



Irish Life

Have you *really* figured out how you'll finance your retirement?



An introduction to
retirement planning

Make plans with Irish Life

For many of us, retirement planning can be a matter of just 'hoping something will turn up'. We've so many demands on our finances already – mortgages, kids, a car. How can we cope with anything else?

What it really needs is a solid plan. With good advice there's always a way to get a pension started, without feeling much difference in your day-to-day finances.

We're living longer

Let's celebrate the good news for once - as a nation, we're living longer! And not just by a little. For example, if you're a man aged 40-50, aiming to retire in your mid-60s, you'll be retired for twice as long as someone of a similar age in the 1980s (Source: CSO, 2011 Yearbook).

Don't count on the State, count on yourself

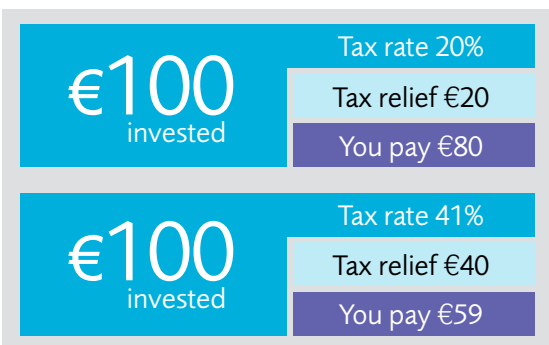
Did you know that the ordinary State Pension (Contributory) for a single person is currently worth just €11,975 a year? That's actually below the minimum wage. And if you think that's hard, the reality is that it will probably be worth even less by the time you retire. With more and more pensioners supported by fewer and fewer people in work, the sums just don't add up.



(Source: National Pensions Framework, 2010)

Best for income tax benefits

None of us like paying taxes. The Government actively encourages you to put your money into a pension, as a good way to keep your own taxes working for your own benefit:



Warning: The value of your investment may go down as well as up.

Warning: If you invest in this product you will not have any access to your money until age 60 and/or you retire.

Warning: If you invest in this product you may lose some or all of the money you invest.

Income tax relief is not guaranteed. To be eligible to claim income tax relief, your income must be taxable either Schedule E or Schedule D (case I or II). To claim income tax relief, you can apply to your Inspector of Taxes to adjust your tax credits. Contributions deducted from salary will receive immediate tax relief. If you are self-employed, you must include your pension contributions in your self assessment tax returns in order to obtain income tax relief.

Pension income in retirement is subject to income tax at your highest rate on withdrawal, Universal Social Charge, PRSI (if applicable) and any other charges or levies ("tax") applicable at that time.

Start from as little as €30 a month

The type of pension that will suit you best depends on your employment situation: Self - employed, Employee or Company Director. You can choose to make regular monthly payments, or make occasional one-off contributions, or a mix of both. Most people choose regular payments because it's easy to set up and spreads out the cost – contributions can start from as little as €30 a month.

Try our free online Pension Calculator

To give you a rough picture of the difference a pension can make, we've designed a free online Pension Calculator at www.irishlife.ie which is quick to use. You can adjust how much you want to receive in retirement alongside how much you'd like to pay now, until you get a balance you're happy with.



What happens when you retire

Tax free retirement lump sum

Most people choose to take 25% in the form of the retirement lump sum, of which the first €200,000 is tax free up to certain limits.

The other 75% can be used to provide you with an ongoing pension income (an annuity).

Regular income and other choices

Most people take an annuity, which provides a regular monthly income in retirement.

Alternatively, you can choose to re-invest your retirement fund. Please note pension income in retirement is subject to tax.

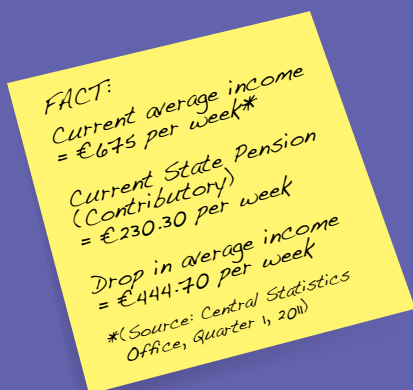
Talk to your Pension Adviser for details of all the available options.

About Irish Life

Irish Life is Ireland's leading pensions provider with over €34 billion of funds currently invested. Every year we pay out more pension benefits to Irish people than anyone else, apart from the State. As an Irish company we're focussed on meeting the needs of people in Ireland.

Put a real retirement plan in place.

**Talk to your Financial Broker
or Adviser today.**



Irish Life Assurance plc is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.

Information is correct as of September 2012
unless stated otherwise but can change afterwards.