

Old-age pension in 2018

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You can retire on old-age pension at your discretion after you have reached your minimum retirement age. Discuss retirement matters at your workplace, for example, in a personal development discussion. Your employment contract must end for you to be entitled to old-age pension. Self-employed persons will be granted old-age pension even if they choose to continue their business activities.

Your pension is affected by

- your annual earned income from employment or, if you are self-employed, your YEL income
- certain unpaid periods and
- the life expectancy coefficient

Continuing to work past your minimum retirement age and towards your target retirement age will increase your pension, and you can accrue pension until you reach your maximum retirement age. If you retire after reaching your minimum age limit for old-age pension, we will raise your pension by 0.4% for every month of deferred retirement. The increase does not apply during periods of collecting unemployment benefits.

Retirement ages will change gradually for those born in or after 1955

Year of birth	Minimum retirement age	Target retirement age	Maximum retirement age
1954	63 y	63 y 9 m	68 y
1955	63 y 3 m	64 y 1 m	68 y
1956	63 y 6 m	64 y 5 m	68 y
1957	63 y 9 m	64 y 9 m	68 y
1958	64 y	65 y 1 m	69 y

You can check your personal target retirement age and your minimum and maximum retirement age when you estimate the amount of your pension at [varma.fi > Private customer > Amount of pension > Calculate an estimate of your pension](#).

If you were born before 1958, have been unemployed for a long time and are entitled to additional days of unemployment allowance, you may apply for old-age pension at the age of 62. More information is available in the brochure on pension cover for the unemployed or at the address [varma.fi > Private customer > Applying for pension > How to apply for old-age pension for the unemployed](#).

Pension cover is supplemented by Finnish national pension

National pension can supplement your pension cover if your earnings-related pension is roughly EUR 1,300 per month or less. This limit may be higher if you have accrued earnings-related pension over the age of 63 before 2017. If you apply for Finnish national pension under the age of 65, the pension will be permanently reduced by 0.4% for each month that early pension is paid.

How to apply for old-age pension

Enter your birth year 1949–1962 and select the situation that applies to you from the timeline.

Year of birth

At work

Applying
for pension

Retired

Check your situation according to your year of birth:

[varma.fi > Private customer > Applying for pension > How to apply for old-age pension](#).

When you know the estimated amount of your earnings-related pension, find out from Kela whether you are also entitled to receive national pension.

How to apply for old-age pension

1. Decide when you want to retire

2. Agree on the end of your employment well ahead of time

When you know when you want to retire, agree with your employer on terminating your employment contract. Old-age pension can start at the earliest in the beginning of the month following the termination of your employment contract.

Self-employed persons will be granted old-age pension even if they choose to continue their business activities. Pension for the self-employed begins, at the earliest, at the start of the month after it has been applied for.

If your work has ended or you have reached the upper age limit for insurance for your age group, old-age pension can be granted retroactively, but only for three months. Old-age pension for a person on additional days of unemployment allowance can only begin, however, at the earliest at the start of the month after it has been applied for.

3. Apply for pension 2 weeks before the start of your retirement

The fastest way to submit your application is to fill in the electronic old-age pension application form at varma.fi. Applications are also available at tyoelake.fi and from the Social Insurance Institution of Finland (Kela). One application is enough, even if you are applying for both earnings-related and national pension.

4. If you have worked or lived abroad

Submit your application at the earliest six months before the start of your retirement. Also fill in Appendix U, Residence and Employment Abroad. You can send the appendix electronically at the same time as you apply for pension on Varma's eServices.

We will process your pension application at Varma if your earnings for the last two years were primarily insured with us.

If you retire from an employment relationship, we will ask your employer for information related to the end of your employment once we receive your application. You will receive a final pension decision only once your employer has submitted all the required earnings information.

If you have worked not only in the private sector, but also in municipal or state employment, we will give you a decision on your total earnings-related pension.

Your pension will be paid into your account soon after you receive the decision. From then on, the pension will be in your account on the first banking day of each month.

Apply for a tax card for pension income after you receive a decision

If we do not have a tax card for your pension, we will withhold 40% tax on your first pension instalment. Your pension decision will also include instructions on how to get a tax card for pension income. If we have withheld excess tax on your pension, we will refund the excess as soon as we have received the tax card for pension income from the tax office.

The employee pension card that entitles you to pensioner discounts will arrive at your home address around two weeks after the pension decision. When you retire, you can save your electronic employee pension card on your smart phone or tablet by logging in to our eServices.

Working while on a pension

Being gainfully employed while drawing old-age pension accrues new pension at an annual rate of 1.5% up to the maximum age of retirement, and there is no earnings limit. Taking out insurance for entrepreneurial activities is voluntary.

If you enter a new employment relationship after the start of your pension, you can apply for payment of this pension at your maximum age of retirement. If, however, you have several employment relationships concurrently and one of them will not end when you retire on old-age pension, you can apply for the pension that has accrued on that employment relationship immediately once the employment relationship ends.

Your pension information on Varma's website while working and during retirement

Varma is at your service in all issues concerning earnings-related pension at www.varma.fi.

Our online services for private customers consist of

- employment pension record
- pension estimates
- pension applications
- rehabilitation applications and services
- services for pensioners

When you apply for pension or rehabilitation, you can order documents containing decisions that concern you to be sent to your electronic archive.

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