



Overview of asset-backed pension systems

Coverage of the OECD Global Pension Statistics exercise

The compilation of metadata relating to pension statistics is an essential part of the Global Pension Statistics project. Metadata allow for a better knowledge and understanding of the coverage of the OECD Global Pension Statistics (GPS) database, its completeness and limits.

This file describes the different types of asset-backed pension plans in each country. It provides the statistical data coverage of the GPS exercise and a detailed description of the various asset-backed pension plans by country. Information in this file is collected from national sources, which are usually Pension Authorities, National Statistical Offices, Central Banks and/or Ministries of Finance. Information in this document refers to December 2022 or to the latest year available.

This file reports the financing vehicle and the type of each plan under “Type of fund” and “Type of plan” respectively, following the OECD taxonomy. For more information on the OECD classification and taxonomy, see the OECD *Private Pensions: OECD Classification and Glossary*, available at www.oecd.org/dataoecd/0/49/38356329.pdf.

This file also compiles standardised information on some of the main features of pension plans, such as:

- whether the access to the plan can be linked to employment or professional activity (Yes/No);
- whether the employer can or has to contribute (Yes/No);
- whether the employer provides access to the (default) plan (Yes/No);
- whether the employer / social partners establish the plan (Yes/No);
- the benefit calculation: by reference to a formula based on the number of years of service and the salary, or by reference to the contributions paid and return achieved with those contributions;
- the type of guarantee: benefit level, annuity purchase price, capital guarantee, fixed return, absolute minimum return, relative minimum return, none (there can be a combination of several types of guarantee);
- the sharing of some risks (e.g. investment risk, interest rate risk, longevity risk) between: plan sponsor, and/or active members, and/or deferred members, and/or pensioners -- there may however be no risk sharing at all;
- the guarantor: plan sponsor (i.e. the employer), the pension fund, an insurance company, or none.

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

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

COUNTRY	"X" means data exists in GPS	ADMINISTRATIVE NATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS			OECD CLASSIFICATION				CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PLAN/FUND							
		SOURCE	CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF FUND (Pension fund / Pension insurance contract / Bank managed fund / Investment company managed fund)	TYPE OF PLAN: - Occupational pension plan or personal pension plan (to which either access can be linked to employment or professional activity, or access is not linked to employment or professional activity); - Mandatory, quasi-mandatory or voluntary; - defined benefit traditional, defined benefit hybrid/mixed, defined contribution protected or defined contribution unprotected			The access to the plan can be linked to employment or professional activity (Yes / No)	The employer can or has to contribute (Yes / No)	The employer provides access to the (default) plan (Yes / No)	The employer / social partners establish the plan (Yes / No)	Benefit calculation (by ref. to a formula / by ref. to contributions paid)	Type of guarantee (benefit level / annuity purchase price / capital guarantee / fixed return / absolute minimum return / relative minimum return / none)	Risk-sharing (plan sponsor / active members / deferred members / pensioners / none)	Guarantor (plan sponsor / pension fund / insurance company / none)
ICELAND	X	Central Bank of Iceland - Financial Supervision	Mandatory occupational pension funds for public sector workers - A-scheme	The A-scheme (or A-division) is the public sector scheme established in 1998 when current pension act (129/1997) was imposed. Following a later pension reform at the end of 2016, the A-division for the government employees and the pension fund for municipality employees was transformed from DB to DC with no guarantees from the employer. Benefits are based on a flat rate accrual for active members prior to 1 July 2017 and on age-based accrual for new members.	Pension fund	Occupational pension plan	Mandatory	DC unprotected	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	By ref. to a formula & contribution paid	None	Members and pensioners	None
	X		Mandatory occupational pension funds for public sector workers - B-scheme	DB plans for state and municipal employees. The B-scheme (or B-division) is the old public sector scheme which has been closed to new entrants since 1998.	Pension fund	Occupational pension plan	Mandatory	DB non-traditional	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	By ref. to a formula	Benefit level	None	Employer
	X		Mandatory occupational pension funds for private sector workers	Membership of occupational pension funds was made compulsory for wage-earners in 1974. In 1980, this obligation was extended to the self-employed. DC plans for private sector workers with a minimum target replacement rate of 56% for a full career (12% contribution), but no guarantees from the employer. Age-based accrual system.	Pension fund	Occupational pension plan	Mandatory	DC unprotected	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	By ref. to a formula & contribution paid	None	Members and pensioners	None
	X		Personal pension schemes	Legislation on tax incentives for voluntary private pension saving was adopted only in 1998 as a part of the general pension reform but the tax incentives have been increased since. These plans are defined contribution individual accounts and have to be authorised by the Ministry of Finance. They can be operated by occupational pension funds, banks and investment companies. Only two foreign providers offer pension insurance contracts, representing only 6% of total assets in this category. If an employee decides to start a personal saving account, the employer is obliged to contribute with 2% of salary which is as well the minimum contribution from the employee to start personal pension savings. The employer is not involved in setting up this pension saving. Employment is needed when starting personal pension saving contract. The employee only needs to make a pension saving contract with the pension provider: pension fund, investment company/bank or an insurance company.	Pension fund Pension insurance contract Bank / Inv. co. managed fund	Personal pension plan, to which access is linked to employment or professional activity	Voluntary	DC unprotected	Yes	Yes	No	No	By ref. to contributions paid	None	None	None