SSINTRO  social security questions
Now we would like to ask you some questions about Social Security

SS001  currently receive any income from Social Security?
Do you currently receive any income from Social Security?
1 Yes
2 No

IF currently receive any income from Social Security? = Yes THEN

SS001XX  how much was Social Security check, or the amount deposited directly into an account, last month
About the Social Security income that you (yourself) receive, how much was that
Social Security check, or the amount deposited directly into an account, last month?
Integer

SS0_1  Rate the percent chance that Congress will change Social Security sometime in the next 5 years, so
Thinking of the Social Security program in general and not just your own
Social Security benefits: On a scale from 0 to 100, (where 0 means no chance
and 100 means absolutely certain), what is the percent chance that Congress
will change Social Security sometime in the next 5 years, so that it becomes
less generous than now?
Range: 0..100

SS001A  Rate the percent chance that the benefits you yourself are receiving from Social Security will be cut
We just asked you about Social Security reform in general. Now we would like
to know whether you think Social Security reform might affect your own benefits.
On a scale from 0 to 100, (where 0 means no chance and 100 means absolutely certain),
what do you think is the percent chance that the benefits you yourself are receiving
from Social Security will be cut some time over the next 5 years?
Range: 0..100

ELSE

SS002  Rate the percent chance that you will receive Social Security benefits some time in the future?
On a scale from 0 to 100 (where 0 means no chance and 100 means absolutely
certain), what do you think is the percent chance that you will receive Social
Security benefits some time in the future?
Range: 0..100

IF Rate the percent chance that you will receive Social Security benefits some
time in the future? > 0 THEN

| IF Randomly select Variant 1 or 2 = 1 THEN

| SS002_AGE_INTRO  INTRO ESTIMATE AGE START COLLECTING SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS
| For some people it is not easy to predict when they will start collecting
| their Social Security benefits. In the next question, we ask you to think
| about the age at which you will start collecting these benefits. We will
| show you 20 balls that you can put in eight different bins, reflecting
| what you think are the chances out of 20 that the age at which you will
| start collecting falls in each bin. The more likely you think it is that
| the age at which you will start collecting falls in a given bin, the more
| balls you should assign to this bin. For example, if you put all the balls
in the bin 63, it means you are certain that you will start collecting
these benefits on or after your 63rd birthday and before your 64th birthday. Another example is illustrated on the next screen.

**SS002_AGE_INTRO2 EXAMPLE TO ESTIMATE AGE START COLLECTING SOCIAL SECURITY**

In this example, there are no balls in the ranges below 64 or above 66, so for this person it is certain that benefits will not be collected before turning age 64 and after turning age 66. 12 out of 20 balls are in the bin 64 meaning that the chance that benefits are collected on or after the 64th and before the 65th birthday is 12 out of 20 (60 percent). There is a smaller chance, 8 out of 20 (40 percent), that benefits are collected at age 65. Of course this is just an example to illustrate; the chances you have in mind may be completely different. Now it's your turn! Choose next to start allocating balls.

**SS002_BALLSHPHP BALLS MODULE**

By clicking on the + and - buttons under each bin, please put all the balls into the 8 bins, such that it best reflects what you think are the chances out of 20 that you will start collecting social security benefits at that age.

**ENDIF**

**SS003A EXPECTED MONTHLY SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS IN TODAY'S DOLLARS**

How much do you expect your monthly Social Security benefits to be in today's dollars?

**Integer**

**IF EXPECTED MONTHLY SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS IN TODAY'S DOLLARS > 10000**

**SS003A_OUTLIERS CONFIRM EXPECTED MONTHLY SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS**

According to your entries your expected Social Security benefits will be about: $ [EXPECTED MONTHLY SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS IN TODAY'S DOLLARS]. Is this correct? If not, please go back and correct your answer. Otherwise, choose 'next' to continue.

