

Essential advice for your financial health

We're here to answer your questions.



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2024 in review

Yields of the main indices in 2024 (in Canadian dollars)	Return (%)
Canadian equities – S&P/TSX Composite Index (total return)	21.7%
International equities – MSCI EAFE (CDN\$)	13.8%
American equities – S&P 500 (CDN\$) (total return)	36.4%
Canadian bonds – FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index	4.2%
Global equities – MSCI World (CDN\$)	30.0%
Canada short-term bonds	5.7%
Emerging markets – MSCI Emerging Markets (CDN\$)	17.9%
Balanced profile*	16.2%

Source: CIO Office (data via Refinitiv) on December 31, 2024.

^{*}The Balanced profile is represented by a combination of the following indices: 40% FTSE TMX Universe, 21% S&P/TSX, 21% S&P 500 (\$CA), 12% MSCI EAFE (\$CA), 6% MSCI EM (\$CA)

Canadian sectors – S&P/TSX Composite Index	Return (%)
Consumer Staples	18.9%
Information Technology	38.0%
Healthcare	8.2%
Consumer Discretionary	11.9%
Industrials	9.7%
Utilities	13.7%
Telecommunications	-21.1%
Financial Services	30.1%
Materials	21.4%
Energy	24.0%
Real Estate	-2.0%

Source: CIO Office (data via Refinitiv) on December 31, 2024.



Investment basics

Basics Education Project Financial health Retirement Solutions



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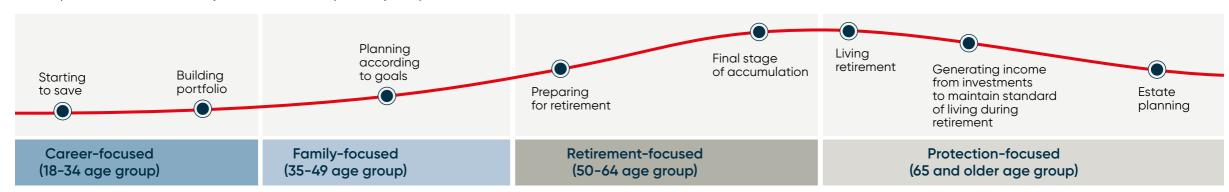






updating your plan

As your situation changes with each major life event (the birth of a child, a promotion, a divorce, etc.), your finances change too! It is important to work with your advisor to update your plan.





diversify your investments?

The different asset types do not all undergo the same fluctuations. Frequently, bonds are up while stocks are down. The more you diversify the types of assets in your portfolio, the more you reduce the risks associated with market volatility.

Annual return in percentage by asset category in local currency (2008 to 2024)

2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
8.3	52.0	17.6	10.0	16.0	41.3	23.9	21.6	21.1	28.7	4.2	24.8	16.6	27.6	-4.0	22.9	36.4
6.1	35.1	13.0	4.6	15.3	31.7	14.1	19.5	8.1	17.4	1.9	22.9	16.3	25.1	-5.8	19.5	28.7
-14.9	15.6	9.5	4.6	14.2	31.6	11.8	17.7	7.7	16.4	1.3	20.9	14.8	18.0	-7.8	15.7	21.7
-21.2	15.0	9.1	1.0	13.4	14.9	10.6	6.7	7.0	13.8	-0.7	16.5	9.8	11.1	-10.1	12.1	17.9
-27.3	12.5	7.3	-4.6	8.6	13.0	9.1	3.6	4.7	9.7	-1.5	15.6	8.6	10.8	-11.5	11.8	16.6
-28.8	7.4	6.9	-8.7	7.2	4.3	7.0	2.6	1.5	9.1	-5.6	12.9	6.4	-0.9	-12.0	7.3	13.8
-33.0	5.2	3.5	-9.5	3.7	1.8	4.1	2.4	0.9	2.7	-6.5	7.0	5.6	-2.7	-12.2	6.4	5.7
-41.4	4.6	2.6	-16.1	2.1	-1.5	3.0	-8.3	-2.0	0.3	-8.9	3.0	5.2	-3.1	-13.9	4.9	4.1

Click on the numbers in the graph to see the names of the corresponding assets.

Canadian stocks

International stocks

U.S. stocks

Global stocks

Emerging markets

Balanced profile*

Canada short-term bond





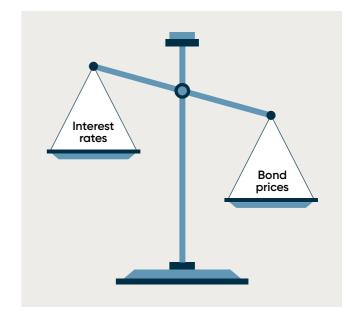
Canadian bonds





to counter interest rate increases

Given that bond prices generally move inversely to interest rates, a rate increase has a negative impact on bonds. The negative impact can be tempered by diversifying the portfolio using different asset classes that have a lower correlation with the FTSE TMX Canada Universe Bond Index.



saving for retirement?

The later you start, the higher your annual contribution will have to be. For example, if you start saving for retirement at age 50, you may have to put aside more than 50% of your yearly gross income. Achieve your goals with ease by beginning as early as possible.

