

KEY FEATURES AND RECENT REFORMS OF PUBLIC AND MANDATORY PENSION SYSTEMS IN OECD COUNTRIES

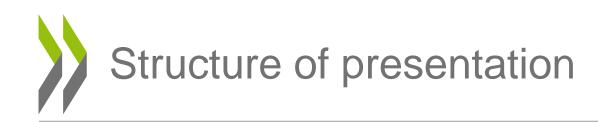
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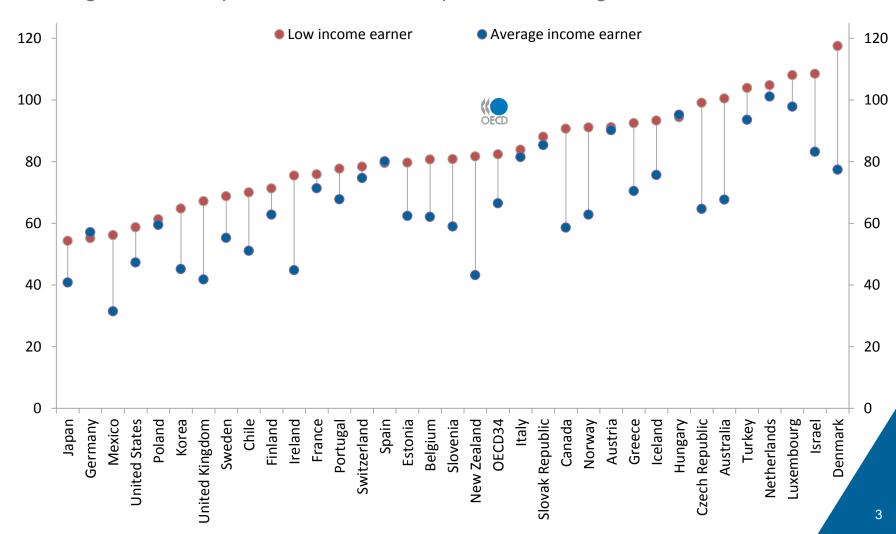
Part I: Comparison of indicators for OECD countries

Part II: Policy action 2012-2014



Net replacement rates vary strongly across countries

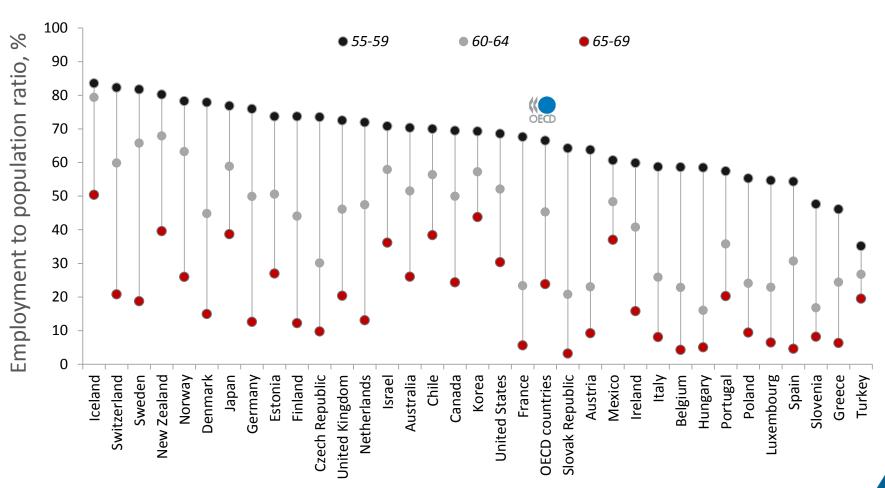
The long-term net replacement rate for a person entering the labour market in 2012





