The Distribution of Pensioners in the Irish Income Distribution: latest data

PPRG, Trinity College Dublin
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Dr Micheál Collins
NERI (Nevin Economic Research Institute)
Dublin
mcollins@NERInstitute.net
@MLGCollins
www.NERInstitute.net

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1. Introduction

• First part of a research project on pensions, pension contributions and associated tax expenditures
• Objective:
  o a distributive overview of those who are on pensions
  o an insight into those who are approaching pension age

2. Data

• SILC
  o 2012 used here (released April 2014)
  o 4,592 households and 11,891 individuals
  o sample weights to make nationally representative
  o 2013 data due shortly…
3. Some Definitions

- **Households**
  - Looking at two ‘pensioner households’
    - 1 adult aged 65+
    - 2 adults, at least 1 aged 65+
  - So, missing some pensioners…

- **Income**
  - Gross income = market income + transfers
  - Disposable income = gross income – (income taxes+PRSI)
  - Equivalised income
    - individual
    - national scale

4. Where are Pensioners?

- Gross income
  - First, the whole income distribution
  - Then, the pensioner distribution

- Equivalised disposable income
  - First, the whole income distribution
  - Then, the pensioner distribution
Ireland’s Gross Household Income Distribution, 2012

Chart represents: 335,000 households / 510,000 people
Ireland’s Equivalised Disposable Income Distribution, 2012

Chart represents: 510,000 people

Ireland’s Equivalised Disposable Income Distribution – Pensioner Households, 2012

Chart represents: 510,000 people
5. Where are the Forthcoming Pensioners?

- Individuals aged between 50-64 years
- Equivalised disposable income
6. Next Steps

- Using SILC data to look more closely at those pre-pension age
- Distribution of contributions and tax expenditure costs
- more to come…
- Ideas/suggestions = welcome
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