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The Baby Boomers are about to retire en mass. A new report on age and retirement benchmarks in the U.S. shows that as much as 18% of the U.S. workforce could retire within the next five years.

That's according to data from the ADP Research Institute, which is a part of global payroll and human resources provider ADP. The study assumes an average retirement age of 61 years.

The six industries studied ranged from a low of 9% reaching retirement age in the hospitality industry to a high of 28% in public administration. Other industries included in the study were manufacturing, healthcare, education and retail.

"While there is no guarantee that everyone who reaches the average retirement age will actually stop working, our research indicates several industries could be facing a significant loss of skilled talent over the next five years," stated Ahu Yildirmaz, Sr. Director – Market Insights at the ADP Research Institute. "Retirement data provides a critical glimpse into the future of a company's workforce. Businesses will want to assess how their own workforces compare to the averages and consider strategies for recruitment and training in order to replace the significant loss of knowledge, experience and company culture that can be expected."

The number of workers reaching retirement age in the next five years varies widely across industries. Public administration and healthcare services can expect large numbers of employees to leave the workforce, given the fact that workers in these

industries have average age of 47 and 43 respectively. By contrast the average age for

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workers. The data is from the fourth quarter of 2012. The full study, entitled Age and Retirement Benchmarks: Key Analytics that Drive Human Capital Management, can be found at http://www.adp.com/research-trends.

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