The Important Role that Debt Plays in Retirement

When it comes to retirement planning, there's often a lot of emphasis on how much *income* future retirees will receive once their working years are behind them. What's *not* often discussed is how much *debt* retirees will have—and why that's important to anyone planning for retirement.

Debt trends – and the long-term consequences of debt

- Individuals are borrowing more over a lifetime—in the form of student loans, credit cards, mortgages, home equity loans, home equity lines of credit, and reverse mortgages. As a result, American households are now carrying greater amounts of debt into retirement.*
- Before retirement, debt repayments typically come from wages. In retirement, income generally comes
 from Social Security retirement benefits, and possibly, a pension and savings. If retirement income
 decreases, there may be less money to pay down outstanding debt.

Debt can have a substantial impact on an individual's quality of life in retirement.

That's why it's important for those planning for retirement to consider how much debt they may have in the future—and what they can do about that debt *today* to make their financial life tomorrow more enjoyable.

Prudential offers a compelling paper, *Planning for Retirement: The Implications of Carrying Higher Housing Debt into Retirement,* that explores the role of debt in retirement in much greater detail. Be sure to visit **prudential.com/housingdebt** to get your copy today.

To learn more about the effects of debt on your retirement—and the steps you can take to help yourself reduce that debt in the future—contact your Prudential retirement counselor.



^{*} Source: Brown, Meta, and Donghoon Lee, Joelle Scally, Katherine Strair, and Wilbert van der Klaauw, "The Graying of American Debt," Federal Reserve Bank of New York, February 2016, http://libertystreeteconomics.newyorkfed. org/2016/02/the-graying-of-american-debt.html#. V7MsH8sUXcs

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It's quick and easy to make the change:

- 1. Visit prudential.com/prudential.com/njdcrp.
- 2. Click on "Access My Account."
- 3. Click on "Register Now."
- 4. Follow the on-screen prompts.

Take Advantage of a Valuable Resource: Your Prudential Retirement Counselor

Retirement planning is something that continuously occurs over the course of an individual's career. And just as your life will change over time, you may find that your retirement planning needs will as well. But you're far from alone in your retirement planning journey—thanks to your Prudential retirement counselor. **Stan Rovinski** can help you navigate the retirement planning process, and get the answers you need along the way. And, as an NJDCRP participant, his assistance is available to you at *no additional charge*.

Be sure to contact Stan *today* for the retirement planning support you need.

Your Retirement Counselor Contact Information

Stan Rovinski

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Email: stan.rovinski@prudential.com

Plan information can be obtained by calling **866-NJDCRP1** (866-653-2771) toll free or by visiting **prudential.com/njdcrp**.

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0303350-00001-00 YJNLRE15





