



RETIREMENT INVESTING SIMPLIFIED

<Date>

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KEY GOALS

- ▶ Earn enough to meet your income needs and goals
- ▶ Keep pace with inflation
- ▶ Don't outlive your money
- ▶ Avoid large losses



KEY RISKS

You outlive your money or have to cut spending due to:

- ▶ Too little risk and you lose to inflation
- ▶ Too much risk to try to make up for lack of saving
- ▶ Steep investment losses soon before or after retirement

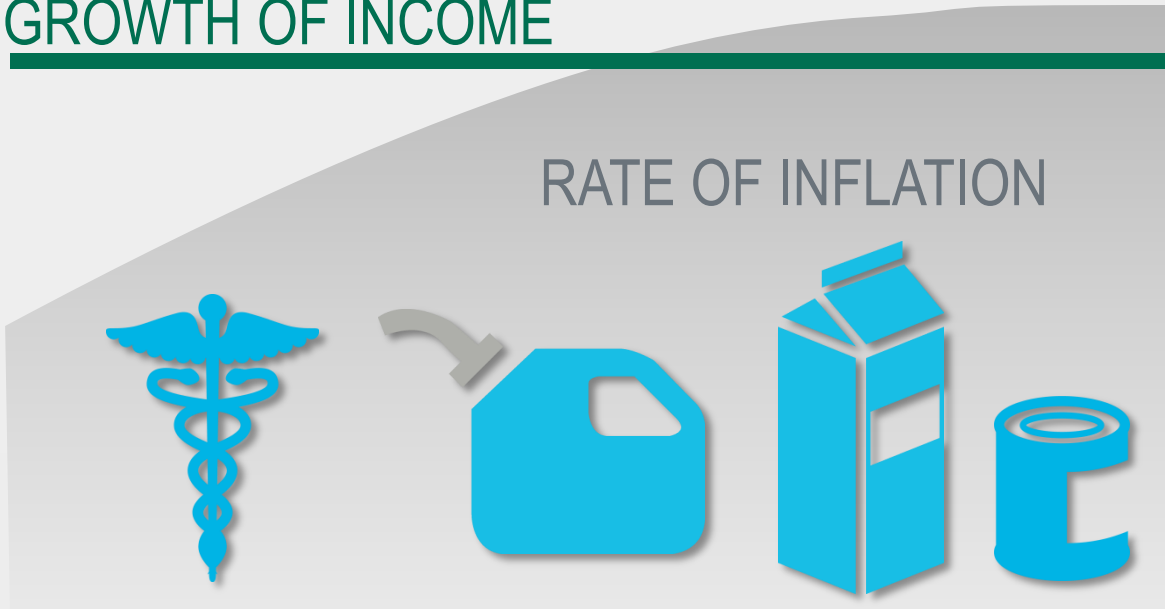


1 DON'T INVEST TOO CONSERVATIVELY

If income doesn't keep up with inflation, you may have to live on less. Health care is a key concern.