Annual contribution necessary to reach a target amount by age 65

- Starting at age 30 contribution of 18.00% of gross income
- Starting at age 40 contribution of 27.64% of gross income
- Starting at age 50 contribution of 50.39% of gross income





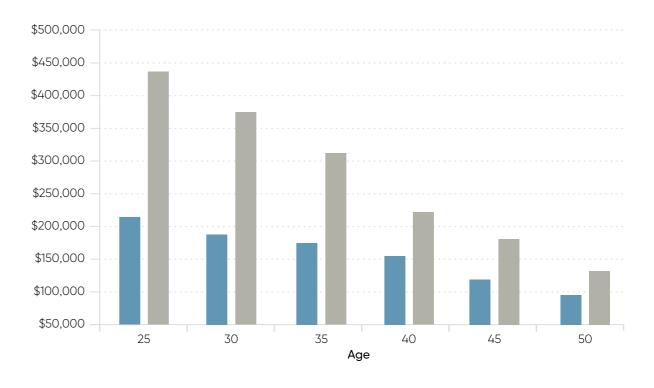




If you start saving early, you may end up with more than double the capital you invested!

Accumulated savings at age 65 after annual investments of 10% of the gross income¹ (starting gross annual income at age 25: \$35,000)

Age when you start saving	Total contributions	Total value at age 65 ²
25	\$211,407	\$446,610
30	\$193,193	\$372,835
35	\$173,083	\$305,075
40	\$150,880	\$242,840
45	\$126,366	\$185,680
50	\$99,301	\$133,181





^{2.} Based on an effective annual return rate of 3.75%.





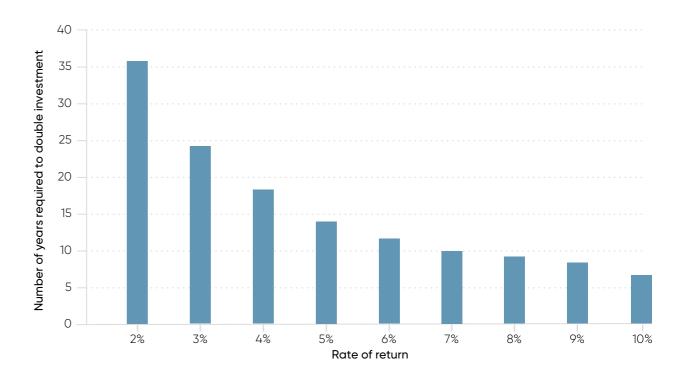


A higher risk tolerance is required for expectations of more attractive returns.



The rule of 72 allows us to roughly identify how many years it will take for an investment's value to double: simply divide 72 by the interest obtained for your investment.

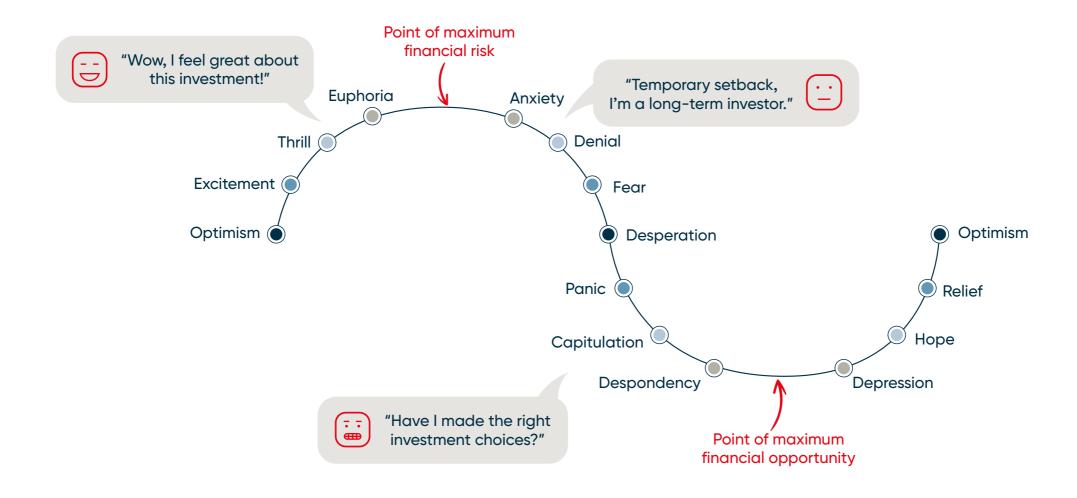
Rate of return	Number of years required to double investment
2%	36
3%	24
4%	18
5%	14
6%	12
7%	10
8%	9
9%	8
10%	7





emotions influence your choices?

Emotions can lead to making rushed decisions when it comes to your investments. To manage your emotions, identify the scenarios (market correction, drop in value of securities, etc.) in which you may act irrationally.



your portfolio?

The graph below shows that despite momentary dips during crises, the long-term trend is on the rise.

