178,990

pensions have been accessed by consumers from July to September 2015 This is a 13% drop from the 204,581 reported in data the FCA collected for April to June 2015^{*}

120,969

pensions were fully cashed out in the quarter This includes customers who accessed their pension before this quarter and chose to fully withdraw in this quarter and customers accessing their pension for the first time in the quarter. In this quarter 88% of full withdrawals involved pots of less than £30,000



68%

of Guaranteed Annuity Rates (GARs) were not taken up Of the GARs that were not taken up, 79% were in pots of less than £30,000 and 90% were in pots of less than £10,000

71%

of customers making a partial withdrawal took less than 2% of their pot after tax free cash

Consumers aged 55-59 made the highest level of withdrawals

58% of drawdown

and

37% of annuity customers used a regulated adviser

Customers with larger pension pots were more likely to have taken regulated advice

58% of drawdown and 64% of annuity customers stayed with their existing pension provider

Consumers going into drawdown may be using an option within their pension and so there is not necessarily a new purchase decision point when accessing their income or fully withdrawing

* www.fca.org.uk/news/pension-freedoms-data-collection-exercise-analysis-and-findings