GROWTH OF INCOME

RATE OF INFLATION



DON'T BE TOO CONSERVATIVE



AGE 65
MARRIED COUPLE*

63% CHANCE

at least one spouse will live **25 years**

36% CHANCE

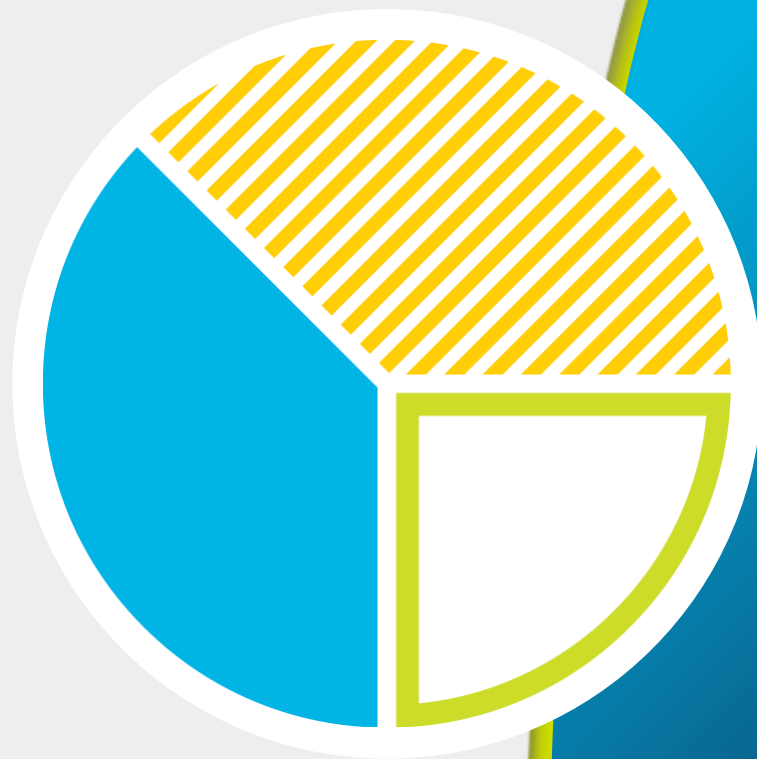
at least one spouse will live **30 years**

Retirement can last a long time. If leaving assets for loved ones, the time horizon may be much longer!

* Source: Society of Actuaries, Annuity 2000 Mortality Tables

DON'T BE TOO CONSERVATIVE

- ▶ Benefits of diversification – adding stocks **can** boost and smooth out returns¹
- ▶ On average, more likely to run out of money with 100% bond portfolio than if you include stocks²



¹ “Why Getting Too Conservative as You Age Can Hurt Your Retirement”, CBS Moneywatch (3/25/11)

² Sources: Vanguard Group (2010), T. Rowe Price (2011), Alliance Bernstein (2013)

2 DON'T INVEST TOO AGGRESSIVELY

But **too** much in stocks means too much risk

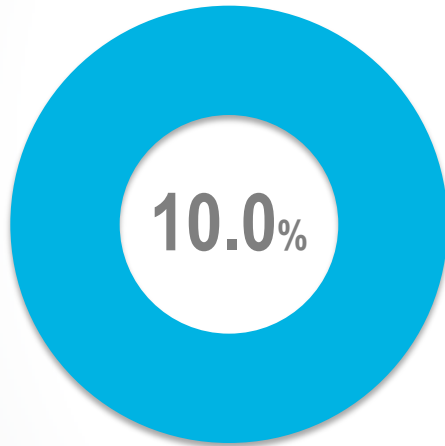
- ▶ Losses + withdrawals can be devastating
- ▶ Especially key soon before/after retirement
- ▶ Bigger ups and downs can be hard to stomach

If markets do well, smaller amounts in stocks should grow your portfolio

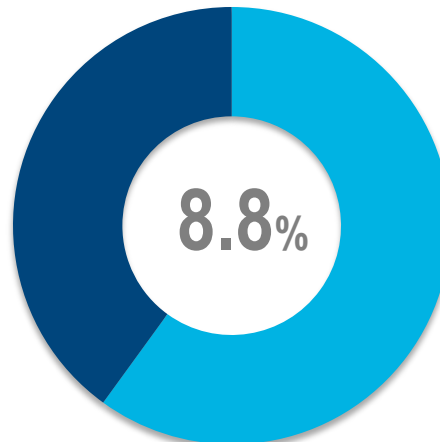
DON'T BE TOO AGGRESSIVE

Too much in stocks can mean extra risk for little extra return

100% US STOCKS



60% US STOCKS
40% TREASURY BONDS



Just slightly lower returns than 100% stock portfolio with half the volatility

For illustrative purposes only. Annual returns, 1926-2015. U.S. Stocks as represented by S&P 500.
Source: Morningstar Direct

3 CONSIDER YOUR PENSION, SOCIAL SECURITY

Some argue you should:

- ▶ Include them in your portfolio mix
- ▶ Treat them as a bond
- ▶ Shift more money to stocks if your stock allocation is then too low

PENSION, SOCIAL SECURITY AS BONDS?

