Annual pay ceiling			
Weekly pay band	PRSI Sub-class	How much of weekly pay	First €42,160		Balance over €42,160	
			EE %	ER %	EE %	ER %
Up to €287	H0	All	Nil	10.05	Nil	10.05
€287.01 -€356	HX	First €127 Balance	Nil 3.90	10.05 10.05	Nil Nil	10.05 10.05
More than €356	H1	First €127 Balance	2.00 5.90	10.05 10.05	2.00 2.00	10.05 10.05
	*H2	First €127 Balance	Nil 3.90	10.05 10.05	Nil Nil	10.05 10.05

* Subclass H2 applies to medical card holders, people getting a Social Welfare Widow's or Widower's Pension, One-Parent Family Payment or Deserted Wife's Benefit or Allowance.

People within Class H

- NCOs and enlisted personnel of the Defence Forces

Class H benefits

- Unemployment Benefit
- Disability Benefit
- Maternity Benefit
- Adoptive Benefit
- Health and Safety Benefit
- Invalidity Pension
- Widow's or Widower's (Contributory) Pension
- Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance
- Old Age (Contributory) Pension
- Retirement Pension
- Bereavement Grant
- Treatment Benefit
- Carer's Benefit

Only certain benefits are paid during service

EE: employee; ER: employer

Class K			No upper ceiling			
Weekly pay band	PRSI Sub-Class	How much of weekly pay	First €42,160		Balance over €42,160	
			EE %	ER %	EE %	ER %
Up to €356	No contribution payable. Record under <i>Class M</i> .		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
More than €356	K1	All	2.00	Nil	2.00	Nil

People within Class K

People with income on which they **only** pay the Health Contribution such as

- holders of occupational pensions,
- certain office holders (for example Judges and State Solicitors)
- people over 66, previously on Class S.

No benefits under class K

Class M	No contribution payable
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People within Class M

- People with no contribution liability such as, employees under age 16 or people within Class K with a Nil liability

Class M benefits

- Occupational Injuries Benefits, in certain cases

Class S			No upper ceiling	
Weekly income limits	PRSI Sub-class	How much of weekly income	First €42,160 S/E %	Balance over €42,160 S/E %
Up to €356	S0	All	3.00	3.00
More than €356	S1	All	5.00	5.00
	*S2	All	3.00	3.00

* Subclass S2 applies to medical card holders and people getting a Social Welfare Widow's or Widower's Pension, One-Parent Family Payment or Deserted Wife's Benefit or Allowance.

People within Class S

- Self-employed people, including certain company directors, people in business on their own account and people with income from investments and rents. See **SW 14** for more details on Class S.

The minimum annual contribution for Class S is €253 for the year 2004.

Class S benefits

- Widow's or Widower's (Contributory) Pension
- Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance
- Old Age (Contributory) Pension
- Maternity Benefit
- Adoptive Benefit
- Bereavement Grant

Class P (optional)	First €42,160 %	Balance over €42,160 %
First €2,500 per year Balance	Nil 4.00	Nil Nil

People within Class P

- Sharefishermen or women who are classified as self-employed and who are already paying PRSI under Class S.

This contribution is over and above the PRSI paid under Class S.

The minimum annual contribution for Class P is €200 for the year 2003.

Class P benefits

- Limited Unemployment Benefit
- Limited Disability Benefit
- Treatment Benefit

Payments for retired or elderly people

Retirement Pension from 1 January – see booklet **SW 18**

Old Age (Contributory) Pension from 2 January – see booklet **SW 18**

		Personal rate	Increase for Qualified Adult [‡]	
Yearly average contributions			Rate per week	Age 65 or under Rate per week
Old Age (Contributory) Pension	48 or over	€167.30	€111.50	€129.20
	20-47	€164.00	€111.50	€129.20
	15-19	€125.50	€83.60*	€96.90*
	10-14	€83.70	€55.80*	€64.60*
Retirement Pension	48 or over	€167.30	€111.50	€129.20
	24-47	€164.00	€111.50	€129.20

Note

*These Increases for Qualified Adult rates apply to claims made from the 6 April 2001. For persons getting similar reduced personal rates before 6 April 2001, the following Increases for Qualified Adult Rates apply:

Age 65 or under	€99.10	Age 66 or over	€106.20
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Increases:

	Rate per week	
— Each child dependant	Full rate	**€19.30
	Half-rate	**€9.65

** You can get an increase of €19.30 for each child dependant if you get a payment for a qualified adult. If you do not qualify for an increase for a qualified adult you may get a half-rate child dependant increase.

Extra benefits	Rate per week
— Living Alone Allowance for people age 66 or over	€7.70
— Extra allowance for people age 80 or over	€6.40
— Allowance for people age 66 or over, living on certain offshore islands	€12.70

[‡]You may get a reduced rate increase if your spouse or partner has earnings or income of between €88.88 and €210.00 gross per week, (see pages 42-48).

Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension from 2 January - see booklet SW 16

Weekly means, as assessed by us:	Increase per week for qualified adult	
	Personal rate	
Up to €7.60	€154.00	€101.80
Over €7.60 and up to €10.10	€151.50	€100.10
Over €10.10 and up to €12.60	€149.00	€98.50
Over €12.60 and up to €15.10	€146.50	€96.80
Over €15.10 and up to €17.60	€144.00	€95.20
Over €17.60 and up to €20.10	€141.50	€93.50
Over €20.10 and up to €22.60	€139.00	€91.90
Over €22.60 and up to €25.10	€136.50	€90.20
Over €25.10 and up to €27.60	€134.00	€88.60
Over €27.60 and up to €30.10	€131.50	€86.90
Over €30.10 and up to €32.60	€129.00	€85.30
Over €32.60 and up to €35.10	€126.50	€83.60
Over €35.10 and up to €37.60	€124.00	€82.00
Over €37.60 and up to €40.10	€121.50	€80.30
Over €40.10 and up to €42.60	€119.00	€78.70
Over €42.60 and up to €45.10	€116.50	€77.00
Over €45.10 and up to €47.60	€114.00	€75.40
Over €47.60 and up to €50.10	€111.50	€73.70
Over €50.10 and up to €52.60	€109.00	€72.10
Over €52.60 and up to €55.10	€106.50	€70.40
Over €55.10 and up to €57.60	€104.00	€68.70
Over €57.60 and up to €60.10	€101.50	€67.10
Over €60.10 and up to €62.60	€99.00	€65.40
Over €62.60 and up to €65.10	€96.50	€63.80
Over €65.10 and up to €67.60	€94.00	€62.10
Over €67.60 and up to €70.10	€91.50	€60.50
Over €70.10 and up to €72.60	€89.00	€58.80
Over €72.60 and up to €75.10	€86.50	€57.20
Over €75.10 and up to €77.60	€84.00	€55.50
Over €77.60 and up to €80.10	€81.50	€53.90
Over €80.10 and up to €82.60	€79.00	€52.20
Over €82.60 and up to €85.10	€76.50	€50.60
Over €85.10 and up to €87.60	€74.00	€48.90
Over €87.60 and up to €90.10	€71.50	€47.30
Over €90.10 and up to €92.60	€69.00	€45.60
Over €92.60 and up to €95.10	€66.50	€44.00
Over €95.10 and up to €97.60	€64.00	€42.30
Over €97.60 and up to €100.10	€61.50	€40.70
Over €100.10 and up to €102.60	€59.00	€39.00

Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension from 2 January - see booklet SW 16