**ELSE**

**IF EXPECTED MONTHLY SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS IN TODAY'S DOLLARS = EMPTY**

**THEN**

**SS003A_ELSE_BENEFITS_INTRO INTRO PREDICTING FUTURE MONTHLY SOCIAL SECURITY**

For some people it is not easy to predict their future Social Security benefits. In the next question, we ask you to think about what your monthly benefits will be. We will show you 20 balls that you can put in seven different bins, reflecting what you think are the chances out of 20 that your future Social Security benefits fall in each bin. The more likely you think it is that your benefits fall in a given bin, the more balls you should assign to this bin. For example, if you put all the balls in the bin $600 - $900, it means you are certain that the amount you will receive is between $600 and $900. Another example is illustrated on the next screen.

**SS003A_ELSE_BENEFITS_INTRO2 EXAMPLE PREDICTING FUTURE MONTHLY SOCIAL**

$300$600$900$1200$1500$1800 In this example, there are no balls in
the ranges below $600 or above $1200, so it is certain that benefits
will not be lower than $600 or higher than $1200. 12 out of 20 balls are
in the bin $600 - $900 meaning that the chance that benefits are between
$600 and $900 is 12 out of 20 (60 percent). There is a smaller chance, 8
out of 20 (40 percent), that benefits are between $900 and $1200. Of
course this is just an example to illustrate; the chances you have in
mind may be completely different. Now it's your turn! Choose next to
start allocating balls.

SS003A_ELSE_BALLSPHP  BALLS MODULE
By clicking on the + and - buttons under each bin, please put the 20
balls into the 7 bins such that it reflects what you think are the chances out
of 20 that your monthly social security benefits fall in a certain bracket.
String
ELSE

SS003A_BENEFITS_INTRO  INTRO ALLOCATING BALLS TO ILLUSTRATE SOCIAL SECURITY
For some people it is not easy to predict their future Social Security
benefits. In the next question, we ask you to think about what your
monthly benefits will be. We will show you 20 balls that you can put in
seven different bins, reflecting what you think are the chances out of
20 that your future Social Security benefits fall in each bin. The more
likely you think it is that your benefits fall in a given bin, the more
balls you should assign to this bin. For example, if you put all the
balls in the bin $600 - $900, it means you are certain that the amount
you will receive is between $600 and $900. Another example is
illustrated on the next screen.

SS003A_BALLSPHP  BALLS MODULE
By clicking on the + and - buttons under each bin, please put the 20
balls into the 7 bins such that it reflects what you think are the chances out
of 20 that your monthly social security benefits fall in a certain bracket.
String
ENDIF

ENDIF

IF Randomly select Variant 1 or 2 = 2 THEN

SS003A_ELSE_AGE_INTRO  INTRO ESTIMATE AGE START COLLECTING SOCIAL SECURITY
For some people it is not easy to predict when they will start collecting
their Social Security benefits. In the next question, we ask you to think
about the age at which you will start collecting these benefits. We will
show you 20 balls that you can put in eight different bins, reflecting
what you think are the chances out of 20 that the age at which you will
start collecting falls in each bin. The more likely you think it is that
the age at which you will start collecting falls in a given bin, the more
balls you should assign to this bin. For example, if you put all the balls
in the bin 63, it means you are certain that you will start collecting
these benefits on or after your 63rd birthday and before your 64th
birthday. Another example is illustrated on the next screen.

SS003A_ELSE_AGE_INTRO2  EXAMPLE TO ESTIMATE AGE START COLLECTING SOCIAL
In this example, there are no balls in the ranges below 64 or above 66, so for
this person it is certain that benefits will not be collected before turning age 64
and after turning age 66. 12 out of 20 balls are in the bin 64 meaning that the
chance that benefits are collected on or after the 64th and before the 65th
birthday is 12 out of 20 (60 percent). There is a smaller chance, 8 out of 20
(40 percent), that benefits are collected at age 65. Of course this is just an
example to illustrate; the chances you have in mind may be completely different.
Now it's your turn! Choose next to start allocating balls.

