



## GET THE FACTS ABOUT SOCIAL SECURITY

### THE THREE MAJOR ELEMENTS OF YOUR RETIREMENT PORTFOLIO ARE:

- Benefits from pensions
- Savings and investments
- Social Security benefits

Your Social Security benefits are one of the ways to build a secure retirement foundation. Many financial advisors say you'll need about 80% of your pre-retirement earnings before taxes and other deductions to comfortably maintain your pre-retirement standard of living.

The percentage is lower for people in the upper income brackets and higher for people with low incomes. You'll need to supplement your benefits with a pension, savings or investments.

### HOW DO YOU QUALIFY FOR SOCIAL SECURITY RETIREMENT BENEFITS?

When you work and pay Social Security taxes, you earn credits toward Social Security benefits. The number of credits you need to get retirement benefits depends on when you were born. If you were born in 1929 or later, you need 40 credits (10 years of work).

If you stop working before you have enough credits to qualify for benefits, the credits will remain on your Social Security record. If you return to work later, you can add more credits to qualify. You can't receive any retirement benefits until you have the required number of credits.

### TO HELP YOU PLAN FOR RETIREMENT, VISIT [SSA.GOV](https://ssa.gov). THERE YOU'LL FIND:

- An online Social Security statement, which gives you an estimate of the monthly benefit amounts you and your family may qualify for now and in the future
- A retirement estimator that provides a retirement benefit estimate based on current law and real-time access to your earnings record

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