Your pension statement

The following explanations are intended to help you better understand the information listed on your pension statement. The statement pictured here is simply a sample statement. Your own pension statement may not necessarily contain all of the items listed here. The current pension scheme regulations authoritatively determine the foundation's duties regarding benefits and the scope of each individual benefit.

(1) Personal data

The foundation needs this personal data in order to calculate contributions and benefits.

(2) Salary data

The qualifying annual salary is usually equal to the annual salary amount that is subject to AHV contributions and shall be reported to the foundation by the employer.
The annual savings contributions are calculated on the basis of the insured annual salary savings. Depending on how the given plan is defined, this is usually equal to the qualifying annual salary, less the coordination amount.
The insured annual salary risk is applicable as the basis for calculating the risk benefits.

(3) Retirement savings

The retirement savings comprise all retirement credits, transferred vested benefits, voluntary purchases and on-going interest credits, less early withdrawals.

(3a) Total retirement savings as of reference date

Upon leaving the pension fund, a vested benefits amount becomes due. This amount is, in each case, equal to the retirement savings as of the reference date.

(3b) Retirement savings according to the BVG (Switzerland's federal occupational pensions act)

The retirement savings amount listed under the BVG portion corresponds to the legally stipulated minimum pursuant to federal law.

(3c) Projected retirement savings with interest at age 65

The retirement savings as projected at the normal time of (statutory) retirement are equal to the retirement savings at the end of the current year, the sum of the retirement credits for the years left until retirement and the prospective interest credits. The prospective interest credits are based on an assumption regarding interest to be granted in the future. The retirement credits are based on the current insured salary.

(3d) Projected retirement savings without interest at age 65

The retirement savings as projected at the normal time of (statutory) retirement are equal to the retirement savings at the end of the current year and the sum of the retirement credits for the years left until retirement without interest. The basis for this is the current insured annual salary. The projected retirement savings without interest can serve as the basis for calculating the risk benefits if the pension plan stipulates such an arrangement.

(4) Bases for calculation

The bases used for calculations offer transparency regarding the methods used by the pension fund to calculate certain figures, particularly the projected retirement benefits.

(4a) Conversion rate upon statutory retirement

The amount of the retirement pension depends, on the one hand, on the retirement savings accrued up to the time of retirement, and on the other hand, on how high the conversion rate is. The conversion rate upon statutory retirement is not guaranteed for the future and serves solely to calculate the projected retirement pension.

(4b) Interest on retirement savings

The interest rate applied to the BVG retirement savings is prescribed by law-makers.
The super-mandatory retirement savings shall receive interest at the rate determined by the foundation board.

(4c) Projected interest rate for retirement benefits

This interest rate is used to calculate retirement benefits in advance (see also 3c). The interest is not guaranteed for the future; instead, it is the expression of an assumption regarding the future trends of the interest rate.

(5) Projected benefits on retirement

The retirement pension or the retirement capital amounts are the result of the projected retirement savings at the time of statutory or early retirement. The amount of benefits is not guaranteed.

(6) Benefits on disability

A disability pension is a temporary benefit that is paid out upon disability at longest until the statutory retirement age is reached, at which time it is replaced by a retirement pension.
If the recipient of a disability pension has children who would be entitled to claim orphans' pensions on their death, then they may claim disabled person's child's pensions for these children.
The amount and commencement of entitlement to these pensions is determined by the provisions of the given pension plan.

(7) Benefits upon death before retirement

If an insured person dies, a long-time survivor's pension shall be paid to the surviving spouse / registered partner.
Any entitlement to a life partner's pension and the amount of the pension shall be determined by the regulations / by the pension plan.
The amount of any lump-sum death benefit and the conditions for entitlement to it are set out in the regulations.
Upon death of the insured person, the surviving children are entitled to an orphan's pension as set out in the regulations.

(8) Benefits upon death after retirement

If the recipient of a retirement pension dies, their surviving partner (spouse / registered partner / declared life partner) is entitled to a survivor's pension.
An orphan's pension shall be paid out if the surviving children meet the corresponding conditions for entitlement.
The amount of benefits is determined by the regulations / pension plan.

(9) Contributions

The statutory contribution is divided into a employee and employer savings contribution (that is credited to the individual retirement savings as a retirement credit) and a risk contribution (to cover the risks of disability and death). The employee and employer savings contributions are calculated on the basis of the insured annual salary savings and the savings contribution rate determined by the employee's age.

(9a) Monthly contribution

The monthly contribution for employers and employees is determined by the participation agreed on in the pension plan. The employer must participate by paying at least half all of its employees' contributions.
The basis is the insured annual salary; the contributions resulting from it are owed by the employer in 12 instalments of equal size. The employee's contribution shall be deducted directly from the salary by the employer.

(10) Purchase

The insured person may make voluntary purchases if they would like to improve the insured benefits. The maximum allowed purchase, or buy-in, amount is indicated in respect to the given reference date of the pension statement. The actual maximum amount allowed for the voluntary purchase is influenced by a number of variable factors such as the point in time at which it is to be made. It is thus imperative to submit the purchase form to the pension fund before making any purchases.

(11) Vested benefit

The term vested benefits refers to the retirement savings that you accrued with your previous pension fund and then transferred to your current pension fund upon joining it.

The vested benefit at the age of 50 serves as an aid for calculating the limitation of an early withdrawal/pledge for home ownership after the insured person has turned 50.

Insured persons who married after 31 December 1994 shall also receive an indication of their termination benefits on marriage (i.e. what their benefits would have been had they left the fund when they got married). This shall serve as a basis for calculating the termination benefit accrued during the marriage, in case there is a divorce.

(12) Encouragement of home ownership

Retirement savings may be withdrawn early or pledged, to a limited extent, in order to finance ownership of residential property that the insured persons live in themselves.