Growth of \$100 invested in the S&P/TSX Total Return Index

1968 USSR invades Czechoslovakia	1991 Coup d'état in Russia	2011 U.S. debt downgraded, threat of double dip recess			
1970 US invades Cambodia – new peak in Vietnam War	1993 Bombing of World Trade Center	2012 European crisis: debt, unemployment, austerity			
1971 Wage / price freezes in the U.S.	1995 Second Quebec referendum	2013 U.S. budget crisis, weak growth in China			
1973 Energy crisis / Arab oil embargo	1997 "Asian Flu" financial crisis	2014 Crisis in Ukraine			
1974 Nixon resigns to pre-empt impeachment	1999 Y2K paranoia	2015 Paris attacks			
0 - 1975 Clouded economic prospects	2000 Tech bubble bursts	2016 Brexit and U.S. elections			
1977 Markets begin a major slump	2001 9-11 terrorist attacks	2017 Increase in key interest rate in Canada			
1978 Interest rates rise – Stagflation	2002 Major accounting scandals sap confidence in financial system				
0 - 1979 USSR invades Afghanistan	2003 War in Iraq	2018 U.S. trade rates/NAFTA renegotiation			
1980 Oil prices skyrocket – First Quebec referendum	2005 London metro and bus bombings	2019 U.S.—China trade conflict			
1981 Short-term interest rates in Canada hit 21%	2007 Subprime crisis	2020 Global health crisis – COVID-19 2021			
0 - 1982 Falklands War	2008 Global financial system near collapse	2022 Major increase in key interest rate in Canada			
1990 Persian Gulf crisis / Iraq invades Kuwait	2009 Major equity markets 50% below their peaks	and the United States			





Should you hold on to your investments



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during market fluctuations?

As the saying goes, a picture is worth a thousand words. As you can see in the graph below, those who stayed invested in the market during the financial crisis of 2008 obtained a much greater yield over 10 years than those who temporarily withdrew their stocks.

- Stayed invested in the stock market
- Exited market and reinvested after 1 year
- Exited market and invested in cash
- Recession





successfully timed the markets?

In the long run, what truly matters is the frequency of savings and passage of time, not market timing.

- Buying at year low
- Buying at month start (monthly systematic investment)
- Buying at year high



pursuing your goals?

All asset categories undergo variations over time, but in the long term, they tend to evolve favourably. Regardless of your portfolio's composition, it is important to stay the course in pursuing your goals and to think about the long term.



on overall performance?

Dividends appear as a contribution to the ever-increasing overall performance over an investment's lifetime.

S&P/TSX Total Return Index

S&P/TSX Composite





in line with your needs

Investing in several GICs with different maturity dates allows you to anticipate fluctuating interest rates while having access to part of your invested principal each year and take advantage of more attractive long-term rates.

		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
	\$5,000	Cash solutions	s								
ent	\$5,000	1-year GIC	5-year GIC					5-year GIC			
Initial investment \$30,000	\$5,000	2-year GIC		5-year GIC					5-year GIC		
ial inv \$30,	\$5,000	3-year GIC			5-year GIC					5-year GIC	
nit	\$5,000	4-year GIC				5-year GIC					5-year GIC
	\$5,000	5-year GIC					5-year GIC				

Laddering PLUS

Adding a market-linked GIC to each strategy allows you to increase your potential return with exposure to a diversified equity portfolio or a reference index of low-volatility securities.





that meet your needs

Did you know that the government offers incentives with various benefits that can help you grow your money and achieve your goals and dreams? A variety of plans are available, including:

FHSA Buying your first home	RESP Your children's education	RRSP Your retirement	TFSA Your projects and dreams
	BEI	NEFITS	
Programme Reduces taxable income Your savings and earnings grow tax-free	 Government grants Your savings and earnings grow tax-free	Reduces taxable incomeYour savings and earnings grow tax-free	Your savings and earnings grow tax-freeTax-free withdrawals
	GOOD	TO KNOW	
To be eligible to contribute, you must not have lived in a qualifying home	With an RESP, you can boost your savings with government grants of	The Home Buyers' Plan (HBP) allows you to withdraw up to \$60,000	You can withdraw money from your TFSA for any type of project, wheth

To take advantage of the tax benefits of the various savings accounts, you must have tax residency in Canada. In other words, you must be a permanent or temporary resident of Canada for tax purposes. You also need to have a social insurance number (SIN).

up to 20-40% of your contributions

each year, including the Canada

Education Savings Grant (CESG).



from your RRSP tax-free to buy

your first home.



owned by you or your partner this

year or within the previous four years.



short- or medium-term.



Saving for education

Do you have a plan for your children's education?	
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for your children's education?

DID YOU KNOW?

> Average tuition for a full-time undergraduate student in Canada is

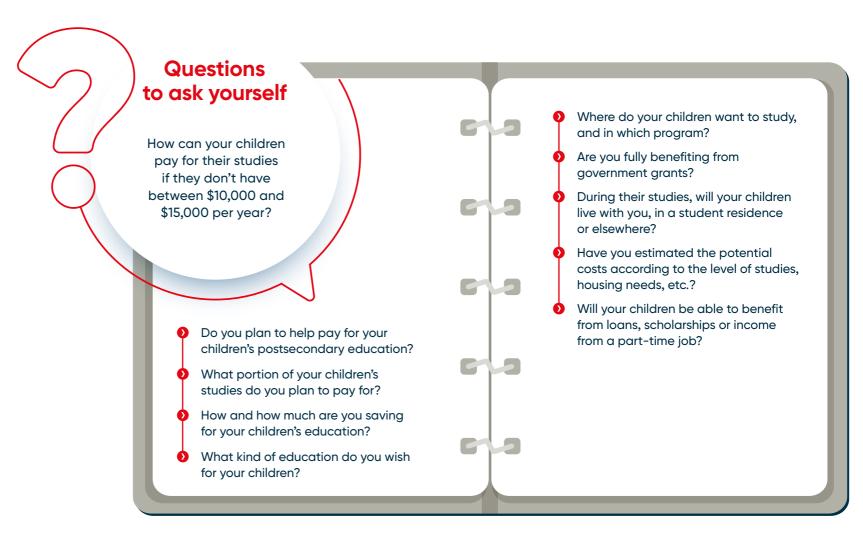


\$8.519 for the 2024-2025 school year.1

> The average annual RESP contribution for children who receive the CESG is \$1,764, while average annual withdrawals per student stood at \$10,115 in 2021.2



