



the eircom
SPIDERS

2012 WINNER

Market Figures

There were 2,099,000 people insured with inpatient health insurance plans at the end of December 2012. This represents a reduction in the number of insured people of 10,000 over the quarter and 64,000 (2.9%) over the year. The market peaked at almost 2.3 million at the end of 2008.

In addition to those insured with inpatient plans, there were 101,000 insured with products solely providing outpatient benefits or health insurance cash plans.

Private health insurance in-patient plans	Total Insured 000's
Dec 2008	2,297
Dec 2009	2,260
Dec 2010	2,228
Dec 2011	2,163
Mar 2012	2,139
Jun 2012	2,123
Sep 2012	2,109
Dec 2012	2,099

Based on CSO population estimates for April 2012, the percentage of the population with inpatient health insurance plans currently stands at 45.8% down from the 2008 peak of 50.9%.

Total health insurance premiums paid in 2012 amounted to €2.23bn, an increase of 9% from 2011. The average premium paid per insured person (including children) in 2012 was €1,048 (€838 net of tax relief at source), an increase of 12% from 2011.

General Price Increases

Vhi Healthcare

Vhi Healthcare increased premiums on 15 corporate plans between 22 and 29 December 2013. Vhi Healthcare have announced it will increase premiums across 50 plans by 4% - 8.5% on 1 March 2013.

Laya Healthcare

Laya Healthcare increased premiums on 25 plans on 1 January 2013 by 4%-13% and has announced that it will increase premiums from 31 March 2013 by 6% - 16.5%.

Aviva Health

Aviva health has announced that it will increase premiums from 31 March 2013 by 0% -6.4%.

Glohealth

GloHealth increased the premiums of their core plans, outpatient only plans and cash plans on 30 January 2013 and 2 February 2013 by 4%-8%. Their add-on Personalised Packages increased in price by 10%.

Market News

Website Awards

We are delighted to announce that www.hia.ie has been shortlisted for two categories in the Digital Media Awards. The categories we are shortlisted for are the Financial Services category and the Government category. We look forward to hearing the results on 1 March 2013. The website had over 450,000 visitors in 2012 and almost 100,000 visitors in January 2013, reflecting the high level of renewals in January. A large majority of the visitors used the plan comparison tool which provides consumer friendly comparisons of all products in the market.



New Plans

Laya Healthcare launched 3 new plans on 12 January 2013; Teach Choice (€714.44 per adult), Teach Plus (€1014.44 per adult) and Essential Connect Saver (€798 per adult). Teach Choice provides cover up to a semi-private room in a public hospital and Teach Plus and Essential Connect Saver provide cover up to the level of a semi-private room in a private hospital with an excess per private hospital claim.

Aviva launched a new plan called Health Plan 03 (€930.20) on 1 December 2012. This plan provides cover for a private room in public hospitals and cover for a semi-private room in a private hospital with an excess of €125 excess per private hospital claim.

Aviva Health will launch Health Plan 04 (€3,302.40 per adult) on 1 March 2013, which provides cover for a private room in public hospitals and cover for a private room in a private hospital, along with full cover for semi-private accommodation in the Blackrock Clinic, the Mater Private and the Beacon Hospital.

Other Market News

The Oireachtas enacted the Health Insurance (Amendment) Act 2012 in December. The legislation creates a Risk Equalisation Fund administered by the Health Insurance Authority. The Risk Equalisation Fund supports the community rated market by providing age related health credits in respect of those over the age of 60 helping to meet their higher claims costs. The health credits vary by age, gender and level of cover. Credits are also provided in respect of each overnight stay in a hospital bed in private or semi-private accommodation. These credits are funded by a community rating health insurance levy paid by health insurers, which varies by level of cover.

All of the money collected under the levy is distributed to the market in credits, so that the process is market neutral. The health credits and the community rating health insurance levy applying from 31 March, 2013 are as follows:

Health Credits	Male	Female	Male	Female
60 - 64	€375	€250	€425	€275
65 - 69	€900	€650	€1,050	€775
70 - 74	€1,450	€975	€1,700	€1,150
75 - 79	€2,050	€1,550	€2,425	€1,800
80+	€2,850	€1,925	€3,375	€2,275

A hospital bed utilisation payment of €75 is paid in respect on each night spent in private or semi-private accommodation by an insured person.

Community Rating Levy	Non Advanced Cover	Advanced Cover
Adult	€290	€350
Child	€100	€120