

Employees eligible for Automatic Enrolment - Pension Participation Volumes by Region within Private Sector

September 2012

Contents

Background 3

Results 3

Notes 3

Background

The following statistics, derived from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE), highlight the pension participation volumes in Great Britain for the group eligible for automatic enrolment. These are employees who usually work in Great Britain, are not already in a qualifying pension arrangement, are aged 22 or over but under State Pension age, and earn more than the qualifying earnings threshold for that year.

These are broken down by region, and restricted to the private sector only.

Results

These results highlight the overall declining trend of pension participation, as seen in other sources such as the Family Resources Survey (FRS), the General Lifestyle Survey and the Occupational Pension Schemes Survey (OPSS).

London and the South East have the consistently highest pension participation volumes within Great Britain, currently at 1.04 million and 0.914 million respectively.

The North East and Wales consistently have the lowest participation volumes, which are currently at 0.188 million and 0.216 million respectively.

Notes

The increase in the time series in 2002 can be explained by stakeholder pensions being included in the survey for the first time in that year, following stakeholder pensions duty in October 2011.

There are discontinuities in some years following questionnaire methodology changes. For example, results from 2005 onwards were based on a new version of the questionnaire.

The related percentages of savers per region population can be found at http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/adhoc_analysis/2012/private_pension_participation_by_region.pdf

Figure 1: Eligible employees participating in workplace pension schemes, in private sector, by region

<i>Thousands</i>	North East	North West	Yorkshire & Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	South West	East	London	South East	England	Wales	Scotland
1997	290	801	642	504	731	576	684	1,093	992	6,314	283	648
1998	274	794	632	498	739	580	643	1,168	1,050	6,377	276	622
1999	276	826	633	521	717	577	671	1,225	1,099	6,544	289	605
2000	300	821	648	504	684	599	690	1,247	1,105	6,598	298	620
2001	296	827	662	524	719	605	679	1,266	1,161	6,738	289	640
2002	296	855	718	558	765	639	731	1,315	1,189	7,067	319	671
2003	291	844	705	540	765	635	716	1,271	1,139	6,906	311	646
2004	270	811	622	530	698	607	670	1,218	1,098	6,524	306	628
2005	267	783	626	536	663	587	689	1,167	1,079	6,397	272	601
2006	267	806	585	540	671	596	687	1,172	1,113	6,437	279	613
2007	255	790	590	499	640	620	688	1,175	1,080	6,337	281	629
2008	237	734	551	486	618	587	668	1,173	1,063	6,119	262	585
2009	231	676	486	469	560	541	617	1,075	998	5,653	240	542
2010	205	610	466	449	529	501	585	1,045	926	5,314	238	550
2011	188	580	441	416	485	471	548	1,040	914	5,083	216	511

Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE), 1997 to 2011

Stuart Hawkins (Stuart.Hawkins@dwp.gsi.gov.uk)
 Department for Work and Pensions
 September 2012