

Pensioner poverty and social exclusion: Selected findings from PSE 2012 Survey

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Third Peter Townsend Memorial Conference
Poverty and Social Exclusion in the UK



Setting the stage for the results - *the good, the bad....*

- *The good news...*
 - Proportion of pensioners living in poverty is at its lowest for almost 30 years
 - Just one in eight of all those in poverty in the UK are pensioners
 - Material deprivation (FRS pensioner deprivation) has gone down
- *The bad news...*
 - Still about 1.6 million pensioners living in relative poverty in the UK, 900,000 of which are living in severe poverty, i.e. living on incomes below 50 per cent of median income
 - Many pensioners still cannot afford items and activities necessary for a decent standard of living in the UK

Pensioner estimates - Census 2011 vs. PSE 2012 Mainstage

Census 2011 figures

State Pensionable Age (SPA)

- 12.3 M SPA Usual resident population (19.5% of UK population)(63% female), of which:
 - 11.9 M Living in private households (19.2%) (62% female)

Pensioner households

- 4.4 M single pensioner households (one adult over pension age) (16% of all UK households)
- 4.4 M pensioner couple households (two adults, one or both over pension age) (17% of UK households)

PSE data (PSPW weighted)

State Pensionable Age (SPA old*)

- 12.2 M SPA (19.3% of PSE sample) (62% female), of which:
 - 11.8 M Living in Private households (19.1%) (62% female)

Pensioner households

- 4.4 M single pensioner households (one adult over pension age) (16% of all PSE households)
- 4.4 M pensioner couple households (two adults, one or both over pension age) (17% of all PSE households)



*Uses SPA for women as 60 years of age for comparative purposes with PSE 1999 survey

Changes in pensioners falling into combined income-deprivation group

	Poverty group*						Poor group			
	Poor		Vulnerable		Not poor		Poor		Not Poor	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Single female pensioner	510,000	17	490,000	17	1,950,000	66	510,000	17	2,440,000	88
Single male pensioner	130,000	12	200,000	19	750,000	70	130,000	12	950,000	83
Pensioner couple (one/both SPA)	560,000	8	830,000	12	5,360,000	79	560,000	8	6,190,000	92
Pensioners in other household types	100,000	10	90,000	9	830,000	81	100,000	10	920,000	90
Total	1,290,000	11	1,610,000	14	8,890,000	75	1,290,000	*11	10,510,000	89



Notes: **Rising group omitted due to very low cell sizes.
**** Compared with 21% of all GB pensioners in 1999 and 25% of NI pensioners in 2002.**

Material deprivation categories

Number and proportion of pensioners not able to afford one or more SPNs, by deprivation category (ranked)

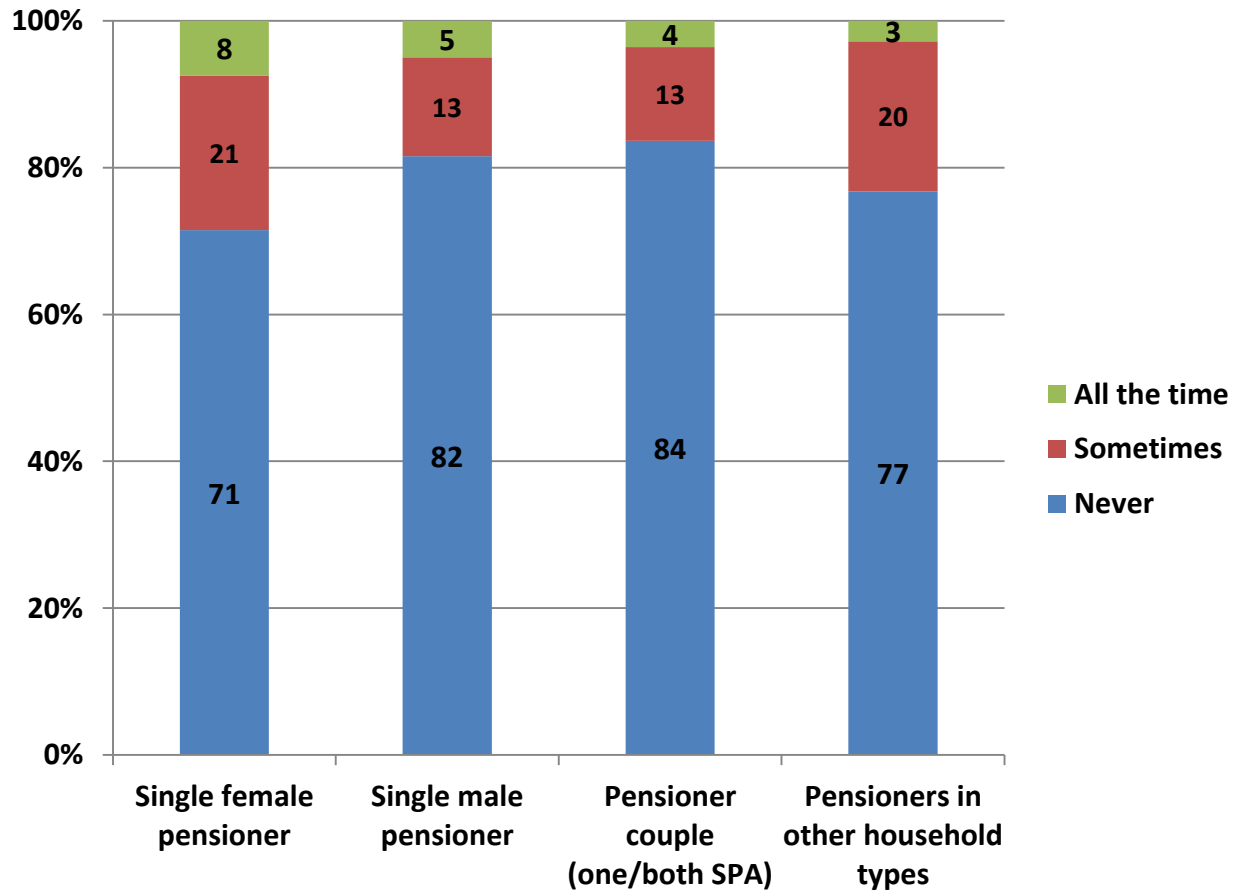
Category	Single female pensioner		Single male pensioner		Pensioner couple (one/both SPA)		Pensioners in other household types		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Finance	1,330,000	45	380,000	34	1,890,000	28	420,000	41	4,010,000	34
Household goods	550,000	19	130,000	12	630,000	9	120,000	11	1,430,000	12
Housing	540,000	18	100,000	9	680,000	10	110,000	11	1,420,000	12
Social	270,000	9	110,000	10	510,000	8	90,000	9	990,000	8
Clothing	230,000	8	60,000	5	350,000	5	70,000	6	700,000	6
Food	190,000	7	60,000	5	200,000	3	10,000	1	460,000	4

