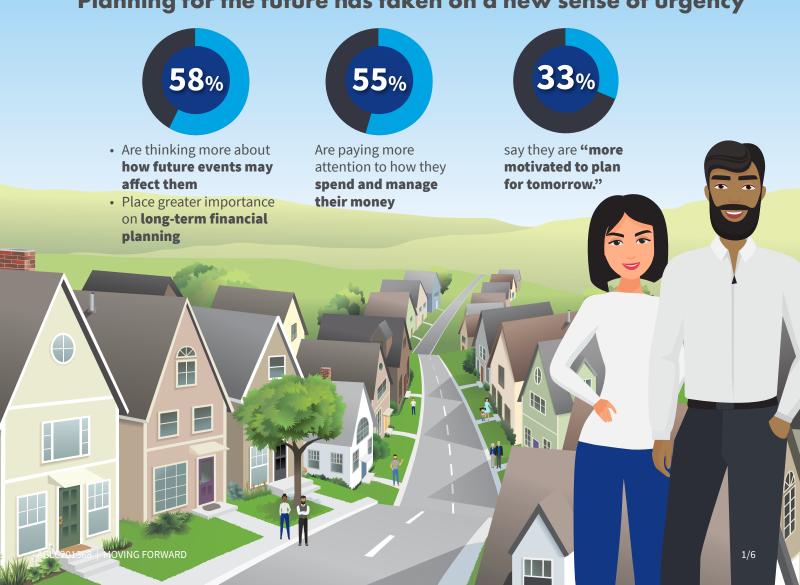


# **Moving Forward**

Planning for the future in changing times

Moving Forward, a study from AIG Life & Retirement, finds that many people see an increased value in financial planning, income protection and insurance, and the benefit of working with a financial professional in planning for a more secure financial future.

# Planning for the future has taken on a new sense of urgency





People want to be better prepared for retirement. Demand is increasing for financial solutions that protect against uncertainties.

There is a strong desire to work with financial professionals.

**66**%

say beginning to save or increasing their retirement savings is now a high priority

**59**%

say retirement planning is now a high priority, with 24% saying it is has become their highest priority

**55**%

say having protected, guaranteed income for life in retirement has become more important 91%

view products that provide income for life as valuable, with **34%** saying very valuable.

**67**%

characterize products that provide upside potential while protecting against loss as very valuable or valuable

**43**%

say getting or increasing life insurance has become more important **70**%

say working with a financial professional in the next year is a priority for them

41%

say getting advice from a financial professional is now more critical than it was before COVID-19

**58**%

of those who have a financial professional wish to now work more closely with them

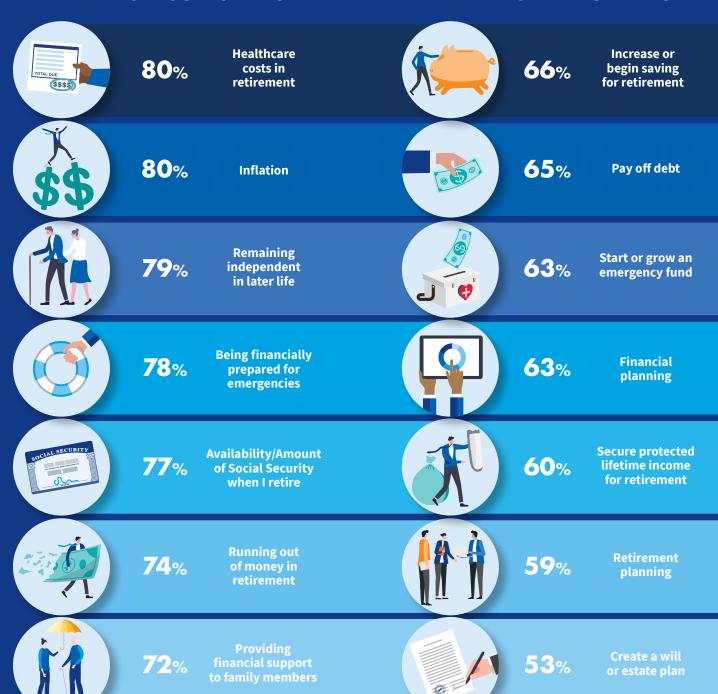


# **Concerns and priorities**

There is a high level of concern about quality of life in older age, and a desire to have a personalized strategy that balances managing today's needs and ensuring protected lifetime income in retirement.