Weekly means as assessed by us:	Increase per week for qualified adult	
	Personal rate	
Over €102.60 and up to €105.10	€56.50	€37.30
Over €105.10 and up to €107.60	€54.00	€35.70
Over €107.60 and up to €110.10	€51.50	€34.00
Over €110.10 and up to €112.60	€49.00	€32.40
Over €112.60 and up to €115.10	€46.50	€30.70
Over €115.10 and up to €117.60	€44.00	€29.10
Over €117.60 and up to €120.10	€41.50	€27.40
Over €120.10 and up to €122.60	€39.00	€25.80
Over €122.60 and up to €125.10	€36.50	€24.10
Over €125.10 and up to €127.60	€34.00	€22.50
Over €127.60 and up to €130.10	€31.50	€20.80
Over €130.10 and up to €132.60	€29.00	€19.20
Over €132.60 and up to €135.10	€26.50	€17.50
Over €135.10 and up to €137.60	€24.00	€15.90
Over €137.60 and up to €140.10	€21.50	€14.20
Over €140.10 and up to €142.60	€19.00	€12.60
Over €142.60 and up to €145.10	€16.50	€10.90
Over €145.10 and up to €147.60	€14.00	€9.30
Over €147.60 and up to €150.10	€11.50	€7.60
Over €150.10 and up to €152.60	€9.00	€5.90
Over €152.60 and up to €155.10	€6.50	€4.30
Over €155.10 and up to €157.60	€4.00	€2.60
Over €157.60	Nil	Nil

Increases:	Rate per week	
	Full rate	Half-rate
— Each child dependant	€16.80	€8.40

Extra benefits	Rate per week
— Living Alone Allowance for people age 66 or over	€7.70
— Extra allowance for people age 80 or over	€6.40
— Allowance for people age 66 or over, living on certain offshore islands	€12.70

Pre-Retirement Allowance from 24 December - see booklet **SW 80**

		Rate per week
Maximum personal rate		€134.80
Increases:		
		Rate per week
— Increase Qualified Adult [‡]		€89.40
— Each child dependant	Full rate	*€16.80
	Half-rate	*€8.40

* You can get an increase of €16.80 for each child dependant if you get an increase for a qualified adult. If you do not qualify for an increase for a qualified adult, you may get a half-rate child dependant increase.

[‡]You may get a reduced rate increase if your spouse or partner has earnings or income of between €88.88 and €210.00 gross per week (see pages 42-48).

Widows, widowers and one-parent families

Widow's/Widower's (Contributory) Pension from 2 January - see booklet **SW 25**

Deserted Wife's Benefit from 1 January

		Age 65 or under	Age 66 or over
Contributions		Rate per week	Rate per week
Personal rate	48 or over	€140.30	€167.30
	36-47	€138.30	€164.60
	24-35	€134.30	€160.10

Note

A yearly average of 39 weeks PRSI paid or credited under the three or five tax year condition will secure a maximum personal rate of €140.30 for people aged 65 or under, and €167.30 for people aged 66 or over.

Increases:

	Rate per week
— Each child dependant	€21.60
— Living Alone Allowance for people age 66 or over	€7.70
— Extra allowance for people age 80 or over	€6.40
— Allowance for people age 66 or over living on certain offshore islands	€12.70

	Rate
Widowed Parent Grant (a once off payment for a widowed parent with dependent child(ren))	€2,700.00

Widow's/Widower's (Non-Contributory) Pension from 2 January - see booklet **SW 26**
Deserted Wife's Allowance from 1 January
Prisoner's Wife's Allowance from 1 January

Weekly means, as assessed by us:	Age 65 or under Rate per week	Age 66 or over Rate per week
Up to €7.60	€134.80	€154.00
Over €7.60 and up to €10.10	€132.30	€151.50
Over €10.10 and up to €12.60	€129.80	€149.00
Over €12.60 and up to €15.10	€127.30	€146.50
Over €15.10 and up to €17.60	€124.80	€144.00
Over €17.60 and up to €20.10	€122.30	€141.50
Over €20.10 and up to €22.60	€119.80	€139.00
Over €22.60 and up to €25.10	€117.30	€136.50
Over €25.10 and up to €27.60	€114.80	€134.00
Over €27.60 and up to €30.10	€112.30	€131.50
Over €30.10 and up to €32.60	€109.80	€129.00
Over €32.60 and up to €35.10	€107.30	€126.50
Over €35.10 and up to €37.60	€104.80	€124.00
Over €37.60 and up to €40.10	€102.30	€121.50
Over €40.10 and up to €42.60	€99.80	€119.00
Over €42.60 and up to €45.10	€97.30	€116.50
Over €45.10 and up to €47.60	€94.80	€114.00
Over €47.60 and up to €50.10	€92.30	€111.50
Over €50.10 and up to €52.60	€89.80	€109.00
Over €52.60 and up to €55.10	€87.30	€106.50
Over €55.10 and up to €57.60	€84.80	€104.00
Over €57.60 and up to €60.10	€82.30	€101.50
Over €60.10 and up to €62.60	€79.80	€99.00
Over €62.60 and up to €65.10	€77.30	€96.50
Over €65.10 and up to €67.60	€74.80	€94.00
Over €67.60 and up to €70.10	€72.30	€91.50
Over €70.10 and up to €72.60	€69.80	€89.00
Over €72.60 and up to €75.10	€67.30	€86.50
Over €75.10 and up to €77.60	€64.80	€84.00
Over €77.60 and up to €80.10	€62.30	€81.50
Over €80.10 and up to €82.60	€59.80	€79.00
Over €82.60 and up to €85.10	€57.30	€76.50
Over €85.10 and up to €87.60	€54.80	€74.00
Over €87.60 and up to €90.10	€52.30	€71.50
Over €90.10 and up to €92.60	€49.80	€69.00
Over €92.60 and up to €95.10	€47.30	€66.50
Over €95.10 and up to €97.60	€44.80	€64.00
Over €97.60 and up to €100.10	€42.30	€61.50

Widow's/Widower's (Non-Contributory) Pension from 2 January - see booklet **SW 26**

Deserted Wife's Allowance from 1 January

Prisoner's Wife's Allowance from 1 January

Weekly means, as assessed by us:	Age 65 or under Rate per week	Age 66 or over Rate per week
Over €100.10 and up to €102.60	€39.80	€59.00
Over €102.60 and up to €105.10	€37.30	€56.50
Over €105.10 and up to €107.60	€34.80	€54.00
Over €107.60 and up to €110.10	€32.30	€51.50
Over €110.10 and up to €112.60	€29.80	€49.00
Over €112.60 and up to €115.10	€27.30	€46.50
Over €115.10 and up to €117.60	€24.80	€44.00
Over €117.60 and up to €120.10	€22.30	€41.50
Over €120.10 and up to €122.60	€19.80	€39.00
Over €122.60 and up to €125.10	€17.30	€36.50
Over €125.10 and up to €127.60	€14.80	€34.00
Over €127.60 and up to €130.10	€12.30	€31.50
Over €130.10 and up to €132.60	€9.80	€29.00
Over €132.60 and up to €135.10	€7.30	€26.50
Over €135.10 and up to €137.60	€4.80	€24.00
Over €137.60 and up to €140.10	Nil	€21.50
Over €140.10 and up to €142.60	Nil	€19.00
Over €142.60 and up to €145.10	Nil	€16.50
Over €145.10 and up to €147.60	Nil	€14.00
Over €147.60 and up to €150.10	Nil	€11.50
Over €150.10 and up to €152.60	Nil	€9.00
Over €152.60 and up to €155.10	Nil	€6.50
Over €155.10 and up to €157.60	Nil	€4.00
Over €157.60	Nil	Nil

Increases:

	Rate per week
— Living Alone Allowance for people age 66 or over	€7.70
— Extra Allowance for people age 80 or over	€6.40
— Allowance for people age 66 or over living on certain offshore islands	€12.70

One-Parent Family Payment from 1 January – see booklet **SW 82**
(Widowed Lone Parents from 2 January)

Weekly means, as assessed by us:	Age 65 or under Rate per week	Age 66 or over Rate per week
Up to €7.60	€134.80	€154.00
Over €7.60 and up to €10.10	€132.30	€151.50
Over €10.10 and up to €12.60	€129.80	€149.00
Over €12.60 and up to €15.10	€127.30	€146.50
Over €15.10 and up to €17.60	€124.80	€144.00
Over €17.60 and up to €20.10	€122.30	€141.50
Over €20.10 and up to €22.60	€119.80	€139.00
Over €22.60 and up to €25.10	€117.30	€136.50
Over €25.10 and up to €27.60	€114.80	€134.00
Over €27.60 and up to €30.10	€112.30	€131.50
Over €30.10 and up to €32.60	€109.80	€129.00
Over €32.60 and up to €35.10	€107.30	€126.50
Over €35.10 and up to €37.60	€104.80	€124.00
Over €37.60 and up to €40.10	€102.30	€121.50
Over €40.10 and up to €42.60	€99.80	€119.00
Over €42.60 and up to €45.10	€97.30	€116.50
Over €45.10 and up to €47.60	€94.80	€114.00
Over €47.60 and up to €50.10	€92.30	€111.50
Over €50.10 and up to €52.60	€89.80	€109.00
Over €52.60 and up to €55.10	€87.30	€106.50
Over €55.10 and up to €57.60	€84.80	€104.00
Over €57.60 and up to €60.10	€82.30	€101.50
Over €60.10 and up to €62.60	€79.80	€99.00
Over €62.60 and up to €65.10	€77.30	€96.50
Over €65.10 and up to €67.60	€74.80	€94.00
Over €67.60 and up to €70.10	€72.30	€91.50
Over €70.10 and up to €72.60	€69.80	€89.00
Over €72.60 and up to €75.10	€67.30	€86.50
<i>(see note page 20)</i>		
Over €75.10 and up to €77.60	€64.80	€84.00
Over €77.60 and up to €80.10	€62.30	€81.50
Over €80.10 and up to €82.60	€59.80	€79.00
Over €82.60 and up to €85.10	€57.30	€76.50
Over €85.10 and up to €87.60	€54.80	€74.00
Over €87.60 and up to €90.10	€52.30	€71.50
Over €90.10 and up to €92.60	€49.80	€69.00
Over €92.60 and up to €95.10	€47.30	€66.50
Over €95.10 and up to €97.60	€44.80	€64.00
Over €97.60 and up to €100.10	€42.30	€61.50
Over €100.10 and up to €102.60	€39.80	€59.00

One-Parent Family Payment from 2 January – see booklet **SW 82**
(Widowed Lone Parents from 2 January)

Weekly means, as assessed by us:	Age 65 or under Rate per week	Age 66 or over Rate per week
Over €102.60 and up to €105.10	€37.30	€56.50
Over €105.10 and up to €107.60	€34.80	€54.00
Over €107.60 and up to €110.10	€32.30	€51.50
Over €110.10 and up to €112.60	€29.80	€49.00
Over €112.60 and up to €115.10	€27.30	€46.50
Over €115.10 and up to €117.60	€24.80	€44.00
Over €117.60 and up to €120.10	€22.30	€41.50
Over €120.10 and up to €122.60	€19.80	€39.00
Over €122.60 and up to €125.10	€17.30	€36.50
Over €125.10 and up to €127.60	€14.80	€34.00
Over €127.60 and up to €130.10	€12.30	€31.50
Over €130.10 and up to €132.60	€9.80	€29.00
Over €132.60 and up to €135.10	€7.30	€26.50
Over €135.10 and up to €137.60	€4.80	€24.00
Over €137.60 and up to €140.10	Nil	€21.50
Over €140.10 and up to €142.60	Nil	€19.00
Over €142.60 and up to €145.10	Nil	€16.50
Over €145.10 and up to €147.60	Nil	€14.00
Over €147.60 and up to €150.10	Nil	€11.50
Over €150.10 and up to €152.60	Nil	€9.00
Over €152.60 and up to €155.10	Nil	€6.50
Over €155.10 and up to €157.60	Nil	€4.00
Over €157.60	Nil	Nil

Note

If you are getting One-Parent Family Payment, you could earn up to €146.50 per week and may still qualify for full payment. If you earn between €146.50 and €293.00, you may qualify for a reduced payment. If you are in receipt of One-Parent Family Payment and your earnings subsequently exceed €293.00 per week, your entitlement to payment will cease.

Increases:

	Rate per week
— Each child dependant	€19.30
— Extra allowance for people age 80 or over	€6.40
— Allowance for people age 66 or over living on certain offshore islands	€12.70

Child related payments

Child Benefit See leaflet **SW 42**

	Rate per month before April 2004	Rate per month from April 2004
1st and 2nd Child	€125.60	€131.60
3rd and subsequent children	€157.30	€165.30
Multiple births	Special Grants Rate of Payment	
	— Birth	€635.00
	— At age 4	€635.00
	— At age 12	€635.00

Twins – Child Benefit is paid at one and a half times (150%) the normal monthly rate for each child.

All other multiple births – Double the normal monthly rate of Child Benefit is paid.

Maternity Benefit from 29 December - see booklet **SW 11**

Adoptive Benefit from 29 December - see booklet **SW 37**

	Rate per week
Maximum rate	€232.40
Minimum rate	€151.60

The rate payable is 70% of your earnings in the relevant tax year subject to a reckonable earnings ceiling.

Health & Safety Benefit from 29 December – see booklet **SW 21**

	Rate per week	
Personal rate	€134.80	
Increases:		
— Increases for a Qualified Adult		€89.40
— Each child dependant	Full rate*	€16.80
	Half-rate*	€8.40

* You can get an increase of €16.80 for each child dependant if you qualify for an increase for a qualified adult. If you do not qualify for an increase for a qualified adult you may get a half-rate child dependant increase, if your spouse or partner has income of €300 or less per week.

Health & Safety Benefit rates are graduated according to earnings in the relevant tax year.

- For Claims made before 29 December 2003.

Average weekly earnings	Personal rate	Increase for Qualified Adult
— Less than €44.44	€60.60	€58.00
— €44.44 and less than €63.49	€87.10	€58.00
— €63.49 and less than €88.88	€105.60	€58.00
— €88.88 or more	€134.80	€89.40

- For Claims made on or after 29 December 2003.

