



Aging and Retirement

## Financial Perspectives on Aging & Retirement Across the Generations: Posted Questionnaire



### **Generational Launch Survey**

### **Posted Questionnaire**

Welcome to this survey!

1.	In what year were you born?	
		Total
		(n=2,001)
	1980 to 1998 (ages 20 to 38; Millennials)	
	1965 to 1979 (ages 39 to 53; Gen X)	26
	1955 to 1964 (ages 54 to 63; Younger Boomers)	
	1946 to 1954 (ages 64 to 72; Older Boomers)	
	1935 to 1945 (ages 73 to 83; Silent Generation)	8
2.	Are you?	
		Total
		(n=2,001)
	Female	
	Male	49
3.	Are you currently?	
		Total
		(n=2,001)
	Married	· · · /
	Single, never married	
	Unmarried and living with a partner in a permanent relationship	
	Separated or divorced	
	Widowed	
3a.	[IF MARRIED: Q3=1 OR 2] Have you been married before your curre marriage] [IF Q3=2 relationship]?	ent <b>[IF Q3=1</b>
		Total
		(n=1,302)
	Yes	29%
	No	71
4.	What is the highest level of education you completed?	
		Total
		(n=2,001)
	High school graduate or less	
	Some college/technical school	

Bachelor's degree	
Post graduate work	
Graduate or professional degree	

### 5. What was your total household income in 2017, before taxes?

#### **Total** (n=2,001)

(n=2,001)
(n=2,001)
8
19
13
11
6
17

### 6. Are you currently...?

	Total
	(n=2,001)
Working for pay	56%
Retired	
A homemaker	9
Laid off or unemployed and seeking work	5
Disabled and unable to work	
Something else	3

## 6a. **[IF WORKING/LAID OFF/DISABLED (Q6=1,4-5)]** Do you consider yourself retired from a previous career or primary occupation?

	Total
	(n=1,028)
Yes	
No	

### 6b. [IF MARRIED/PARTNER (Q3=1-2)] Is your spouse/partner currently...?

	Total
	(n=1,302)
Working	64%
Retired	21
A homemaker	9
Disabled and unable to work	4
Laid off or unemployed and seeking work	2
Something else	

### 6c.

[IF SPOUSE WORKING/LAID OFF/DISABLED (Q6b=1,4-5)] Does your spouse/partner consider himself or herself retired from a previous career or primary occupation?

### Total (n=697)

7. What is your role in making financial and investment decisions for your household?

### **Financial Goals**

## 8. Thinking of your current financial situation, how much of a priority is each of the following? **[RANDOMIZE]**

	Total (n=2,001)	Highest Priority	High Priority	Moderate Priority	Not a Priority
a.	Saving for children's education	8%	15	14	63
b.	Saving for retirement	30%	30	23	17
C.	Building up an emergency fund	19%	34	32	16
d.	Saving for medical expenses	12%	24	37	26
e.	Saving for buying or upgrading a home	11%	16	29	44
f.	Being able to afford everyday bills	42%	27	17	14
g.	Saving for vacations	9%	26	41	25
h.	Paying off credit card debts	22%	23	17	38
i.	Paying off student loans	5%	9	8	78
j.	Saving for long-term care	10%	22	34	34

## 9. Which of the following things are you doing this year to address your financial priorities? *Please select all that apply.* **[RANDOMIZE]**

	Total
	(n=2,001)
Sticking to a budget	53%
Cutting back on things like vacations and eating out	35%
Sticking to a monthly saving plan	35%
Making efforts to get your debts under control	34%
Learning to use credit cards wisely	
[IF Q6=1 OR IF Q6b=1] Putting money into your [IF Q6b=1 or your	
spouse's/partner's] employer's retirement savings plan	
Targeted investing to grow your money	23%
Targeted investing to produce income now and in retirement	
Working with a financial advisor/planner	17%
Cutting back on needed medical costs, such as visits to doctors and	
prescription drugs	9%
None of the above	9%

10. When you are reviewing your financial situation and looking ahead for planning purposes, what time frame do you tend to consider?

	(n=2,001)
I can only plan from paycheck to paycheck to paycheck	21%
I tend to think 2-3 months ahead	19
I tend to think 4-12 months ahead	12
I tend to think 1-2 years ahead	10
I tend to think 3-5 years ahead	8
I tend to think 6-10 years ahead	5
I tend to think 10 or more years ahead	7
For the rest of your life	19

11. What are your feelings when you are reviewing your financial situation and looking ahead for planning purpose? *Please select as many words below that describe how you feel.* **[RANDOMIZE]** 

### Total

	(n=2,001)
Optimistic	45%
In control	40%
Satisfied	
Overwhelmed	
Smart	
Depressed	17%
Нарру	16%
Upset	
Confused	7%
Angry	5%
None of the above	4%

