

# 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Transamerica Retirement Survey

A Compendium of Findings About American Workers



August 2014 TCRS 1200 - 0814

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### Welcome to the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Transamerica Retirement Survey

Welcome to this compendium of insights and findings from the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Transamerica Retirement Survey of Workers from the Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies® (TCRS).

This report is an exploration of retirement preparedness of American workers that offers perspectives on retirement confidence, access to employer-sponsored retirement benefits, savings rates, and planning-related activities. It is comprised of these chapters:

- The American Worker An Overview. This chapter contains a comprehensive set of 50 key measures of retirement preparedness and 5-year trend analysis looking at overall survey findings among workers of for-profit companies of 10 or more employees.
- Influences of Demographics on Retirement Preparations. These chapters are demographic segmentation analyses by employer size, generation, gender, household income, level of education, and ethnicity. Each chapter presents a concise set of approximately 15 key measures for each demographic segment.

We hope that you find this compendium to be a helpful source of retirement-related research and survey data. If you are seeking survey data that you do not find in this report, please contact TCRS at <a href="mailto:info@transamericacenter.org">info@transamericacenter.org</a> and we will do our best to assist you.

Thank you.

#### **About the Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies®**

- The Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies® (TCRS) is a division of Transamerica Institute SM (The Institute), a nonprofit, private foundation. TCRS is dedicated to educating the public on emerging trends surrounding retirement security in the United States. Its research emphasizes employer-sponsored retirement plans, including companies and their employees, unemployed and underemployed workers, and the implications of legislative and regulatory changes. For more information about TCRS, please refer to <a href="https://www.transamericacenter.org">www.transamericacenter.org</a>.
- The Institute is funded by contributions from Transamerica Life Insurance Company and its affiliates and may receive funds from unaffiliated third parties.
- TCRS and its representatives cannot give ERISA, tax, investment or legal advice. This material is provided for informational purposes only and should not be construed as ERISA, tax, investment or legal advice. Interested parties must consult and rely solely upon their own independent advisors regarding their particular situation and the concepts presented here.
- Although care has been taken in preparing this material and presenting it accurately, TCRS
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  herein and any liability with respect to it.

## About the Survey

- Since 1998, the Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies® has conducted national surveys of U.S. business employers and workers regarding their attitudes toward retirement. The overall goals for the study are to illuminate emerging trends, promote awareness, and help educate the public.
- Nielsen and the Harris Poll were commissioned to conduct the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Retirement Survey for Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies. Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies is not affiliated with Nielsen.
- About Nielsen & The Harris Poll: On February 3, 2014, Nielsen acquired Harris Interactive and The Harris Poll. Nielsen Holdings N.V. (NYSE: NLSN) is a global information and measurement company with leading market positions in marketing and consumer information, television and other media measurement, online intelligence and mobile measurement. Nielsen has a presence in approximately 100 countries, with headquarters in New York, USA and Diemen, the Netherlands. For more information, visit <a href="www.nielsen.com">www.nielsen.com</a>.

### Worker Survey Methodology

- A 22-minute, online survey was conducted between February 21 March 17, 2014 among a nationally representative sample of 4,143 workers using the Harris Poll. Respondents met the following criteria:
  - U.S. residents, age 18 or older
  - Full-time or part-time workers in a for-profit company employing 10 or more people
- Data were weighted as follows:
  - Census data were referenced for education, age by gender, race/ethnicity, region, household income, and number of employees by company size. Results were weighted where necessary to bring them into line with the population of US residents age 18+, employed full time in a for-profit company with 10+ employees or employed part time in a for profit company.
  - The weighting also adjusts for attitudinal and behavioral differences between those who are online versus those who are not, those who join online panels versus those who do not, and those who responded to this survey versus those who did not.
- Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole percent. Differences in the sums of combined categories/answers are due to rounding.
- This report focuses on full-time and part-time workers combined.

#### **Terminology**

This report uses the following terminology:

#### Generation

Millennial: Born 1979 - 1996
 Generation X: Born 1965 - 1978
 Baby Boomer: Born 1946 - 1964

#### Company Size

Small Company: 10 to 499 employees
 Large Company: 500 or more employees

#### **All Workers**

Refers to all workers age 18 and older

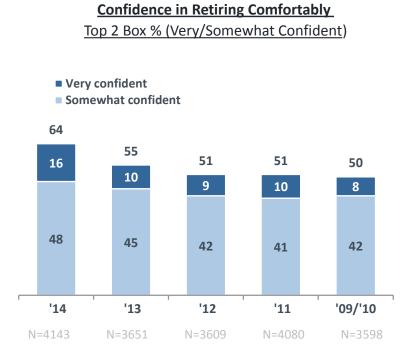


# The American Worker - An Overview

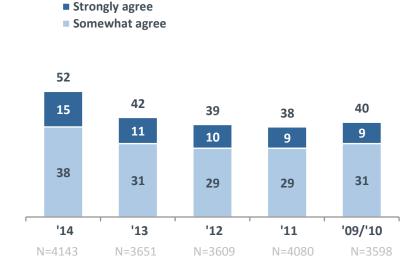
Detailed Findings

#### Retirement Confidence is on the Rise

Retirement confidence is on the rise in 2014 amidst signs of economic recovery. Sixty-four percent of workers are "somewhat" or "very confident" that they will be able to retire with a comfortable lifestyle, which represents an increase over 2013, 2012, and 2009/10. However, concerns about building a large enough nest egg still exist for many workers.



# Building Large Enough Nest Egg Top 2 Box % (Strongly/Somewhat Agree)



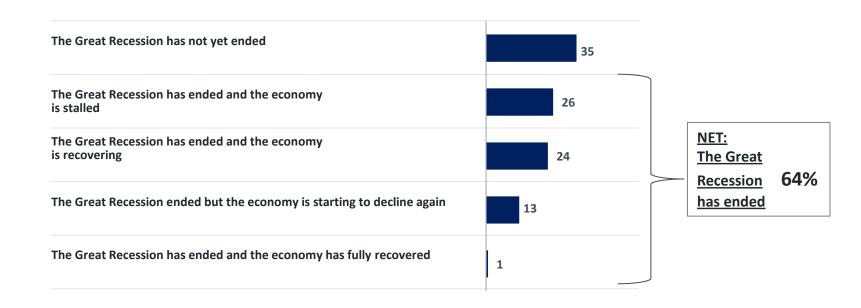
### A Prolonged Recovery From the Great Recession

About two-thirds (64 percent) of workers believe the Great Recession has ended, but only one percent believes that the economy has fully recovered.

#### **Opinion of Great Recession (%)**

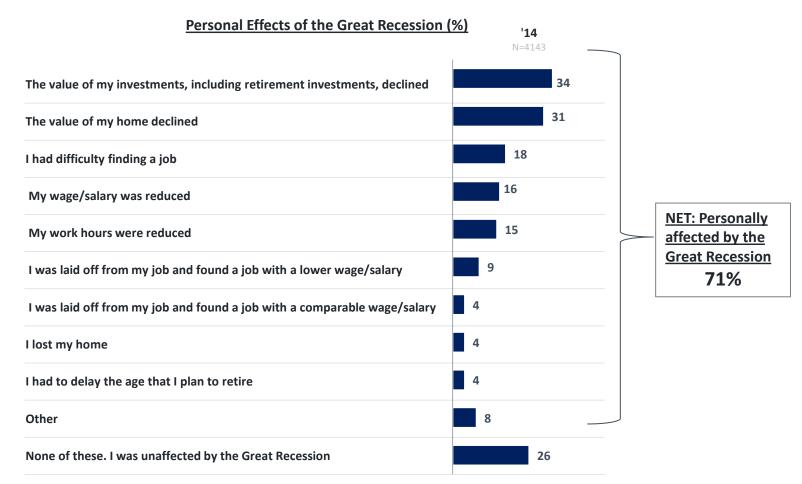
'14

N=4143



#### **How the Great Recession Affected Workers**

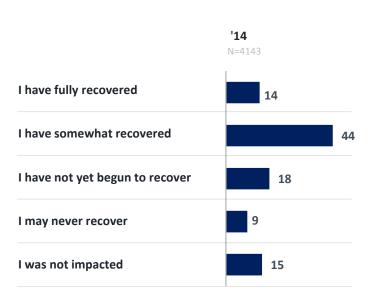
Seventy-one percent of workers were personally affected by the Great Recession. Thirty-one percent say their pay was cut or work hours reduced, 13 percent were laid off, and 18 percent had trouble finding a job. The recession affected the value of investments, including retirement investments, for slightly more than three out of 10 workers (34 percent), while many saw a decrease in the value of their homes (31 percent). Only 26 percent say they were unaffected.



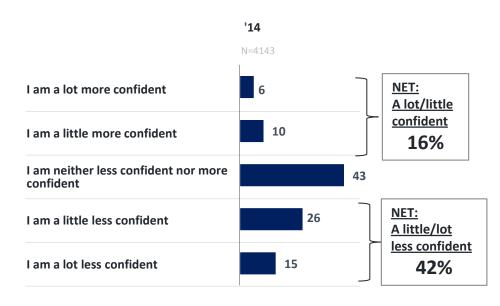
## Personal Financial Recovery from the Great Recession

Many American workers say they are struggling to recover from the Great Recession, with only 44 percent saying that they have "somewhat recovered" from the recession. Another 27 percent say that they haven't begun to recover or that they never will recover. The Great Recession also adversely impacted workers' confidence in their ability to save for retirement, with 42 percent saying they are not as confident in their ability to achieve a financially secure retirement.

#### Financial Recovery from the Great Recession (%)

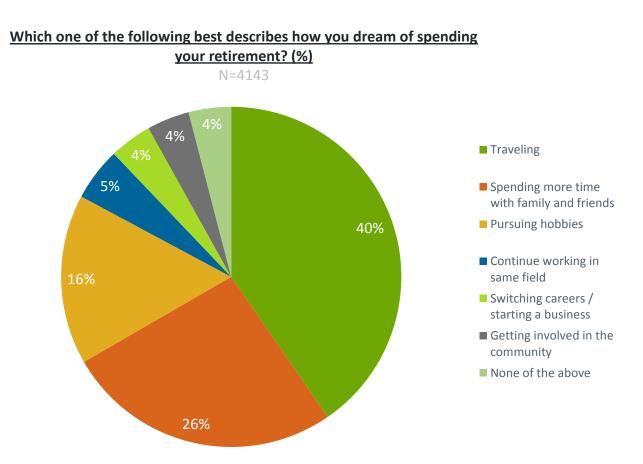


## Ability to Achieve a Financially Secure Retirement Changed as a Result of the Great Recession (%)



#### **Retirement Dreams Are Alive**

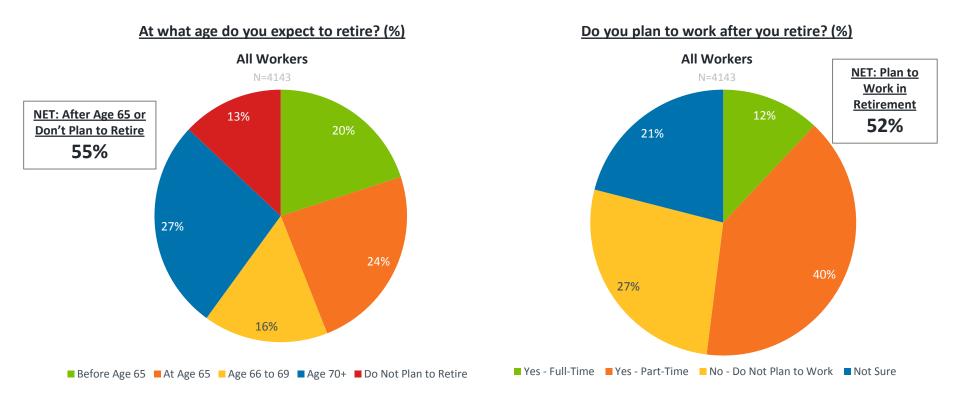
Workers most frequently cite traveling (40 percent), spending more time with family and friends (26 percent), and pursuing hobbies (16 percent) as their single greatest dream for their future retirement.



### Retirement Expectations Include... Working

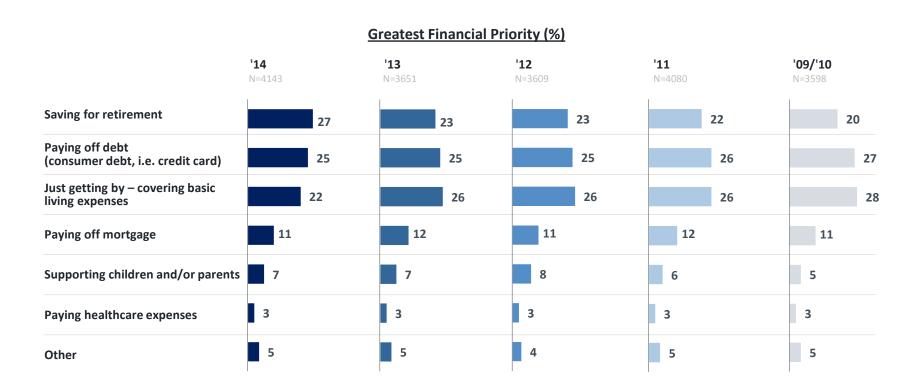
Workers' expectations to work past age 65 and even into retirement represent a dramatic change in the long-standing vision of fully retiring at age 65. The majority of workers (55 percent) expect to retire after age 65 or do not plan to retire at all.

Most workers (52 percent) plan to work after they retire, while 48 percent do not plan to work or are unsure whether or not they will work after retirement.



### **Greatest Financial Priority**

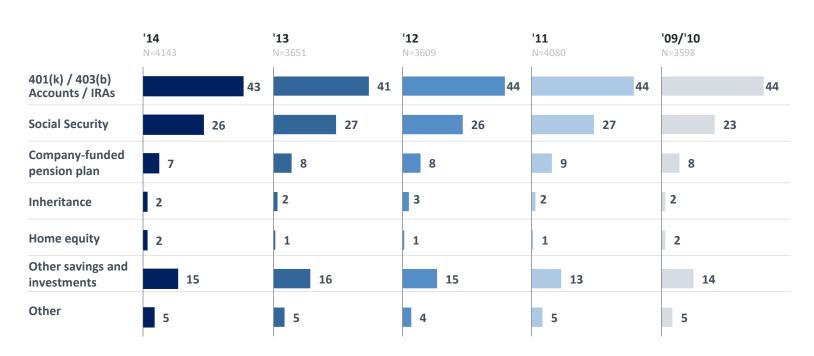
The top three financial priorities for American workers continue to be saving for retirement (27) percent), paying off debt (25 percent) and just getting by (22 percent). Notably, saving for retirement is now the top priority among workers, overtaking just getting by. Over the last five years, the percentage citing "saving for retirement" as their top priority has steadily increased.



#### **Primary Source of Retirement Income**

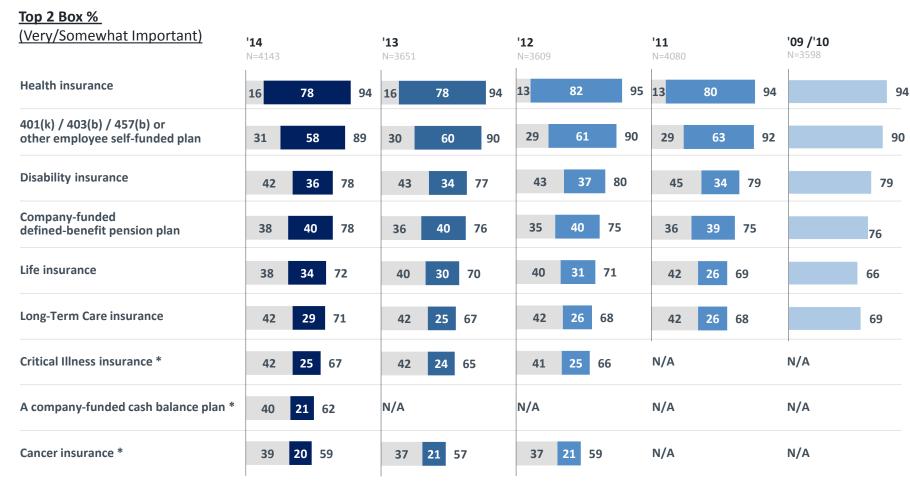
401(k)s or similar accounts and/or IRAs (43 percent) continue to be seen as the primary source of income during retirement. About one-quarter (26 percent) of workers plan to rely on Social Security as their primary source of income during retirement. These findings have been consistent over time, despite the many changes in the economy.

#### **Primary Source of Income During Retirement (%)**



## Retirement Benefits: Importance Compared to Other Benefits

Although health insurance (94 percent) and employee-funded retirement plans (89 percent) top the list, many types of benefits (e.g., disability insurance (78 percent), pension plans (78 percent), life insurance (72 percent), and long-term care insurance (71 percent) are also highly important.

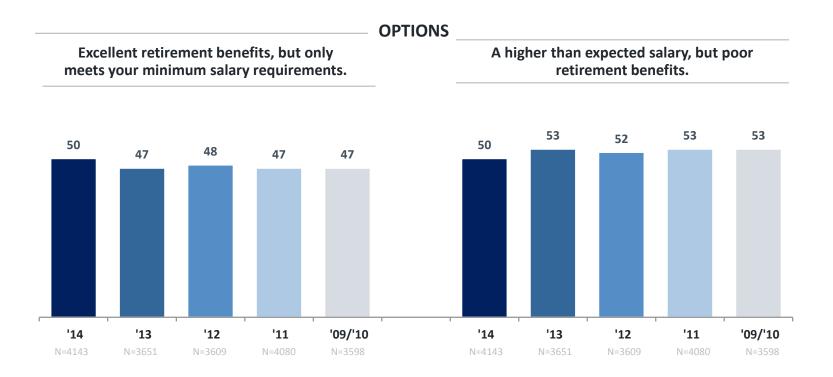


\*Note: Choices added in recent surveys BASE: Full and Part-time

<sup>■</sup> Very important Somewhat important

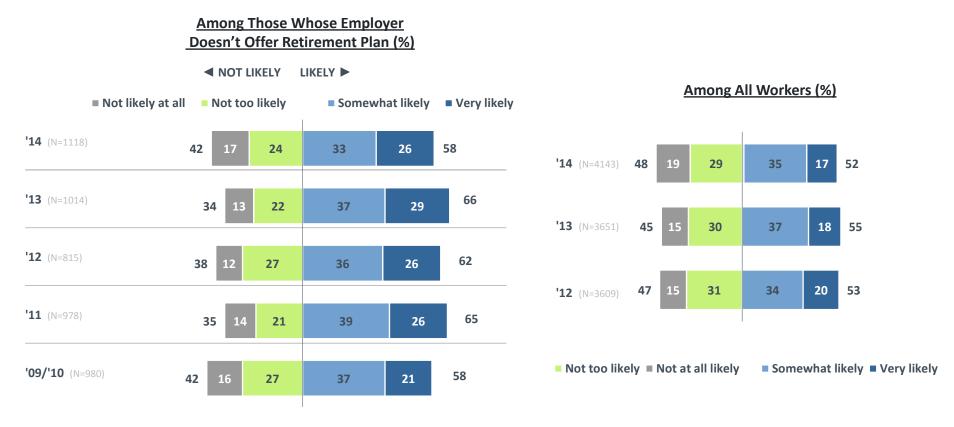
#### Better Retirement Benefits Versus Higher Salary

Workers are split between saying they would choose a job which has excellent benefits but meets their minimum requirement versus a higher than expected salary but poor retirement benefits. In previous years, workers were slightly more favorable to a job which had higher than expected salary and poor benefits.



## Workers May Switch Employers For Better Retirement Benefits

The majority of workers (58 percent) whose employers do *not* offer a retirement plan would be likely to switch jobs for a similar job with a retirement plan. Among all workers, a slightly smaller majority (52 percent) would switch jobs for a better retirement plan.



<sup>\*</sup>NOTE: Base expanded to All Full and Part-time in '12 Wave

BASE: Currently Not Offered Qualified Retirement Plan

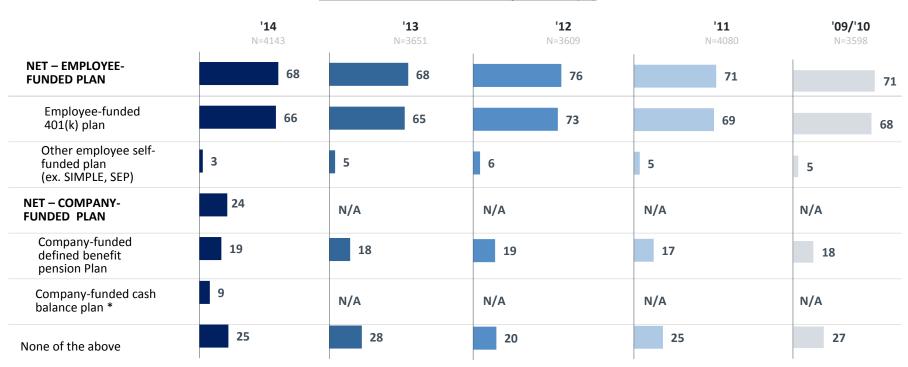
Q730. How likely would you be to leave your current employer to take a nearly identical job, with a similar employer, if that employer offered you [a retirement plan/a better retirement plan than that offered by your current employer]?

BASE: Full and Part-time

### **Retirement Benefits Currently Offered**

Among retirement benefits offered to workers, employee-funded plans such as 401(k)s continue to be the most often offered retirement plan, with slightly more than two-thirds (68 percent) of workers being offered this type of plan. Offerings are fairly consistent with last year, but have dipped since their peak in 2012.

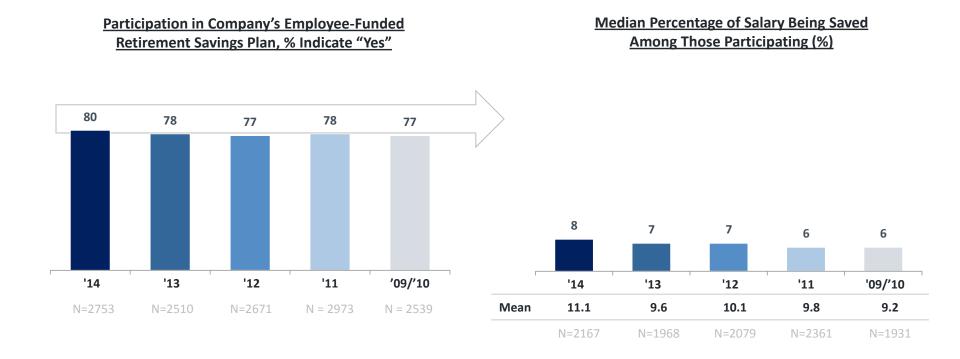
#### Retirement Benefits Currently Offered (%)



20

## Retirement Plan Participation and Contribution Rates

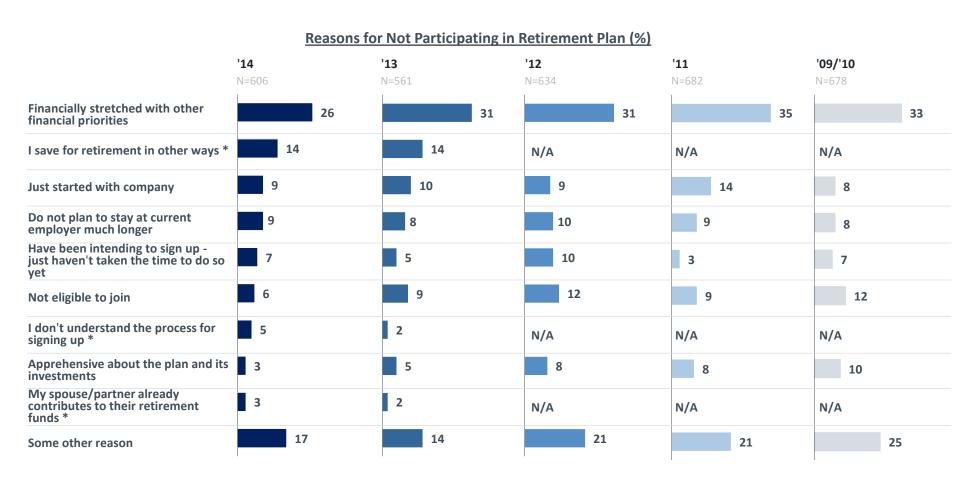
Among workers who are offered an employee-funded retirement plan, participation remains high at 80 percent. The median percentage of salary being saved slightly increased from seven percent in 2013 to eight percent in 2014.



Q601. What percentage of your salary are you saving for retirement through your company-sponsored plan this year?

