



TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Axios/Ipsos Retirement Survey

Conducted by Ipsos using KnowledgePanel®
A survey of the American general population (ages 18+)
Interview dates: July 7-9, 2023
Number of interviews: 1,238

Margin of error: +/- 2.9 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for all respondents

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled. Reduced bases are unweighted values.

NOTE: * = less than 0.5%, - = no respondents, N/A = not applicable

Annotated Questionnaire:

1. At what age, if ever, do you think you'll retire?

	Total (N=1,238)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=577)	Not retired 55+ (N=247)
18-54	4%	-	6%	0%
55-59	3%	-	5%	2%
60-64	10%	-	13%	17%
65+	33%	-	42%	57%
I don't think I will ever retire	20%	-	29%	23%
I have already retired	26%	100%	-	-
Skipped	3%	-	5%	*

2. Which of the following reasons best describes why you don't think you will ever retire?

	Total (N=217)	Total Retired (N=0)	Not retired <55 (N=159)	Not retired 55+ (N=58)
I don't want to retire	19%	-	15%	33%
I can't or won't be able to afford to retire	70%	-	75%	50%
Other	10%	-	8%	16%
Skipped	2%	-	2%	-





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3. At what age did you retire?

	Total (N=414)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=0)	Not retired 55+ (N=0)
18-54	22%	22%	-	-
55-59	19%	19%	-	-
60-64	29%	29%	-	-
65+	28%	28%	-	-
Skipped	2%	2%	-	-

4_1. How often, if at all, do/did you do the following? – Talk about saving for retirement with your friends

	Total (N=1,238)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=577)	Not retired 55+ (N=247)
Often	10%	9%	10%	11%
Sometimes	26%	30%	23%	28%
Once or twice in the past, but not often	23%	21%	21%	30%
I have never done this	41%	40%	44%	30%
Skipped	1%	1%	2%	*

4_2. How often, if at all, do/did you do the following? – Talk about saving for retirement with your immediate family

	Total (N=1,238)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=577)	Not retired 55+ (N=247)
Often	19%	21%	17%	25%
Sometimes	30%	31%	29%	34%
Once or twice in the past, but not often	21%	20%	22%	21%
I have never done this	28%	28%	30%	19%
Skipped	1%	1%	2%	*



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4_3. How often, if at all, do/did you do the following? – Talk to a financial planner about retirement

	Total (N=1,238)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=577)	Not retired 55+ (N=247)
Often	11%	19%	6%	13%
Sometimes	14%	18%	10%	22%
Once or twice in the past, but not often	17%	16%	17%	18%
I have never done this	57%	46%	65%	46%
Skipped	1%	1%	2%	*

4_4. How often, if at all, do/did you do the following? – Considered how you would be able to afford retirement

	Total (N=1,238)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=577)	Not retired 55+ (N=247)
Often	28%	31%	23%	41%
Sometimes	32%	31%	33%	34%
Once or twice in the past, but not often	17%	17%	19%	11%
I have never done this	21%	20%	24%	14%
Skipped	2%	1%	2%	*

5_1. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – The point of working hard your adult life is to be able to have a nice retirement

	Total (N=1,238)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=577)	Not retired 55+ (N=247)
Strongly agree	35%	42%	30%	41%
Somewhat agree	45%	43%	47%	42%
Somewhat disagree	12%	9%	14%	13%
Strongly disagree	5%	4%	6%	3%
Skipped	2%	1%	3%	1%
Agree (Net)	80%	86%	77%	83%
Disagree (Net)	18%	13%	20%	16%

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5_2. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – I have no regrets about my retirement planning

	Total (N=1,238)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=577)	Not retired 55+ (N=247)
Strongly agree	28%	52%	17%	26%
Somewhat agree	32%	30%	32%	33%
Somewhat disagree	27%	11%	33%	29%
Strongly disagree	11%	6%	13%	12%
Skipped	3%	1%	5%	1%
Agree (Net)	59%	82%	49%	59%
Disagree (Net)	38%	17%	46%	41%

5_3. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – Society forgets about people once they retire