### **Financial Situation**

## 12. What types of debt do you currently have? *Please select all that apply.* [RANDOMIZE ITEMS EXCEPT FOR LAST TWO]

	(n=2,001)
Credit card debt	
Home mortgage	
Car loan(s) or lease payment(s)	
Student loan(s)	
Home equity loan	7%
Money owed to friends or relatives	6%
Business loan(s)	
Other (SPECIFY)	4%
I have no debt	

13. Please check the box that best describes where you stand in the continuum between each of the following pairs of opposing words. **[RANDOMIZE PAIRS]** 

Total (n=2,001)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Saver	20%	18	18	23	12	5	4	Spender
Budget Driven	18%	16	21	24	10	6	4	Not budget driven
Thrifty	22%	19	22	24	6	4	3	Not thrifty
Planner	29%	22	20	15	7	4	3	Not a planner
Enjoy managing finances	15%	16	17	22	12	9	10	Do not enjoy managing finances
Investment pro	5%	9	14	22	15	13	22	Investment novice
Confident in making financial decisions	19%	22	20	19	9	5	5	Not confident in making financial decisions

14. **[IF EMPLOYED IN Q6 = 1 and Q6a=2]** What type of organization do you work for? If you have more than one job, please answer this question in terms of your primary job, the one you spend the most time at.

	Total
	(n=765)
Large for-profit business owned by someone else	33%
Medium-sized for-profit business owned by someone else	18
Small for-profit business owned by someone else	16
Government agency	10

Non-profit organization	9
A business that you own	
Freelance, temporary, or gig work	
Other type of organization	5

15. **[IF Q6 = 2 or Q6a=1]** What type of organization did you work for just before you retired **[IF Q6=1** from your previous career or primary occupation]? If you had more than one job just before you retired, please answer this question in terms of your primary job at that time, the one you spent the most time at.

	(n=939)
Large for-profit business owned by someone else	
Government agency	17
Small for-profit business owned by someone else	12
Medium-sized for-profit business owned by someone else	11
Non-profit organization	8
A business that you owned	6
Freelance, temporary, or gig work	
Other type of organization or situation	

16. **[IF EMPLOYED IN Q6 = 1]** Does your employer offer a retirement saving plan such as a 401(k) or 403(b) plan, profit sharing plan or other type of retirement savings plan?

### Total

Total

	(n=873)
Yes	76%
No	
Not sure	3

16a. **[IF HAVE A 401(K) IN Q16 = 1]** Does your employer offer matching funds for your contributions to your retirement savings plan?

### Total

	(n=651)
Yes	75%
No	
Not sure	7

17. **[IF HAVE A MATCHING PROGRAM IN Q16a = 1]** Is your retirement savings plan contribution enough to qualify you for the maximum employer match?

### Total

	(n=479)
Yes	83%
No	9
Not sure	8

## 18. **[IF HAVE A 401(K) IN Q16 = 1]** Have you ever borrowed money from your retirement savings plan?

	Total
	(n=651)
Yes	
No	

# 19. [IF MARRIED IN Q3 = 1 and Q6b=1] Does your spouse's employer offer a retirement savings plan such as a 401(k) or 403(b) plan, profit sharing plan or other type of retirement savings plan? Total

	(n=543)
Yes	74%
No	22
Not sure	4

## 20. **[IF SPOUSE HAS 401(K) IN Q19 = 1]** Does your spouse's employer offer matching funds for your spouse's contributions to your retirement savings plan?

	<b>Total</b> (n=377)
Yes	
No	
Not sure	

# 21. **[IF SPOUSE HAS A MATCHING PROGRAM IN Q20= 1]** Is your spouse's retirement savings plan contribution enough to qualify him or her for the maximum employer match?

	Total
	(n=257)
Yes	77%
No	9
Not sure	

### 22. Do you currently...?

Rent your home       25         Live with friends, family or roommates but do not contribute to the cost       5         of housing       5         Live in a communal or co-living residence       1         Live in an assisted living facility or nursing home       *         Have another living arrangement       2	Live in a home you own	
Live in a communal or co-living residence1 Live in an assisted living facility or nursing home*	•	25
Live in an assisted living facility or nursing home*	•	
	Live in an assisted living facility or nursing home	*

23. Who else lives with you? Please select all that apply.

	Total
	(n=2,001)
[IF MARRIED Q3=1] Your spouse	55%
Children or step-children	
[IF NOT MARRIED Q3=2-5] Your partner	11%
Parents or in-laws	
Other relatives	6%
A friend or friends	
Roommates who are not personal friends	
Someone else or others	
Grandparents	*
No one lives with you	

24. Since you reached age 18, have you **[IF MARRIED Q3=1** or your spouse] ever received an inheritance? *Please select all that apply.* 

	Total
	(n=2,001)
Yes, from a relative [IF MARRIED Q3=1, or a spouse's relative]	
Yes, from a non-relative	1%
No	72%

25. [IF Q24=1-2] Was the total value of all the inheritances you received?

