

State pension 'riddled with errors' - thousands urged to check if they are due back £400

State pensioners are warned that as many as one in ten were short-changed by an average of £400 each last year.

By [Temie Laleye](#) 08:39, Sat, May 27, 2023 | UPDATED: 09:07, Sat, May 27, 2023



Around 1.3 million pensioners are being left out of pocket (Image: GETTY)

As the cost of living crisis continues, older Britons on low incomes are urged to "challenge" their [state pension](#) payments as they could be "riddled with errors".

Around 1.3 million pensioners are being left out of pocket, according to a Labour Party analysis of official documents.

Sir Steve Webb, who is now partner at consultancy LCP, said: "I fear the state pension is so riddled with errors that recipients should not automatically trust that the income they receive is correct.

"Essentially, you should always start from the assumption that the sum of money you get may be incorrect — that's how bad it is,' he says.

"My advice would be — if you're not sure, challenge it."



State pensioners are warned that as many as one in ten were short-changed by an average of £400 each (Image: GETTY)


In 2020, the Government admitted it had made systematic errors in state pension calculations.

It is estimated that around 237,000 pensioners have been underpaid around £1.46billion according to data shared by the DWP.

There are six particular groups strongly encouraged to contact the Pension Service to see if they could be entitled to more state pension.

Women who retired under the old state pension system are those said to be

mainly affected as they may not have received the state pension payment they were owed under their husband's National Insurance records.



WHAT IS STATE PENSION?

You can claim the basic state pension if you're:

- A man born before April 6, 1951
- A woman born before April 6, 1953
- If you were born later you'll need to claim the new state pension.
- The most you can get on the basic state pension is **£156.20** per week.
- The full new state pension is **£203.85** per week.

EXPRESS FINANCE

State pension age is currently 66 in the UK (Image: GETTY)

The full basic state pension is £156.20 per week.

Women born before April 6, 1950 or a man born before April 6, 1945, may need more years of National contributions. For more advice, Britons can visit the Government website.

The full amount of the new state pension is currently set at £203.85 a week.

Anyone who thinks they may be affected can call the Pension Service on 0800 731 0469.

DON'T MISS

A DWP spokesperson previously said: "The action we are taking now will correct historical underpayments made by successive governments.

"We are fully committed to addressing these errors, not identified under previous governments, as quickly as possible.

"We have set up a dedicated team and devoted significant resources towards completing this, with further resources being allocated throughout 2023 to ensure pensioners receive the support to which they're entitled."