

Social Protection Adequacy Snapshot: Europe

This draft: January 2014

This draft document provides a quick overview of the adequacy of social protection systems in Europe. The document is in the process of being updated.

Background

The Social Protection Department of the International Labour Organization (SOCPRO) is undertaking a cross-country study of “social protection adequacy”. Its main objective is to assess the effectiveness of every country’s social protection system in ensuring decent living standards.

The study will comprise two components:

- a) Identification of a set of minimum social protection benefits, as sanctioned by existing laws, comparable across countries;
- b) Identification of criteria to assess adequacy of minimum benefits to ensure decent living standards.

The findings of the study and the data collected will be used by SOCPRO in its reports on the state of social protection in the world (details to be determined).

Pilot countries

Preliminary results are available for 21 European countries in the attached profiles and database (in Excel format). For these countries the study relies largely on data submitted by national Governments to the Council of Europe as part of regular reporting on the application of the European Code of Social Security (ECSS, Article 74). Data from other sources are also used (see Sources table for more details).

For the pilot countries two sets of benefits have been considered – old-age contributory benefits and a diverse set of cash benefits both contributory and non-contributory. Additionally, old-age benefits have been compared with income thresholds relevant to assess adequacy. In each category, the variables selected are the following:

Old-age benefits:

1. Legal Minimum: minimum pension paid out of a contributory system according to a country’s law.
2. Standard Beneficiary Pension (SBP): pension of the “average case worker”, as disciplined by ECSS.
3. Low-Income Standard Beneficiary Pension, calculated as 75 per cent of SBP.
4. High-Income Standard Beneficiary Pension, calculated as 150 per cent of SBP.
5. Survivor Benefit. Pension: pension paid after an insured individual’s death to one or more surviving family members, according to national law.

Other Cash Benefits:

1. UI (3 months): unemployment insurance benefit paid for up to three months.

2. Maternity Insurance: income replacement benefit payable to women who are expected to or have given birth, before or after the delivery.
3. Disability Insurance (permanent): cash benefits payable to permanently disabled person based on legal criteria that specify the extent of the disability.
4. GMI (single): Guaranteed Minimum Income payable to single individuals who may or may not receive other incomes or social protection benefits.
5. GMI (per adult living in household): average GMI payable to individuals living in a multi-person household.

Adequacy Thresholds:

1. AROP (40%): At Risk Of Poverty threshold, equal to 40 per cent of equivalized median income (see EUROSTAT in Source table).
2. AROP (60%): At Risk Of Poverty threshold, equal to 60 per cent of equivalized median income (see EUROSTAT in Source table).

Support from ILO's country offices

In order to ensure the reliability of the study it is important that governments examine and validate the data used. Support from ILO country offices in submitting the preliminary results to appropriate government offices would be critical.

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Sources

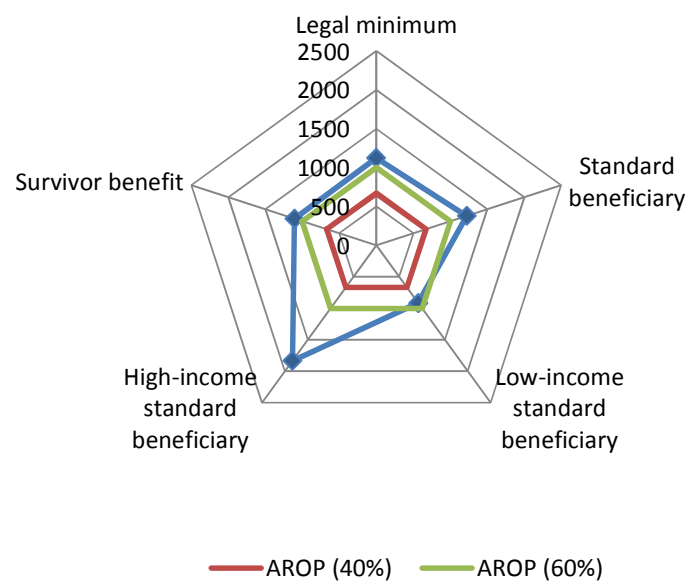
	Minimum pension	Pension for average case worker	Survivor benefit	Maternity insurance	Unemployment benefit	Disability Insurance	GMI	AROP
Belgium	MISSOC	ECSS-PSB	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
Cyprus	MISSOC	ECSS-PSB	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
Czech Republic	MISSOC	ECSS-PSB	MISSOC	MISSOC	SSA	MISSOC	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
Denmark	ECSS-PSB	ECSS-PSB	ND	ND	ND	ND	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
Estonia	MISSOC	ECSS-PSB	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
France	MISSOC	ECSS-PSB	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
Germany	ND	ECSS-PSB	ND	MISSOC	MISSOC	ND	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
Greece	MISSOC	ECSS-PSB	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
Ireland	SSA	ECSS-PSB	MISSOC	SSA	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
Italy	MISSOC	ECSS-PSB	MISSOC	ND	ND	MISSOC	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
Luxembourg	MISSOC	ECSS-PSB	MISSOC	SSA	SSA	SSA	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
Netherlands	MISSOC	ECSS-PSB	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
Norway	MISSOC	ECSS-PSB	ND	ND	ND	MISSOC	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
Portugal	MISSOC	ECSS-PSB	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
Romania	MISSOC	ECSS-PSB	MISSOC	SSA	SSA	MISSOC	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
Slovenia	MISSOC	ECSS-PSB	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
Spain	MISSOC	ECSS-PSB	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
Sweden	MISSOC	ECSS-PSB	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
Switzerland	MISSOC	ECSS-PSB	MISSOC	ND	ND	MISSOC	MISSOC	EUROSTAT
Turkey	ECSS-PSB	ECSS-PSB	SSA	SSA	SSA	SSA	ND	EUROSTAT
UK	MISSOC	ECSS-PSB	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	MISSOC	EUROSTAT

Legend

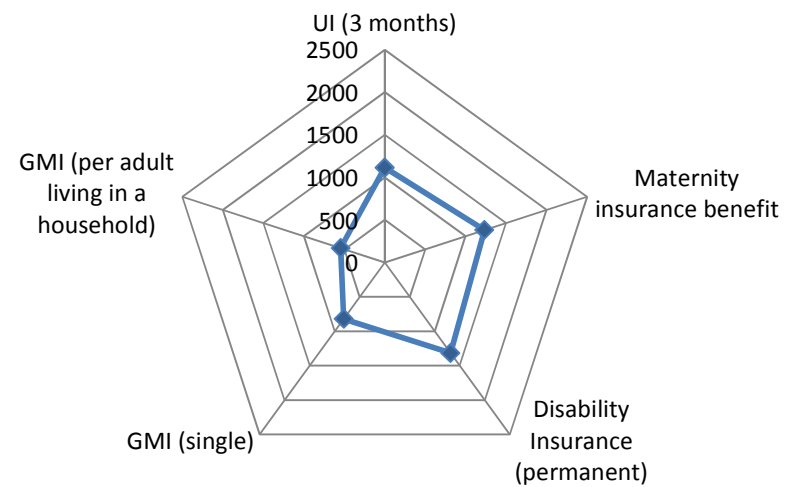
ECSS	Government reports to the European Commission on the application of the European Code of Social Security, latest available year.
ECSS-PSB	European Code of Social Security Report, pension of standard beneficiary
EUROSTAT	EUROSTAT, SILC 2012, http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=ilc_li01&lang=en
MISSOC	Missoc comparative tables, 1 January 2014
ND	No data
SSA	United States Social Security Administration, Social Security Throughout the World, 2012-2013

Social Protection in Belgium (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits

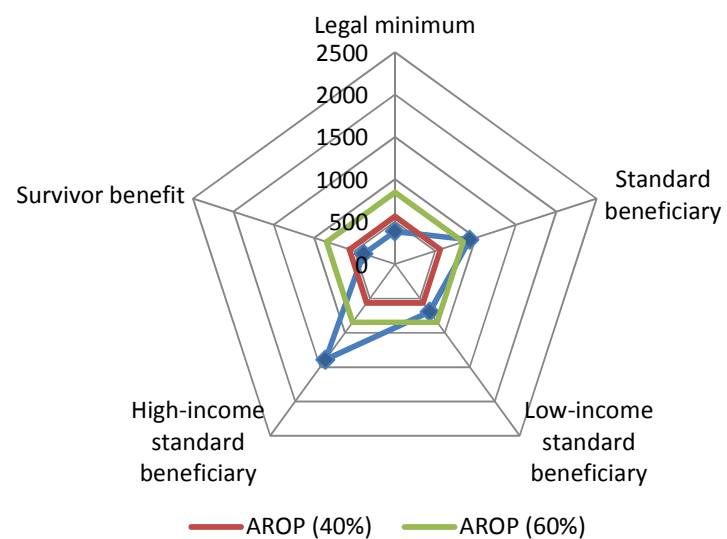


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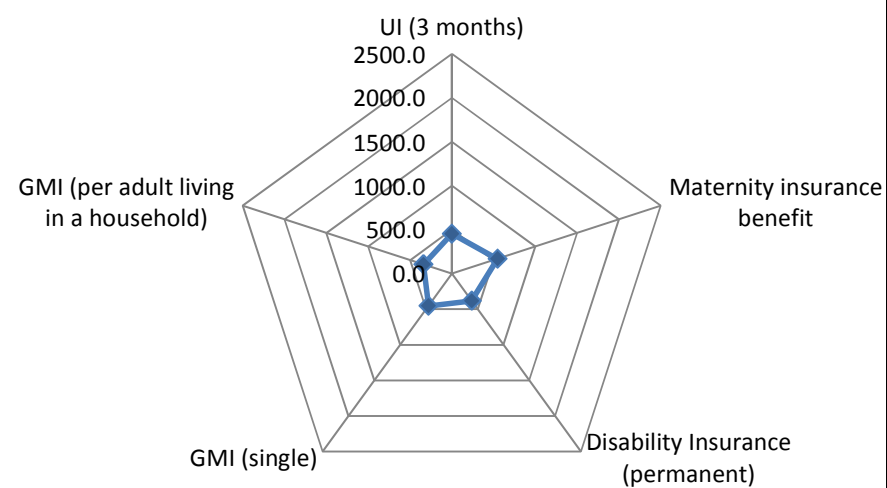
Legal Provisions, Belgium						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	15 years	65				
Survivor Benefit	Insured					Spouse married to the deceased for at least 1 year; divorced spouse
Maternity Insurance	6 months	-	-	-	6 weeks before the delivery date and 9 weeks after	
Unemployment Benefit	varies according to the age of the insured person between 312 working days during the previous 21 months, and 624 working days over the previous 42 months.				no limit	
Disability Insurance	6 months, with 120 days worked		yes			Reduction of capacity for work of at least 66%
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	18	yes	yes	unlimited	non-contributory

Social Protection in Cyprus (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits

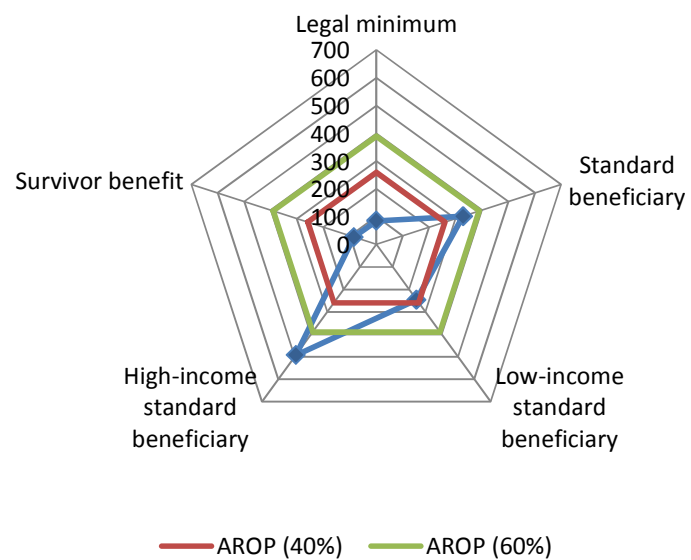


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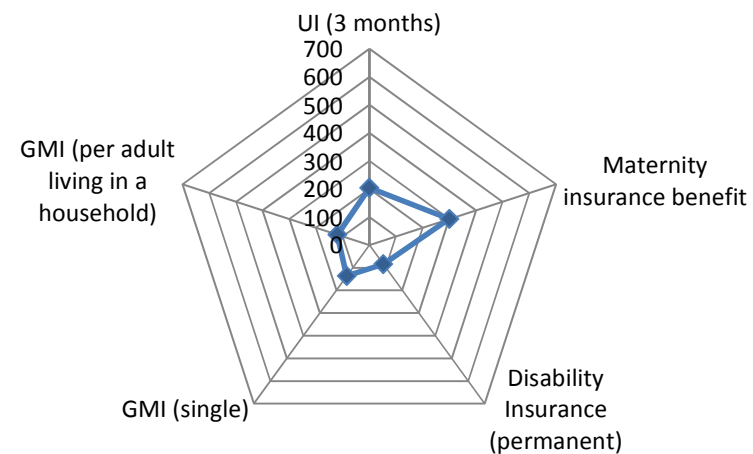
Legal Provisions, Cyprus						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	624 weeks	65		yes		
Survivor Benefit	156 weeks					widow/widower
Maternity Insurance	26 weeks	-	yes	-	18 weeks	
Unemployment Benefit	26 weeks up to the date of unemployment				156 days	
Disability Insurance	at least 156 weeks up to the date of invalidity			yes		66.67% reduction in earnings capacity
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	no age requirements	yes	yes	unlimited	non-contributory

Social Protection in Czech Republic (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits

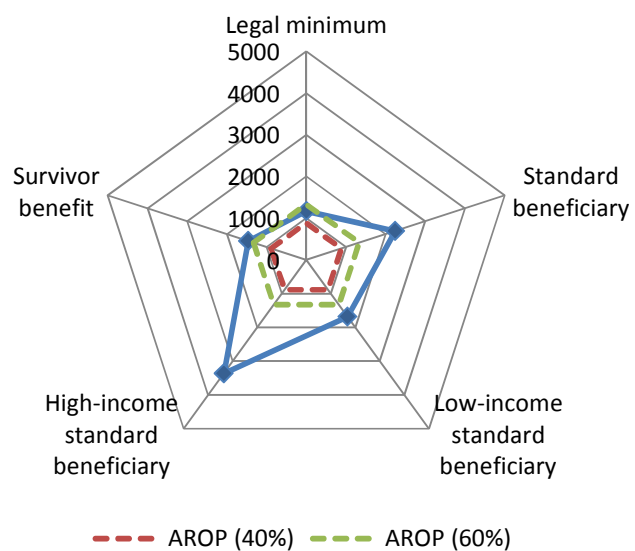


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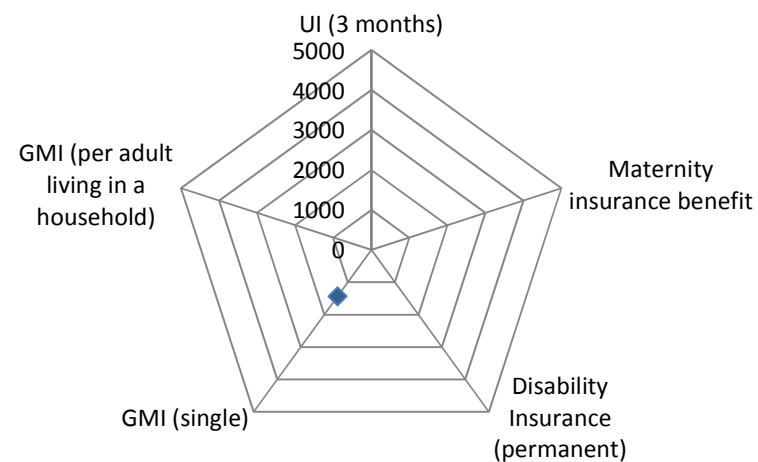
Legal Provisions, Czech Republic						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	30 years	Men: 62 years and 8 months; Women: depends upon the number of children raised				
Survivor Benefit	Insured					surviving spouse; children
Maternity Insurance	270 days of insurance during the two years preceding the take up of maternity benefit.	-	yes	-	28 weeks	
Unemployment Benefit	12 months in the past 2 years				5 months	
Disability Insurance	5 years (for the age above 28)			yes		35% of incapacity for work
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	no age requirements	yes	yes	unlimited	non-contributory