	Total
	(n=781)
Under \$25,000	
\$25,000 to \$99,999	
\$100,000 to \$199,999	15
\$200,000 or more	17
Not sure	4

26. Do you expect to receive an inheritance from a person who is now living? **[IF MARRIED Q3=1** Please include an inheritance your spouse may receive.] *Please select all that apply.* 

	Total
(n	=2,001)
Yes, from a relative [IF MARRIED Q3=1 and/ or a spouse's relative]	31%
Yes, from a non-relative	1%
No	68%

Total

Total

### 27. **[IF Q26=1-2]** What is the total value of the inheritances you expect to receive?

	i Otai
	(n=506)
Under \$25,000	14%
\$25,000 to \$99,999	
\$100,000 to \$199,999	
\$200,000 or more	24
Not sure	

### 28. How important is it that you to leave an inheritance?

	Total
	(n=2,001)
Extremely important	13%
Important	
Somewhat important	27
Not too important	21
Not important at all	

# 29. If you had an unexpected expense of \$10,000 that had to be paid immediately, how would you cover it? *Please select all that apply.* **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS EXCEPT FOR LAST TWO]**

### 

# 30. **[IF Q29=3-8]** If you had an unexpected expense of \$1,000 that had to be paid immediately, how would you cover it? *Please select all that apply.* **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS EXCEPT FOR LAST TWO]**

### 

Some other way (SPECIFY)	1%
Not sure if I could cover this expense	

### 31. **[IF WORKER AND EMPLOYED (Q6=1,4,5 AND 6a≠1)]** At what age do you expect to retire or begin to retire from your primary occupation?

## 32. **[IF RETIREE AND PERSONALLY RETIRED (Q6=2 or Q6a=1)]** How old were you when you retired or began to retire from your primary occupation?

Total

Total

	(n=939)
Before 50	
50–59	
60–64	
65–69	
70 or older	4
Don't know	
DON I KNOW	

## 33. How concerned are you about each of the following in retirement? [RANDOMIZE] [SPLIT ACROSS 2 SCREENS]

	Total (n=2,001)	Very Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	Not too Concerned	Not at all Concerned
a.	You might not be able to maintain a reasonable standard of living for the rest of your life	25%	38	28	9
b.	You might not have enough money to pay for adequate health care	24%	39	27	10
C.	You might not have enough money to pay for a long stay in a nursing home or a long period of nursing care at home	24%	38	26	11
d.	The value of your savings and investments might not keep up with inflation	25%	42	23	9
e.	<b>[IF MARRIED/PARTNER Q3=1-2]</b> You might not be able to maintain the same standard of living after your spouse's/partner's death, if he/she should die first (n=1,302)	23%	32	32	14
f.	<b>[IF MARRIED/PARTNER Q3=1-2]</b> <u>Your</u> <u>spouse/partner</u> might not be able to maintain the same standard of living after your death, if you should die first (n=1,302)	19%	32	32	18
g.	You might deplete all of your savings	26%	36	27	11

	Total (n=2,001)	Very Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	Not too Concerned	Not at all Concerned
h.	You might not be able to leave money to your children or other heirs	15%	24	32	29
i.	You might be a victim of a fraud or scam	17%	33	32	18
j.	There might come a time when you <b>[Q3=1-2</b> and your spouse/partner <b>]</b> are incapable of managing your finances	20%	37	32	10

**Total** (n=2 001)

### Family

34. How many children do you have? Please do not include step-children.

	Total
	(n=2,001)
None	
One	
Тwo	27
Three	
Four	4
Five or more	2

35. How many step-children, if any, do you have?

	TOtal
	(n=2,001)
None	
One	6
Тwo	5
Three	
Four	
Five or more	

36. In the past year, which of the following people, if any, have you provided financial support to, beyond normal gift giving? Please include money for a specific expense (e.g. a major car repair) and money to help pay an ongoing cost (e.g. housing, education or general financial support). *Please select all that apply.* 

	(11 2,001)
Adult, or grown, children or stepchildren	
Parent(s)	
Parent(s) in-law(s)	4%
Sibling(s)/sibling(s) in-law	
Grandparent(s)/grandparent(s) in-law	
Aunt(s) or uncle(s)/aunt(s) or uncle(s) in-law	
Other relatives	4%
Adults not related to you	
Children not related to you	
Other (SPECIFY)	
None of the above	

37. In the past year **[IF MARRIED Q3=1** with the exception of your spouse] have you received financial support from anyone, beyond normal gift giving? Please include money for a specific expense (e.g. a major car repair) and money to help pay an ongoing cost (e.g. housing, education or general financial support).

