

Newsletter 3Q 2019 and Market Summary

The Market continues to climb in 3Q 2019, reaching all-time highs! All of FCMA's Mutual Fund Model Portfolios are in double digit positive territory, net of fees, for 2019 as follows: Conservative Model +12.78%, Moderate Model +14.25%, and Aggressive Model +15.98%. The S&P 500 ended positive YTD +18.54% and the foreign investments ended +14.49% through June 30, 2019.

Welcome to our newest employees at Foresight



Noah Whitfield

Asst. Portfolio Manager

BBA in Finance

Loyola Univ.

Former FCMA Intern



Deanna Gibson
Para Planning/Assistant
Financial Analyst
Pursing BBA in Finance
from Baker University



Anthony Chisolm
Senior Portfolio
Manager
BBA in Finance
from MSU



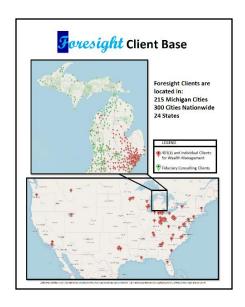
Sam Sheeran
Finance Intern
Pursuing BBA in
Finance from WMU

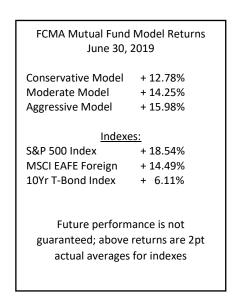


Nathan Wilber
Financial Analyst Intern
BBA in Finance from MSU

New Foresight Whitepaper coming in Fall 2019: Foresight is pleased to announce our newest published piece that will detail the key steps of how to invest your portfolios for retirement! Most people work all their lives saving money in their employers' 401(k), 403(b), and 457 plans. When they are nearing retirement they do not realize it is best to transform these portfolios from mutual fund portfolios into distribution portfolios! The reason for doing this is the key message of our latest white paper titled, "How to Harvest Your Dividends and Interest as you Move into Retirement!"









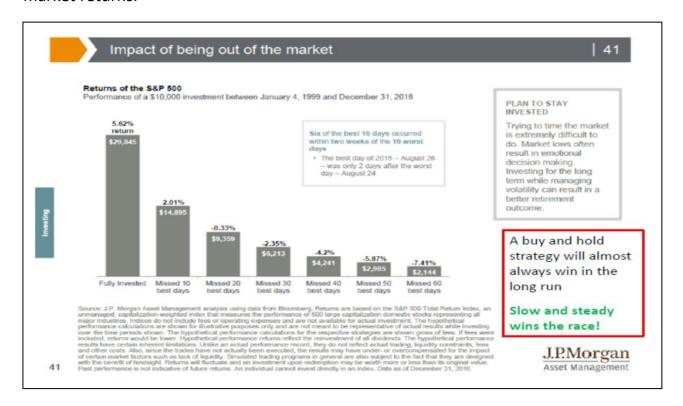
Foresight's Outlook and Portfolio Strategies

2Q 2019 has finally reached a historical moment with it being the 1st quarter that every S&P 500 company has at least one woman on their board of directors! Congratulations to all the hardworking women serving in these roles. We know it was not an easy feat.

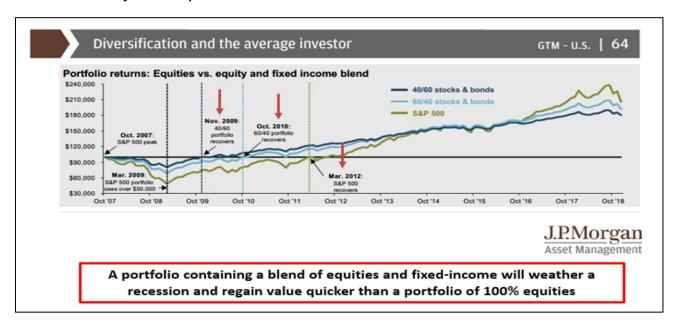
2019 certainly has been a welcomed market surprise on the upside. Everyone seems very happy with double digit returns through the first half of 2019! This is supported by GDP of +2.1% for the 2Q 2019, unemployment at a low of 3.7%, inflation at 1.69%, and the Leading Economic Index rising +2.5% (instead of being negative) which indicates a recession is not near or continued economic growth is expected. The Federal Reserve is expected to begin lowering interest rates the second half of 2019 and as early as the last week of July 2019! This would be a signal that the economy is beginning to slow down and by the Feds lowering interest rates would help to keep the growth going.

