



RAYMOND JAMES®

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A Closer Look



MARKET SUMMARY

Equities continued their positive trend in April, spurred by favorable corporate earnings reports, proposed federal tax cuts, and positive economic signals overseas. The Nasdaq surpassed 6000 for the first time in its history, while the small-cap Russell 2000 reached a record high by the end of April. The yield on 10-year treasuries fell 10 basis points as bond prices increased.

MARKET OUTLOOK

In the broader picture, investors are paying attention to geopolitical concerns in Syria, North Korea and Afghanistan; as well as economic uncertainty in Europe, Asia and the Emerging markets. Investors are also worried about the looming legislative battle over proposed tax cuts. Moderate economic growth may appear disappointing but it is still a constructive environment for investors.

DIVERSIFY YOUR RETIREMENT INCOME



Branching out allows your savings to weather different seasons

There are many factors to consider when it comes to planning for a secure and fulfilling retirement – you’ll have to think about everything from how you’ll fill your time to where you’ll live and how you’ll pay for it all. One solution is retirement income diversification.

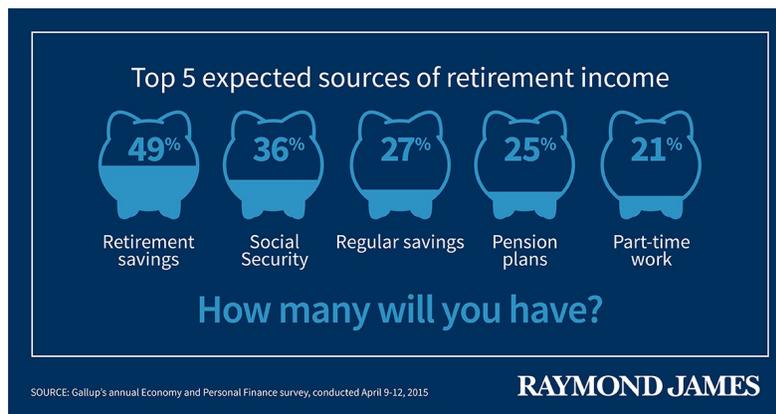
Similar to asset allocation among your investments, the approach advocates establishing independent (i.e., noncorrelated) streams of income that could provide needed cash flow under a variety of circumstances. The idea is to put your eggs in several baskets, since none of us know what the markets will do over 20 to 30 years of retirement, much less how long we’ll need our money to last. While it may be nearly impossible to account for all the variables, we are able to establish different sources of income in the years leading up to retirement, and test them against various scenarios to determine if our planned income will hold up against economic challenges.

Start with the Core Sources

Start with your streams of reliable retirement income that will serve as your main source of cash flow. This could be one or any combination of sources, including Social Security benefits, pension payments, employment income (most likely part-time work since you’ll be retired) or annuity payouts. The key is identifying the sources of consistent income that you can use to cover your necessary expenses, such as mortgage payments, groceries, utilities, insurance, transportation and healthcare.

Of course, what’s essential will be different for every retiree. For example, you may view donating to charity as a necessity, while someone else insists on including their club membership among needs because it provides an avenue to physical and mental health through social interaction and exercise. The point is, decide what your retirement needs truly are and ensure you have a variety of stable income sources to meet those needs.

Then consider how those more reliable income sources will perform in “normal” markets, recessions or periods of high inflation. For example, Social Security, which generally includes a cost of living increase each year, should hold steady in different economic environments. Its resilience is another reason why it pays to maximize this income stream if you can.



Investing involves risk including the possible loss of principal. Diversification does not guarantee a profit nor protect against loss.

NURTURING MONEYWISE CHILDREN

Teach your children to treasure their financial legacy.

Parents often emphasize the importance of education to their beloved children. The rewards are obvious. Yet all too many forget to bolster that education with real-world financial information that can be passed along for generations to come.