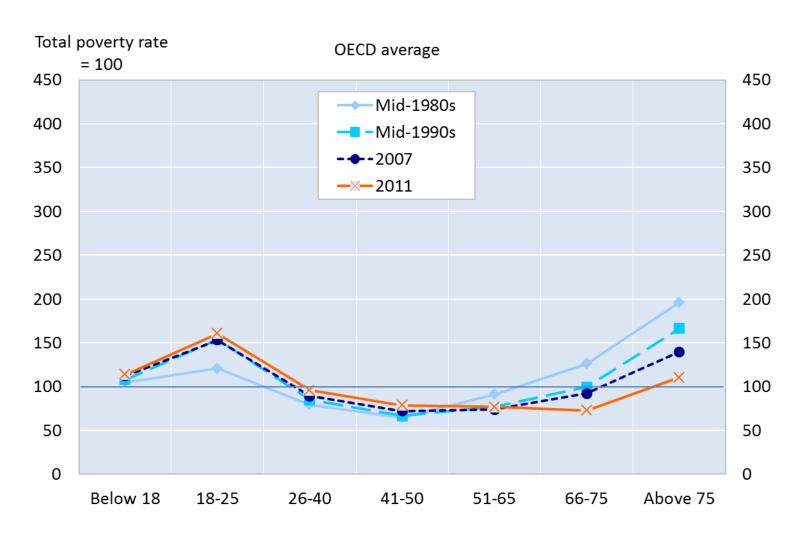
Employment rates of older workers fall strongly from age 60

Employment rate of older people in 2013





Poverty has shifted from the old to the young



Source: OECD Income Distribution Database

• Part II: Policy action 2012-2014



Difficult times for pension systems

- Fiscal pressure is intense
- Low economic growth, high unemployment, low contributions, low returns translate into
- low internal returns in PAYG schemes, and financial sustainability issues
- low financial returns which generate retirementincome adequacy concerns
- loss of confidence in private pensions, mistrust that public pensions will deliver promises
- Population ageing prospects pose a persistent long-term challenge and can amplify these effects



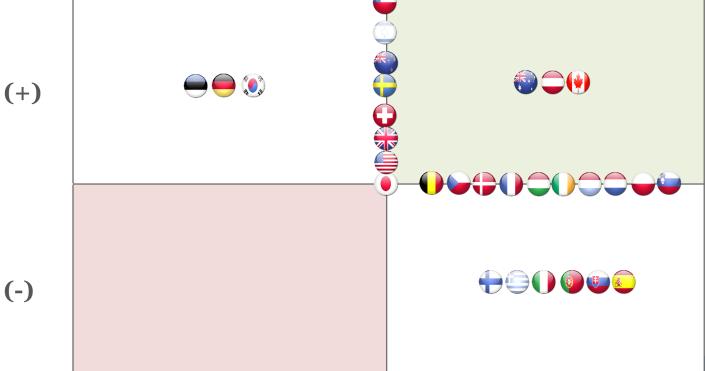
Recent policy action 2013-2014

- Acceleration of pension reforms
- Future pensions are likely to look very different from those of current retirees
- Financial sustainability of pension systems was improved in the majority of OECD countries
- Pension benefits might be reduced in some as a result. Yet, about half OECD countries introduced measures improving adequacy for certain groups of people
- Serious challenges remain



PART II: Policy action taken 2013-2014





Adequacy (+)

Adequacy (-)



Financial sustainability

- About two thirds of OECD countries took measures to improve the financial sustainability of their pension system
- The impact is expected to be especially important in countries worst hit by the crisis (Greece, Hungary, Italy and Portugal)
- No nominal cuts in benefits (except in Greece; in Portugal they were ruled out by the Constitutional Court)



Three main types of sustainability measures ...

Less favourable indexation
 CZE, ESP, FIN, FRA, GRC, ITA, LUX, POL, HUN, SVK

Example: In Czech Republic, the indexation of pension benefits (old age, survivor and disability) was lowered from full annual inflation adjustments to only 33% of inflation adjustments between 2013-2015.



Three main types of sustainability measures ...

• Longer working lives (higher retirement age, longer contribution period, tightening of early-retirement, stronger financial incentives)

AUT, AUS, BEL, CAN, DNK, ESP, FIN, FRA, GRC, HUN, IRL, ITA, LUX, NLD, POL, PRT, SVN

Example: In Ireland the pension age increased from 65 to 66 in 2014; and will continue to increase to 67 from 2021 and to 68 from 2028.



67 will be the new 65

Number of OECD-34 countries







Three main types of sustainability measures ...