Thus far, as of July 19, 2019, out of 220 S&P 500 companies who have reported 2Q earnings 78.2% beat on earnings and 57.3 beat on revenues per Zacks.com. This is an impressive showing for the 11th year of a bull market recovery!! The GDP at +2.1% for 2Q and the +3.1% GDP for 1Q annualize to +2.5% for 2019, which indicates a growing economy for the U.S.! Federal spending is very strong at 7% and Personal Consumption is holding steady at 1.8% according to CNBC July 26, 2019. However, J.P Morgan, Dr. David Kelly, noted that everyone can get a job, but no one can get a raise right now or only slight raises. This indicates there are small signals that some caution is in the wind. However, Dr. Kelly then points out in the chart below a 20-year span from 1998-2017 and says you need to determine your risk level and "Stay in the Market!" This time period was exceptionally volatile with 2 recessions from 1999 to 2018. If an investor stayed in they averaged +5.62% return every year for the 20-year span and more than quadrupled their investments, but if they pulled out and missed the 10 best days in the market their return was cut in ½ and only averaged +2.01%. It only gets worse if they stayed out 20 days or 30 days etc... The

problem is not getting out of the market, but it is when do you get back in? Fear is a strong emotion and if you let fear enter your portfolio decisions then you are bound to miss the market returns.



See below a historical view of how diversification is the best portfolio. It shows the importance of staying invested in stocks to reduce the volatility with a blended portfolio of bonds. In the last recession the 40:60 portfolio, which is 40% equities and 60% bonds, recovered in just one year after the 2008 recession!



The 60:40 portfolio recovered in 2 years after the 2008 recession and the S&P 500, an aggressive portfolio, took until 2012, four years later to recover the losses of the 2008 recession.

Most economists believe the economy is still strong; that the next recession is about 2 years or so off in the future, and they estimate slower growth near 2% GDP. During these upcoming years expect more volatility in the market. It is a good time to reassess your risk level and make sure you can tolerate and sustain the market pullbacks with the portfolio risk you have chosen.

Inflation is still low around 1.69%, oil is abundant globally and the US is the largest oil producer globally. China is slowing and was impacted greater with the tariff issues. It is still forecasted that the next couple of recessions are likely to be mild recessions, and the U.S. is in a 20-year bull market trend of growth. Diversification is key to weathering volatility so you can ride through the next recession! Most expect the next recession to last less than a year, which would be a mild recession, or we may avoid a recession all together and just have a substantial pullback and then the market moves higher!

Foresight has already moved the portfolios into their normal pre-recession risk level. We like how they have performed during the 1st half of the year and only have made a slight tactical swap trade this quarter to reduce floating rate interest bonds to add longer duration bonds and mortgage back securities to the portfolios. We have taken action to make the portfolios more defensive for 2019. We continue to monitor the stock portfolios weekly and have stop-losses on most double-digit gains within the stock portfolios. Several of these stop losses activated, in 2019, and we harvested the gains. There was a recent study done by Putnam Investments and every Pre-Election year, which 2019 is, dating back to the 1940's the S&P 500 rallied and had positive returns! You should not be too concerned at this time because the economy is still in very good shape and growing, but check your risk tolerance to make sure it is where you want it. Please contact us if you have any questions about your portfolios.

Foresight Planning Ideas:

IRS Contribution Limits increase for 2019: 401(k) and 403(b) savings limits for 2019 are \$19,000 deferral max and for 50+ \$25,000 deferral, and IRA limits \$6,000 and if age 50+ \$7,000.

