

**Version
as at 1 April 2022**



Social Security (Rates of Benefits and Allowances) Order 2021

(LI 2021/15)

Social Security (Rates of Benefits and Allowances) Order 2021: revoked, on 1 April 2022, by clause 9(1) of the Social Security (Rates of Benefits and Allowances) Order 2022 (SL 2022/28).

Patsy Reddy, Governor-General

Order in Council

At Wellington this 22nd day of February 2021

Present:

The Right Hon Jacinda Ardern presiding in Council

This order is made under sections 452, 452A, and 453 of the Social Security Act 2018 and sections 15 and 16 of the New Zealand Superannuation and Retirement Income Act 2001 on the advice and with the consent of the Executive Council.

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Note

The Parliamentary Counsel Office has made editorial and format changes to this version using the powers under subpart 2 of Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019.

Note 4 at the end of this version provides a list of the amendments included in it.

This order is administered by the Ministry of Social Development.

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Order

1 Title

This order is the Social Security (Rates of Benefits and Allowances) Order 2021.

2 Commencement

This order comes into force on 1 April 2021.

Order: confirmed, on 14 December 2021, by section 11 of the Subordinate Legislation Confirmation Act 2021 (2021 No 56).

3 Mandatory adjustments under section 452A of Social Security Act 2018

- (1) In each provision of the Social Security Act 2018 listed in the first column of Part 1 of Schedule 1 of this order, replace, in each place, the amount set out opposite to that provision in the second column with the amount set out opposite to that provision in the third column.
- (2) By virtue of section 452A(5) of the Social Security Act 2018, this clause—
 - (a) comes into force on 1 April 2021; and
 - (b) applies to benefits (within the meaning of that Act) payable on and after that date.

4 Mandatory adjustments under section 453 of Social Security Act 2018

- (1) In each provision of the Social Security Act 2018 listed in the first column of Part 2 of Schedule 1 of this order, replace, in each place, the amount set out opposite to that provision in the second column with the amount set out opposite to that provision in the third column.
- (2) By virtue of section 453(5) of the Social Security Act 2018, this clause—
 - (a) comes into force on 1 April 2021; and

- (b) applies to benefits (within the meaning of that Act) payable on and after that date.

5 Mandatory adjustments under sections 15 and 16 of New Zealand Superannuation and Retirement Income Act 2001

- (1) In each provision of the New Zealand Superannuation and Retirement Income Act 2001 listed in the first column of Part 3 of Schedule 1 of this order, replace the amount set out opposite to that provision in the second column with the amount set out opposite to that provision in the fourth column.
- (2) By virtue of section 15(6) of the New Zealand Superannuation and Retirement Income Act 2001, this clause—
 - (a) comes into force on 1 April 2021; and
 - (b) applies to New Zealand superannuation payable on and after that date.

6 Discretionary increases under section 452 of Social Security Act 2018

- (1) In each provision of the Social Security Act 2018 listed in the first column of Part 1 of Schedule 2 of this order, replace the amount set out opposite to that provision in the second column with the amount set out opposite to that provision in the third column.
- (2) In each provision of the New Zealand Superannuation and Retirement Income Act 2001 listed in the first column of Part 2 of Schedule 2 of this order, replace the amount set out opposite to that provision in the second column with the amount set out opposite to that provision in the third column.

7 Revocations

The following orders are revoked:

- (a) Social Security (Rates of Benefits and Allowances) Order 2019 (LI 2019/27);
- (b) Social Security (Rates of Benefits and Allowances) Order 2020 (LI 2020/13);
- (c) Social Security (Rates of Benefits and Allowances) (COVID-19 Recovery Package) Amendment Order 2020 (LI 2020/49);
- (d) Social Security (COVID-19 Increase to Rates of Orphan's Benefit and Unsupported Child's Benefit) Order 2020 (LI 2020/126).

Schedule 1

Mandatory adjustments

cls 3, 4, 5

Part 1

Average weekly earnings wage adjustments to social security benefits and allowances

