

Retirement Pensions in Japan

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I. Introduction

1. Social Security System in Japan

Social security in Japan usually refers to social insurance, public assistance, public hygiene and medical care, and social welfare. Social insurance covers such social risks as unemployment, industrial injury and disease, sickness, old age as well as disability and death, and "care-requiring" or "support-requiring" condition, that is, bedridden or senile (Chart 1).

Chart 1. Social Insurance in Japan

coverage risks	private sector employees	Public sector employees		self-employed, etc.
unemployment	Employment Insurance	(none)		(none)
industrial injury and disease	Worker's Compensation Insurance	National Public Service Employee's Compensation	Local Public Service Employee's Compensation	(none)
sickness	Health Insurance	National Public Service Mutual Aid Association	Local Public Service Mutual Aid Association	National Health Insurance
old-age, disability, and death	National Pension			
	Employees' Pension Insurance	National Public Service Mutual Aid Association	Local Public Service Mutual Aid Association	National Pension Fund (voluntary)
"care-requiring" or "support-requiring" condition	Nursing Care Insurance			