Estates Risk that Needs To Be Addressed: Many of you have wills and trusts, however there is a very important list of your Passwords and Logins that need to be added to your documents. More and more elderly are leaving without this documented and loved ones have a big mess to resolve! Even though the trust is in place if you do not have a list of what the estate has because everything is an electronic statement and passwords are needed to locate these statements then it is very hard for a trustee to move forward. My recommendation is to make a very accurate list, and update this yearly, of all your passwords, user-ids, and logins to everything, even your cell phone password attached to your trust documents. At least this way your loved ones have a starting point. It would be a shame to leave something behind in the cyber electronic world because there was no password to unlock the assets.

<u>Did you Know Cell phones can activate a feature called ICE</u>: In Case Of Emergency=ICE. When this is activated on your cell phone EMS personnel can enter your phone and contact our family in the case of an emergency. Contact your phone carrier if interested in how to get this feature activated on your phone.

New Fiduciary Vetted Annuities are now available at Foresight: The NAPFA organization has worked to create a series of annuities that Foresight, a fee only registered investment advisory firm, can continuously rebalance quarterly in no-load mutual funds. Additionally, these annuities can be used over joint lives of the spouses and any remainder funds can be inherited by the estate heirs. Annuities are not for all investors, but if you are interested in learning more please contact Foresight because some of these annuities pay 6.5%. 877-429-4680.

When Elderly Keys are Put Away: here's a solution! If you have elderly family members that are not able to drive, but still have places to go consider trying Go Go Grandparent. This service works with licensed and authorized transportation network companies, such as Uber and Lyft, to get your elder family member to their destination without using a smart phone. You are able to setup custom locations for your loved one to travel to such as hair dresser, doctor, grocery store, etc... When you need a ride you call 1-855-464-6872 and press the number that correlates to your locations you setup and then the ride is there in about 15 minutes. So all you have to do is call and press the number for where you want to go. It offers remote relatives the ability to monitor success of delivery and return of their elder. Check out the website at https://gogograndparent.com to see if they offer rides in your area.

New Health Savings Accounts-HSAs with Foresight: Foresight now offers HSA accounts for your Company or Individual HSA savings. An HSA with Foresight will allow you to choose the same 3 Model portfolios of risk either Conservative, Moderate, or Aggressive. If you have a High Deductible Health Plan then you can consider opening a HSA = Health Savings Account with Foresight. The savings rates are going up in 2019 to \$3,500 for single and \$7,000 for family; if +55 then \$4,500 for single and \$8,000 for a family.

The HSA savings are not subject to Federal Tax and will grow, much like a Roth IRA, with no tax due if used for all qualifying health expenses, note cannot be used to pay health insurance premiums. If you are interested in more information on this strategic investment idea for your healthcare savings please contact us.

<u>Foresight's Web Portal Reporting:</u> The Web Portal is for your protection and information security. We want our communication to be timely and beneficial to you. Go to https://fp.morningstar.com. If you have any access issues, please call or email us at 1-877-429-4690 or mgallagher@fcmadvisors.net.

<u>Did you Know?</u> You can give your Tax preparer access to download your tax information directly into the tax software and save them a lot of input time. This will also likely save you a lot of money in tax prep fees. It is worth asking your tax preparer how this might save you. However, be sure to change your access to your custodian accounts, UID and PW, after your taxes are completed to re-secure your investment accounts.

Roth 401(k) should be rolled to an IRA before age 70 ½: it is wise to roll these funds to a Roth IRA before you turn 70 ½ because if the Roth funds are left inside a 401(k) they must take RMD (required minimum distributions) just like the pre-tax funds which defeats the purpose of letting the Roth grow! However, if you roll it over into a Roth IRA before 70 ½ then you do not need to take the RMD from the Roth IRA. This is a very important hint to remember!

<u>Did you Know?</u> You can take a distribution from your 401(k) or 403(b) prior to age 59 ½ without a 10% penalty; if you have separated from service no earlier than age 55. Funds must be in a 401(k) or 403(b) and cannot be in an IRA. Additionally, if you retire and wish to begin normal distributions prior to 59 ½ then a 72-T calculation can be done to allow funds to be removed from your IRA without a 10% penalty as long as you have separated from service.

