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2017 Retirement Confidence Survey (RCS)
EBRI Policy Forum

Research Institute

Craig Copeland May 11, 2017



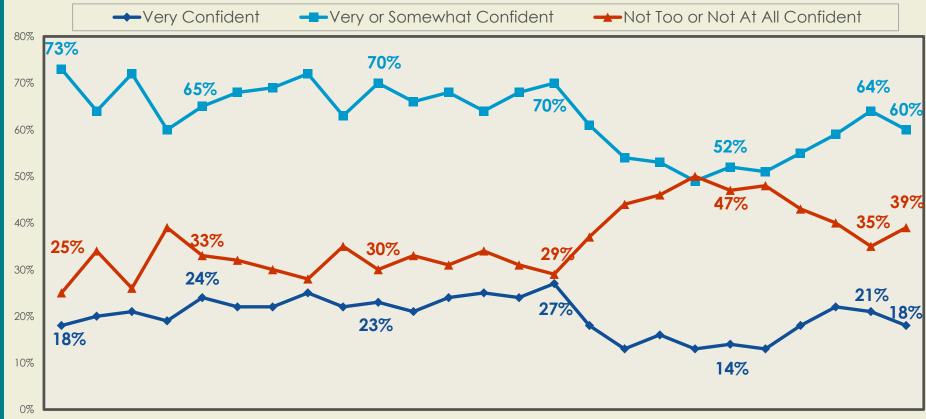
RCS Overview

- The results for the 27th annual survey of worker and retiree confidence about retirement was released March 21, 2017.
- The survey was conducted from January 6 through January 13, 2017.
- The survey was conducted online, rather than by phone, for the first time this year.
- The survey contained 1,671 interviews of Americans ages 25 or older (1,082 workers and 589 retirees).
- The margin of errors were \pm 3.04 percentage points for all workers and \pm 4.12 percentage points for all retirees (sample sizes are noted on figures).
- Topics included in the survey:
 - Trends on retirement confidence, expected and actual retirement ages, and preparation for retirement
 - New questions on issues related to financial wellness
 - Various other topics pertaining to retirement



60% of Workers Feel Confident That They Will Have Enough Money for a Comfortable Retirement, but Only 18% are Very Confident

Overall, how confident are you that you (and your spouse) will have enough money to live comfortably throughout your retirement years? (2017 Workers n=1,082)



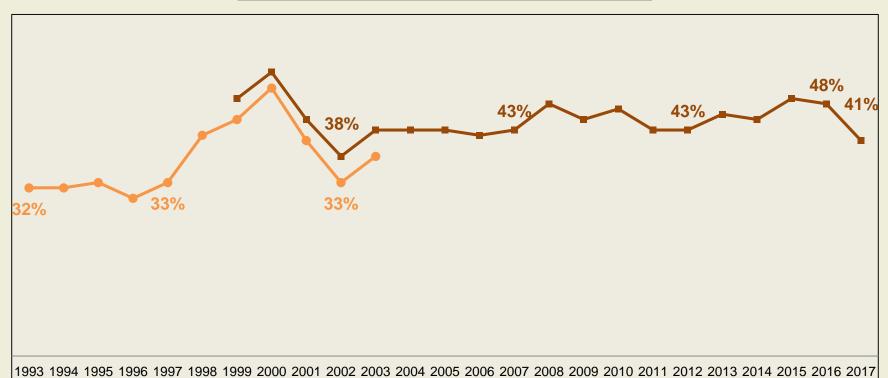
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Approximately 40% of Workers Have Tried to Figure Out How Much They Need to Save for Retirement

Have you (or your spouse) tried to figure out how much money you will need to have saved by the time you retire so that you can live comfortably in retirement? (2017 Workers n=967, percent yes)







67% of Workers Without a Retirement Plan Have Less Than \$1,000 in Savings, Versus just 9% of Those With a Plan

In total, about how much money would you say you (and your spouse) currently have in savings and investments, not including the value of your primary residence or defined benefit plan assets? (2017 Workers n=876)

