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Recent research sheds light on unique vulnerabilities and considerations that women face when planning for their retirement.

The report, [Seventeen Facts About Women's Retirement Outlook](#) from the [Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies](#) (TCRS), shows that only about one in

ten are “very confident” that they will be able to retire comfortably. At the same time,

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caregiving, and longer life expectancies that all contribute to unique challenges in adequately saving for retirement,” says [Catherine Collinson](#), president of TCRS.

“The facts are startling and clear. Women must begin taking greater control and gain an understanding of their true retirement outlook,” said Collinson. “By confronting challenges head-on, women can acquire essential knowledge about how to achieve financial security and create plans that can help mitigate risks and steer them on a course for financial security and a more positive outlook for their retirement ambitions.”

The Seventeen Facts About Women and Retirement

1. Only 10 percent of women are “very confident” in their ability to fully retire with a comfortable lifestyle.
2. 53 percent of women plan to retire after age 65 (40 percent) or not at all (13 percent).
3. Half (50 percent) plan to work after they retire.
4. Are women being proactive steps to continue working past age 65? While 62 percent say they are staying healthy, only 54 percent are focused on performing well at their current job and 42 percent are keeping their job skills up to date.
5. Most women (64 percent) do not have a backup plan if forced into retirement sooner than expected.
6. 72 percent are saving for retirement through a workplace plan and/or outside of work in an Individual Retirement Account (IRA), mutual fund, bank account, etc. Women started saving for retirement at age 28 (median).
7. 47 percent expect their primary source of retirement income will be 401(k)/403(b) accounts/IRAs, and/or other savings and investments, while 27 percent expect to rely on Social Security.

8. 68 percent of women are offered a 401(k) or similar employee-funded retirement

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2. Women's emergency savings is just \$2,000 (estimated median).

3. 57 percent of women say that having access to information that is easier to understand would motivate them to learn more about retirement.
4. Only a quarter of women (25 percent) are aware of the Saver's Credit tax credit.
5. 38 percent of Baby Boomer women say they know a great deal or quite a bit about Social Security.
6. 82 percent of women are concerned that Social Security won't be there for them when they are ready to retire.
7. Women's number one retirement priority for the new President and Congress is fully funding Social Security by implementing reforms so that it can continue to pay future generations of retirees (59 percent).

TCRS' [report](#) and [fact sheet](#) also offer eight action steps women can take to begin improving their retirement outlook.

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