

# RETIREMENT IN SIGHT



MONTHLY NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE RETIREES  
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## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*"Do something wonderful, people may imitate it."*

ALBERT SCHWEITZER

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## IS FINANCIAL HEALTH A FACTOR IN YOUR OVERALL HEALTH?

Data from a newly released Harris Poll of more than 1,000 U.S. workers suggests that a majority of pre-retirees might answer "yes" to that question. Sixty-six percent of respondents to the poll identified their financial health as a component of their overall well-being. In fact, financial health ranked up near physical health (74%) and mental health (70%). Fifty-seven percent of those polled saw a relationship between all three factors, holding the opinion that their money, their lifestyle, and their health were integrated holistically, with each factor impacting another.

Interestingly, 75% of those polled reported that their financial goals and strategies had changed within the last five years. Three-quarters of the respondents also said that they were striving for "financial independence" as well as retirement. Eighty-two percent of the 1,007 respondents said they believed there is no "single path" or cookie-cutter strategy toward retirement, and 88% believed that retirement looks different for everyone. Eighty percent felt that the traditional idea of a work-free retirement has become obsolete, and 56% felt that their financial future would differ from their parents and their children.<sup>1,2</sup>

## BETTER YOUR ODDS OF FINDING A JOB AFTER 50

For jobseekers older than 50, the hunt for satisfying work can be tough - but with such strong demand for skilled workers this year, your own search might lead you to a job you love. In a new book titled *The Job Closer* (recently the subject of a *Next Avenue* article), Duke University business professor and career coach Steve Dalton helps older (and younger) jobseekers out with some tips for 2021.

To start, think about your best skill - the skill or ability you have (and excel at) that less than 1% of the people in the world have. You want your next job to take full advantage of it. Next, take a few minutes and write down every job you think you could do with your current skill set. After that, look at your resume. Bullet-point it per job so that it presents your "greatest hits" - accomplishments per job, keyed to stories you can tell in an interview. Ageism is real, so exclude dates of employment and graduation - and perhaps your earliest work experiences altogether. "It's completely optional to like networking," Dalton states, "but it's not optional to do networking." On the popular networking websites, keep the per-job copy minimal and readable; if you are currently unemployed, don't disclose that. In interviews, ask plenty of questions about where the company is going, its challenges, and what the company is proud of achieving. Tell a story about yourself, a "hero story", for "the way to overcome ageism is to give people a story that makes sense about why you want to work there." Let them know what motivates you, and you could motivate them into hiring you.<sup>3</sup>

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## ON THE *BRIGHT SIDE*

Just 21% of baby boomers responding to a recent Nationwide Retirement Institute survey said the pandemic had complicated their personal finances, compared to 62% of millennials.<sup>4</sup>

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### CITATIONS.

1 - BenefitsPRO, June 15, 2021

2 - Franklin Templeton, June 14, 2021

3 - Next Avenue, May 20, 2021

4 - Christian Science Monitor, June 1, 2021