One out of every two postsecondary students has student debt upon graduation.3



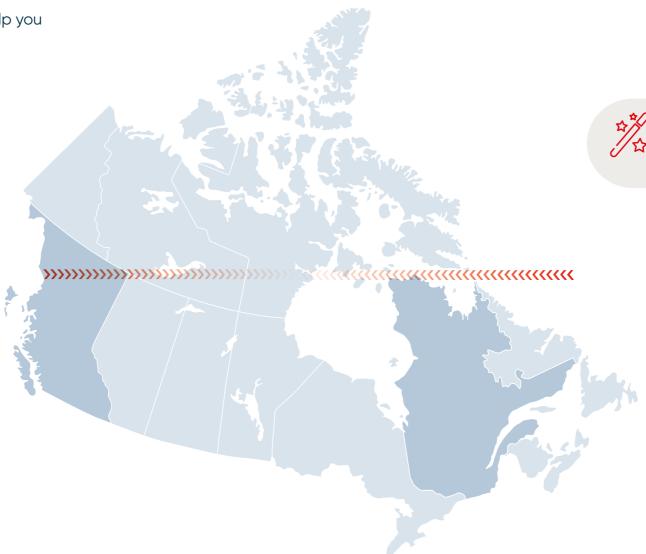






from government grants?

Many government grants exist to help you maximize the RESP contributions.





Did you know that the federal government can subsidize up to \$7,200 of your children's education?





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for saving for a project?

DID YOU KNOW?

> 65% of Canadians have a major purchase or expense planned during the next 3 years.1

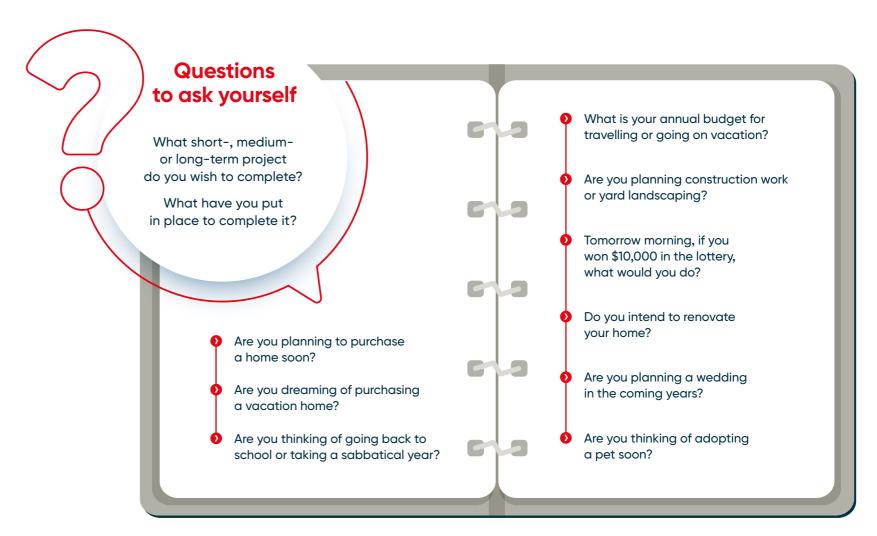




46% of Canadians say saving more helps them reduce stress.²



Over half (55%) of Canadians reportedly considered changing iobs in 2021.³





systematic saving work?

Systematic saving consists in setting up automatic debits of a specific amount at specific intervals.

For example, you may decide to set aside \$25 per week for an undetermined duration or \$100 per month for one year.

Evolution of the portfolio value based on the monthly savings amount

\$

4 good reasons to save systematically

- It's worthwhile: The earlier you start, the quicker your savings will increase.
- It's accessible: Putting aside smaller amounts regularly is easier than putting aside one big sum all at once.
- It's simple: Set up automatic debits once, and that's it!
- It's practical: Choose the frequency and amount that best suit you.

Monthly savings

\$250

\$200

\$100

\$50

\$25

Financial health

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to get you through unexpected events?

DID YOU KNOW?