	Total (N=1,238)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=577)	Not retired 55+ (N=247)
Strongly agree	13%	12%	13%	17%
Somewhat agree	40%	40%	40%	39%
Somewhat disagree	32%	33%	32%	32%
Strongly disagree	12%	13%	12%	10%
Skipped	3%	1%	4%	1%
Agree (Net)	53%	52%	53%	57%
Disagree (Net)	44%	47%	43%	42%

5_4. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – The point of retirement is being able to spend more time with family and friends

	Total (N=1,238)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=577)	Not retired 55+ (N=247)
Strongly agree	39%	36%	39%	43%
Somewhat agree	47%	50%	46%	46%
Somewhat disagree	9%	9%	8%	10%
Strongly disagree	3%	4%	3%	-
Skipped	2%	1%	3%	1%
Agree (Net)	86%	86%	85%	89%
Disagree (Net)	12%	13%	12%	10%

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5_5. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – It's easier for people to take care of their mental, emotional, and physical well-being after they have retired

	Total (N=1,238)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=577)	Not retired 55+ (N=247)
Strongly agree	19%	20%	19%	17%
Somewhat agree	43%	48%	41%	43%
Somewhat disagree	28%	24%	29%	34%
Strongly disagree	7%	7%	8%	5%
Skipped	3%	2%	4%	1%
Agree (Net)	62%	68%	60%	60%
Disagree (Net)	35%	31%	36%	39%

5_6. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – I would prefer to work as long as I can and not fully retire

	Total (N=824)	Total Retired (N=0)	Not retired <55 (N=577)	Not retired 55+ (N=247)
Strongly agree	11%	-	10%	16%
Somewhat agree	29%	-	28%	31%
Somewhat disagree	29%	-	30%	28%
Strongly disagree	27%	-	28%	24%
Skipped	3%	-	4%	0%
Agree (Net)	40%	-	38%	48%
Disagree (Net)	57%	-	58%	52%

6. Will you retire at the time you expected?

	Total (N=799)	Total Retired (N=0)	Not retired <55 (N=553)	Not retired 55+ (N=246)
Yes, I will retire at the age I planned on	29%	-	27%	36%
No, I will have to retire later than I planned	18%	-	17%	23%
No, I will retire earlier than I expected	2%	-	2%	1%
Not sure	50%	-	53%	40%
Skipped	1%	-	1%	1%

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7. What share of your monthly expenses do you think Social Security will cover in retirement?

	Total (N=799)	Total Retired (N=0)	Not retired <55 (N=553)	Not retired 55+ (N=246)
Less than 25% of my expenses	37%	-	38%	31%
25%-49% of my expenses	24%	-	22%	33%
50%-74% of my expenses	17%	-	16%	21%
75%-100% of my expenses	6%	-	5%	8%
More than 100% of my expenses	1%	-	2%	1%
I don't have or qualify for Social Security benefits	13%	-	15%	5%
Skipped	2%	-	2%	1%

8_1. Do you plan to utilize any of the following to fund your retirement? – Retirement accounts (e.g., 401k, 403b, IRA)

	Total (N=799)	Total Retired (N=0)	Not retired <55 (N=553)	Not retired 55+ (N=246)
Yes	66%	-	64%	70%
No	17%	-	15%	21%
Don't know	17%	-	20%	7%
Skipped	1%	-	1%	1%

8_2. Do you plan to utilize any of the following to fund your retirement? – Social Security

	Total (N=799)	Total Retired (N=0)	Not retired <55 (N=553)	Not retired 55+ (N=246)
Yes	68%	-	62%	87%
No	13%	-	15%	6%
Don't know	19%	-	23%	7%
Skipped	*	-	*	-

8_3. Do you plan to utilize any of the following to fund your retirement? – A pension or pensions

	Total (N=799)	Total Retired (N=0)	Not retired <55 (N=553)	Not retired 55+ (N=246)
Yes	30%	-	28%	38%
No	45%	-	44%	50%
Don't know	24%	-	28%	11%
Skipped	1%	-	1%	*

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8_4. Do you plan to utilize any of the following to fund your retirement? – Personal savings, investments, annuities, or insurance

