

# Budget 2023

## Main social welfare changes and rates of payments



An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí  
Department of Social Protection

### Budget 2023 announces €2 Billion to be spent on Welfare Budget Package

Budget 2023 provides over €2.1 Billion in a package of measures that will assist people with the Cost of Living in one-off payments in Autumn 2022 and in increases in all weekly payments with effect from January 2023.

#### Cost of Living Measures

##### October 2022

- Autumn Cost of Living Double Weeks Payment to most weekly Social Protection schemes (includes **jobseekers** receiving a Jobseeker's Payment or a Supplementary Welfare Allowance).

##### November 2022

- €400 Lump Sum Fuel Allowance Payment to all households receiving the **Fuel Allowance**
- €200 Lump Sum Payment for **pensioners** and people with a **disability** receiving the **Living Alone Allowance**
- €500 Cost of Living Lump Sum Payment to all families in receipt of the **Working Family Payment**
- Double Payment of **Child Benefit** to support families with children.
- €500 Lump Sum Cost of Living Payment will be paid to all **Carers** and people on long term **disability** payments.

##### December 2022

- 100% **Christmas Bonus** will be paid to long-term welfare recipients.

## Improvements for Pensioners

- €12 increase in the maximum weekly rate of all State Pensions and proportionate increases for people receiving a reduced rate
- The means disregard for the Fuel Allowance increases to €500 (single person) and €1,000 (couple) for people aged 70 years and over
- There will be an Autumn Cost of Living Double Pension Payment paid to all Pensioners in October
- There will be a €200 Lump Sum Payment paid in November to those who live alone
- There will be a Christmas Bonus Payment in December

## Supports for Families and Children

- There will be a double payment of Child Benefit to support all families in November
- There will be a €500 Cost of Living Lump Sum Payment paid to all families in receipt of the Working Family Payment in November
- The income thresholds for the Working Family Payment will be extended with effect from January 2023 so that more families qualify for that payment. Working Family Payment Threshold will increase by €40 per week regardless of family size
- Qualified Child Payments in weekly rates will be increased by €2 for each dependent child under/over 12 years of age with effect from January 2023
- Farming Families – Certain Agri-environmental schemes to be exempt up to €5,000 annual limit and assessed at 50% thereafter from January 2023 (limit is currently €2,540)
- €12 increase in Maternity/Paternity/Adoptive/Parents Benefit from January 2023

## Supports for Carers

- Carers will benefit from a Double Payment in October
- An additional €500 Lump Sum Cost of Living Payment will be paid to all Carers in November
- Carers will also receive the Christmas Bonus in early December.
- €12 increase in the maximum rate of the Carer's Allowance and Carer's Benefit with effect from January 2023 with proportionate increases for people receiving a reduced rate
- €2 increase for each dependent child aged under/over 12 years with effect from January 2023
- Improved means assessment for Fuel Allowance – Half-Rate Carer's Allowance will be disregarded in the means assessment with effect from January 2023

## Supports for Jobseekers and Lone Parents

- There will be an Autumn Cost of Living Double Payment paid to all Jobseekers in October
- Increase of €12 in maximum personal weekly rate of Jobseekers payments and One Parent Family Payment from January 2023
- Increase of €2 for each dependent child
- Long Term Jobseekers will also receive the Christmas Bonus in early December.

## Supports for People with Disabilities

- A special €500 Payment will be paid to people with disabilities and Carers in November
- There will be a €200 Lump Sum Payment for people receiving a disability payment and receive the living alone allowance
- The rate of Domiciliary Care Allowance will increase to €330 with effect from January 2023.
- Increase of €12 in maximum personal rate of weekly Disability payments from January 2023
- Domiciliary Care Allowance will be available in respect of children with severe illness or disability who remain in hospital for up to six months after birth
- There will be a Christmas Bonus Payment in December for long term disability schemes.
- Disablement Benefit will be disregarded in the means assessment for Fuel Allowance
- The earnings disregard for Disability Allowance and Blind Pension will be increased from €140 to €165

## Christmas Bonus

**€293.7 million to be paid to long-term welfare recipients in December 2022**

**People in receipt of the following payments will receive the Bonus:**

State Pensions and Widow's/Widower's/Surviving Civil Partner's Pensions, Benefit for 65 year olds.

Invalidity Pension, Blind Pension, Disability Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Carer's Benefit, Partial Capacity Benefit, Disablement Benefit, Domiciliary Care Allowance and Guardian's payments.

One-Parent Family Payment, Long-term Jobseeker's Allowance, Jobseeker's Transition Payment, Deserted Wife's Benefit and Allowance and Farm Assist.

Back to Work Enterprise Allowance, Community Employment, Rural Social Scheme, TÚS, Gateway and Job Initiative, Long-term Supplementary Welfare Allowance, Long-term Daily Expenses Allowance, Magdalene Commission Scheme.

