

7.10

Personal and Stakeholder pensions

Number of individuals contributing ¹ and average contribution by occupational status ² and earned income ³

Numbers: Thousands. Amounts: £s

Year Ending 5 April 2006	Personal Pensions		Stakeholder Pensions		Personal & Stakeholder Pensions ⁴		
	Range of earned income (lower limit) £s	Number of Individuals	Average Annual Contribution per Individual ^{5,6}	Number of Individuals	Average Annual Contribution per Individual ^{5,6}	Number of Individuals	Average Annual Contribution per Individual ^{5,6}
Employees							
0	860	1,200	210	1,490	1,020	1,310	
10,000	1,410	1,440	380	1,090	1,700	1,440	
20,000	1,110	2,020	320	1,370	1,330	2,010	
30,000	1,200	3,510	290	3,280	1,390	3,720	
Total ⁷	4,580	2,080	1,200	1,760	5,440	2,140	
Self-Employed							
0	280	990	60	1,510	330	1,140	
10,000	260	1,140	60	1,300	300	1,250	
20,000	160	1,420	40	1,550	190	1,560	
30,000	330	3,130	60	4,720	350	3,630	
Total ⁷	1,030	1,770	220	2,290	1,170	1,990	
In receipt of a Pension	70	1,700	30	2,010	100	1,790	
Child	10	1,740	20	1,330	20	1,430	
Full-time Education	-	-	10	1,540	10	1,660	
Carer	-	-	10	1,800	10	1,930	
Unemployed	-	-	10	2,180	10	2,210	
Other	20	1,250	20	1,690	40	1,490	
Total ⁷	5,720	2,020	1,510	1,840	6,810	2,100	

May 2008

Footnotes

- The tables refer to the number of individuals whose Personal or Stakeholder pension has received a contribution during the year.
- Occupational status is mainly based on what is reported to the provider by an individual when making their original application.
- Earned income is derived from the Survey of Personal Incomes (SPI) and consists of employment earnings, self-employment earnings, personal and state pensions, taxable social security payments and other miscellaneous income.
- The Personal & Stakeholder Pensions column includes people contributing to either, or both, Personal pensions and Stakeholder pensions. For this reason, it will not total to the individual columns for Personal Pensions and for Stakeholder Pensions.
- Average contributions include gross individual, employer and minimum contributions.
- Contributions are based on what has actually been contributed in the year, so the overall average will not be the typical annual average for those who have started making regular contributions part of the way through the year.
- Components may not sum to their total due to rounding.

Notes on the Table

- The table shows individuals contributing to a Personal pension, Stakeholder pension, or a Personal and/or a Stakeholder pension by occupational status and earnings. It also shows the average annual contribution per individual for each status. The data is derived from a sample of annual returns of information submitted to HM Revenue & Customs by Personal and Stakeholder pension providers.
 - The data is collected primarily for compliance purposes and contains details of contributions made by, or on behalf of, individuals. Providers have only been required to report in the detail published since 2001/02. Prior to 6 April 2001, the self-employed claimed any relief due on their contributions through Self Assessment and providers did not have to report details of these individuals. Therefore analyses on a comparable basis are not available for years prior to 2001-02.
 - As well as containing individual details, such as name and date of birth, the data also contains their National Insurance number. Using this it is possible to aggregate across those who have arrangements with one or more providers. Therefore, unlike tables 7.4 and 7.5 which are based on aggregate returns from providers and therefore are at arrangement level, we are able to present these results at an individual level. In addition the providers have to report the occupational status of the individual in the following categories,
 - Employee
 - Pensioner
 - Self-employed
 - Child
 - Carer of a child aged less than 16
 - Carer of a person aged 16 or over
 - in full-time education
 - Unemployed
 - Other
 - In order to assess the earned income of contributors we have matched the individual details provided where possible with the Survey of Personal Incomes (SPI) 2005-06
 - The SPI is a representative sample of nearly 500,000 individuals, drawn from the Revenue's Self Assessment, Pay As You Earn and Claims systems. Where we have been able to match these individuals to the SPI, primarily those with earned income, the totals in the tables are based on this sample. For other groups that are unlikely to be in the SPI, such as children, we have used the whole database directly to derive counts and amounts. For this latter group further analysis is limited to the data that providers have to submit.
- [For more details on the SPI see the Incomes Distribution section.](#)
- The table relates to the number of individuals who have a recorded contribution in the year - either individual, employer or minimum. Whilst in theory the data should give us details of all individuals, in practice due to incorrect or missing data less than 100% of records are available for analysis. To account for this imputation techniques have been used to take account of this shortfall.
 - Tables published in 2005 and earlier used a matching at individual level of the pension data we receive from pension providers with Survey of Personal Incomes (SPI) distributional information relating to one year earlier. We have decided to change our methodology to match with a contemporaneous SPI. This improves the match rate of provider data to individuals in the SPI. It will also help ensure fund values and contributions to pensions are matched to individuals' characteristics at the appropriate time.

