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There are more women in work than when records began 50 years ago, with 4.9million holding down a job over the age of 50 due to rise in pension age and financial pressures

- The figures show a rise of 38% since 2009 and are double those from 1994
- A rise in the state pension age and growing financial pressures are to blame
- Fewer than 1.8million women now look after a family or household full-time

By [JAMES BURTON FOR THE DAILY MAIL](#)

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A record number of women over 50 are in work, figures revealed yesterday.

There are 4.9 million 50-plus women holding down a job, a rise of 38 per cent since

2009 – and double the figure in 1994.

Experts said a rise in the state pension age, growing financial pressures and changing lifestyles were all factors.

Meanwhile, the number of women staying at home has fallen to a record low. Fewer than 1.8 million look after a family or household full-time, compared to 2.1 million a decade ago – and almost 3 million when records began in 1993.

ADVERTISING ▶

The advertisement is a horizontal banner. On the left, a teal vertical bar contains the text 'simply be.' in white lowercase letters at the top, a white rectangular button with 'SHOP NOW' in black uppercase letters in the middle, and the slogan 'Let Summer SET YOU FREE' at the bottom, with 'Let Summer' in a script font and 'SET YOU FREE' in a bold sans-serif font. The background of the banner is a photograph of a woman in a purple bikini jumping joyfully against a blue sky with light clouds. Overlaid on the right side of the photo is a white square containing a black bikini set. Navigation arrows (up and down triangles) are positioned above and below the bikini image. A small speaker icon is visible in the bottom right corner of the banner.

Overall, the Office for National Statistics figures showed the number of women in work has risen to a record 15.4 million.

A key factor behind the surge in the number of older working women has been the rise in the state pension age, which has been increasing from 60 to 65 – making it harder for many to give up employment.

Just 620,000 women aged under 64 have retired, down 44 per cent since 2009. Lucrative final-salary pensions are less common, meaning many older people have to hold down at least a part-time role to supplement their income in retirement.