Average weekly earnings	Personal rate	Increase for Qualified Adult
— Less than €80.00	€60.60	€58.00
— €80.00 and less than €125.00	€87.10	€58.00
— €125.00 and less than €150.00	€105.60	€58.00
— €150.00 or more	€134.80	€89.40

Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance from 2 January – see booklet **SW 48**

	Rate per week
Rate per orphan	€107.00

Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension from 2 January - see booklet **SW 48**

Weekly means, as assessed by us:	Rate per week
Up to €7.60	€107.00
Over €7.60 and up to €10.10	€104.50
Over €10.10 and up to €12.60	€102.00
Over €12.60 and up to €15.10	€99.50
Over €15.10 and up to €17.60	€97.00
Over €17.60 and up to €20.10	€94.50
Over €20.10 and up to €22.60	€92.00
Over €22.60 and up to €25.10	€89.50
Over €25.10 and up to €27.60	€87.00
Over €27.60 and up to €30.10	€84.50
Over €30.10 and up to €32.60	€82.00
Over €32.60 and up to €35.10	€79.50
Over €35.10 and up to €37.60	€77.00
Over €37.60 and up to €40.10	€74.50
Over €40.10 and up to €42.60	€72.00
Over €42.60 and up to €45.10	€69.50
Over €45.10 and up to €47.60	€67.00
Over €47.60 and up to €50.10	€64.50
Over €50.10 and up to €52.60	€62.00
Over €52.60 and up to €55.10	€59.50
Over €55.10 and up to €57.60	€57.00
Over €57.60 and up to €60.10	€54.50
Over €60.10 and up to €62.60	€52.00
Over €62.60 and up to €65.10	€49.50
Over €65.10 and up to €67.60	€47.00
Over €67.60 and up to €70.10	€44.50
Over €70.10 and up to €72.60	€42.00
Over €72.60 and up to €75.10	€39.50
Over €75.10 and up to €77.60	€37.00
Over €77.60 and up to €80.10	€34.50
Over €80.10 and up to €82.60	€32.00
Over €82.60 and up to €85.10	€29.50
Over €85.10 and up to €87.60	€27.00
Over €87.60 and up to €90.10	€24.50
Over €90.10 and up to €92.60	€22.00
Over €92.60 and up to €95.10	€19.50
Over €95.10 and up to €97.60	€17.00
Over €97.60 and up to €100.10	€14.50
Over €90.10 and up to €92.60	€12.00
Over €92.60 and up to €95.10	€9.50
Over €95.10 and up to €97.60	€7.00
Over €97.60 and up to €100.10	€4.50

Illness, disability and caring

Disability Benefit from 29 December – see booklet **SW 9**

	Rate per week	
Personal rate	€134.80	
Increases:		
— Increase for a Qualified Adult [‡]		€89.40
— Each child dependant	Full rate	*€16.80
	Half-rate	*€8.40

Disability Benefit rates are graduated according to earnings in the relevant tax year.

- For Claims made before 29 December 2003.

Average weekly earnings	Personal rate	Increase for Qualified Adult [‡]
— Less than €44.44	€60.60	€58.00
— €44.44 and less than €63.49	€87.10	€58.00
— €63.49 and less than €88.88	€105.60	€58.00
— €88.88 or more	€134.80	€89.40

- For Claims made on or after 29 December 2003.

Average weekly earnings	Personal rate	Increase for Qualified Adult [‡]
— Less than €80.00	€60.60	€58.00
— €80.00 and less than €125.00	€87.10	€58.00
— €125.00 and less than €150.00	€105.60	€58.00
— €150.00 or more	€134.80	€89.40

* You can get an increase of €16.80 for each child dependant if you qualify for an increase for a qualified adult. If you do not qualify for an increase for a qualified adult you may get a half-rate child dependant increase, if your spouse or partner has income of €300 or less per week.

[‡] You may get a reduced rate increase if your spouse or partner has earnings or income of between €88.88 and €210.00 gross per week (see page 42-48).

Invalidity Pension from 1 January – see booklet **SW 44**

	Rate per week
Personal rate	
— Under age 65	€140.30
— Age 65 or over	€167.30
Increases:	
Increase for a Qualified Adult[‡]	
— Under age 66	€100.10
— Age 66 or over	€129.20
— Each child dependant	*€19.30
	*€9.65
	Full rate
	Half-rate

* You can get an increase of €19.30 for each child dependant if you get a payment for a qualified adult. If you do not qualify for an increase for a qualified adult, you may get a half-rate child dependant increase.

	Rate per week
— Living Alone Allowance	€7.70
— Extra allowance for people age 80 or over	€6.40
— Allowance for people age 66 or over, living on certain offshore islands	€12.70
— Allowance for people age 65 or under, living on certain offshore islands	€12.70

[‡] You may get a reduced rate increase if your spouse or partner has earnings or income of between €88.88 and €210.00 gross per week (see page 42-48).

Disability Allowance from 31 December – see booklet **SW 29**

Weekly means, as assessed by us:	Rate per week
Up to €2.50	€134.80
Over €2.50 and up to €5.00	€132.30
Over €5.00 and up to €7.50	€129.80
Over €7.50 and up to €10.00	€127.30
Over €10.00 and up to €12.50	€124.80
Over €12.50 and up to €15.00	€122.30
Over €15.00 and up to €17.50	€119.80
Over €17.50 and up to €20.00	€117.30
Over €20.00 and up to €22.50	€114.80
Over €22.50 and up to €25.00	€112.30
Over €25.00 and up to €27.50	€109.80
Over €27.50 and up to €30.00	€107.30
Over €30.00 and up to €32.50	€104.80
Over €32.50 and up to €35.00	€102.30
Over €35.00 and up to €37.50	€99.80
Over €37.50 and up to €40.00	€97.30
Over €40.00 and up to €42.50	€94.80
Over €42.50 and up to €45.00	€92.30
Over €45.00 and up to €47.50	€89.80
Over €47.50 and up to €50.00	€87.30
Over €50.00 and up to €52.50	€84.80
Over €52.50 and up to €55.00	€82.30
Over €55.00 and up to €57.50	€79.80
Over €57.50 and up to €60.00	€77.30
Over €60.00 and up to €62.50	€74.80
Over €62.50 and up to €65.00	€72.30
Over €65.00 and up to €67.50	€69.80
Over €67.50 and up to €70.00	€67.30
Over €70.00 and up to €72.50	€64.80
Over €72.50 and up to €75.00	€62.30
Over €75.00 and up to €77.50	€59.80
Over €77.50 and up to €80.00	€57.30
Over €80.00 and up to €82.50	€54.80
Over €82.50 and up to €85.00	€52.30
Over €85.00 and up to €87.50	€49.80
Over €87.50 and up to €90.00	€47.30
Over €90.00 and up to €92.50	€44.80
Over €92.50 and up to €95.00	€42.30
Over €95.00 and up to €97.50	€39.80
Over €97.50 and up to €100.00	€37.30
Over €100.00 and up to €102.50	€34.80

Disability Allowance from 31 December – see booklet **SW 29**

Weekly means, as assessed by us:	Rate per week
Over €102.50 and up to €105.00	€32.30
Over €105.00 and up to €107.50	€29.80
Over €107.50 and up to €110.00	€27.30
Over €110.00 and up to €112.50	€24.80
Over €112.50 and up to €115.00	€22.30
Over €115.00 and up to €117.50	€19.80
Over €117.50 and up to €120.00	€17.30
Over €120.00 and up to €122.50	€14.80
Over €122.50 and up to €125.00	€12.30
Over €125.00 and up to €127.50	€9.80
Over €127.50 and up to €130.00	€7.30
Over €130.00 and up to €132.50	€4.80
Over €132.50 and up to €135.00	€2.30
Over €135.00	Nil

Increases:	Rate per week
— Increase for a Qualified Adult [‡]	€89.40
— Each child dependant	Full rate *€16.80 Half-rate *€8.40
— Living Alone Allowance	€7.70
— Allowance for people living on certain offshore islands	€12.70

* You can get an increase of €16.80 for each child dependant if you get an increase for a qualified adult. If you do not qualify for an increase for a qualified adult, you may get a half-rate child dependant increase.

[‡]You may get a reduced rate increase if your spouse or partner has earnings or income of between €88.88 and €210.00 gross per week (see page 42-48).

