

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Social Services Portfolio
2014-15 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1

Question No: 314

Topic: Indexation Changes

Hansard Page: 04/06/2014 CA 105-106-107

Senator McLucas asked:

Can the Department indicate how much a person on the age pension, DSP and carer payment from 2009-14 is likely to receive over the period on the current indexation arrangement and under a CPI indexation arrangement.

Answer:

	Current maximum basic rate	Maximum basic rate (MBR) at 20 March 2014 with CPI only indexation on and from 20 September 2009	Difference
Single	\$19,916 a year	\$17,856.80 a year	\$2,059.20
	\$766 a fortnight	\$686.80 a fortnight	\$79.20
Couple (each)	\$15,012.40 a year	\$13,460.20 a year	\$1,552.20
	\$577.40 a fortnight	\$517.70 a fortnight	\$59.70

This scenario assumes that CPI only indexation was applied on and from the 20 September 2009 indexation. The figuring includes the \$30 a week increase to single base rate to improve the single-couple ratio implemented from 20 September 2009. The scenario covers only the base rate of pension, and excludes amounts for add-ons such as Pension Supplement, Clean Energy Supplement, Rent Assistance, Carer Allowance and Carer Supplement.