Note: Household goods exclude the following items: washing machine, telephone and TV.
Dental work included in local services section (to follow)



Poverty over time

Do you think you could genuinely say you are poor now..?



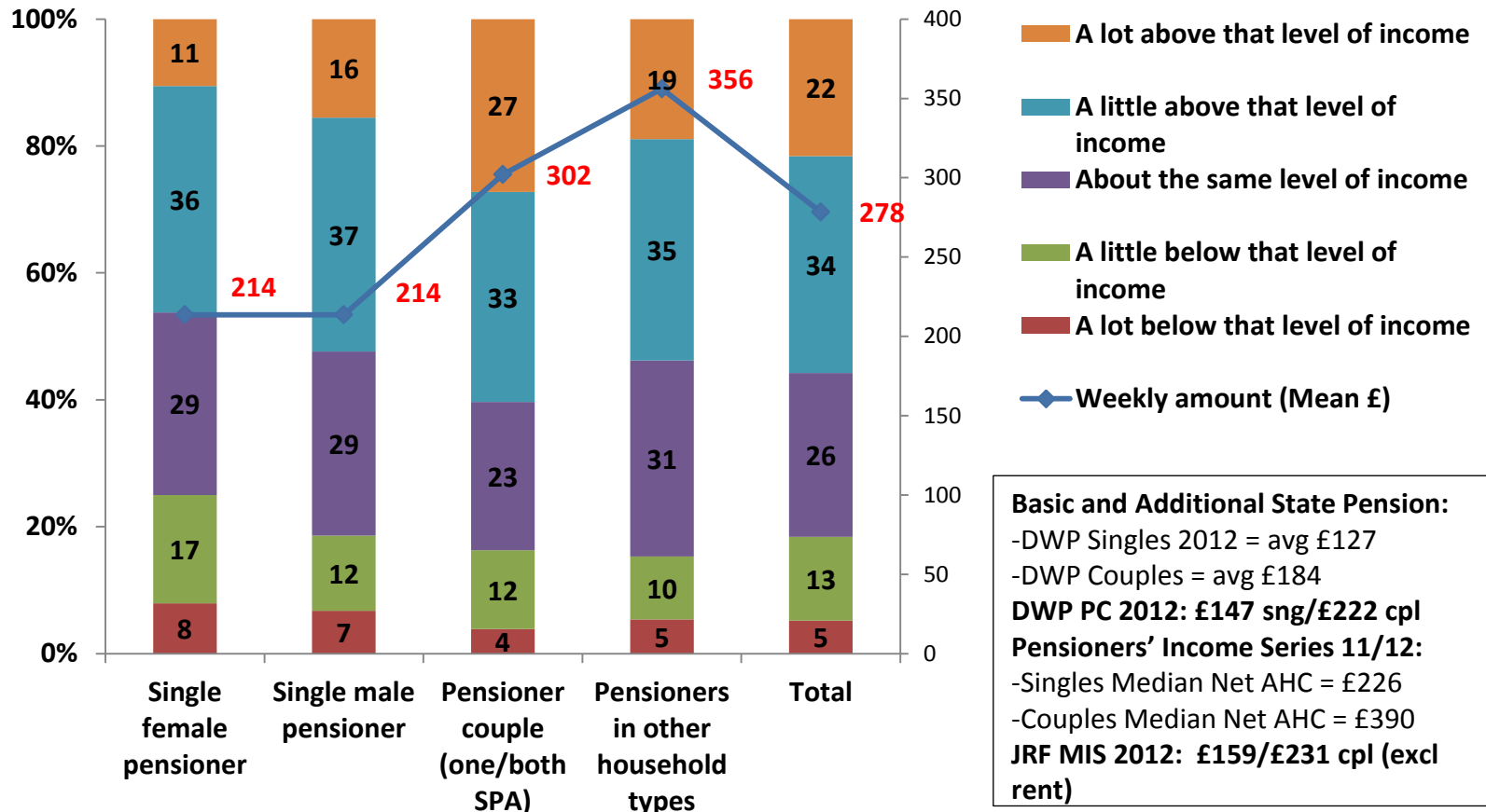
Poverty over time

Looking back over your life, how often have there been times in your life when you think you have lived in poverty by the standards of that time?