Blind Pension from 2 January – see booklet **SW 76**

Weekly means, as assessed by us:	Personal rate		Increase per week for qualified adult age 65 or under where claimant is:	
	Age 65 or under Rate per week	Age 66 or over Rate per week	under 66	over 66
Up to €7.60	€134.80	€154.00	€89.40	€89.40
Over €7.60 and up to €10.10	€132.30	€151.50	€87.70	€87.90
Over €10.10 and up to €12.60	€129.80	€149.00	€86.10	€86.50
Over €12.60 and up to €15.10	€127.30	€146.50	€84.40	€85.00
Over €15.10 and up to €17.60	€124.80	€144.00	€82.80	€83.60
Over €17.60 and up to €20.10	€122.30	€141.50	€81.10	€82.10
Over €20.10 and up to €22.60	€119.80	€139.00	€79.50	€80.70
Over €22.60 and up to €25.10	€117.30	€136.50	€77.80	€79.20
Over €25.10 and up to €27.60	€114.80	€134.00	€76.10	€77.80
Over €27.60 and up to €30.10	€112.30	€131.50	€74.50	€76.30
Over €30.10 and up to €32.60	€109.80	€129.00	€72.80	€74.90
Over €32.60 and up to €35.10	€107.30	€126.50	€71.20	€73.40
Over €35.10 and up to €37.60	€104.80	€124.00	€69.50	€72.00
Over €37.60 and up to €40.10	€102.30	€121.50	€67.80	€70.50
Over €40.10 and up to €42.60	€99.80	€119.00	€66.20	€69.10
Over €42.60 and up to €45.10	€97.30	€116.50	€64.50	€67.60
Over €45.10 and up to €47.60	€94.80	€114.00	€62.90	€66.20
Over €47.60 and up to €50.10	€92.30	€111.50	€61.20	€64.70
Over €50.10 and up to €52.60	€89.80	€109.00	€59.60	€63.30
Over €52.60 and up to €55.10	€87.30	€106.50	€57.90	€61.80
Over €55.10 and up to €57.60	€84.80	€104.00	€56.20	€60.40
Over €57.60 and up to €60.10	€82.30	€101.50	€54.60	€58.90
Over €60.10 and up to €62.60	€79.80	€99.00	€52.90	€57.50
Over €62.60 and up to €65.10	€77.30	€96.50	€51.30	€56.00
Over €65.10 and up to €67.60	€74.80	€94.00	€49.60	€54.60
Over €67.60 and up to €70.10	€72.30	€91.50	€47.90	€53.10
Over €70.10 and up to €72.60	€69.80	€89.00	€46.30	€51.70
Over €72.60 and up to €75.10	€67.30	€86.50	€44.60	€50.20
Over €75.10 and up to €77.60	€64.80	€84.00	€43.00	€48.80
Over €77.60 and up to €80.10	€62.30	€81.50	€41.30	€47.30
Over €80.10 and up to €82.60	€59.80	€79.00	€39.70	€45.90
Over €82.60 and up to €85.10	€57.30	€76.50	€38.20	€44.40
Over €85.10 and up to €87.60	€54.80	€74.00	€36.90	€43.00
Over €87.60 and up to €90.10	€52.30	€71.50	€34.70	€41.50
Over €90.10 and up to €92.60	€49.80	€69.00	€33.00	€40.10
Over €92.60 and up to €95.10	€47.30	€66.50	€31.40	€38.60
Over €95.10 and up to €97.60	€44.80	€64.00	€29.70	€37.20
Over €97.60 and up to €100.10	€42.30	€61.50	€28.10	€35.70

Blind Pension from 2 January – see booklet SW 76

Weekly means, as assessed by us:	Personal rate		Increase per week for qualified adult age 65 or under where claimant is:	
	Age 65 or under Rate per week	Age 66 or over Rate per week	under 66	over 66
Over €100.10 and up to €102.60	€39.80	€59.00	€26.40	€34.30
Over €102.60 and up to €105.10	€37.30	€56.50	€24.70	€32.80
Over €105.10 and up to €107.60	€34.80	€54.00	€23.10	€31.30
Over €107.60 and up to €110.10	€32.30	€51.50	€21.40	€29.90
Over €110.10 and up to €112.60	€29.80	€49.00	€19.80	€28.40
Over €112.60 and up to €115.10	€27.30	€46.50	€18.10	€27.00
Over €115.10 and up to €117.60	€24.80	€44.00	€16.40	€25.50
Over €117.60 and up to €120.10	€22.30	€41.50	€14.80	€24.10
Over €120.10 and up to €122.60	€19.80	€39.00	€13.10	€22.60
Over €122.60 and up to €125.10	€17.30	€36.50	€11.50	€21.20
Over €125.10 and up to €127.60	€14.80	€34.00	€9.80	€19.70
Over €127.60 and up to €130.10	€12.30	€31.50	8.20	€18.30
Over €130.10 and up to €132.60	€9.80	€29.00	6.50	€16.80
Over €132.60 and up to €135.10	€7.30	€26.50	4.80	€15.40
Over €135.10 and up to €137.60	€4.80	€24.00	3.20	€13.90
Over €137.60 and up to €140.10	Nil	€21.50	Nil	€12.50
Over €140.10 and up to €142.60	Nil	€19.00	Nil	€11.00
Over €142.60 and up to €145.10	Nil	€16.50	Nil	€9.60
Over €145.10 and up to €147.60	Nil	€14.00	Nil	€8.10
Over €147.60 and up to €150.10	Nil	€11.50	Nil	6.70
Over €150.10 and up to €152.60	Nil	€9.00	Nil	€5.20
Over €152.60 and up to €155.10	Nil	€6.50	Nil	€3.80
Over €155.10 and up to €157.60	Nil	€4.00	Nil	€2.30
Over €157.60	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Increases:	
	Rate per week
— Each child dependant	Full rate *€16.80 Half-rate *€8.40
— Living Alone Allowance	€7.70
— Extra allowance for people age 80 or over	€6.40
— Allowance for people age 66 or over, living on certain offshore islands	€12.70
— Allowance for people age 65 or under, living on certain offshore islands	€12.70

* You can get an increase of €16.80 for each child dependant if you get an increase for a qualified adult. If you do not qualify for an increase for a qualified adult, you may get a half-rate child dependant increase.

Carer's Benefit from 1 January – see booklet **SW 49**

	Where the carer is caring for:	
	one person Rate per week	more than one person Rate per week
Personal rate	€149.70	€224.60
Increases:		
— Each child dependant	Full rate * €16.80 Half-rate ** €8.40	* €16.80 ** €8.40
Respite Care Grant	€835.00	€1,670.00

* You can get this if you are single, widowed or separated.

