

PENSIONS POLICY INSTITUTE

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Pension Facts

December 2011

The PPI has collected this data from a variety of sources, reflecting the latest available information. The PPI cannot confirm the accuracy of primary source data.

Pension Facts

The data shown here has been selected by the PPI to answer those questions we are most frequently asked – or those questions which we suggest should be more frequently asked - but where the data is not easily available from other sources.

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Demographics

q **Table 1: Projected number of people in the UK of state pension age (SPA) or older:**

	Projected number of people of SPA or older (thousands)					
	2011	2015	2020	2030	2040	2050
Women	7,430	7,097	6,547	7,926	8,847	8,894
Men	4,646	5,251	5,448	6,309	7,475	7,550
Total	12,075	12,348	11,995	14,236	16,323	16,445
Total as % of working age population	31%	31%	28%	32%	36%	34%

Important: The table above contains projections that account for the increase in women's SPA from 60 to 65 between 2010 and 2018. The table also takes into account planned increase in the SPA for both men and women to 66 in 2020, and the announcement in the 2011 Autumn Statement that the increase in SPA to 67 is planned to be brought forward to occur between 2026 and 2028. It is assumed that the increase from 67 to 68 takes place between 2044 and 2046 as currently legislated.²

q **Table 2: Projected life expectancy at age 65³**

UK population	Cohort life expectancy on reaching age 65 in the year shown (years) ⁴					
	2011	2015	2020	2030	2040	2050
Women	23.8	24.3	24.9	26.0	27.1	28.2
Men	21.1	21.7	22.2	23.4	24.6	25.8

These cohort projected life expectancies allow for future projected changes in mortality rates. They show how long a person is expected to live based on age-specific mortality rates at each age for each relevant future year.

¹ ONS 2010-based principal projections for the UK

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/npp/national-population-projections/2010-based-projections/index.html>

² see PPI (2011) *The Pensions Primer* for further information

³ ONS Cohort expectations of life <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lifetables/period-and-cohort-life-expectancy-tables/2010-based/index.html>

⁴ Based on actual mortality rates and projected calendar year mortality rates from the 2010-based principal population projections

State pensions

General

□ **Table 3: Total spending on state pensions and other benefits for pensioners⁵ (£ billions and % GDP)⁶**

Type of benefit	Real terms, 2006/7 prices (£ billions and % GDP)			
	2006/7 estimate	2015/6 projection	2025/6 projection	2035/6 projection
Basic State Pension	48.6	61.7	84.8	121.2
SERPS/ S2P	9.8	16.0	22.6	33.6
Pension Credit	7.6	7.6	6.6	6.2
Other pension benefits ⁷	2.9	2.5	2.5	2.7
Total pensions (% GDP)	68.9 (4.9%)	87.9 (5.0%)	116.6 (5.3%)	163.8 (5.9%)
Housing related benefits ⁸ (% GDP)	7.4 (0.5%)	7.9 (0.5%)	8.3 (0.4%)	10.2 (0.4%)
Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance (% GDP)	8.1 (0.6%)	10.2 (0.6%)	12.2 (0.6%)	15.1 (0.5%)
Total pensions and benefits paid to pensioners (% GDP)	84.5 (6.0%)	106.0 (6.1%)	137.0 (6.2%)	189.1 (6.8%)

Important: The table above contains official Government projections under the new, post-reformed system.

⁵ The table contains projections based on the post-reformed system of state pensions outlined in the Pensions Act 2007

⁶ DWP (2007) Benefit expenditure tables www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd4/LT3.xls. Refer to Table 25 for other state spending on tax relief. These are the official Government projections.

⁷ 'Other pension benefits' comprise Winter Fuel Payments, Over 75s TV Licences and Christmas Bonus

⁸ 'Housing-related benefits' comprise Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit in Great Britain, Rate Rebate in Northern Ireland, and Discretionary Housing Payments

q **Table 4: Average proportion of pensioner income paid from state and private pension provision⁹**

	State	Private
1997/8	55%	45%
1998/9	54%	46%
1999/0	55%	45%
2000/1	53%	47%
2001/2	55%	45%
2002/3	56%	44%
2003/4	54%	46%
2004/5	54%	46%
2005/6	55%	45%
2006/7	53%	47%
2007/8	52%	48%
2008/9	53%	47%
2009/10	53%	47%
Target	40%	60%

Pension income from the state includes all pension and benefits delivered by the state to people over state pension age: retirement pensions, disability benefits and income related benefits such as Pension Credit.