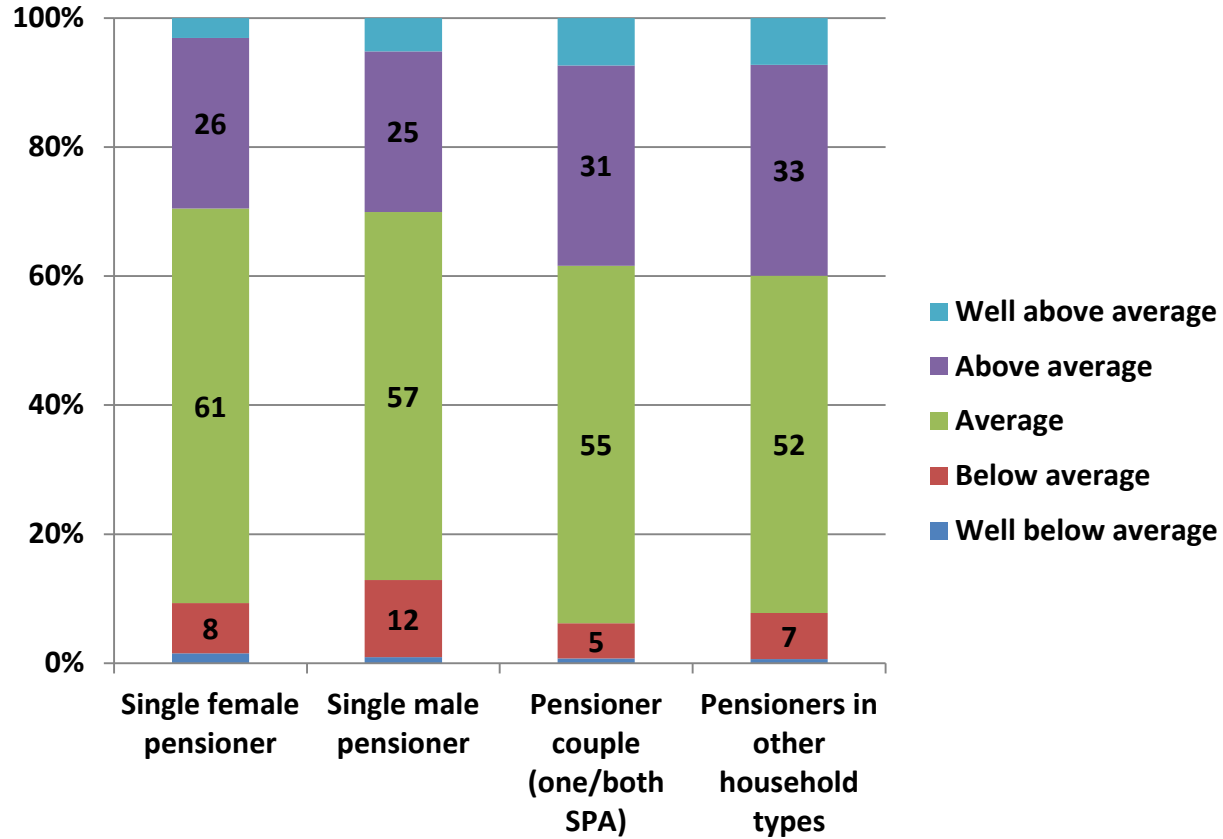
Subjective poverty

How many pounds a week, after tax, do you think are necessary to keep a household such as the one you live in, out of poverty?



