Retirement Fast Facts...Did You Know?

- 46% of Americans have less than $10,000 saved for retirement. (Employment Benefit Research Institute)
- 40% of baby boomers now plan to work until they die. (AARP)
- 36% of Americans say they don’t contribute anything at all to their savings. [CNBC]
- 87% of adults say they are not confident about having money for a comfortable retirement. (Lifehappens.org)
- Expected retirement age is up to 67 from age 63. (Zero Hedge)
- For the next 20 years, about 10,000 baby boomers will turn 65 each day (US News & World Report)
- The recent economy has not been cooperative for investors attempting to build a nest egg. Those nearing retirement age have the most to lose if the market declines and limited years to continue contributing to retirement accounts. At the same time, the average life expectancy continues to rise, which is even more years of retirement baby boomers need to save for.
- 1 in 6 older Americans lives below the poverty line (US Dept. of Health and Human Services)
- The cost of assisted living facilities has risen to a national median rate of $3,300 per month, which works out to be $39,600 per year.
- Americans 55 and older now account for 20 percent of all bankruptcies, with the majority due to medical and funeral expenses.
- Americans currently live for an average of 18.7 years after age 65. Retirement could represent 20% to 25% of your entire life. (MSN Money)
- Inflation cuts the value of your money in half every 22 years. Over nearly the past 100 years, U.S. inflation (as measured by the Consumer Price Index) has gone up at an average rate of 3.21% a year. At that rate, prices double every 22 years. (MSN Money)
According to figures from the Federal Reserve, a $100,000 short-term CD would have generated $4,780 in annual income five years ago. By late 2012, that same CD would generate only $190 in annual income.

According to the Employee Benefit Research Institute, 46% of all American workers have less than $10,000 saved for retirement and 29% of all American workers have less than $1,000 saved for retirement. (FinancialPlanning.com)

A study conducted by Boston College’s Center for Retirement Research has found that American workers are $6.6 trillion short of what they need to retire comfortably.

Over the next five years, the health and medical insurance industry’s revenue is forecast to increase at an average annualized rate of 5% to more than $865.8 billion – putting even more pressure on most retiring Boomers’ underfunded retirement nest eggs. (FinancialPlanning.com)

Back in 1991, half of all American workers planned to retire before they reached the age of 65. Today, that number has plunged to just 23%. (FinancialPlanning.com)

According to a recent survey of Baby Boomers by the American Association of Retired Persons, 40% plan to work "until they drop."

74% of American workers expect to have to work even though they are "retired." (FinancialPlanning.com)

The biggest financial risk these retirees face is not knowing how long they will live and therefore, how long their resources will have to last. 70 million American workers lack access or do not participate in any employer-based retirement benefits. With Social Security covering only 38 percent of pre-retirement income, saving and planning for retirement falls entirely on these workers. (Americans For Secure Retirement)

Women face unique challenges in having a financially secure retirement. Women are at a much higher risk than men of facing economic uncertainty and on average, enter retirement with considerably less savings. A typical 25-year-old woman with a college degree will make about $523,000 less in wages over her lifetime than a typical college-educated man. Women also work an average of 12 years less than men do over their lifetimes often due to family caregiving.
responsibilities. Fewer work years translates to fewer years saving or participating in an employment-based retirement program, meaning most saving and planning for retirement falls to these women. (Americans For Secure Retirement)

- Just 14% of American workers are very confident they will have enough money to live comfortably in retirement. (Source: Employee Benefit Research Institute)

- Only 16% of American workers are very confident that their investments will grow in value. (Source: Employee Benefit Research Institute)

- Nearly 75% of retirees have not saved enough and said they would save more if they could do it all over again. (Source: Health and Retirement Study)

- 56% of workers report that they have not attempted to calculate how much money they will need to have saved for a comfortable retirement. (Source: Employee Benefit Research Institute)