** You can get this if you are living with your spouse or partner.

Carer's Allowance from 1 January – see booklet SW 41

Weekly means, as assessed by us:	Where the carer is caring for:	
	one person Rate per week	more than one person Rate per week
Up to €7.60	€139.60	€209.40
Over €7.60 and up to €10.10	€137.10	€206.90
Over €10.10 and up to €12.60	€134.60	€204.40
Over €12.60 and up to €15.10	€132.10	€201.90
Over €15.10 and up to €17.60	€129.60	€199.40
Over €17.60 and up to €20.10	€127.10	€196.90
Over €20.10 and up to €22.60	€124.60	€194.40
Over €22.60 and up to €25.10	€122.10	€191.90
Over €25.10 and up to €27.60	€119.60	€189.40
Over €27.60 and up to €30.10	€117.10	€186.90
Over €30.10 and up to €32.60	€114.60	€184.40
Over €32.60 and up to €35.10	€112.10	€181.90
Over €35.10 and up to €37.60	€109.60	€179.40
Over €37.60 and up to €40.10	€107.10	€176.90
Over €40.10 and up to €42.60	€104.60	€174.40
Over €42.60 and up to €45.10	€102.10	€171.90
Over €45.10 and up to €47.60	€99.60	€169.40
Over €47.60 and up to €50.10	€97.10	€166.90
Over €50.10 and up to €52.60	€94.60	€164.40
Over €52.60 and up to €55.10	€92.10	€161.90
Over €55.10 and up to €57.60	€89.60	€159.40
Over €57.60 and up to €60.10	€87.10	€156.90
Over €60.10 and up to €62.60	€84.60	€154.40
Over €62.60 and up to €65.10	€82.10	€151.90
Over €65.10 and up to €67.60	€79.60	€149.40
Over €67.60 and up to €70.10	€77.10	€146.90
Over €70.10 and up to €72.60	€74.60	€144.40
Over €72.60 and up to €75.10	€72.10	€141.90
Over €75.10 and up to €77.60	€69.60	€139.40
Over €77.60 and up to €80.10	€67.10	€136.90
Over €80.10 and up to €82.60	€64.60	€134.40
Over €82.60 and up to €85.10	€62.10	€131.90
Over €85.10 and up to €87.60	€59.60	€129.40
Over €87.60 and up to €90.10	€57.10	€126.90
Over €90.10 and up to €92.60	€54.60	€124.40
Over €92.60 and up to €95.10	€52.10	€121.90
Over €95.10 and up to €97.60	€49.60	€119.40
Over €97.60 and up to €100.10	€47.10	€116.90
Over €100.10 and up to €102.60	€44.60	€114.40

Carer's Allowance from 1 January – see booklet **SW 41**

Weekly means as assessed by us:	Where the carer is caring for: more than	
	one person Rate per week	one person Rate per week
Over €102.60 and up to €105.10	€42.10	€111.90
Over €105.10 and up to €107.60	€39.60	€109.40
Over €107.60 and up to €110.10	€37.10	€106.90
Over €110.10 and up to €112.60	€34.60	€104.40
Over €112.60 and up to €115.10	€32.10	€101.90
Over €115.10 and up to €117.60	€29.60	€99.40
Over €117.60 and up to €120.10	€27.10	€96.90
Over €120.10 and up to €122.60	€24.60	€94.40
Over €122.60 and up to €125.10	€22.10	€91.90
Over €125.10 and up to €127.60	€19.60	€89.40
Over €127.60 and up to €130.10	€17.10	€86.90
Over €130.10 and up to €132.60	€14.60	€84.40
Over €132.60 and up to €135.10	€12.10	€81.90
Over €135.10 and up to €137.60	€9.60	€79.40
Over €137.60 and up to €140.10	€7.10	€76.90
Over €140.10 and up to €142.60	€4.60	€74.40
Over €142.60 and up to €145.10	€2.10	€71.90
Over €145.10 and up to €147.60	Nil	€69.40
Over €147.60 and up to €150.10	Nil	€66.90
Over €150.10 and up to €152.60	Nil	€64.40

Increases:		
	Rate per week	Rate per week
— For carers age 66 or over	€18.20	€27.30
— Each child dependant	* Full rate €16.80	€16.80
	** Half rate €8.40	€8.40
— Allowance for people age 66 or over living on certain offshore islands	€12.70	€12.70
— Respite Care Grant	€835.00	€1,670.00

* You can get this if you are single, widowed or separated.

** You can get this if you are living with your spouse or partner.

Injury Benefit from 29 December – see booklet **SW 30**

Unemployability Supplement from 29 December – see booklet **SW 31**

	Rate per week
Personal rate	€134.80
Increases:	
— Increase for a Qualified Adult [‡]	€89.40
— Each child dependant	Full rate *€16.80 Half-rate *€8.40
Unemployability Supplement only Living Alone Allowance	€7.70
Allowance for people under age 66, living on certain offshore islands	€12.70

* You can get an increase of €16.80 for each child dependant if you qualify for an increase for a qualified adult. If you do not qualify for an increase for a qualified adult you may get a half-rate child dependant increase, if your spouse or partner has earnings of €300 or less per week.

Disablement Benefit from 2 January – see booklet **SW 31**

<i>Over 90% disablement</i> Maximum personal pension	€165.90 per week
20% to 90% disablement	Reduced pension
— 90%	€149.30
— 80%	€132.70
— 70%	€116.10
— 60%	€99.50
— 50%	€83.00
— 40%	€66.40
— 30%	€49.80
— 20%	€33.20
<i>Up to 19% disablement</i> You may get a lump sum, up to a maximum of	€11,610

Medical Care Scheme – see leaflet **SW 34**

This scheme covers the cost of certain medical care expenses due to an occupational accident or disease. However, these costs must not have already been paid by either the Treatment Benefit Section of the Department of Social and Family Affairs or the Health Board.

[‡]You may get a reduced rate increase if your spouse or partner has earnings or income of between €88.88 and €210.00 gross per week (see page 42-48).

Constant Attendance Allowance from 2 January – see booklet **SW 31**

	Rate per week
Allowance	€149.70

**You can get this if you are single, widowed or separated.*

*** You can get this if you are living with your spouse or partner.*

Death Benefits (Survivor's Benefits) from 2 January – see booklet **SW 32**

	Rate per week	
Pension for a widow or widower	age 65 or under	€163.60
	age 66 or over	€171.70
	age 80 or over (from May 2004)	€173.70
Increases:		
— Each child dependant	€21.60	

	Rate per week
— Living Alone Allowance for people age 66 or over	€7.70
— Allowance for people age 66 or over living on certain offshore islands	€12.70
— Orphan's Pension	€109.90
— Funeral Grant	€635

Unemployment supports

Unemployment Benefit from 25 December – see booklet **SW 65**

	Rate per week	
Personal rate	€134.80	
Increases:		
— Qualified Adult Allowance [‡]	€89.40	
— Each child dependant	Full rate	*€16.80
	Half-rate	*€8.40

Unemployment Benefit rates are graduated according to earnings in the relevant tax year.

- For Claims made before 25 December 2003.

Average weekly earnings	Personal rate	Increase for a Qualified Adult [‡]
— Less than €44.44	€60.60	€58.00
— €44.44 and less than €63.49	€87.10	€58.00
— €63.49 and less than €88.88	€105.60	€58.00
— €88.88 or more	€134.80	€89.40

- For Claims made on or after 25 December 2003.

Average weekly earnings	Personal rate	Increase for a Qualified Adult [‡]
— Less than €80.00	€60.60	€58.00
— €80.00 and less than €125.00	€87.10	€58.00
— €125.00 and less than €150.00	€105.60	€58.00
— €150.00 or more	€134.80	€89.40

* You can get an increase of €16.80 for each child dependant if you qualify for an increase for a qualified adult. If you do not qualify for an increase for a qualified adult you may get a half-rate child dependant increase, if your spouse or partner has income of €300 or less per week.

[‡] You may get a reduced rate increase if your spouse or partner has earnings or income of between €88.88 and €210.00 gross per week (see pages 42-48).

Unemployment Assistance from 24 December – see booklet SW 65

	Rate per week Short-term	Rate per week Long-term
Maximum personal rate	€134.80	€134.80
Increases:		
— Qualified Adult Allowance [‡]	€89.40	€89.40
— Each child dependant	Full rate *€16.80 Half-rate *€8.40	*€16.80 *€8.40

* You can get an increase of €16.80 for each child dependant if you qualify for an increase for a qualified adult. If you do not qualify for an increase for a qualified adult you may get a half-rate child dependant increase.

[‡] You may get a reduced rate increase if your spouse or partner has earnings or income of between €88.88 and €210.00 gross per week (see pages 42-48).

