

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2012-13 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 4

Question No: 73

Topic: Age Pension increases

Hansard Page: 28/05/2012 - CA35

Senator Furner asked:

Can you compare how much aged pensions have increased under the Labor Government with how much they increased under the last 5 or 4.5 years of the Howard Government?

Answer:

Between November 2007 and May 2012 payments to age pensioners increased by \$204.49 a fortnight for single pensioners and \$227.50 a fortnight for pensioner couples combined.

Between April 2003 and November 2007 payments to age pensioners increased by \$102.05 a fortnight for single pensioners and \$167.84 a fortnight for pensioner couples combined.

Notes:

1. In April 2003, payments to age pensioners included the base pension, the GST Supplement, Pharmaceutical Allowance and Telephone Allowance.
2. In November 2007, payments to age pensioners included the base pension, the GST Supplement, Pharmaceutical Allowance, Telephone Allowance and Utilities Allowance.
3. In May 2012, payments to age pensioners included the base pension and the Pension Supplement, which contained the range of previous supplements and allowances listed in Note 2.
4. All amounts are expressed in nominal dollars.