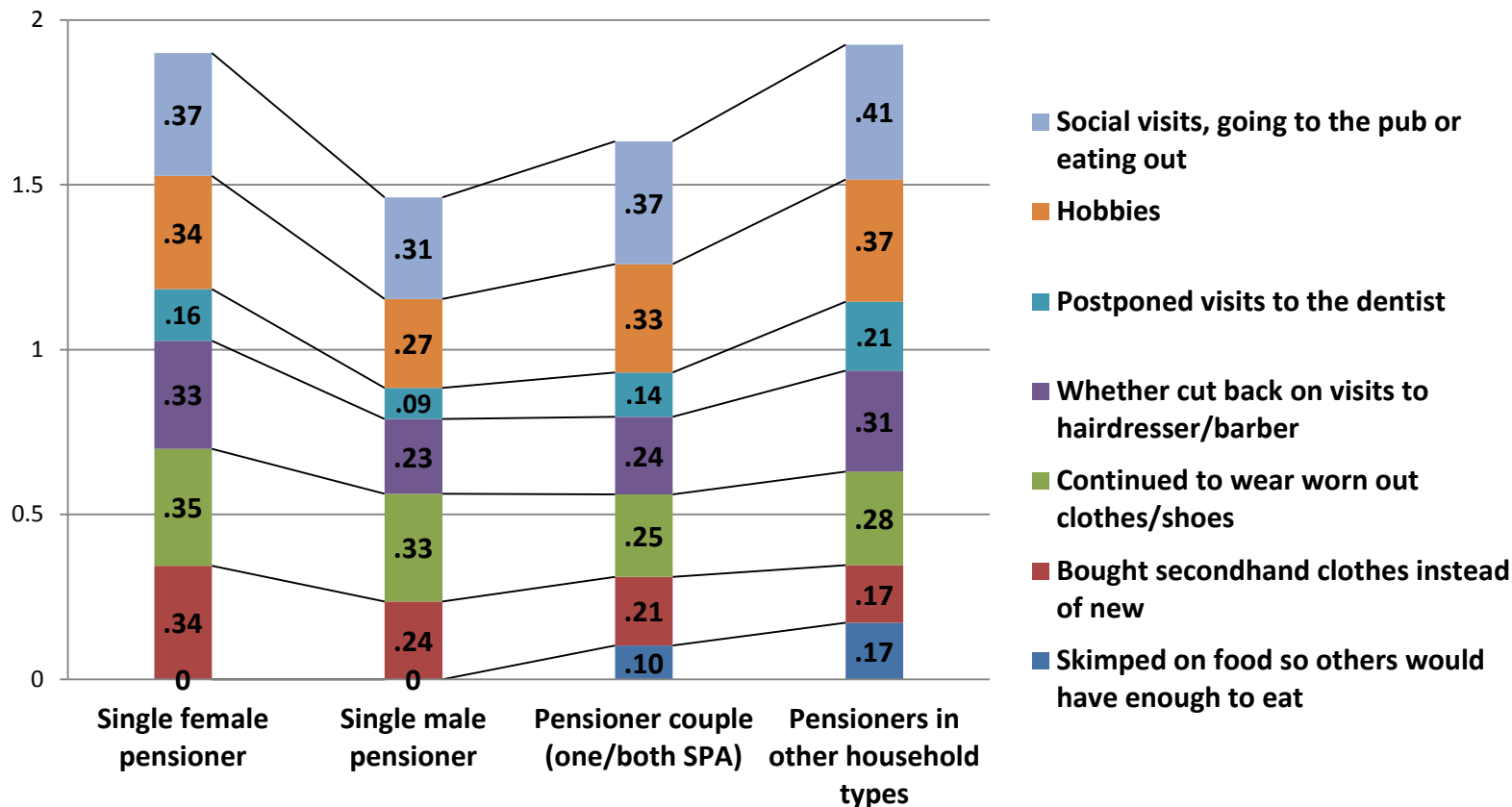
Subjective poverty

Generally, how would you rate your standard of living?



Economising behaviours

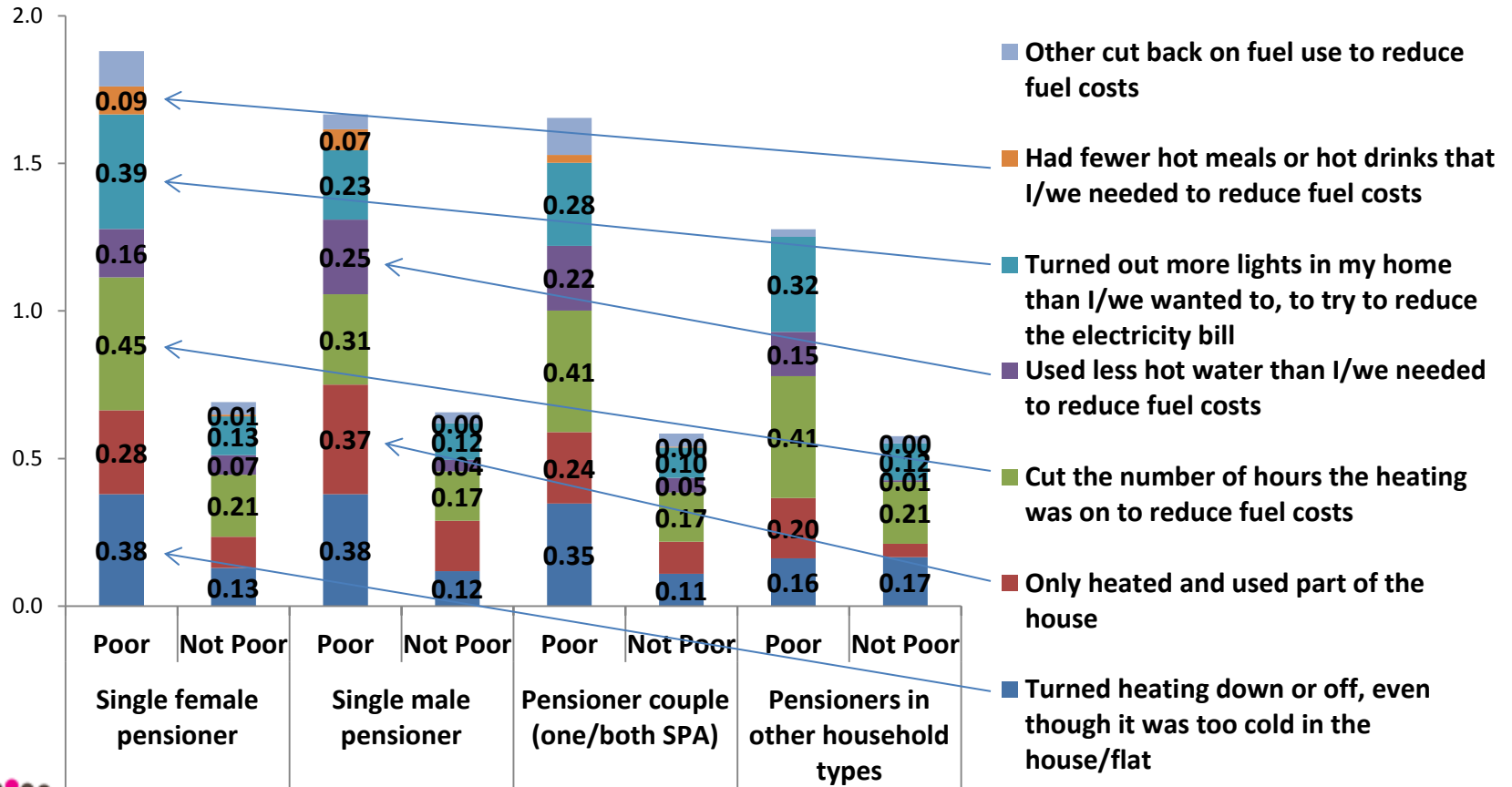
In the last 12 months, to help you keep your living costs down, have you... (proportion Sometimes/Often=1 vs. Never=0)



Note: does not include "Cut back on or cancelled pension contributions"

