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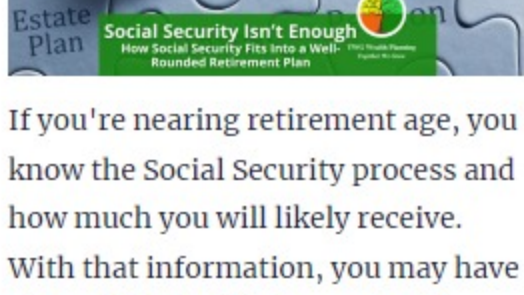
## An Excellent First Quarter for Stocks

The first quarter is in the books, and it was an excellent one for stocks. The S&P 500 index rode a resilient U.S. economy, easing inflation, rising corporate profits, and anticipation of summertime rate cuts from the Federal Reserve (Fed) to solid gains in March, the fifth straight winning month, and the best first quarter since 2019.

With stocks having done so well, it's natural to think about selling. If you haven't rebalanced in a while and hold more equities than targets, shifting some stocks into bonds or alternative investments may make sense. If your investing time horizon is long, the case for trimming equities is stronger because valuations matter more three to five years out.

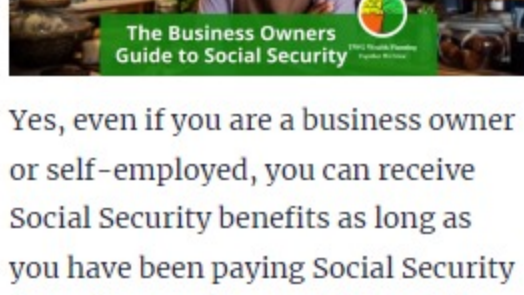
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## April Blog Highlights: Social Security



If you're nearing retirement age, you know the Social Security process and how much you will likely receive. With that information, you may have also anticipated that your Social Security benefit would not be enough to sustain you in retirement and, by itself, would not fully allow you to enjoy your retirement plans.

[Learn More](#)



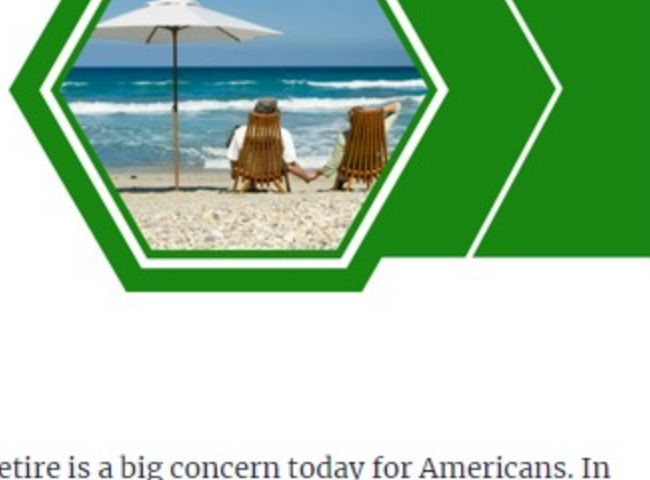
Yes, even if you are a business owner or self-employed, you can receive Social Security benefits as long as you have been paying Social Security tax each year. The Social Security Administration defines you as self-employed if you operate a business, trade, or profession by yourself or as a partner.

[Learn More](#)

## 5 Common Retirement Mistakes

### RETIREMENT PLANNING TIPS

with Kevin Speich  
401(k) Specialist



Having enough money after you retire is a big concern today for Americans. In fact, only roughly one-in-four Americans feel very confident that they will have enough money to live comfortably when they retire, according to a recent survey. The concern is certainly justified. After all, Americans are living longer lives than ever before, and the uncertainty of being able to maintain a lifestyle for 20, 30, or 40 years after you retire is understandable.

While there's no single action that can increase your confidence if you're nearing retirement age, there are several key investment mistakes that, if you avoid them, can help you maximize your retirement savings and perhaps give you the confidence to help you retire with less financial stress.

These are the things you'll want to avoid:

**Mistake #1: Failing to maximize your contribution.** If you can afford to do so, contributing the maximum amount to your employer-sponsored retirement plan will increase the chance that you'll reach your investment goal. The earlier you start, the better. It will allow your investments the opportunity, along with any potential earnings to grow on a tax-deferred basis.