Pension income from private pensions includes all occupational and personal pension (including contracted-out pensions and public sector pensions). Also includes investment income, including income from annuities, property, stocks and shares and savings.

⁹ PPI analysis based on DWP (2011) *Pensioners' Incomes Series 2009/10*

Basic State Pension

q **Table 5: Current full amount of Basic State Pension (BSP) and projected future amounts¹⁰**

Tax Year	BSP - Weekly Amount (Projected)	Weekly National Average Earnings ¹¹ (Projected)	Projected BSP as a percentage of NAE
Apr 2010	£97.65	£598	16.3%
Apr 2011	£102.15	£609	16.8%
Apr 2012	£107.45	£629	17.1%
Apr 2015	£125.40	£734	17.1%
Apr 2020	£158.40	£914	17.3%
Apr 2025	£200.00	£1,139	17.6%
Apr 2030	£252.55	£1,420	17.8%
Apr 2035	£318.75	£1,769	18.0%

Important: The table above contains projections that account for changes in the indexation of BSP under the new, post-reformed pension system.

q **Table 6: Average amount of Basic State Pension (BSP) received¹²**

	Average amount of BSP received per week (March 2009)	Average amount of BSP as a % of the full BSP ¹³
Men	£83.74	88%
Women	£70.26	74%
All persons	£75.33	79%

¹⁰ PPI calculation. Assumes the Basic State Pension is up-rated in line with the Triple Lock from April 2011, which in the long-term is assumed to exceed average earnings growth.

¹¹ This includes only full time employees. 2010 figure comes from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings.

¹² Information provided by the DWP from a 5% sample of administrative records taken March 2009.

Excludes increments awarded for deferring the state pension.

¹³ Full BSP 2009/10 = £95.25. Figures rounded to the nearest 1%.

q **Table 7: Proportion of those reaching State Pension Age (SPA) entitled to less than the full amount of Basic State Pension (BSP)¹⁴**

	Projections			
	2008	2010	2025	2050
Men	10%	5%	5%	10%
Women	60%	25%	5%	10%

Important: The table above contains official Government projections under the new, post-reformed system. The figures are all rounded to the nearest 5%.

q **Table 8: Number of working age people¹⁵ who have accrued a qualifying year for the Basic State Pension (BSP) by method of accrual, UK (2009)¹⁶**

	Number of working age people (millions) ¹⁷		
	Contributing	Credited-in	Not qualifying
Men	13.4	4.1	2.5
Women	10.8	5.0	2.4
Total	24.3	9.1	4.9
Total as a % of working age people¹⁸	63%	24%	13%

¹⁴ Information provided by DWP

¹⁵ Between the ages 18 to 59 (women) / 64 (men)

¹⁶ PPI estimates derived from DWP (2011) *Tabulation Tool*. 'Credited-in' includes people eligible for Home Responsibilities Protection (HRP).

¹⁷ Figures rounded to the nearest 0.1 million

¹⁸ Figures rounded to the nearest 1%

State Second Pension

q **Table 9:** Average amount of SERPS and State Second Pension received per week, 2007/8¹⁹

	Not including income from contracted-out pensions	Including contracted-out deductions ²⁰
Men	£23.12	£47.97
Women	£10.95	£17.17
Total	£15.50	£28.71

q **Table 10:** Number of working age people²¹ accruing entitlement to State Second Pension (S2P) or contracted-out equivalent, UK (2009/10)²²

	Number of working age people (millions) ²³		
	Contributing	Credited-in	Not qualifying
Men	12.0	1.4	6.6
Women	10.3	2.7	5.3
Total	22.2	4.1	11.9
Total as a % of working age people	58%	11%	31%

¹⁹ Information provided by the DWP from a 5% sample of administrative records taken March 2008.