## **TOP CONCERNS**

## **TOP PRIORITIES**





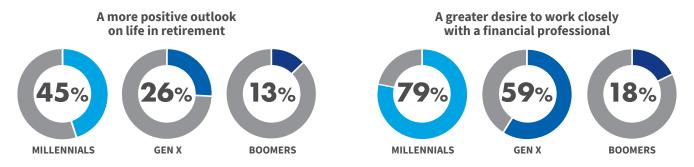


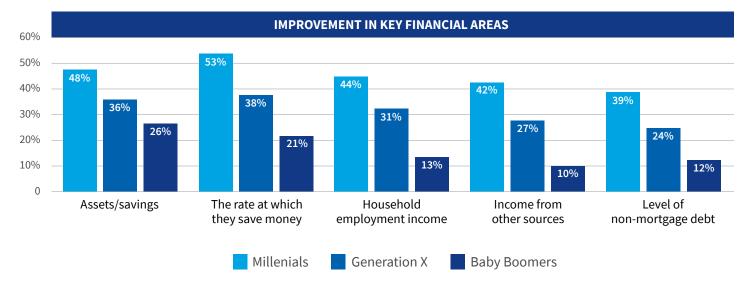
## Generational differences

Millennials are the most optimistic age group about their futures and are more likely than Gen X and Boomers to have a positive outlook on their life.

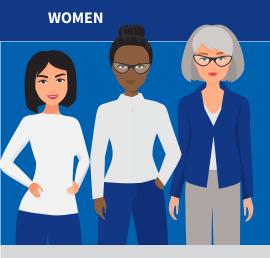
They are also more likely to believe in the importance of having financial planning goals and have a greater desire to work closely with their financial professional, if they have one.

#### Millennials are more likely than Gen X and Boomers to say they now have:









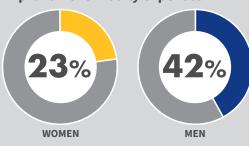
## Women

**Women are less likely than men** to see improvement in their lives and to have made positive strides financially.

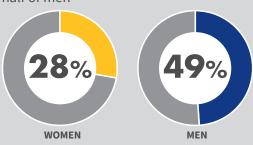
#### Women are LESS likely to say:

- Their households' situation is better now (26% v. 41%)
- Their physical health is better than pre-COVID (25% v. 40%)
- Their emotional health is better than pre-COVID (26% v. 42%)

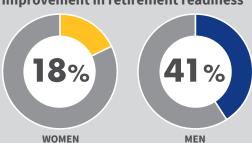
Women are less likely than men to have made **improvement in daily expenses** 



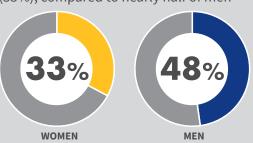
Only slightly more than one in four women say their **asset level has gone up**, compared to nearly half of men



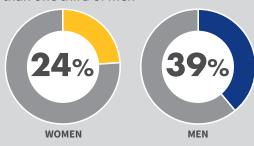
Women are less likely than men to have **made improvement in retirement readiness** 



Only one-third of women are **saving more money** (33%), compared to nearly half of men



**Employment income improved** for only one quarter of women, compared to more than one third of men





Women say they are less likely than men to **currently work with a financial professional or have a plan to do so in the future**, highlighting a crucial need to increase education and outreach programs designed to engage more women in planning for their futures.



## **Summary**

Despite recent challenges, many people are looking forward with hope about the future, including their financial well-being.

Overall, Americans are saving more, paying down debt and looking to improve their retirement outlook. Yet, in looking more deeply at life phase and gender, there are noted differences in attitudes, behaviors and priorities, highlighting opportunities to engage and educate Americans based on specific needs.

With only slightly more than a third (36%) currently working with a financial professional, there is a clear opportunity for financial professionals to connect with more clients by offering education, guidance and solutions that can help protect against uncertainties and provide protected income for life in retirement.

## **About the survey**

AIG Life & Retirement commissioned a survey of 1,000 Americans ages 22-76 with household incomes of \$40,000 or higher to understand how the pandemic may have affected attitudes, behaviors and outlook toward retirement, planning for the future, being prepared for the unexpected, and working with financial professionals. Conducted by Greenwald Research, the survey was fielded from June 17 - July 2, 2021.

AIG Life & Retirement consists of four operating segments: Individual Retirement, Group Retirement, Life Insurance and Institutional Markets. It includes the following major U.S. life insurance companies: American General Life Insurance Company; The Variable Annuity Life Insurance Company; and The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York.



We see the future in you. — AIG