Roth IRA Ideas: If interested in additional savings ideas consider opening a Non-deductible IRA. This will allow you to save the maximum in your 401(k) and also save an additional \$6k in a Non-deductible IRA, and \$7k if age 50+. Then convert the Non-deductible IRA to a Roth IRA! It is a way to obtain a backdoor Roth IRA funding even if you are not able to save directly into a Roth IRA. Additionally, ask if your 401(k) allows for additional after-tax contributions. If so then you can add to the after-tax contributions and consider rolling them out to an IRA where you can do a conversion to a Roth IRA. This is another form of backdoor Roth!

On-line Access: Each year we encourage everyone to test your on-line access to your account(s) at the custodian or third-party administrator for your plan. Please visit **Journeyrps.com**, **Noblepension.com**, **or ABGmi.com** if a retirement participant. For individual clients at TD Ameritrade access **Advisorclient.com** for Schwab Institutional Clients access **Schwaballiance.com**. To access your web portal for individual accounts, go to https://fp.morningstar.com. If you have any difficulty accessing your account, please email or contact us.









3Q Newsletter

Market Update

(all values as of 06.28.2019)

Stock Indices:

Dow Jones	26,599	
S&P 500	2,941	
Nasdaq	8,006	

Bond Sector Yields:

2 Yr Treasury	1.75%
10 Yr Treasury	2.00%
10 Yr Municipal	1.62%
High Yield	5.92%

YTD Market Returns:

Dow Jones	14.03%
S&P 500	17.35%
Nasdaq	20.66%
MSCI-EAFE	11.77%
MSCI-Europe	13.20%
MSCI-Pacific	9.46%
MSCI-Emg Mkt	9.22%
US Agg Bond	6.06%
US Corp Bond	9.69%
US Gov't Bond	6.82%

Commodity Prices:

Gold

Silver

Oil (WTI)

Dollar /

Canadian

Currencies:	
Dollar / Euro	1.13
Dollar / Pound	1.26
Yen / Dollar	107.86

15.36

58.20

0.76

Macro Overview

The ongoing trade dispute between the U.S. and China escalated in May as the U.S. signaled that it had not finalized a deal yet with China. The lack of a deal led to the U.S. announcing an increase in tariffs from 10 percent to 25 percent on \$200 billion of Chinese imports.

The U.S. Department of Commerce began assessing Chinese imports arriving at U.S. ports with a 25% tariff at 12:01 AM on June 1st. The tariff increase affects a broad range of imported products, including modems, routers, furniture, and vacuum cleaners. Additional tariffs were also proposed by The Office of the United States Trade Representative on essentially all remaining imports from China, valued at about \$300 billion.

The proposed tariff increases by the United States caused China to retaliate against the U.S. with its own tariff proposals on U.S. goods including alcohol, swimsuits, and liquefied natural gas (LNG). The Chinese government may apply additional tariffs to more impactful products including food, energy and aircraft products from the U.S.

The recent market downturn has primarily been due to the uncertainty of the trade disputes and the effects of tariffs on the U.S. and international economies. Analysts believe that the equity market pullback along with the pending trade disputes have raised the possibility of an interest rate cut by the Federal Reserve later this year.

Longer term U.S. Treasury bond yields fell to their lowest levels since 2017. Combined pressures from the trade disputes to the pending Brexit turmoil in Europe has fostered increasing demand for U.S. Treasury bonds, which has resulted in higher bond prices.

The fixed income market is looking at the probability that economic weakness will lead to the Federal Reserve to actually cut interest rates sometime this year in order to bolster the U.S. economy. Many believe that the Fed needs to move quickly in order to shore up growth at the first sign of any economic contraction.

Mortgage rates fell below 4% for the first time since early last year helping to stabilize housing market activity. The average mortgage rate on a 30-year fixed conforming loan was 3.99% at the end of May, as tracked by Freddie Mac, the lowest since January 2018. Falling mortgage rates tend to entice buyers to sell their homes and trade up to larger homes with bigger mortgage balances, a boom for the housing market.