Social Protection in Denmark (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits

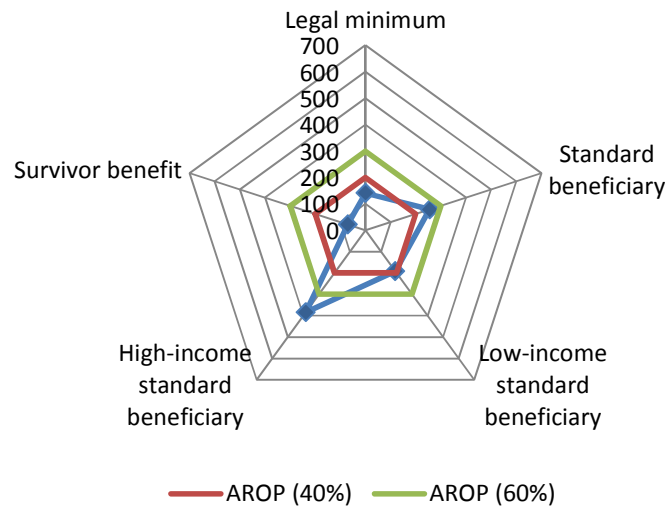


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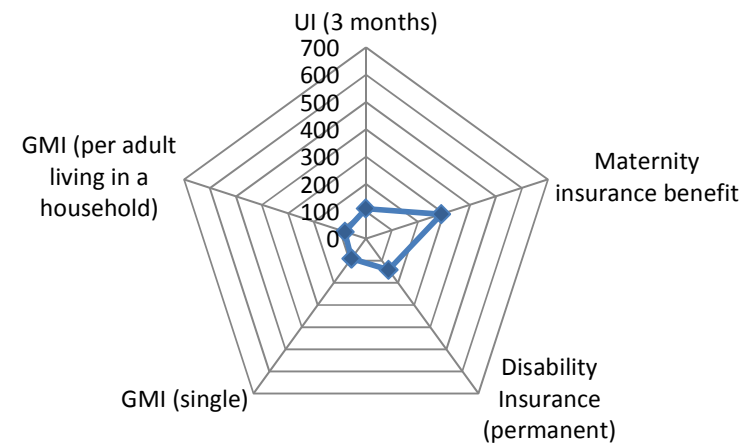
Legal Provisions, Denmark						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	Insured at time of retirement	65	yes (at least 3 years)			
Survivor Benefit	10 years (2 years under the new scheme).					Surviving spouses, cohabitants and under certain conditions also divorced partners; children
Maternity Insurance	120 hours in 13 weeks preceding the paid leave	-	yes (6 weeks)	-	4 weeks before expected confinement, 14 weeks after confinement, 32 weeks after the 14th week. This period can be split up or postponed, but must be taken before the 9th birthday of the child.	
Unemployment Benefit	1,924 hours (corresponding to full-time employment during one year) during the 3 preceding years is required.				2 years	
Disability Insurance	3 years of residence between the age of 15 and 65. Foreigners: 10 years of residence, 5 years of which must immediately precede the date on which the pension is payable.		yes	yes		
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	18	yes	yes	unlimited	non-contributory

Social Protection in Estonia (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits

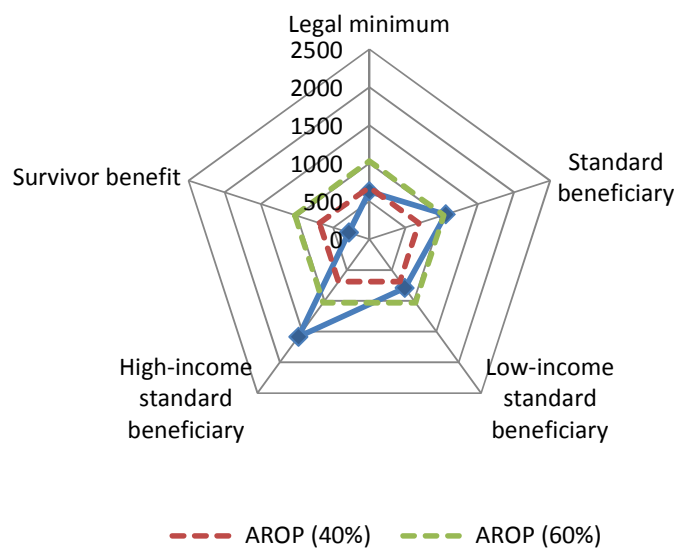


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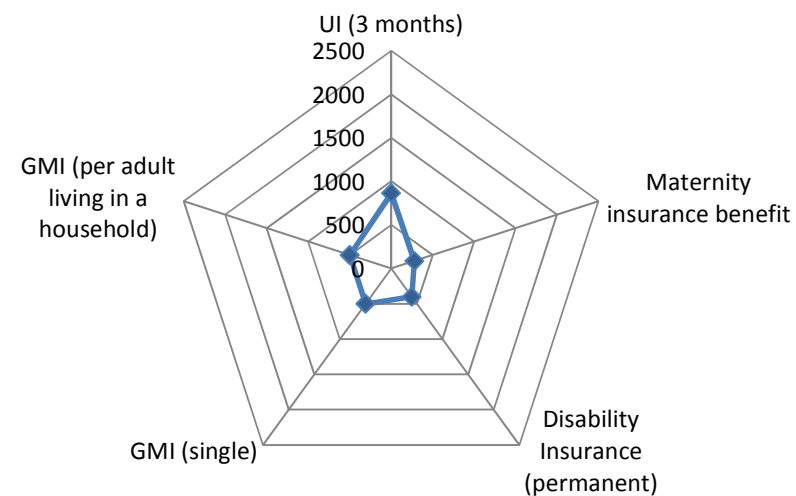
Legal Provisions, Estonia						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	15 years	men: 63, women: 62	yes			
Survivor Benefit	Variable depending on age of deceased (1 year if aged 25-26 years, 15 years if aged 63)		yes			Surviving spouse, divorced spouse (under certain conditions), children, others
Maternity Insurance	Working directly prior to confinement	-	-	-	140 calendar days if the maternity leave commences at least 30 calendar days before the estimated date of confinement	Working directly prior to confinement
Unemployment Benefit	12 months over the 36 months preceding registration as unemployed				180 days (with min contributions)	
Disability Insurance	1 year			yes		40% reduction of capacity
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	16	yes	yes	unlimited	non-contributory

Social Protection in France (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits

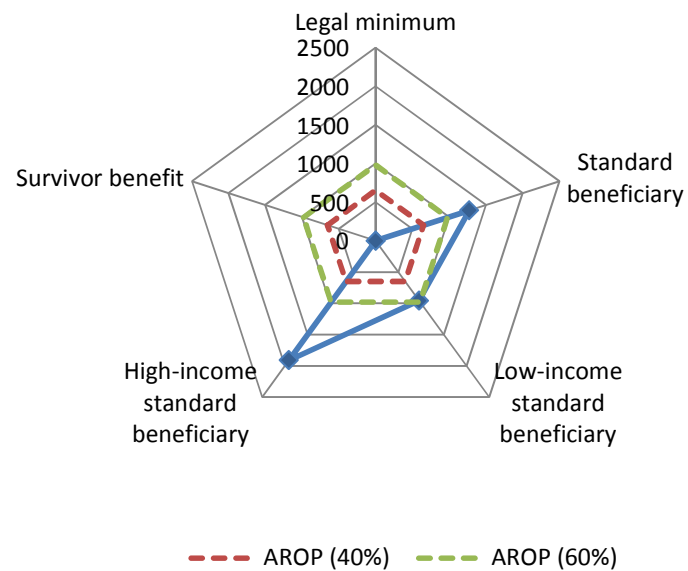


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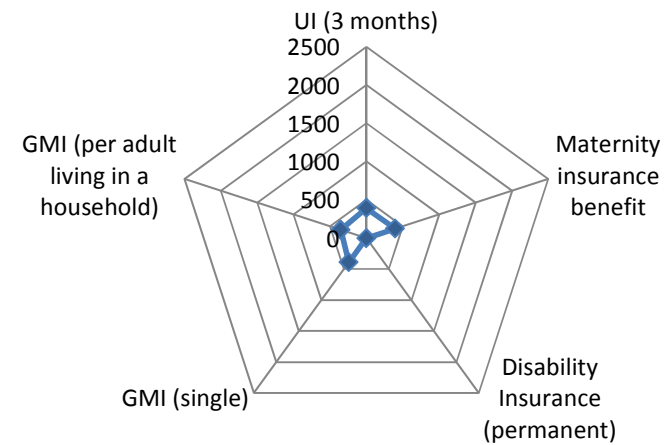
Legal Provisions, France						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	164-166 quarters (depending on the birth year)	62				
Survivor Benefit	Insured	55				widow/widower
Maternity Insurance	200 hours worked in the 3 months preceding the reference date	-	yes (at least 10 months)	-	16 weeks (6 before confinement and 10 after)	
Unemployment Benefit	4 months (122 days) insurance during the last 28 months (36 months for those aged 50 and over) preceding the unemployment				6 months	
Disability Insurance	12 months			yes		66.67% reduction in earnings capacity
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	20	yes	yes	3 months, renewable	non-contributory

