

Silver surfers

Sociology



The paper 'Silver Surfers' is a good example of a statistics project on sociology. It has been found that one in four children that are in Britain today will almost certainly live until they are 100 years old. This shows that today's children are likely to survive far longer as compared to their parents and grandparents. In a class of 30 children, eight of the children can expect to get a telegram from the monarch and the others are likely to get to a ripe old age. For the teens who are 16 years old, boys can expect to live to nearly 88 years old on the other hand girls of the same age will reach 91 years and a total of 27% of 16's and under will attain the age of 100 years. Experts in this field have also warned that though today's children may live for 100 years they will have to have attained 70 years or even older for them to be allowed to collect their state pension. Until recently men retired at the age of 65 while women retired when they attained the age of 60 years. However, there have been changes in the law and this will ultimately increase the retirement age for women to 65 years (Jones 2010). There seem to be some benefits for the old in Britain and they include:

- Free bus passes for all the pensioners
- Free TV licenses for people who have attained 75 years
- Winter fuel allowance for those who have attained the age of 60 years and
- Higher-income tax for those who are 65 years and older.

Different countries in the world have varying ages when individuals are considered as being old. The chart below shows the ages of old age in different countries.

If you lived in one of these countries you would be considered old

atTurkey55France63Denmark64Greece68Britain59

In relation to the fact that employers can no longer force people to retire at the age of 65 employees can work for as long as they wish (DIY Week 2010). For example, in November 2009, B & Q honored its oldest employee Syndey Prior who was aged 95 years old and had been in the company for 19 years. Despite the increased retirement age pensioners seems to face a greater risk of falling into debt since they face a yearly increase in the cost of living. Aged people between the age of 60 and 64 face an increase of £1, 041 in a year; while those aged 65 and 69 faces an increase of £1, 054 in a year (Finance News 2011) Major findings of the presentation

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- For teens that are 16 years old, boys will live nearly 88 years old while girls will reach 91 years and a total of 27% of 16's and under will attain the age of 100 years.
- There has been an increase in the retirement age