

02

The data

An overview of the dataset used in this edition of *The Purple Book*.

Summary

- This chapter contains information on the number and distribution of schemes in *The Purple Book 2022* dataset and the estimated universe of PPF-eligible schemes.
- The main analysis in *The Purple Book 2022* is based on the most recent scheme returns submitted to TPR by 31 March 2022. This covered a dataset of 5,131 DB schemes, covering 9.6 million members<sup>1</sup>. This represents all PPF-eligible schemes and universe liabilities. A full description of the data used is set out in the appendix.
- It is estimated that the eligible universe of schemes was 5,131 as at 31 March 2022, a reduction from 5,220 as at 31 March 2021. The declining universe reflects schemes winding up, scheme mergers, and schemes entering PPF assessment.
- As in previous editions of *The Purple Book*, the bulk of the analysis uses funding with pension scheme liability values measured on an s179 basis. This is, broadly speaking, what would have to be paid to an insurance company to take on the payment of PPF levels of compensation.

Figure 2.1 | Distribution of schemes excluding those in assessment by size of scheme membership

The reduction in the eligible universe from 5,220 schemes at 31 March 2021 to 5,131 schemes at 31 March 2022 is mainly due to schemes with fewer than 1,000 members leaving the eligible universe.

Number of members	2–99	100–999	1,000–4,999	5,000–9,999	10,000+	Total
<i>The Purple Book 2021</i> dataset (number of schemes)	1,874	2,280	720	160	186	5,220
<i>The Purple Book 2022</i> dataset (number of schemes)	1,836	2,248	706	159	182	5,131
Difference in number of schemes	-2.0%	-1.4%	-1.9%	-0.1%	-2.2%	-1.7%

Source: PPF

Figure 2.2 | Distribution of assets, s179 liabilities and members in *The Purple Book 2022* dataset as at 31 March 2022

Large schemes with over 5,000 members make up seven per cent of schemes in *The Purple Book 2022* dataset but almost 75 per cent of each of total assets, liabilities and members.

Number of members	2–99	100–999	1,000–4,999	5,000–9,999	10,000+	Total
Assets (£bn)	17.4	145.6	265.9	208.8	1,029.3	1,666.9
s179 liabilities (£bn)	14.6	131.3	244.3	187.3	896.4	1,473.9
Number of members (000's)	81	786	1,604	1,110	6,067	9,648

Source: PPF

Note: the components may not sum to the total because of rounding.

Figure 2.3 | *The Purple Book* datasets

The universe has declined by two per cent over the year, similar to previous years. This reflects schemes winding up, scheme mergers and schemes transferring into the PPF.

	Estimated universe	<i>Purple Book</i> dataset	Number of members (m)
2006	7,751	5,772	14.0
2007	7,542	5,892	12.7
2008	7,400	6,898	12.4
2009	7,098	6,885	12.4
2010	6,850	6,596	12.0
2011	6,550	6,432	12.0
2012	6,460	6,316	11.7
2013	6,225	6,150	11.4
2014	6,070	6,057	11.1
2015	5,967	5,945	11.0
2016	5,886	5,794	10.9
2017	5,671	5,588	10.5
2018	5,524	5,450	10.4
2019	5,436	5,422	10.1
2020	5,327	5,318	9.9
2021	5,220	5,215	9.7
2022	5,131	5,131	9.6

Source: PPF

Note: the reason for the increase in *The Purple Book* dataset from 2006 to 2008 is mainly a result of improvements to the design of the scheme return intended to permit better PPF validation procedures.

1 One individual can have multiple memberships (for example of different pension schemes). Hence the number of members exceeds the number of individuals.