	Total (N=799)	Total Retired (N=0)	Not retired <55 (N=553)	Not retired 55+ (N=246)
Yes	68%	-	67%	70%
No	15%	-	15%	17%
Don't know	16%	-	18%	11%
Skipped	1%	-	*	2%

8_5. Do you plan to utilize any of the following to fund your retirement? – Part-time employment

	Total (N=799)	Total Retired (N=0)	Not retired <55 (N=553)	Not retired 55+ (N=246)
Yes	33%	-	31%	41%
No	26%	-	26%	25%
Don't know	40%	-	42%	32%
Skipped	*	-	*	1%

8_6. Do you plan to utilize any of the following to fund your retirement? – Value of your home, home equity, or a reverse mortgage

	Total (N=799)	Total Retired (N=0)	Not retired <55 (N=553)	Not retired 55+ (N=246)
Yes	17%	-	18%	14%
No	49%	-	45%	62%
Don't know	34%	-	37%	23%
Skipped	*	-	*	1%

8_7. Do you plan to utilize any of the following to fund your retirement? – Help from family

	Total (N=799)	Total Retired (N=0)	Not retired <55 (N=553)	Not retired 55+ (N=246)
Yes	11%	-	11%	9%
No	62%	-	59%	75%
Don't know	26%	-	29%	15%
Skipped	1%	-	1%	*

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9_1. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? – I feel like I'm just getting by right now and am unable to save for retirement and the future

	Total (N=799)	Total Retired (N=0)	Not retired <55 (N=553)	Not retired 55+ (N=246)
Strongly agree	25%	-	27%	19%
Somewhat agree	24%	-	26%	19%
Somewhat disagree	27%	-	26%	31%
Strongly disagree	22%	-	19%	30%
Skipped	1%	-	2%	1%
Agree (Net)	49%	-	53%	38%
Disagree (Net)	49%	-	46%	61%

9_2. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? – I've not been able to do some things I wanted to in the past year because of price increases

	Total (N=799)	Total Retired (N=0)	Not retired <55 (N=553)	Not retired 55+ (N=246)
Strongly agree	32%	-	34%	27%
Somewhat agree	36%	-	37%	32%
Somewhat disagree	18%	-	16%	26%
Strongly disagree	13%	-	12%	15%
Skipped	1%	-	1%	1%
Agree (Net)	68%	-	71%	58%
Disagree (Net)	30%	-	28%	41%

9_3. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? – I've had to change my retirement plans due to economic factors beyond my control

	Total (N=799)	Total Retired (N=0)	Not retired <55 (N=553)	Not retired 55+ (N=246)
Strongly agree	16%	-	16%	15%
Somewhat agree	28%	-	28%	28%
Somewhat disagree	30%	-	31%	26%
Strongly disagree	25%	-	23%	29%
Skipped	2%	-	2%	1%
Agree (Net)	43%	-	43%	44%
Disagree (Net)	55%	-	55%	55%

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9_4. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? – I plan to move to someplace with lower cost of living when I retire

	Total (N=799)	Total Retired (N=0)	Not retired <55 (N=553)	Not retired 55+ (N=246)
Strongly agree	16%	-	18%	12%
Somewhat agree	35%	-	36%	30%
Somewhat disagree	29%	-	29%	29%
Strongly disagree	17%	-	14%	27%
Skipped	2%	-	2%	1%
Agree (Net)	52%	-	54%	42%
Disagree (Net)	47%	-	44%	56%

9_5. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? – I plan to move to someplace prettier, with nicer weather, or better amenities when I retire

	Total (N=799)	Total Retired (N=0)	Not retired <55 (N=553)	Not retired 55+ (N=246)
Strongly agree	15%	-	17%	9%
Somewhat agree	36%	-	39%	25%
Somewhat disagree	28%	-	25%	39%
Strongly disagree	19%	-	17%	26%
Skipped	2%	-	2%	1%
Agree (Net)	51%	-	56%	34%
Disagree (Net)	47%	-	42%	65%

9_6. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? – I think I'll feel better after I retire

	Total (N=799)	Total Retired (N=0)	Not retired <55 (N=553)	Not retired 55+ (N=246)
Strongly agree	18%	-	19%	16%
Somewhat agree	44%	-	43%	50%
Somewhat disagree	25%	-	25%	25%
Strongly disagree	11%	-	12%	8%
Skipped	1%	-	2%	1%
Agree (Net)	63%	-	62%	66%
Disagree (Net)	36%	-	36%	33%

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10. Did you retire at the time you expected?