Fuel poverty

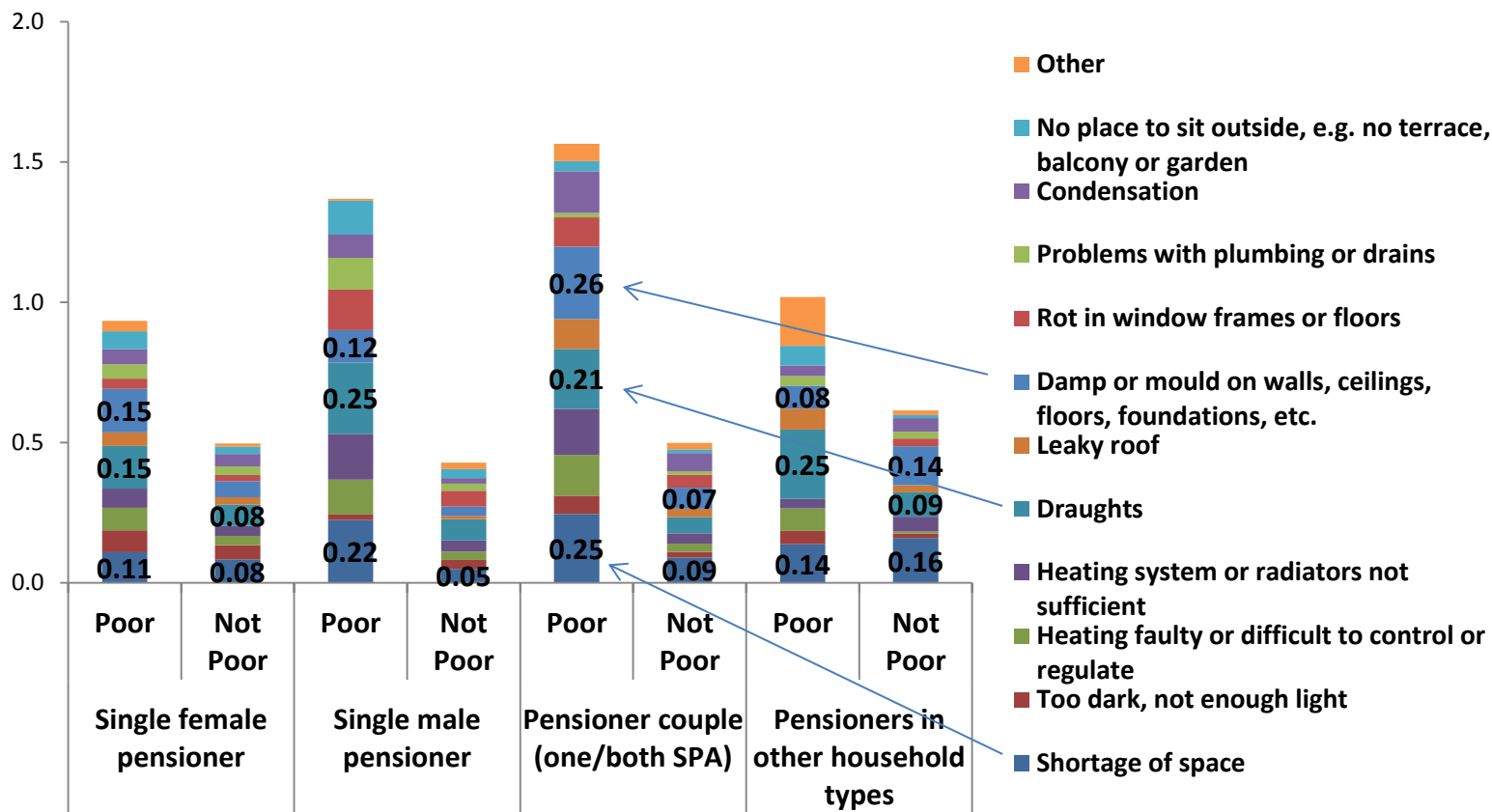
Did your household cut back on fuel use at home in any of these ways last winter, because you could not afford the costs? (proportion mentioned, 0=not mentioned 1=mentioned)