SS003_A_ELSE_AGE_BALLS_PHP BALLS MODULE
By clicking on the + and - buttons under each bin, please put all the balls into
the 8 bins, such that it best reflects what you think are the chances out of 20
that you will start collecting social security benefits at that age.
String
ENDIF
ENDIF
ENDIF

IF currently receive any income from Social Security? = No THEN

SS0_1_GROUPB PERCENT CHANGE CONGRESS WILL CHANGE SOCIAL SECURITY IN NEXT 5
Thinking of the Social Security program in general and not just your own Social Security
benefits: On a scale from 0 to 100 (where 0 means no chance and 100 means absolutely
certain), what is the percent chance that Congress will change Social Security sometime
in the next 5 years, so that it becomes less generous than now?
Range: 0..100

IF Rate the percent chance that you will receive Social Security benefits some
time in the future? > 0 THEN

SS006 DO YOU THINK SOCIAL SECURITY REFORM IN NEXT 5 YEARS WILL AFFECT YOUR
We just asked you about Social Security reform in general. Now we would like to know
whether you think Social Security reform might affect your own benefits. On a scale
from 0 to 100, what do you think is the percent chance that over the next 5 years
there will be a Social Security reform that will reduce your future Social Security
benefits compared to what you would get under the current system?
Range: 0..100

ENDIF
ENDIF

RS_INTRO Future questions about saving for retirement.
We would like you to assist us in designing future questions about saving for retirement. We would
like to find which asset categories people choose for their retirement saving and how much they
allocate. People’s situations with respect to retirement saving differ enormously, making it difficult to
capture this information with standardized questions. We will ask you some open-ended
questions so that you can describe your situation.

RS001 Do you currently work for pay.
Do you currently work for pay?
1 Yes
2 No
When setting aside money for retirement, where do you deposit or invest the money? Please select all the investments that you use for saving for retirement.

1. Savings or money market account
2. CDs
3. Stocks or mutual funds
4. Bonds
5. T-bills
6. IRA(s) and similar assets (like Keoghs or Roth IRA)
7. Real estate or real estate funds
8. Other

Other savings that you did not include in your reported retirement savings

Do you have any other savings that you did not include in your reported retirement savings?

1. Yes
2. No

What distinguishes your retirement savings from other savings. What distinguishes your retirement savings from other savings? For example, do you hold them in different assets? What are your other savings for? Are there circumstances under which you would use your retirement savings for other purposes?

How did you figure out that amount and what are the factors you consider when thinking about how much to save for retirement?

How much wealth you accumulated so far for retirement

Now we would like to know about how much wealth you have accumulated so far for retirement (not counting Social Security benefits and employer pensions).

How much wealth you expect to accumulate for retirement

Now we would like to know about how much wealth you expect to accumulate for retirement (not counting Social Security benefits and employer pensions).
You told us that you expect to accumulate about $RS004 for retirement - How certain are you about the amount you provided? If you told us that you expect to accumulate about $RS004 for retirement - How certain are you about the amount you provided < 100 AND You told us that you expect to accumulate about $RS004 for retirement - How certain are you about the amount you provided != EMPTY THEN

Which aspects you are uncertain about

Can you tell us which aspects you are uncertain about?

Memo

ENDIF

IF: You told us that you expect to accumulate about $RS004 for retirement - How certain are you about the amount you provided < 100 AND You told us that you expect to accumulate about $RS004 for retirement - How certain are you about the amount you provided != EMPTY THEN

Which aspects you are uncertain about

Can you tell us which aspects you are uncertain about?