	Total
	(n=2,001)
Yes	
No	

## 38. **[IF RECEIVE FINANCIAL SUPPORT IN Q37 = 1]** From whom do you receive financial support? *Please select all that apply.*

	Total
()	n=223)
Parent(s)	54%
Parent(s) in-law(s)	14%
Adult or grown children or stepchildren	14%
Sibling(s)/sibling(s) in-law	13%
Adults not related to you	9%
Grandparent(s)/grandparent(s) in-law	8%
Aunt(s) or uncle(s)/aunt(s) or uncle(s) in-law	7%
Other relatives	7%
Government programs, such as housing assistance, food stamps or Medica	aid,
Including Social Security disability insurance payments, but not including	
Social Security retirement benefits or Medicare	10%
Other (SPECIFY)	6%

## 39. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements. **[RANDOMIZE]**

	Total (n=2,001)	Agree Strongly	Agree Somewhat	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree Somewhat	Disagree Strongly
b.	Parents should contribute fully or what can be reasonably afforded by them to the cost of college for their children	22%	38	27	8	5
C.	Parents should allow adult children who have financial difficulties to move back into their home	18%	37	31	10	3
d.	Families should do all they can to financially help elderly parents/grandparents remain in their own homes	32%	38	24	5	1
f.	Adult children should help out their parents financially if there is a need and the children can afford it	34%	42	19	3	2

	Total (n=2,001)	Agree Strongly	Agree Somewhat	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree Somewhat	Disagree Strongly
g.	Adult children should have parents move in with them rather than having parents go into assisted living facilities	14%	29	38	12	7
i.	Adult children's first priority is to their own families, not to their parents	26%	35	28	8	3
q.	Individuals should take a leave of absence from work or reduce their work schedule to care for a disabled parent	13%	30	42	12	3
r.	Parents should not differentiate between step-children and "natural born" children in the help they offer to adult children	37%	27	29	5	2

## 40. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements. **[RANDOMIZE]**

	Total (n=2,001)	Agree Strongly	Agree Somewhat	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree Somewhat	Disagree Strongly
j.	The days when children would sacrifice their own happiness to take care of their parents are over	11%	30	36	15	7
k.	Step-children have the same obligation to their step-parents as "natural born" children	24%	29	36	9	2
m.	Adult children should make it a priority to help parents with tasks such as driving and helping with the house when parents are no longer able to do such tasks	38%	42	16	3	1
0.	Parents should help adult children if they have problems, even if it means they will have inadequate funds for themselves later	7%	22	34	24	14
t.	You are on track in planning for a financially secure retirement	23%	37	21	10	9
u.	Your level of debt is complicating your ability to manage your finances	11%	14	18	20	38

41. **[ASK BOOMERS AND SILENT GEN: BORN 1935 TO 1964]** In terms of achieving financial security, do you think the younger generations today (Millennials and Gen X) ...?

	(n=1,204)
Have it easier than your generation had it	
Have it harder than your generation had it	
Have it about the same as your generation had it.	29

42. In terms of achieving financial security, do you think your generation...?

	<b>Total</b> (n=2,001)
Has it easier than your parents' generation had it	
Has it harder than your parents' generation had it	41
Has it about the same as your parents' generation had it	25

43. In terms of achieving financial security, do you think your generation...?

	Total
	(n=2,001)
Has it easier than your grandparents' generation had it	47%
Has it harder than your grandparents' generation had it	35
Has it about the same as your grandparents' generation had it	

### **Classification Information**

44. Are you **[IF MARRIED/PARTNER:** or your spouse/partner] receiving income from an <u>employer-provided traditional pension plan</u>, also known as a defined benefit plan, or do you have earned vested benefits from such a plan that will provide income in the future?

A traditional pension plan pays benefits based on a formula that usually considers number of years a person works in a company and their average salary in the last several years of employment. Please do not include benefits from a 401(k) plan or other plan in which you do or can contribute your own money to the plan and have an account balance that you can take when you leave the company.

Total

	(n=2,001)
Yes, have already received or currently receiving benefits	21%
Yes, expect to get benefits in the future	25
No, not getting and do not expect to receive benefits	54

45. In total, about how much money would you say you currently have in savings and investments, including any money that you [IF MARRIED OR LIVING WITH PARTNER Q3=1 OR 2 and your spouse/partner] have in retirement plans from work in which you can decide how the money is invested? Please do not include the value of your primary home.

	iotai
	(n=2,001)
Less than \$10,000	24%
\$10,000 to \$24,999	10
\$25,000 to \$49,999	
\$50,000 to \$99,999	
\$100,000 to \$249,999	
\$250,000 to \$499,999	12
\$500,000 to \$999,999	7
\$1 million or more	8
Prefer not to say	9