



Twenty states

offer retirement plans to private sector workers.



of Gen X 401(k) participants say their greatest worry is outliving their retirement savings.²

About 45%

of U.S. households are projected to run short of money in retirement.³



of workers want their employers to offer retirement income as part of their 401(k) plan.⁴

Together, we can continue to pave the way forward.

EMPLOYERS CAN

Encourage enrollment

 Establish auto-enrollment for new employees

Boost savings

- Set default contribution rates at 6% with annual auto-increases
- Allow older workers to leverage catch-up contributions
- Provide an employer matching or year-end contribution

Enhance investments

 Provide a default investment with guaranteed returns and income

Improve communication and education

- Promote the benefits of saving for retirement
- Provide education on how a worker's savings will provide income retirement, including guaranteed lifetime income

Participate actively

- Make use of education and advice tools
- Participate in workplace plans and make sure to save at least enough to meet the employer match
- Take advantage of age-based catch-up contributions

Improve access and participation

- Encourage re-enrollment of workers who chose not to participate
- Create federal auto-IRA and state-sponsored plans where applicable
- Let gig workers and 18–20 year olds participate in workplace plans
- Allow default enrollment in state defined contribution plans

Increase savings

- Require minimum default contribution rates of 6% for plans with annual autoincreases to a cap
- Seek solutions to help family caregivers save for retirement
- Approve age-based default contribution rates

Expand flexibility and lifetime income

- Encourage a default investment with guaranteed returns and income
- Help plan sponsors offer a menu of distribution options including guaranteed income options to retiring participants
- Allow 403(b) plans to offer the same investments as 401(k) plans
- Allow income options in retail products like IRAs
- Include lifetime income solutions in state defined contribution plans



¹ Georgetown University Center for Retirement Initiatives, January 2025

² The Cerulli Edge: The Americas Asset and Wealth Management Edition, September 2025

³ Morningstar Model of US Retirement Outcomes, 2024

⁴ Greenwald Research's annual 2025 In-Plan Insights Program