

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2011-12 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 4**

**Question No: 84**

**Topic:** Age Pension

**Hansard Page:** 1 June 2011, CA 24

**Senator Anne McEwen** asked:

Please provide details of how much pensions have increased in both dollar terms and in percentage terms for the last 10 years.

**Answer:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Pension and relevant supplements at 20/3/2001</b>	<b>Pension and relevant supplements at 20/3/2011</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>Percentage increase</b>
<b>Single</b>	\$410.45 pf	\$729.30 pf	\$318.85 pf	78%
<b>Couple combined</b>	\$679.45 pf	\$1,099.40 pf	\$419.95 pf	62%
Note: The March 2001 amount includes base pension, GST Supplement, Pharmaceutical Allowance and Telephone Allowance. The March 2011 amount includes base pension and Pension Supplement. From 20 September 2009, the GST Pension Supplement, Pharmaceutical Allowance, Utilities Allowance and Telephone Allowance (at the internet rate) were all rolled into the new Pension Supplement. Utilities Allowance was only introduced in December 2004 with payments commencing in March 2005.				