### Reasons for Not Participating in Retirement Plan

Among workers not participating in their company-sponsored plan, the most frequently cited is being financially stretched (26 percent); however, this has decreased from 31 percent last year. Fourteen percent of workers also indicated that they save for retirement in other ways.

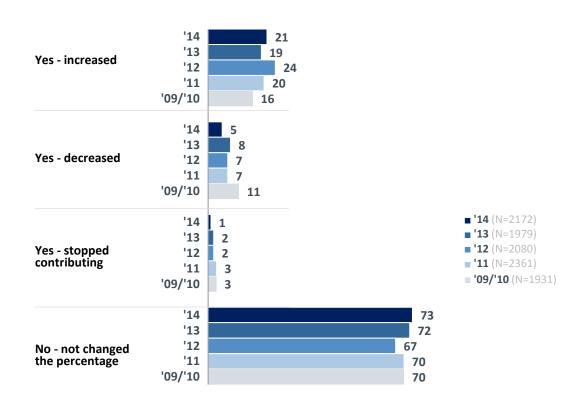


<sup>\*</sup>Note: Choices added in '12 Wave

## Contribution Rates: Changes Made in Past 12 Months

Seventy-three percent of workers who contribute to employee-funded retirement plans indicate they did not change their contribution rate to their plan in the preceding 12 months. About one in five (21 percent) workers say they increased their contribution rate.

#### Changed Percentage in Last 12 Months (%)

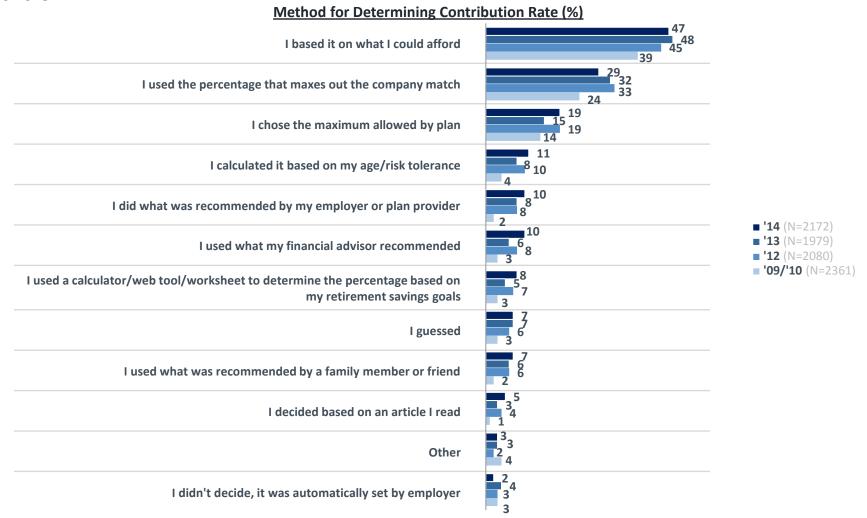


Q640. Have you changed the percentage of your income you put into your employee-funded retirement savings plan in the last twelve months?

23

### Method for Determining Contribution Rate

"What I can afford" (47 percent) and "maxing out the company match" (29 percent) continue to be the most frequently cited ways to determine contribution rates. Nearly one in five (19 percent) "Chose the maximum allowed by the plan" – an indicator that they are committed retirement savers.

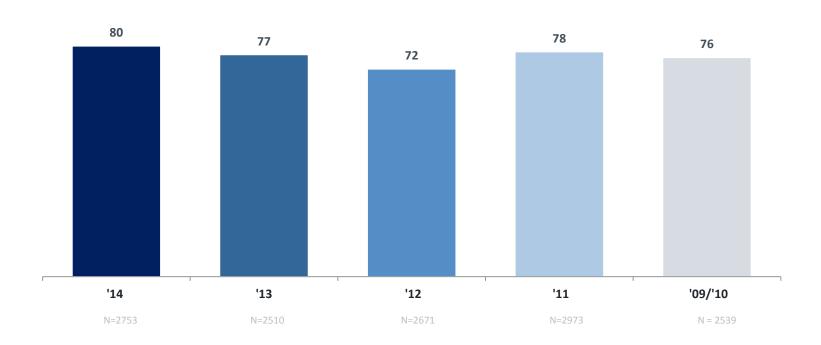


#### Participant Satisfaction With Retirement Benefits

Worker satisfaction with employers' retirement plans has steadily increased since its low of 72 percent in 2012. In 2014, four out of five workers (80 percent) said that they were satisfied with the plan that their company offered, an increase of eight percentage points since 2012.

"I am satisfied with the retirement plan my company offers"

Top 2 Box % (Strongly/Somewhat Agree)



#### Saving for Retirement Outside of Work

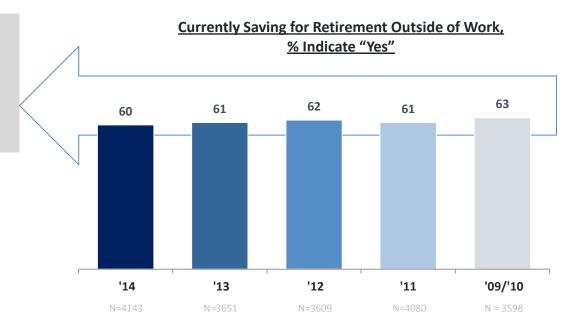
A majority of workers – 60 percent – are saving for retirement outside of work. This has been fairly consistent over the last five years, despite the ups and downs of the economy over that time.

#### The following groups are more likely to save for retirement outside of work:

- Baby Boomer generation
- Male
- Have at least a college degree
- Work full-time
- Higher income (\$100K+ household income)

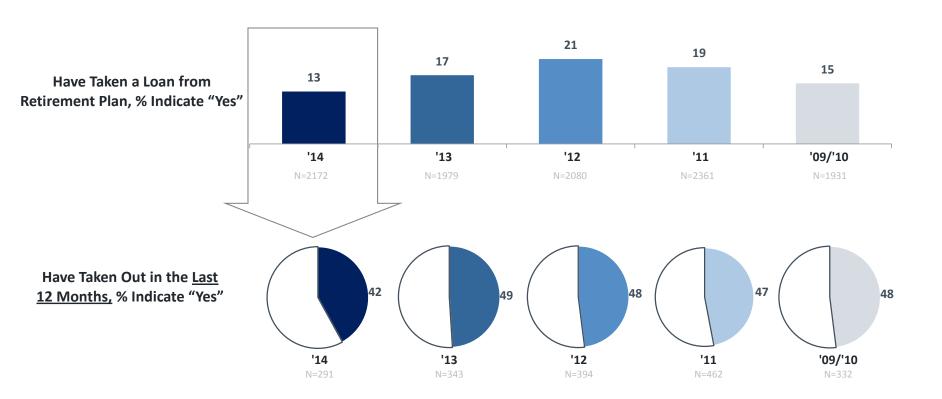
Q740. Are you currently saving for retirement outside of work, such as in an IRA, mutual funds, bank account, etc.?

Asian/Pacific



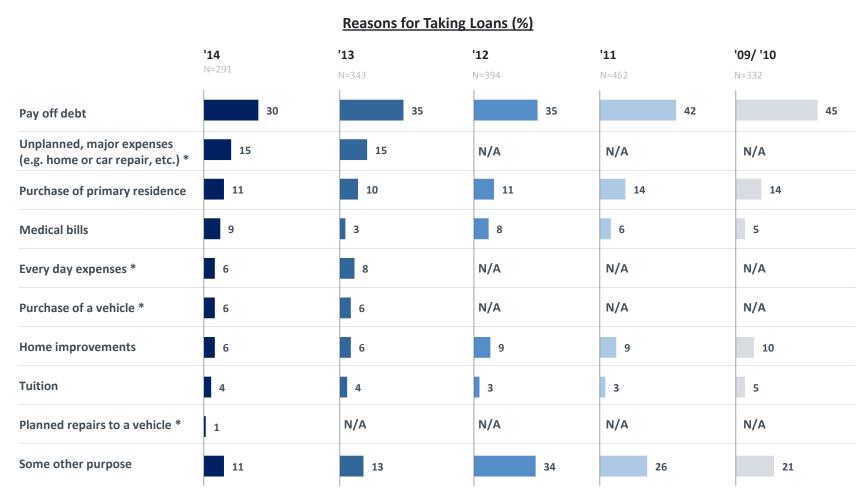
#### **Borrowing Against Retirement Plans: Loans**

Thirteen percent of plan participants have taken out a loan from his/her retirement plan – a decline for two consecutive years. Less than half (42 percent) of those who have taken a loan have done so in the preceding 12 months, a proportion which has also dropped from previous years.



### Reasons for Taking Plan Loans

Paying off debt (30 percent) is the most frequently cited reason participants take out a loan from their retirement plans, followed by paying for an unplanned major expense (15 percent).



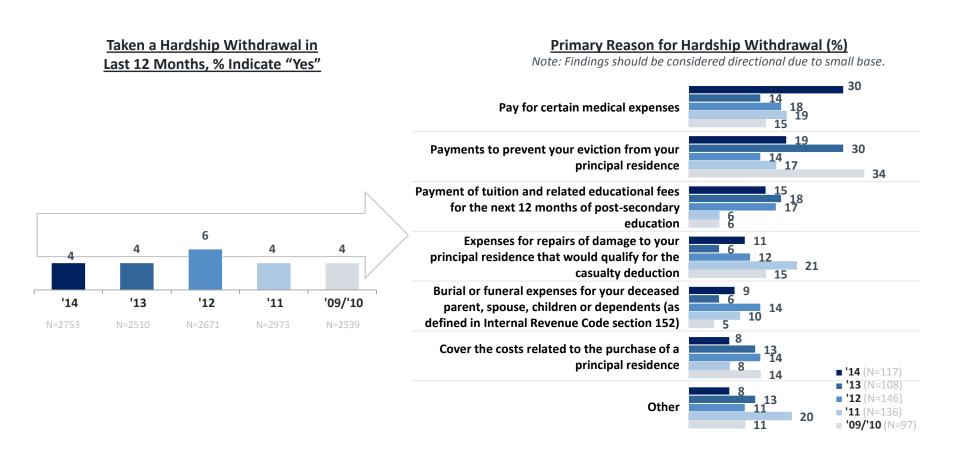
<sup>\*</sup>added in later years

NOTE: Only responses listed by at least 1% of respondents are shown.

BASE: Full and Part-time; Have Taken Out Loan

### Reasons for Taking Hardship Withdrawals From Plans

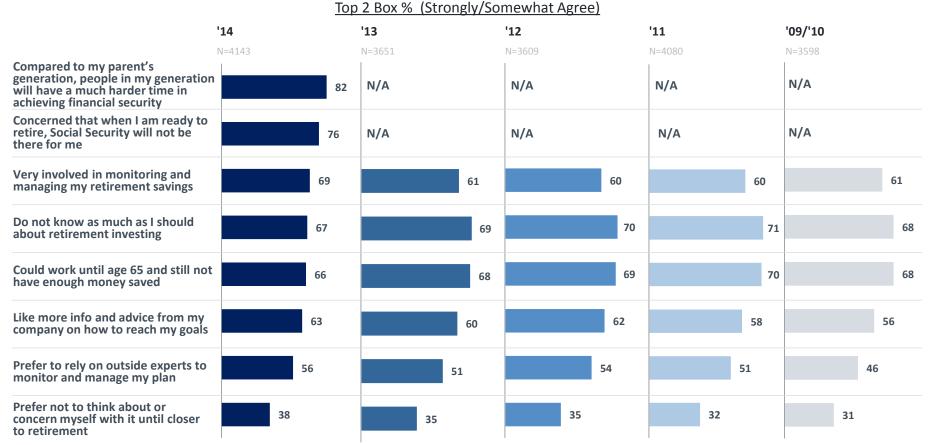
Only four percent of participants have taken a hardship withdrawal in the past 12 months, returning to pre-2012 levels and staying consistent with 2013. One in three (30 percent) say the primary reason for the withdrawal is to pay for certain medical expenses, and another 19 percent say it is to prevent eviction from their home.



#### **Retirement Preparations and Involvement**

Today's workers have concerns about their retirement – the majority (82 percent) say their generation will have a much harder time achieving financial security compared to their parents' generation, and three-quarters are concerned that Social Security won't be there for them when they are ready to retire. These concerns present an opportunity for education, with nearly seven in 10 workers admitting they don't know as much as they should about retirement investing, and three in five looking to their company for more information and advice on how to reach their goals.

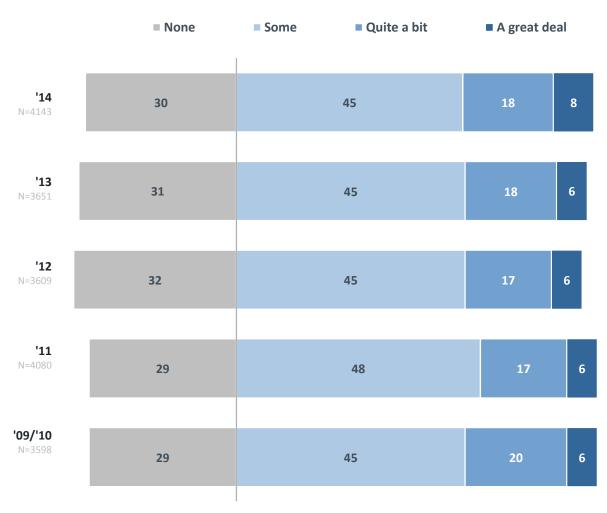
#### Retirement Preparations and Involvement



## **Understanding of Asset Allocation Principles**

Similar to prior years, workers continue to have a limited understanding of asset allocation as it relates to retirement investing.

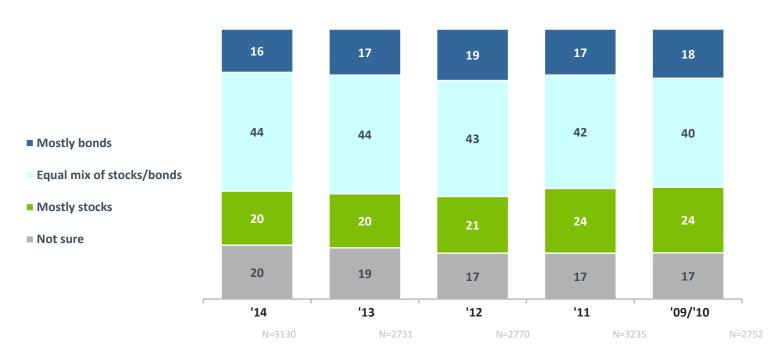
#### **Understanding of Asset Allocation Principles (%)**



#### **Retirement Investments: Asset Allocation**

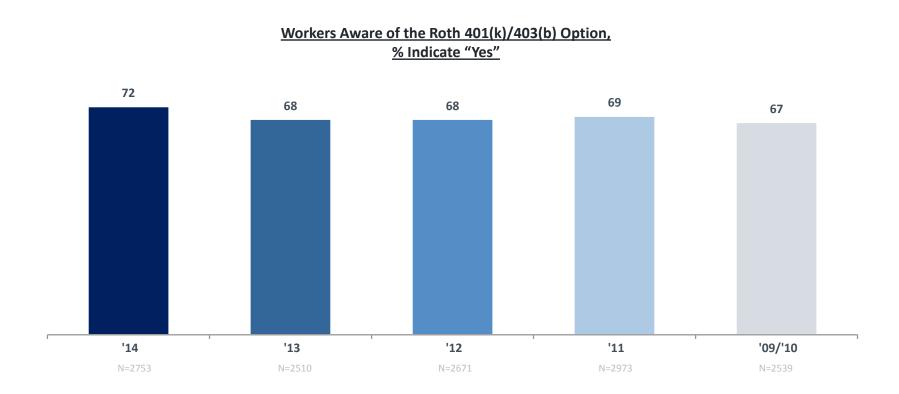
Consistent with previous years, workers' retirement savings are most likely to be invested in an equal mix of stocks and bonds.

#### Methods of Saving for Retirement (%)



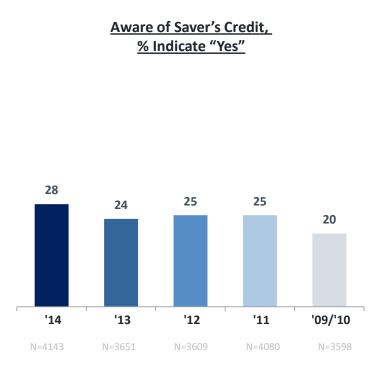
## Awareness of Roth 401(k)

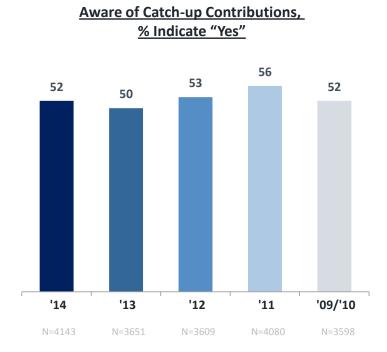
Awareness of the Roth 401(k) option remains high over the past five years, with over seven in 10 of workers aware.



#### Awareness of Saver's Credit and Catch-Up Contributions

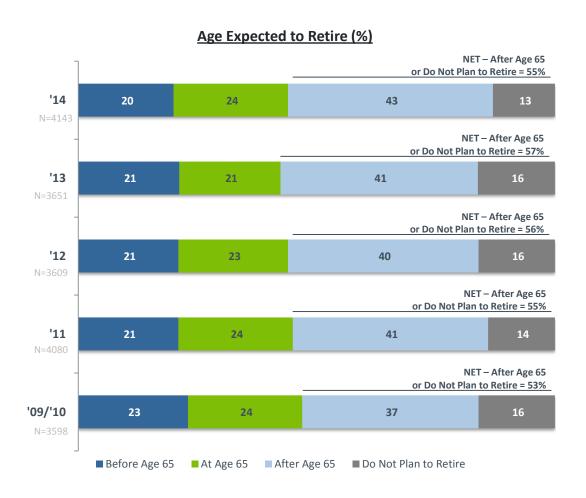
About one-quarter of workers are aware of the Saver's Credit. Half of workers are aware of Catchup Contributions for workers ages 50 and older.





### Age Expected to Retire

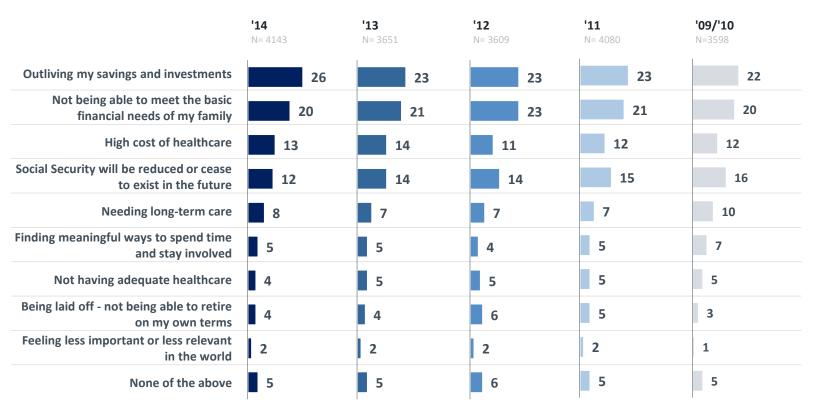
The majority of workers (55 percent) plan to work after age 65 or do not plan to retire. This trend has remained relatively consistent for the last five years.



#### **Retirement Fears**

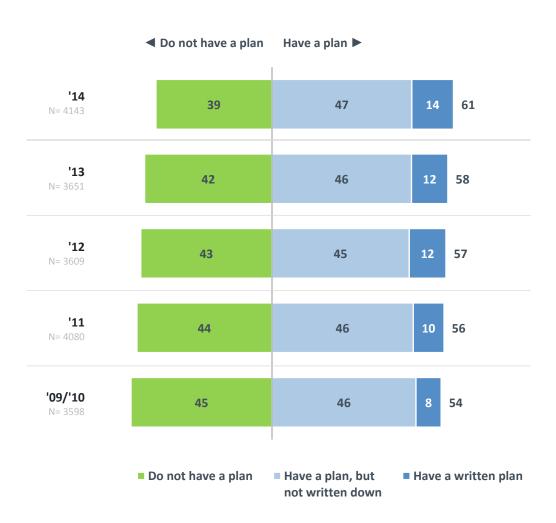
Workers' top retirement fear is that they will "outlive their savings/investments," as indicated by 26 percent of workers. "Not being able to meet basic financial needs," the "high cost of healthcare," and "reductions in Social Security" also continue to be important concerns.

#### Workers' Single Greatest Fear (%)



# **Retirement Strategies**

Over half of workers say they have a retirement strategy – but only 14 percent have written plans.

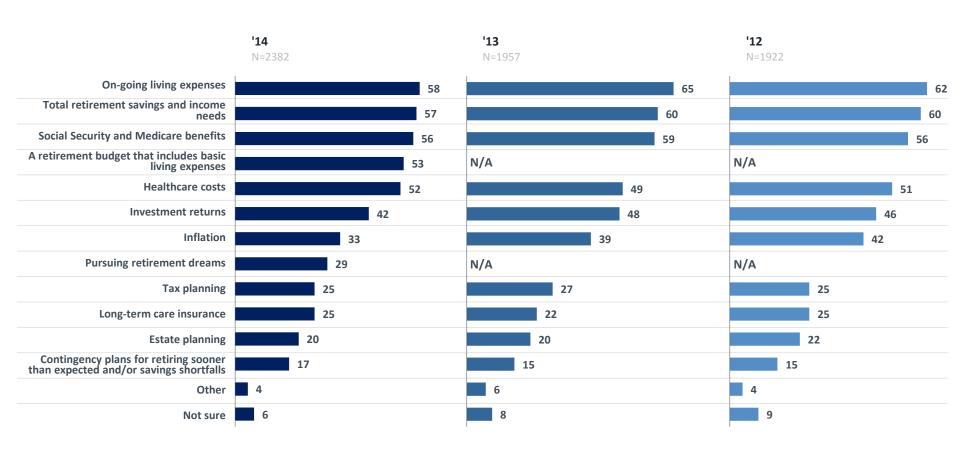


Q1155. Which of the following best describes your retirement strategy?

37

## **Retirement Strategies: Factors**

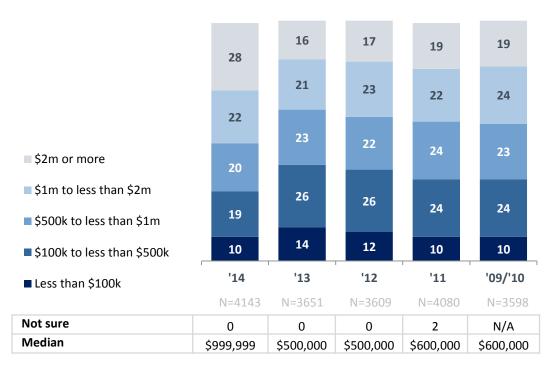
Many items are factored into workers' retirement strategies, with living expenses, total savings income needs, Social Security/Medicare, healthcare costs and investment returns remaining the top factors. In contrast, inflation, tax planning, and long-term care insurance were less often factored into retirement strategies.



## **Estimated Retirement Savings Needs**

Workers estimate they will need to have saved almost \$1 million by the time they retire in order to feel financially secure – an increasing amount over the years. In 2014, 28 percent believe they will need \$2 million or more.

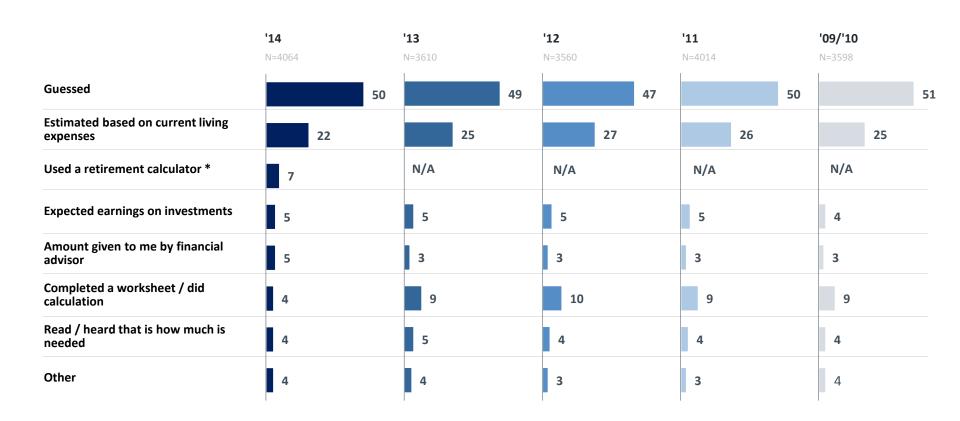
#### **Estimated Retirement Savings Needs (%)**



Note: The median is estimated based on the approximate midpoint of the range of each response category. Non-responses are excluded from the estimate.