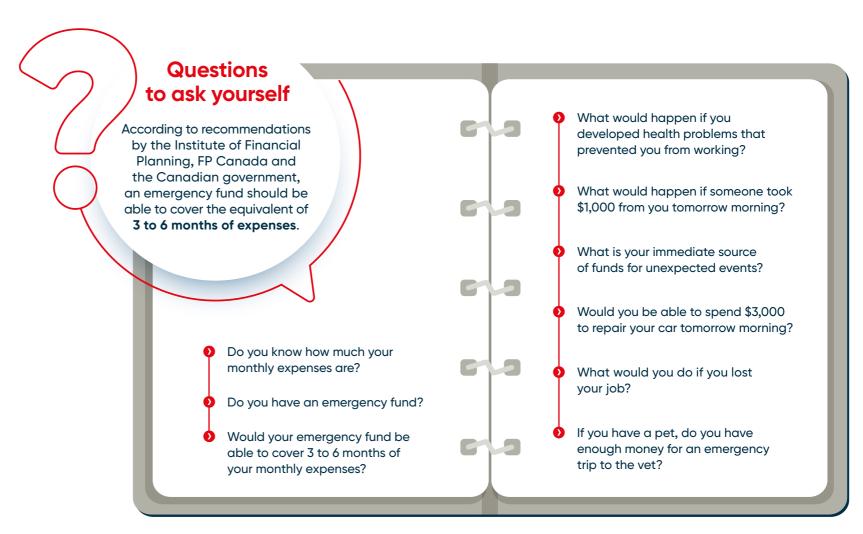
O > 1 out of 3 Canadians doesn't have an emergency fund covering the equivalent of 3 months of expenses.1

54% of Canadians say they are living from paycheque to paycheque.2



> 78% of Canadians say their personal financial situation has grown worse because of inflation.²







financial health

No one is immune to financial problems. Poor planning or going through a tough time, such as a divorce, illness or unemployment, can really tip the scales. Need help? Here are 10 tips to guide you.



Your advisor can accompany and advise you in building a financial plan.

Prefer doing it on your own? Not to worry, our **nbc.ca**/advice site has everything to support you!

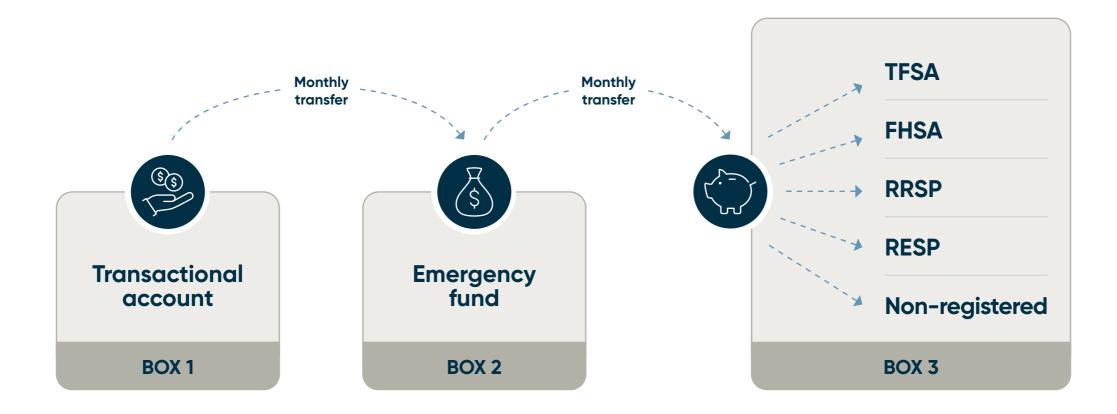






theory

The 3-box theory: a simple strategy to structure your assets effectively. It consists of three distinct boxes.

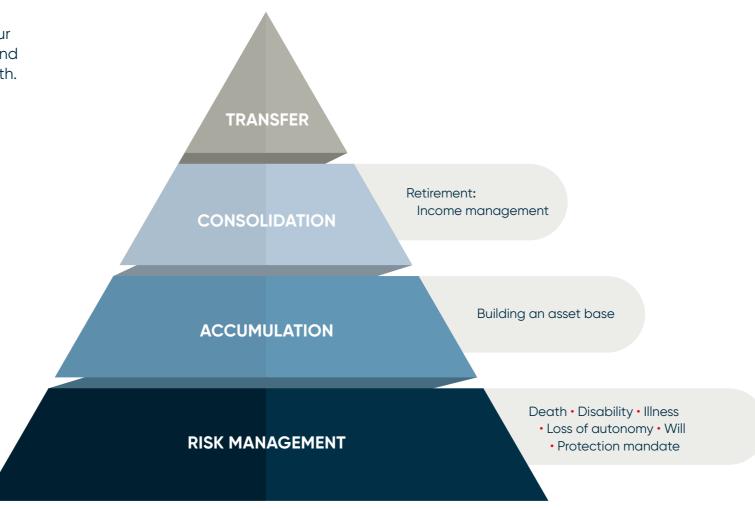






risk management?

Integrate risk management into your financial planning in order to facilitate the growth of your estate, maintain your way of life once retired and bequeath a part of your estate after your death.