Employment supports

Family Income Supplement from 1 January – see booklet **SW 22**

To qualify for Family Income Supplement (FIS), your net average weekly family income must be below a certain amount for your family size.

You have:	Your family income is less than:
1 child	€407
2 children	€433
3 children	€458
4 children	€483
5 children	€515
6 children	€541
7 children	€562
8 or more children	€584

The FIS you receive is 60% of the difference between your net family income (that is, gross pay minus tax, employee PRSI, Health Contribution, superannuation) and the income limit that applies to your family.

Note

No matter how little you may qualify for, you will still get a minimum of €20 each week.

Farm Assist from 24 December – see booklet **SW 27**

	Rate per week
Maximum personal rate	€134.80
Increases:	
— Increase for a Qualified Adult [‡]	€89.40
— Each child dependant	Full rate *€16.80 Half-rate *€8.40

* You can get an increase of €16.80 for each child dependant if you get an increase for a qualified adult. If you do not qualify for an increase for a qualified adult, you may get a half-rate child dependant increase.

[‡]You may get a reduced rate increase if your spouse or partner has earnings or income of between €88.88 and €210.00 gross per week (see pages 42-48).

Back to Work Allowance (Employees) – see booklet SW 93

- 75% of social welfare payment for the first year
- 50% of social welfare payment for the second year
- 25% of social welfare payment for the third year

Back to Work Enterprise Allowance – see booklet SW 92

- 100% of social welfare payment for the first year
- 75% of social welfare payment for the second year
- 50% of social welfare payment for the third year
- 25% of social welfare payment for the fourth year

Part-time Job Incentive Scheme from 24 December – see leaflet SW 69

	Rate per week
Personal rate	€85.30
Rate including an Increase for a Qualified Adult	€142.00

Your pay from the part-time job will not effect the supplement.

Back to Education Allowance – see booklet SW 70

Payment is made at a standard rate which is not means tested.

If you usually get an **unemployment payment**, the amount of Back to Education Allowance you get is the same as the maximum standard rate of Unemployment Benefit.

If you usually get **One-Parent Family Payment, Disability Allowance, Blind Pension, Invalidity Pension and Unemployability Supplement**, the allowance you get is the same as the maximum rate of the relevant social welfare payment.

Extra benefits

Bereavement Grant – see booklet **SW 47**

— Death of a Child	€635.00
— Death of an Adult	€635.00

Widowed Parent Grant (for widowed people with dependent child(ren))

Widowed Parent Grant (once-off payment) (for widowed people with dependent child(ren))	€2,700.00
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Fuel Allowance – see booklet **SW 17**

	Rate per week
<i>Allowance paid</i> from early October to late April (29 weeks)	€9.00

Smokeless Fuel Allowance – see leaflet **SW 17a**

	Rate per week
<i>Allowance paid</i> from early October to late April (29 weeks)	€3.90

Electricity Allowance – see booklet **SW 107**

<i>Allowance</i>	
— Individual Account	Normal standing charges plus 1,800 units per year €22.50 per month
— Group Account	

Natural Gas Allowance – see booklet **SW 107****Standard Tariff Allowance**

The allowance covers the supply charge plus up to 1,674 kWhs of gas per year.

Up to €225.33 per annum for all other tariffs.

Bottled Gas Refill Allowance – see booklet **SW 107**

	Allowance
From:	
— January to April	5 cylinders
— May to August	5 cylinders
— September to December	5 cylinders

Free Television Licence – see booklet **SW 107**

If you qualify for a Electricity or Natural Gas or Bottled Gas Refill Allowance you can get a free colour television licence from the next due renewal date of your licence.

Telephone Allowance – see booklet **SW 107**

This allowance provides a credit of €40.82 plus VAT every two months towards your telephone bill (€49.39 including VAT).

Supplementary Welfare Allowance

Supplementary Welfare Allowance from 24 December – see booklet **SW 54**

	Rate per week
Maximum personal rate	€134.80
Increases:	
— Increase for a Qualified Adult	€89.40
— Each child dependant	€16.80

Back to School Clothing & Footwear Allowance – see booklet **SW 75**

The Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance is paid to parents whose income limits are at or below the following amounts:

Couple with:	Income limit	Lone Parent with:	Income limit
— 1 child	€348.10	— 1 child	€238.90
— 2 children	€367.40	— 2 children	€260.50
— 3 children	€386.70	— 3 children	€282.10
— 4 children	*€406.00	— 4 children	**€303.70

* Limit is increased by €19.30 for each additional child.

** Limit is increased by €21.60 for each additional child.

	Rate payable
<i>Allowance</i>	
— Rate for each child aged 2-11	€80.00
— Rate for each child aged 12-17***	€150.00

*** This is also paid for children aged 18-22 if they are in full-time education, for whom a child dependant allowance is payable.

Appendix

Increase for a Qualified Adult (IQA) January 2004

If you are getting one of the payments listed below, you may get an increase for your spouse or partner.

Disability Benefit, Disability Allowance, Unemployment Benefit, Unemployment Assistance, Pre-Retirement Allowance, Occupational Injury Benefit, Unemployability Supplement, Farm Assist

Increases:	IQA
	Rate per week
Spouse or partner's gross weekly income or earnings	
— Up to €88.88	€89.40
— From €88.89 to €95.23	€86.20
— From €95.24 to €101.58	€83.00
— From €101.59 to €107.93	€79.80
— From €107.94 to €114.28	€75.30
— From €114.29 to €120.63	€70.80
— From €120.64 to €126.97	€66.30
— From €126.98 to €133.32	€61.80
— From €133.33 to €139.67	€57.30
— From €139.68 to €146.02	€52.80
— From €146.03 to €152.37	€48.30
— From €152.38 to €158.72	€43.80
— From €158.73 to €165.07	€39.30
— From €165.08 to €171.41	€34.80
— From €171.42 to €177.76	€30.30
— From €177.77 to €184.11	€25.80
— From €184.12 to €190.46	€21.30
— From €190.47 to €196.81	€16.80
— From €196.82 to €203.16	€12.30
— Over €203.16 to €210.00	€7.80
— Over €210.00	Nil

Disability or Unemployment or Health and Safety Benefit only

January 2004

If you are getting a reduced rate of Disability or Unemployment or Health and Safety Benefit, you can get an increase for your spouse or partner, as follows:

Increases:	IQA
	Rate per week
Spouse or partner's gross weekly income or earnings	
— Up to €88.88	€58.00
— From €88.89 to €95.23	€55,30
— From €95.24 to €101.58	€52.60
— From €101.59 to €107.93	€49.90
— From €107.94 to €114.28	€47.20
— From €114.29 to €120.63	€44.50
— From €120.64 to €126.97	€41.80
— From €126.98 to €133.32	€39.10
— From €133.33 to €139.67	€36.40
— From €139.68 to €146.02	€33.70
— From €146.03 to €152.37	€31.00
— From €152.38 to €158.72	€28.30
— From €158.73 to €165.07	€25.60
— From €165.08 to €171.41	€22.90
— From €171.42 to €177.76	€20.20
— From €177.77 to €184.11	€17.50
— From €184.12 to €190.46	€14.80
— From €190.47 to €196.81	€12.10
— From €196.82 to €203.16	€9.40
— Over €203.16 to €210.00	€6.70
— Over €210.00	Nil

Rate of Qualified Adult Allowance for Invalidity Pension

January 2004

If you are getting **Invalidity Pension**, you can get an increase for your spouse or partner, as follows:

