

retirement age whose ability to work and earn is impaired beyond a minimum level laid down by legislation by a physical or mental disability.

It includes:

- Disability pension: periodic payments intended to maintain or support the income of someone below the standard retirement age who suffers from a disability which impairs their ability to work or earn beyond a minimum level laid down by legislation.
- Early retirement in the case of a reduced ability to work: periodic payments to older workers who retire before reaching standard retirement age as a result of reduced ability to work. These pensions normally cease when the beneficiary becomes entitled to an old age pension.
- Care allowance: benefit paid to disabled people who are below the standard retirement age who need frequent or constant assistance to help them meet the additional costs of care related to their disability (other than medical care). The benefit must not be a reimbursement of certified expenditure.
- Economic integration of disabled persons: allowances paid to disabled people when they undertake work adapted to their condition, normally in a sheltered workshop, or when they undergo vocational training.
- Disability benefits to disabled children in their own right, irrespective of dependency.
- Other cash benefits: periodic and lump-sum payments not falling under the above headings, such as occasional income support and so on.

It excludes:

- Benefits provided to replace, in whole or in part, earnings during temporary incapacity to work due to sickness or injury (these benefits are included under 'sickness benefits' (PY120G, PY121G, PY122G, PY123G, PY124G)).
- Family allowances paid to recipients of disability benefits (these benefits are included under 'family/children related allowances' (HY050G)).
- Benefits paid to the surviving dependants of disabled people, such as pensions (these benefits are included under 'survivor's benefits' (PY110G, PY111G, PY112G, PY113G, PY114G)).
- Benefits that are a reimbursement of certified expenditure.
- Disability cash benefits paid after the standard retirement age (these benefits are included under 'old age benefits' (PY100G, PY101G, PY102G, PY103G, PY104G)).
- Payments made by employers to an employee or former employee in lieu of wages and salaries through a social insurance scheme when unable to work through disability where such payment cannot be separately and clearly identified as social benefits (these payments are included under 'gross employee cash or near cash income' (PY010G)).
- Additional payments made by employers to an employee or former employee to supplement the disability leave pay entitlement from a social insurance scheme, where such payments cannot be separately and clearly identified as social benefits (those payments are included under 'gross employee cash or near cash income' (PY010G)).

Note: periodic payment intended to maintain or support the income of someone below the standard retirement age who suffers from a disability obtained during a 'war' are included under PY130. Disability cash benefits paid after the standard retirement age are included under 'old age benefits' (PY100G, PY101G, PY102G, PY103G, and PY104G).

The "contributory" and "means-tested" definitions are the same as applied in ESSPROS.

Contributory schemes are social protection schemes that require the payment of contributions, by the protected persons or by other parties on their behalf, in order to secure individual entitlement to benefits.

Contributory schemes are sometimes referred to as social insurance schemes. By convention, all non-autonomous schemes that employers run in favour of their employees, former employees and their dependants are classified as contributory schemes.

Means-tested social benefits are social benefits which are explicitly or implicitly conditional on the beneficiary's income and/or wealth falling below a specified level.