The most recent unemployment data revealed that unemployment unexpectedly fell to a 50 year low this past month to 3.6 percent, the lowest since 1969. Historically, a low unemployment rate tends to drive consumer confidence higher and act as a buffer during economic uncertainty.

Canada, Mexico, and the United States introduced legislation that would replace the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and establish a new trade treaty among the three countries to be referred as the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). Existing tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from Canada would be eradicated. Canada is the second largest foreign supplier of steel and aluminum to the United States. Sources: Dept. of Commerce, Treasury Dept., Freddie Mac, IMF



Stocks and bonds rose in June as lower rates drove equities higher and international diplomatic tensions elevated bond prices. Indications by the Fed that there may be a rate cut later in the year helped sustain stock prices near record levels.

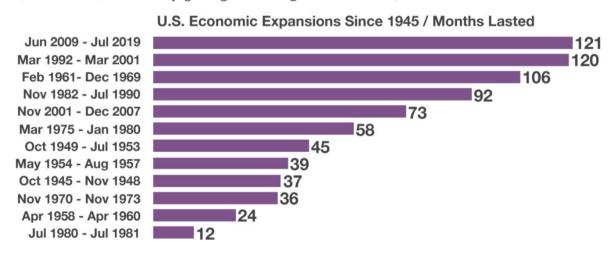
The G20 met in Osaka, Japan, at the end of June where trade tensions between the U.S. and China were on the forefront of global concerns. The U.S. and China reached a temporary truce over the trade war as the leaders from both countries agreed to re-start negotiations that had fallen apart earlier on. The deescalation of trade tensions between the two countries led to heightened optimism surrounding global economic growth. Central banks from around the world will weigh as to how much a trade truce or settlement might impact other economies globally.

The 10-year Treasury bond yield fell to 2.00% at the end of June, with several bond analysts expecting it to fall below the psychological 2.00% level. Yields dropped lower in Europe with Austria issuing 100-year government bonds with a yield of 1.17%. Highly rated, positive yielding government bonds are in enormous demand globally as investors seek income from viable and reliable sources.

Mortgage rates dropped again in June to 3.73% on a 30-year fixed conforming loan, helping to sustain the housing market. The low rate environment has also fostered an inexpensive source of capital for U.S. and international companies, allowing for expansion and hiring as demand reappears.

Commodity prices including oil, gold, and iron ore all elevated in the first half of 2019, with most of the gains occurring in June. Rather than a traditional sign of inflation, falling inventories of oil and iron ore have pushed prices higher as demand has remained constant.

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis found that the current economic expansion is the longest on record since 1945. The economic expansion that began in June 2009, following the depths of the financial crisis, has now lasted 121 months as of the end of June. The second longest economic expansion lasted 120 months, running from March 1992 until March 2001 when the dot-com bubble burst. There have been 12 economic expansion periods since the end of World War II in 1945 lasting 12 months or longer. (Sources: BEA, Freddie Mac, U.S.Treasury, g20.org, Bloomberg, Federal Reserve)





Rates Drop Rapidly Amid Inverted Yield Curve - Fixed Income Update

Markets tend to look at the yield curve in order to find clues as to what the expectations are about future economic growth and inflation. The yield curve is essentially the current yield on government Treasury bonds from 3-month maturities to 30-year maturities. At the end of May, the 1, 2, 3, 6 month and 1-year notes all yielded more than the benchmark 10-year bond. When shorter term bonds are yielding more than longer term bonds, it is known as an inversion or inverted yield curve.

Economically sensitive copper and oil prices fell in May, perhaps signaling weaker global growth activity. Such dynamics in the commodities market tends to push yields lower internationally. Some analysts believe that a continued escalation of trade disputes with countries in addition to China will crimp global economic growth and force the Federal Reserve to lower interest rates.

Total global debt as of the end of 2017 was \$184 trillion, as monitored by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Global bond yields fell in May with an estimated \$10.6 trillion worth of debt now in negative yielding territory, the highest since 2016.