The good news is it's never too early to share financial wisdom, to teach your children the value of money and how to care for their financial legacy. In fact, the sooner you start, the better. When they're on their own, you'll have the comfort of knowing they understand and appreciate the power of financial planning and the role money plays in their lives.

An essential skill

Like reading, financial literacy is an essential skill. Unfortunately, it's not typically taught in school. It's up to parents to pass on their financial knowledge to ensure the next generation is capable of taking care of the wealth they've built.



Financial lessons can start as early as the toddler years and extend through middle age, when your adult children will need to know as much as possible about your financial life. Conversations should focus on holistic planning, saving and spending. It's about how you build wealth and what you do with it to achieve your goals. You might be able to use real-life examples, like a new home purchase, to explain a particular financial lesson.

It seems obvious, but the best way to pass on your own financial literacy is by example. Parents need to establish themselves, early on, as moneywise adults. Just as unhealthy, bad habits get passed on to children by example, so too can risky money management techniques. The next generation may struggle to overcome poor habits they've been taught over the years.

A Family Affair

Grandparents also have a role to play, as long as what they pass along is in line with your values and attitudes toward money. They often have insights, gained from years of experience, that can be shared. You may even learn a thing or two as you build your family's financial legacy together.

While products such as trusts and wills can help ensure your wishes are carried out, they can't give your heirs the true understanding of how to save, grow and spend money wisely. In fact, if your children are going to receive a sizable inheritance, they may get overwhelmed by sudden wealth without a solid foundation to rely on. It's also a good idea to introduce your children, when they're ready, to your financial advisor and other professional partners, so they'll know where to find expert guidance when dealing with money issues

WHY WORK WITH A CFP®

In life, it's important to find a financial planner you trust to provide sound, unbiased advice and professional services. Being CFP® certified means someone has voluntarily taken the extra steps needed to provide the highest possible standard of financial planning to those they serve.

How does working with a CFP® certified advisor benefit you? CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professionals are held to the utmost standards of ethics and professional responsibility, which prepares them for a career-long commitment to provide truly personalized services to meet your needs; all while maintaining high levels of financial planning and professionalism. CFP® professionals maintain their professional edge through ongoing education and training in addition to the rigorous requirements to represent a high level of integrity, objectivity, competence, fairness, confidentiality, professionalism and diligence when working with you.



JACKSON COUNTY CATFISH FESTIVAL...



The annual Jackson County Catfish Festival will be held on Saturday, May 20th, beginning at 8:00 a.m.

JACKSON COUNTY CATFISH FESTIVAL!!

The Jackson County Shriner Club, in conjunction with Jackson County Catfish Festival, will hold its annual CATFISH FESTIVAL on Saturday, May 20, 2017, beginning at 8:00 a.m. at Jackson County Park. The festival celebrates one of America's favorite outdoor activities – fishing for catfish. The festival includes fried catfish plates, arts & crafts, car, truck, motorcycle, tractor show, concerts, concessions, and a free kids area offering inflatables. Festival goers are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and enjoy the live entertainment, including gospel singing. Beginning at 11:00 a.m., the Shriner's will be selling catfish dinners. Pets are welcome to join in on the festivities. A pet parade and costume contest is set for 12 p.m. Proceeds benefit Jackson County Shriners Club. For more information, call Living Word Ministries at 256-574-4305.



Saturday, May 20th

Free Admission • Food Vendors • Live Entertainment
Car/Truck/Motorcycle Show • Arts & Craft Vendors

Presented by the



www.bcofsjc.com

COFFEE CLUB!

Do you know about Thursday Morning Community Coffee Club? We meet every first Thursday of the month at Impact Learning Center from 9:30am to 10:30am. We always have a topic of discussion; usually related to the financial world, and current events. Coffee Club is an opportunity for us to gather with members of the community, whether they are current clients or not, to learn, discuss, to share ideas, and to fellowship. It's a very laid back atmosphere, we serve coffee and refreshments, and just enjoy being together. We welcome each of you to join us, and we would love for you to bring along a friend!



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