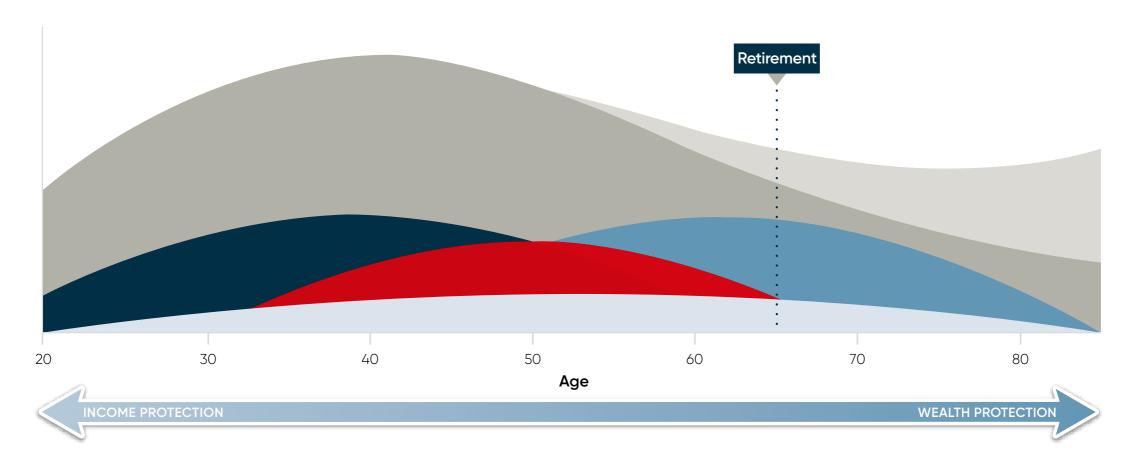






your insurance plan?

Insurance needs vary with age. It is important to review your coverage to ensure it always suits your needs.

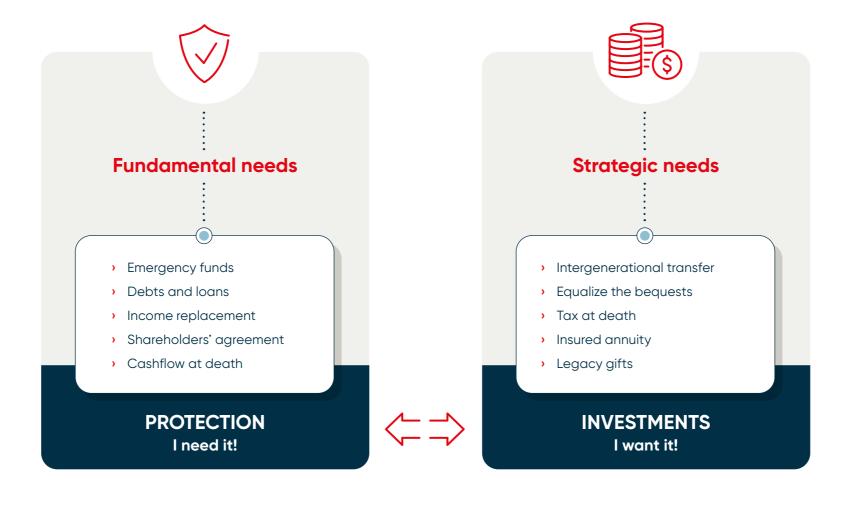






different insurance needs

Take the time to thoroughly analyze your insurance needs by distinguishing fundamental characteristics from strategic ones.

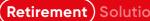






Saving for retirement

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to retire?

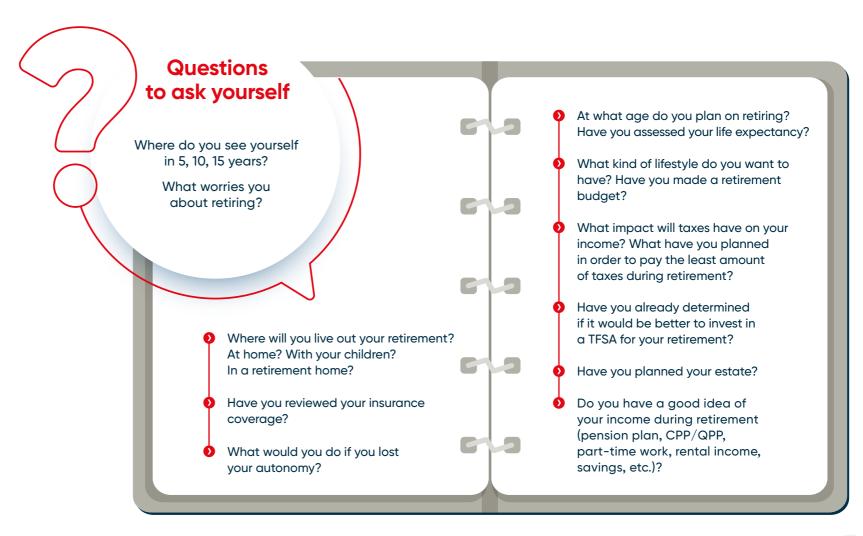
DID YOU KNOW?



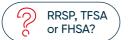
- > 67% of Canadians surveyed feel they have fallen behind in their retirement savinas.1
- > 72% of Canadians that are currently working with an Advisor rate their financial well-being to be good to excellent (7 or more out of 10) compared to 48% of households that are not working with an Advisor as of February 2023.2



54% of Canadians don't have a retirement plan.1









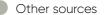
for retirement?

In certain cases, public plans aren't enough to live retirement to its fullest. Saving will allow you to get the most out of your retirement.

For a retiree with pre-retirement income of \$60,000 and no savings, government plans will replace the equivalent of 45.7% of their gross annual income before retirement. However, if the retiree's savings were sufficient to replace 70% of their pre-retirement income, they would lose the Guaranteed Income Supplement. The individual contribution therefore has to be 31.2%.













these 5 retirement risks?



Underestimating your life expectancy

According to recent statistics, if you are currently 60 years old, you or your partner have a 50% chance of living to the age of 94.



Not accounting for inflation

Essential goods undergo the largest fluctuations.



Forgetting to plan for healthcare expenses

Starting at age 70, healthcare costs for Canadians tend to nearly double every 10 years.