For more information check [www.gov.ie/dsp](http://www.gov.ie/dsp) and <http://www.citizensinformation.ie/>

This Fact Sheet is intended as a guide only and does not purport to be a legal interpretation. The Factsheet may be updated to provide greater clarification for the public. Full information is available on [www.gov.ie/dsp](http://www.gov.ie/dsp)



All figures below for Budget 2023

| Maximum weekly rate (from January 2023)   | Personal Rate | Increase for a Qualified Adult | Increase for a Qualified Child | Increase for a Qualified Child |
|---|---------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Social Insurance Payments   | 2023          | 2023                           | 2023 Under 12                  | 2023 Age 12+                   |
| <b>State Pension (Contributory)</b>   | €             | €                              | €                              | €                              |
| - Personal Rate - Under Age 80  | 265.30        | See Below                      | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| - Personal Rate - Aged 80 and over  | 275.30        | See Below                      | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| - Increase for Qualified Adult - Under 66   |               | 176.70                         |                                |                                |
| - Increase for Qualified Adult - 66 and over  |               | 237.80                         |                                |                                |
| <b>Widow's / Widower's / Surviving Civil Partner's (Contributory) Pension / Deserted Wife's Benefit</b> |               |                                |                                |                                |
| - Under Age 66  | 225.50        |                                | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| - Aged 66 and under Age 80  | 265.30        |                                | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| - Aged 80 and over  | 275.30        |                                | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| <b>Invalidity Pension</b>   | 225.50        | 161.10                         | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| <b>Carer's Benefit / Constant Attendance Allowance</b>  | 237.00        |                                | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| <b>Disablement Benefit</b>  | 251.00        |                                | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| <b>Jobseeker's / Illness / Health &amp; Safety / Injury Benefit</b>                                     | 220.00        | 146.00                         | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| <b>Maternity / Paternity / Adoptive / Parents Benefit</b>   | 262.00        |                                |                                |                                |
| <b>Death Benefit - Under 66</b>   | 250.50        |                                | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| - Aged 66 and under Age 80  | 269.70        |                                | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| - Aged 80 and over  | 279.70        |                                | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |

| Maximum weekly rate (from January 2023)   | Personal Rate | Increase for a Qualified Adult | Increase for a Qualified Adult | Increase for a Qualified Adult |
|---|---------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Social Assistance Payments  | 2023          | 2023                           | 2023 Under 12                  | 2023 Age 12+                   |
| <b>State Pension (Non-Contributory)</b>   | €             | €                              | €                              | €                              |
| - Aged 66 and under 80  | 254.00        |                                | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| - Aged 80 and over  | 264.00        |                                | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| - Increase for Qualified Adult - Under 66   |               | 167.80                         |                                |                                |
| <b>Carer's Allowance - Under 66</b>   | 236.00        |                                | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| - Aged 66 and over  | 274.00        |                                | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| <b>Disability Allowance / Blind Pension</b>                                       | 220.00        | 146.00                         | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| <b>Widow's / Widower's / Surviving Civil Partner's (Non-Contributory) Pension</b> | 220.00        |                                |                                |                                |
| <b>One-Parent Family Payment / Deserted Wife's Allowance</b>                      | 220.00        |                                | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| <b>Farm Assist</b>  | 220.00        | 146.00                         | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| <b>Jobseeker's Allowance - Aged 25 and over</b>                                   | 220.00        | 146.00                         | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| - Under 25  | 129.70        | 129.70                         |                                |                                |
| <b>Supplementary Welfare Allowance</b>  |               |                                |                                |                                |
| - Aged 25 and over  | 218.00        | 146.00                         | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| - Under 25 living independently with State support                                | 218.00        | 146.00                         | 42.00                          | 50.00                          |
| - Under 25 not living independently   | 129.70        | 129.70                         |                                |                                |

| Working Family Payment Thresholds   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| Family Size   | 2023 Income Limit |
| 1 Child   | €591.00           |
| 2 Children  | €692.00           |
| 3 Children  | €793.00           |
| 4 Children  | €884.00           |
| 5 Children  | €1,010.00         |
| 6 Children  | €1,126.00         |
| 7 Children  | €1,262.00         |
| 8 Children or more  | €1,358.00         |
| Child Benefit   |                   |
|   | 2023 Rate         |
| Monthly Rate  | €140 per child    |
| Twins – Child Benefit is paid at one and half times the normal monthly rate for each child. All other multiple births – Child Benefit is paid at double the normal monthly rate for each child. |                   |
| Community Employment (CE)   |                   |
| Increase CE, RSS and Tús top up by €5 from January 2023   |                   |
| Other Social Welfare Payments   |                   |
|   | 2023              |
|   | Weekly Rate       |
| Guardian's Payment (Con/Non-Con)  | €203.00           |
| Fuel Allowance  | €33.00            |
| Living Alone Allowance  | €22.00            |
| Island Allowance (specified offshore islands)   | €20.00            |
|   | Monthly Rate      |
| Domiciliary Care Allowance  | €330.00           |
|   | Annual Rate       |
| Carer's Support Grant   | €1,850.00         |
|   |                   |
|   |                   |
|   |                   |
|   | Once-off Payment  |
| Widowed or Surviving Civil Partner Grant  | €8,000.00         |