

Your Retirement in Focus

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The Final Countdown

As you start closing in on the day you'll retire, it's important to focus on your retirement savings and how you'll manage them during this next stage of your life. Here are a few suggestions to help you transition from saving to spending as you prepare for the final countdown to retirement.



Boost Your Balance

Have you accumulated enough money for your retirement? A lot will depend on how long you expect to be retired. Although inflation has been low in recent years, it's still smart to consider it in your planning. Over a long retirement, price increases - especially in health care costs - could reduce your buying power and make it difficult for you to maintain your standard of living.

If you're concerned that your retirement savings might not be on target to meet your goals, you still have time to save more. Increasing the amount you're contributing to your plan can give your savings a boost and help put your retirement finances on firmer ground. If you're age 50 or older, your employer's plan may allow you to make "catch-up" contributions. Taking advantage of this opportunity could help you accumulate even more money in your plan.

Adjust Your Holdings

As you near retirement, you have less time to recover from market downturns. You may want to shift a portion of your portfolio from stocks to less volatile investments, such as bonds and cash investments. Consider keeping some money in stocks, since they have the potential to stay ahead of inflation.

Explore Distribution Options

Consider your plan's distribution options and their tax implications. Instead of taking a lump-sum payment, consider arranging for the distribution to be directly transferred to an individual retirement account or keeping the funds in your plan account (if allowed) so you won't have to pay a large tax bill in just one year.*

Impact of Inflation

Over time, inflation could erode the purchasing power of your retirement savings.

Now	In 5 Years	In 10 Years	In 15 Years	In 20 Years	In 25 Years
\$1,000	\$863	\$744	\$642	\$554	\$478

Figures assume a 3% annual inflation rate. Actual inflation could be higher or lower than 3%.

* Qualified distributions from a designated Roth account are not subject to federal income taxes. Source: DST

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