**Mistake #2: Failing to develop a plan.** Without a plan, it's difficult to understand whether your savings will help support your living standard. As such, establish a plan early, laying out clear goals that incorporate the number of years until your planned retirement. This will help you create a practical investment plan for your goal. Without such a plan, it will be difficult to understand whether your savings will provide you with the living standard to which you've grown accustomed and for each year of your retirement.

**Mistake #3: Adopting a short-term investment mindset.** The stock market fluctuates a lot and in the short term, there's a decent chance of price volatility. Therefore, selling off your holdings whenever the market drops is a sure way to incur losses that impact your long-term goals.

**Mistake #4: Trying to be perfect.** Trying to time your investment decisions on when the market will be at its lowest or highest is risky business, and it can lead to missed opportunities. Invest your money with an eye toward the long term.

**Mistake #5: Putting all of your financial eggs in one basket.** Some investors make the mistake of investing in just one fund or asset type. This is risky business if the market swings and impacts that one holding. On the other hand, if you diversify your risk over a mix of assets, this can help control any potential losses during sharp market swings.

By avoiding these common mistakes, you increase the potential for investment success and reaching your retirement savings goal.

Have more questions?

Please give our office a call to schedule an appointment with a financial advisor.

[Contact Us](#)

**IRA Contributions**  
If you still need to make any 2023 IRA contributions, please contact our office by **Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>**, anything after will be submitted best efforts. All requests should be sent to [operations@twgwealthplanning.com](mailto:operations@twgwealthplanning.com) and call our office for a verbal confirmation.

**QCD Reminder**  
If you would like to do a Qualified Charitable Donation towards your 2024 RMD, please email [operations@twgwealthplanning.com](mailto:operations@twgwealthplanning.com) with instructions so we can process your request.

**Need a Review?**  
Please schedule your appointment by visiting our website or click [here](#).

**Are There Any Changes TWG Should Be Aware Of?**  
This a gentle reminder to always keep our Operations Team informed of any important life changes that may impact your financial plan.

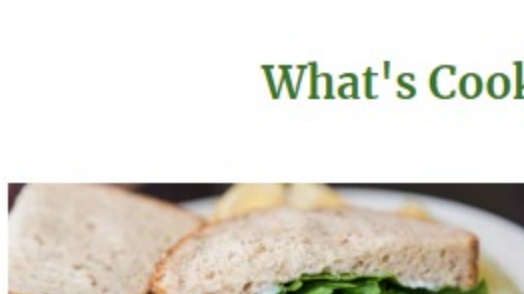
Call us when...

- Need to schedule a beneficiary review.
- Life Change (Job change, Moved, Marriage, New Baby, etc.)
- Updated your estate planning documents or have not provided our office with copies of your documents.
- Thinking of retiring soon.
- Process Qualified Charitable Donations to complete your Required Minimum Distributions.

For a Change of Marital Status, please contact our office. We will be requesting a copy of a supporting document that verifies the name change: Examples include:

- Marriage Certificate
- Divorce Decree
- Certificate Court Document

## What's Cooking with TWG?



A Fresh Twist on Chicken Salad

Have some leftover grilled chicken? Need some summer food inspiration? No matter what your motivation is, this recipe for lemon pepper chicken salad is perfect for anybody who loves quick, easy, and delicious food that's great for any occasion!

[Click Here for Recipe](#)

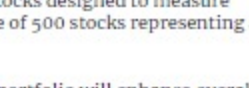


Have Questions? We Can Help.

Schedule an appointment with a member of our planning team — and talk investments, retirement planning, market news, and more. [Book appointment »](#)

Together We Grow.

[Contact Us](#)



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The Standard & Poor's 500 Index (S&P500) is a capitalization-weighted index of 500 stocks designed to measure performance of the broad domestic economy through changes in the aggregate market value of 500 stocks representing all major industries.

Investing involves risk including loss of principal. There is no guarantee that a diversified portfolio will enhance overall returns or outperform a non-diversified portfolio. Diversification does not protect against market risk.

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