Some fixed income analysts are projecting lower yields later this year due to slowing economic expansion, continued demand for U.S. government debt, and an increasing probability that the Fed will eventually lower rates. (Sources: IMF, Treasury Dept., Federal Reserve)



Yields Drop Further In June – Fixed Income Update

The 10-year Treasury bond yield dropped below 2% for the first time since November 2016. The 10-year Treasury continues to trade at a lower yield than the 3-month Treasury bill, signaling an inversion, which is when shorter term maturity bonds yield more than longer term bonds. The Federal Reserve communicated its confidence with the labor market and rising wages for lower paid workers as positive for the U.S. economy, but noted that inflation is still mundane and below expectations. Its concern is slowing global growth with anemic economic expansion in other parts of the world. Such concerns may lead to dismal expansion with the need to eventually reduce rates to help prop up economic growth. (Sources: U.S. Treasury, Federal Reserve)



Changes Proposed For 401k Plans & IRAs - Retirement Planning

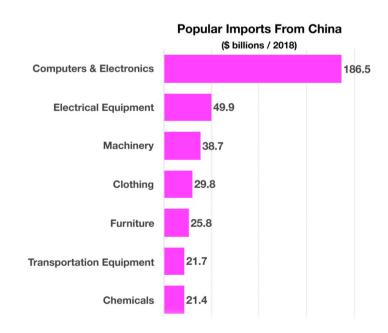
This past month the House of Representatives passed the SECURE Act, which will introduce various changes to retirement plans including IRAs and 401k plans. The act was approved by the House in May and is expected to be approved by the Senate and become law relatively soon. One of the most significant revisions to IRAs introduced by the legislation is repealing the prohibition on contributions to a traditional IRA by an individual who has attained age 70 1/2. The legislation doesn't propose a revised maximum contribution age, yet states that more Americans continue working beyond traditional retirement age. So essentially, there will no longer be an age limit on IRA contributions. A modification to 401k plans that will affect eligibility requirements for part-time workers is a major change. Longer term part-time employees will no longer be excluded from 401k plans, allowing part-time workers the ability to save and accumulate savings towards retirement. Annuity payments will become an option for retirees when leaving their job and taking their retirement savings. In addition to opting for a rollover of retirement assets to an IRA or other qualified plan, retirees will be able to choose annuity payments as well. The Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) age for IRAs will increase from age 70 1/2 to 72. This is beneficial for those retirees that don't need the income from their IRAs or rollover IRAs until later, thus minimizing the tax liability on distributions that would have been required at age 70 1/2. Safe Harbor provisions will be simplified for 401k employer plans in order to facilitate plan administration as well as allowing greater flexibility to employers and employees. Such changes will eventually increase participation in employer sponsored retirement plans, an objective of the SECURE Act. (Source: House Committee on Ways & Means; https://waysandmeans.house.gov)

Here's What The U.S. Buys The Most Of From China - Trade Overview

In the past twenty-plus years, China has evolved from a heavy equipment machinery exporter to a prominent leader in technology product exports. Large international conglomerates have established an enormous manufacturing presence throughout China, utilizing its cheap labor and quick turnaround times. China's manufacturing plants are among the most modern in the world, producing large capacities almost entirely for export.

As the world's appetite for electronic devices has grown, so has China's ability to manufacture and export

these devices. As а product exporter, China is able manufacture and export finished products worldwide. In addition, China is also an exporter of components, which may be used in the manufacture and assembly of products in other countries, such as the United States. By exporting components in addition to finished products, China is able to hedge against tariff issues and labor costs should they become a factor. (Sources: WTO, IMF, U.S. Dept. of Commerce)



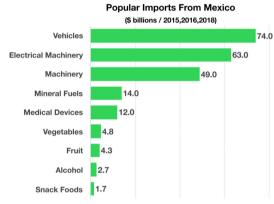


What The U.S. Imports From Mexico - Trade Overview

The administration has proposed tariffs up to 25% on imported products from Mexico in order to stem illegal immigration from the country. Some argue that imposing such a tariff would make certain imported products more expensive for American consumers.