4. Withdrawing too much money

It is crucial to properly calculate how much money to withdraw so that you don't use up your capital too quickly. In the example chart, we can see that someone who takes out 10% of their assets each year (weighted for inflation) will run out of money at age 80.



5. Only opting for low-risk investments, thereby reducing potential yield

Properly allocating your investments helps make your capital last longer. In the example below, we see that Portfolio C generates a higher yield than Portfolio A for the same level of risk.









It all depends on your situation. An RRSP is a long-term retirement-savings account that is tax-deductible and taxable upon withdrawal. TFSAs are not tax-deductible; however, upon withdrawal, the amount withdrawn is non-taxable. The FHSA is a savings account meant for first-time home purchase. Contrary to RRSPs, withdrawing from a TFSA and a FHSA does not reduce your government benefits. Learn about the main differences and similarities between the three products here.

	RRSP	TFSA	FHSA
Who is eligible?	Any Canadian resident age 71 and under who earned income in the previous year (subject to pension adjustment)	Any Canadian resident aged 18 and over ²	Any Canadian resident between the ages of 18 ⁴ and 71 who, at any prior time in the calendar year or in the preceding 4 calendar years, inhabits as a principal place of residence a qualifying home in Canada or not, owned or co-owned by them or their current spouse or common-law partner
How much is the authorized annual contribution?	18% of income earned up to the allowed annual maximum ¹	\$7,000 ³	\$8,000, with a lifetime limit of \$40,000 ⁵
How is the contribution ceiling indexed?	Indexed for inflation using the Industrial Aggregate average wages and salaries in Canada	According to the Consumer Price Index, rounded to the nearest \$500	This amount will not be adjusted for cost of living or inflation
Can the contributions be deducted from taxable income?	Yes	No	Yes
Are contributions to a spouse permitted?	Yes	No, but a person could make a donation or a loan to their spouse for the latter to contribute to their TFSA ³	No, but a person could make a donation or a loan to their spouse for the latter to contribute to their FHSA ⁵
Is there a penalty for overcontributions?	Yes: 1% per month (a lifetime maximum surplus of \$2,000 is allowed without penalty)	Yes: 1% per month on excess contributions, regardless of when it occurs during the month	Yes: 1% per month on excess contributions, regardless of when it occurs during the month
Are withdrawals taxed?	Yes, except for HBP withdrawals	No	No, if they are applied to the purchase of a first eligible home





- 1. Source: Canada Revenue Agency website, canada.ca, RRSP Contributions section.
- 2. Contribution rights begin at age 18, regardless of the province's age of majority.
- 3. Source: Canada Revenue Agency website, canada.ca, TFSA Contributions section.
- 4. Depending on the age of majority in the province of residence.
- 5. Source: Canada Revenue Agency, Design of the Tax-Free First Home Savings Account, canada.ca.





during retirement?

Your retirement income comes from three main sources: personal savings, private pension plans and government plans.

Government plans usually aren't enough to ensure you can maintain your cost of living during retirement.

Ensure you save enough money to complement the other sources of income!



PERSONAL SAVINGS

Registered and non-registered investments (RRSP, TFSA, etc.), other personal assets (real estate, etc.)

PRIVATE PENSION PLANS

(pension fund with your employer)

GOVERNMENT PLANS

(Quebec Pension Plan (QPP), Canada Pension Plan (CPP), Old Age Security (OAS) pension, etc.)













a withdrawal strategy?

The order in which you withdraw your investments significantly affects the duration of your capital. Usually, it is better to withdraw non-registered (NR) investments first.

Hypothesis: Start-up capital distributed equally in an RRSP, a TFSA and non-registered investments. The portfolio is continually rebalanced to 50% in equities (return of 6.5%; 80% capital gains, 20% dividends) and 50% in fixed income (return of 4%). The calculations are made at the margin, assuming a tax rate of 40% and a special tax treatment of capital gains and dividends.











from the CPP/QPP¹ and OAS?

There is no perfect formula for calculating the ideal age to withdraw your government pension. It is up to you to assess your personal situation and make decisions according to your needs and priorities.



Factors to consider

It is recommended to withdraw early

I anticipate having limited additional sources of income.

I have a **lower** life expectancy (according to my health and family history).



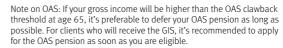
It is recommended to wait a bit longer

I anticipate having multiple sources of income.

I have a **normal** life expectancy (according to my health and family history).











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choose us?

Access to the world's best portfolio managers

Being the leading retail open architecture provider in Canada, National Bank Investments has the freedom to select from among the world's best portfolio managers to offer investment solutions that meet the evolving needs of investors.

Open architecture

Its benefits

- Allows us to choose from among the world's best portfolio managers.
- > Ensures optimal performance through continuous process and performance monitoring.
- Provides diverse solutions to meet the evolving needs.