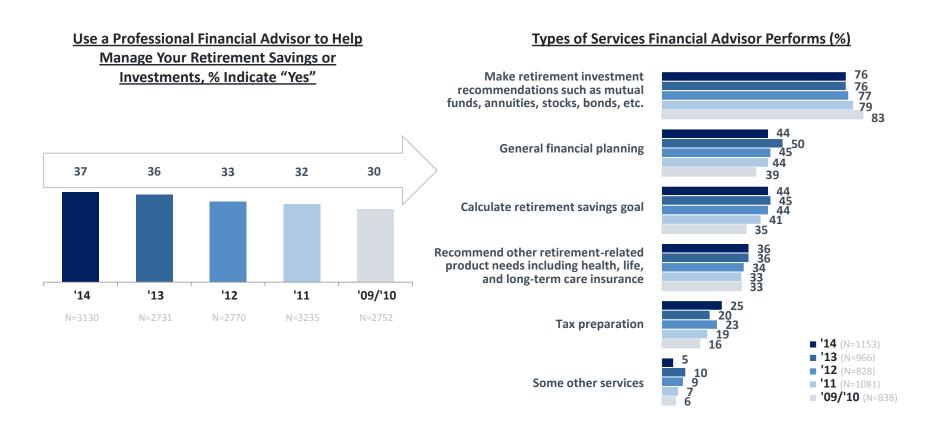
## **Basis of Estimated Retirement Savings Needs**

Among workers who provided an estimate of their retirement savings need, half guessed the amount of money they will need in retirement. One in five workers calculated the amount based on their current living expenses. Few used a retirement calculator or worksheet.



## **Use a Professional Financial Advisor**

Among workers investing for retirement, 37 percent rely on a professional advisor to help or manage their retirement savings or investments. Of those who use advisors, most do so to get retirement investment recommendations (76 percent), and 44 percent use advisors to help them calculate a retirement goal.

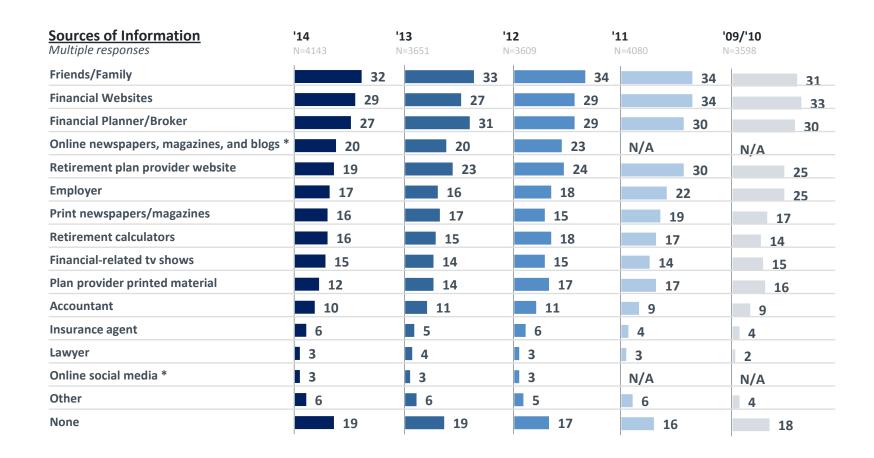


Q860. Do you use a professional financial advisor to help manage your retirement savings or investments?

BASE: Full and Part-time; Use Financial Advisor

# Information Sources: Retirement Planning & Investing

Workers rely on many resources for retirement planning and investing information, with family and friends always topping the list. Other often-used resources are financial planners/brokers and online sources of information, including financial websites.



## **Most Influential Source of Information**

When narrowing down the list of sources of information to the most influential one, financial planners/brokers – along with friends and family – continue to be the most influential sources of information for retirement planning.

Sources of Information	'14 Most Influential N=4143	'13 Most Influential N=2010	'12 Most Influential N=3609	'11 Most Influential N=4080	'09/'10 Most Influential N=3598
Financial planner/broker	20	21	20	20	21
Friends/Family	14	16	16	16	15
Financial websites	10	8	8	13	13
Retirement plan provider website	7	8	7	10	7
Employer	4	4	5	4	3
Online newspapers, magazines, and blogs *	4	4	4	N/A	N/A
Financial-related tv shows	3	2	3	2	3
Retirement calculators	3	2	3	3	3
Accountant	3	3	2	2	3
Print newspapers/magazines	2	3	3	4	6
Plan provider printed material	2	3	2	3	3
Insurance agent	1	1	1	1	1
Lawyer	1	<1	1	<1	<1
Online social media *	0	<1	<1	N/A	N/A
Other	4	4	3	4	3
None	22	21	21	19	21

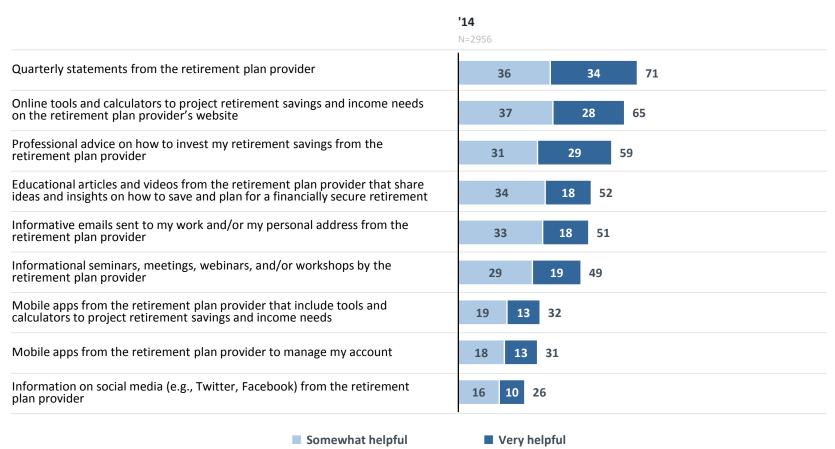
<sup>\*</sup>Note: These choices added in 2012

# Helpfulness of Resources Offered by Retirement Plan Provider

When asked about the helpfulness of educational offerings of their retirement plan provider, quarterly statements were seen as most helpful among workers who are offered a retirement plan.

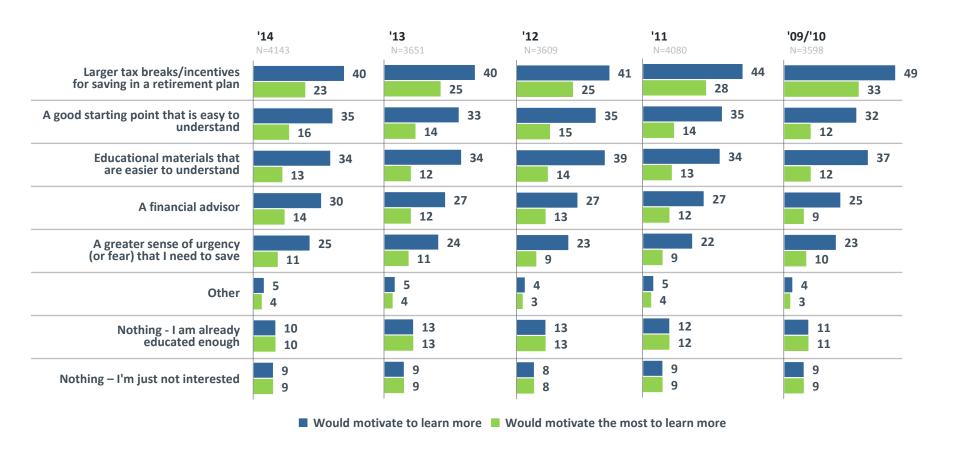
#### **Helpfulness of Resources**

Top 2 Box % (Very/Somewhat Helpful)



## Motivators to Learn More about Retirement Investing

"Tax breaks" continue to be the main motivator to learn more about retirement investing. Other strong motivators to learn more relate to making it easier – a "good starting point" and "materials that are easier to understand," both of which can be done by employers and the retirement plan providers.



## **Expected Standard of Living in Retirement**

Workers are slightly more optimistic now than in previous years about their expected standard of living in retirement. Fifty-eight percent of workers expect that their standard of living will stay the same or increase while in retirement, up from half or less in previous years. However, one-third expect that they will see a decrease in their standard of living during retirement.



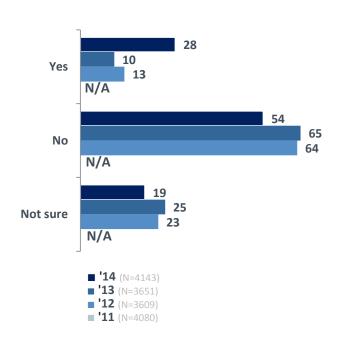
## Providing/Receiving Support to/from Family in Retirement

Only 10 percent of workers think that they will have to provide support to their family while they are retired, which is a major decline since last year. Twenty-eight percent of workers indicate that they expect to *receive* financial support from family while in retirement – a large increase from last year.

#### Do You Expect to Provide Financial Support? (%)

## 

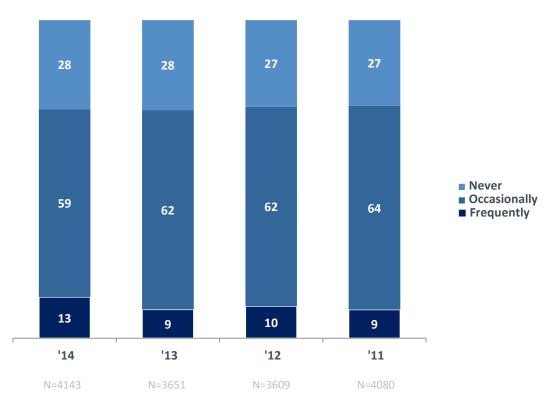
#### Do You Expect to Receive Financial Support? (%)



## **Talk About Retirement**

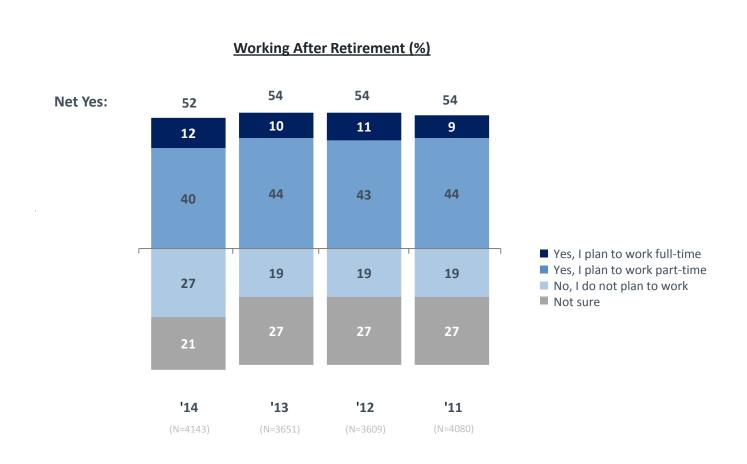
Retirement continues to be a rare topic of conversation among workers and their family and friends – only 13 percent say they do so frequently.

#### Frequency of Discussing Retirement with Family and Friends (%)



## Working In Retirement

Slightly more than half of workers (52 percent) expect to work at least part-time after retiring, with 12 percent expecting to work full-time. In 2014, more workers do not expect to continue working in retirement, while fewer are "not sure."

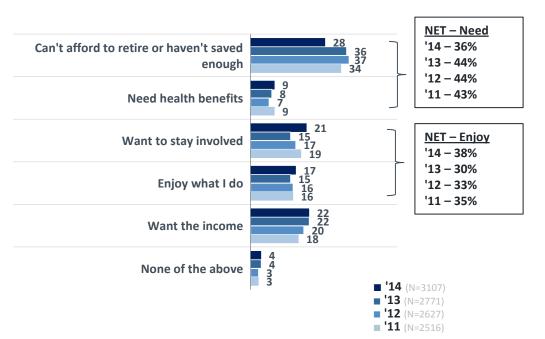


## **Working Into Retirement**

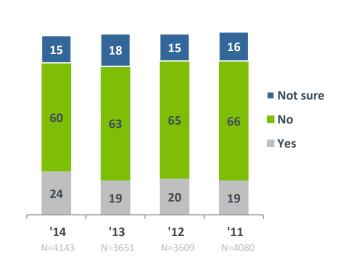
For the first time this year, slightly more workers plan to work during retirement for "enjoyment," rather than for "need." While 36 percent say they'll work in retirement for need, fewer say they'll do so because of a savings shortfall.

While the majority of workers don't have a backup plan in the event that they would be unable to work before their planned retirement, 24 percent do have such a plan this year, which is an increase from prior years.

#### Main Reason for Working After Retirement Age (%)



#### Backup Plan for Income if Unable to Work (%)



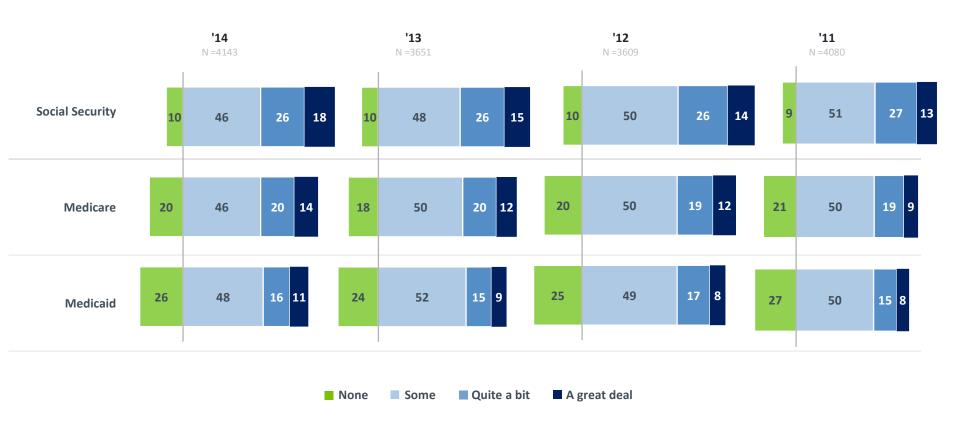
BASE: Plan On Retiring After 65 Or Working After Retirement;

Q1530. What is your main reason for working after retirement or the normal retirement age of 65?

BASE: Full and Part-time

# **Understanding of Government Benefits**

The majority of workers have limited or no understanding of the government programs they can utilize in retirement, but there is a directional increase of workers who know "a great deal" about Social Security or Medicare since 2011.



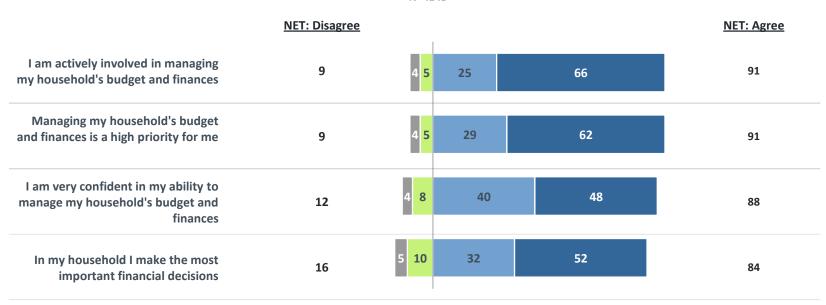
# Financial Decision Making

A strong majority of workers (91 percent) say that they are both actively involved in managing their household's budget and finances and that managing these budgets and finances are a high priority for them.

Nine in 10 workers also feel very confident in their ability to manage their household's budget and finances, while eight in 10 make the most important financial decisions in their household.

#### **Financial Decision Making (%)**





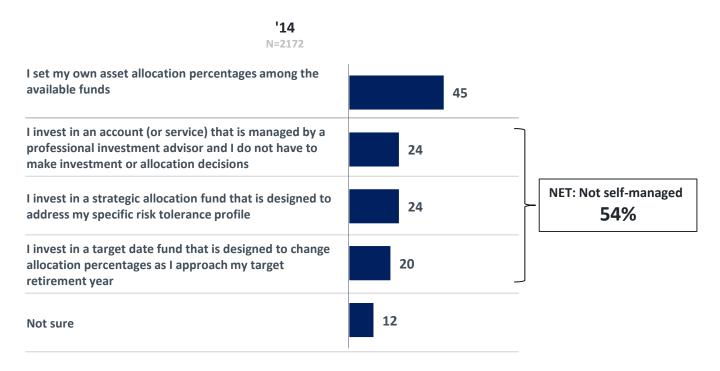
■ Strongly disagree ■ Somewhat disagree ■ Somewhat agree ■ Strongly agree

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## Approach for Investing in Retirement Plan

Slightly more than half (54 percent) of workers who participate in their employer-sponsored 401(k) or similar plan say they use some sort of automatic allocation approach to investing their retirement plan assets, such as a managed account, strategic allocation fund and/or target date fund. A large minority prefer a more do-it-yourself approach and set their own asset allocation percentages among the available funds.

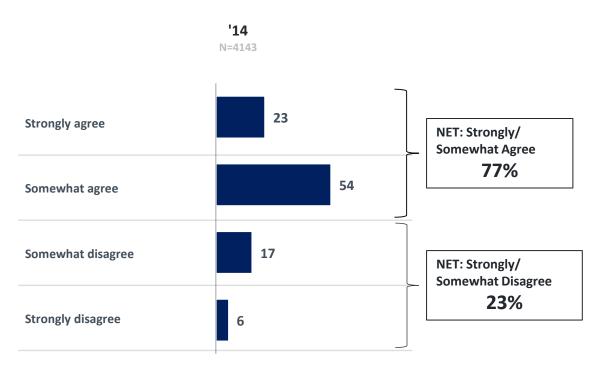
#### **Investing in Employer-Sponsored Retirement Plan (%)**



# Importance of Retirement Savings Programs

A strong majority of American workers (77 percent) agree that the next time they search for a job, the retirement savings program offered by the prospective employer will be a major decision-making factor.

"The next time I look for a job, all things being equal, the retirement savings programs offered by the prospective employer will be a major factor in my final decision" (%)



54

## Proactive Steps to Continue to Work After Retirement

When asked what steps they are taking to help ensure they can continue working past age 65 or in retirement, three in five workers say they are staying healthy so that they can continue working, while half say that they are focusing on performing well at their current job.

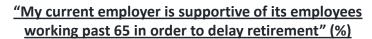
#### **Steps to Continue to Work After Retirement (%)**

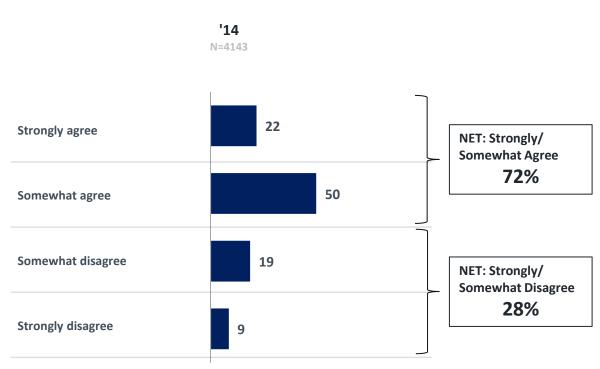




## **Employers Support Working After Retirement**

Seven in 10 workers believe that their employer is supportive of its employees working past the age of 65 in order to delay retirement.





Q1532 (NEW). How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

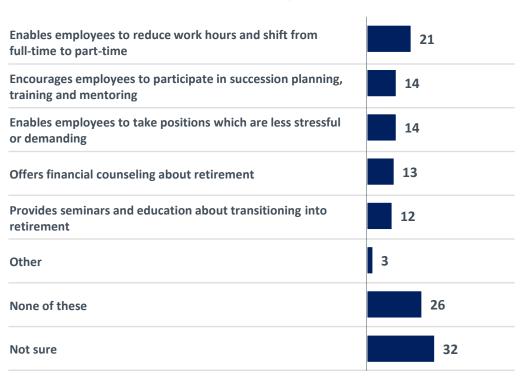
56

## Transitioning to Retirement: How Employers Help

Workers indicate that their employers help employees who are transitioning to retirement in a variety of ways, most often enabling them to reduce working hours and shift to part-time (21 percent). However, about a quarter (26 percent) indicate their employer does "none of these things" and about a third (32 percent) are not sure if their employer offers such assistance.

#### **Steps to Continue to Work After Retirement (%)**





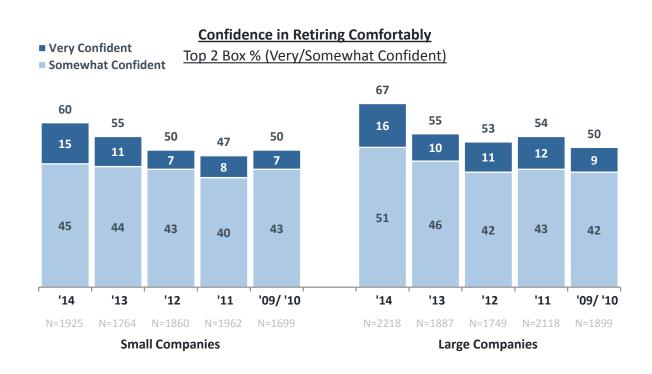


# Influences of Company Size on Retirement Preparations

Detailed Findings

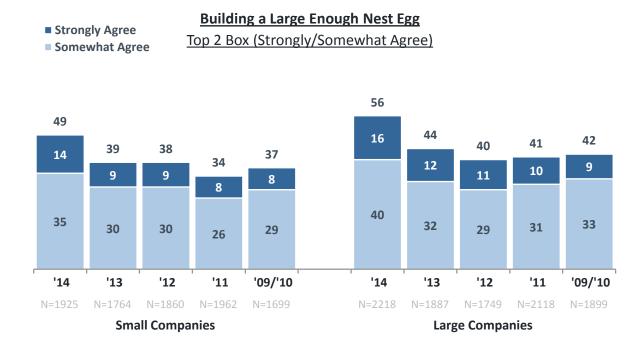
# **Confidence in Retiring Comfortably**

Since last year, confidence in being able to retire comfortably has risen among workers in both small and larger companies. Workers in large companies continue to be more confident they will be able to retire comfortably.



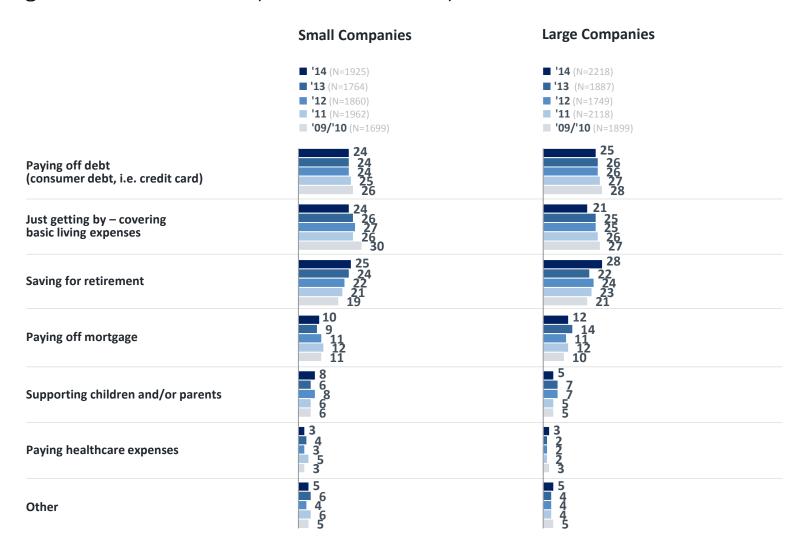
# Building a Large Enough Nest Egg

More workers in large companies continue to agree they are building a large enough nest egg. The level of agreement has increased significantly since last year for workers in both company sizes.



## **Greatest Financial Priority**

Financial priorities are fairly consistent from last year with "paying off debt," "getting by," and "saving for retirement" as the top three most chosen priorities.

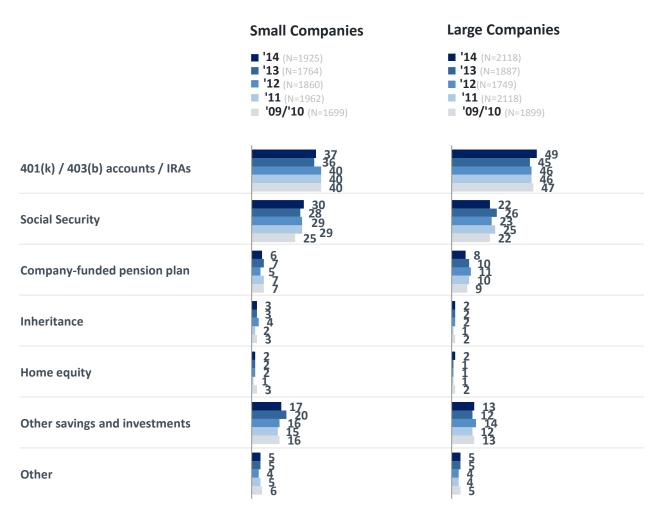


Q2640. Which one of the following is your greatest financial priority right now?

