

STATE OF WISCONSIN **Department of Employee Trust Funds**

A. John Voelker SECRETARY

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Correspondence Memorandum

Date: October 18, 2021

To: **Deferred Compensation Board**

From: Shelly Schueller, Director

Wisconsin Deferred Compensation Program

2022 Strategic Partnership Plan Proposal Subject:

The Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF) recommends the Board approve the proposed 2022 Strategic Partnership Plan as outlined in this memo.

In partnership with Empower Retirement (Empower), ETF has drafted a Strategic Partnership Plan (SPP) proposal for 2022. The SPP identifies specific plan enhancements and areas of focus for Wisconsin Deferred Compensation (WDC) staff during the upcoming year and metrics that may be used to measure the results. As in previous years, the 2022 SPP was developed around the following concepts:

- 1. Enrollment increasing the number of eligible employees enrolled and contributing to the WDC and local public employers offering the WDC
- 2. Asset Allocation encouraging appropriate diversification of participant assets in WDC investment options
- 3. Education providing financial literacy learning opportunities
- 4. Retention providing education to retirees and near-retirees, and retaining retiree accounts and assets in the WDC

As shown on the attached draft scorecard and communications calendar, highlights of the proposed 2022 SPP include:

1. Enrollment

a. *Participants*: add 2.5% in-force¹ participant growth. As in past years, the local WDC staff will seek to increase the number of WDC participants as of the end of calendar year 2021 by 2.5% in 2022. This is 0.5% less than the 2021 goal of 3.0% but is within the WDC's traditional target range for increasing participants (1-3% growth). ETF and Empower agreed that with the continued workplace disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, including many employers maintaining a virtual workplace, limiting or

Reviewed and approved by Matt Stohr, Administrator, Division of Retirement Services Electronically Signed 10/19/21 Matt Stol

Board	Board Mtg Date	
DC	11.04.21	7B

¹ In-force means number of participants with an account balance greater than \$0

- prohibiting onsite visits, etc., a slightly lower participation growth goal for 2022 was reasonable.
- b. *Employers*: add 12 new local public employers offering the WDC to their employees. This is an increase of 2 over the 2021 goal of 10.
- c. Attend at least 1 convention, similar to the goal in past years.

2. Asset Allocation

- a. Complete retirement readiness reviews with 5% of at-risk population². This is a continuation of the 2021 goal to reach additional participants in this population.
- Increase managed account users by 2%. This is a repeat goal from a previous year.

3. Education

- a. Complete retirement readiness reviews for 2,800 participants, similar to the number completed in 2021.
- b. Increase deferral amounts by 5% for target group of participants currently saving 1% or \$50 as well as those who haven't increased their deferral amount in two or more years. This is a new goal for 2022.
- c. Increase new unique website users by 7% (new goal)
- d. Provide 415 group meetings, an increase over the 2021 goal.
- e. See positive actions³ from 40% or more of individual participant meetings (new)

4. Retention

- a. Meet with at least 500 retired/terminated participants, which is an outreach goal comparable to past years.
- b. Increase asset retention by 5% (rollout 5% fewer assets than in 2021), similar to the goal in this category for 2021.

With the addition of WRS pension estimates for active, vested WDC participants in 2021, the WDC's plan level retirement readiness as measured by Empower's Lifetime Income Score (LIS) increased from 65% to 85%. With a LIS campaign in 2022, we expect to see at least a 6% clickthrough rate, indicating engagement with the LIS tool. During 2022, Empower will monitor activity to see how many WDC participants increase their deferrals, change their retirement ages, add outside income amounts/sources, etc. This participant-level focus and continued focus on obtaining data points from employers should positively impact the WDC's LIS going forward.

In addition to the 2022 SPP goals, Empower will produce specific communications for the WDC that include the annual participant survey, articles for ETF's member

² At-risk population = 50+ > 75% equities; 50+ <10 equities; all ages <25% equities

³ Positive actions = enrollments, rollovers, deferral increases, diversification (moving 100% to TDF or enroll in managed accounts) and personalization for those in managed accounts.