The U.S. imported \$93 billion worth of vehicles from Mexico in 2018, with auto parts accounting for the single largest type of product imported from Mexico valued at over \$51 billion in 2016, making the automotive industry an integral component of trade with Mexico. Interestingly enough, exports headed from the U.S. to Mexico are primarily for use in the automotive industry, with machinery, fuels, and plastics making up the largest portions.

Agricultural and food products imported from Mexico, such as vegetables, fruit, snack foods and alcohol, totaled over \$17 billion in 2018. Mexico is currently the world's largest exporter of beer, exporting \$3.6 billion of the alcohol to the U.S. in 2018. Proposed tariffs on Mexican imports are expected not to take effect until June 10th in order to give Mexico ample time to respond or negotiate terms. (Sources: Dept. of Commerce, BLS, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative)



Stocks Rebound In June - Equity Overview

Stocks and bonds registered the first half of the year with formidable gains propelled by an expected rate cut by the Fed later in the year. It was the best first half of the year since 1997 for equities, with the Dow Jones Industrial Index, S&P 500 Index, and the Nasdaq nearing new highs.

Equities were also driven higher in June by a relief in trade tensions between the U.S. and China as the expectation that the Fed will eventually cut rates sometime this year. Historically, a low rate environment is favorable for equities in the form of inexpensive capital for expansion and loans.

The rebound in stock prices in the first half of 2019 from the turmoil that hindered markets in December 2018 has been one of the strongest rebounds in decades.

The Federal Reserve gave large U.S. banks the approval to repurchase their own shares and lift dividends, part of the Comprehensive Capital Analysis and Review process set in place by the Fed. Large money center banks as well as smaller regional banks were restricted from buying back their own shares as well as increasing dividends in order to fortify bank balance sheets following the financial crisis. (Sources: Federal Reserve, Dow Jones, S&P, Bloomberg, Reuters)

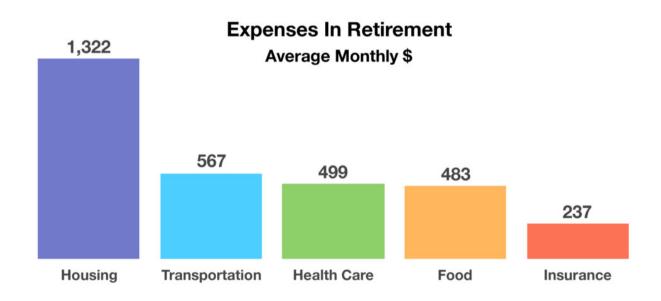


What Expenses Seniors Have After Retirement - Consumer Demographics

Demographics play a significant role in how much we spend and how we spend it. Spending is primarily dictated by age where different needs and life essentials change and evolve as consumers grow older. The challenge for many retirees now is the fact that we are all living longer, with U.S. life expectancy of 78.7 years as of 2018. As more Americans reach their 80s and 90s, medical and assisted living expenses become a much larger component. Housing, transportation and food are the three largest expenses incurred by all age groups. As consumers move from their late 20s into their 30s, we earn more money and families start to grow. Expenditures on transportation, health care and entertainment become prevalent as households grow with children. Education is also another significant expense for many younger families, where the average cost of higher education tuitions has steadily increased over the years.

As we earn more, we also tend to save more in our 30s, 40s, and 50s by contributing to 401k plans and retirement savings. At 70.5 years of age, Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) kick in, imposing a tax on retirement savings, which reduces as withdrawals increase when we age each year. The biggest challenge most retirees have is trying to replace lost employment income with retirement savings and Social Security. A widely accepted rule of thumb is that one will need to replace anywhere from 70% to 90% of the income when still employed, in order to maintain the same standard of living.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has identified the largest expenses that seniors have once in retirement. Expenses such as housing, food, and transportation are based on what a retiree spends on average in various essential categories nationwide. Housing, transportation and health care are the three largest expenses for retirees as well as all other age groups. (Sources: Social Security Admin., U.S. Census)





IRS Scams - Consumer Awareness of TD Ameritrade Phone Calls

Identity theft and stolen funds are becoming a growing risk as thieves have devised clever methods of masking IRS communications. Various government entities have identified some of the most prevalent scams.