61

## Primary Source of Retirement Income

Workers in small companies are more likely to expect to rely on Social Security, other savings/investments, and inheritance as their primary source of income in retirement. In contrast, workers in large companies are more likely to expect to rely on 401(k) or similar plans and pension plans.



# Retirement Benefits: Importance Compared to Other Benefits

Similar to previous years, more workers in large companies indicate health insurance, a selffunded plan, disability insurance, a defined-benefit plan, and life insurance than their counterparts in small companies.



\*added in 2012; \*\*added in 2014

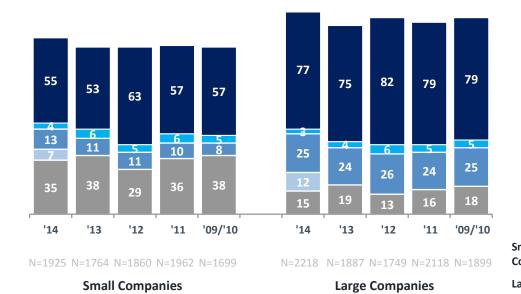
## Retirement Benefits Currently Offered and Plan Participation

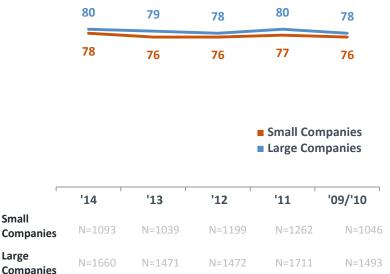
Workers in large companies continue to have more retirement plans available to them. Workers in small companies continue to lag slightly behind workers in large companies in participation in an employee-funded plan when available.

#### Retirement Plan Offered by Current Employer (%)

- An employee-funded 401(k) plan
- Other employee self-funded plan
- A company-funded defined benefit pension plan
- A company funded cash balance plan \*
- None of the above

Currently Participate In, or Have Money Invested in Company's Employee-funded Retirement Savings Plan, 
% Indicate "Yes"





\*added in 2014

BASE: Full and Part-time

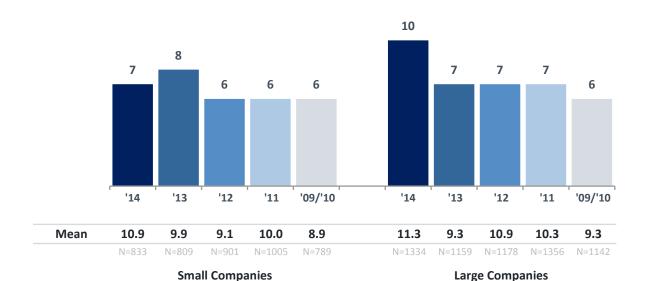
Q1180. Which of the following retirement benefits does your company currently offer to you, personally? Select all that apply. BASE: Full and Part-time; Those With Qualified Plans Currently Offered To Them

## **Plan Contribution Rates**

The median contribution rate is directionally higher among large company workers than small company workers.

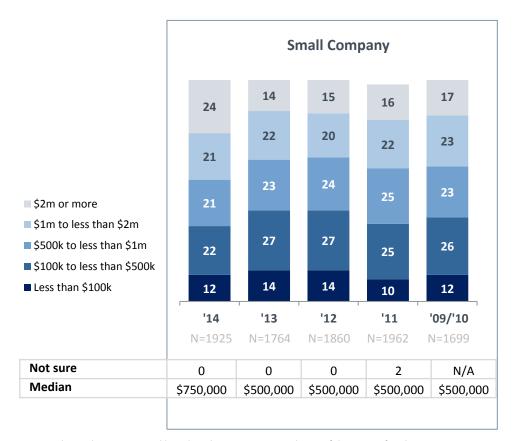
The average contribution rate among workers in large companies increased significantly compared to last year.

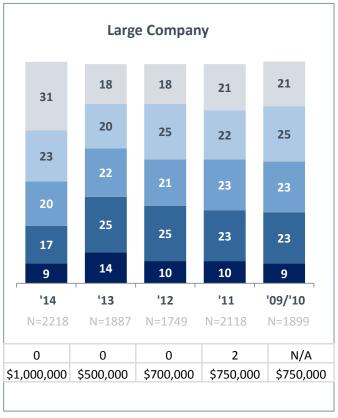
#### **Contribution Rate, Median %**



## **Estimated Retirement Savings Needs**

Workers in large companies report higher estimates of their retirement savings needs. They believe they will need \$1 million (estimated median) compared to workers in small companies who believe they will need \$750,000 (estimated median).

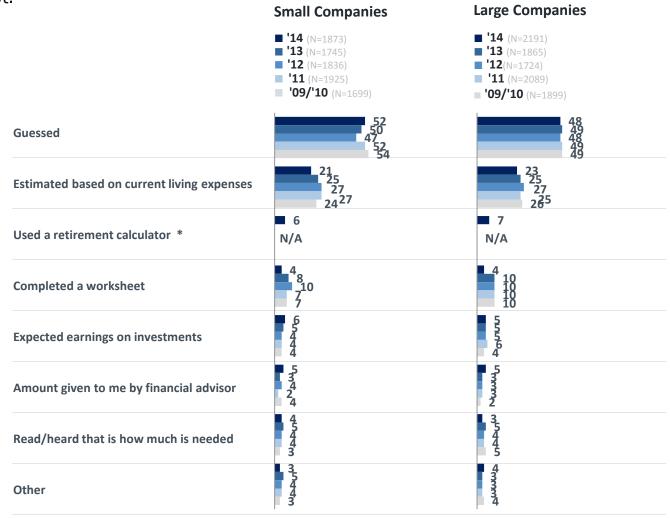




Note: The median is estimated based on the approximate midpoint of the range of each response category. Non-responses are excluded from the estimate.

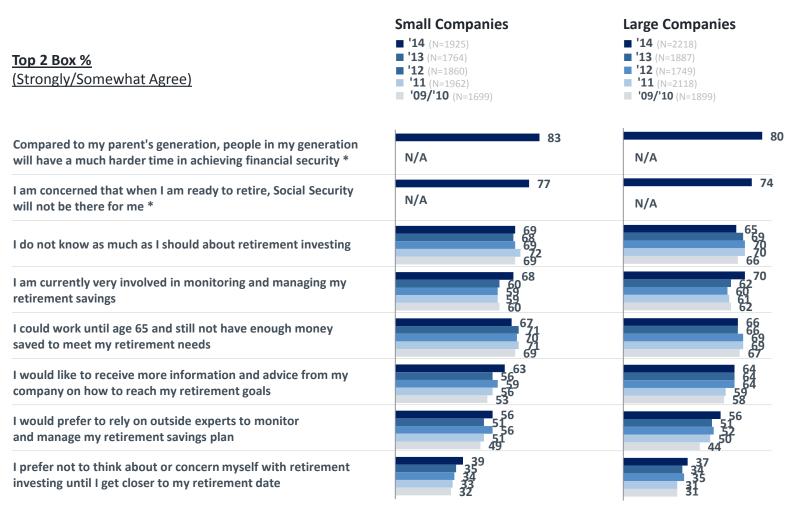
## **Basis of Estimated Retirement Savings Needs**

Of those who provided an estimate, a majority of workers in small and large companies guessed the amount of money they will need in retirement. Less than a quarter estimated the amount based on their current living expenses. Many have yet to use a retirement calculator or worksheet.



# **Retirement Preparation and Involvement**

Workers in small and large companies both have high levels of agreement that people in their generation will have a much harder time in achieving financial security compared to their parent's generation and being concerned that Social Security will not be there when they retire.



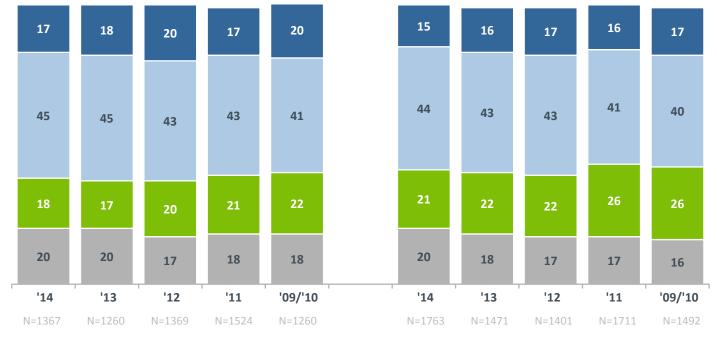
\*added in 2014

BASE: Full and Part-time

## **Retirement Investments: Asset Allocation**

Asset allocation among workers in small and large companies continue to be similar to each other and fairly steady year-over-year.

- Mostly in bonds, money market funds, cash and other stable investments
- Relatively equal mix of stocks and investments such as bonds, money market funds and cash
- Mostly stocks, with little or no money in investments such as bonds, money mkt funds, cash
- Not sure



**Small Companies** 

**Large Companies** 

# Information Sources: Retirement Planning & Investing

Workers in small companies are more likely to be influenced by a financial planner/broker or accountant, while workers in large companies are more likely to cite their employer as the most influential in their decisions.

#### Single Most Influential Source (%)

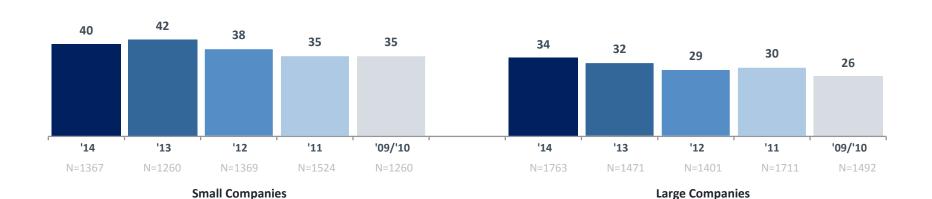
	Small Companies			Large Companies		
	'14	'13	'12	'14	'13	'12
	N=1925	N=1764	N=1860	N=2218	N=1887	N=1749
Financial Planner/Broker	22	24	21	18	18	19
Friends/Family	15	16	17	14	15	15
Financial websites	10	7	8	11	10	8
Retirement plan provider website	5	6	6	8	9	8
Employer	3	4	4	5	3	6
Online newspapers, magazines, and blogs	4	3	3	4	4	5
Financial-related tv shows	3	2	3	3	2	3
Retirement calculators	2	2	3	3	2	4
Accountant	4	4	2	2	3	2
Print newspapers/magazines	3	3	3	2	4	4
Plan provider printed material	1	3	2	2	4	2
Insurance agent	1	1	1	1	1	1
Lawyer	1	1	1	0	0	0
Online social media	0	1	0	0	0	0
Other	4	4	3	4	3	3
None	23	21	20	21	21	21

Q826. Of these sources, which one influences your decisions the most?

## Use a Professional Financial Advisor

Consistent with prior years, small company workers are more likely to use a professional financial advisor to help manage their retirement savings or investments.

# <u>Use a Professional Financial Advisor,</u> % Indicate "Yes"

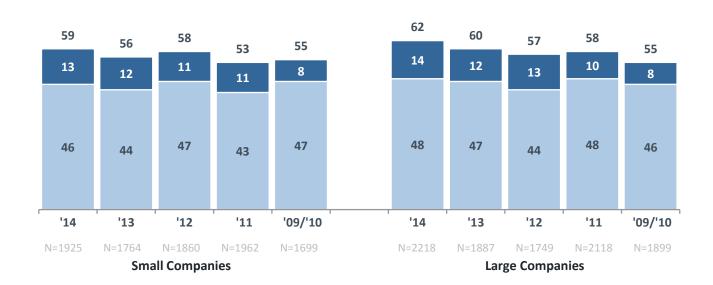


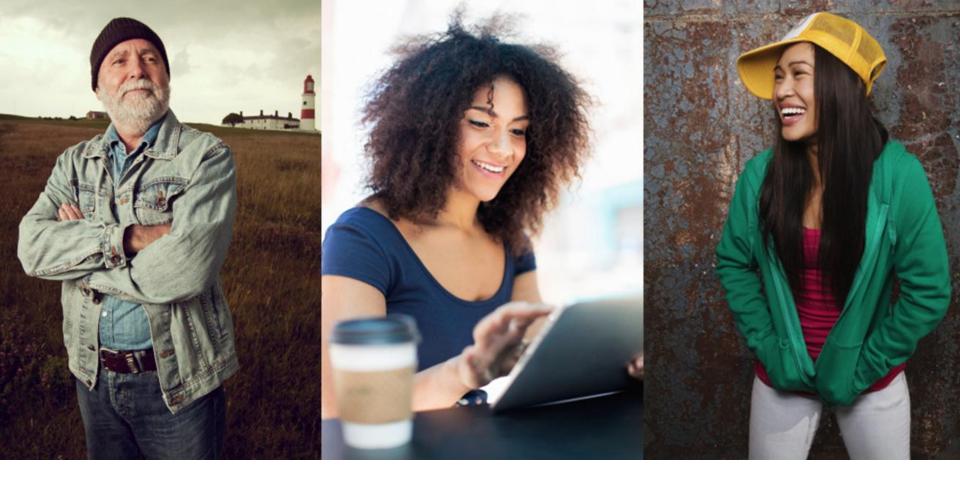
## Retirement Strategy: Written Plan

While workers in small companies are more likely to use a financial planner, the levels of workers in small and large companies who have a plan for retirement are fairly similar.

#### % Indicate "Have Plan"

- I have a written plan
- I have a plan, but it is not written down





# Influences of Generation on Retirement Preparation

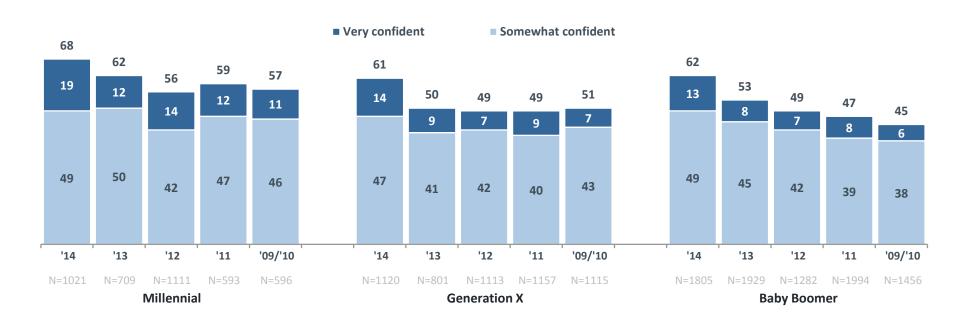
Detailed Findings

## **Confidence in Retiring Comfortably**

Since last year confidence in being able to retire comfortably has increased significantly among the generations, while no one generation is significantly more confident than the others.

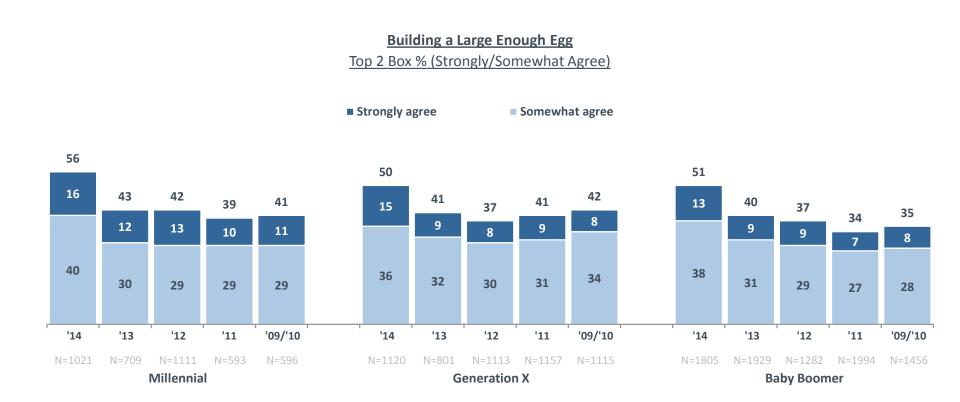
#### **Confidence in Retiring Comfortably**

Top 2 Box % (Very/Somewhat Confident)



## Building a Large Enough Nest Egg

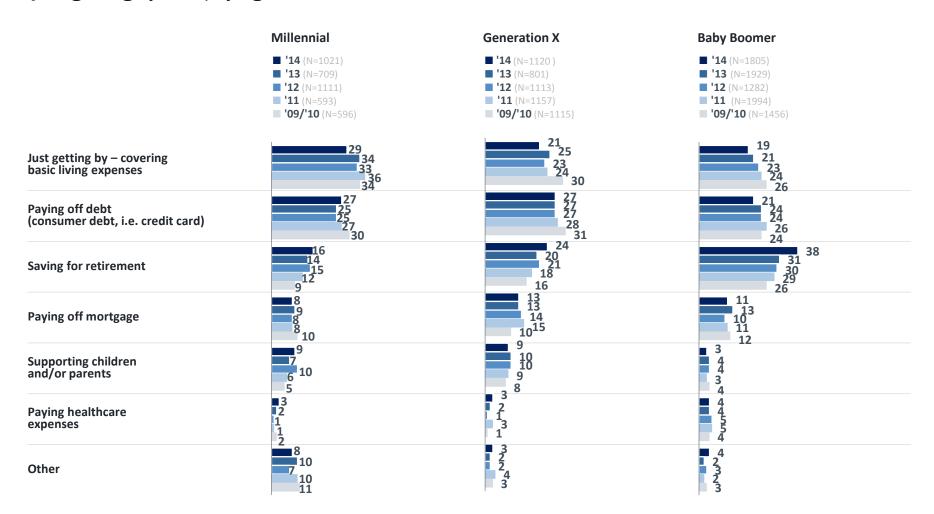
Additionally, among the generations, levels of agreement that they are currently building a large enough nest egg has also increased significantly since last year.



75

#### **Greatest Financial Priority**

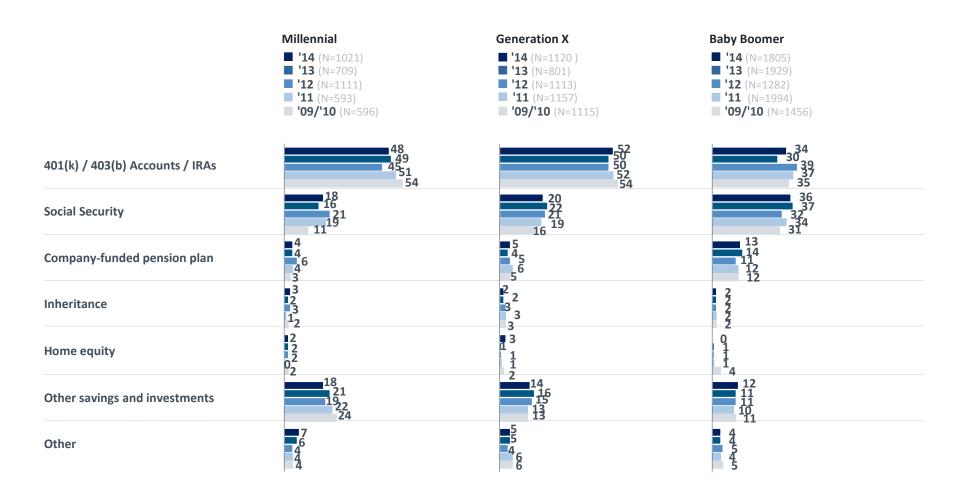
Baby Boomer workers continue to be the generation who prioritize "saving for retirement" more than other financial priorities. Millennial and Generation X workers are more likely to prioritize "just getting by" or "paying off debt."



76

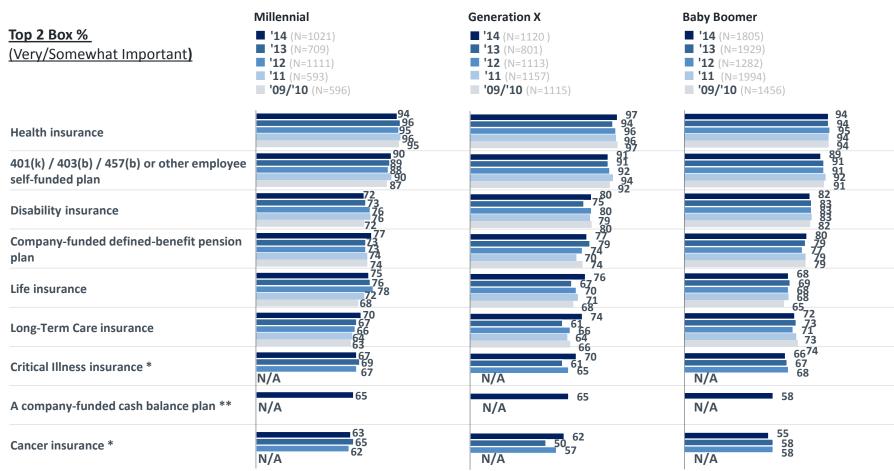
#### **Primary Source of Retirement Income**

Baby Boomer workers are more likely to feel that Social Security or pensions will be their primary source of retirement income while younger generations (Millennials and Generation X) are more likely to look toward a 401(k) or similar plans as their primary source of retirement income.



#### Retirement Benefits: Importance Compared to Other Benefits

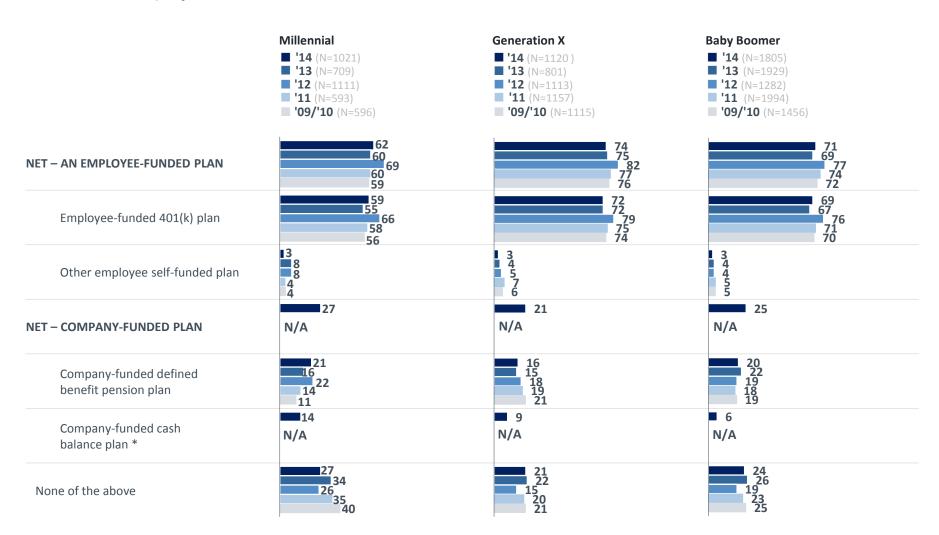
Younger generations (Millennials and Generation X) are more likely to indicate life insurance, company-funded cash balance plan, or cancer insurance are "very/somewhat" important benefits to them personally.



<sup>\*</sup>added in 2012; \*\*added in 2014 BASE: Full and Part-time

#### **Retirement Benefits Currently Offered**

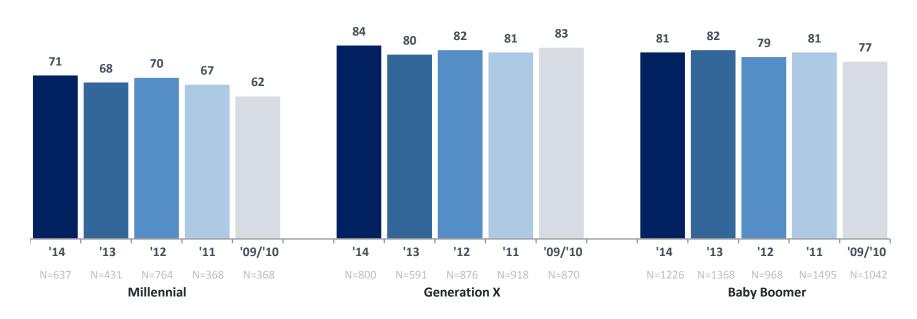
Millennial workers continue to be the least likely generation to have access to a retirement plan from their employer.