Provision amended	Old amount (\$)	New amount (\$)
<i>Schedule 4, Part 1 (Jobseeker support)</i>		
Clause 1(a)	175.48	180.91
Clause 1(b)	213.10	219.70
Clause 1(c)	260.11	268.16
Clause 1(d)	250.74	258.50
Clause 1(e)	375.17	386.78
Clause 1(f)	375.17	386.78
Clause 1(g)(i)	200.60	206.81
Clause 1(g)(ii)	214.03	220.65
Clause 1(h)(i)	200.60	206.81
Clause 1(h)(ii)	227.46	234.50
Clause 1(j)(i)	401.20	413.62
Clause 1(j)(ii)	428.06	441.30
Clause 2	200.60	206.81
Clause 3(i)	200.60	206.81
Clause 3(ii)	214.03	220.65
<i>Schedule 4, Part 2 (Sole parent support)</i>		
Clause 1	375.17	386.78
<i>Schedule 4, Part 3 (Supported living payment)</i>		
Clause 1(a)	253.31	261.15
Clause 1(b)	307.14	316.65
Clause 1(c)	422.50	435.58
Clause 1(d)(i)	247.61	255.27
Clause 1(d)(ii)	261.04	269.12
Clause 1(e)(i)	247.61	255.27
Clause 1(e)(ii)	274.46	282.96
Clause 1(g)(i)	495.22	510.54
Clause 1(g)(ii)	522.08	538.24
Clause 1(h)(i)	247.61	255.27
Clause 1(h)(ii)	274.46	282.96
Clause 2	392.61	442.27
	59.53	61.38
Clause 7(a)	247.61	255.27
Clause 7(b)	274.46	282.96

Provision amended	Old amount (\$)	New amount (\$)
<i>Schedule 4, Part 6 (Rates and component of youth payment and young parent payment, and criteria for incentive payments)</i>		
Clause 1	213.10	219.70
Clause 2	202.34	208.60
Clause 3	375.17	386.78
Clause 4	200.60	206.81
Clause 5(a)	227.46	234.50
Clause 5(b)	214.03	220.65
<i>Schedule 4, Part 10 (Rates of generally abolished former widows' benefits under section 21 of Social Security Act 1964 as saved by clause 55 of Schedule 1 of Social Security Act 2018 for reciprocity agreement applicants or recipients)</i>		
Clause 1	375.17	386.78
Clause 2	260.11	268.16
<i>Schedule 4, Part 11 (Rates of generally abolished former DPB for solo parents under section 27B of Social Security Act 1964 as saved by clause 55 of Schedule 1 of Social Security Act 2018 for reciprocity agreement applicants or recipients)</i>		
Clause 1	375.17	386.78
Clause 2	260.11	268.16

Part 2

CPI adjustments to social security benefits and allowances

Provision amended	Old amount (\$)	New amount (\$)
<i>Schedule 4, Part 4 (Orphan's benefit)</i>		
Clause 1(a)	262.59	265.62
Clause 1(b)	244.11	246.93
Clause 1(c)	225.55	228.15
Clause 1(d)	200.71	203.03
<i>Schedule 4, Part 5 (Unsupported child's benefit)</i>		
Clause 1(a)	262.59	265.62
Clause 1(b)	244.11	246.93
Clause 1(c)	225.55	228.15
Clause 1(d)	200.71	203.03
<i>Schedule 4, Part 12 (Rates of benefits payable to long-term hospital patients)</i>		
Clause 1	46.03	46.56

Part 3

Adjustments to superannuation entitlements

Provision amended	Old amount (\$)	CPI adjusted amount (\$) (required by section 15 of NZS&RI Act)	New amount (\$) (required by sections 15 and 16 of NZS&RI Act)
<i>Schedule 1, Part 1 (Rates generally)</i>			
Clause 1(a)	490.73	496.66	506.64
Clause 1(b)	451.29	456.69	466.03

Provision amended	Old amount (\$)	CPI adjusted amount (\$) (required by section 15 of NZS&RI Act)	New amount (\$) (required by sections 15 and 16 of NZS&RI Act)
Clause 1(c)	372.27	376.73	384.46
<i>Schedule 1, Part 2 (Rates saved by Schedule 1AA)</i>			
Clause 1(b)	705.26	714.16	728.64

Note: In this Part, **NZS&RI Act** means the New Zealand Superannuation and Retirement Income Act 2001.

Schedule 2

Discretionary increases

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Part 1

Increases to social security, income limits, allowances, and asset limits

Provision amended	Old amount (\$)	New amount (\$)
<i>Schedule 4, Part 6 (Rates and component of youth payment and young parent payment, and criteria for incentive payments)</i>		
Clause 11	224.58	227.18
	274.58	277.18
Clause 12	224.58	227.18
	324.58	327.18
<i>Schedule 4, Part 9 (Child disability allowance and disability allowance)</i>		
Clause 1	49.26	49.83
Clause 2	65.36	66.11
Clause 3	40.77	41.24
<i>Schedule 5, Part 1 (Asset limits)</i>		
Clause 1	1,113.36	1,126.21
Clause 2	1,855.15	1,876.56
Clause 3	1,461.89	1,478.76
Clause 4	1,570.35	1,588.47
<i>Schedule 5, Part 2 (Income limits)</i>		
Clause 5	508.54	514.41
Clause 6	584.46	591.20
Clause 7	848.92	858.72
Clause 8	709.22	717.40
Clause 9	747.20	755.82
<i>Schedule 5, Part 3 (Disability allowance income limits)</i>		
Clause 10	549.57	555.91
Clause 11	676.61	692.52
Clause 12	1,006.82	1,031.20
Clause 13	766.47	775.31
Clause 14	807.54	816.86

