

**Summary of Changes - Pensions - Annual Amounts****20 September 2006****Adult Pension Basic Rates**

		Previous Amount	20 Sept 2006	increase
■ Single	base	\$ 12,529.40	\$ 12,841.40	\$ 312.00 pa
	supplement	\$ 462.80	\$ 473.20	\$ 10.40 pa
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 12,992.20</b>	<b>\$ 13,314.60</b>	<b>\$ 322.40 pa</b>
■ Couple	base	\$ 10,462.40	\$ 10,725.00	\$ 262.60 pa
	supplement	\$ 384.80	\$ 395.20	\$ 10.40 pa
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 10,847.20</b>	<b>\$ 11,120.20</b>	<b>\$ 273.00 pa</b>

**Youth Disability Support Pension Basic Rates**

		Previous Amount	20 Sept 2006	increase
■ Member of a couple	under 18	\$ 10,847.20	\$ 11,120.20	\$ 273.00 pa
	18 - 20 years	\$ 10,847.20	\$ 11,120.20	\$ 273.00 pa

**Pension Disqualifying Income Limits**

Family Situation	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2006	increase
■ Single	\$ 36,185.50	\$ 36,991.50	\$ 806.00 pa
■ Single + 1 child	\$ 36,825.10	\$ 37,631.10	\$ 806.00 pa
■ Couple (combined)	\$ 60,541.00	\$ 61,906.00	\$ 1,365.00 pa
■ For each Additional Child add	\$ 639.60	\$ 639.60	\$ - pa
■ Illness Separated couple (combined)	\$ 71,643.00	\$ 73,255.00	\$ 1,612.00 pa

**Summary of Changes - Pensions - Fortnightly Amounts****Adult Pension Basic Rates**

		Previous Amount	20 Sept 2006	increase
■ Single	base	\$ 481.90	\$ 493.90	\$ 12.00 pf
	supplement	\$ 17.80	\$ 18.20	\$ 0.40 pf
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 499.70</b>	<b>\$ 512.10</b>	<b>\$ 12.40 pf</b>
■ Couple	base	\$ 402.40	\$ 412.50	\$ 10.10 pf
	supplement	\$ 14.80	\$ 15.20	\$ 0.40 pf
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 417.20</b>	<b>\$ 427.70</b>	<b>\$ 10.50 pf</b>

**Youth Disability Support Pension Basic Rates**

		Previous Amount	20 Sept 2006	increase
■ Member of a couple	under 18	\$ 417.20	\$ 427.70	\$ 10.50 pf
	18 - 20 years	\$ 417.20	\$ 427.70	\$ 10.50 pf

**Pension Disqualifying Income Limits**

Family Situation	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2006	increase
■ Single	\$ 1,391.75	\$ 1,422.75	\$ 31.00 pf
■ Single + 1 child	\$ 1,416.35	\$ 1,447.35	\$ 31.00 pf
■ Couple (combined)	\$ 2,328.50	\$ 2,381.00	\$ 52.50 pf
■ For each Additional Child add	\$ 24.60	\$ 24.60	\$ - pf
■ Illness Separated couple (combined)	\$ 2,755.50	\$ 2,817.50	\$ 62.00 pf

**Pension Disqualifying Asset Limits**

Family Situation	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2006	increase
■ Single, homeowner	\$ 330,000	\$ 334,250	\$ 4,250
■ Single, non-homeowner	\$ 447,000	\$ 451,250	\$ 4,250
■ Partnered, homeowner (combined)	\$ 509,500	\$ 516,500	\$ 7,000
■ Partnered, non-homeowner (combined)	\$ 626,500	\$ 633,500	\$ 7,000
■ One partner eligible, homeowner	\$ 509,500	\$ 516,500	\$ 7,000
■ One partner eligible, non-homeowner	\$ 626,500	\$ 633,500	\$ 7,000
■ Illness separated couple, homeowner	\$ 566,000	\$ 574,500	\$ 8,500
■ Illness separated couple, non-homeowner	\$ 683,000	\$ 691,500	\$ 8,500