Social Protection in Germany (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits

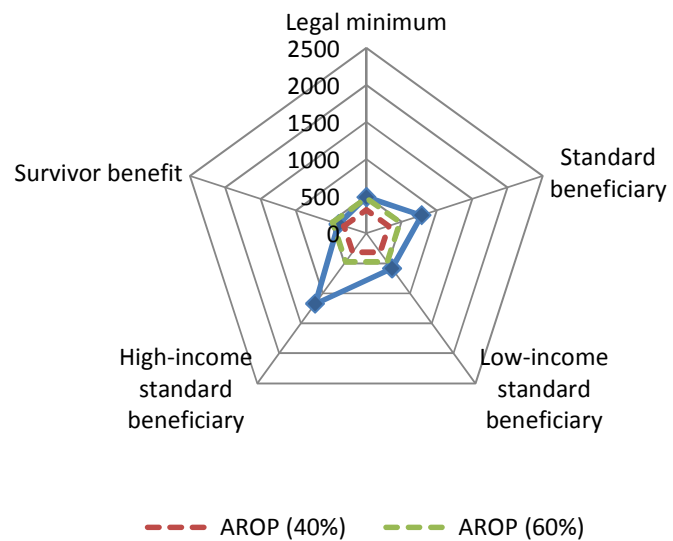


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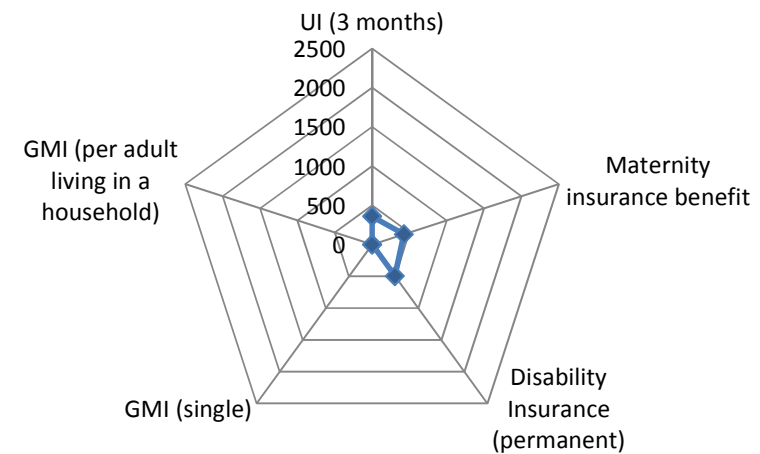
Legal Provisions, Germany						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	5 years of contribution and substitute periods	67				
Survivor Benefit	5 years		yes			surviving spouse, divorced spouse, orphan
Maternity Insurance	Insured	-	-	-	6 weeks prior to and 8 weeks after confinement	
Unemployment Benefit	12 months during the last 2 years				7 months	
Disability Insurance	60 months of contribution			yes		Capacity for any work less than 3 hours a day.
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	15	yes	yes	unlimited	non-contributory

Social Protection in Greece (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits

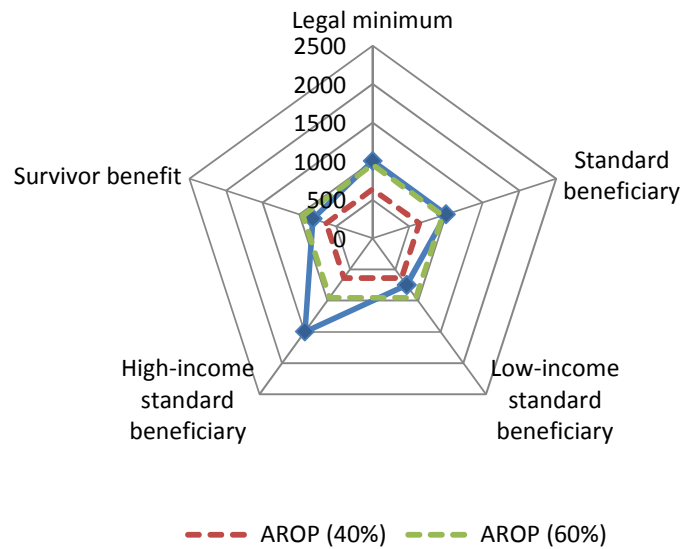


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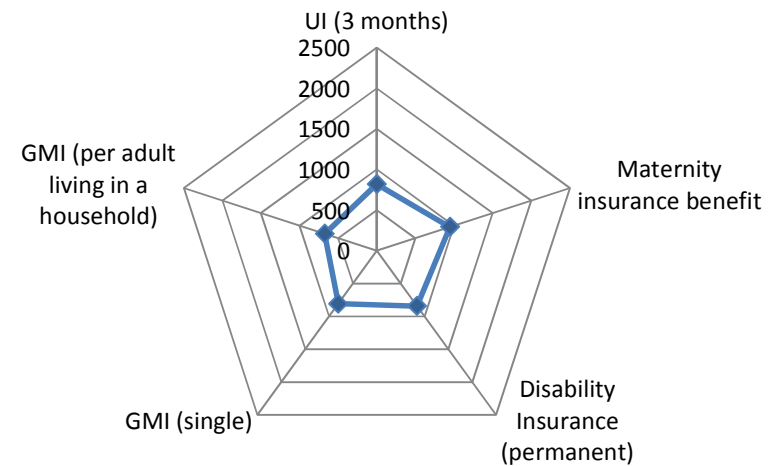
Legal Provisions, Greece						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	15 years or 4,500 working days	67				
Survivor Benefit	Contributions paid for at least 4,500 days or 1,500 insured days, 300 of which during the 5 years before the date of death					widow (6 months marriage), divorced spouse, children
Maternity Insurance	200 days work resulting in contributions during the last 2 years	-	-	-	119 days (of which 56 prenatal and 63 postnatal)	
Unemployment Benefit	125 days of work during the 14 months preceding job loss or, at least, 200 days of work during the 2 years preceding job loss				5 months	
Disability Insurance	4,500 working days during the whole active life			yes		50%
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	no age requirements	yes	yes	unlimited	non-contributory

Social Protection in Ireland (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits

