



**ALERT**

## Actuaries Issue New Mortality Data That May Affect Retirement Benefit Obligations

The Society of Actuaries (SOA) recently released the final report of its mortality tables and mortality improvement scale. The updated mortality data reflect increasing life expectancies in the United States.

Companies should consider the SOA's new mortality data for U.S.-based defined benefit pension and other postretirement benefit plans when making their mortality assumptions for year-end 2014 financial reporting. For companies that adopt the new mortality tables or revise their projection scale, the effect on the pension or other postretirement benefit obligation may be material.

Plan sponsors will need to document how they considered available mortality information and applied it to the facts and circumstances of the plan to arrive at their best estimates when measuring their defined benefit retirement obligations.

For more information about KPMG's observations on the new mortality data see KPMG's Defining Issues No. 14-42, *New Mortality Data May Affect Retirement Benefit Obligations*, available at <http://www.kpmg-institutes.com>.

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