	Total (N=414)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=0)	Not retired 55+ (N=0)
Yes, I retired at the age I planned on	39%	39%	-	-
No, I had to retire later than I planned	4%	4%	-	-
No, I retired earlier than I expected	48%	48%	-	-
Not sure	10%	10%	-	-
Skipped	-	-	-	-

11. What share of your monthly expenses does Social Security cover in your retirement?

	Total (N=414)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=0)	Not retired 55+ (N=0)
Less than 25% of my expenses	19%	19%	-	-
25%-49% of my expenses	18%	18%	-	-
50%-74% of my expenses	19%	19%	-	-
75%-100% of my expenses	20%	20%	-	-
More than 100% of my expenses	5%	5%	-	-
I don't have or qualify for Social Security benefits	18%	18%	-	-
Skipped	1%	1%	-	-

12_1. Do you utilize any of the following to fund your retirement? – Retirement accounts (e.g., 401k, 403b, IRA)

	Total (N=414)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=0)	Not retired 55+ (N=0)
Yes	50%	50%	-	-
No	46%	46%	-	-
Don't know	4%	4%	-	-
Skipped	*	*	-	-

12_2. Do you utilize any of the following to fund your retirement? – Social Security

	Total (N=414)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=0)	Not retired 55+ (N=0)
Yes	76%	76%	-	-
No	21%	21%	-	-
Don't know	3%	3%	-	-
Skipped	*	*	-	-



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12_3. Do you utilize any of the following to fund your retirement? – A pension or pensions

	Total (N=414)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=0)	Not retired 55+ (N=0)
Yes	54%	54%	-	-
No	41%	41%	-	-
Don't know	4%	4%	-	-
Skipped	*	*	-	-

12_4. Do you utilize any of the following to fund your retirement? – Personal savings, investments, annuities, or insurance

	Total (N=414)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=0)	Not retired 55+ (N=0)
Yes	62%	62%	-	-
No	34%	34%	-	-
Don't know	3%	3%	-	-
Skipped	-	-	-	-

12_5. Do you utilize any of the following to fund your retirement? – Part-time employment

	Total (N=414)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=0)	Not retired 55+ (N=0)
Yes	11%	11%	-	-
No	86%	86%	-	-
Don't know	2%	2%	-	-
Skipped	*	*	-	-

12_6. Do you utilize any of the following to fund your retirement? – Value of my home, home equity, or a reverse mortgage

	Total (N=414)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=0)	Not retired 55+ (N=0)
Yes	9%	9%	-	-
No	86%	86%	-	-
Don't know	4%	4%	-	-
Skipped	-	-	-	-



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12_7. Do you utilize any of the following to fund your retirement? – Help from family

	Total (N=414)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=0)	Not retired 55+ (N=0)
Yes	9%	9%	-	-
No	88%	88%	-	-
Don't know	2%	2%	-	-
Skipped	1%	1%	-	-

13_1. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? – I feel like I'm just getting by right now

	Total (N=414)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=0)	Not retired 55+ (N=0)
Strongly agree	14%	14%	-	-
Somewhat agree	25%	25%	-	-
Somewhat disagree	27%	27%	-	-
Strongly disagree	33%	33%	-	-
Skipped	1%	1%	-	-
Agree (Net)	39%	39%	-	-
Disagree (Net)	60%	60%	-	-

13_2. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? – I've not been able to do some things I wanted to in the past year because of price increases

	Total (N=414)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=0)	Not retired 55+ (N=0)
Strongly agree	20%	20%	-	-
Somewhat agree	32%	32%	-	-
Somewhat disagree	24%	24%	-	-
Strongly disagree	23%	23%	-	-
Skipped	*	*	-	-
Agree (Net)	52%	52%	-	-
Disagree (Net)	47%	47%	-	-