The power to choose

Our six criteria for selecting portfolio managers:

OP4+ selection and evaluation process

Organization	Strong organization with top-tier investment culture
People	Stable team of investment professionals
Process	Proven management processes to select securities, build portfolios and manage risk
S Portfolio	Optimized portfolio construction that follows the investment process and ensures sound diversification
Performance	Strong and predictable risk-adjusted returns
ESG ESG+	Integration of Environmental, Social and Governance factors









at NBI

Our beliefs and approach

- > We believe that considering ESG criteria along with traditional financial analysis allows for a better assessment of risks and opportunities, resulting in better investment decisions.
- > Thus, responsible investment is an integral part of the selection criteria of portfolio managers of NBI Funds. The ESG pillar of our OP4+ process allows us to evaluate the portfolio managers on their ESG initiatives and how they incorporate responsible investment in their investment process.
- Depending on the fund, responsible investment can range from a purely risk mitigation standpoint to thorough assessments designed to achieve sustainable objectives.

NBI Sustainable Solutions take a step further

NBI offers sustainable mutual funds and exchange-traded funds in several asset classes to meet the different investment needs of investors. Learn more

Our commitments Signatory of: CLIMATE **ENGAGEMENT** CANADA

Objective

Provide long-term capital growth while respecting a sustainable investment approach.

Target clients

Clients that want to prioritize a sustainable investment approach.

Global expertise

Actively managed by world's top global portfolio managers that are renowned for their expertise in sustainable investment.

Investments

Invest in companies or issuers with sustainable practices or offering products and services that are key to building a more sustainable and just economy.

Exclusions

Aim to exclude companies that are significantly involved in:

- > The production and distribution of tobacco
- > The manufacturing of controversial weapons
- Oil and gas production
- Thermal coal extraction
- › Oil and gas exploration and extraction in the Arctic offshore.



Meritage Portfolios®?



Meritage Portfolios are all-in-one solutions that help investors achieve their financial goals. The success of the Meritage range is based on partnerships with accomplished portfolio managers who are selected for their expertise and performance history.

A tailored offer

- > 24 turnkey solutions: a Meritage Portfolio for each investor profile.
- > Designed to reduce risk while optimizing yield.
- > Rigorous processes for selecting and periodically assessing portfolio managers.

Optimal diversification



Ongoing optimization



Meritage Portfolios made up of mutual funds

Systematic rebalancings



Meritage Tactical ETF Portfolios

Tactical deviations



NBI Exchange-Traded Funds?

NBI offers a range of exchange-traded funds (ETFs) that provide an attractive and convenient solution for both investors and investment advisors. NBI ETFs allow for the selection of a variety of sectors, geographies, asset classes, and management styles to increase portfolio diversification and mitigate risk.

NBI ETFs

- > Innovative risk and portfolio diversification opportunities.
- Alternative, active and sustainable niche exposure.

Alternative ETFs

NBI Liquid Alternatives ETF (NALT)

Actively managed ETFs

- > NBI Canadian Dividend Income ETF (NDIV)
- NBI Active U.S. Equity ETF (NUSA)
- NBI Active International Equity ETF (NINT)
- NBI Global Real Assets Income ETF (NREA)
- NBI Active Canadian Preferred Shares ETF (NPRF)
- NBI Unconstrained Fixed Income ETF (NUBF)
- > NBI High Yield Bond ETF (NHYB)

Sustainable ETFs

- NBI Sustainable Canadian Short Term Bond ETF (NSSB)
- NBI Sustainable Canadian Corporate Bond ETF (NSCC)
- NBI Sustainable Canadian Bond ETF (NSCB)
- NBI Sustainable Canadian Equity ETF (NSCE)
- › NBI Sustainable Global Equity ETF (NSGE)

Index-tracking ETFs

› NBI Global Private Equity ETF (NGPE)



Understanding NBI Funds

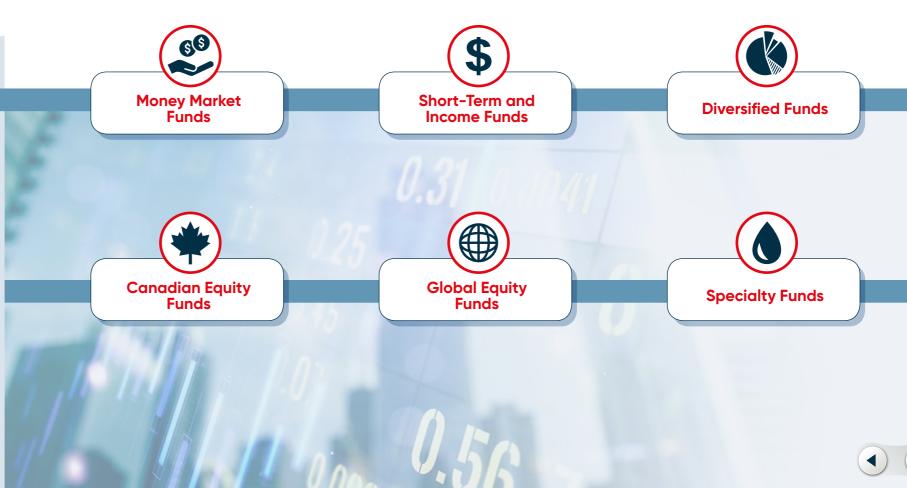




Whether alone or as a complement to a larger investment strategy, NBI Funds seek to provide risk-adjusted investment returns over the long term, catering to multiple investment profiles.

NBI Funds

- › A complete suite of investment funds designed to help investors of each risk profile reach their financial goals.
- › Objective: provide superior risk-adjusted returns over the long term.
- Offered individually or as a complement to your strategies.
- Suited for a multitude of investor profiles.







National Bank Investments

INVESTMENTS

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