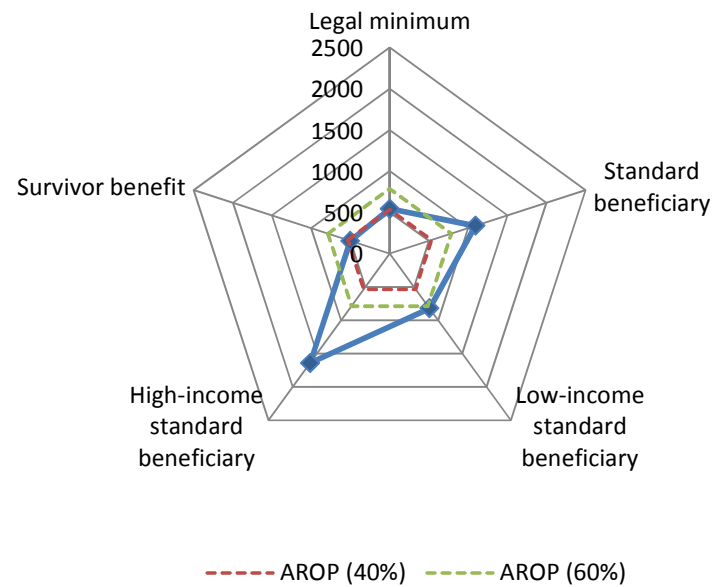


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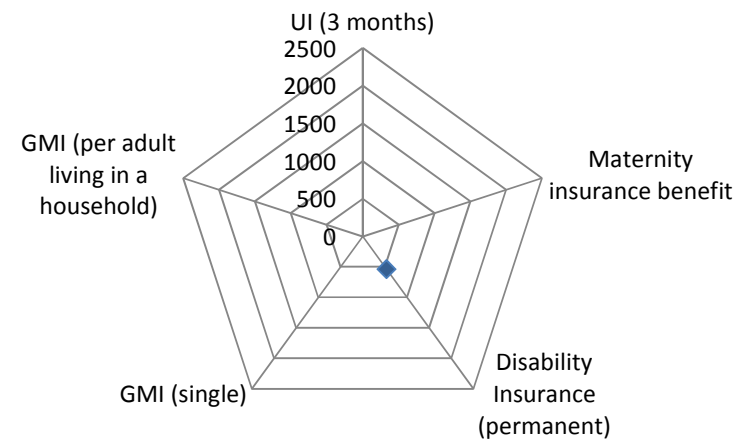
Legal Provisions, Ireland						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	Annual average of 48 contributions paid or credited	66				
Survivor Benefit	156 weeks of insurable employment					spouse, civil partner, divorced spouse, orphan
Maternity Insurance	39 contributions paid in the 12 months before the first day of maternity leave or 39 contributions paid since first starting work, and 39 contributions paid or credited in the relevant tax year before the benefit year, or 26 contributions paid in each of the two relevant tax years before the benefit year	-	yes	-	26 weeks - at least 2 must be taken before and 4 weeks after confinement.	
Unemployment Benefit	104 weekly contributions paid				156 days	
Disability Insurance	260 contribution weeks of insurable employment					incapable of work for a minimum of 12 months or permanently
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	18	yes	yes	unlimited	non-contributory

Social Protection in Italy (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits

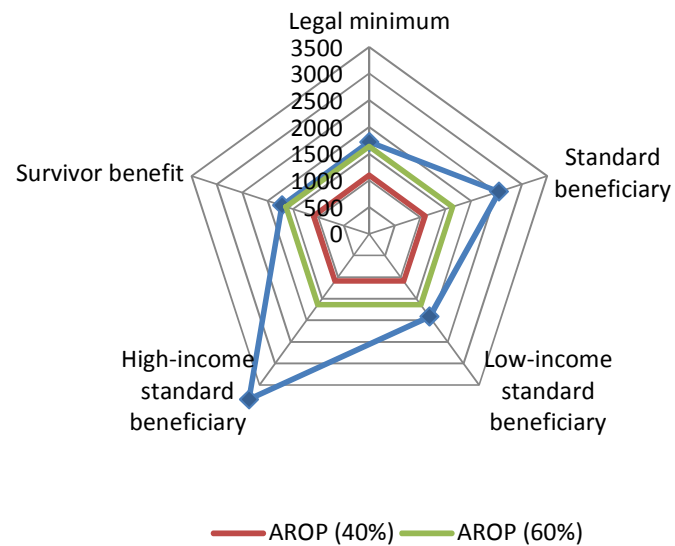


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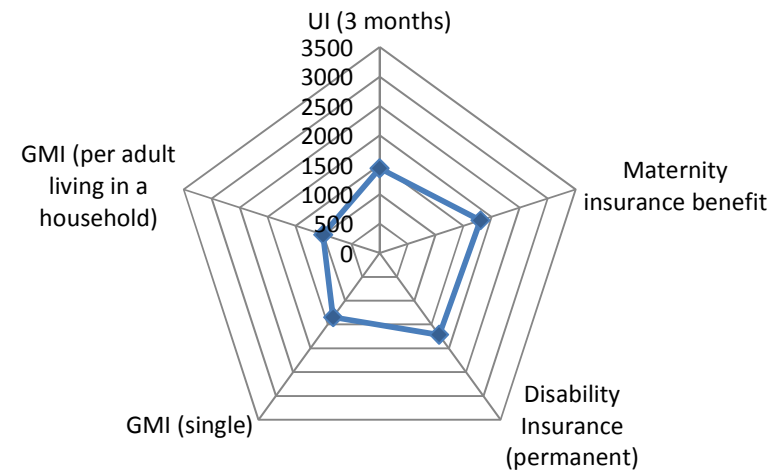
Legal Provisions, Italy						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	20 years of paid and/or deemed contributions	66 years and 3 months				
Survivor Benefit	5 years, 3 of which during the last 5 years, or 15 years of contributions during any time					spouse, divorced spouse, children, parents, grandchildren, brother, sister
Maternity Insurance	-	-	yes	-	Five-month compulsory paid leave: one- to two-month leave prior to confinement and three- to four-month leave after delivery	
Unemployment Benefit	2 years of work insurance contributions one of which accrued during the two years prior to the onset of unemployment				8 months	
Disability Insurance	5 contribution years with at least 3 during the last 5 years			yes		66%
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	no age requirements	yes	yes	unlimited	non-contributory

Social Protection in Luxembourg (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits

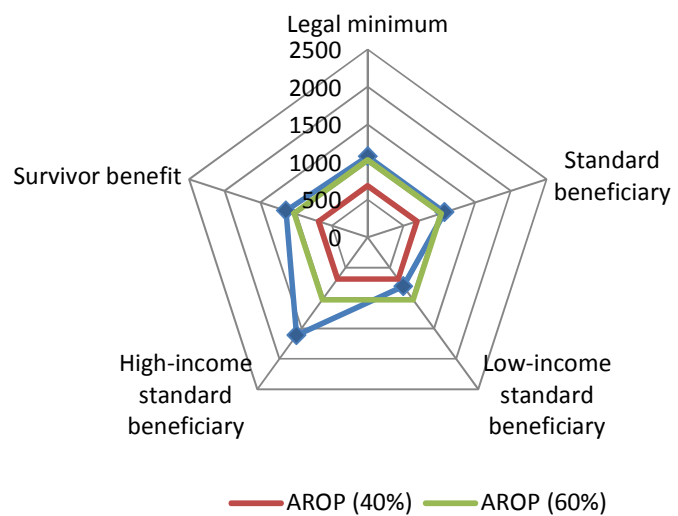


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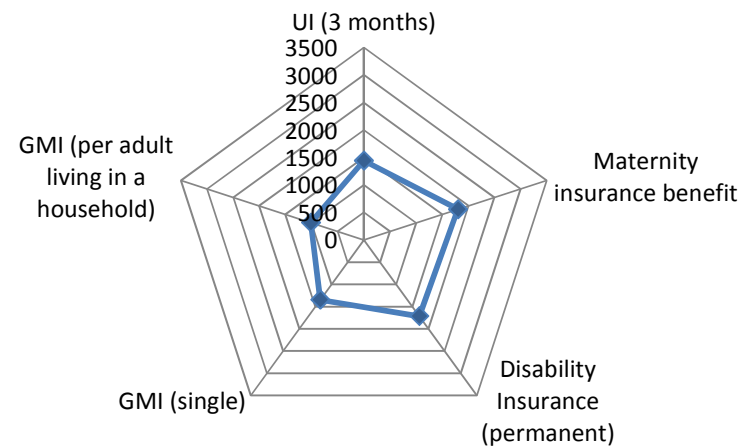
Legal Provisions, Luxembourg						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	120 months of effective contributions	65				
Survivor Benefit	12 months during the 3 years prior to death					spouse or partner, divorced spouse, children, parents
Maternity Insurance	6 months in the year preceding the birth.	-	-	-	8 weeks before expected date of confinement and 8 weeks after actual date of confinement	
Unemployment Benefit	26 weeks up to the date of unemployment				365 days	
Disability Insurance	12 months of insurance in the three years prior to the invalidity			yes		no min level
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	25	yes	yes	unlimited	non-contributory

Social Protection in the Netherlands (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits

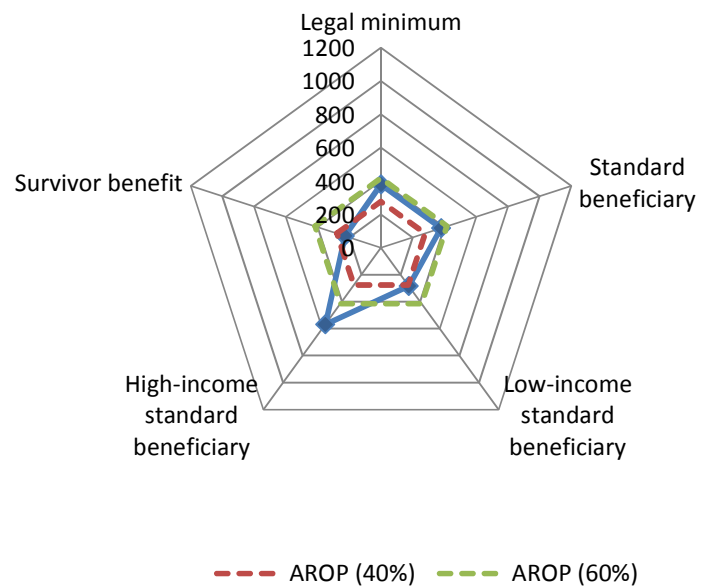


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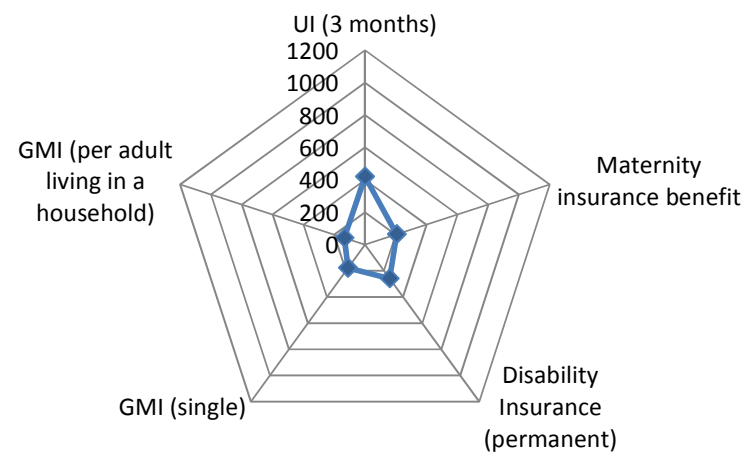
Legal Provisions, Netherlands						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	Insured at time of retirement	65 years and 1 month	yes			
Survivor Benefit	Insured		yes			spouse or partner, divorced spouse, children
Maternity Insurance	Insured	-	residents and non-residents		16 weeks	
Unemployment Benefit	26 weeks out of the 36 weeks before the first day of unemployment				3 months	
Disability Insurance	no min required			yes		35%
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	18	yes	yes	unlimited	non-contributory

Social Protection in Portugal (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits

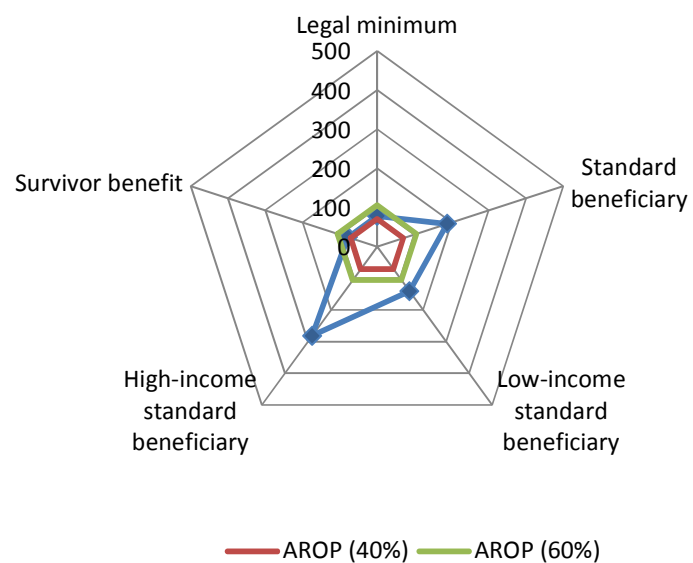


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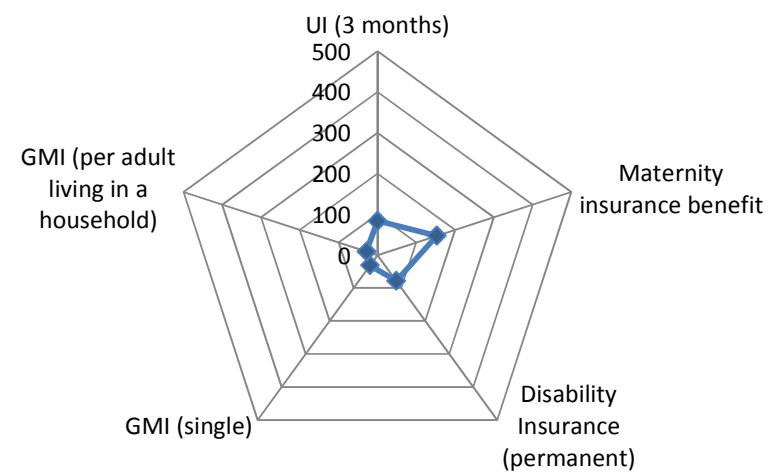
Legal Provisions, Portugal						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	15 years	66				
Survivor Benefit	36 month of paid or credited contributions					spouse or partner (at least 1 year an 2 years for partnership), divorced spouse, children, parents
Maternity Insurance	6 months		yes		Up to 30 days of voluntary leave prior to childbirth and 6 weeks of compulsory leave after childbirth	6 months
Unemployment Benefit	360 days of employed work and contribution payment, or assimilated situation, in the 24 months preceding commencement of unemployment				150 days	
Disability Insurance	3 years			yes		66.60%
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	18	yes	yes	12 months, renewable	non-contributory

Social Protection in Romania (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits

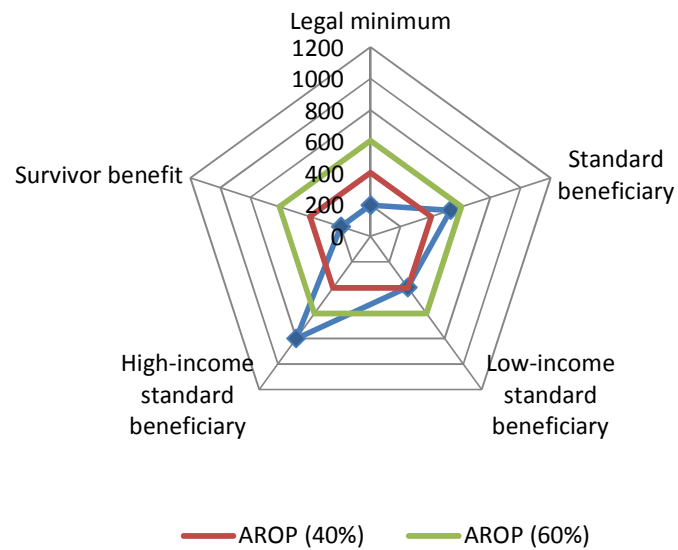


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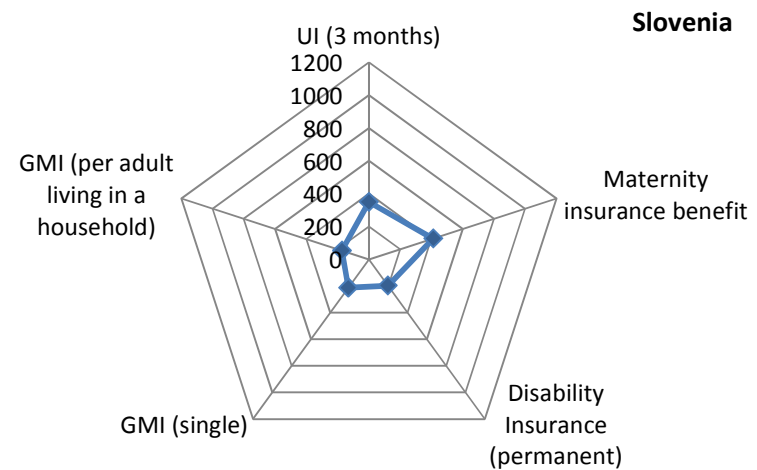
Legal Provisions, Romania						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	14 years and 6 months on 1 January 2014, increasing to 15 years on 1 January 2015.	Men: 64 years and 9 months; Women: 59 years and 9 months	yes			
Survivor Benefit	15 years					surviving spouse, children
Maternity Insurance	1 month of insurance (payment of contributions) in the last 12 months	-	-	-	63 days prior to the birth and 63 days after birth	
Unemployment Benefit	12 months during the 24 months preceding the application date.				6 months	
Disability Insurance	no min required			yes		50%
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	16	yes	yes	unlimited	non-contributory