#### **Retirement Plan Participation**

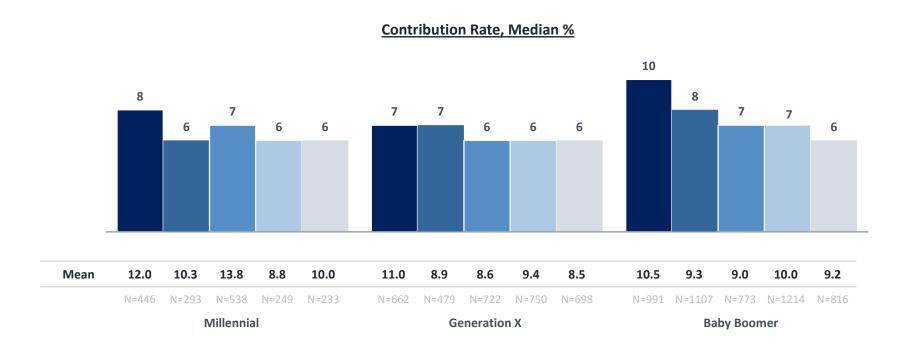
In addition to being the least likely generation to have access to a retirement plan, among those who are offered an employee-funded retirement plan, Millennial workers are the least likely to participate in a plan.

## Participation in Company's Employee-funded Retirement Savings Plan, <a href="Months: 1887/9">% Indicate "Yes"</a>



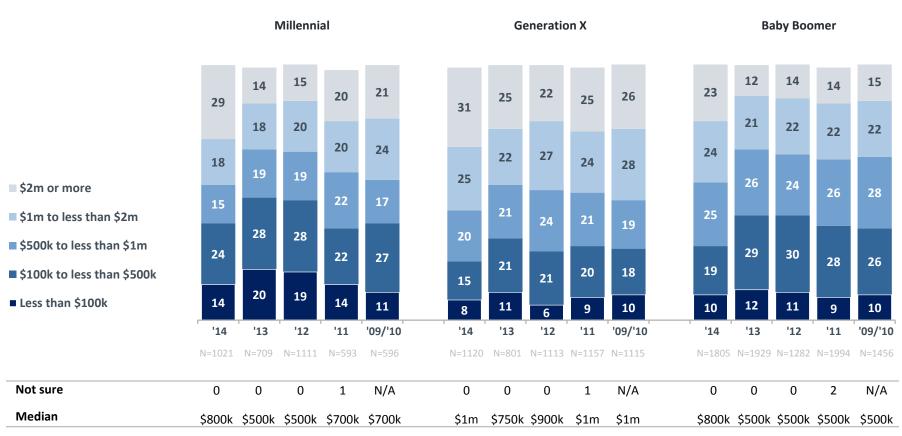
#### **Plan Contribution Rate**

Among those with access to an employee-funded plan, the median contribution rates among the three generations of workers have increased since last year.



#### **Estimated Retirement Savings Needs**

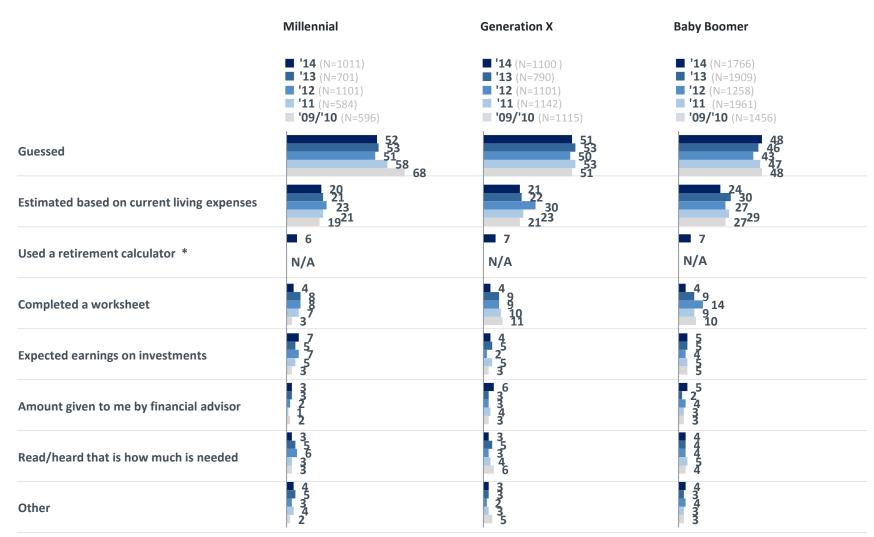
A third of Millennial and Generation X workers estimate they will need to have saved \$2 million or more by the time they retire in order to feel financially secure. Baby Boomer workers, who are nearing retirement, estimate they will need \$800,000 (estimated median).



Note: The median is estimated based on the approximate midpoint of the range of each response category. Non-responses are excluded from the estimate.

### **Basis of Estimated Retirement Savings Needs**

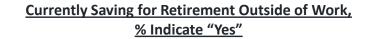
Among those who provided an estimate of their retirement savings needs, half of Millennial and Generation X workers guessed at what this number should be.

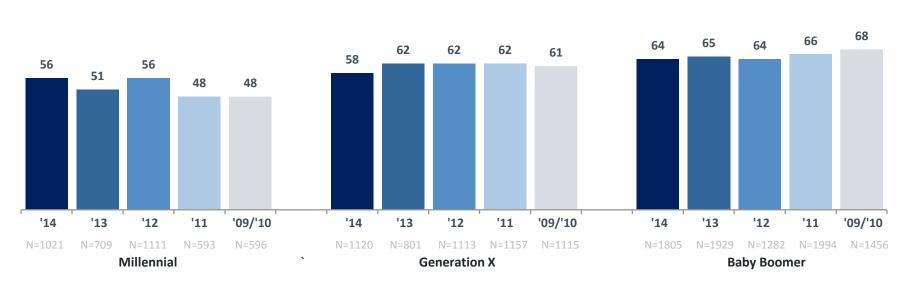


#### Saving Outside the Workplace

The level of those saving for retirement outside of the workplace is relatively steady among Millennial, Generation X, and Baby Boomer workers.

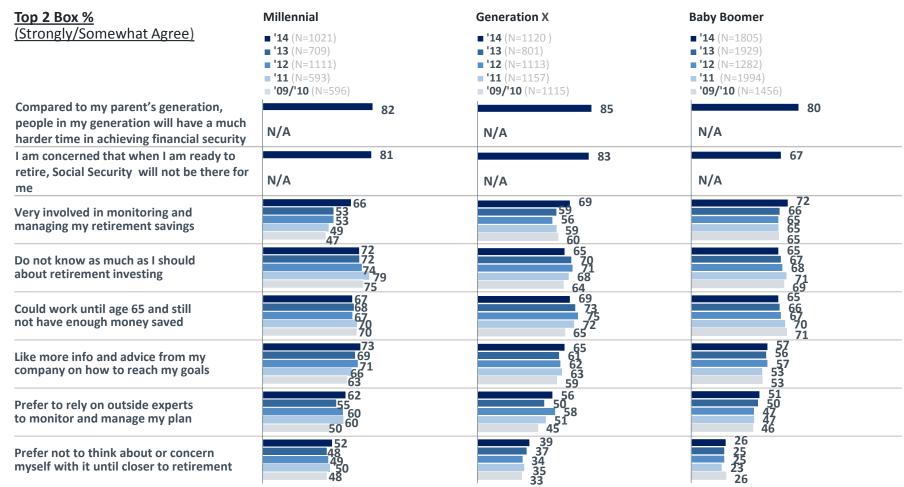
Incidence of saving outside of work increases directionally with age.





#### **Retirement Preparation and Involvement**

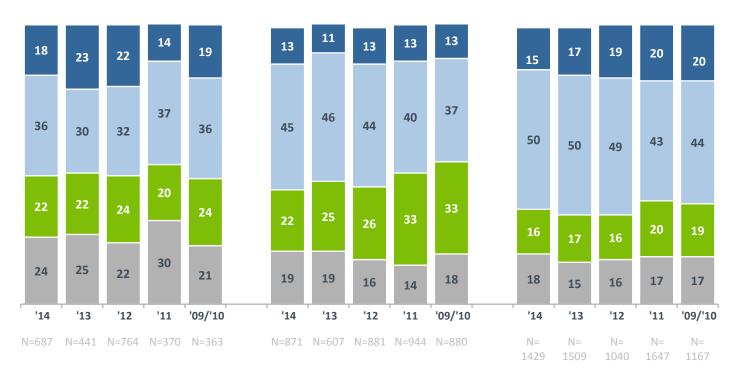
Millennial workers are more likely than Generation X or Baby Boomer workers to agree that they do not know as much as they should about retirement investing. Also, they would like more information/advice about how to reach retirement goals, they would prefer to rely on experts to monitor and manage their retirement savings plan, and they prefer not to concern themselves about retirement investing until they're closer to retirement.



#### **Retirement Investments: Asset Allocation**

About a quarter of Millennial workers currently saving for retirement are "not sure" how their savings are invested. Generation X and Baby Boomer workers are not much better, with about one-fifth of those generations also not sure.

- Mostly in bonds, money market funds, cash and other stable investments
- Relatively equal mix of stocks and investments such as bonds, money market funds and cash
- Mostly stocks, with little or no money in investments such as bonds, money mkt funds, cash
- Not sure



Millennial Generation X Baby Boomer

## Information Sources: Retirement Planning & Investing

When making decisions regarding retirement planning and investing, Millennial workers are more likely then Generation X or Baby Boomer workers to be influenced by friends/family, online newspapers, magazine, and blogs, or an insurance agent. The use of a financial planner/broker increases with age as the reliance on family/friends decreases with age.

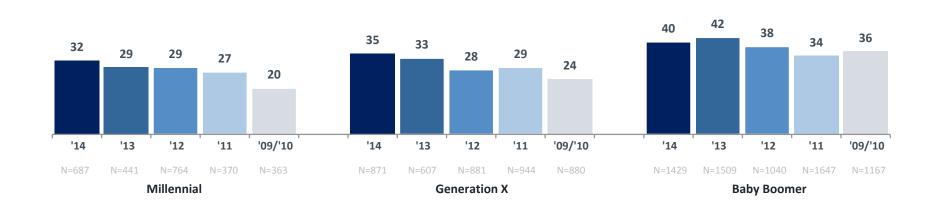
#### **Single Most Influential Source (%)**

	Millennial			Generation X			Baby Boomer		
	'14	'13	'12	'14	'13	'12	'14	'13	'12
	N=1021	N=709	N=1111	N=1120	N=801	N=1113	N=1805	N=1929	N=1282
Financial Planner/Broker	10	10	12	18	19	17	28	28	26
Friends/Family	23	28	23	13	15	17	10	9	10
Financial websites	11	12	9	13	7	9	8	7	7
Retirement plan provider website	4	4	4	8	9	10	8	9	8
Employer	6	3	7	3	3	5	4	4	4
Online newspapers, magazines, and blogs	7	4	8	4	4	4	2	3	3
Financial-related tv shows	2	2	3	4	2	3	3	2	3
Retirement calculators	2	1	2	3	2	4	3	3	4
Accountant	3	4	1	2	3	2	2	2	3
Print newspapers/magazines	2	2	2	3	4	3	2	4	4
Plan provider printed material	0	2	2	2	4	3	2	4	3
Insurance agent	2	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
Lawyer	1	1	2	0	0	<1	0	0	<1
Online social media	0	1	1	0	0	<1	0	0	<1
Other	3	4	2	4	3	3	5	4	4
None	23	20	22	23	23	19	20	21	20

#### Use a Professional Financial Advisor

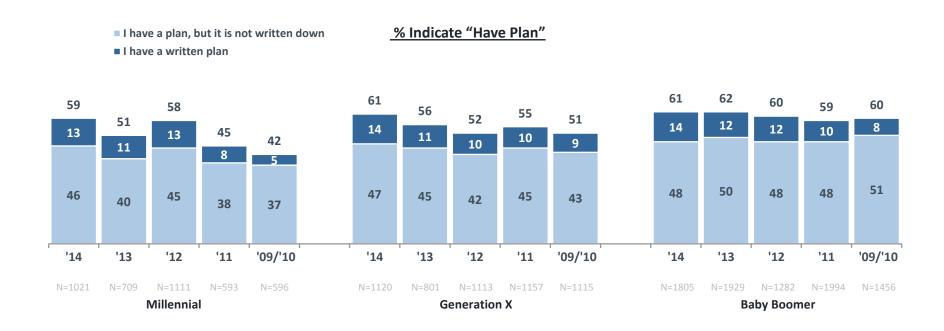
Incidence of using a professional financial advisor to help manage retirement savings/investing increases directionally from Millennial to Baby Boomer workers.

<u>Use a Professional Financial Advisor,</u>
<a href="mailto:%">% Indicate "Yes"</a>



#### Retirement Strategy: Written Plan

Although most workers among the three generations have a retirement strategy, they have yet to write it down. Unfortunately, a small proportion of them have a written plan for retirement.



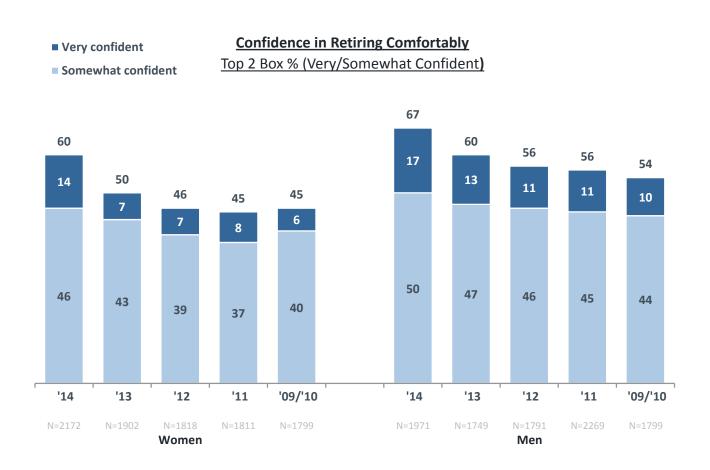


# Influences of Gender on Retirement Preparations

Detailed Findings

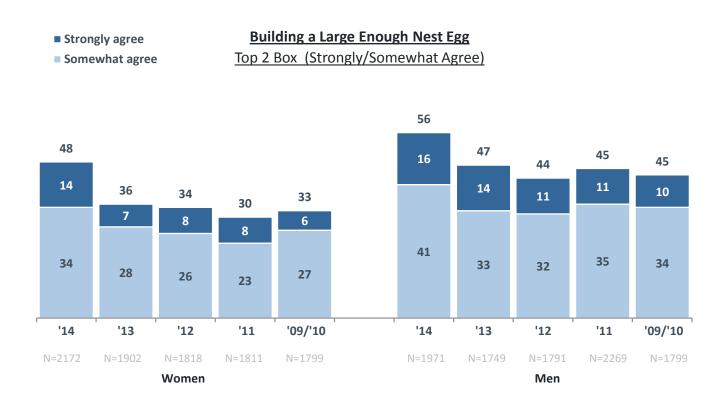
## **Confidence in Retiring Comfortably**

Although confidence is higher for both men and women compared to last year, women continue to lag behind men in confidence. In 2014, women who are "very confident" doubled.



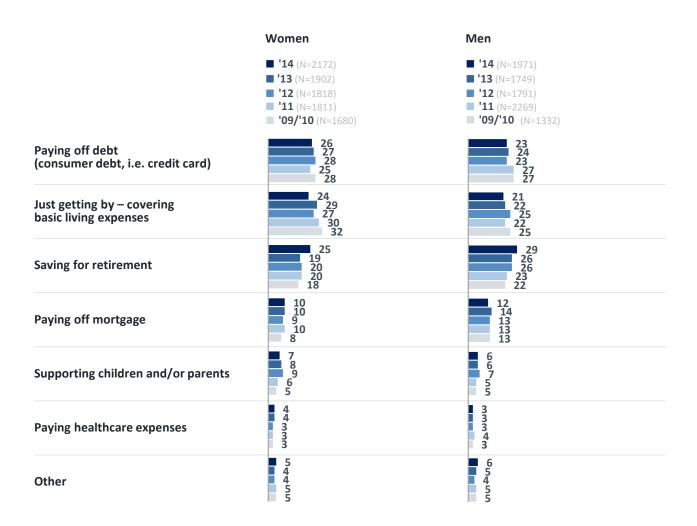
## Building a Large Enough Nest Egg

Men continue to be more confident that they are building a large enough retirement nest egg, although women's confidence in their ability to do so has directionally increased over the years.



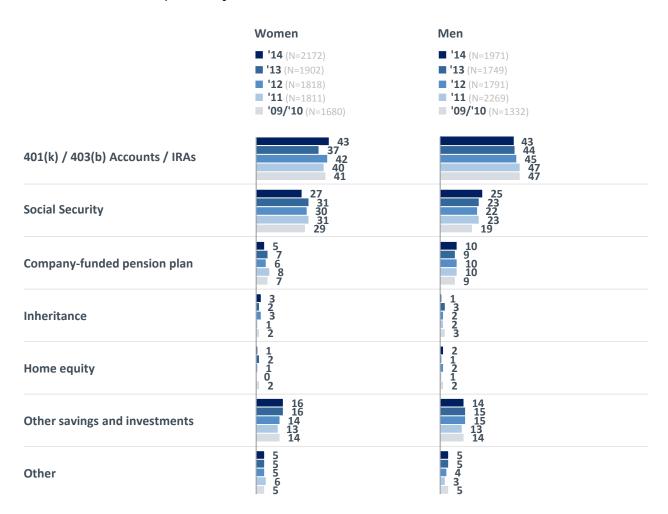
#### **Greatest Financial Priority**

Women continue to be more likely to cite "just getting by" is their greatest financial priority, while men are more likely to cite "saving for retirement" is their greatest financial priority.



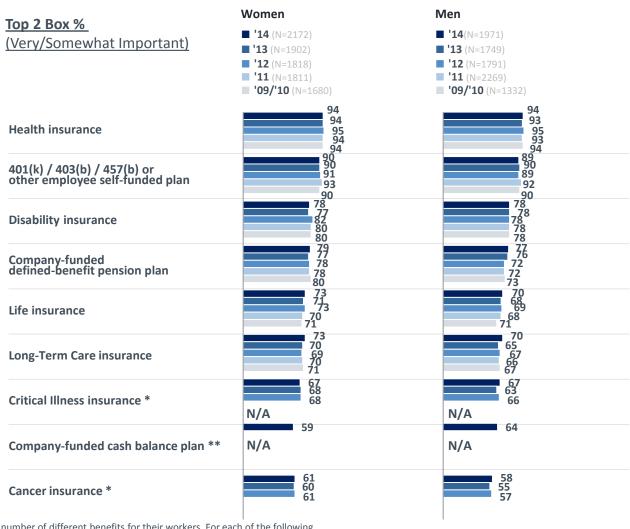
#### **Primary Source of Retirement Income**

The level of women expecting an employee-funded plan to be their primary source of retirement income increased significantly from last year. Additionally, men are more likely than women to expect a pension will be their primary source of retirement income.



## Retirement Benefits: Importance Compared to Other Benefits

There is little difference between the importance men and women place on retirement benefits.



\*added in 2012; \*\*added in 2014 BASE: Full and Part-time

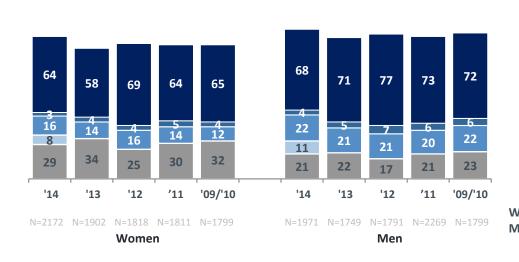
## Retirement Benefits Currently Offered and Plan Participation

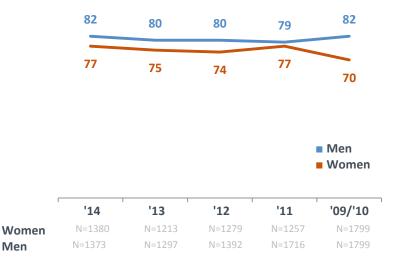
Significantly more female workers do not have access to any kind of retirement plan through their workplace. Additionally, women continue to lag behind men participating in employeefunded retirement plans when available.

#### Retirement Plan Offered by Current Employer (%)

- An employee-funded 401(k) plan
- Other employee self-funded plan
- A company-funded defined benefit pension plan
- A company-funded cash balance plan \*
- None of the above

Currently Participate In, or Have Money Invested in Company's Employee-funded Retirement Savings Plan, % Indicate "Yes"





\*added in 2014

BASE: Full and Part-time

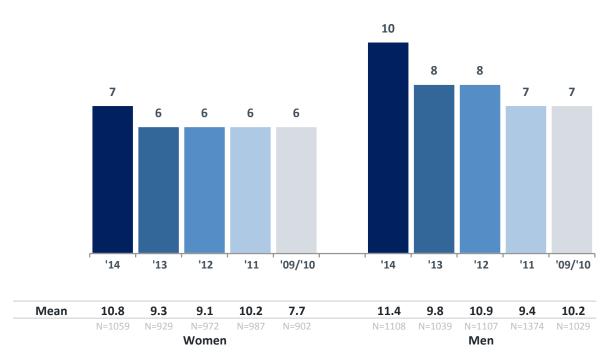
Q1180. Which of the following retirement benefits does your company currently offer to you, personally? Select all that apply.

BASE: Full and Part-time: Those With Qualified Plans Currently Offered To Them

#### **Plan Contribution Rates**

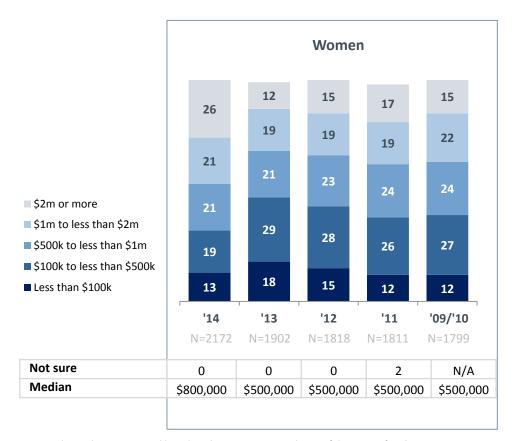
In addition to more male workers having access to retirement savings plans through work, men save a directionally higher percentage of their salary.

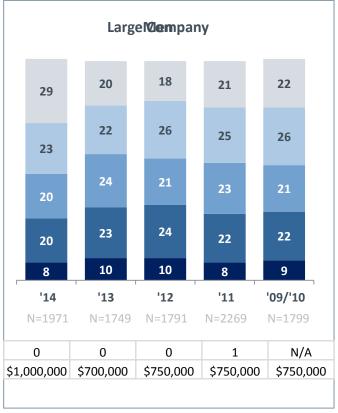




#### **Estimated Retirement Savings Needs**

Estimates for retirement savings needs are higher for men and women this year; however, women's estimates are generally lower compared to that of men -- \$800,000 for women and \$1 million for men (estimated medians).





Note: The median is estimated based on the approximate midpoint of the range of each response category. Non-responses are excluded from the estimate.

#### **Basis of Estimated Retirement Savings Needs**

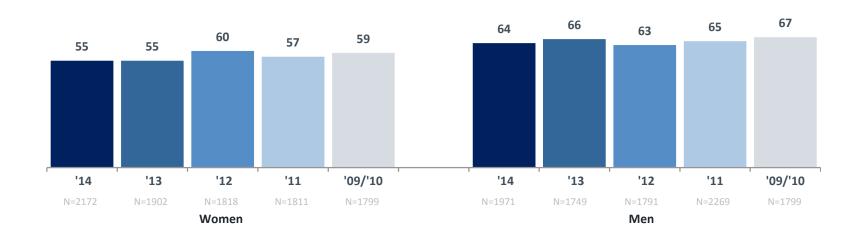
Among workers who provided an estimate of their retirement savings needs, more than half of women have guessed at what that number should be. Men are more likely to use a retirement calculator or complete a worksheet.



## Saving Outside the Workplace

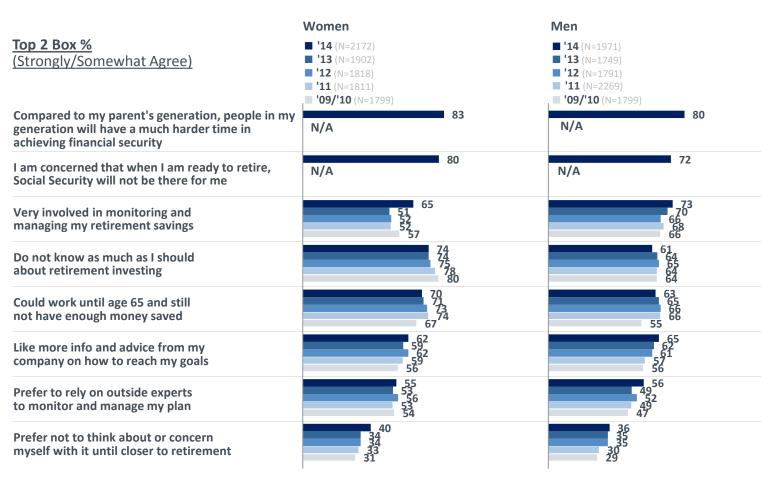
While majorities of both genders are saving for retirement outside of work, a significantly higher proportion of men are saving outside of work.

