

Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.



"Life insurers are working hard to engage consumers and broaden the appeal of their products. Despite their best efforts, large swathes of people still have no life cover, and yet Mintel's research shows there is considerable latent demand among the non-insured. Substantially increasing product take-up – by nudging more individuals to buy cover – must therefore remain a key industry objective."

- Sarah Hitchcock, Senior Finance Analyst

# This report looks at the following areas:

- Encourage and inspire rather than admonish and guilt-trip people into action
- Delaying benefits no one

Term assurance is the largest sector in the protection industry, by number of policyholders. It is also a mature market that is experiencing minimal growth. Indeed, the number of in-force term assurance policies has been broadly stable over the past decade. Demand for new policies has picked up over the past couple of years, reflecting a more buoyant mortgage market. Nevertheless, volume sales are still lower than what they were in 2013. There is also some uncertainty about whether the recent upturn in sales can be maintained, particularly if mortgage demand is hit by future interest rate rises.

# BUY THIS REPORT NOW

**VISIT:** store.mintel.com

CALL: EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533

> Brazil 0800 095 9094

Americas +1 (312) 943 5250

+86 (21) 6032 7300

APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100

**EMAIL:** reports@mintel.com

**DID YOU KNOW?** 

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

## **Table of Contents**

#### **Overview**

What you need to know

Products covered in this Report

#### **Executive Summary**

The market

12 million policies in force

Volume sales up 11% in 2017

Figure 1: Forecast of new individual term assurance volume sales - Fan chart, 2013-23

68% of new contracts in 2017 were non-mortgage-related

Figure 2: Product portfolio mix - Share of total new individual term assurance contracts, by policy type, 2013-17

Other term policies are less likely to be sold with a critical illness rider

Advisers are heavily relied upon to generate sales

Market fortunes are intrinsically linked to those of the housing market

Companies and brands

A concentrated market

Figure 3: Top five providers' share of total volume sales of individual term assurance, 2017

New innovation

The consumer

31% of UK adults have life insurance

Figure 4: Ownership of life insurance and other protection products, April 2018

Just over half arranged their policy within the past five years

Figure 5: Length of time ago took out policy, April 2018

Those who arranged their policy more than five years ago are more likely to have used an adviser

46% of the non-insured have someone who depends on them financially

Figure 6: Level of concern about how dependents would manage financially without them, April 2018

38% of the non-insured would consider taking out a policy in the future

Figure 7: Future consideration of life insurance, April 2018

45% of future prospects don't have cover because they can't afford it

Figure 8: Reasons for not having life insurance at the current time (future prospects only), April 2018

What people most want is simple, low-cost cover

Figure 9: Product benefits and qualities that would encourage future purchase, April 2018

What we think

## **Issues and Insights**

Encourage and inspire rather than admonish and guilt-trip people into action

The facts

The implications

BUY THIS REPORT NOW VISIT: store.mintel.com

**CALL:** EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094 Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

Delaying benefits no one

The facts

The implications

#### The Market - What You Need to Know

A mature and stable market

New term sales grew by 11% in 2017

Product mix favours non-mortgage-related level-term policies

Advisers play a huge role in this market

Market fortunes are intrinsically linked to those of the housing market

## **Market Size and Forecast**

## Nearly 12 million policies in force

Sales start to recover...

Figure 10: New individual term assurance sales and average annual premium, 2013-17

...but there's still some way to go

#### Short-term outlook: reduced mortgage activity could hamper sales growth

Figure 11: Forecast of new individual term assurance volume sales - Fan chart, 2013-23

Figure 12: Forecast of new individual term assurance premiums - Fan chart, 2013-23

Forecast methodology

# **Market Segmentation**

## Recent growth driven by non-mortgage-related business

Figure 13: Volume of new individual regular-premium term assurance policy sales, by policy type, 2013-17

## Mortgage term has a higher average premium than other term

Figure 14: Average new premium - Mortgage term versus other term, 2013-17

## 91% of mortgage term policies are sold on a decreasing basis

Figure 15: Summary of new term assurance business, by type of policy, 2017

Mortgage term policies are more likely to include a critical illness rider

## **Channels to Market**

## Independent advisers have grown their share of mortgage term business

Figure 16: Distribution of new mortgage term assurance business, by channel, 2014-17

#### Non-advised channel has a greater presence in the other term sector

Figure 17: Distribution of new other term assurance business, by channel, 2014-17

## **Market Drivers**

## Mortgage lending grew strongly in 2016 and 2017, driven by first-time buyers...

Figure 18: Volume of house purchase loans, by type of borrower, 2008-17

...which boosted demand for term assurance and other protection products

Making cover relevant to Generation Rent

## Low mortality rate among the target age groups means there is a low incidence of claims

Figure 19: Number of deaths in England and Wales and mortality rate, by age and gender, 2016