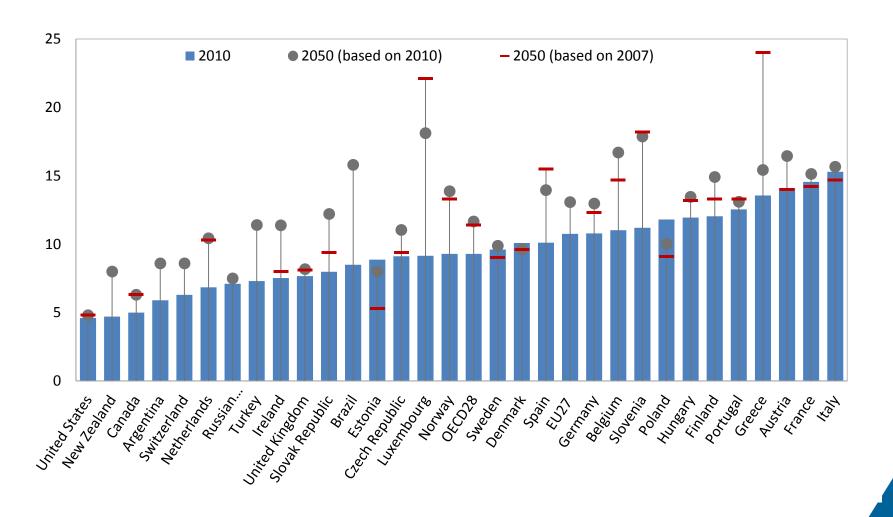
• Increased taxation or contributions in DB schemes

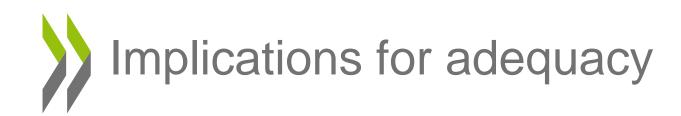
CAN (Quebec), FRA, FIN, HUN, IRL, LUX, NLD

Example: In France the contribution rate will increase by 0.3 percentage points for both employees and employers by 2017.



Financial sustainability remains a challenge





• As a result pension benefits will be reduced in some countries, in particular in Greece, Italy, Portugal, but also in Finland, the Slovak Republic and Spain (unclear for CZE, FRA, LUX)

Example:

 Some countries took some action to address adequacy concerns



- Extended coverage:
- pension credits (DEU, EST, FRA, JPN)
- auto-enrolment/financial incentives (CHL, GBR, LUX, NZL)
- new schemes (AUS, CAN, CZE, KOR)

Example: In Korea a new basic pension was introduced in July 2014.



 Increase in benefits targeting vulnerable groups (IRL, JPN, LUX)

Example: In Luxembourg the basic pension is increasing slightly as a result of the new pension reform (on average by about 0.44% per year) from October 2012.



Increase in DC contribution rate (GBR, ISR, NZL)

Example: In Israel employees' contribution to the mandatory DC occupational plans increased from 2.5% to 5% in 2013 and employers' contribution increased from 2.5% to 10%.



 Lower taxes for pensioners (JPN, MEX, SWE, USA)

Example: In Sweden the basic pension income tax deduction for people over 65 was increased in 2014. This measure reduced taxation of pension benefits by slightly more than SEK 100 per month.



• Better governance of DC schemes (AUS, CHL, GBR, NZL)

• Example: In New Zealand KiwiSavers (DC) providers will be required to post information on their websites regarding performance, fees, returns, portfolio and key staff information on quarterly basis (2013).



Remaining key challenges

- Ensuring longer effective working lives: both demand and supply issues
- Maintaining income adequacy while concerns arise from labour market, social and financial risks
- Dealing with fiscal pressure on pension systems induced by population ageing
- Better sharing the financial burden across generations
- Addressing inequalities in remaining life expectancy
- Increasing coverage / contributions in private schemes
- Reducing pension administration costs and management fees (including in the provision of annuities?)

AGEING UNEQUALLY

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Pensions at a Glance 2013

OECD and G20 INDICATORS

Pensions Outlook 2014

NEW Pensions at a Glance forthcoming in November 2015

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