



How much did you SAVE for Retirement in 2017?



Thinking about retirement can be overwhelming at times, especially when it comes to calculating the amount of money you need to retire comfortably one day.

The monthly pension you need to maintain your lifestyle in retirement should be determined years before your actual retirement date. The monthly income you would need at retirement will need to be determined according to your personal needs. It is very important to clarify your financial needs and carefully plan your retirement contributions early in your working life.

Net Replacement Value (NRR)

You can plan your future monthly pension by determining your Net Replacement Value (NRR). Your NRR looks at your projected pension at retirement expressed as a percentage of your projected salary at retirement.

You won't necessarily need 100% of your salary as a pension one day: many people are able to retire adequately with an NRR of 60%. It will all depend on your personal needs.

** The calculations below were done on an annual return on investment of Inflation + 6%.*

To reach a Replacement Ratio of 60% at retirement a member will have to contribute +-15.5% of their total income for 30 years.

To reach a Replacement Ratio of 75% at retirement a member will have to contribute +-19.4% of their total income for 30 years.

To reach a Replacement Ratio of 90% at retirement a member will have to contribute +-23.2% of their total income for 30 years.

Your future is determined by what you do today. And like any vehicle on route to its destination, it's crucial that you stay on track.

Once a year, the Columbus Retirement Fund issues a formal Benefit Statement to all members. This statement shows you a summary of all your benefits in the Fund and can help you determine **whether or not** you are on your way towards reaching your retirement goals.

Once you've reviewed your latest benefit statement, ask yourself the following important questions:

Have I made an appointment with/recently seen an accredited financial advisor?	Yes/No
Am I on track to reach my planned retirement goal?	Yes/No
Have I set up an annual/monthly budget for myself and my family?	Yes/No
Am I aware of my benefits in the Fund?	Yes/No
Have I looked at my contributions and am I satisfied with the amount I am contributing every month?	Yes/No
Am I aware of the tax implications should I withdraw a part of my retirement savings in cash?	Yes/No
Have I ever taken any of my retirement savings in cash?	Yes/No

If you are not on track, don't let it scare you away from retirement planning. There are solutions to help you reach your goals. The important part is to act today, before it's too late!

SCHOOL'S OUT!



SCHOOLS CLOSE ON 6 DECEMBER

On 6 December, schools close for the long-awaited summer holiday. For most parents, the next month will be filled with activities, playdates, and outings. And if you don't keep an eye on the finances, you could lose control of your budget for this month. Here are some quick tips for how you can stay in control of your budget:

- Do have a budget! You won't be able to begin to monitor your spending if you don't have an amount to measure it against.
- Keep your children entertained at home. Research some fun ideas and activities that can keep your children occupied.
- If you are craving a day out, make use of various specials and promotions over the holiday period.
- Take advantage of the outdoors. Visit your nearest park or picnic location. Invite your friends along.

CONTACT:

Should you have any questions, contact **Johan Hartzenberg**, the Fund's Principal Officer, on 082 801 3323; or email jhhartz@outlook.com.

Want to learn more?

Visit the Columbus Your Fund Website.