- ✓ You can take more risk and/or higher withdrawals
- ✗ May lead you to take more risk than you're comfortable with
- ✗ Can't accelerate pension/Social Security payments if needed

4 BE WARY OF “DON’T TOUCH PRINCIPAL”

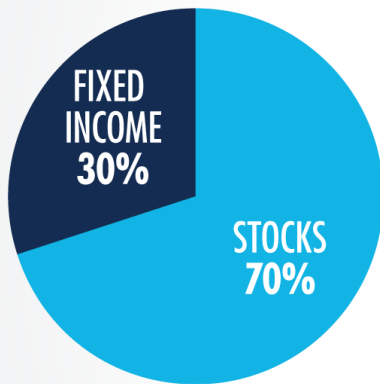
Limit withdrawals to interest and dividends?

- ✗ May lead you to overinvest in high yielding, riskier investments
- ✗ When rates rise, bond investments lose value but you get more so you spend more
- ✗ In taxable account is less tax-efficient

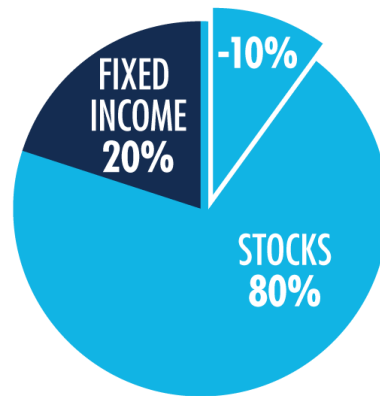
Total return is what matters

5 MANAGE RISK ONGOING – REBALANCE

Start of Year 1



End of Year 1



Rebalance –
End of Year 1



Start of Year 2



Goal – change investments so the resulting risk level again matches your target and comfort level

REBALANCING TAKEAWAYS

- ▶ **Main benefit** – disciplined strategy to manage risk, reduce potential losses
- ▶ Especially key as you near and enter retirement
- ▶ In volatile markets, may boost returns. In other markets and time periods, may lower them.
- ▶ Also aim to rebalance different types of stocks and fixed-income investments
- ▶ Non-retirement accounts – pay attention to taxes

REBALANCING – HOW OFTEN?



Assume 50-50% stock/bond mix is your target. How often should you rebalance back to that mix?¹

- ▶ **By time period** – every 1-2 years
- ▶ **By percentage threshold** – if stocks or bonds are more than 55%.²

¹ For illustrative purposes only

² Consider different, smaller thresholds for rebalancing within different types of stocks or bonds.

REBALANCING – HOW OFTEN?

- ✓ **By time period** – following schedule helps take the emotions away
- ✓ **By threshold** – can adjust quickly to major market movements
- ✗ **By time period** – could be slow to adjust to major market move
- ✗ **By threshold** – have to constantly monitor

6 SUPPORT YOUR INVESTMENT STRATEGY

1. Funds that auto-rebalance based on their objective
 - ▶ Target-date, target-risk, lifetime income, and most balanced funds
2. Annual rebalancing service, if available
3. Review your portfolio yearly
 - ▶ With your ICMA-RC representative
 - ▶ Update your ICMA-RC financial plan

TAKEAWAYS

- ▶ Set a goal for your investments and follow it
- ▶ Aim for balance between too little or too much risk
- ▶ Pay attention to investment risk – rebalance
- ▶ Periodically review your portfolio – say yearly
- ▶ Coordinate investment and withdrawal strategies

Coordinate your investments with your overall financial plan. Consult your ICMA-RC CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™



QUESTIONS

Learn more about investing
for and during retirement
www.icmarc.org/invest

