GUIDE 01 · RETIREMENT

Retirement Readiness

How much is "enough"? Which account should you use? And why does the age you claim Social Security matter so much?

Am I on track? Common savings benchmarks

One widely used rule of thumb frames retirement savings as multiples of your salary. It's a gut-check, not a law of nature:

By age	Aim to have saved	Example at $60,000 salary
30	About 1× your annual salary	$60,000
40	About 3× your salary	$180,000
50	About 6× your salary	$360,000
60	About 8× your salary	$480,000
67	About 10× your salary	$600,000

BEHIND ON THESE NUMBERS?

Most people are — and it's fixable. What matters is your savings rate from here forward. Many planners suggest working toward ~15% of income (including employer match), and workers 50+ can make extra catch-up contributions the IRS allows for exactly this situation.

401(k) vs. IRA: what's the difference?

	401(k) / 403(b)	IRA
Offered by	Your employer	You open it yourself at any brokerage
Limits	Higher (set annually by the IRS)	Lower (set annually by the IRS)

jjwealthadvisory.com · jacobjohnsjj99@gmail.com · (334) 220-9821 · Book a free call: calendly.com/jacobjohnsjj99/30min

	401(k) / 403(b)	IRA
Employer match	Often yes — free money	No
Investment choices	Limited to the plan's menu	Nearly unlimited
Roth option	Many plans offer Roth 401(k)	Roth IRA (income limits apply)

A sensible order of operations: get the full employer match first (an instant 50–100% return), then consider an IRA for flexibility, then return to the 401(k). Limits change most years — check irs.gov for current numbers.

Traditional vs. Roth in one line each: Traditional = tax break now, taxed later (often better in peak earning years). Roth = no break now, tax-free later (often better early in your career).

Why Social Security claiming age matters

- Claiming at 62 can mean roughly 25–30% less per month than waiting until full retirement age (66–67 for most people today) — permanently.
- Waiting past full retirement age earns ~8% more per year until 70.
- The check at 70 can be roughly 75% larger than the check at 62 — for life, with cost-of-living adjustments applied to the bigger number.
- Waiting isn't automatically right: health, longevity, work, and spousal benefits all factor in. Treat it as a decision, not a default. See your projections at ssa.gov.

Ready to talk it through?

Every situation is different. Book a free, no-pressure call — no cost, no obligation, just clarity.

calendly.com/jacobjohnsjj99/30min

jjwealthadvisory.com · jacobjohnsjj99@gmail.com · (334) 220-9821 · Book a free call: calendly.com/jacobjohnsjj99/30min