	2007	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2017 Have Plan*	2017 No Plan
Less than \$1,000	າ 35%	30%	28%	36%	28%	26%	24%	9%	67%
\$1,000 - \$9,999	35%	18	18	16	17	16	14	13	17
\$10,000 - \$24,999	13	12	11	8	12	12	9	11	3
\$25,000 - \$49,999	10	10	9	9	9	10	8	9	4
\$50,000 - \$99,999	13	10	10	9	10	10	10	12	4
\$100,000 - \$249,999	15	11	12	11	10	12	15	19	3
\$250,000 or more	14	10	12	11	14	14	20	26	2

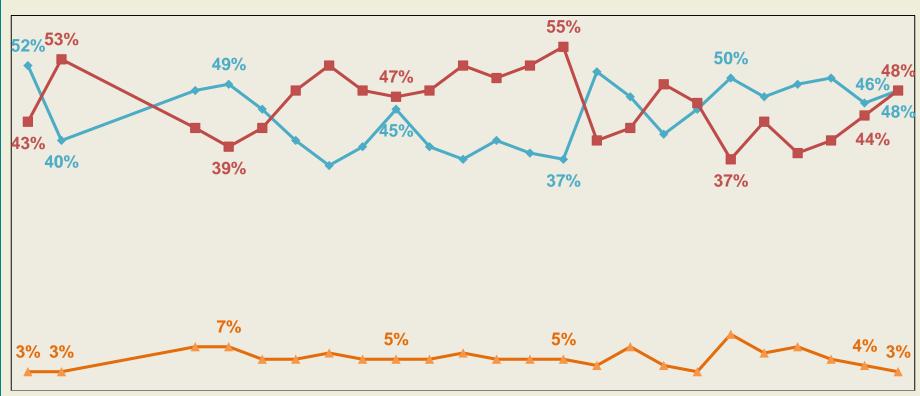
^{*}Have Retirement Plan defined as respondent or spouse having at least one of the following: IRA, DC plan, or DB plan



Nearly 50% of Retirees Retired Earlier Than Planned

Did you retire earlier than you planned, later than you planned, or about when you planned? (2017 Retirees n=589)



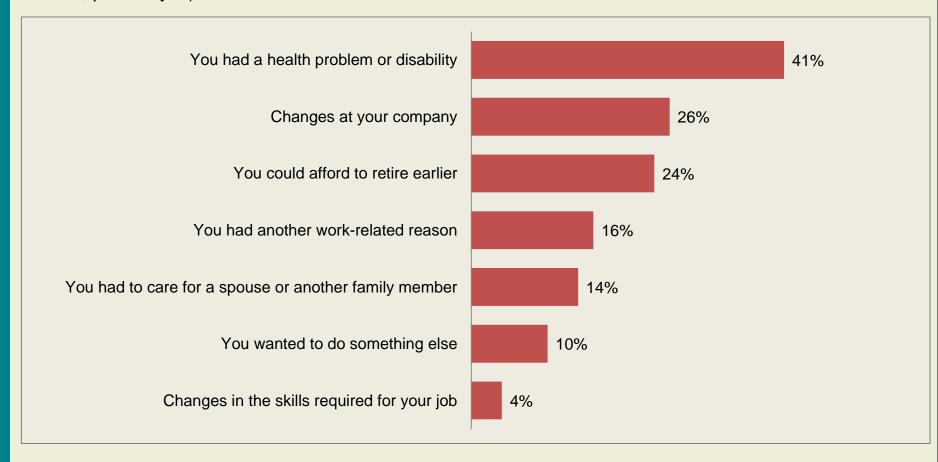


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A Health Problem or Disability is the Predominant Reason for Early Retirement

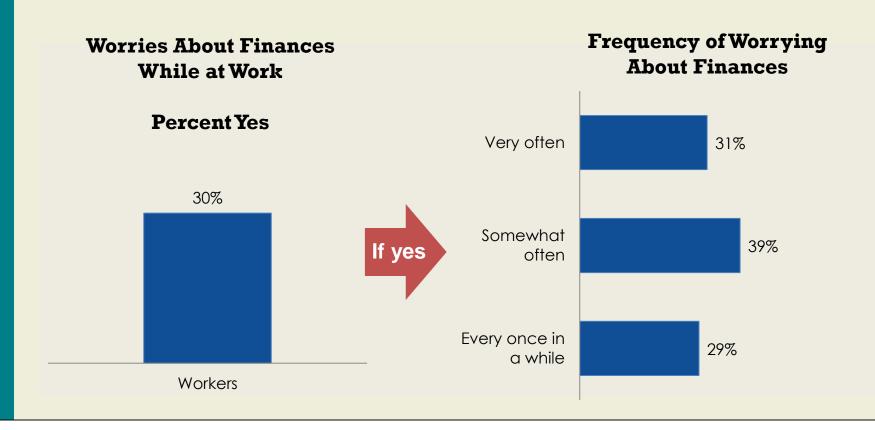
Did you retire earlier than you planned because...? (Retirees retiring earlier than planned n=280, percent yes)