**Summary of Changes - Pensions - Fortnightly Amounts****Disability Support Pension Under 21 Disqualifying Income Limits**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Couple, under 18 (combined)	\$ 2,328.50	\$	2,381.00	\$	52.50 pf
■ Couple, 18 - 20 (combined)	\$ 2,328.50	\$	2,381.00	\$	52.50 pf

**Disability Support Pension Under 21 - Disqualifying Asset Limits**

<b>Homeowners</b>		Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Couple < 18 (combined)		\$ 509,500	\$	516,500	\$	7,000
■ Couple 18-20 (combined)		\$ 509,500	\$	516,500	\$	7,000
<b>Non-Homeowners</b>		Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Couple < 18 (combined)		\$ 626,500	\$	633,500	\$	7,000
■ Couple 18-20 (combined)		\$ 626,500	\$	633,500	\$	7,000

**Summary of Changes - Allowances****Allowance Rates (NSA, WA, PA, SA & MAA)**

Family Situation	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Single, 21 or over, no children	\$ 410.60	\$	420.90	\$	10.30 pf
■ Single, 21 or over, with children	\$ 444.20	\$	455.30	\$	11.10 pf
■ Single, 60 or over, after 9 months (NO PhA)	\$ 444.20	\$	455.30	\$	11.10 pf
■ Partnered (each)	\$ 370.50	\$	379.80	\$	9.30 pf
■ Single, principal carer of child, exempt from activity test	\$ 499.70	\$	512.10	\$	12.40 pf

**Income Test Cutoffs for NSA, WA, PA, SA & MAA**

Family Situation	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Single, 21 or over, no children	\$ 777.67	\$	794.84	\$	17.17 pf
■ Single, 21 or over, with children	\$ 833.67	\$	852.17	\$	18.50 pf
■ Single, 60 or over, after 9 months (NO PhA)	\$ 833.67	\$	852.17	\$	18.50 pf
■ Partnered (each)	\$ 710.84	\$	726.34	\$	15.50 pf
■ Single, principal carer of child, exempt from activity test	\$ 926.17	\$	946.84	\$	20.67 pf

**Summary of Changes - Families****Parenting Payment Basic Rates**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Sole Parents	\$ 499.70	\$	512.10	\$	12.40 pf
■ Partnered Parents	\$ 370.50	\$	379.80	\$	9.30 pf

**Income Test for Parenting Payment**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Partner's Free Area For part payment of additional rate all of the following conditions must be met:	\$ 711.00	\$	727.00	\$	16.00 pf
■ customer's income must be less than	\$ 710.84	\$	726.34	\$	15.50 pf
■ partner's income must be less than	\$ 1,328.50	\$	1,360.00	\$	31.50 pf
■ combined income must be less than	\$ 1,421.84	\$	1,453.34	\$	31.50 pf
<b>If partner is on pension, couples</b>					
■ combined income must be less than	\$ 1,421.68	\$	1,452.68	\$	31.00 pf

**Maternity Payment**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ One off lump sum payment	\$ 4,000.00	\$	4,100.00	\$	100.00

**Maternity Immunisation Allowance**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ One off lump sum payment	\$ 222.30	\$	227.90	\$	5.60

**Summary of Changes - Rent Assistance - for Payments under the Social Security Act****Maximum Payment per Fortnight**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Single, no children	\$ 100.60	\$	103.20	\$	2.60 pf
■ Single, no children, sharer	\$ 67.07	\$	68.80	\$	1.73 pf
■ Couple, no children	\$ 95.00	\$	97.40	\$	2.40 pf
■ Partnered, illness separated, no children	\$ 100.60	\$	103.20	\$	2.60 pf
■ Partnered, temporarily separated, no children	\$ 95.00	\$	97.40	\$	2.40 pf

