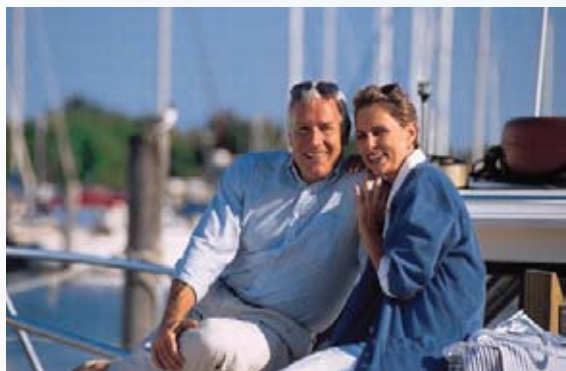




Retirement Planning



It is no secret – the quality of your retirement lifestyle will be largely dependant on your ability to replace pre-retirement income. Retirement experts agree that most of us will need about 70% of our current annual income to maintain our lifestyle once we retire.*

And with advances in health care, more and more of us are living longer than previous generations.

Where will the money come from? Even when supplemented by the income from a pension, Social Security might not be enough. Unfortunately, many people underestimate the importance of

personal savings, which can mean the difference between a comfortable retirement and a reduced standard of living. For many, personal savings and investments have become an essential component of their retirement strategy.

In evaluating your retirement goals, consider these questions:

- ✓ **When do you want to retire?**
Age 55, 60, 65. Or maybe you don't plan on ever retiring.
- ✓ **How much money will you need?**
70, 80, 90 or 100% of your current income?
- ✓ **How long will you need it?**
This largely depends on the age you plan to retire.
- ✓ **What can diminish your retirement fund?**
Your children's education, health expenses of your parents, debts, disability, etc. Are you prepared to handle these issues when/if they arise?
- ✓ **How can you increase your retirement funds between now and your planned retirement?**
Are you participating in your employer-sponsored retirement plan? Do you have other retirement savings? Are you contributing the maximum amount into retirement vehicles that are allowed under current tax law?

Being able to retire when they want and how they want are the most important financial objectives for many people. But achieving your retirement goals takes planning and perseverance. Contact a TFG financial professional to evaluate your current strategy and design a path to help ensure you reach your retirement goals.

*aarp.org - 06/05