



Overview of private pension system by type of financing vehicle and type of plan, and coverage of the OECD Global Pension Statistics data

United Kingdom

The inventory of metadata pertaining to pension statistics by country was identified as a prerequisite of the Global Pension Statistics' project. It is a precondition for being acquainted with each country funded pension system and for developing a good knowledge of the coverage of the OECD Global Pension Statistics (GPS) database, its completeness and limits.

The following table gives a detailed description of the coverage and the statistical data coverage of the various funded pension plans found in the United Kingdom. The information, based on metadata collected from national sources, has been collected from Pension Authorities, National Statistical Offices, Central Banks and/or Ministries of Finance. Information provided in this document refers to December 2011 or to the latest year available.

The first column of the table provides information about the data availability in the OECD Global Pension Statistics (GPS) database: “Y” means that the pension plan/fund category is included in the Global Pension Statistics database, unlike “N” meaning data for this plan/fund are not collected in the OECD exercise.

Under the column heading “Administrative national specifications”, information gathered from national sources can be found:

- Source: name of the organisation in charge of the data compilation and source from which the information was collected.
- Category: gives the categories and sub-categories of existing funded pension plans available at a national level.
- Description: describes the plans.

Under the last headings “Type of fund” and “Type of plan” is given the correspondence of each pension plan with the OECD classification by funding vehicle and by type. For a definition, see the “Private Pensions: OECD Classification and Glossary”, available at www.oecd.org/dataoecd/0/49/38356329.pdf.

More information on the OECD GPS project can be found at: <http://www.oecd.org/daf/pensions/gps>.

Further readings: "Pension Markets in Focus", available online at the following link: <http://www.oecd.org/daf/pensions/pensionmarkets>.

"Y" means data exist in GPS, unlike "N"	ADMINISTRATIVE NATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS			OECD CLASSIFICATION		
	SOURCE	CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF FUND	TYPE OF PLAN	
Y	Office for National Statistics (ONS)	Occupational pension schemes Pension Act 1995	Occupational pension plans regulated by the Pensions Regulator.	Pension fund	Occupational pension plan	Voluntary
Y		Occupational pension schemes Pension Act 1995	Local government pension funds.	Pension fund	Occupational pension plan	Voluntary
N		Personal pension plans	Personal pension data are collected as part of data collection from insurance companies, but those companies cannot distinguish between investments linked to pension business and other investments.	Pension insurance contract	Personal pension plan	Voluntary
N		Stakeholder pensions	Stakeholder pensions are accessed via employers. Data included in insurance statistics.	Pension insurance contract	Personal pension plan	Voluntary
N		Occupational pension plans for government workers	Some government workers' funded schemes are not regulated by the Pensions Regulator. Information on central government pension funds is not available.	Pension fund	Occupational pension plan	Voluntary