## Currently Saving for Retirement Outside of Work, % Indicate "Yes"



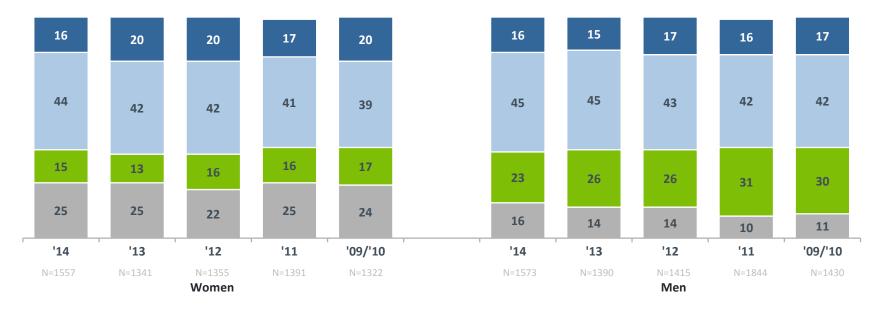
### **Retirement Preparation and Involvement**

Women remain more pessimistic than men about not knowing as much as they should about retirement investing and not having enough saved if they worked until age 65. Men continue to be more involved in monitoring and managing their retirement savings than women.



#### **Asset Allocation**

A quarter of women continue to be more unsure of their asset allocation, significantly higher than men. Men are more likely to have an aggressive investment portfolio mostly in stocks.



- Mostly in bonds, money market funds, cash and other stable investments
- Relatively equal mix of stocks and investments such as bonds, money market funds, and cash
- Mostly in stocks, with little or no money in investments such as bonds, money market funds, and other stable investments
- Not sure

#### Most Influential Sources: Retirement Planning & Investing

Women are far more likely than men to be most influenced by friends/family, while men are more likely to be most influenced by financial planners/brokers and financial websites.

Single Most Influential Source (%)

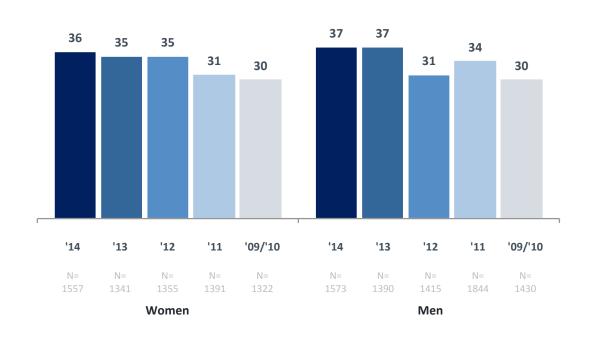
	Women				Men					
	'14	'13	'12	'11	'14	'13	'12	'11		
	N=1081	N=1902	N=1818	N=1811	N=1134	N=1749	N=1791	N=2269		
Financial planner/broker	19	20	21	20	21	22	19	21		
Friends/Family	19	20	21	21	10	12	11	11		
Financial websites	7	6	5	8	13	10	11	17		
Retirement plan provider website	6	6	6	8	7	9	8	11		
Online newspapers, magazines, and blogs *	3	2	3	N/A	5	5	6	N/A		
Financial-related tv shows	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	2		
Retirement calculators	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	3		
Accountant	2	3	2	2	3	3	3	2		
Employer	4	3	5	5	5	4	5	3		
Print newspapers/magazines	2	1	2	3	3	5	4	6		
Plan provider printed material	1	4	2	3	2	3	2	4		
Insurance agent	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	<1		
Lawyer	1	0	1	<1	1	0	1	<1		
Online social media *	0	1	<1	N/A	0	0	<1	N/A		
Other	3	3	3	4	5	4	3	3		
None	26	26	21	21	18	17	20	16		

103

#### Use a Professional Financial Advisor

Similar levels of women and men use a financial advisor to help manage their retirement investing or planning.

<u>Use a Professional Financial Advisor,</u>
<a href="mailto:%">% Indicate "Yes"</a>

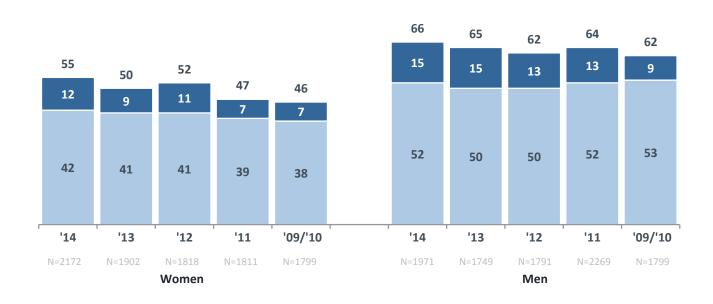


#### **Retirement Strategy: Written Plans**

Women are less likely to have any retirement strategy, while men are more likely to have an unwritten plan. However, few workers of either gender actually have a written plan for retirement.

#### % Indicate "Have Plan"

- I have a written plan
- I have a plan, but it is not written down



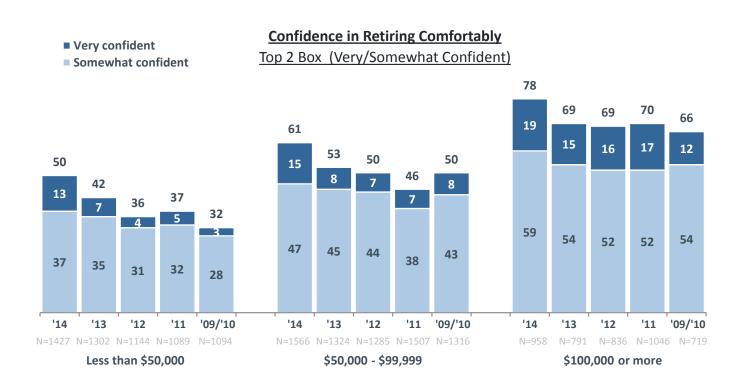


# Influences of Household Income on Retirement Preparation

Detailed Findings

#### **Confidence in Retiring Comfortably**

By household income, confidence about retiring comfortably increased significantly from last year. This is the first year since '09/'10 that the majority of those with less than \$50,000 in household income are confident they will be able to retire comfortably. Nevertheless, confidence increases with higher income.



#### Building a Large Enough Nest Egg

Agreement they are building a large enough nest egg for retirement increased significantly since last year for all three income ranges. Agreement also still increases with income.



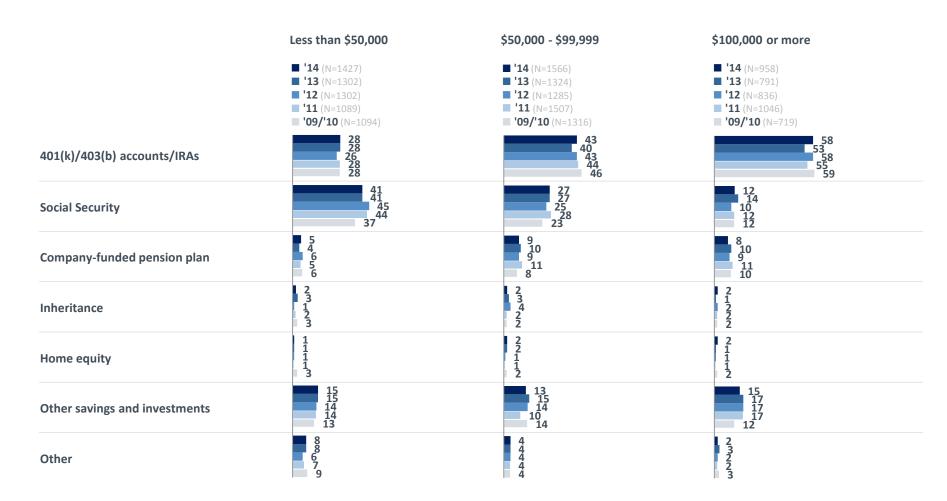
#### **Greatest Financial Priority**

Lower income workers are more likely to cite "just getting by" and "paying off debt" as their greatest financial priority right now. By contrast, higher income workers are more likely to cite "saving for retirement."



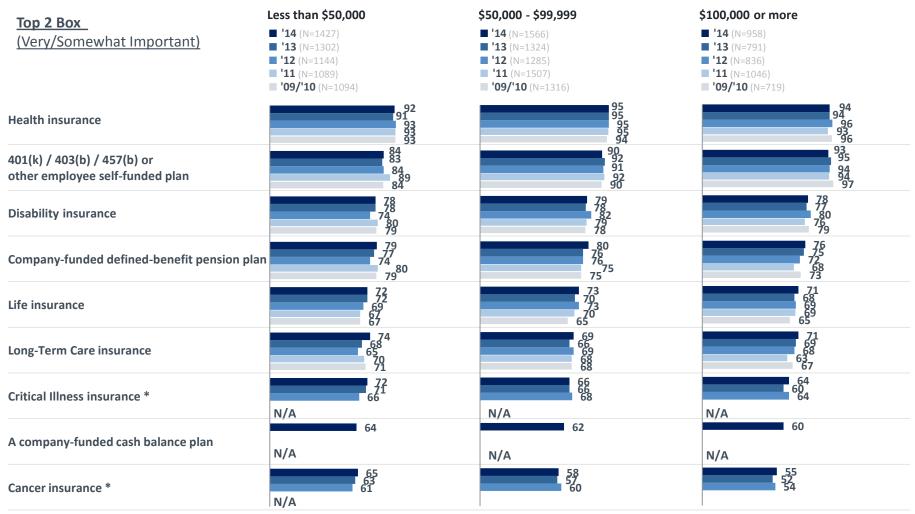
#### **Primary Source of Retirement Income**

Workers with higher household incomes (\$50K+) are more likely to expect to rely on self-funded retirement plans as their primary source of income in retirement, compared to those with lower household incomes (<\$50K), who are more likely to expect to rely on Social Security.



## Retirement Benefits: Importance Compared to Other Benefits

The vast majority of workers across all levels of household income value 401(k) plans as an important benefit. Workers' stated importance of 401(k) plans increases with household income.

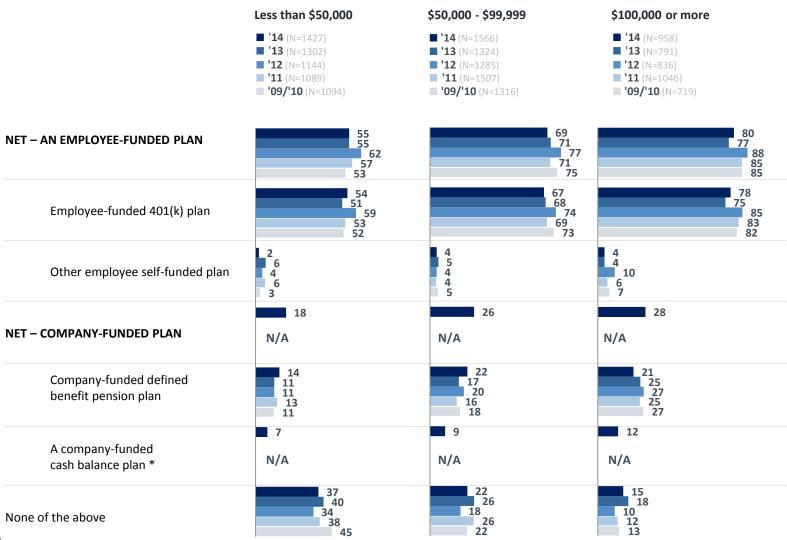


<sup>\*</sup>Note: Choices added in '12 Wave

BASE: Full and Part-time

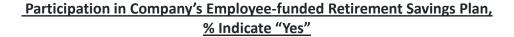
## **Retirement Benefits Currently Offered**

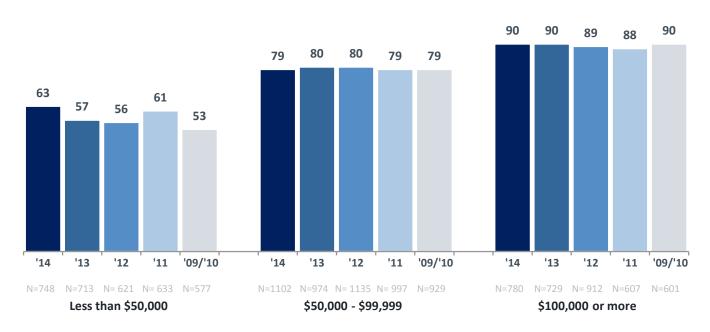
Access to employee-funded retirement plans increases with higher incomes. However, across all income levels, workers' access to these plans dropped this past year.



#### **Retirement Plan Participation**

As in prior years, participation in companies' employee-funded retirement plans is largely a function of income – with those with the highest incomes being the most likely to participate.





#### **Plan Contribution Rates**

Contribution rates across all income levels have remained steady. Contribution rates among those in the highest income range continue to be higher than those in lower income brackets.

#### Contribution Rate, Median %



114

#### **Estimated Retirement Savings Needs**

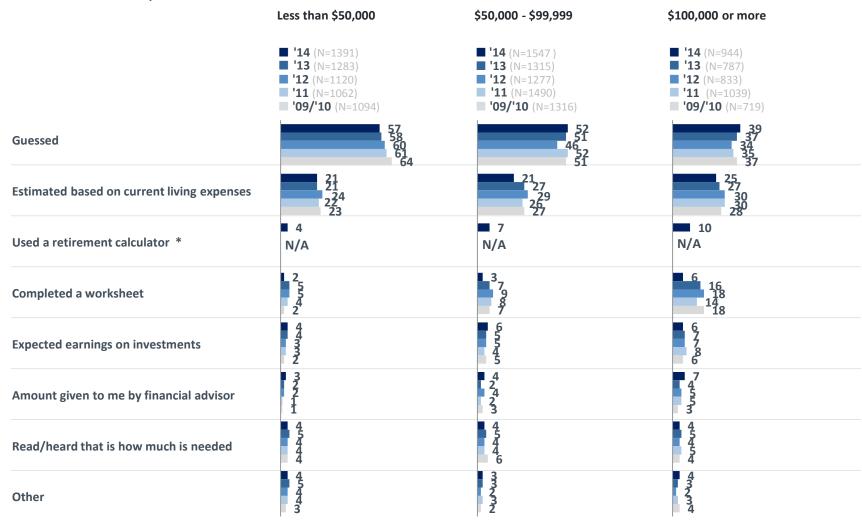
Estimates for retirement savings needs increase with higher income. Lower income workers think they will need \$500,000 in their retirement in order to feel financially secure compared to \$1 million for higher income workers (estimated medians).



Note: The median is estimated based on the approximate midpoint of the range of each response category. Non-responses are excluded from the estimate.

#### **Basis of Estimated Retirement Savings Needs**

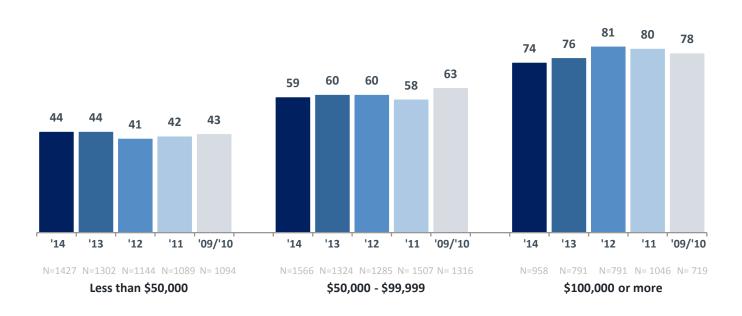
Lower income workers are more likely to have guessed what their retirement savings needs should be. In contrast, higher income workers are more likely to have used a retirement calculator or completed a worksheet to arrive at that number.



## Saving For Retirement Outside of Workplace

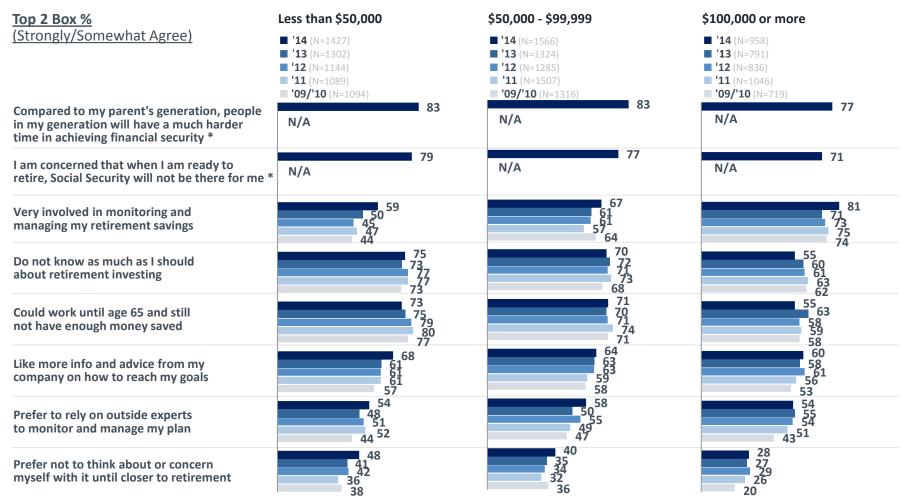
The percentage of workers who are saving for retirement outside of work increases with household income.

# <u>Currently Saving for Retirement Outside of Work,</u> <u>% Indicate "Yes"</u>



#### **Retirement Preparation and Involvement**

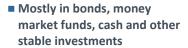
Workers with higher incomes are more involved in their retirement savings and are less likely to feel they don't know as much as they should about investing for retirement. In contrast, workers with lower incomes are more likely to agree that they could work to age 65 and not have saved enough for retirement.



\*added in 2014

#### **Retirement Investments: Asset Allocation**

Lower income workers continue to be the most uncertain as to how their retirement assets are allocated. In terms of actual asset allocation, workers in all three groups are most likely to have diverse holdings by investing relatively equally in stocks and investments such as bonds, money market funds and cash.



- Relatively equal mix of stocks and investments such as bonds, money market funds and cash
- Mostly stocks, with little or no money in investments such as bonds, money mkt funds, cash
- Not sure



## Information Sources: Retirement Planning & Investing

Financial planners play a larger role in decision making for those with higher incomes (\$50K+), while friends/family are more likely to influence those with lower incomes (<\$50K).

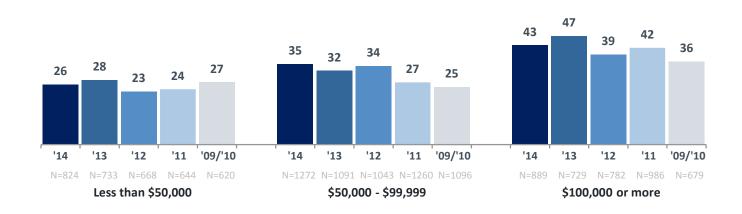
#### **Single Most Influential Source (%)**

		Less than	\$50,000			\$50,000	- \$99,999		\$100,000 or more					
	'14	'13	'12	'11	'14	'13	'12	'11	'14	'13	'12	'11		
	N=1427	N=1302	N=1144	N= 1089	N=1566	N=1324	N=1285	N= 1507	N=958	N=791	N=836	N= 1046		
Financial planner/broker	10	12	10	13	19	20	21	18	29	31	28	29		
Friends/Family	20	19	18	20	14	16	15	16	11	12	13	12		
Financial websites	7	7	7	8	11	7	7	13	13	10	11	19		
Retirement plan provider website	5	5	4	7	8	9	9	11	7	9	7	10		
Employer	6	6	8	6	5	3	5	5	2	2	4	2		
Online newspapers, magazines, and blogs *	4	3	5	N/A	5	4	5	N/A	4	5	5	N/A		
Financial-related tv shows	4	4	3	2	2	1	4	2	4	1	2	2		
Retirement calculators	2	2	2	2	2	3	4	3	4	1	4	4		
Accountant	3	3	2	1	2	4	3	2	3	3	2	2		
Print newspapers/magazines	2	3	2	3	2	2	3	4	3	5	5	5		
Plan provider printed material	2	3	3	4	2	4	2	4	2	4	2	2		
Insurance agent	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	<1	0	0	1	<1		
Lawyer	0	1	1	<1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	<1		
Social media *	0	1	1	N/A	0	0	<1	N/A	0	0	<1	N/A		
Other	5	3	2	4	3	4	3	3	4	4	3	3		
None	28	29	33	29	23	23	16	18	14	12	13	9		

#### Use a Professional Financial Advisor

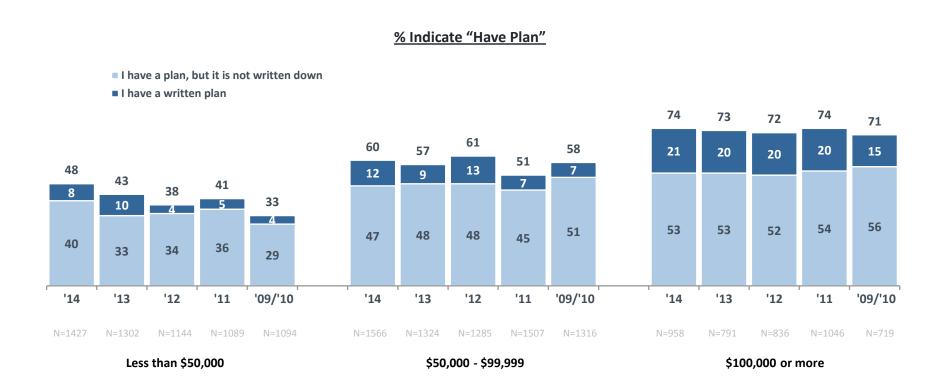
Workers' use of a professional advisor increases with household income. Among those investing for retirement, 43 percent of workers with higher incomes (\$100K+) are most likely to use an advisor compared to 26 percent of workers with lower household incomes (<\$50K).

# <u>Use a Professional Financial Advisor,</u> <a href="mailto:%">% Indicate "Yes"</a>



#### **Retirement Strategy: Written Plans**

The likelihood of having a retirement strategy increases with workers' household income. The percent of low income workers (<\$50K) who have retirement plans has increased over the past two years – now nearly half.



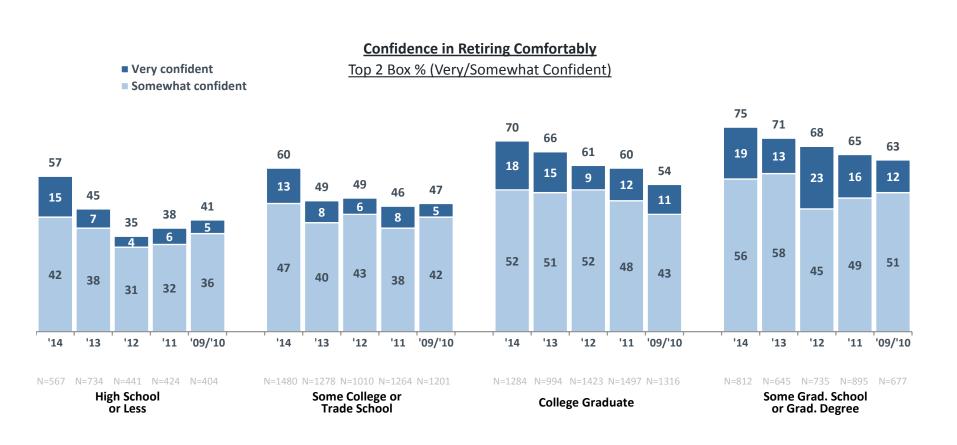


# Influences of Educational Attainment on Retirement Preparation

Detailed Findings

# **Confidence in Retiring Comfortably**

Retirement confidence increases with workers' level of education. Confidence has increased across all education levels.



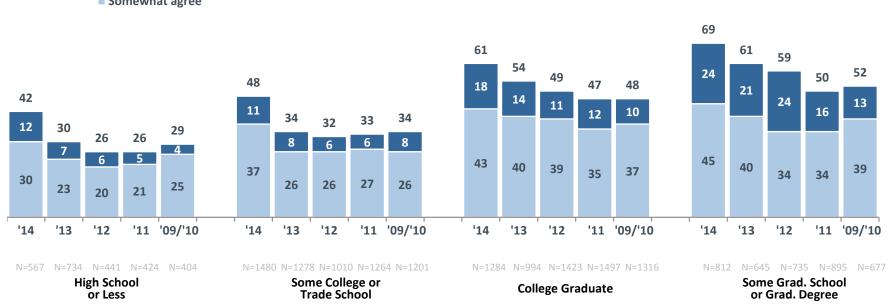
# Building a Large Enough Nest Egg

Workers' confidence in building a large enough nest egg increases with educational attainment. Workers with a college degree are more confident than those without. Notably, this year confidence rebounded at a higher rate among those without a college degree.

