

2018

UNITED KINGDOM

Overall Index Score 62.5

Overall Index Grade C+



The United Kingdom's retirement income system comprises a single tier state pension supported by an income-tested pension credit, and supplemented by voluntary occupational and personal pensions. Auto enrolment now covers all employers, requiring them to enrol eligible employees (who can then choose to opt out) in pension schemes. Minimum contributions are currently 5% but will increase to 8% from April 2019.

The overall index value for the British system could be increased by:

- restoring the requirement to take part of retirement savings as an income stream
- raising the minimum pension for low-income pensioners
- further increasing the coverage of employees and the self-employed in pension schemes
- increasing the level of contributions to occupational pension schemes
- raising the level of household saving and reducing the level of household debt
- accelerating the intended increases in the state pension age

The British index value increased from 61.4 in 2017 to 62.5 in 2018 primarily due to the increase in the level of auto-enrolment contributions. This ongoing process should improve the index value in future years with broadening coverage and an increase in the level of funded retirement benefits.

Comparison to other systems





OVERALL INDEX HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
63.9	63.7	66.0	64.8	65.4	67.6	65.0	60.1	61.4	62.5

(since country has been included in the MMGPI)

Download the full 2018 Melbourne Mercer Global Pension Index (MMGPI) Report at www.mercer.com.au/globalpensionindex



AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR FINANCIAL STUDIES



