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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- 1. Overview -- 2. Pensions and the Labor Market: A Starting Point (The Mouse Can Roar) -- 3. Labor Compensation and the Structure of Private Pension Plans: Evidence for Contractual versus Spot Labor Markets -- 4. Unions, Pensions, and Union Pension Funds -- 5. Determinants of Pension Benefits -- 6. Social Security, Health Status, and Retirement -- 7. The Distributional Impact of Social Security -- 8. The Structure of Uncertainty and the Use of Nontransferable Pensions as a Mobility-Reduction Device -- 9. Incentive Effects of Pensions -- 10. Pensions and the Retirement Decision -- 11. Insurance Aspects of Pensions -- 12. The Riskiness of Private Pensions -- 13. The Relationship between Wages and Benefits -- 14. The Federal Civil Service Retirement System: An Analysis of Its Financial Condition and Current Reform Proposals -- Contributors -- Author Index -- Subject Index
Sommario/riassunto	In recent years a decline in the labor force participation of older workers has combined with rapid current and projected increases in the number of older Americans, producing major policy debates over looming "crises" in social security and, to a lesser extent, in the private pension system. That private system is playing an increasing role in the

support of retired workers and promises to be the subject of increasing scrutiny by economists and policymakers alike. Previous books on private pensions have largely neglected behavioral implications of the features of pension plans. The papers in this volume, developed from material presented at a recent National Bureau of Economic Research conference, address two aspects of the relation between varieties of labor coverage and participation in the labor force. First, age at retirement may be correlated with kind of pension coverage. The papers, in fact, provide strong evidence that individual decisions about when to retire are directly influenced by pension options. Second, pension plans usually impose a high cost on workers who change jobs, which suggests that pension coverage reduces instances of job change. *Pensions, Labor, and Individual Choice* quantifies these correlations and proposes a conceptual framework within which to view them.

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