#### **Building a Large Enough Nest Egg** Top 2 Box % (Strongly/Somewhat Agree)

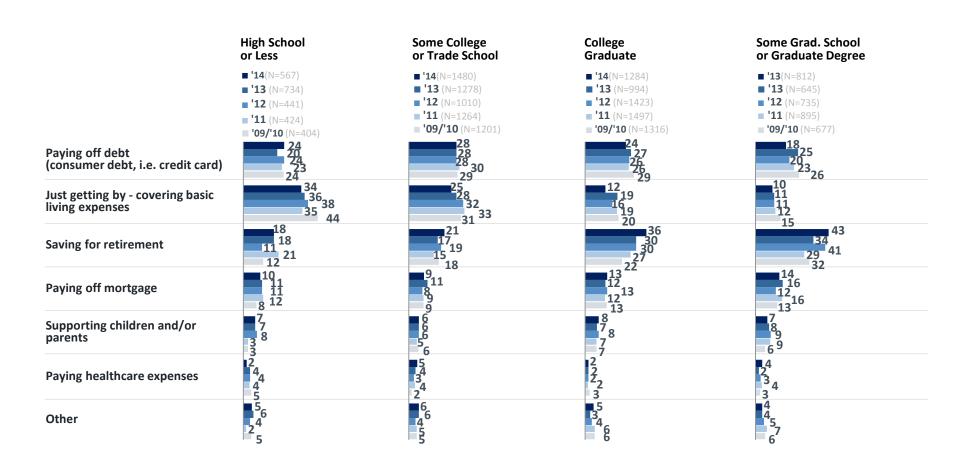
Strongly agree

Somewhat agree



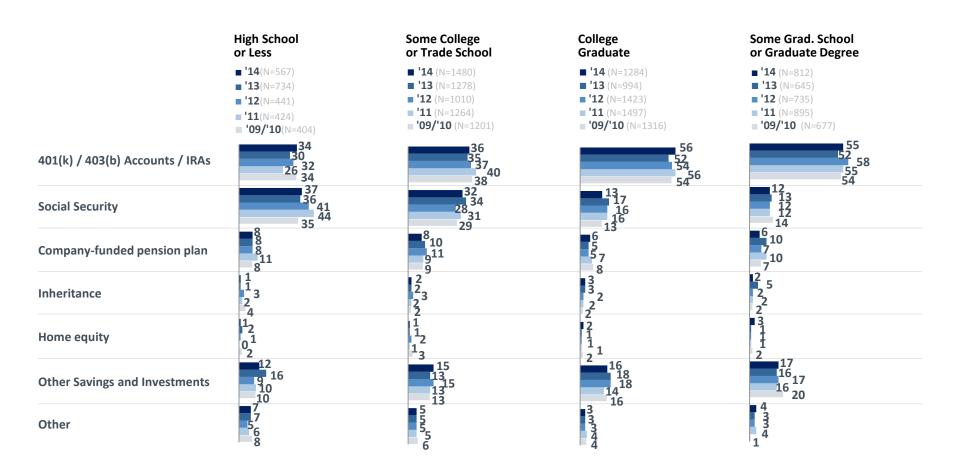
#### **Greatest Financial Priority**

"Saving for retirement" is the most frequently cited top financial priority among those with a college or post-graduate degree. In contrast, those with some college (or less) or a trade school education are more likely to cite "just getting by" or "paying off debt."



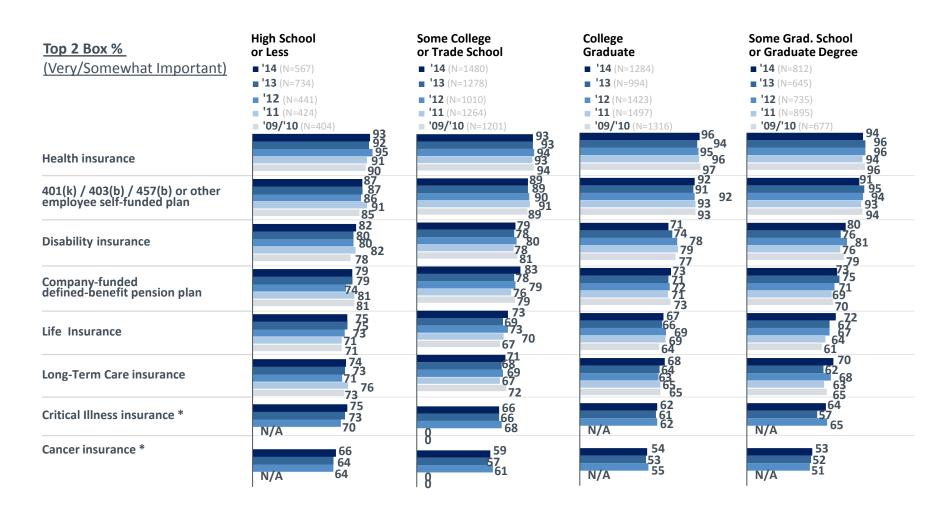
#### **Primary Source of Retirement Income**

Workers with a high school education or less are at least twice as likely as those with a college education (or more) to expect to rely on Social Security as their primary source of retirement income. In contrast, the majority of those with a college or post-graduate education expect to rely on their 401(k), 403(b) and/or IRA as the primary source of their retirement income.



# Retirement Benefits: Importance Compared to Other Benefits

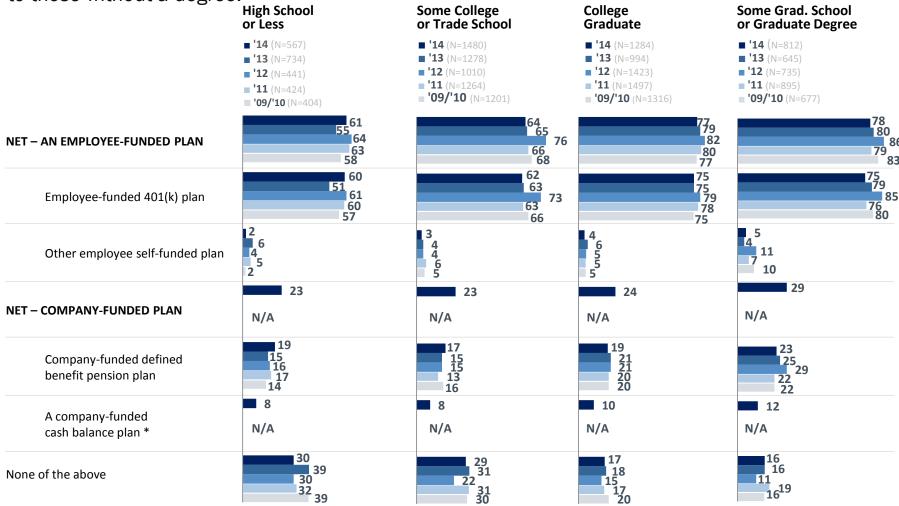
For the most part, importance of retirement benefits is consistent across education levels.



\*Note: Choices added in '12 Wave BASE: Full and Part-time

## **Retirement Benefits Currently Offered**

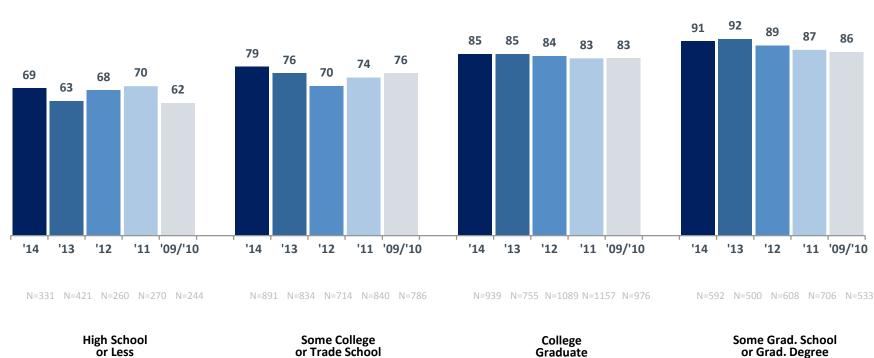
Workers' access to employer-sponsored retirement benefits increases with their level of educational attainment. Workers with a college degree are more likely to have benefits compared to those without a degree.



#### Retirement Plan Participation

The majority of workers across all education levels participate in their companies' retirement plans. However, workers with a college education or higher are significantly more likely to participate.



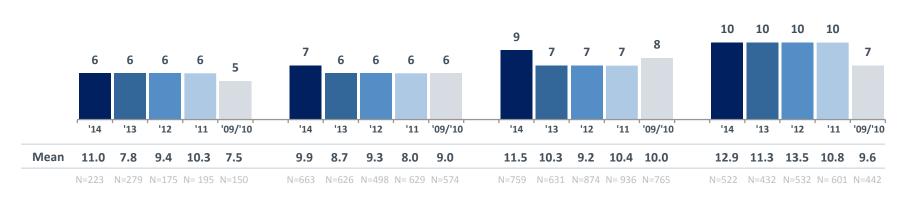


BASE: Full and Part-time; Those With Qualified Plans Currently Offered To Them Q1190. Do you currently participate in, or have money invested in your company's employee-funded retirement savings plan?

#### **Plan Contribution Rates**

Retirement plan contribution rates decreased among all education levels since last year with the exception of college graduates showing an increase. Those with higher education levels contribute more.

#### Contribution Rate, Median %



**High School Some College** College Some Grad. School or Less or Trade School Graduate or Grad. Degree

# **Estimated Retirement Savings Needs**

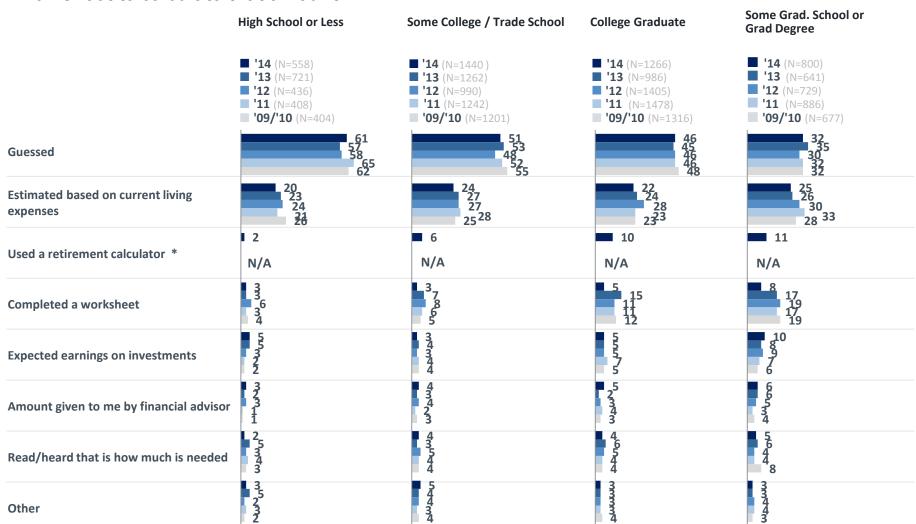
Estimated retirement savings needs increase with higher educational attainment. More than a third of workers with a college education (or more) estimate they will need to have saved \$1 million (median) in order to feel financially secure. In contrast, workers with a high school education or less estimate they will only need \$500,000 (median).

	High School or Less				Some College or Trade School					College (	Graduate	2	Some Grad. School or Grad. Degree				
	'14	'13	'12	'11	'14	'13	'12	'11	'14	'13	'12	'11	'14	'13	'12	'11	
	N=567	N=734	N=441	N=424	N=1480	N=1278	N=1010	N=1264	N=1284	N=994	N=1423	N=1497	N=812	N=645	N=735	N=895	
\$2m or more	23	7	8	10	23	12	13	13	35	25	20	24	37	29	32	34	
\$1m to less than \$2m	16	16	14	14	21	18	22	20	27	25	29	28	29	29	31	28	
\$500k to less than \$1m	21	19	22	20	23	26	25	28	19	24	22	23	16	21	18	21	
\$100k to less than \$500k	26	37	36	38	21	29	30	26	14	18	20	17	13	14	13	13	
Less than \$100k	15	21	20	16	12	15	11	11	5	9	9	8	5	7	6	3	
Not sure	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	
Median	\$500k	\$250k	\$250k	\$300k	\$750k	\$500k	\$500k	\$500k	\$1m	\$900k	\$800k	\$1m	\$1m	\$1m	\$1m	\$1m	

Note: The median is estimated based on the approximate midpoint of the range of each response category. Non-responses are excluded from the estimate.

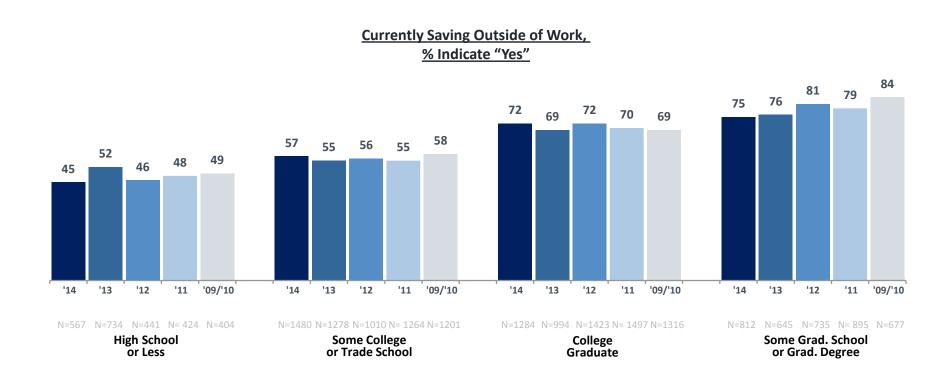
## **Basis of Estimated Retirement Savings Needs**

The majority of workers with some college education (or less) guessed their estimated retirement savings needs. Those with a college education (or more) are more likely to have completed a worksheet to calculate that amount.



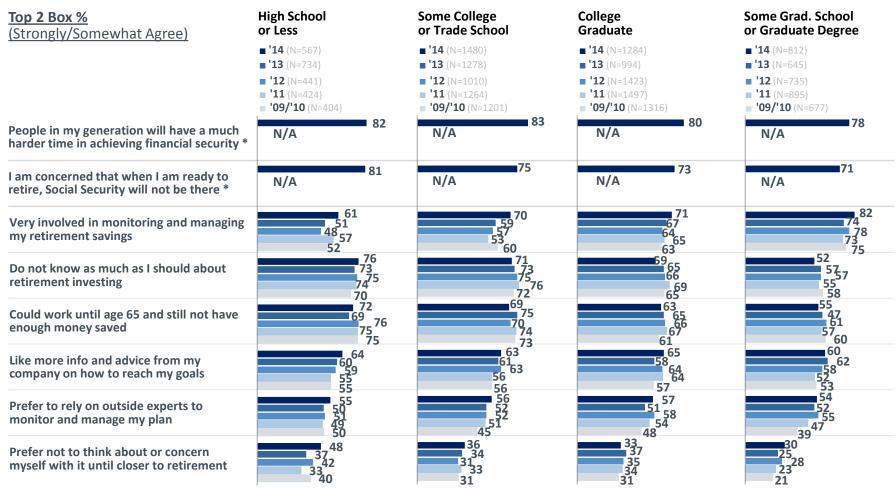
## Saving Outside the Workplace

The number of workers saving for retirement outside of the workplace increases with level of education attainment. College graduates are significantly more likely to be saving for retirement outside of work than non-graduates.



#### Retirement Preparation an Involvement

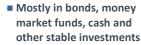
Three in five workers – regardless of education level – would like more information from their companies on how to reach their retirement goals. Involvement with retirement savings goes up with increased educational attainment.



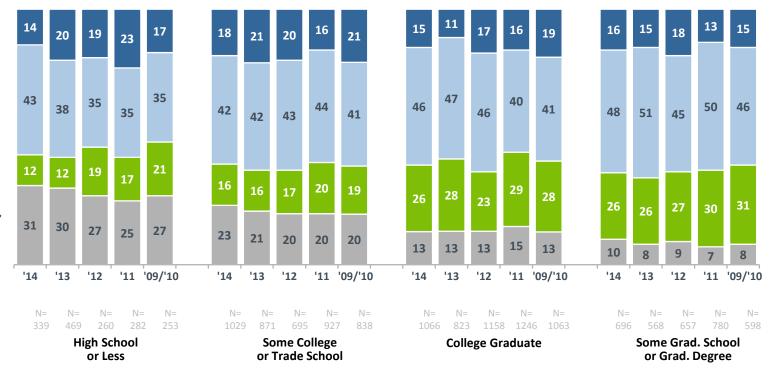
<sup>\*</sup>added in 2014

#### **Asset Allocation**

Those with a high school education or less are most unsure about how their retirement savings are invested compared to those with higher educations. Workers at all education levels are most likely to have a diverse retirement portfolio, consisting of a mix of stocks and fixed-income/cash.



- Relatively equal mix of stocks and investments such as bonds, money market funds and cash
- Mostly stocks, with little or no money in investments such as bonds, money mkt funds, cash
- Not sure



#### **Most Influential Sources of Information**

Financial planners play a larger role in decision making for workers with some post-graduate education (27 percent). Friends and family continue to be one of the major influences among those without a college degree (15 percent).

#### **Single Most Influential Source (%)**

	Н	igh Scho	ool or Le	SS	Some C	College o	or Trade	School	C	College (	Graduat	e	Some Grad. School or Grad. Degree			
	<b>'14</b> N=567	<b>'13</b> N=734	<b>'12</b> N=441	<b>'11</b> N=424	<b>'14</b> N=1480	<b>'13</b> N=1278	<b>'12</b> N=1010	<b>'11</b> N=1264	<b>'14</b> N=1284	<b>'13</b> N=994	<b>'12</b> N=1423	<b>'11</b> N=1497	<b>'14</b> N=812	<b>'13</b> N=645	<b>'12</b> N=735	<b>'11</b> N=895
Financial planner/broker	14	16	13	14	19	21	18	20	24	22	25	22	27	28	24	27
Friends/Family	15	18	18	17	15	15	17	16	13	16	14	18	13	13	12	9
Financial websites	6	5	6	10	9	7	5	9	14	11	11	16	15	12	12	19
Retirement plan provider website	5	5	5	9	8	8	9	11	8	9	9	10	5	9	5	8
Employer	6	6	10	4	4	3	4	5	4	3	3	4	2	2	2	2
Online newspapers, magazines, and blogs *	4	2	4	N/A	3	4	3	N/A	5	4	3	N/A	5	6	10	N/A
Financial-related tv shows	4	2	2	2	2	2	4	1	2	1	2	3	4	2	3	3
Retirement calculators	2	1	2	2	2	2	4	3	4	2	4	2	2	2	3	6
Accountant	3	4	3	1	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	2
Print newspapers/magazines	1	1	2	3	2	3	3	5	2	3	3	4	5	8	6	6
Plan provider printed material	1	3	1	4	3	3	4	3	2	3	3	3	1	3	2	3
Insurance agent	2	1	1	2	1	<1	25	<1	0	2	1	<1	0	1	<1	<1
Lawyer	0	<1	2	0	1	<1	<1	<1	1	1	1	<1	0	<1	<1	<1
Social media *	0	1	<1	N/A	0	<1	<1	N/A	0	<1	<1	N/A	0	<1	<1	N/A
Other	4	4	2	4	4	3	3	3	4	4	3	2	4	2	3	5
None	32	30	29	28	22	21	21	20	14	15	15	13	13	9	15	11

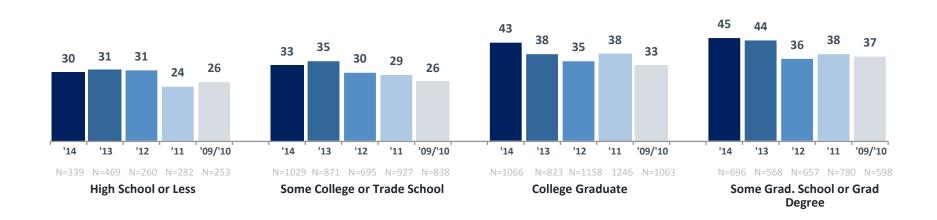
\*Choices added in '12 Wave

#### Use a Professional Financial Advisor

Workers' use of a professional advisor increases with levels of education. Among those investing for retirement, 45 percent of workers with some post-graduate education use an advisor compared to 30 percent of workers with a high school education or less.

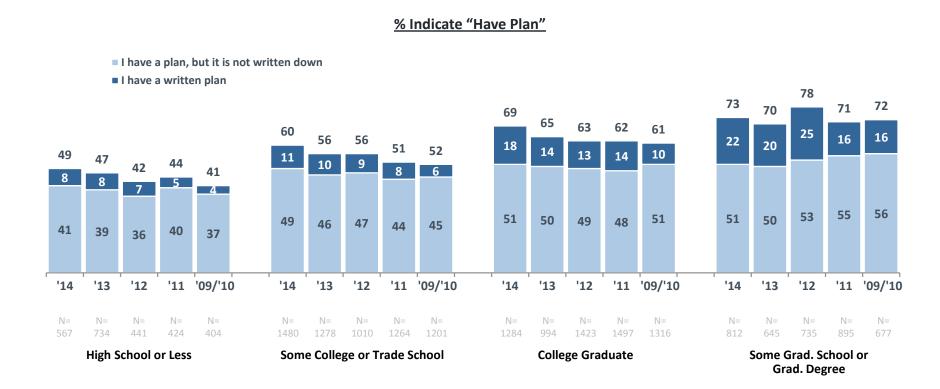
Use a Professional Financial Advisor,

% Indicate "Yes"



## **Retirement Strategy: Written Plans**

The likelihood of having a retirement plan increases with workers' level of education – with more educated workers being more likely to have a plan. However, most workers have not yet put their plan down in writing.





# Influences of Race and Ethnicity on Retirement Preparation

Detailed Findings

# **Confidence in Retiring Comfortably**

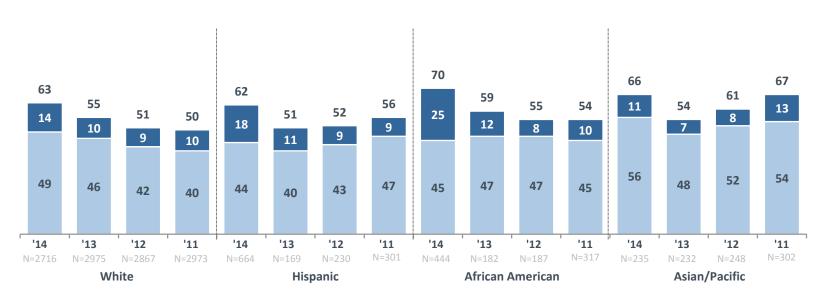
Retirement confidence is relatively consistent among ethnicities. In 2014, African American workers were most likely to be "very confident" (25 percent).

#### **Confident Will Be Able to Fully Retire Comfortably**

Very confident

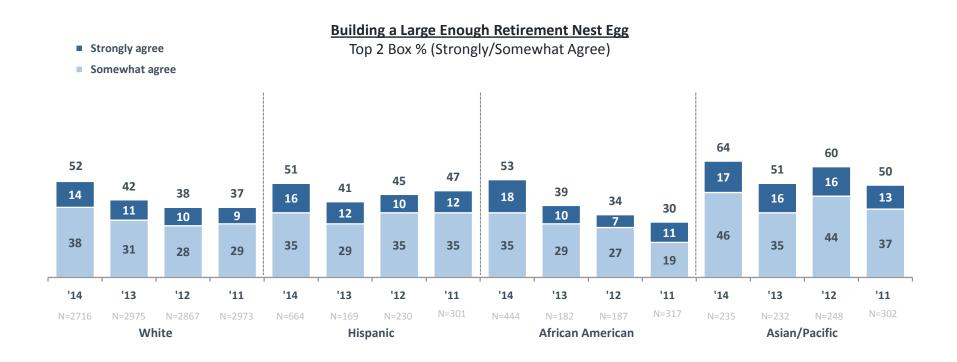
Top 2 Box % (Strongly/Somewhat Confident)

Somewhat confident



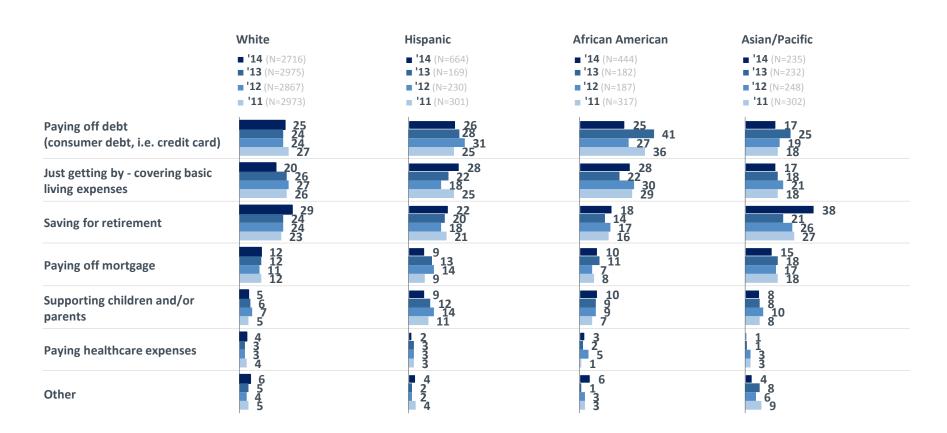
# Building a Large Enough Nest Egg

Confidence levels in building a large enough nest egg increased across all ethnic groups. Asian workers are most likely to feel they are doing so. White, Hispanic, and African American workers share similar confidence levels.