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newsletters and Twitter account, and a newsletter for WDC employers. In 2022, Empower will also create special communications marking the WDC's 40th anniversary.

ETF recommends that the Board approve the 2022 SPP as proposed. If approved, Empower will update the scorecard with numerical results from participant data as of December 31, 2021 and use the scorecard to communicate SPP progress to the Board. Both the results of the SPP and growth in the number of participants will determine if Empower earns any annual administrative fee increase for calendar year 2023.

ETF and Empower staff will be available at the meeting to discuss the proposed 2022 plan with the Board.

Attachment A: 2022 Proposed Scorecard and Calendar Attachment B: 2022 WDC Strategic Partnership Planning

2022 Scorecard

Coal/Action Itam

Goal/Action Item	Tools adopted	Results desired
Enrollment	Employee and Employer	 Increase number of in-force* accounts by 2.5% Add 12 new local public employers Attend 1 or 2 conventions
Asset Allocation	 Retirement Readiness Reviews with at-risk** groups Free trial period 	 Complete Retirement Readiness Reviews with 5% of atrisk population Increase managed account users by 2%
Education	 Participant Education Save more New website Group and individual meetings Employer Education Financial wellness Lifetime Income Score Celebrate WDC's 40th anniversary 	 Complete 2,800 total Retirement Readiness Reviews Increase deferral amounts by 5% for targeted audience (Participants saving 1% or \$50; Participants who haven't increased in 2+) Increase new website users by 7% Obtain a 6%+ clickthrough rate on Lifetime Income Score campaign and monitor interactions with the tool Provide 415 group meetings Drive positive actions equaling 40%+ of meetings
Retention	Retirement Readiness ReviewsRetiree webinar	 Meet with 500+ retirees/terminated participants Increase asset retention by 5%+ (roll out 5% fewer assets than 2021)



^{*}In-force means net lives or number of participants with an account balance greater than \$0.

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Note: Recurring goals such as group meetings and in-force growth are based on average of last three years (2018-2020)

^{**}At-risk population = 50+ >75% equities; 50+ <10% equities; all ages <25% equities

^{***}Positive actions include actions like enrollments, rollovers, deferral increases, diversification (moving 100% to TDF or enroll in managed accounts), and personalization for those in managed accounts

2022 Communications Proposal

Q1

Q2

Q3

Q4

America Saves Week: February 21-25

Goal: Save More

Audience: Participants saving 1% or \$50; Participants who haven't increased in 2+

Tactics:

- Email
- Flyer: employers
- Web banner
- Social media post

New web experience: March

Goal: See the new web experience, aggregate accounts

Audience: All participants

Tactics:

- Email
- Mailer
- Web banner
- Social media post
- Video
- ETF newsletter article

Employer communications:

- Newsletter
- Non-participating employer outreach
- Benefits fairs and conventions
- Employer plan reviews as needed/requested
- Survey
- Survey email
- Webinar

Lifetime Income Score Campaign: September

Goal: Go online, check LIS score, save more, meet with Plan Advisor

Audience: Active participants with LIS 70-100%; Active participants with LIS under 70%

Tactics:

- Email: 2 personalized
- Mailer
- Social media post
- Web banner and video
- Post-login plan message

My Total Retirement 90-Day Free Look Campaign (August-October): 3 emails and mailer

Terminated Checkup campaign: November

Goal: Stay in the Plan (review fees), check investments, meet with your RPA, attend retiree webinar

Audience: Termed under 58; termed over 58 (retiree)

Tactics:

- Emails 2
- Mailer
- Social media posts 2
- Retiree Webinar

Annual participant survey

Email, web banner, social media post

- Retirement Readiness Reviews with Retirement Plan Advisors daily
- Retirement Solutions Group terminated participants mailer monthly to weekly
- At-risk participants automated campaign in batches
- Certified Financial Planning campaigns 2x/year (April and end of October)

ETF Communications Partnership

- Calendar of semi-monthly tweets
- Active and retiree newsletter articles
- 40th anniversary of WDC





Wisconsin Deferred Compensation Program (WDC)