Part 2

Increases to superannuation entitlements

Provision amended	Old amount (\$)	New amount (\$)
<i>Schedule 1, Part 1 (Rates generally)</i>		
Clause 3	46.03	46.56
<i>Schedule 1, Part 2 (Rates saved by Schedule 1AA)</i>		
Clause 1(a)	744.54	768.92

Michael Webster,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

Explanatory note

This note is not part of the order, but is intended to indicate its general effect.

This order, which comes into force on 1 April 2021, increases a range of benefits, allowances, asset limits, and superannuation entitlements, etc, that are payable on and after 1 April 2021. The increases reflect both mandatory adjustments and discretionary increases.

Where a net average weekly earnings adjustment is required, it reflects the increase of 3.10% in the net average wage from the December 2019 quarter to the December 2020 quarter.

Annual net average wage weekly earnings adjustments are required under section 452A of the Social Security Act 2018 for the following benefits:

- jobseeker support:
- sole parent support:
- supported living payment:
- youth payment and young parent payment:
- former widow's benefit:
- former domestic purposes benefit.

These increases are set out in *Part 1 of Schedule 1*.

Where an annual consumers price index (CPI) increase is required, it reflects the increase of 1.15% in the New Zealand Consumers Price Index from the December 2019 quarter to the December 2020 quarter, calculated for all quarters using the New Zealand Consumers Price Index (All Groups), excluding cigarettes and other tobacco products.

Annual CPI increases are required under section 453 of the Social Security Act 2018 for the following benefits: orphan's benefit, unsupported child's benefit, and the hospital rate.

These increases are set out in *Part 2 of Schedule 1*.

Annual CPI increases are also required, under section 15 of the New Zealand Superannuation and Retirement Income Act 2001, for superannuation entitlements. Those increases may sometimes be more than the CPI increase in order to meet the further requirements (in sections 15(3)(a) and (b) and 16 of that Act) that the increases maintain a specified relationship to the net average wage and also maintain the proportional relationship of specified rates. The total of the increases required by both sections 15 and 16 of the Act is set out in *Part 3 of Schedule 1*.

The discretionary increases made under section 452 of the Social Security Act 2018 are in respect of—

- the abatement rates and income limits for the youth payment and young parent payment:
- the rates of child disability allowance and disability allowance:
- various asset and income limits that may be applied to certain assistance:
- the disability allowance income limits:
- the hospital rate payable to a superannuitant set out in clause 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the New Zealand Superannuation and Retirement Income Act 2001:
- the rate payable to a superannuitant set out in clause 1(a) of Part 2 of Schedule 1 of the New Zealand Superannuation and Retirement Income Act 2001.

These increases are set out in *Schedule 2*.

This order is a confirmable instrument, and an annual confirmable instrument, under section 47B of the Legislation Act 2012. It is revoked, or taken to have been invalid for past operation, at the close of 30 June 2022 unless earlier confirmed by an Act of Parliament. That stated time is the applicable deadline under section 47C(1)(a) of the Legislation Act 2012.

Issued under the authority of the Legislation Act 2019.
Date of notification in *Gazette*: 25 February 2021.

Notes

1 *General*

This is a consolidation of the Social Security (Rates of Benefits and Allowances) Order 2021 that incorporates the amendments made to the legislation so that it shows the law as at its stated date.

2 *Legal status*

A consolidation is taken to correctly state, as at its stated date, the law enacted or made by the legislation consolidated and by the amendments. This presumption applies unless the contrary is shown.

Section 78 of the Legislation Act 2019 provides that this consolidation, published as an electronic version, is an official version. A printed version of legislation that is produced directly from this official electronic version is also an official version.

3 *Editorial and format changes*

The Parliamentary Counsel Office makes editorial and format changes to consolidations using the powers under subpart 2 of Part 3 of the Legislation Act 2019. See also PCO editorial conventions for consolidations.

4 *Amendments incorporated in this consolidation*

Social Security (Rates of Benefits and Allowances) Order 2022 (SL 2022/28): clause 9(1)

Subordinate Legislation Confirmation Act 2021 (2021 No 56): section 11