**Rent threshold**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Single, no children	\$ 89.60	\$	91.80	\$	2.20 pf
■ Single, no children, sharer	\$ 89.60	\$	91.80	\$	2.20 pf
■ Couple, no children	\$ 145.80	\$	149.40	\$	3.60 pf
■ Partnered, illness separated, no children	\$ 89.60	\$	91.80	\$	2.20 pf
■ Partnered, temporarily separated, no children	\$ 89.60	\$	91.80	\$	2.20 pf

**Minimum Rent to get Maximum Payment**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Single, no children	\$ 223.73	\$	229.40	\$	5.67 pf
■ Single, no children, sharer	\$ 179.02	\$	183.53	\$	4.51 pf
■ Couple, no children	\$ 272.47	\$	279.27	\$	6.80 pf
■ Partnered, illness separated, no children	\$ 223.73	\$	229.40	\$	5.67 pf
■ Partnered, temporarily separated, no children	\$ 216.27	\$	221.67	\$	5.40 pf

**Summary of Changes - Rent Assistance- for Payments under the Family Assistance Act****Maximum Payment per Fortnight**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Single, 1 or 2 children	\$ 118.30	\$	121.24	\$	2.94 pf
■ Single, 3 or more children	\$ 133.70	\$	137.06	\$	3.36 pf
■ Couple, 1 or 2 children	\$ 118.30	\$	121.24	\$	2.94 pf
■ Couple, 3 or more children	\$ 133.70	\$	137.06	\$	3.36 pf

**Rent threshold**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Single, 1 or 2 children	\$ 117.88	\$	120.82	\$	2.94 pf
■ Single, 3 or more children	\$ 117.88	\$	120.82	\$	2.94 pf
■ Couple, 1 or 2 children	\$ 174.44	\$	178.78	\$	4.34 pf
■ Couple, 3 or more children	\$ 174.44	\$	178.78	\$	4.34 pf

**Minimum Rent to get Maximum Payment**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Single, 1 or 2 children	\$ 275.61	\$	282.47	\$	6.86 pf
■ Single, 3 or more children	\$ 296.15	\$	303.57	\$	7.42 pf
■ Couple, 1 or 2 children	\$ 332.17	\$	340.43	\$	8.26 pf
■ Couple, 3 or more children	\$ 352.71	\$	361.53	\$	8.82 pf

**Default Minimums for Shared Care Situations****Maximum Payment per Fortnight**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Single	\$ 101.22	\$	103.74	\$	2.52 pf
■ Partnered	\$ 95.06	\$	97.44	\$	2.38 pf
■ Partnered, Partner in Gaol, Illness Separated Couple, Respite	\$ 101.22	\$	103.74	\$	2.52 pf
■ Partnered, Temporary Separated	\$ 95.06	\$	97.44	\$	2.38 pf

**Rent threshold**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Single	\$ 89.46	\$	91.70	\$	2.24 pf
■ Partnered	\$ 146.02	\$	149.66	\$	3.64 pf
■ Partnered, Partner in Gaol, Illness Separated Couple, Respite	\$ 89.46	\$	91.70	\$	2.24 pf
■ Partnered, Temporary Separated	\$ 89.46	\$	91.70	\$	2.24 pf

**Summary of Changes - Rent Assistance - for Payments under the Family Assistance Act****Minimum Rent to get Maximum Payment**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Single	\$ 224.42	\$	230.02	\$	5.60 pf
■ Partnered	\$ 272.77	\$	279.58	\$	6.81 pf
■ Partnered, Partner in Gaol, Illness Separated Couple, Respite	\$ 224.42	\$	230.02	\$	5.60 pf
■ Partnered, Temporary Separated	\$ 216.21	\$	221.62	\$	5.41 pf

**Maximum Payment per Annum**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Single, 1 or 2 children	\$ 3,084.25	\$	3,160.90	\$	76.65 pa
■ Single, 3 or more children	\$ 3,485.75	\$	3,573.35	\$	87.60 pa
■ Couple, 1 or 2 children	\$ 3,084.25	\$	3,160.90	\$	76.65 pa
■ Couple, 3 or more children	\$ 3,485.75	\$	3,573.35	\$	87.60 pa

