



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

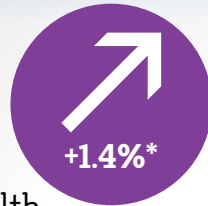
May 2018

Market Figures

2.187m

people insured with inpatient health insurance plans at the end of March 2018.

*an increase of 31,000 on March 2017



45.3%

of the population currently hold inpatient health insurance plans.

*an increase of 0.2% on March 2017



In addition to those insured with inpatient plans, there were 104,000 insured with products solely providing outpatient benefits or health insurance cash plans.

Based on CSO population estimates

Historical Trends

31 March 2018

2.187m

31 December 2017

2.174m

31 March 2017

2.156m

Peak 31 December 2008

2.297m

People with inpatient health insurance plans

Full market statistics are available at: www.hia.ie/publication/market-statistics

Points of note from biennial consumer survey

Consumer satisfaction with health insurers high, up 3% to 89%.

Only 21% of adults under the age of 35 have private health insurance.

Less than one in four health insurance customers have ever switched.

Link: bit.ly/ConsumerSurvey_2017





New Plans

Laya Healthcare: Connect Simplicity

Laya Healthcare launched a new plan, Connect Simplicity, on 1 May 2018. Connect Simplicity (€1,285 per adult and €296 per child) provides cover for a private room in public and private hospitals and the Beacon hospital with a €150 excess on the first two inpatient private hospital claims per year only. Day case procedures carry an excess of €100 per claim.

The plan also has significant outpatient benefits such as a 50% refund for consultant's visits, GP costs (100% refund for first three visits to HSE GP out of hours service) and physiotherapy costs with a €1 excess and €1,000 out-patient refund cap per member.

Vhi: PMI 06 10

Vhi Healthcare launched a new plan, PMI 06 10, on 1 May 2018. PMI 06 10 (€1357.36 per adult, €336.39 per child 1-3) provides cover for a private room in a public hospital and cover for a semi-private room in a private hospital including the Beacon Hospital with an excess of €75 per private hospital claim. Listed orthopaedic and ophthalmic procedures are covered 80% in private hospitals with an excess of €75 per private hospital claim.

The plan also provides significant cover for outpatient

benefits, such as 75% cover towards GP visits, 50% cover towards consultant visits and 50% for alternative practitioners with a €1 outpatient excess. There are also significant fertility and maternity outpatient benefits.

Vhi: PMI 04 10

Vhi Healthcare also launched PMI 04 10 (€1339.37 per adult, €362.19 per child 1-3) on the 1 April 2018. This plan provides cover for a private room in a public hospital and cover for a semi-private room in a private hospital, including the Beacon, with an excess of €75 per private hospital claim. There is no cover in the Bon Secours hospitals in Cork, Galway and Tralee, the Blackrock Clinic and the Galway Clinic.

Listed orthopaedic procedures are covered 60% in the private hospitals covered by the plan. Listed ophthalmic procedures are covered 80% in the private hospitals covered by the plan with an excess of €75 per private hospital claim.

The plan also provides significant cover for outpatient benefits, such as 75% cover towards GP visits, 50% cover towards consultant visits and 50% X 7 visits to alternative practitioners with a €1 outpatient excess. There are also significant fertility and maternity outpatient benefits.

All plans on the market can be compared on www.healthinsurancecomparison.ie

Price Changes

Vhi Healthcare announced on the 1 May 2018 that they would be introducing a price cut averaging 2% on most of its plans from 1 July 2018. This being the third price cut by the insurer in the last 12 months, Vhi has promised to apply all three price cuts to customers from 1 July 2018. Vhi's 1 March 2018 price reduction ranged from 4-7% on adult premiums across 54 plans and their 1 November 2017 price reduction on 11 plans amounted to reductions of 1-9% on adult premiums.

The Authority has not received formal notification of these changes at this time.

ESB MPF increased their rates by 2.5% on 1 April 2018.

Irish Life Health will be offering 1 month free on their Benefit range of plans from 12 June 2018. On the same date, Irish Life Health will also change the premiums of 93 plans from +3% to -10% on adult premiums.

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