	Increase for Qualified Adult	
	Age 65 or under Rate per week	Age 66 or over Rate per week
Spouse or partner's gross weekly income or earnings		
— Up to €88.88	€100.10	€129.20
— From €88.89 to €95.23	€95.40	€123.00
— From €95.24 to €101.58	€90.70	€116.80
— From €101.59 to €107.93	€86.00	€110.60
— From €107.94 to €114.28	€81.20	€104.40
— From €114.29 to €120.63	€76.40	€98.20
— From €120.64 to €126.97	€71.60	€92.00
— From €126.98 to €133.32	€66.80	€85.80
— From €133.33 to €139.67	€62.00	€79.60
— From €139.68 to €146.02	€57.20	€73.40
— From €146.03 to €152.37	€52.40	€67.20
— From €152.38 to €158.72	€47.60	€61.00
— From €158.73 to €165.07	€42.80	€54.80
— From €165.08 to €171.41	€38.00	€48.60
— From €171.42 to €177.76	€33.20	€42.40
— From €177.77 to €184.11	€28.40	€36.20
— From €184.12 to €190.46	€23.60	€30.00
— From €190.47 to €196.81	€18.80	€23.80
— From €196.82 to €203.16	€14.00	€17.60
— Over €203.16 to €210.00	€9.20	€11.40
— Over €210.00	Nil	Nil

Rates of Qualified Adult Allowance for Retirement and Old Age (Contributory) Pension January 2004

You can get an increase for your spouse or partner, as follows, if your personal rate is based on:

- a yearly average of 20 or more contributions for Old Age (Contributory) Pension or
- a yearly average of 24 or more contributions for Retirement Pension.

	Increase for Qualified Adult	
	Age 65 or under Rate per week	Age 66 or over Rate per week
Spouse or partner's gross weekly income or earnings		
— Up to €88.88	€111.50	€129.20
— From €88.89 to €95.23	€106.10	€123.00
— From €95.24 to €101.58	€100.70	€116.80
— From €101.59 to €107.93	€95.30	€110.60
— From €107.94 to €114.28	€89.90	€104.40
— From €114.29 to €120.63	€84.50	€98.20
— From €120.64 to €126.97	€79.10	€92.00
— From €126.98 to €133.32	€73.70	€85.80
— From €133.33 to €139.67	€68.30	€79.60
— From €139.68 to €146.02	€62.90	€73.40
— From €146.03 to €152.37	€57.50	€67.20
— From €152.38 to €158.72	€52.10	€61.00
— From €158.73 to €165.07	€46.70	€54.80
— From €165.08 to €171.41	€41.30	€48.60
— From €171.42 to €177.76	€35.90	€42.40
— From €177.77 to €184.11	€30.50	€36.20
— From €184.12 to €190.46	€25.10	€30.00
— From €190.47 to €196.81	€19.70	€23.80
— From €196.82 to €203.16	€14.30	€17.60
— Over €203.16 to €210.00	€8.90	€11.40
— Over €210.00	Nil	Nil

Rates of Qualified Adult Allowance for Old Age (Contributory)

Pension - for claims made on or after 6 April 2001

January 2004

If you are getting Old Age (Contributory) Pension where your personal rate is based on a yearly average of 15 - 19 contributions (see page 12), you can get an increase for your spouse or partner as follows:

Increase for Qualified Adult		
	Age 65 or under Rate per week	Age 66 or over Rate per week
Spouse or partner's gross weekly income or earnings		
— Up to €88.88	€83.60	€96.90
— From €88.89 to €95.23	€79.50	€92.30
— From €95.24 to €101.58	€75.50	€87.60
— From €101.59 to €107.93	€71.40	€83.00
— From €107.94 to €114.28	€67.40	€78.30
— From €114.29 to €120.63	€63.30	€73.70
— From €120.64 to €126.97	€59.30	€69.00
— From €126.98 to €133.32	€55.20	€64.40
— From €133.33 to €139.67	€51.10	€59.70
— From €139.68 to €146.02	€47.00	€55.10
— From €146.03 to €152.37	€43.00	€50.40
— From €152.38 to €158.72	€38.90	€45.80
— From €158.73 to €165.07	€34.80	€41.10
— From €165.08 to €171.41	€30.70	€36.50
— From €171.42 to €177.76	€26.70	€31.80
— From €177.77 to €184.11	€22.60	€27.20
— From €184.12 to €190.46	€18.50	€22.50
— From €190.47 to €196.81	€14.40	€17.90
— From €196.82 to €203.16	€10.40	€13.20
— Over €203.16 to €210.00	€6.40	€8.50
— Over €210.00	Nil	Nil

Rates of Qualified Adult Allowance for Old Age (Contributory)

Pension - for claims made on or after 6 April 2001

January 2004

If you are getting Old Age (Contributory) Pension where your personal rate is based on a yearly average of 10 - 14 contributions (see page 12), you can get an increase for your spouse or partner, as follows:

Increase for Qualified Adult		
	Age 65 or under Rate per week	Age 66 or over Rate per week
Spouse or partner's gross weekly income or earnings		
— Up to €88.88	€55.80	€64.60
— From €88.89 to €95.23	€53.10	€61.50
— From €95.24 to €101.58	€50.30	€58.40
— From €101.59 to €107.93	€47.60	€55.30
— From €107.94 to €114.28	€44.80	€52.20
— From €114.29 to €120.63	€42.10	€49.10
— From €120.64 to €126.97	€39.30	€46.00
— From €126.98 to €133.32	€36.60	€42.90
— From €133.33 to €139.67	€33.80	€39.80
— From €139.68 to €146.02	€31.10	€36.70
— From €146.03 to €152.37	€28.30	€33.60
— From €152.38 to €158.72	€25.60	€30.50
— From €158.73 to €165.07	€22.80	€27.40
— From €165.08 to €171.41	€20.10	€24.30
— From €171.42 to €177.76	€17.30	€21.20
— From €177.77 to €184.11	€14.60	€18.10
— From €184.12 to €190.46	€11.80	€15.00
— From €190.47 to €196.81	€9.10	€11.90
— From €196.82 to €203.16	€6.30	€8.80
— Over €203.16 to €210.00	€3.60	€5.70
— Over €210.00	Nil	Nil

Rates of Qualified Adult Allowance for Old Age (Contributory)

Pension - for claims made before 6 April 2001

January 2004

If you are getting Old Age (Contributory) Pension where your personal rate is based on a yearly average of less than 20 contributions (see page 12), you can get an increase for your spouse or partner, as follows:

Increase for Qualified Adult		
	Age 65 or under Rate per week	Age 66 or over Rate per week
Spouse or partner's gross weekly income or earnings		
— Up to €88.88	€99.10	€106.20
— From €88.89 to €95.23	€94.10	€100.90
— From €95.24 to €101.58	€89.10	€95.60
— From €101.59 to €107.93	€84.10	€90.30
— From €107.94 to €114.28	€79.10	€85.00
— From €114.29 to €120.63	€74.10	€79.70
— From €120.64 to €126.97	€69.10	€74.40
— From €126.98 to €133.32	€64.10	€69.10
— From €133.33 to €139.67	€59.10	€63.80
— From €139.68 to €146.02	€54.10	€58.50
— From €146.03 to €152.37	€49.10	€53.20
— From €152.38 to €158.72	€44.10	€47.90
— From €158.73 to €165.07	€39.10	€42.60
— From €165.08 to €171.41	€34.10	€37.30
— From €171.42 to €177.76	€29.10	€32.00
— From €177.77 to €184.11	€24.10	€26.70
— From €184.12 to €190.46	€19.10	€21.40
— From €190.47 to €196.81	€14.10	€16.10
— From €196.82 to €203.16	€9.10	€10.80
— Over €203.16 to €210.00	€4.10	€5.50
— Over €210.00	Nil	Nil