**Rent threshold**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Single, 1 or 2 children	\$ 3,073.30	\$	3,149.95	\$	76.65 pa
■ Single, 3 or more children	\$ 3,073.30	\$	3,149.95	\$	76.65 pa
■ Couple, 1 or 2 children	\$ 4,547.90	\$	4,661.05	\$	113.15 pa
■ Couple, 3 or more children	\$ 4,547.90	\$	4,661.05	\$	113.15 pa

**Minimum Rent to get Maximum Payment**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Single, 1 or 2 children	\$ 7,185.63	\$	7,364.48	\$	178.85 pa
■ Single, 3 or more children	\$ 7,720.97	\$	7,914.42	\$	193.45 pa
■ Couple, 1 or 2 children	\$ 8,660.23	\$	8,875.58	\$	215.35 pa
■ Couple, 3 or more children	\$ 9,195.57	\$	9,425.52	\$	229.95 pa

**Default Minimums for Shared Care Situations****Maximum Payment per Annum**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Single	\$ 2,638.95	\$	2,704.65	\$	65.70 pa
■ Partnered	\$ 2,478.35	\$	2,540.40	\$	62.05 pa
■ Partnered, Partner in Gaol, Illness Separated Couple, Respite	\$ 2,638.95	\$	2,704.65	\$	65.70 pa
■ Partnered, Temporary Separated	\$ 2,478.35	\$	2,540.40	\$	62.05 pa

**Rent threshold**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Single	\$ 2,332.35	\$	2,390.75	\$	58.40 pa
■ Partnered	\$ 3,806.95	\$	3,901.85	\$	94.90 pa
■ Partnered, Partner in Gaol, Illness Separated Couple, Respite	\$ 2,332.35	\$	2,390.75	\$	58.40 pa
■ Partnered, Temporary Separated	\$ 2,332.35	\$	2,390.75	\$	58.40 pa

**Minimum Rent to get Maximum Payment**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Single	\$ 5,850.95	\$	5,996.95	\$	146.00 pa
■ Partnered	\$ 7,111.42	\$	7,289.05	\$	177.63 pa
■ Partnered, Partner in Gaol, Illness Separated Couple, Respite	\$ 5,850.95	\$	5,996.95	\$	146.00 pa
■ Partnered, Temporary Separated	\$ 5,636.82	\$	5,777.95	\$	141.13 pa

**Summary of Changes - Miscellaneous****Telephone Allowance**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Annual Amount (single or couple combined)	\$ 81.60	\$	85.60	\$	4.00 pa
■ Quarterly Payment (single or couple combined)	\$ 20.40	\$	21.40	\$	1.00 pq

**Utilities Allowance**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
Payable to Australians of Age Pension Age in receipt of Income Support Payments					
■ Annual Amount (single or couple combined)	\$ 102.80	\$	105.20	\$	2.40
■ Six Monthly Payment (single or couple combined)	\$ 51.40	\$	52.60	\$	1.20

**Health Care Cards (HCC)**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
Average weekly income for eight weeks previous to applying:					
■ Single	\$ 411.00	\$	420.00	\$	9.00 pw
■ Couple (combined)	\$ 685.00	\$	700.00	\$	15.00 pw
■ Single, or couple combined, one child	\$ 719.00	\$	734.00	\$	15.00 pw
■ For each additional child	\$ 34.00	\$	34.00	\$	- pw

**CDEP Participation Supplement (CPS) Income Test**

<b>CPS is payable if income is below:</b>	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2006		increase
■ Single	\$ 945.00	\$	966.00	\$	21.00 pf
■ Couple	\$ 869.00	\$	888.00	\$	19.00 pf
■ Total income of both partners must be under	\$ 1,738.00	\$	1,776.00	\$	38.00 pf

**Income Threshold for Employment Entry Payment (per fortnight)**

	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2005		Increase
■ For EEP entitlement person's income from employment must exceed	\$ 777.67	\$	794.84	\$	17.17 pf