**BBC Sounds - Understand: the economy**

[Understand - The Economy - The Economy: 8. Pensions - BBC Sounds](https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m001fxjk)

**8: Pensions**

Why is it so hard to save for retirement? Will future generations even get a pension? Why is the pension age rising and what is the state pension age? Tim Harford explains the problem an aging population is causing for the state pension and explores the gender pension gap. Economic historian Victoria Bateman tells the story of the very first pensions in the UK.

How does the state pension work in the UK?

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Why has the Baby Boomer generation created a problem for the state pension?

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How was war the precursor to pensions in the UK?

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Why is an aging population a problem for the UK economy?

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Why do people find it difficult to save for retirement?

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Why is there a gender pension gap between men and women?

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Do you think that state pensions will still exist when you retire?

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Find out more about the state pension here:

[The basic State Pension: Who gets the basic State Pension - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/state-pension)