Housing problems

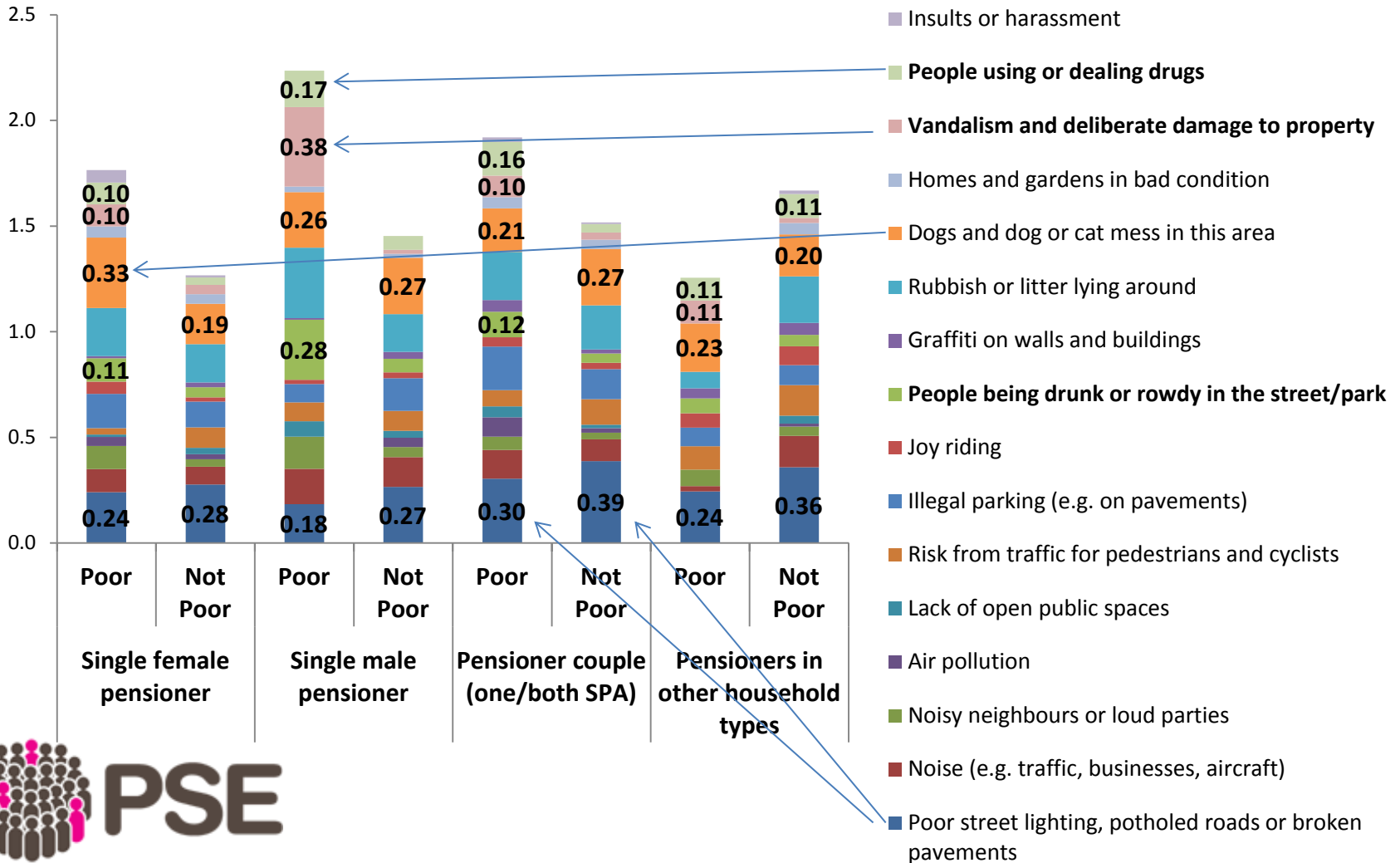
Do you have any of these problems with your accommodation?

(proportion mentioned, 0=not mentioned 1=mentioned)



Area deprivation

Do you think that any of the things on this card are a problem in this area? (proportion mentioned, 0=not mentioned 1=mentioned)



Local Services

Do you, or a member of your household, use.....

(Don't use – can't afford)

	Home Help / home care	Meals on Wheels	Day Centres /lunch clubs/ social clubs	Chiropodist	Special transport for those with mobility problems	Dental work*
Single female pensioner	74,000	23,000	18,000	45,000	23,000	194,000
Single male pensioner	13,000	27,000	9,000	8,000	9,000	76,000
Pensioner couple (one/both SPA)	93,000	31,000	14,000	45,000	16,000	421,000
Pensioners in other household types	3,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	14,000	36,000
Total	183,000	84,000	44,000	100,000	62,000	727,000

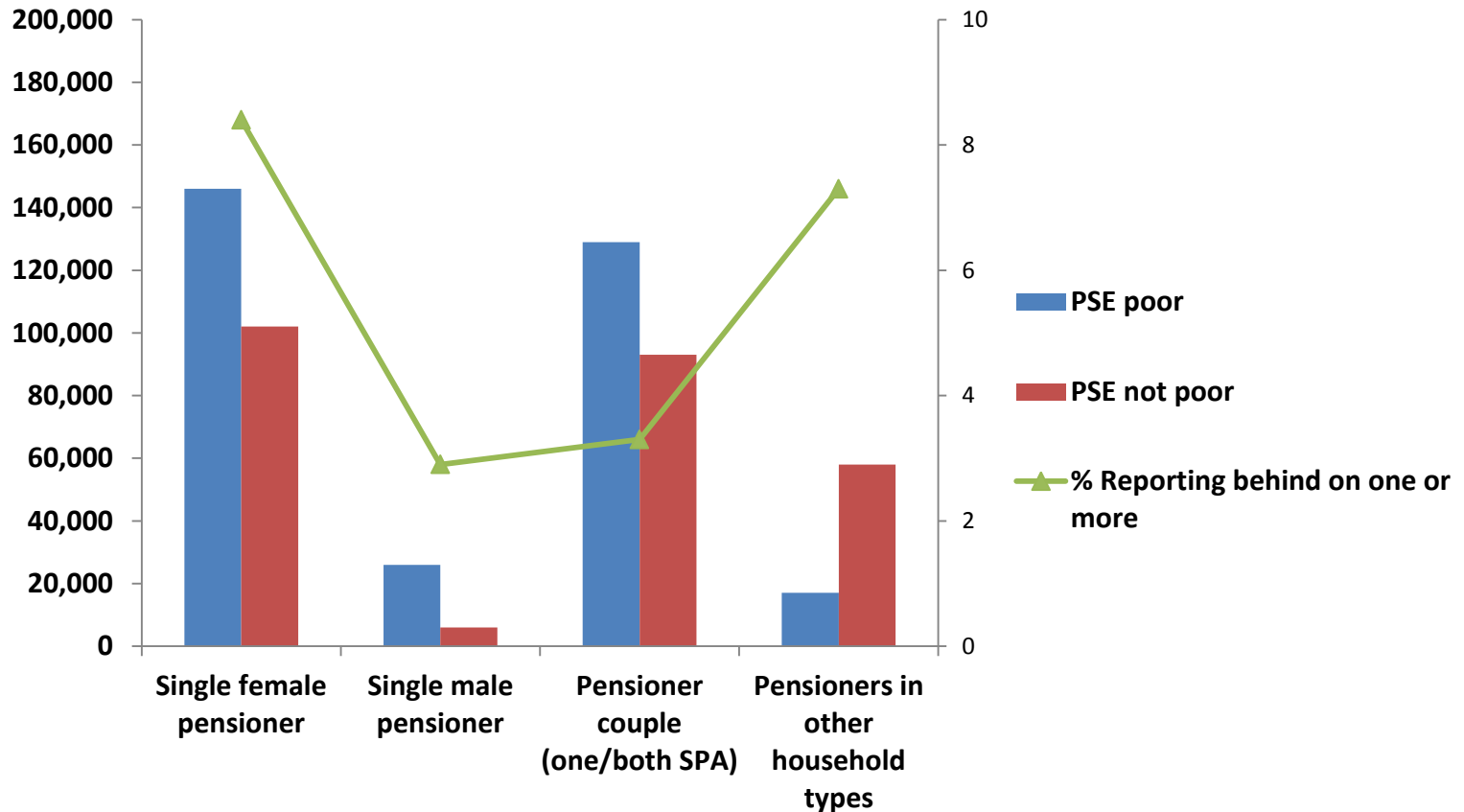
990,000 pensioners 65+ do not use one or more of these services because they cannot afford to



