



Market Figures

There were 2,157,000 people insured with inpatient health insurance plans at the end of June 2017. This represents an increase in the number of insured people of 24,000 over the past 12 months. The market peaked at almost 2.3 million at the end of 2008.

In addition to those insured with inpatient plans, there were 103,000 insured with products solely providing outpatient benefits or health insurance cash plans.

In-patient health insurance plans	Total Insured 000's
Dec 2008	2,297
Dec 2009	2,260
Dec 2010	2,228
Dec 2011	2,163
Dec 2012	2,099
Dec 2013	2,049
Dec 2014	2,025
Dec 2015	2,122
Mar 2016	2,126
June 2016	2,133
Sept 2016	2,140
Dec 2016	2,152
Mar 2017	2,156
June 2017	2,157

Based on CSO population estimates, the percentage of the population with inpatient health insurance plans stands at 45.8% at end June 2017 compared to the 2008 peak of 50.9%

Market News

Product News

Vhi Healthcare will change their policy in relation to their Vhi Swiftcare Clinics from 1 September 2017 to make them accessible to Vhi customers only. They have implemented benefit changes across all their plans of increased Swiftcare benefits, to reflect this decision.

Vhi enhanced the benefits of PMI 38 14 on 22 August 2017 to include increases to home birth, post-natal home nursing, the new born baby programme, parent accompanying child, breastfeeding consultations, cancer care support, Swiftcare benefit and consultant consultations. There is also an increase to the day to day annual maximum benefit payable and new benefits such as 3D and 4D scans and early pregnancy scans, Manual Lymph Drainage, pre and post-natal yoga / pilates, and child speech & language therapy.

Laya Healthcare are increasing the cost of Simply Connect Plus and Simply Health Choice by 3.5% and 3.3% on adult premiums respectively, on 1 September 2017



Industry News

New plans

Irish Life Health released 4 new plans on 1 August 2017; 4D Health 1, 4D Health 2, 4D Health 3 and 4D Health 5. 4D Health 1 comes with 1 Personalised Package, 4D Health 2 comes with 2 Personalised Packages, 4D Health 3 comes with 3 Personalised Packages and 4D Health 5 comes with 4 Personalised Packages; each from a range of 6 Personalised Packages. The 6 available Personalised Packages are:

- 1) Fertility Extra
- 2) Maternity Extra
- 3) Children Extra
- 4) You Extra
- 5) Sports Extra
- 6) Travel Extra

4D Health 1 (€1,045.40 per adult, €276.40 per child) provides cover for a semi-private room in private hospitals with a €200 inpatient excess per claim, 4D Health 2 (€1,271.90 per adult, €313.80 per child) provides cover for a semi-private room in private hospitals with a €150 inpatient excess per claim, 4D Health 3 (€1,441.70 per adult, €407.80 per child) provides cover for a private room in private hospitals with a €75 inpatient excess per claim, and 4D Health 5 (€1,668.20 per adult, €453.30 per child) provides cover for a private room in private hospitals with a €50 inpatient excess per claim.

Vhi Healthcare launched PMI 14 10 (€1,305.29 per adult, €336.67 per child 1-3) on 1 August 2017. This plan provides cover for a semi-private room in private hospitals with a €75 inpatient excess per claim and high day to day benefits.

Laya Healthcare launched 360 Care (€1,984 per adult, €513.74 per child) on 1 July 2017. This plan covers a private room in a private hospital with no excess and very high day to day benefits. Laya will also launch 360 Care Select (€1,750 per adult, €447.98 per child) on 1 September 2017 which differs from 360 Care only by an excess of €150 per inpatient claim applied to the fourth and subsequent claims only.

Special Offers

Vhi Healthcare is offering half price child prices on all their One plans and the Nurses Plan Select and Teachers Plan Select from 1 August to 31 October 2017.

Laya Healthcare will offer half price child prices on Essential Connect Health from 1 September and is reducing the cost of ConnectCare 100 by 4.4% on adult premiums.

Annual Report 2016

"The Health Insurance Authority has published its Annual Report for 2016. The report showed that the private health insurance market was the largest non-life insurance market with total premiums of €2.53 billion in 2016. The market continued to recover in 2016 with an increase in the total number of lives insured to 2.15 million at December 2016, an increase of 30,000 on December 2015. Average claims paid per insured person increased by 1%. The average amount paid for in-patient cover remained broadly unchanged at €1,177 per insured person (€1,173 in 2015). You can read the full report here bit.ly/HIAAnnualReport2016."