

Empowering women to achieve financial confidence

Women have made dramatic progress in the workforce over the past several decades and their economic clout continues to grow. Affluent women in the U.S. control approximately \$6.5 Trillion in investable assets and \$12.7 Trillion in total assets.¹

Despite these strides, women still face unique headwinds that can affect their ability to achieve financial security.

Longevity. Women typically live longer — an average of 4.6 years longer than men,² and this longer life expectancy can present some significant financial challenges.

Health care. Since health care needs tend to increase as people age, and women live longer, they also need to plan for greater health care costs. It's essential to have enough money saved to cover these expenses.

Reduced savings. Women typically earn less than men³, stay at jobs for shorter periods of time, work part-time more often, and are more likely than men to interrupt their careers to raise children or take care of family members. As a result, women work fewer years and contribute less toward their retirement.⁴

Unexpected events. Life-changing events such as losing a job, getting divorced or becoming a widow can be devastating and can also undercut a woman's financial security. For example, more than half of women between the ages of 75 and 84 are divorced or widowed. And that number increases to almost 80 percent after age 85.⁵

What women can do

For many time-pressed women, financial concerns take a back seat to family, career and other demands. Yet attaining a secure and confident retirement should be among the most important long-term financial goals in a woman's life.

Here are a few tips to get you started:

- Start saving and investing to build on opportunities to achieve a financially secure retirement. Participate in your 401(k) or other retirement plan at work, at least up to the match. Also consider investing in an IRA.
- Get knowledgeable and organized about your financial assets, credit and other financial issues. Make a list or use a computer application to track joint and individual assets (e.g., investments, real estate) and liabilities (e.g., mortgages, loans, credit cards). Know and protect passwords to all online financial accounts. Also track any additional sources of income (e.g., rental, interest, dividends)
- Ensure you have some key documents in place:
 - Updated beneficiary designations
 - Recent power of attorney
 - Updated last will and testament
 - Recent health care directive

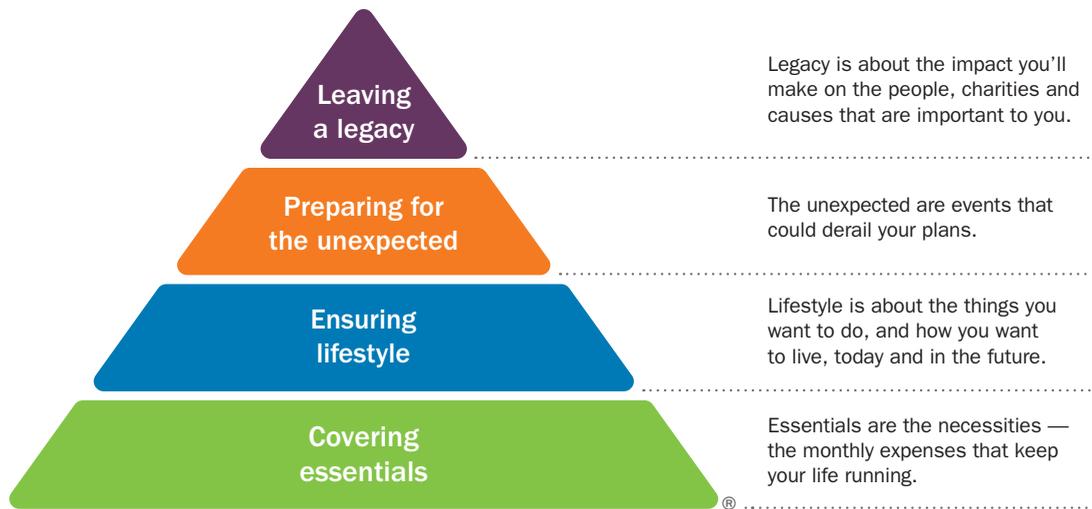
“The best clue to a nation's growth and development potential is the status and role of women.”

DAVID S. LANDES
AUTHOR OF *THE WEALTH AND POVERTY OF NATIONS*

The *Confident Retirement*[®] approach

At Ameriprise Financial, we break down retirement planning into doable steps that can help you navigate through times of uncertainty.

Our exclusive *Confident Retirement* approach starts with an honest conversation about your goals and dreams. Your advisor will listen to understand your complete financial picture, and identify nuances that may be important. Then, together, you'll review four key retirement needs:



Your financial advisor can help you get started today.

¹ Phoenix Marketing International, *Affluent and Wealth Monitor*, 2017.

² Central Intelligence Agency, *The World Factbook*, "Life Expectancy at Birth", 2016.

³ United States Census Bureau, *Income and Poverty in the United States; 2015*, September 13, 2016.

⁴ U.S. Department of Labor Blog, *Women and Retirement Savings*, Timothy Hauser, March 27, 2017.

⁵ Federal Interagency Forum on Aging-Related Statistics. *Older Americans 2016: Key Indicators of Well-Being*. Federal Interagency Forum on Aging-Related Statistics. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office. August 2016.

David S. Landes is not affiliated with Ameriprise Financial.

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