30% of Employed Workers Worry About Their Personal Finances While at Work

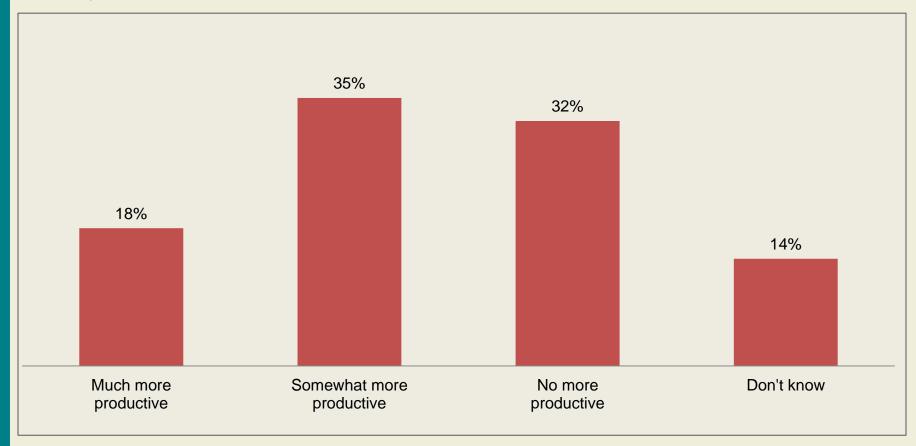
Do you worry about your personal finances while you are at work? (Employed full-time or part-time, workers n=799); How often do you worry about your personal finances while you are at work? (Worries about finances at work, workers n=233)





Of Those Who Worry About Finances at Work, Over Half Say That They Would be More Productive at Work if They Were *Not* Worried About Their Finances

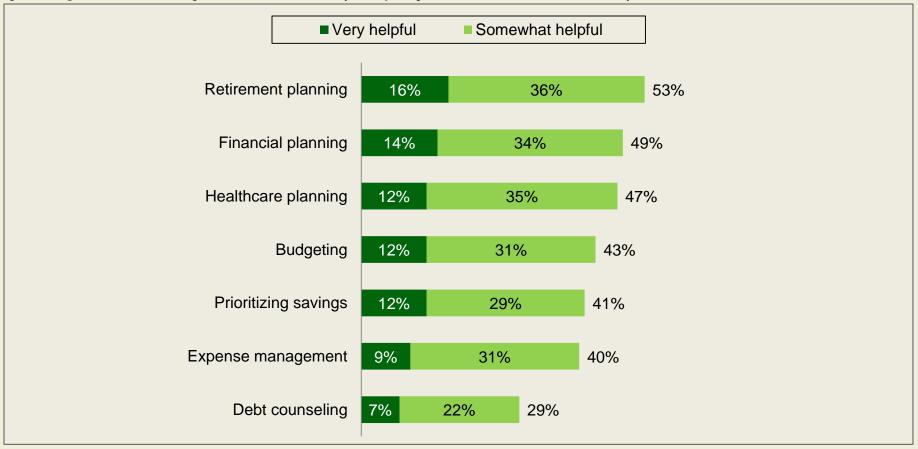
To what extent, if at all, do you think you would be more productive at work if you did not spend time worrying about personal finances? (Worries about finances at work, workers n=233)





Workers Say That Retirement and Financial Planning Programs Could Help Increase Productivity at Work

