The Actuarial Profession making financial sense of the future

Mortality and Longevity Seminar Neil Robjohns, Barnett Waddingham LLP



# Uncertainty in mortality-related cashflows Agenda

- Components of mortality risk
  - Process risk
  - Level risk
  - Trend risk
- · Context-driven expressions of mortality uncertainty
  - Survival curve
  - Pension scheme example
  - Whole-of-life cover example
- Summary

© 2010 The Actuarial Profession • www.actuaries.org.uk

2

3

## Uncertainty in mortality-related cashflows Agenda

- Components of mortality risk
  - Process risk
  - Level risk
  - Trend risk
- · Context-driven expressions of mortality uncertainty
  - Survival curve
  - Pension scheme example
  - Whole-of-life cover example
- Summary

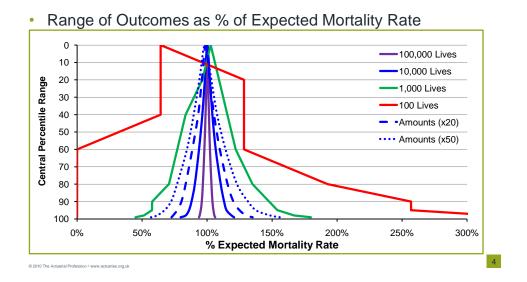
© 2010 The Actuarial Profession • www.actuaries.org.uk

© 2010 The Actuarial Profession • www.actuaries.org.uk

**Mortality Process Risk** 

- · Uncertainty in random incidence of the underlying mortality rate
- Degree of uncertainty (when measuring by lives)
  - Is a function of number of expected deaths, N
  - % standard error,  $\sigma$ , approximately  $\sqrt{(1/N)}$
  - So is a function of portfolio size and mortality rate
- · Degree of uncertainty (when measuring by amounts)
  - Additional variation arises if lives have different benefits
  - Depends on range and skewness of distribution
  - Perhaps increases lives  $\sigma$  by 25% to 100%

#### Mortality Process Risk Sample distributions of outcomes by portfolio size



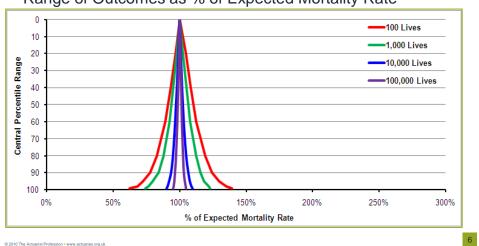
### **Mortality Level Risk**

- Uncertainty over the current estimated level of mortality
- Degree of uncertainty
  - Depends on information used to make estimate
- · Experience analysis 'sampling error'
  - Another expression of process risk
  - So a function of number of deaths and distribution of amounts
- Independent estimates

© 2010 The Actuarial Profession • www.actuaries.org.uk

- For example using socio-economic profile
- Improve estimates and provide upper bound for uncertainty

#### Mortality Level Risk Sample distributions of outcomes by portfolio size



#### Range of Outcomes as % of Expected Mortality Rate

### **Mortality Trend Risk**

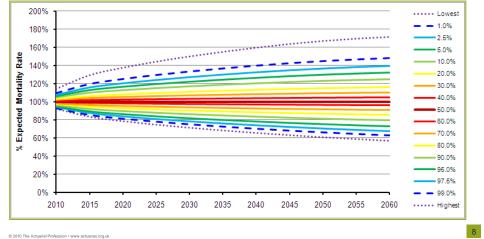
- · Uncertainty in the future path mortality improvements
- Degree of uncertainty

© 2010 The Actuarial Profession • www.actuaries.org.uk

- Difficult to establish!
- Use projection models, by cause-analysis, expert opinion, ...
- · Unlikely to be correlated with size of group
  - But possible variation by socio-economic profile of group
- Trend risk starts from effective date of mortality level estimate
- · Simplistic model used for these example
  - In particular, ignore short term variations

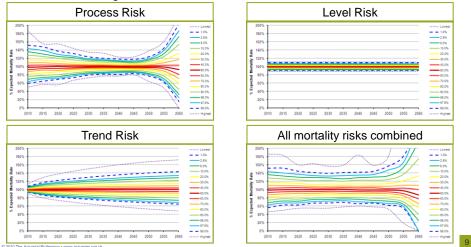
#### Mortality Trend Risk Sample distribution of outcomes