Social Protection in Slovenia (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits

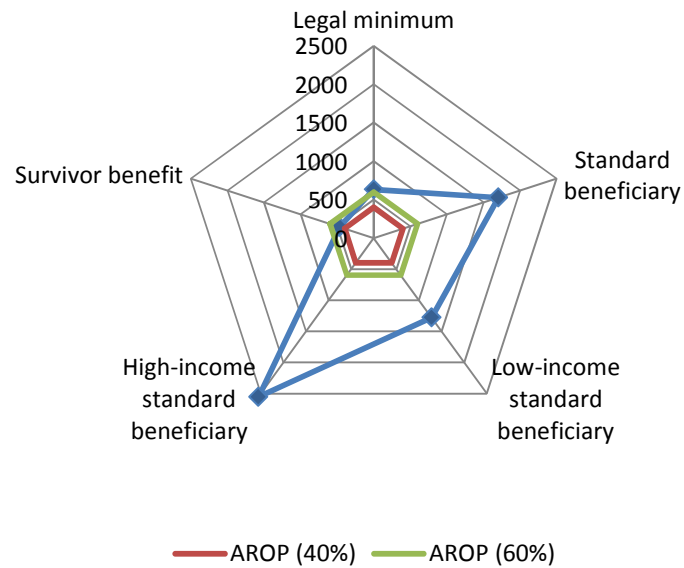


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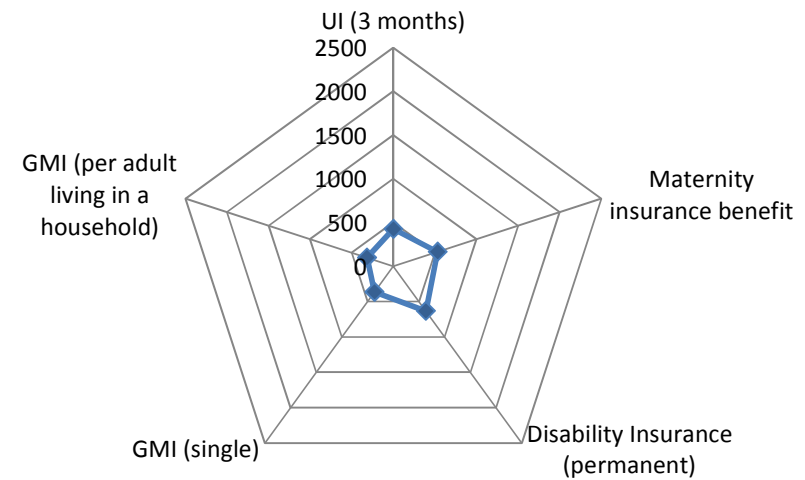
Legal Provisions, Slovenia						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	15 years	65				
Survivor Benefit	15 years					spouse or partner, divorced spouse, children, parents
Maternity Insurance	12 months prior to submission of the first application for parental leave	-	-	-	105 calendar days, of which 28 days before the confinement	
Unemployment Benefit	9 months of insurance during the previous 24 months				3 months	
Disability Insurance	One third of the time between attaining 20 years of age and the development of invalidity			yes		50%
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	no age requirements	yes	yes	12 months	non-contributory

Social Protection in Spain (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits

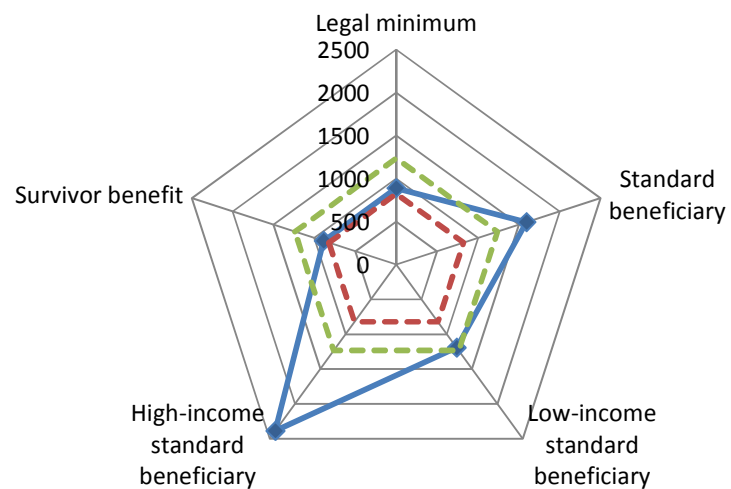


Sources: see introductory page.

Legal Provisions, Spain						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	15 years of which at least 2 years during the 15 years immediately preceding retirement	65				
Survivor Benefit	500 days in the five years preceding death					spouse or partner, divorced spouse, children, parents
Maternity Insurance	180 days in the 7 years immediately preceding the birth of the child	-	-	-	16 weeks	
Unemployment Benefit	Minimum contribution period of 360 days during the 6 years immediately preceding the legal unemployment situation				6 months	
Disability Insurance	5 years			Y		33%
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	16	yes	yes	unlimited	non-contributory

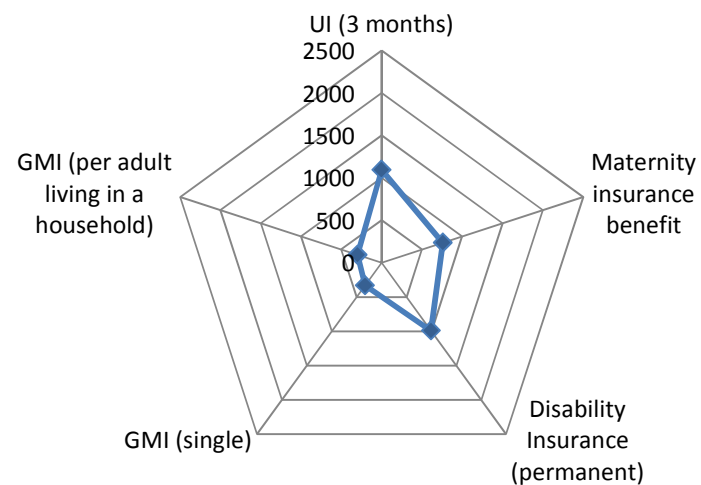
Social Protection in Sweden (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



--- AROP (40%) --- AROP (60%)

Other Cash Benefits

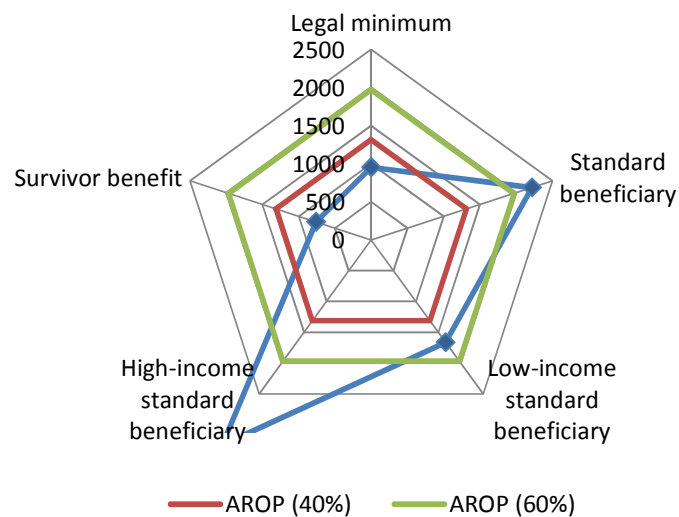


Sources: see introductory page.