²⁰ See PPI (2011) *The Pensions Primer*

²¹ Between the ages 18 to 59 (women) / 64 (men)

²² PPI analysis of DWP (2011) *Lifetime Labour Market Database*

<http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=tabtool>

²³ Figures rounded to the nearest 0.1 million

Pension Credit

q **Table 11: Number of Pension Credit claimants (overall and by component being received), May 2011²⁴**

	Number of claimants by component being received (thousands)			
	Guarantee Credit only	Savings Credit only	Guarantee Credit and Savings Credit	Total Pension Credit
Women	537	320	766	1,623
Men	400	270	382	1,052
Total²⁵	937	590	1,148	2,675

q **Table 12: Take-up of households receiving different types of Pension Credit, 2008/9²⁶**

Type of benefit	Eligible households (thousands ²⁷)	Actual households (thousands ²⁸)	Implied take-up
Guarantee Credit only	1,040 - 1,210 ²⁹	860	71 - 83%
Guarantee Credit and Savings Credit	1,410 - 1,630	1,170	72 - 83%
Savings Credit only	1,080 - 1,300	580	45 - 54%
All Pension Credit	3,590 - 4,210	2,610	62 - 73%

²⁴ DWP (2011) Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=tabtool> . These figures are for households. Couples who claim Pension Credit are counted once in the table.

²⁵ Results may not sum to totals shown due to rounding

²⁶ DWP (2009) *Income-Related benefits: estimates of take-up 2008/9*. Estimates of the number of entitled non-recipients have been annualised. Estimates of the number of households receiving Pension Credit will differ from those in Table 11 as they use a different data source and refer to a different time period.

²⁷ Figures rounded to the nearest 10,000

²⁸ The numbers of actual households differs from the numbers actually claiming in Table 11 because they use a different source for consistency with the numbers of households eligible

²⁹ A range exists to take into account the uncertainties of the estimates

q Table 13: Average weekly amounts of Pension Credit received by claimants (by component)³⁰

	Guarantee Credit only	Savings Credit only	Guarantee Credit and Saving Credit	All claimants
May 2005	75.43	10.83	39.87	43.62
May 2006	79.56	12.39	43.11	46.75
May 2007	83.74	13.36	46.11	50.04
May 2008	85.07	13.62	48.29	52.69
May 2009	88.86	13.71	50.81	55.56
May 2010	90.73	14.01	51.75	57.39
May 2011	92.51	13.57	52.04	57.74

³⁰ DWP (2011) Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study
<http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=tabtool>

Private Pensions

q **Table 14: Proportion of working-age people currently accruing³¹ a non-state pension (2009/10)³²**

Age	Women	Men
16 - 19	2%	3%
20 - 29	21%	19%
30 - 39	41%	44%
40 - 49	47%	55%
50 - SPA ³³	43%	47%
All	37 ⁰ %	40 ⁰ %

q **Table 15: Proportion of pensioners receiving an occupational or personal pension (2008/9)³⁴**

	Occupational pension ³⁵	Personal pension
Single pensioners	54%	10%
Pensioner couples	68%	23%
All pensioners	61 ⁰ %	17 ⁰ %

q **Table 16: Average amount received by a pensioner from occupational and personal pensions; average of those receiving something more than zero³⁶**

	Average amount received 2009/10 prices (£ per week)			
	Occupational pension ³⁷		Personal pension	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
Single pensioners	£121	£79	£74	£34
Pensioner couples	£238	£166	£113	£49
All pensioners	£184	£116	£101	£42

³¹ 'Accruing' refers to the building up of rights in a pension scheme

³² PPI analysis of Family Resources Survey 2009/10

³³ State pension age (SPA) 65 for men; 60 for women. So for men, the figure shown relates to the 50 - 64 age group and for women the figure relates to the 50 - 59 age group.

³⁴ DWP (2011) *The Pensioners' Incomes Series 2009/10*

³⁵ Income from occupational pensions includes income from occupational pensions in both the public and private sector. Pensioners may be receiving income from more than one pension.

³⁶ DWP (2011) *The Pensioners' Incomes Series 2009/10*. Averages do not include pensioners who have no income from occupational or personal pensions.