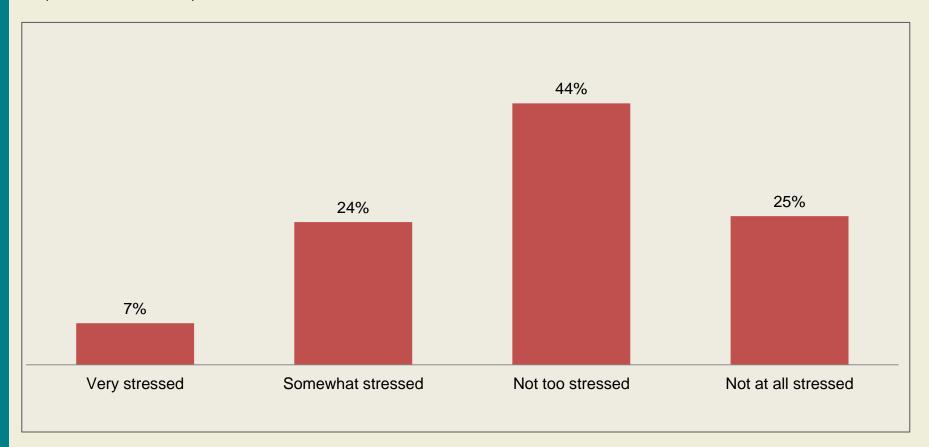
How helpful, if at all, do you think the following programs would be for increasing **your productivity at work...?** (Employed, workers n=799)





Approximately 30 Percent of Workers are Stressed About Preparing for Retirement

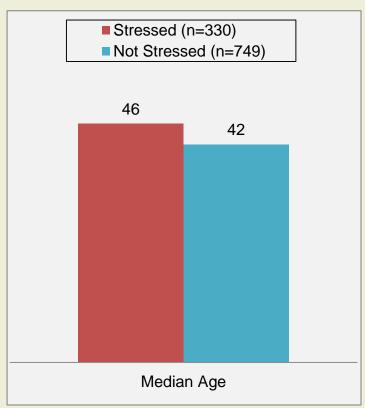
Currently, how stressed are you mentally or emotionally, if at all, about preparing for retirement? (Workers n=1,082)

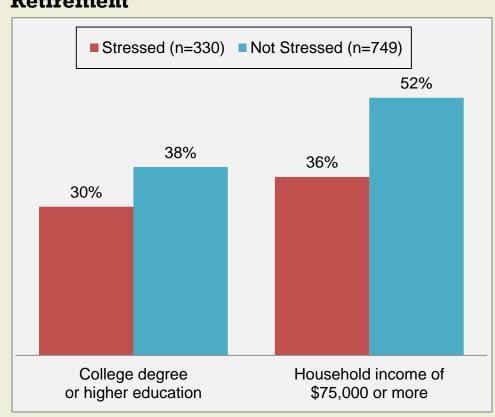




Workers Who are Stressed About Retirement Preparation Tend to be Older and Have Lower Incomes

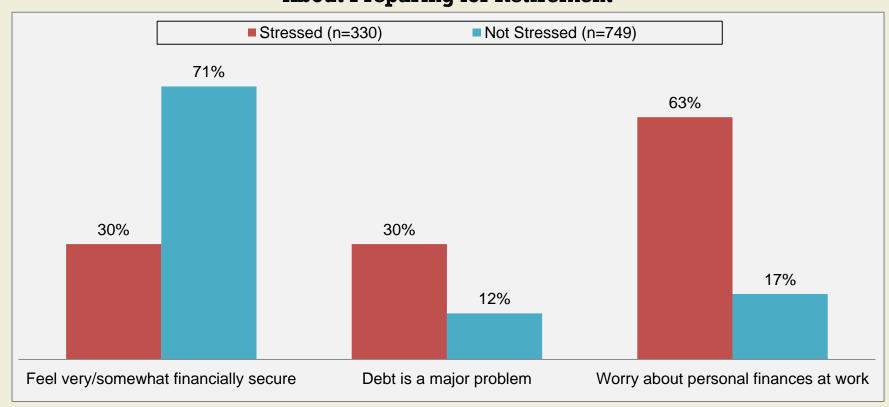
Characteristics of Workers Who Are Stressed About Preparing for Retirement





Stressed Workers Are More Likely to Consider Debt a Problem and to Feel Less Financially Secure. They Are Also More Likely to Worry About Their Personal Finances at Work.

Financial Situation of Workers Who Are Stressed About Preparing for Retirement



ebri.org Source: 2017 Retirement Confidence Survey.

Research Institute

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