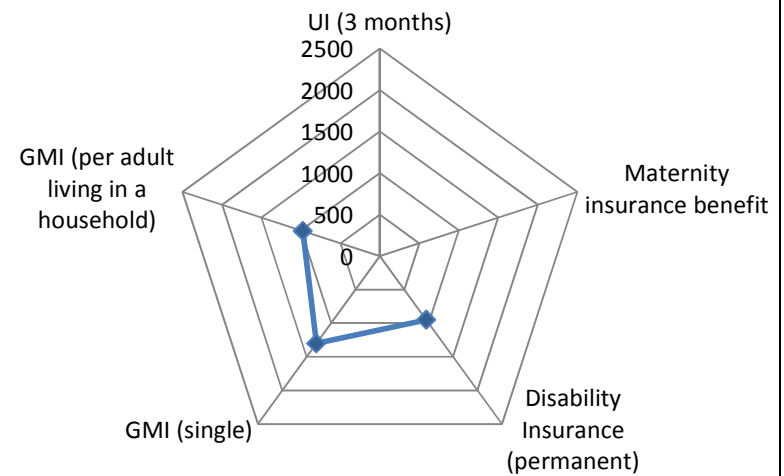
Legal Provisions, Sweden						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	3 years	61	yes (at least 3 years)			
Survivor Benefit			yes (3 years)			spouse
Maternity Insurance	240 consecutive days before confinement	-	yes	-	7 weeks prior to confinement and 7 weeks after	
Unemployment Benefit	6 months and at least 80 hours of work per month during the last 12 months				300 days	
Disability Insurance	1 year with pensionable income within a frame period, immediately preceding the year when the disability occurred			yes	1 year with pensionable income within a frame period, immediately preceding the year when the disability occurred	25%
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	no age requirements	yes	yes	unlimited	non-contributory

Social Protection in Switzerland (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits

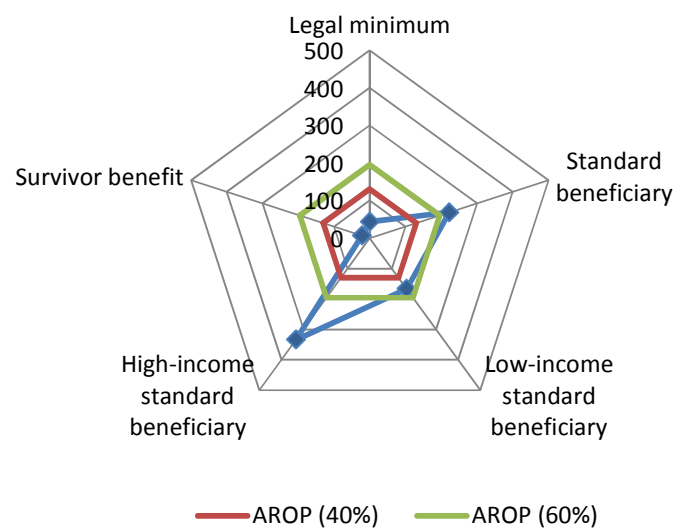


Sources: see introductory page.

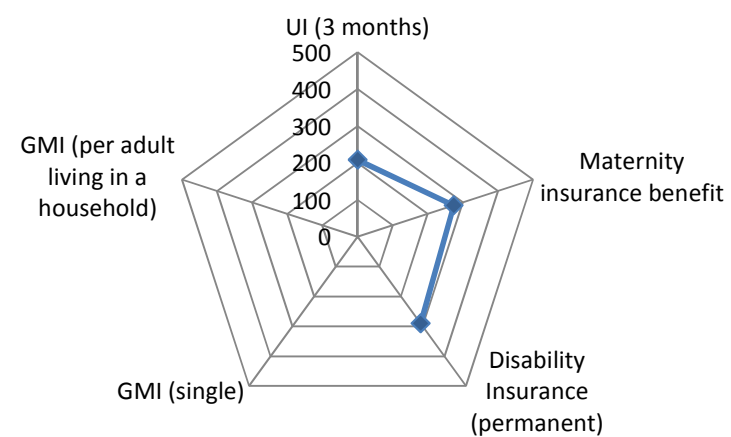
Legal Provisions, Switzerland						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	1 year	men: 65; women: 64	yes			
Survivor Benefit	1 year		yes			spouse or partner, divorced spouse, children
Maternity Insurance	9 months preceding immediately the delivery	-	-	-	-	
Unemployment Benefit	2 months of contributions, within a reference period of 2 years preceding unemployment				200 days	
Disability Insurance	3 years			yes		40-70% (depending on the pension)
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	18	yes	yes	unlimited	non-contributory

Social Protection in Turkey (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits

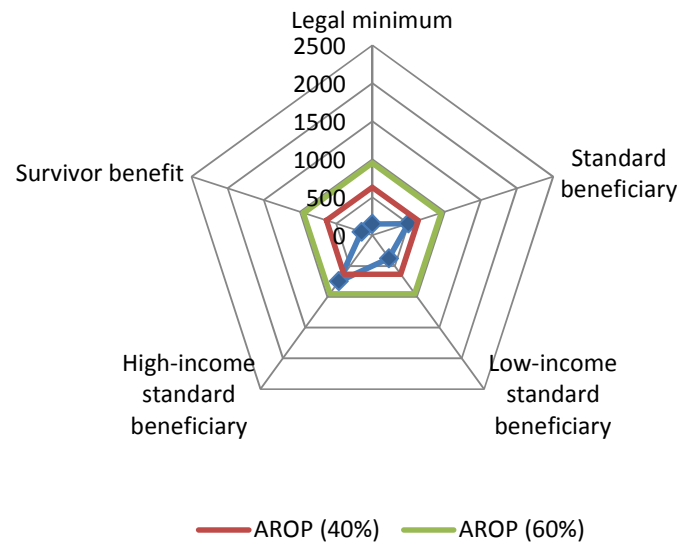


Sources: see introductory page.

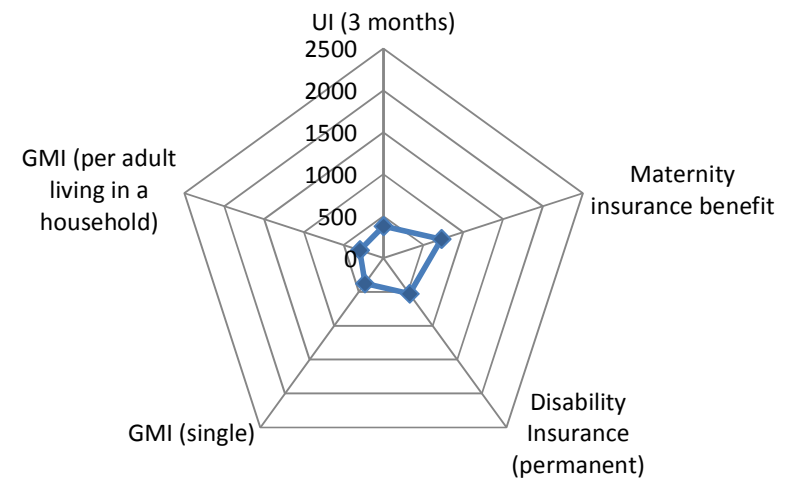
Legal Provisions, United Kingdom						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	7200 days	60 (men), 58 (women)				
Survivor Benefit	900 days					Spouse; children under 18; disabled children over 18
Maternity Insurance	90 days of contribution in the previous year	-	yes	-	16 weeks	
Unemployment Benefit	600 days of contributions				180 days	Y
Disability Insurance	10 years		yes			
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)						

Social Protection in the United Kingdom (2012, Euro)

Old-age Benefits (contributory)



Other Cash Benefits



Sources: see introductory page.

Legal Provisions, United Kingdom						
	Minimum contributions	Minimum Age	Residence	Means Tested	Minimum Duration	Other
Minimum Pension	1 year	65				
Survivor Benefit	Insured					spouse
Maternity Insurance	Continuously employed by the same employer for 26 weeks	-	yes	-	52 weeks	
Unemployment Benefit	Contributions paid in one of the 2 tax years on which the claim is based amounting to at least 26 times the minimum weekly contribution for that year		yes		182 days	Y
Disability Insurance	52 weeks in the period of incapacity		yes			Level of incapacity - 100%
Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI)	non-contributory	18	yes	yes	unlimited	non-contributory