Schroders

2022 US RETIREMENT SURVEY

Retirement report

Study shows that a comfortable retirement may be hard to reach

Findings on retirement readiness from the Schroders 2022 US Retirement Survey

Working Americans ages 45 and older believe that on average it will take \$1.1 million in savings to enjoy a comfortable retirement. The obvious question is: How many people will achieve this financial cushion? Not very many, according to the Schroders 2022 US Retirement Survey.

About one quarter (24%) of working Americans say they expect to have at least \$1 million in savings when they retire, while another 20% expect to have between \$500,000 and \$1 million saved. More than half (56%) say they expect to have less than \$500,000 saved, including 36% forecasting less than \$250,000 in savings.

\$1.1M

That's how much in savings it will take to retire comfortably, on average, according to working Americans

Of those in the critical age range nearing retirement (60-67 years old), 69% report they will have less than \$500,000, including a significant 54% reporting they will have less than \$250,000 saved for retirement. The relative upside is 16% said they will reach at least \$1 million in savings.

Is a financially "comfortable" retirement possible? Yes it is, but unfortunately, that's not the case for most retirees today, as only 37% describe their retirement as "comfortable." An equal number said their retirement is "not great, not bad." And while 3% said they are "living the dream," 18% said they are struggling, and 5% are "living the nightmare."

On the doorstep of retirement, readiness declines 4%

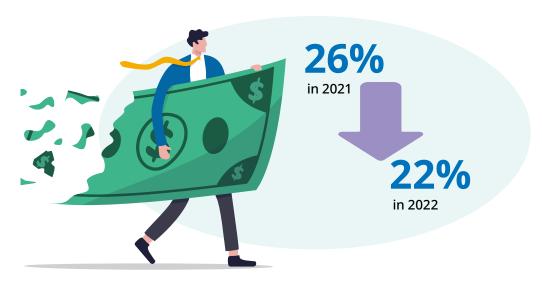
Percentage of respondents nearing retirement age (60-67 years old) who said they had enough money to retire:

Inflation soars into the picture as leading retirement concern

"These are seriously challenging times, and they seem to be taking a toll on the American worker and their belief about achieving a comfortable retirement. This year, inflation is the number one concern Americans have about their retirement, and next year, it may be something else. Whatever the challenge, it can't derail our focus on saving and preparing for retirement."



Joel Schiffman Head of Intermediary Distribution, North America, Schroders



Inflation the #1 concern

The muted expectations that respondents seem to be expressing about retirement may be due to the barrage of unforeseen challenges since the beginning of the pandemic.

More specifically, the top concerns today that Americans have about their retirement include:

65% Inflation lessening the value of assets	64% Higher than expected healthcare costs	53% A major market downturn significantly reducing assets
52% A health issue draining savings	49% Taxes reducing my retirement savings	49% Not being able to afford the lifestyle they desire

navigate challenging, volatile times. It can help them take advantage of defined contribution plans and IRAs and understand how the money they save now will drive income in retirement. The good news is it's never too late to embark on the planning process and improve retirement readiness"

"Retirement planning provides a

critical roadmap to help investors



Deb Boyden Head of US Defined Contribution, Schroders

Workers to keep working

. . .

Amid these concerns, a substantial 69% of working Americans plan to work in retirement. The primary reasons cited include:

To cover basic living expenses	56%
Stay busy	51%
Keep active and in good health	49%

And those basic living expenses might be higher than planned. A considerable number of retirees (44%) say their expenses in retirement are higher than expected, while just 8% say expenses are less than expected.

Planning not a priority. Why? It's overwhelming and life is uncertain...

Unfortunately, that barrage of ever-changing challenges may also be influencing investor confidence in retirement planning, which could have a devastating impact on retirement savings and income.

Fewer than one in four respondents (23%) report having a written retirement plan to guide their decisions, while 40% have done some planning but don't have a formal plan and 37% have not done any planning.

Among those without a plan, 76% find the idea of planning overwhelming and **56% believe it doesn't make sense because life is so uncertain.**

... but when planning is done it's useful

However, among those who have done retirement planning:



91%

say their plan has been useful to them, with 33% saying it has been critical to putting them on a better path for retirement



9%

report that they don't pay attention to their plan

About the survey

The Schroders 2022 US Retirement Survey was conducted by 8 Acre Perspective among 1,000 US investors nationwide ages 45 –75 from February 17, 2022 – February 28, 2022. The median household income for working Americans surveyed is \$75,000.

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