The hidden cost of inflation: Less saving for retirement

Key findings from our 2022 4Q Quarterly Market Perceptions Study

Americans are prioritizing current expenses at the cost of their retirement

Persistent inflation and market volatility are causing Americans to prioritize present financial needs ahead of their financial future. That’s a major finding in the latest Quarterly Market Perceptions Study from Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America (Allianz).

A majority of respondents said they are more concerned about paying bills right now than saving for retirement – a decision that could have big implications for their future comfort. Worse, many Americans are withdrawing from their retirement accounts as a short-term answer for inflation. At the same time, a majority think market volatility will continue in 2023, and many say they are nervous to invest.

67% of Americans are now more concerned about paying bills than saving for their future.
Inflation is cutting into short-term spending and long-term saving

- 82% are worried about inflation’s impact on their purchasing power over the next six months
- 55% have stopped or reduced their retirement savings due to rising inflation
- 45% have had to dip into their retirement savings because of rising inflation

Millennials are the most likely to say they are foregoing long-term saving

- 75% of Millennials
- 73% of Gen Xers
- 56% of Boomers

“I am more concerned about paying bills now than I am about saving for my financial future.”

“I have either stopped or reduced my retirement savings due to rising inflation.”
More Americans believe market volatility is here to stay

77% think the market will continue to be very volatile in 2023
64% would rather have money in cash than endure market swings
62% worry a major recession is right around the corner

40% worry that their employer will **suspend their 401(k) match**

“**If markets continue to be very volatile in the year ahead, I will have to adjust my retirement and investment plans.**”

“**I am comfortable with current market conditions and ready to invest now.**”

→ **ASK YOUR FINANCIAL PROFESSIONAL** about strategies that can help address the top concerns revealed in the study.

Annuities can help you meet your long-term retirement goals by offering tax-deferred growth potential, a death benefit during the accumulation phase, and a guaranteed stream of income at retirement.

Annuity guarantees are backed by the financial strength and claims-paying ability of the issuing insurance company. Variable annuity guarantees do not apply to the performance of the variable subaccounts, which will fluctuate with market conditions.

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