



Your Social Security IQ

Understand your options



Social Security provides retirement income for nearly every American worker. Deciding when and how to claim benefits is one of the most important decisions retirees make.

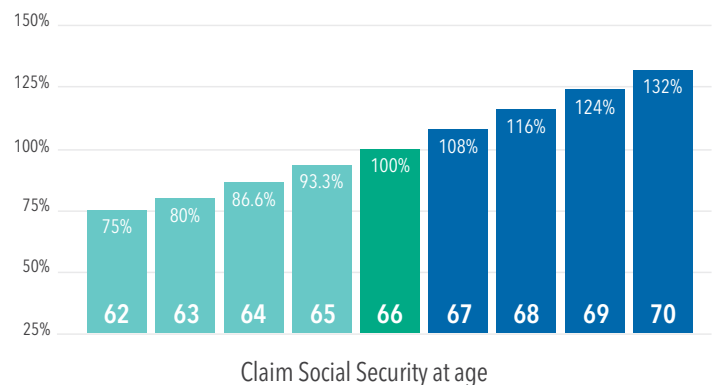
Get started

You don't need to wait until retirement to sign up for a "my Social Security" account on the Social Security website. ([socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](https://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount)). Doing so early allows you to review your earnings history on a regular basis. The Social Security Administration (SSA) uses your earnings history to determine your benefit amount. If you discover a mistake in your reported earnings, you have a little over three years to make a correction before these earnings become a permanent part of your record.

Bonus: Creating your account reduces the risk of someone else creating an account in your name and gaining access to your personal information.

When you claim makes a difference

While you can claim Social Security benefits as early as age 62, waiting until your full retirement age (FRA) or later makes a difference. This chart* shows how benefits change for someone whose full FRA is 66. Note the reduction in full benefits if claimed early and the increase in benefits from waiting.



How waiting to claim adds up

Claiming at:	age 66	age 70
Target pre-tax income goal	\$93,824	\$93,824
SS benefit income	\$62,593	\$81,302
Traditional Retirement Account income (Adj. gross income)	\$32,231	\$12,522
Taxable SS benefit income	\$22,173	\$13,797
Taxable income (Adj. gross income + Taxable SS benefit)	\$54,404	\$26,319

Guaranteed Social Security income is **32% MORE**

Total Taxable income is **52% LESS**

Assumptions

Scenario assumes a couple with \$800,000 in retirement assets, with FRA of 66 and a household pre-tax income goal of \$85,000. Target pre-tax income goal, Social Security benefits and IRA distributions have been adjusted to account for a hypothetical annual cost of living adjustment (COLA) of 2.5%. Age 66 scenario assumes spouses elect to retire at age 66 and immediately file for Social Security benefits. Age 70 scenario assumes spouses elect to claim Social Security benefits at age 70. This couple would have higher taxable income while waiting for the delayed Social Security benefit to start.

Keep in mind:

- Deciding when to file is not a “one size fits all” choice. Understanding all your options will help you find a solution that works for your situation.
- Carefully consider when to file and the potential impact on other family members.
- Social Security is just one part of your total retirement income. Work with your financial professional to review your plan and address gaps, if any.

At Athene, we’re driven to outperform so you can retire better.

As you build your future retirement dreams, count on our history of financial strength, stability and commitment to customer value.** We’re here to help connect your vision of success to a solid plan for getting there.

*Based on publicly available data from the Social Securities Administration, www.ssa.gov.

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