2022 STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP PLANNING

Empower Service Team

Contact	Title	Responsibility	Information	Physical Location
Rob Dwyer	Vice President Government Markets	Executive relationship contact for WDC, provides plan design guidance and oversight for the ongoing service.	robert.dwyer@empower-retirement.com Office: 303-737-2408 Mobile: 303-204-5522	Denver, CO
Emily Lockwood	State Director	Relationship manager Service team leader Primary contact with Empower	emily.lockwood@empower-retirement.com Mobile: 608-354-5732	Madison, WI
Kathy Castle	Sr. Client Service Manager	Responsible for overall operations of assigned plans in the government segment	kathy.castle@empower-retirement.com Direct: 303-737-1791	Denver, CO
Jenni Bailey	Communications Lead	Participant communication strategy and materials	jennifer.bailey@empower-retirement.com Direct: 303-737-4197 Mobile: 303-929-5372	Denver, CO
Dianne Bollman	Communications Strategist	Participant communication support and materials	dianne.bollman@empower-retirement.com Direct: 913-664-0313	Overland Park, KS
Bill Thornton	Investment Strategist	Works closely the WDC reviewing their Investments; provides Quarterly investment reviews for WDC; attends all Board meetings.	william.thornton@greatwest.com Direct: 303-737-1514 Mobile: 513-504-6001	Walton, KY
Griff Jones	Sr. Service Delivery Specialist	Follows trends and coordinates updates and training; resolves unique participant situations including escalations.	griff.jones@empower-retirement.com Direct: 414-906-2627	Milwaukee, Wl
Colleen Thornton & Ana Bonjour	Field Admins	Participant support and day-to-day plan administration	WDC_Office@empower-retirement.com Colleen Direct: 303-737-3407 Ana Direct: 303-737-0033	Madison, WI
RPAs (7)	Retirement Plan Advisor	Provide advice, education and service to WDC participants	Various	Various locations in Wl
		2		

Contents

- WDC Evolution
- 2021 Strategic Partnership Plan (SPP) in Review
- Retirement Solutions Group YTD Results
- Future of Advice
- Blueprint Marketplace
- 2022 Strategic Partnership Plan (SPP) Proposal
 - Communication campaigns
 - Social media support
 - Employer communications
- Appendix
 - Empower Blueprint





2021 Year in Review



WDC Evolution

	Design/service accomplishments							
	Revenue sharing to participants Fund changes Guided payroll	Upgrade service model to include savings and investment advice Stay in the Plan outreach Participant fee change	New Empower Experience E-delivery Participant fee change Fund change	Online enrollment % contributions Fund changes	Fund changes New online scheduler	Participant fee change Virtual model SECURE Act CARES Act Fund changes	WRS Pension Estimate Retention services Point-in- time advice Financial planning Custom app skin Fund changes	New participant experience LIS Updates
			Organiza	ational events				
Empower Retirement		RPA Service model	DOL Fiduciary Rule Renewed service agreement		WDC re- brand	Regulation Best Interest Personal Capital Mass Mutual	Prudential Natural Voice Recognition	
2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Future



2021 Accomplishments

Activity	Objective	Timing	Audience	Metrics
New Services Announcement	Inform participants about Pension Feed, CFP, RSG and RPA: Web banner, flyer, News & Updates	March 2021	All participants	N/A
At Risk campaign	Participants	March – May 2021	 Participants 50+ with less than 10% equity Participants 50+ with more than 75% equity Participants under 50 with less than 25% equity Retired participants 	533 participant meetings scheduled 52% open rate 12% click rate 23% click to open rate
WRS Pension Estimate launch	Go online to see your WRS Pension Estimate in your account	April 2021	All participants	25,304 delivered 44% open rate 10% click rate 24% clickthrough rate
Certified Financial Planner campaign	Connect with a CFP to plan your finances	April 2021	Participants age 60+ Participants age 45-60	66 participants engaged; 9 financial plans delivered
Monthly terminated participants mailer	Stay in the WDC	Monthly	Recently terminated participants	TBD
WI Strong	Supporting WI Strong efforts through a web tile, presentations, Brainsharks	August	All participants	TBD