* Dental work/treatments asked in adult deprivation section, but reported here as considered a local service

Finance and debts

Arrears (In debt)



Poor single female pensioners: water/sewerage 16%, electricity/gas 8%
 Poor pensioner couples: Loans from banks etc 10%, electricity/gas 7%

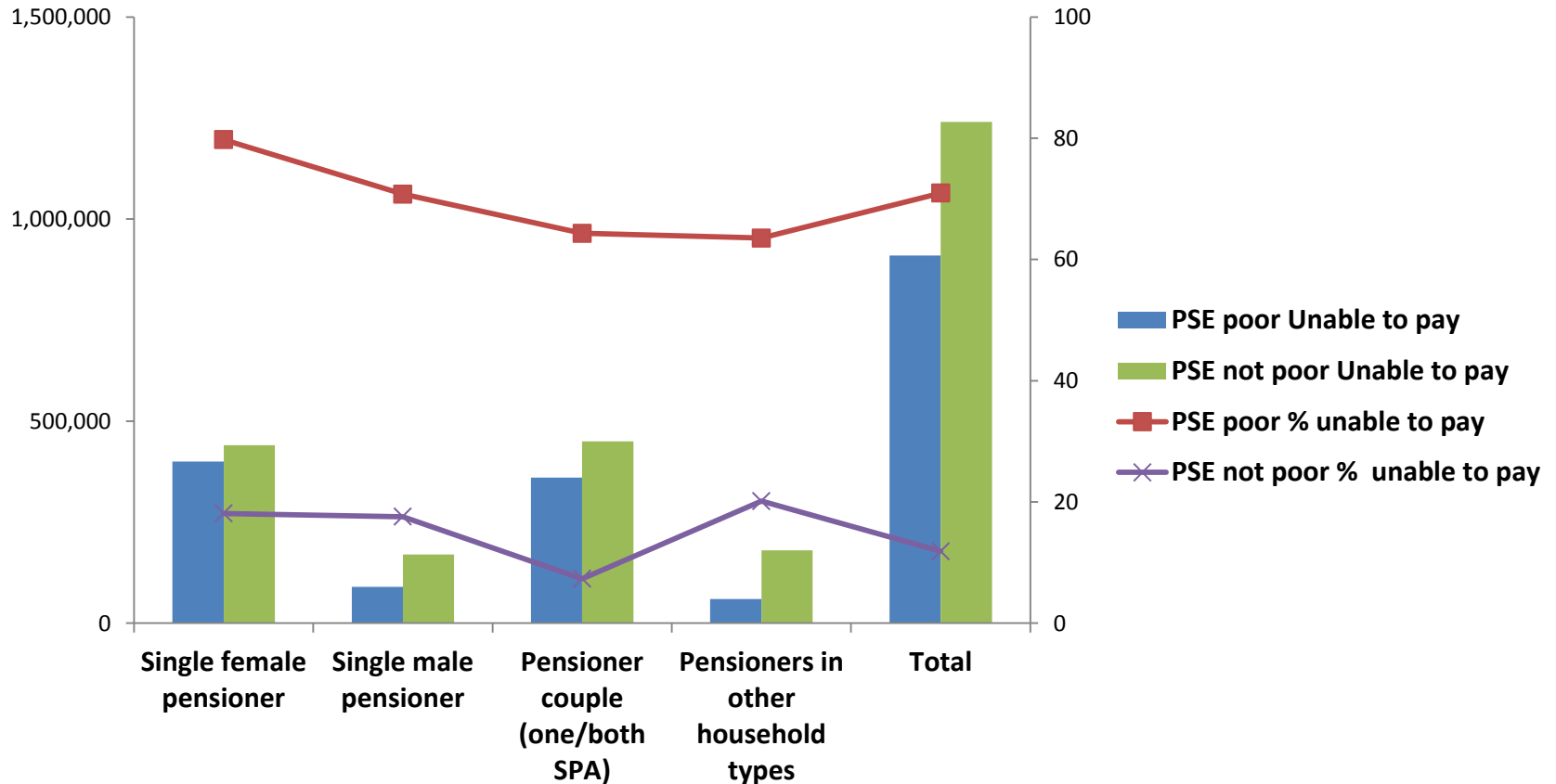
Finance and debts

Keeping up with bills and credit commitments

	Keeping up with all bills - without any difficulties	Keeping up with all bills - struggle time to time/constantly	Not keeping up with all bills - fallen behind some/many
Single female pensioner	1,943,000	916,000	60,000
Single male pensioner	768,000	307,000	14,000
Pensioner couple (one/both SPA)	4,666,000	2,036,000	62,000
Pensioners in other household types	544,000	420,000	43,000
Total	7,921,000	3,678,000	179,000