#### **Greatest Financial Priority**

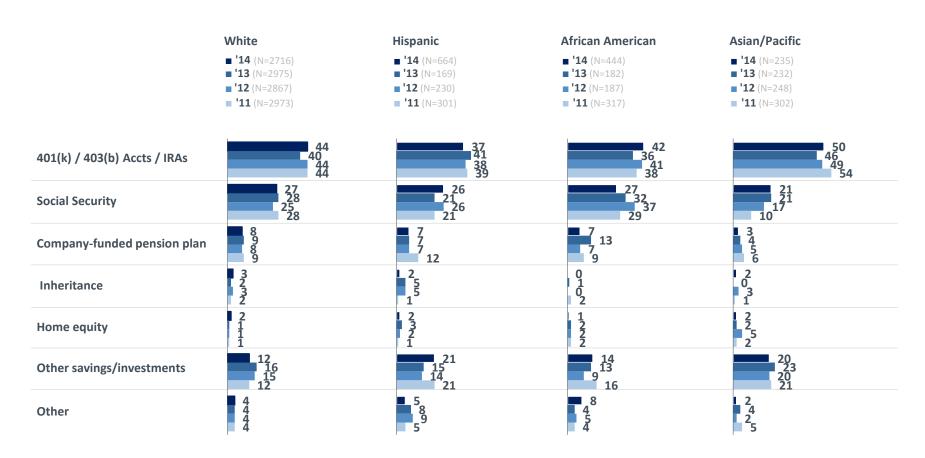
"Paying off debt" and "just getting by" are the two most frequently cited top financial priorities among ethnic groups. Asian and White workers cited "saving for retirement" as their greatest priority, while African American workers were least likely to say that saving for retirement is their top priority.



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#### **Primary Source of Retirement Income**

Workers across all ethnic groups continue to share similar expectations for retirement income – 401(k)s or similar accounts. Asian workers are most likely to rely on 401(k)s or similar accounts as their primary source of retirement income. African American, Hispanic and White workers all show similar anticipated reliance on Social Security.



## Retirement Benefits: Importance Compared to Other Benefits

Workers in all ethnic groups view employee-funded retirement plans as second only to health insurance in importance.



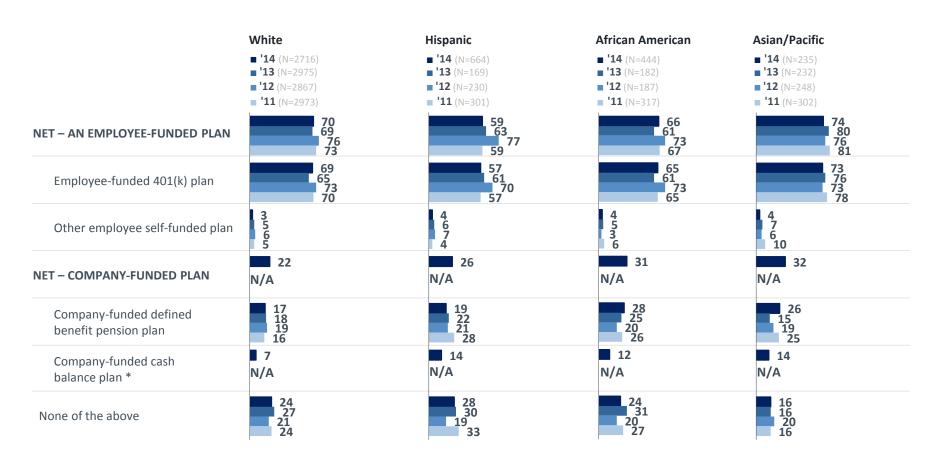
<sup>\*</sup>Note: Choices added in '12 Wave

BASE: Full and Part-time

## **Retirement Benefits Currently Offered**

Q1180. Which of the following retirement benefits does your company currently offer to you, personally? Select all that apply.

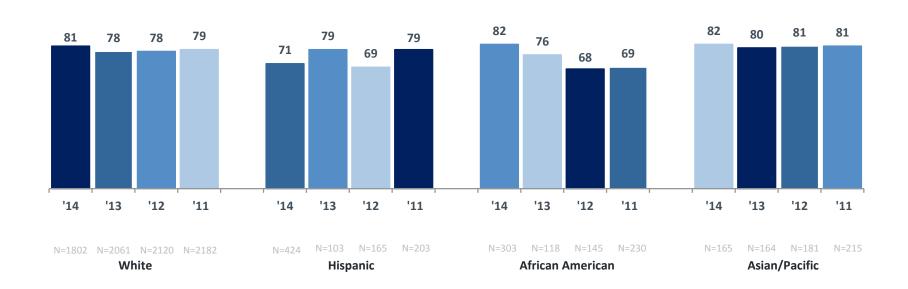
Asian workers are the most likely to have an employee-funded plan offered to them, while Hispanic workers are the least likely.



#### **Retirement Plan Participation Rates**

When offered, participation rates in a company employee-funded retirement plan is high across all ethnic groups. In 2014, the participation rate among Hispanic workers is lower than other ethnicities.

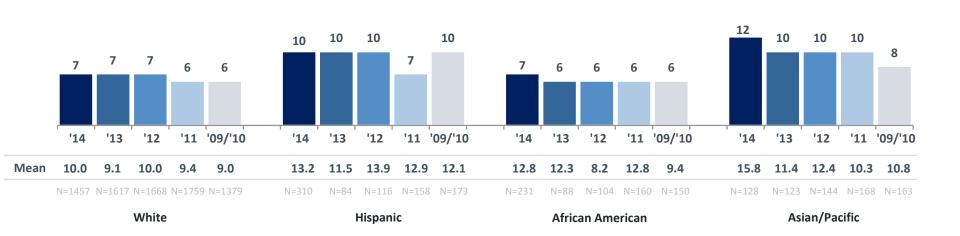
# Participation in Company's Employee-funded Retirement Savings Plan, % Indicate "Yes"



#### **Plan Contribution Rates**

Of workers who currently participate in an employee-funded retirement plan, contribution rates are highest among Asian and Hispanic workers with median rates of 12 percent and 10 percent, respectively.

#### **Contribution Rate, Median %**



#### **Estimated Retirement Savings Needs**

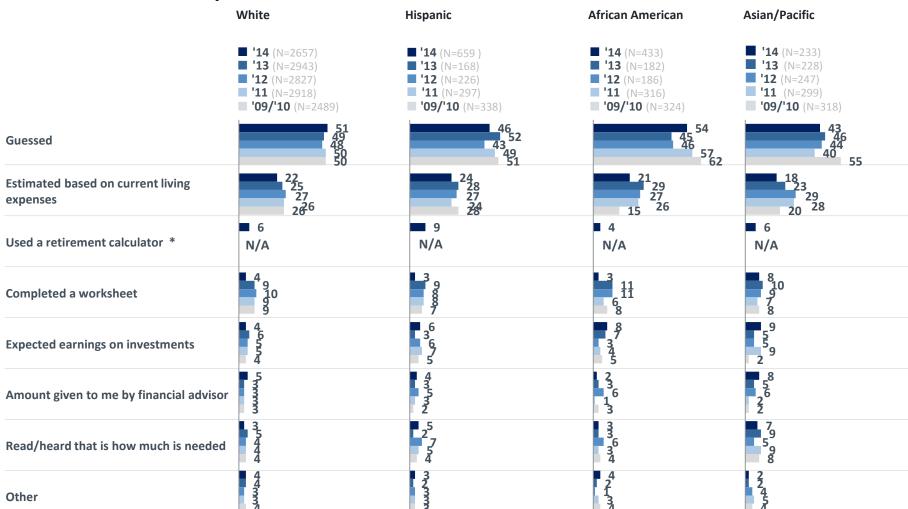
White and Asian workers estimate they will need to have saved \$1 million by the time they retire in order to feel financially secure. Hispanic and African American workers estimate they will need \$650,000 and \$500,000 (medians), respectively.

	White			Hispanic				African American				Asian/Pacific				
	'14	'13	'12	'11	'14	'13	'12	'11	'14	'13	'12	'11	'14	'13	'12	'11
	N=2716	N=2975	N=2867	N=2973	N=664	N=169	N=230	N=301	N=444	N=182	N=187	N=317	N=235	N=232	N=248	N=302
\$2m or more	27	16	17	19	24	17	17	12	27	11	9	14	39	27	29	27
\$1m to less than \$2m	23	22	23	23	18	16	22	17	14	10	14	15	35	29	23	25
\$500k to less than \$1m	22	23	23	24	19	27	19	21	19	25	17	20	10	15	18	17
\$100k to less than \$500k	18	26	27	24	26	26	21	29	23	31	34	30	9	20	15	15
Less than \$100k	9	13	10	8	12	15	20	19	17	23	26	21	7	10	14	15
Not sure	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Median	\$1m	\$500k	\$500k	\$700k	\$650k	\$500k	\$500k	\$500k	\$500k	\$300k	\$250k	\$400k	\$1m	\$1m	\$1m	\$1m

Note: The median is estimated based on the approximate midpoint of the range of each response category. Non-responses are excluded from the estimate.

#### **Basis of Estimated Retirement Savings Needs**

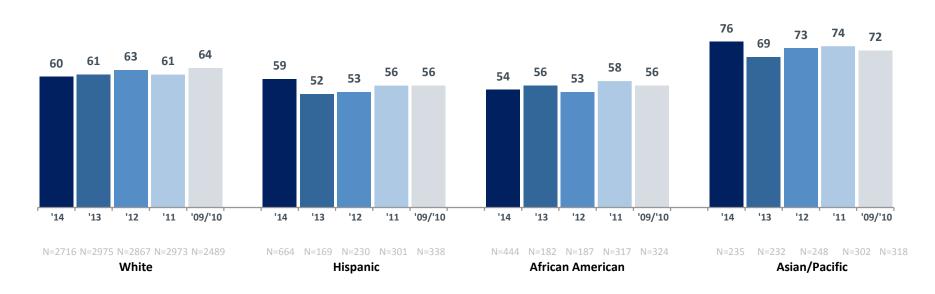
Among those who provided an estimate of their retirement savings needs, White and African American workers are more likely to have guessed at what that number should be. Hispanic workers are most likely to have used a retirement calculator.



## Saving For Retirement Outside of Workplace

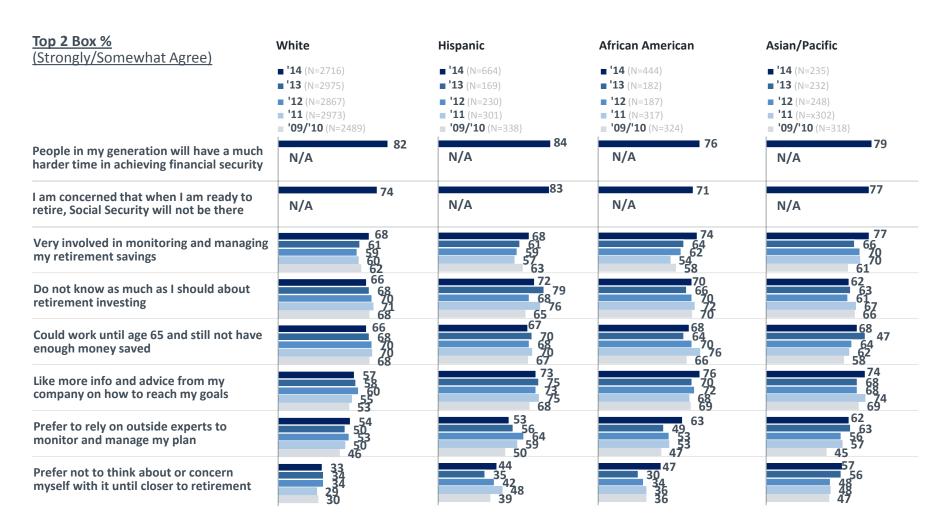
A majority of all ethnic groups save for retirement outside of work. Asian workers are the most likely to do so, while African American workers are the least likely ethnic group to save for retirement outside of work.

#### Currently Saving Outside of Work, % Indicate "Yes"



#### **Retirement Preparation and Involvement**

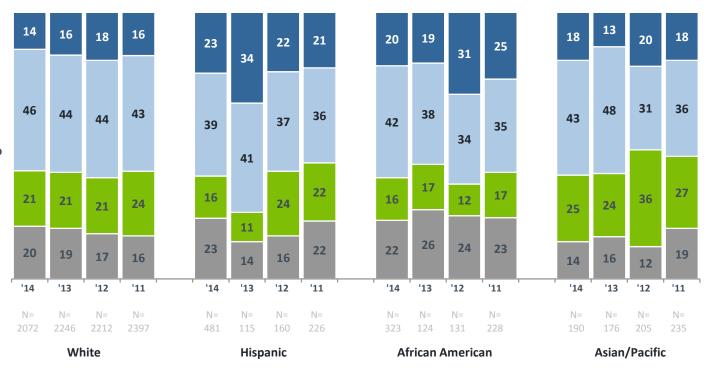
Hispanic, African American, and Asian workers are more likely than White workers to agree that they would like more information and advice from their company on how to reach their retirement goals.



#### **Asset Allocation**

Hispanic and African American workers are more likely than White workers to invest their retirement savings mostly in bonds, money market funds, cash and other stable investments. Across the ethnicities, one in five are "not sure" how their retirement savings are invested.

- Mostly in bonds, money market funds, cash and other stable investments
- Relatively equal mix of stocks and investments such as bonds, money market funds and cash
- Mostly in stocks, with little or no money in investments such as bonds, money market funds and cash
- Not sure



\*Note: Small base size; interpret with caution

## Most Influential Info Source for Retirement Planning & Investing

Financial planners continue to be the most influential for White workers, while Hispanic, African American, and Asian workers are more likely to be most influenced by financial websites and online newspapers, magazines, and blogs.

#### **Single Most Influential Source (%)**

	White			Hispanic				African American				Asian/Pacific				
	'14	'13	'12	'11	'14	'13	'12	'11	'14	'13	'12	'11	'14	'13	'12	'11
	N=1369	N=2975	N=2867	N=2973	N=407	N=169	N=230	N=301	N=249	N=182	N=187	N=317	N=142	N=232	N=248	N=302
Financial planner/broker	23	23	21	22	14	12	13	13	14	16	19	9	13	16	11	15
Friends/Family	14	15	16	15	17	17	17	26	15	13	8	14	16	24	21	22
Financial websites	9	7	8	13	14	13	9	16	10	13	7	8	21	14	19	18
Retirement plan provider website	7	8	7	10	6	5	4	7	9	9	7	14	5	3	5	6
Online newspapers, magazines, and blogs *	3	3	4	N/A	6	11	6	N/A	8	4	5	N/A	8	13	5	N/A
Financial-related tv shows	3	2	2	2	3	2	6	4	4	5	6	2	2	2	4	3
Retirement calculators	3	2	3	3	2	1	6	5	2	4	2	5	2	2	2	1
Accountant	3	3	3	2	3	4	2	2	2	3	0	2	1	4	0	2
Employer	4	3	5	3	7	8	4	3	6	7	9	12	2	1	7	5
Print newspapers/magazines	3	3	3	4	2	3	5	4	2	1	3	4	4	6	3	9
Plan provider printed material	2	4	2	4	1	1	3	1	2	2	2	5	0	0	1	3
Insurance agent	1	1	1	1	3	2	2	1	1	2	0	0	1	2	1	0
Lawyer	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Social media *	0	0	0	N/A	1	1	0	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	0	1	4	N/A
Other	4	4	3	4	3	2	4	2	4	3	5	4	4	3	2	2
None	24	22	21	19	17	17	16	16	19	18	26	20	19	11	15	13

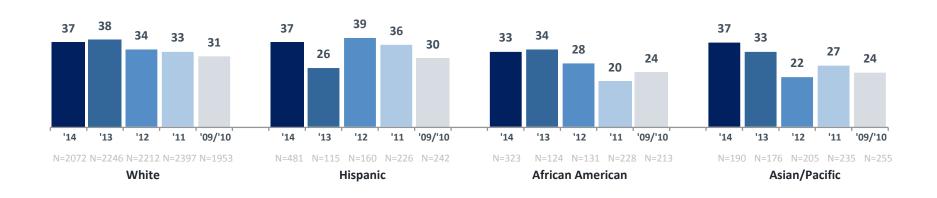
<sup>\*</sup>Choices added in '12 Wave

BASE: Full and Part-time

#### **Use a Professional Financial Advisor**

Regardless of race/ethnicity, a similar level of workers currently saving for retirement use a professional financial advisor to help them manage their retirement savings or investments.

# <u>Use a Professional Financial Advisor,</u> % Indicate "Yes"

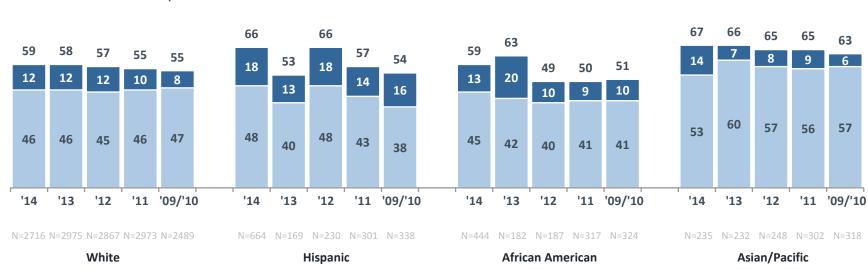


## **Retirement Strategy: Written Plans**

The number of Hispanic workers who have a plan for retirement has increased significantly since last year while the number of African American workers who have a written plan has dropped significantly since last year.

#### % Indicate "Have Plan"

- I have a plan, but it is not written down
- I have a written plan



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# **Appendix**

Respondent Profiles
Comparison of Full- and Part-Time
Workers

# **Profile of Respondents – Total Respondents**

Gender       Male     53%     57%     36%       Female     47%     43%     64%       Age       18 - 19     2%     0%     6%       20 - 24     7%     5%     13%       25 - 29     11%     11%     9%       30 - 34     10%     10%     8%       35 - 39     11%     12%     7%
Female         47%         43%         64%           Age         18 - 19         2%         0%         6%           20 - 24         7%         5%         13%           25 - 29         11%         11%         9%           30 - 34         10%         10%         8%           35 - 39         11%         12%         7%
Age     18 - 19     2%     0%     6%       20 - 24     7%     5%     13%       25 - 29     11%     11%     9%       30 - 34     10%     10%     8%       35 - 39     11%     12%     7%
18 - 19     2%     0%     6%       20 - 24     7%     5%     13%       25 - 29     11%     11%     9%       30 - 34     10%     10%     8%       35 - 39     11%     12%     7%
20 - 24     7%     5%     13%       25 - 29     11%     11%     9%       30 - 34     10%     10%     8%       35 - 39     11%     12%     7%
25 - 29
30 - 34 10% 10% 8% 35 - 39 11% 12% 7%
35 - 39 11% 12% 7%
11/0 12/0 //0
40.44
40 - 44 11% 12% 5%
45 - 49 12% 13% 10%
50 - 54 11% 11% 8%
55 - 59 13% 13% 10%
60 - 64 7% 7% 8%
65 and over 6% 4% 14%
MEAN 43.8 43.8 43.8
MEDIAN 44 44 45
Ethnicity
White, non-Hispanic 64% 64% 64%
Hispanic 16% 16% 17%
African American 11% 10% 12%
Asian/Pacific 6% 6% 5%
Other/Mixed 2% 2% 2%
Decline to answer 1% 1% 0%

	Full- & Part-time N=4143	Full-time N=3046	Part-time N=1097
Level of Education			
Less than high school graduate	3%	2%	3%
High school graduate	26%	24%	33%
Some college or trade school	33%	31%	40%
College graduate	25%	27%	16%
Some grad. school/grad. degree	13%	15%	8%
Marital Status			
Married	56%	57%	49%
Single, never married	27%	25%	36%
Divorced/widowed/separated	11%	11%	11%
Civil union/domestic partnership	6%	7%	3%
Type of Area Lived In			
Large city	23%	24%	21%
Small city	19%	18%	21%
Suburbs	43%	44%	41%
Rural area	15%	14%	16%

# Profile of Respondents - Total Respondents, continued

	Full- & Part-time N=4143	Full-time N=3046	<b>Part-time</b> N=1097		Full- & Part-time N=4143	Full-time N=3046	Part-time N=1097
HH Income				Amount in Current Employer's Retirement Plan	(N=2753)	(N=2300)	(N=453)
Less than \$25,000	8%	6%	19%	(Those with qualified plans currently offered to them) Less than \$5,000	14%	13%	22%
\$25,000 to less than \$50,000	19%	18%	24%	\$5,000 to less than \$10,000	7%	6%	13%
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	21%	22%	19%	\$10,000 to less than \$25,000	9%	9%	9%
\$75,000 to less than \$100,000	16%	17%	13%	\$25,000 to less than \$50,000	11%	11%	12%
\$100,000 to less than \$150,000	20%	22%	13%	\$50,000 to less than \$100,000	16%	17%	9%
\$150,000 or more	11%	12%	6%	\$100,000 to less than \$250,000	18%	18%	13%
Not sure	0%	0%	0%	. ,	12%	12%	8%
Decline to answer	5%	4%	6%	\$250,000 or more Not sure	5%	5%	6%
MEAN	\$79,593.40	\$84,033.60	\$62,449.20	Decline to answer	9%	9%	9%
MEDIAN	\$61,639.30	\$66,778.80	\$43,633.50	- MEAN	\$91,097.60	\$94,800.20	
HH Amount Saved for Retirement				MEDIAN	\$41,970.50		
Less than \$5,000	11%	10%	18%	Community Delivery Desires			
\$5,000 to less than \$10,000	4%	4%	5%	Company's Primary Business	220/	2.40/	1.00/
\$10,000 to less than \$25,000	7%	7%	7%	Professional services Service industries	23% 18%	24% 14%	18% 32%
\$25,000 to less than \$50,000	9%	9%	7%		15%	17%	32% 7%
\$50,000 to less than \$100,000	13%	14%	11%	Manufacturing	15% 7%		7% 4%
\$100,000 to less than \$250,000	14%	15%	9%	Transportation/Comm./Utilities	3%	7% 3%	2%
\$250,000 or more	22%	23%	19%	Agriculture/Mining/Construction	35%	34%	37%
Not sure	9%	8%	13%	Some other type of business	35%	34%	37%
Decline to answer	10%	10%	11%	Number of Employees			
MEAN	\$117,213.60	\$121,509.80	\$99,506.90	10-499 (NET)	48%	47%	49%
MEDIAN	\$62,587.20	\$67,313.00	\$40,633.90	10 to 24	12%	10%	17%
	φο <b>Σ</b> ,307.20	ψ07,313.00	ψ 10,033.30	25 to 99	20%	20%	19%
Occupation				100 to 499	16%	17%	13%
Professional/Medical/Technical	23%	25%	13%	500+ (NET)	52%	53%	51%
Clerical/ Service/Administration	20%	20%	23%	500 to 999	6%	6%	6%
Managerial or business owner	15%	18%	6%	1,000 or more	46%	46%	45%
Blue-Collar/Production	12%	13%	10%	MEAN	801.0	808.6	772.2
Sales	12%	10%	19%	MEDIAN	473	498	370
Teacher/Education	0%	0%	1%				
Some Other Occupation	17%	14%	28%				
Joine Other Occupation	1/70	1470	2070				

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