Memo

ENDIF

Financial resources you expect to draw upon during your retirement years Please select all the financial resources you expect to draw upon during your retirement years:

1 Social Security
2 Employer pension (including 401K)
3 IRA (including Keogh and Roth IRA)
4 Stocks and mutual funds
5 Saving accounts
6 CDs
7 Bonds
8 T-Bills
9 Equity from house you live in (sell the house or take out equity line or reverse mortgage)
10 Other real estate
11 Other

Other Financial resources you expect to draw upon during your retirement years Please select all the financial resources you expect to draw upon during your retirement years:

String

Think about what you would do differently if everyone’s Social Security benefits, including your own, were cut by 30 percent.

If Social Security cut by 30 percent, would you work longer than originally planned? Would you?

1 Yes
2 Maybe
3 No

If currently receive any income from Social Security? = No AND Rate the percent chance that you will receive Social Security benefits some time in the future? > 0
RS006D Would you claim Social Security later than originally planned?
   1 Yes
   2 Maybe
   3 No

ENDIF

IF Do you currently work for pay. = Yes OR Do you currently work for pay. = EMPTY THEN
   RS006F Would you reduce spending before retirement?
   1 Yes
   2 Maybe
   3 No

ENDIF

RS006G Would you reduce your spending after retirement?
   1 Yes
   2 Maybe
   3 No

IF If Social Security cut by 30 percent, would you work longer than originally planned? != EMPTY OR Would you claim Social Security later than originally planned? != EMPTY OR Would you reduce spending before retirement? != EMPTY OR Would you reduce your spending after retirement? != EMPTY THEN
   RS006_relevant Which factors would be important to your decision? Still thinking about how you would deal with a 30 percent cut to Social Security benefits: Which factors would be important to your decision?
   Memo

ENDIF

IF Would you reduce spending before retirement? = Yes OR Would you reduce spending before retirement? = Maybe THEN
   [Questions RS006F_1_perc to RS006F_1_amt are displayed as a table]

   RS006F_1_perc By how much you would expect to reduce your spending before retirement?
   By how much you would expect to reduce your spending before retirement? Please enter by what percentage you would reduce spending or the annual amount, whichever you find easier:
   Range: 0..100

   RS006F_1_amt By how much you would expect to reduce your spending before retirement?
   By how much you would expect to reduce your spending before retirement? Please enter by what percentage you would reduce spending or the annual amount, whichever you find easier:
   Long

   RS006F_2 Why would you not expect to reduce your spending before retirement?
   Why would you not expect to reduce your spending before retirement?
   Memo
IF Would you reduce your spending after retirement? = Yes OR Would you reduce your spending after retirement? = Maybe THEN

[Questions RS006G_1_perc to RS006G_1_amt are displayed as a table]

RS006G_1_perc By how much you would expect to reduce your spending after retirement?
By how much you would expect to reduce your spending after retirement?
Please enter by what percentage you would reduce spending or the annual amount, whichever you find easier:
Range: 0..100

RS006G_1_amt By how much you would expect to reduce your spending after retirement?
By how much you would expect to reduce your spending after retirement?
Please enter by what percentage you would reduce spending or the annual amount, whichever you find easier:
Long

RS006G_2 Why would you not expect to reduce your spending after retirement?
Why would you not expect to reduce your spending after retirement?
Memo

ENDIF

IF SELECT R FOR RS006 COUNTER > 1 THEN

RS006Ha Which one of the following ways would make up for most of the 30 percent cut in Social Security
Which one of the following ways would make up for most of the 30 percent cut in Social Security benefits?
| 1 [If Social Security cut by 30 percent, would you work longer than originally planned?]
| 2 [Would you claim Social Security later than originally planned?]
| 3 [Would you reduce spending before retirement?]
| 4 [Would you reduce your spending after retirement?]

ENDIF

CS_001 HOW PLEASANT INTERVIEW
Could you tell us how interesting or uninteresting you found the questions in this interview?
1 Very interesting
2 Interesting
3 Neither interesting nor uninteresting
4 Uninteresting
5 Very uninteresting

CS_003 COMMENTS
Do you have any other comments on the interview? Please type these in the box below.
Memo