³⁷ Income from occupational pensions includes income from occupational pensions in both the public and private sector. Pensioners may be receiving income from more than one pension.

q **Table 17: Average size of pension fund used to buy an annuity**³⁸

Year	Average size of pension fund
2002	£22,047
2003	£21,703
2004	£21,492
2005	£26,830
2006	£26,399
2007	£24,841
2008	£25,150
2009	£23,375
2010	£25,874

q **Table 18: Number of occupational pension schemes by status (2007 estimates)**³⁹

Type of Scheme	Number of schemes by status				
	Open	Closed	Frozen	Winding up	Total
Private (DB and DC)	28,680	18,990	4,350	1,780	53,800
Public	130	120	60	0	310
Total	28,810	19,110	4,410	1,780	54,110

This information was not updated in the most recent OPSS due to concerns with data reliability, so the figures still relate to 2007 and may not be consistent with the information in tables based on OPSS (2008)

q **Table 19: Number of occupational pension schemes by size and sector (2007 estimates)**⁴⁰

Scheme size (total membership)	Type of scheme by sector		
	Private Sector (DC and DB)	Public Sector	Total ⁴¹
5,000 +	460	130	580
1,000 - 4,999	1,060	70	1,140
100 - 999	3,900	50	3,950
12 - 99	4,050	30	4,070
2 - 11	44,340	30	44,370
Total	53,800	310	54,110

This information was not updated in the most recent OPSS due to concerns with data reliability, so the figures still relate to 2007 and may not be consistent with the information in tables based on OPSS (2008)

³⁸ Information supplied by the Association of British Insurers (2011). Estimates are based on the fund used to purchase an annuity, i.e. after any lump-sum available from the fund has been taken.

³⁹ ONS (2008) *Occupational Pension Schemes Survey 2007*

⁴⁰ ONS (2008) *Occupational Pension Schemes Survey 2007*

⁴¹ Results may not sum to totals shown due to rounding.

Table 20: Number of private sector occupational pension schemes by size and type (2007 estimates)⁴²

Scheme size (total membership)	Defined Benefit	Defined Contribution	'Sectionalised' ⁴³	Total ⁴⁴
5,000 +	70	30	220	320
1,000 - 4,999	210	50	340	600
100 - 999	2,150	310	290	2,750
12 - 99	1,290	1,130	*	2,240
2 - 11	4,310	36,870	*	41,180
Total⁴⁵	8,490	38,380	850	47,720

This information was not updated in the most recent OPSS due to concerns with data reliability, so the figures still relate to 2007 and may not be consistent with the information in tables based on OPSS (2008)

q Table 21: Number of members of occupational pension schemes (2010 estimates)⁴⁶

Type of membership		Number of members (millions)						
		1991	1995	2000	2007	2008	2009	2010
Active members	Private sector	6.5	6.2	5.7	3.6	3.6	3.3	3.0
	Public sector	4.2	4.1	4.4	5.2	5.4	5.4	5.3
	Total	10.7	10.3	10.1	8.8	9.0	8.7	8.3
Pensions in payment		7.0	8.5	8.2	8.5	8.8	9.0	9.0
Preserved pension entitlements		4.5	7.0	6.7	9.4	9.9	10.1	9.8

⁴² ONS (2008) *Occupational Pension Schemes Survey 2007*

⁴³ Sectionalised schemes are those where both Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution pensions are available to members in different parts of the scheme. For example a Defined Benefit scheme may be closed to new members, who are in a Defined Contribution part of the scheme. * represents less than 10.

⁴⁴ Excludes schemes where type is unknown and public sector schemes

⁴⁵ Results may not sum to totals shown due to rounding.

⁴⁶ ONS (2011) *Occupational Pension Schemes Survey 2010*

q **Table 22: Contribution rates to private sector schemes by scheme size (as a percentage of salary) in 2010⁴⁷**

Scheme size (total membership)	Weighted average contribution rates (% of salary)					
	Defined Benefit			Defined Contribution		
	Member	Employer	Total	Member	Employer	Total
10,000+	4.9	15.6	20.5	2.5	6.7	9.2
5,000 to 9,999	5.8	16.9	22.7	2.6	7.1	9.7
1,000 to 4,999	5.5	16.1	21.6	2.9	4.5	7.4
100 to 999	5.1	15.4	20.5	3.5	8.2	11.7
12 to 99	5.3	18.6	21.8	2.8	5.8	8.6
Total	5.1	15.8	20.8	2.7	6.2	8.9

q **Table 23: Number of active members of occupational pension schemes (million)⁴⁸**

	1991	2000	2004	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Private	6.5	5.7	4.8	4.0	3.6	3.6	3.3	3.0
Public	4.2	4.4	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.4	5.4	5.3
Total	10.7	10.1	9.8	9.2	8.8	9.0	8.7	8.3

q **Table 24: Number of active members of private sector occupational pensions by benefit structure (million)^{49, 50}**

