

100th Anniversary of the State Pension Statistics

Number aged 70+ yrs according to the 1901 census: **1.2 million**

Number aged 65+ yrs according to the 1901 census: **2 million**

Number aged 70+ yrs in 2008: **7.2 million**

Number aged 65+ yrs in 2008: **9.9 million**

Number aged 70+ yrs in 2018: **8.9 million**

Number aged 65+ yrs in 2018: **12.2 million**

Average Life Expectancy at birth for generations reaching State Pension Age:

- 1908: 40yrs (men) and 43yrs (women) – an average of **41 years**
- 2008: 75yrs (men) and 82yrs (women) – an average of **78 years**
- 2018: 79yrs (men) and 84yrs (women) – an average of **81 years**

The percentage of the generation who survived to State Pension Age

- 1908 = **24%**
- 2008 = **84%**
- 2018 = **86%**

Life expectancy at State Pension Age

- 1908 = **9 years**
- 2008 = **25 years**
- 2018 = **24 years***

**Life expectancy at SPA decreases slightly between 2008 and 2018 because SPA for women will have increased from 60 to 64.*

Only a quarter of those in 1908 survived to State Pension Age. Those who did lived for just nine more years, on average. Today, four in five of us make it to collect our state pension and live, on average, for a further 24 years - that's a third of our lives in retirement.

Highest causes of death:

- 1908: Heart and circulatory disease
- 2008: Heart and circulatory disease

In 1909 there were around 0.5 million pensions in payment in GB (excl. Ireland). By 2007/08 there were nearly 12 million pensions in payment.

Forecasted longevity:

- Today, one in four babies is expected to live to 100. Of those born in 1908, just about one in a hundred lived to reach 100.
- The number of people aged 100yrs+ is projected to grow from about 10,000 today to nearly 250,000 in 2050 – that's 23 times as many in just 50 years.

- Today Buckingham Palace send out about 10,000 congratulatory telegrams to centenarians each year. By 2050 King William V (if he's on the throne) is likely to be sending out 250,000 congratulatory cards a year.
- In 2007 for the first time ever there were more pensioners than children in the UK.
- Projections suggest the UK will have its first 120 year old in the early 2060s, meaning that she is already drawing her state pension and will have done so for half her life.