



MINISTER FOR VETERANS' AFFAIRS

**SENATOR THE HON. MICHAEL RONALDSON
MINISTER FOR VETERANS' AFFAIRS
MINISTER ASSISTING THE PRIME MINISTER FOR THE
CENTENARY OF ANZAC
SPECIAL MINISTER OF STATE**

Friday, 20 March 2015

VA017

PENSION INCREASE FOR VETERANS

Veterans, their partners, war widows and widowers across Australia will see an increase to their pensions from 20 March 2015 as part of the bi-annual indexation process.

As pension rates are calculated on a daily basis, the next pension paid after the 20 March increase (on payday 2 April 2015) will be paid partly at the old rate and partly at the new rate. The first full payment at the new pension rates will be 16 April. The table below highlights the new rates.

Deeming rates have also been adjusted. From 20 March 2015, the lower deeming rate has been reduced to 1.75 per cent while the higher deeming rate has been reduced to 3.25 per cent. The reduced deeming rates mean that income support pensioners with financial assets such as cash, shares and bank accounts will have less income included in their assessment and may therefore receive a higher rate of pension.

Pension	Old Rate (per fortnight)	New Rate (per fortnight)	Increase
Service Pension—single	\$854.30	\$860.20	\$5.90
Service Pension—couples (each)	\$644.00	\$648.40	\$4.40
(combined)	\$1288.00	\$1,296.80	\$8.80
War Widow(er)'s Pension	\$868.00	\$874.10	\$6.10
Income Support Supplement	\$256.00	\$257.80	\$1.80
Special Rate (TPI) of Disability Pension	\$1,311.30	\$1,320.50	\$9.20
Intermediate Rate of Disability Pension	\$890.10	\$896.40	\$6.30
Extreme Disablement Adjustment	\$724.20	\$729.30	\$5.10
100 per cent General Rate of Disability Pension	\$466.10	\$469.40	\$3.30

These are the maximum rates of payment and include any Clean Energy Supplement payable.

Pensions are indexed twice a year in March and September. A full list of pension rates are available on www.dva.gov.au or by calling 133 254 or 1800 555 254 from regional Australia.

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