TD Ameritrade Scam: Fraudulent phone call appearing to come from TD Ameritrade will ask for your account number and then have you change your pin.

Refund Scam: Fraudulent emails, appearing to come from the IRS, notify you that you are eligible for a tax refund, but need to provide sensitive bank details in order to receive the funds.

Fund Scam: Inherited Funds, Lottery Winnings, & Cash Consignment Scams.

Email Scam: Emails claiming to come from the U.S. Department of Treasury, notify you that you will receive millions of dollars if you follow the instructions in the email.

SS Scam: An identity thief could use your social security number to fraudulently file a tax return and claim a refund. You could be completely unaware that your identity has been stolen until your return is rejected for e-filing or you get a notice or letter from the IRS.

Rejected e-File: An electronically filed return is rejected because the social security number belonging to you, your spouse, or a dependent has already been used on a tax return.

Suspicious IRS Items: You receive a fraudulent notice from the IRS stating that more than one return was filed in your name for the year.

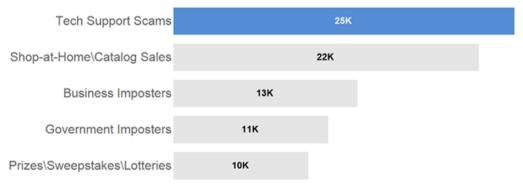
You have a balance due, refund offset, or initiation of collection action for a year when you did not file.

IRS records indicate that you received wages from an employer you didn't work for.

You should respond immediately to the name and phone number printed on the IRS notice or letter. You should also complete Form 14039, Identity Theft Affidavit. Do not give anyone your account numbers/social security numbers if they call you. (Source: IRS.gov, consumer.ftc.gov, treasury.gov).

Ages 60+ Top 5 Fraud Categories by Number of Reports Indicating a Loss

Older adults filed more **reports indicating a loss on tech support scams** from 2015 to 2018 than on any other Sentinel fraud category





Here are things the to review and do to help protect your account information.

Electronic Security measures:

- Have your computers cleaned of any malware.
 - There are some reliable anti-virus programs available that you can run yourself, or you can take the computer in to a trusted professional in your area to have it cleaned.
- Change your passwords!
 - If you cannot run a virus scan immediately, we recommend that you take this step immediately
 and then again after having any malware removed from the computer to be completely certain
 that the fraudsters no longer have access to this information.
 - If you can run a virus scan immediately, then do so and once you know you are working from a clean source change your passwords.
 - You should change your passwords for all services. This would include e-mail, social networking sites (e.g.: Facebook), financial sites, etc
 - Choosing your password well and keeping it a secret can be key steps to safeguarding all of your online transactions. To create a password that is more difficult to guess, use a combination of letters and numbers for passwords you create (i.e. 4funcallC3po, Il9vemyd1g).
 Certain passwords are easier to
 - compromise, so try to avoid common pitfalls by creating secure passwords:
 - Don't base your password on personal information—such as the name of your pet or your company.
 - Avoid substituting numbers for letters, for example: using a zero for the letter "o" or a one for the letter "i." These substitutions are well known and predictable.
 - Don't use your UserID as your password.
 - Don't use simple number sequences like "12345" or a series of duplicate numbers like "11111."
 - Change your password frequently, and don't "recycle" a password you've used somewhere else.

Other measures:

- Place a fraud alert with one of the following credit agencies.
 - \circ Experian, TransUnion, or Equifax
 - This is especially useful in situations where your personal information, such as SSN, is potentially compromised.

Research and Reporting sources:

- Review the following identity theft sites and complete associated forms as appropriate:
 - FTC Research: http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature-0014-identity-theft
 - Reporting: http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0277-create-identity-theft-report
 - Reporting wizard: http://ftccomplaintassistant.gov
 - o IRS Research: http://www.irs.gov/uac/Identity-Protection
 - Reporting Form 14039: http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f14039.pdf
 - o Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) Research: https://www.ic3.gov/faq/default.aspx
 - Reporting: https://www.ic3.gov/complaint/splash.aspx