		1995	2000	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Open	Defined Benefit	4.9	4.1	1.9	2.1	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.0
	Defined Contribution	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9
Closed	Defined Benefit	0.2	0.5	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.1
	Defined Contribution	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

q **Table 25: Number of members of occupational pension schemes (million)⁵¹**

	1991	1995	2000	2004	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Active Members	10.7	10.3	10.1	9.8	9.2	8.8	9.0	8.7	8.3
Pensions in payment	7.0	8.5	8.2	9.0	8.2	8.5	8.8	9.0	9.0
Preserved pension entitlement	4.5	7.0	6.7	9.3	9.4	9.4	9.9	10.1	9.8

⁴⁷ ONS (2011) *Occupational Pension Schemes Survey 2010*. Includes schemes where contributions are zero. As these contributions are a proportion of salary, they will include any contracted-out rebate received by the employer/employee.

⁴⁸ ONS (2011) *Occupational Pension Schemes Survey 2010*. Changes to methodology for 2006 onwards mean that comparisons with 2005 and earlier should be treated with caution.

⁴⁹ ONS (2011) *Occupational Pension Schemes Survey 2010*

⁵⁰ The figures may not match those in Table 23 due to rounding.

⁵¹ ONS (2011) *Occupational Pension Schemes Survey 2010*

q **Table 26: PPF funding levels of DB pension schemes**^{52, 53}

	Deficit of schemes in deficit (£bn)	Number of schemes in deficit	Surplus of schemes in surplus (£bn)	Number of schemes in surplus	Aggregate balance (£bn)
Mar-10	49.1	3,770	87.4	2,826	38.3
Apr-10	50.2	3,808	85.8	2,788	35.6
May-10	69.9	4,258	65.5	2,338	-4.4
Jun-10	91.4	4,534	52.9	2,062	-38.5
Jul-10	73.7	4,292	63.2	2,268	-10.5
Aug-10	118.6	4,757	44.8	1,803	-73.8
Sep-10	95.7	4,498	55.5	2,062	-40.2
Oct-10	73.4	4,244	68.3	2,316	-5.1
Nov-10	70.7	4,202	69.7	2,358	-1.0
Dec-10	61.0	3,953	82.7	2,607	21.7
Jan-11	48.8	3,696	94.9	2,864	46.1
Feb-11	48.8	3,675	97.2	2,885	48.4
Mar-11	50.2	3,692	95.7	2,841	45.5
Apr-11	55.1	3,791	92.3	2,742	37.2
Apr-11 ⁵⁴	71.3	4,139	73.6	2,394	2.3
May-11	80.8	4,311	67.3	2,222	-13.5
Jun-11	77.6	4,245	69.3	2,288	-8.3
Jul-11	116.7	4,684	49.4	1,849	-67.3
Aug-11	154.0	5,012	36.5	1,521	-117.5
Sep-11	220.9	5,345	24.5	1,188	-196.4
Oct-11	190.2	5,175	31.7	1,358	-158.6
Nov-11	246.7	5,390	24.5	1,143	-222.1

⁵² PPF 7800 Index. Funding position calculated based on s179 basis. This is what would have to be paid to an insurance company to take on the payment of Pension Protection Fund levels of compensation.

⁵³ For further information see <http://www.pensionprotectionfund.org.uk/Pages/PPF7800Index.aspx>

⁵⁴ These figures are based on revised valuation assumption guidance issued by the Pension Protection Fund on 14 April 2011. This means they are not directly comparable with previous months' figures. In summary the assumption changes are to:

- reduce the effective yields used to discount future payments by 0.2 per cent a year for compensation in payment; and
- increase the assumption about future longevity improvements for males.

q **Table 27: Average voluntary contribution to a private pension as a proportion of National Average Earnings⁵⁵**

Year	Excluding contracted-out rebates	Including contracting-out rebates	Of which: Special contributions
1997	6.7%	8.3%	0.2%
1998	6.7%	8.4%	0.2%
1999	6.9%	8.5%	0.3%
2000	7.0%	8.7%	0.4%
2001	6.7%	8.4%	0.4%
2002	7.0%	8.8%	0.6%
2003	8.1%	9.7%	0.9%
2004	8.5%	10.0%	1.2%
2005	9.6%	11.0%	1.6%
2006	9.8%	11.1%	1.8%
2007	9.3%	10.7%	1.5%
2008	8.1%	9.3%	0.8%

q **Table 28: Amount of money in funded pensions by type of investment (2010 prices)⁵⁶**