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13_3. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? – I've had to change my retirement plans due to economic factors beyond my control

	Total (N=414)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=0)	Not retired 55+ (N=0)
Strongly agree	9%	9%	-	-
Somewhat agree	21%	21%	-	-
Somewhat disagree	23%	23%	-	-
Strongly disagree	46%	46%	-	-
Skipped	1%	1%	-	-
Agree (Net)	30%	30%	-	-
Disagree (Net)	69%	69%	-	-

13_4. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? – I moved to someplace with lower cost of living when I retired

	Total (N=414)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=0)	Not retired 55+ (N=0)
Strongly agree	8%	8%	-	-
Somewhat agree	13%	13%	-	-
Somewhat disagree	22%	22%	-	-
Strongly disagree	56%	56%	-	-
Skipped	1%	1%	-	-
Agree (Net)	21%	21%	-	-
Disagree (Net)	78%	78%	-	-

13_5. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? – I moved to someplace prettier, with nicer weather, or better amenities when I retired

	Total (N=414)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=0)	Not retired 55+ (N=0)
Strongly agree	9%	9%	-	-
Somewhat agree	13%	13%	-	-
Somewhat disagree	16%	16%	-	-
Strongly disagree	61%	61%	-	-
Skipped	*	*	-	-
Agree (Net)	22%	22%	-	-
Disagree (Net)	77%	77%	-	-



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13_6. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? – Now that I've retired, I feel better than ever

	Total (N=414)	Total Retired (N=414)	Not retired <55 (N=0)	Not retired 55+ (N=0)
Strongly agree	23%	23%	-	-
Somewhat agree	45%	45%	-	-
Somewhat disagree	22%	22%	-	-
Strongly disagree	9%	9%	-	-
Skipped	*	*	-	-
Agree (Net)	68%	68%	-	-
Disagree (Net)	31%	31%	-	-





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About the Study

This Axios/Ipsos poll was conducted July 7-9, 2023, by Ipsos in English using the probability-based KnowledgePanel®. This poll is based on a nationally representative probability sample of 1,238 general population adults age 18 or older. The sample includes an oversample of 210 adults age 55 and over.

The margin of sampling error for this study is plus or minus 2.9 percentage points at the 95% confidence level, for results based on the entire sample of adults. The margin of sampling error takes into account the design effect, which was 1.08 for all respondents.

In our reporting of the findings, percentage points are rounded off to the nearest whole number. As a result, percentages in a given table column may total slightly higher or lower than 100%. In questions that permit multiple responses, columns may total substantially more than 100%, depending on the number of different responses offered by each respondent.

The survey was conducted using KnowledgePanel, the largest and most well-established online probability-based panel that is representative of the adult U.S. population. Our recruitment process employs a scientifically developed addressed-based sampling methodology using the latest Delivery Sequence File of the USPS – a database with full coverage of all delivery points in the US. Households invited to join the panel are randomly selected from all available households in the U.S. Persons in the sampled households are invited to join and participate in the panel. Those selected who do not already have internet access are provided a tablet and internet connection at no cost to the panel member. Those who join the panel and who are selected to participate in a survey are sent a unique password-protected log-in used to complete surveys online. As a result of our recruitment and sampling methodologies, samples from KnowledgePanel cover all households regardless of their phone or internet status and findings can be reported with a margin of sampling error and projected to the general population.

The data for the total sample were weighted to adjust for gender by age, race/ethnicity, education, Census region, metropolitan status, and household income. The demographic benchmarks came from the 2022 March Supplement of the Current Population Survey (CPS).

- Gender (Male, Female) by Age (18–29, 30–44, 45–59 and 60+)
- Race/Hispanic Ethnicity (White Non-Hispanic, Black Non-Hispanic, Other, Non-Hispanic, Hispanic, 2+ Races, Non-Hispanic)
- Education (Less than High School, High School, Some College, Bachelor or higher)
- Census Region (Northeast, Midwest, South, West)
- Metropolitan status (Metro, non-Metro)
- Household Income (Under \$25,000, \$25,000-\$49,999, \$50,000-\$74,999, \$75,000-\$99,999, \$100,000-\$149,999, \$150,000+)





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