BUY THIS REPORT NOW VISIT: store.mintel.com

CALL: EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094

Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

Life insurers having to adapt to an ageing population

Average sum insured reached £146,000 in 2017

Figure 20: Average sum insured for new term assurance policies (including those with critical illness riders) and average first-time buyer advance, 2003-17

## Companies and Brands - What You Need to Know

Top five had a combined share of 79% in 2017

The industry has been working on speeding up application times and developing simplified variants of cover

Health incentives offer a more positive message

Limited amount invested in above-the-line advertising

#### **Market Share**

Recent mergers and acquisitions

A heavily concentrated market

Figure 21: Top five providers of individual term assurance, by sales volumes, 2015-17

Smaller players

Market will see a new protection challenger in 2018: Guardian

#### **Competitive Strategies**

Recent trends in product development

Legal & General and Zurich take advantage of our love of selfies

Canada Life Individual Protection launches new app

VitalityLife launches Wellness Optimiser and 'Vitality Lite' option

It's all about simplicity: AIG Life

#### **Advertising and Marketing Activity**

Three times as much is spent on advertising over-50s plans as on term life assurance

Figure 22: Total above-the-line, online display and direct mail advertising expenditure on protection products, 2014-18

Social media

Beagle Street was the top advertiser in the year to March 2018

Figure 23: Top 10 advertisers of above-the-line, online display and direct mail advertising expenditure on life insurance, 2017 and 2018

Nielsen Ad Intel coverage

## The Consumer - What You Need to Know

Around one in three UK adults have life insurance

56% of term life policyholders arranged cover within the past five years

Research suggests a shift from adviser-led to direct sales

46% of the non-insured have someone who depends on them financially

38% of the non-insured would consider taking out a policy in the future

# **Product Ownership**

Around two in three UK adults do not have life insurance  $% \left( x\right) =\left( x\right)$ 

Figure 24: Ownership of life insurance and other protection products, April 2018

Mortgage holders who have children are a key target group

BUY THIS REPORT NOW VISIT: store.mintel.com

**CALL:** EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094 Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

Figure 25: Ownership of life insurance and other protection products, by parents and mortgage holders, April 2018

Self-employed are under-represented in the market

One in six don't know what type of life policy they have

Figure 26: Type of life insurance policy held, April 2018

39% of term assurance policyholders have joint-life cover

Figure 27: Lives covered, by type of life insurance, April 2018

#### Age of Policy and Sales Channel Used

Three quarters of term life policyholders have held their policy for 10 years or less

Figure 28: Length of time ago took out policy, by type of policy, April 2018

48% of term life policyholders arranged cover directly with their provider...

Figure 29: Channel used to arranged policy, by type of policy, April 2018

...while 18% used a price comparison site

Price comparison sites have grown their distribution share over the past five years

Figure 30: Channel used to arranged policy, by length of time ago arranged policy - term life policyholders only, April 2018

#### The Non-insured and their Dependents

46% of the non-insured have people who depend on them financially

Figure 31: Identifying those among the non-insured with dependents, April 2018

Most of the non-insured have minimal or no savings

Figure 32: Household income and savings profile of non-insured with dependents, April 2018

62% worry about how their dependents would cope financially if something were to happen to them

Figure 33: Level of concern about how dependents would manage financially without them, April 2018

## **Targeting the Non-insured**

38% of the non-insured would consider taking out a life policy in the future

Figure 34: Future consideration of life insurance, April 2018

31% of over-45s say they don't have cover because they keep putting it off

Figure 35: Reasons for not having life insurance (future prospects only), April 2018

Keep propositions simple and affordable

Figure 36: Product benefits and qualities most likely to encourage future purchase, April 2018

Health and fitness benefit appeal most to the under-45s

58% would prefer to arrange cover directly with an insurer

Figure 37: Sales channels most likely to be used by future prospects, April 2018

# Appendix – Data Sources, Abbreviations and Supporting Information

Product definitions

Intermediary market definitions

Abbreviations

Data sources

Consumer research methodology

**Appendix - Market Size and Forecast** 

BUY THIS REPORT NOW

VISIT: store.mintel.com

**CALL:** EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094

Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

#### Total market volume forecast - Best- and worst-case scenarios

Figure 38: Forecast of new individual term assurance sales – Best- and worst-case scenarios, 2018-23

#### Total market value forecast – Best- and worst-case scenarios

Figure 39: Forecast of new individual term assurance premiums - Best- and worst-case scenarios, at current prices, 2018-23

## Market sector forecast: mortgage term

Figure 40: Forecast of new individual mortgage term assurance volume sales – Fan chart, 2013-23

Figure 41: Forecast of new individual mortgage term assurance premiums – Fan chart, 2013-23

#### Market sector forecast: other term

Figure 42: Forecast of new individual other term assurance volume sales – Fan chart, 2013-23

Figure 43: Forecast of new individual other term assurance premiums - Fan chart, 2013-23

## Forecast methodology

**EMAIL:** reports@mintel.com