

Table 4: Projected number of dependents^{1,2} per 100 population of working age, Scotland, 2012-2037

Age group	2012 (base)	2017	2022	2027	2032	2037
All dependents	59	58	57	62	66	66
Children under 16	27	27	27	28	28	28
Pensionable ages	31	31	30	34	38	38
Old age support ratio (working age / pensionable age)	3.18	3.25	3.32	2.96	2.62	2.61

Footnotes

1) Children under 16, working age and pensionable age populations based on state pension age (SPA) for a given year. Between 2012 and 2018, SPA will change from 65 years for men and 61 years for women, to 65 years for both sexes. Then between 2019 and 2020, SPA will change from 65 years to 66 years for both men and women. Between 2034 and 2046, SPA will increase in two stages from 66 years to 68 years for both sexes. This is based on SPA under the 2011 Pensions Act.

2) Dependency ratios can be defined in different ways, but here are defined as the number of children aged under 16 and the number of people of state pension age per 100 people of working age. These ratios should be interpreted with care.