Projected mortality rate by year as % of best estimate rate



#### Components of Mortality Risk Sample distributions of outcomes by component

Projected mortality rate by year as % of best estimate rate
 10,000 lives; age 60 at outset; outcomes allow for distribution of benefit amounts



10

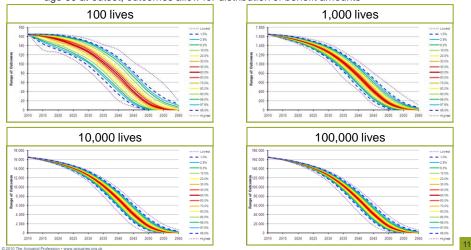
### Uncertainty in mortality-related cashflows Agenda

- Components of mortality risk
  - Process risk
  - Level risk
  - Trend risk
- · Context-driven expressions of mortality uncertainty
  - Survival curve
  - Pension scheme example
  - Whole-of-life cover example
- Summary

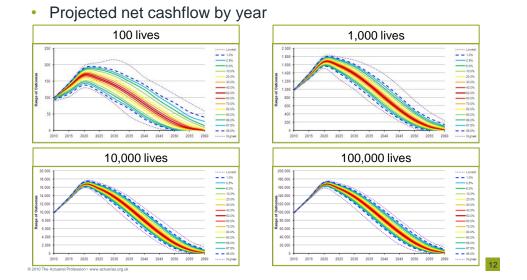
© 2010 The Actuarial Profession • www.actuaries.org.uk

Projected Survival Curve Sample distributions of outcomes by portfolio size

Projected surviving benefit amount by year
 age 60 at outset; outcomes allow for distribution of benefit amounts

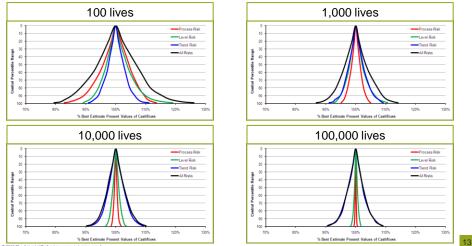


#### Portfolio example 1: Pension Scheme Sample distributions of outcomes by portfolio size

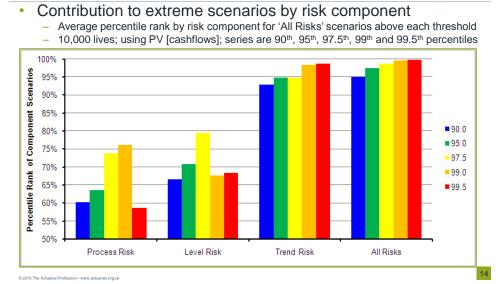


#### Portfolio example 1: Pension Scheme Sample distributions of outcomes by portfolio size

• PV [projected cashflows] as % best estimate by risk component

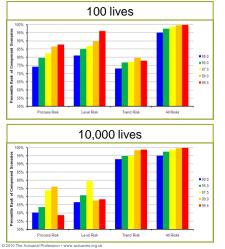


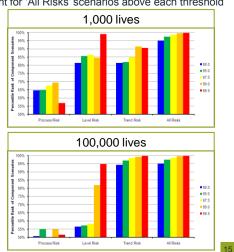
#### Portfolio example 1: Pension Scheme Relative contributions by risk component



#### Portfolio example 1: Pension Scheme Sample distributions of outcomes by portfolio size

Contribution to extreme scenarios by risk component
 Average percentile rank by risk component for 'All Risks' scenarios above each threshold

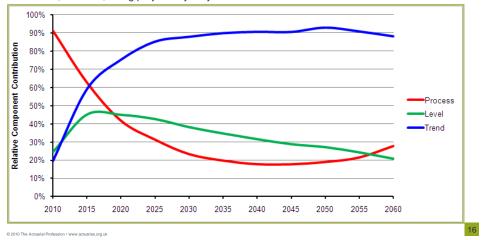




#### Portfolio example 1: Pension Scheme Relative contributions by risk component

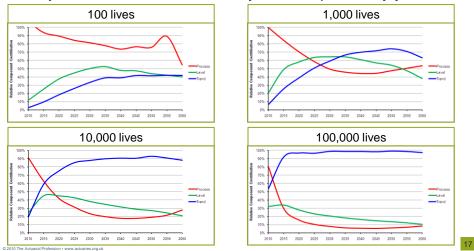
Projected relative contribution by risk component by year

calculated as ratio of component to 'All Risks' using width of central 90<sup>th</sup> percentile ranges
 10,000 lives; using projected yearly cashflows

