

QuickFACTS®



“We must accept finite disappointment,
but we must never lose infinite hope.”
Martin Luther King, Jr.

INFORMATION ABOUT RETIREMENT, LONG-TERM CARE, AND THE MATURE MARKET

Welcome to QuickFACTS, a monthly fact sheet produced by MetLife’s Mature Market Institute. Our focus is the emerging market of people 50+. We compile recent news and developments on retirement, aging, and long-term care issues that impact our business and our customers. Ideas and comments for the editor are welcome at kobrien@metlife.com or by phone, 203-454-5386.

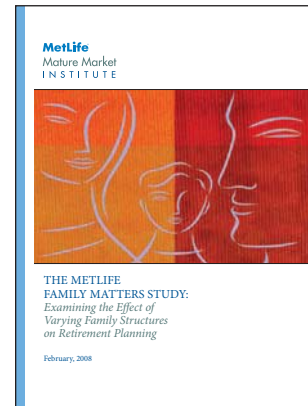
Retirement Planning: Family Impact

A survey of men and women age 40-65 found that single women (38%) were less likely to have a clear idea of what they hoped to achieve/experience in retirement than individuals in “traditional families” with two parents and children only from their current relationship (55%) or “blended families” with two parents and at least one child from a previous relationship (48%).

The MetLife Family Matters Study: Examining the Effect of Varying Family Structures on Retirement Planning

MetLife Mature Market Institute
February 2008

www.metlife.com/WPSAssets/14035753041203514133V1FFamilyMatters.pdf



Assuring Your Health Care Decisions Are Yours



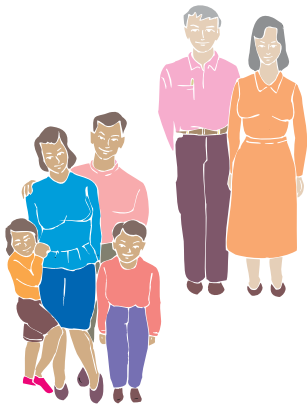
April 16, 2008 has been designated as the inaugural Health Care Decisions Day. On this day many organizations will participate in a nation-wide effort to stress the importance of advance health care planning so that health-related decisions will reflect an individual’s wishes at a time when he or she is unable to communicate them. Information and links to tools to complete written advance directives (health care power of attorney and living will) are available through the website:

www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org.

Release: National Healthcare Decisions Day Set for April 16, 2008: Numerous National Organizations Already Committed to Participate

National Healthcare Decisions Day 2008
National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization
October 17, 2007

Reaching for the American Dream



As Americans age they are more likely to report having achieved the “American Dream.” Among respondents to the 2008 MetLife *Study of the American Dream*, 64% of Americans in the Silent Generation (born 1933-1945), 40% of Baby Boomers (born 1946-1964), 32% of those in Generation X (born 1956-1976), and 18% of those in Generation Y (born 1977-1994) report having achieved it. Among all respondents, financial security (62%) and family/children (47%) were most frequently cited as defining the American Dream.

Study of the American Dream

MetLife

2008

<http://www.metlife.com/Applications/Corporate/WPS/CDA/PageGenerator/0,,P14305,00.html>

Web Watch

The U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides consumer information related to reverse mortgages. The site includes the “Top Ten Things You Need to Know if You are Considering a Reverse Mortgage,” in a question and answer format at www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/hecm/rmtopten.cfm. Useful links and contact information for the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) Resource Center for questions or assistance related to reverse mortgages can be found on the home page at: www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/hecm/hecmhome.cfm.



Greater Percentage of Older Women Working



While the labor force participation rate for older women remained relatively constant between 1968 and 1988, since 1988 it has been steadily increasing. Participation rates for women age 55-61 increased from 44% to 64% between 1988 and 2007, while the rate for women age 62-64 rose from 25% to 43%. Women age 65-69 saw their labor force participation rate double between 1988 and 2007 growing to 26%, as did women age 70+ increasing to 8%.

Richard W. Johnson

Should People Work Longer, and Will They

The Retirement Policy Center: Fact Sheets on Population Aging

The Urban Institute - December 2007

http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411584_work_longer.pdf

Change in Plans

LIMRA's *Decision to Retire* study found that almost 50% of couples who planned to retire in the same year did not do so. Health problems of the retiree or his/her spouse were cited as a major reason by 36% of those who did not retire in the same year as planned. Other major reasons included financially able to retire (24%), to get away from job stress (19%), and forced to take early retirement (19%).

Retirement Planning for Couples... What's the Plan?
Executive Summary
Decision to Retire Series
LIMRA International
2008



Caregiving Costs



Respondents to a survey of family caregivers indicate that they employed strategies, including reducing leisure activities (49%) and vacations (47%) and cutting back on or stopping saving for their own future (38%), to manage caregiving related out-of-pocket expenses. Long-distance caregivers reported higher average annual caregiving-related expenses (\$8,728), than with those who lived with the care recipient (\$5,885) or nearby (\$4,570).

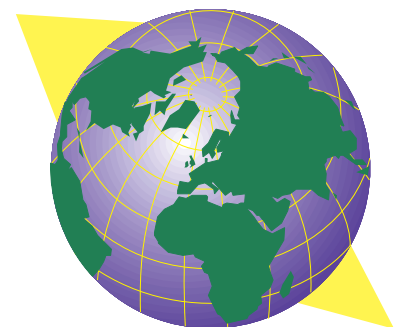
Evercare® Study of Family Caregivers – What They Spend, What They Sacrifice
Evercare and the National Alliance for Caregiving
November 2007

International Ageing

Since 1950 the population of individuals age 60 and over has grown from 8% of the overall population worldwide to 11% in 2007. It is expected to reach 20% by 2050. Projections indicate that by 2047 the number of older persons will exceed the number of children for the first time in history.

Ageing Population – Worldwide Growth
United Nations Department of Aging and Social Affairs, Population Division
2007

<http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/WPA2007/ES-English.pdf>



Employer-Based Retiree Health Benefits

Among large firms (200 or more employees) that offer health insurance to active employees, 33% offered coverage to retirees in 2007. This is a significant drop from the 66% that offered coverage in 1988. Among small firms (3-199 employees) that offer employee health insurance, only 5% offer retiree health benefits.

Employer Health Benefits – 2007 Annual Survey
The Kaiser Family Foundation and
Health Research and Educational Trust
September 2007

<http://www.kff.org/insurance/7672/upload/76723.pdf>



Marathon Man



Returning to work at age 99 just wasn't enough to keep 101-year-old Buster Martin busy. He's now aiming to become the world's oldest marathon runner by entering the April 13 London Marathon. The father of 17 children isn't sure he'll finish the race but if he does, he'll celebrate with a "pint."

Marathon hopeful, 101-year-old, training hard
Reuters
March 5, 2008

MetLife[®]
Mature Market
INSTITUTE

Kathy O'Brien, R.N., M.S.,
Senior Gerontologist and Editor
203-454-5386

MetLife Mature Market Institute
57 Greens Farms Road, Westport, CT 06880
MatureMarketInstitute@MetLife.com
www.MatureMarketInstitute.com

L03085546(exp1210)