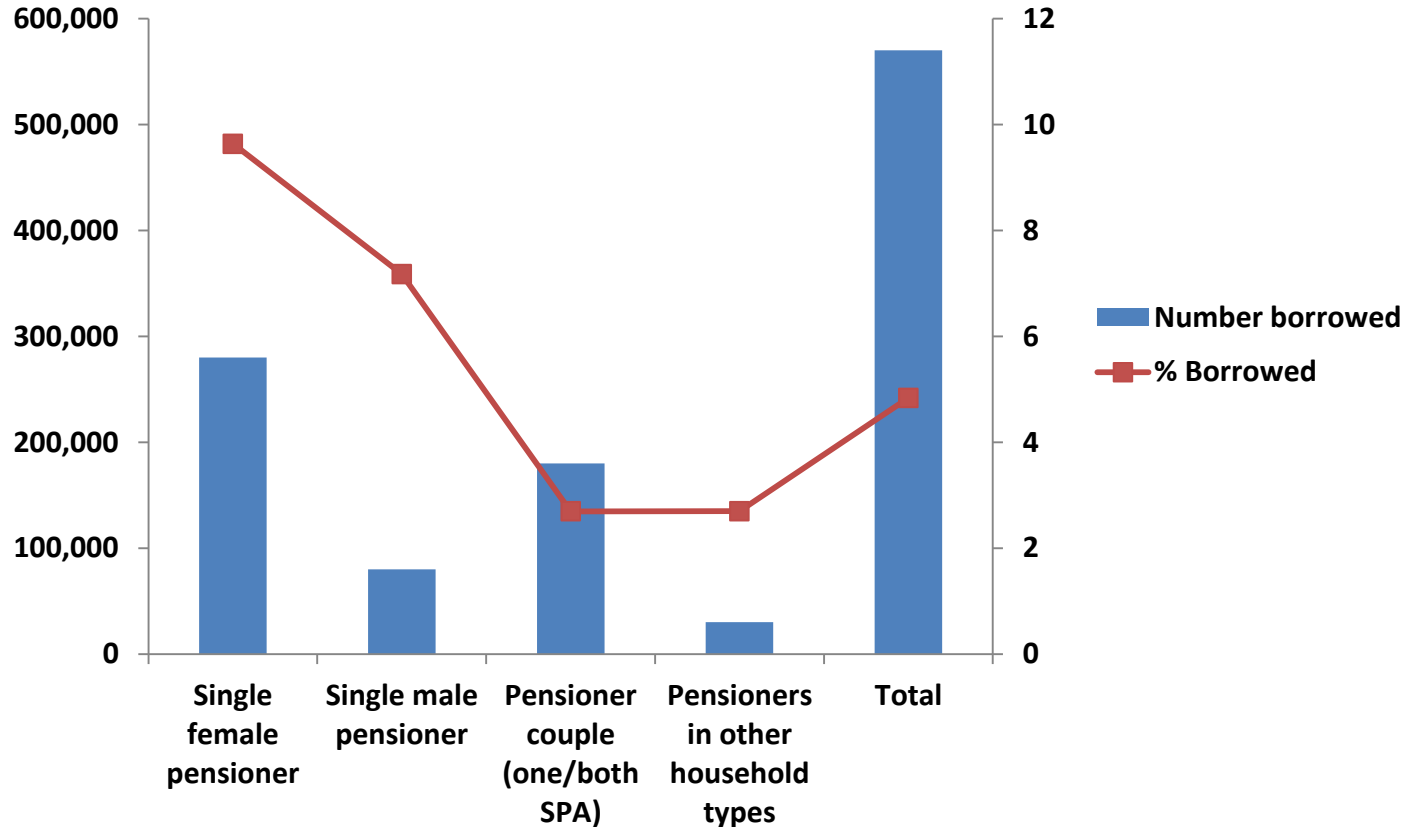
Finance and debts

Unexpected, but necessary, expense of £500



Finance and debts

Borrowed to pay for day-to-day needs



Spot purchase

How restricted would you feel about buying an item with a price tag of £150?



Single female pensioners: 600,000 couldn't buy it
Single male pensioners: 120,000 couldn't buy it
Pensioner couple: 700,000 couldn't buy it

Health Affects Poverty

...your health has had an impact on your financial situation?

...health has been affected by a lack of money?

...health has limited your ability to participate in society?

	Health affected poverty		Poverty affected health		Health affected participation	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Single female pensioner	170,000	10	150,000	9	660,000	40
Single male pensioner	60,000	8	40,000	5	240,000	35
Pensioner couple (one/both SPA)	230,000	7	180,000	5	790,000	23
Pensioners in other household types	50,000	10	20,000	4	110,000	21
Total	510,000	8	390,000	6	1,800,000	29

Disability and Poverty

	Disabled				Not disabled				Total			
	Poor		Not Poor		Poor		Not Poor		Poor		Not Poor	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Single female pensioner	300,000	23	1,010,000	77	210,000	13	1,430,000	87	510,000	17	2,440,000	83
Single male pensioner	90,000	19	370,000	81	40,000	6	580,000	94	130,000	12	950,000	88
Pensioner couple (one/both SPA)	320,000	14	2,040,000	86	230,000	5	4,150,000	95	560,000	8	6,190,000	92
Pensioners in other household types	50,000	14	320,000	86	50,000	7	600,000	93	100,000	10	920,000	90
Total	760,000	17	3,740,000	83	530,000	7	6,770,000	93	1,290,000	11	10,510,000	89



Risks of poverty

Single disabled female pensioners: **1.8 times as likely to be poor as non-disabled**

Single disabled male pensioners: **3.3 times as likely to be poor**

Disabled pensioner living in pensioner couple: **2.6 times as likely to be poor**

Disabled pensioner living in other household type: **1.9 times as likely to be poor**