

**Changes in the Cost of a Minimum Essential Budget (MEB) from 2006-2009<sup>1</sup> for all Household Types**

- **No entitlement to secondary benefits; housing and car costs excluded**

<b>Family Type</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Increase in MEB Between 2006 - 2009</b>
Pensioner Couple	€30.40	€39.89	€54.27	€42.29	€1.89
Lone Female Pensioner <sup>3</sup>	€41.16	€49.44	€60.04	€67.36	€6.20
Lone Parent & Two Children 3 & 10 <sup>4</sup> (working full-time)	€45.61	€58.05	€80.94	€58.26	€2.65
Two parents & two children 3 & 10 (1 adult working full-time)	€35.22	€48.93	€69.52	€61.47	€6.25
Two parents and two children 10 & 15 (1 adult working full-time)	€46.42	€62.36	€87.48	€77.93	€1.51
Single Male (working full-time)	€51.84	€56.33	€65.82	€64.22	€2.38

<sup>1</sup> The MEB was updated on an annual basis according to the inflation figure for each category of goods. For the 2007 figures the inflation period was mid June 2006-mid June 2007, for 2008 the inflation period used was mid June 2007 – mid June 2008, for 2009 the inflation period was mid June 2008 – mid June 2009.

<sup>2</sup> In 2009 there has been a fall in the cost of a Minimum Essential Budget for all households bar the Lone Female Pensioner (reason explained in footnote 3) due to a fall of 5.4% in inflation in the period mid June 2008 – mid June 2009.

<sup>3</sup> Health related costs are deducted from the lone female pensioner for 2006, 2007 and 2008 as she automatically qualified for a medical card as she was aged 70+. In 2009 however, Health Related Costs are not deducted as automatic entitlement to a medical card was abolished under changes to the medical card scheme that came into effect in 2009.

<sup>4</sup> As the lone parent is working full-time, expenditure costs include full-time private childcare.