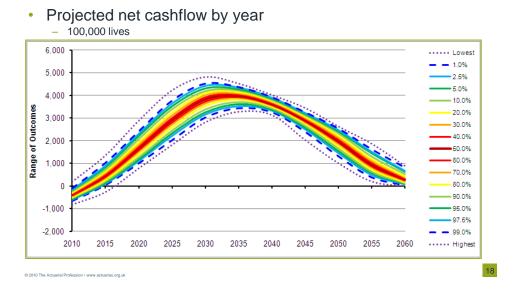


#### Portfolio example 1: Pension Scheme Sample distributions of outcomes by portfolio size

Projected relative contribution by risk component by year

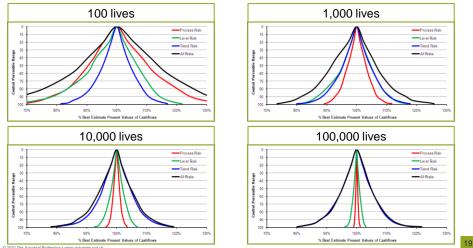


#### Portfolio example 2: Whole-of-life Sample distributions of outcomes by portfolio size



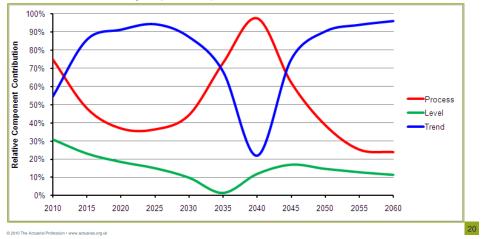
#### Portfolio example 2: Whole-of-life Sample distributions of outcomes by portfolio size

PV [cashflows] as % best estimate by risk component

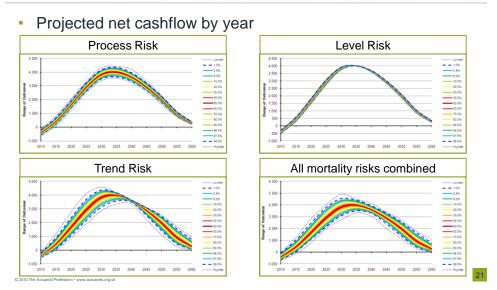


#### Portfolio example 2: Whole-of-life Relative contributions by risk component

- Projected relative contribution by risk component by year
  - calculated as ratio of component to 'All Risks' using width of central 90<sup>th</sup> percentile ranges
    100,000 lives; using PV [cashflows]



#### Portfolio example 2: Whole-of-life Sample distributions of outcomes by component



22

23

## Uncertainty in mortality-related cashflows Agenda

- Components of mortality risk
  - Process risk
  - Level risk
  - Trend risk
- · Context-driven expressions of mortality uncertainty
  - Survival curve
  - Pension scheme example
  - Whole-of-life cover example
- Summary

© 2010 The Actuarial Profession • www.actuaries.org.uk

© 2010 The Actuarial Profe

Uncertainty in mortality-related cashflows Summary

- Quantify mortality uncertainty in 3 main components
  - Process, Level and Trend (ignore catastrophe risk for now)
- · The expression of mortality uncertainty is context sensitive
  - Depends on nature of mortality-related cashflows
- · Interaction and relative contribution of components varies
  - over time; with size of group; and with risk threshold
- Manage mortality-related uncertainty by
  - Better information to improve estimates
  - Targeted transfer of risk, for example:
    - Life cover: Surplus, quota share and stop-loss reinsurance
    - Pensions: Selective buy-ins; full or partial swap or hedge

#### **Questions or comments?**

Expressions of individual views by members of The Actuarial Profession and its staff are encouraged.

The views expressed in this presentation are those of the presenter.

The Actuarial Profession making financial sense of the future

© 2010 The Actuarial Profession • www.actuaries.org.uk

Mortality and Longevity Seminar Neil Robjohns, Barnett Waddingham LLP

> Understanding and managing uncertainty in mortality-related cashflows

> > 22 March 2011