Type of investment	Amount of money invested in funded pensions (£ billions)							
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Insurance-company-administered occupational pensions	295	340	400	455	475	410	510	585
Insurance-company-administered personal pensions	435	465	525	485	450	410	485	475
Self-administered occupational pensions	830	890	1,050	1,120	1,105	905	1,110	1,110
Total	1,560	1,690	1,975	2,060	2,030	1,725	2,105	2,120
% of GDP	117%	123%	140%	142%	138%	112%	141%	147%

⁵⁵ PPI calculations based on data from the HMRC and the Office for National Statistics.

⁵⁶ PPI analysis derived from ABI (Sept 2011) *Data Bulletin: Funds held in Life and Pension Products in 2010*

q **Table 29: Estimated costs of tax relief on private pensions (2009/10)**⁵⁷

Tax relief on:	Estimated cost (£ million) ⁵⁸
<i>Relief paid on contributions into schemes:</i>	
Employees' contributions to occupational pension schemes	£4,100
Employers' contributions to occupational pension schemes	£11,200
Employees' contributions to personal pension schemes	£1,600
Employers' contributions to personal pension schemes	£2,480
Contributions to personal pensions by the self-employed	£1,200
Additional relief at the basic rate on National Insurance contracted-out rebates paid to personal pensions	£120
<i>Relief paid on investment returns:</i>	
Investment income of funds ⁵⁹	£7,000
<i>Tax not paid on benefits taken as a lump-sum rather than on income stream:</i>	
Lump sum payments from unfunded schemes ⁶⁰	£450
Total tax relief on private pension contributions	£28,150 (2.0% of GDP)
National Insurance that would have been paid had employer pension contributions been paid as salary	£8,300
Higher tax allowances for pensioners	£2,600
Total relief (1)	£39,050 (2.8% of GDP)
Less tax liable on⁶¹:	
Pension payments	£8,400
Refunds by funds to employers	£1
Total tax received (2)	£8,400 (0.6% of GDP)
NET TAX RELIEF COST (1 - 2)	£30,650 (2.2% of GDP)

⁵⁷ HMRC (2010) Table 7.9 Cost of reliefs for approved pension schemes

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/stats/pensions/menu.htm>, HMRC (2010) Table B.1 Cost of minor tax allowances and reliefs http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/stats/tax_expenditures/menu.htm and HMRC (2010) Table 1.5 Estimated costs of the principle tax expenditures and structural reliefs http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/stats/tax_expenditures/menu.htm

⁵⁸ Rounded to the nearest 100 million

⁵⁹ Assuming relief at the basic rate of tax, which on interest payments is 20% from 1996-97.

⁶⁰ Assuming relief at the basic rate of tax.

⁶¹ Tax liabilities on pensions in payment are the tax on pensions paid in the year, not the tax that might eventually be received on pension paid as a result of contributions made in the year

q **Table 30: Percentage of total tax relief on individual and employee pension contributions by tax rate (2008/09)⁶²**

Marginal income tax rate	Percentage of total tax relief
Higher rate tax payers	60%
Others	40%

⁶² PQ Ian Pearson, House of Commons *Hansard* 9 October 2008 Column 796W

Working and retirement

q **Table 31: Proportion of people working by age group and sex (2010)**⁶³

Year	50 - SPA ⁶⁴		Over SPA	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
1985	69.4	54.7	7.8	6.7
1990	70.0	58.4	8.4	7.6
1995	64.9	60.4	8.0	7.8
2000	68.5	63.9	7.6	8.3
2005	72.3	67.6	9.0	10.3
2008	73.3	70.3	10.6	12.2
2009	71.9	70.7	10.1	12.9
2010	71.1	70.5	10.9	13.4

q **Table 32: Average retirement ages (2005)**⁶⁵

Year	Women	Men
1990	60.9	63.5
1995	60.7	63.1
2000	61.1	63.3
2005	61.9	64.0

⁶³ Office for National Statistics (ONS) (2010) *Pension Trends Chapter 4 Labour Market and Retirement*. Includes everyone working for one hour a week or more.

⁶⁴ SPA is currently 60 for women and 65 for men

⁶⁵ Pensions Commission (2005) *A New Pension Settlement for the Twenty-First Century* page 97

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