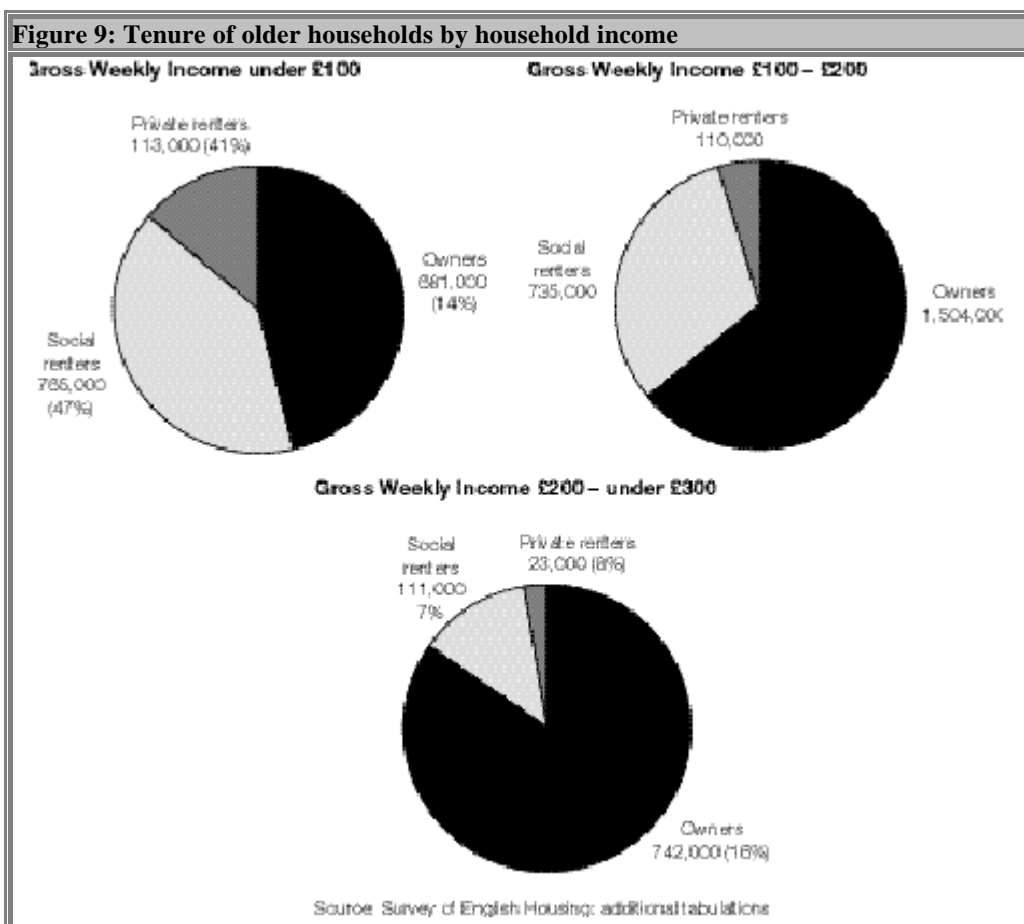


The financial circumstances of older households

Income

- There is a substantial number, and proportion, of social renters living on relatively low household incomes - nearly half (765,000) of older social renters had a weekly gross income of under £100 and 44% (735,000) had incomes of between £110 and under £200 per week.
- Equally there are just over 680,000 (14%) older owner-occupiers living on incomes of less than £100 per week and a further 1,504,000 such owners living on incomes between £110 and under £200 per week.
- Around 152,000 older owners had incomes more than £700 per week.



Housing Benefit

- In general, the proportion of local authority and RSL tenants who are claiming housing benefit, increases with age. Around 62% of local authority tenants in their 60s and early 70s are claiming housing benefit, compared with 74% of

those aged between 75 and 79 and 83% of those aged 80 years and over. Among RSL tenants, the proportion of claimants is greater for those aged 60 to 64 (73%) and those aged 65 to 69 (81%) but lower for more elderly households.

Table 1: Housing Benefit claimants - Age of household head - Numbers and percentage of all tenants				
	LA	%	RSL	%
60 64 years	141,000	61	39,000	73
65 69 years	148,000	65	48,000	81
70 74 years	181,000	64	44,000	68
75 79 years	222,000	74	64,000	67
80 84 years	157,000	82	36,000	66
85 years and over	119,000	84	48,000	82
Total	1,189,000		326,000	
Source: Survey of English Housing 1998/1999 additional tabulations.				