2021 Awards

- NAGDCA Award of Excellence: DB Pilot
- P&I Eddy Award: DB Pilot
- Apex Award: Asset allocation campaign
- Marcom Award, Platinum: Asset allocation campaign

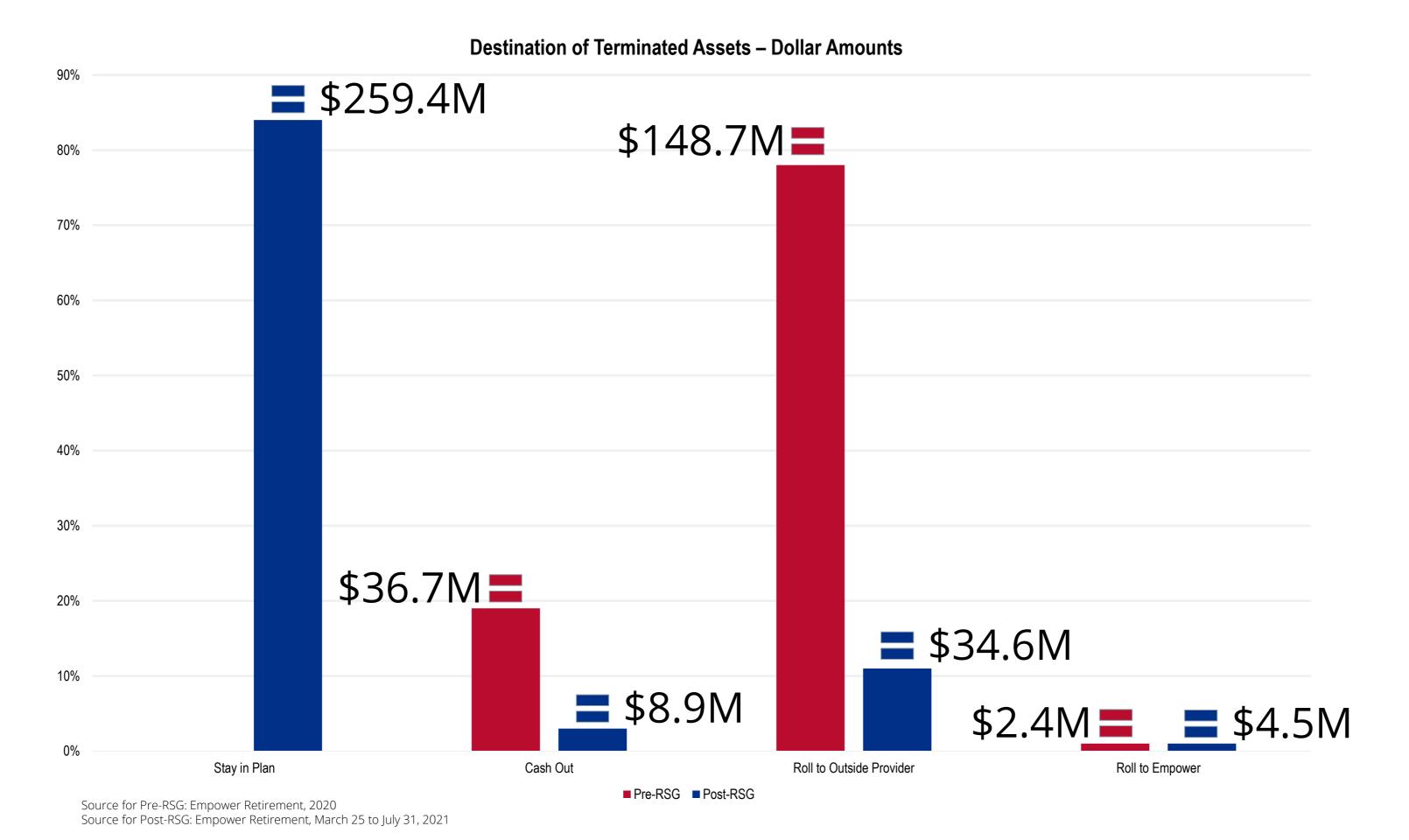




Retirement Solutions Group Results

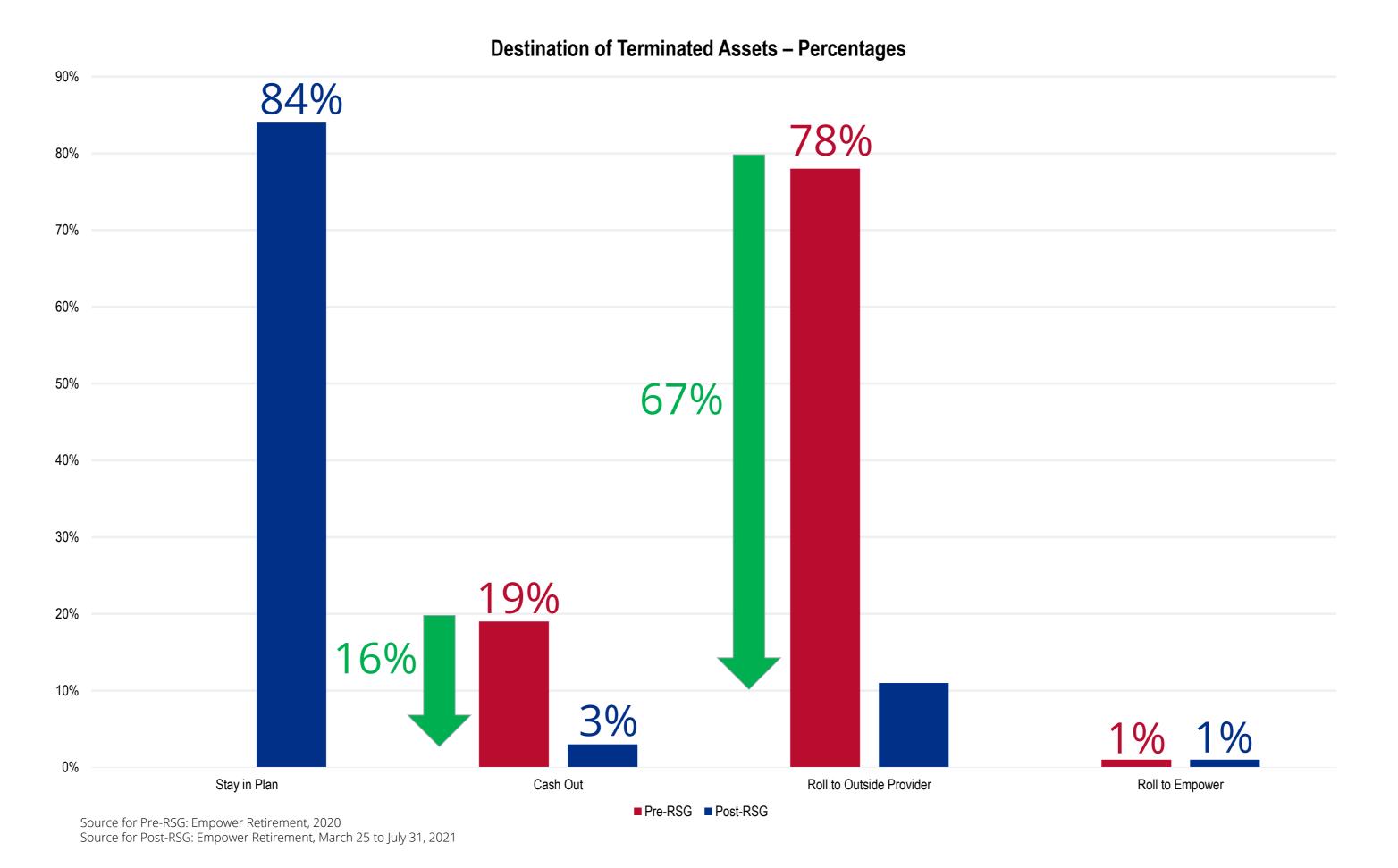


WDC EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT IMPACT: PRE- AND POST-RSG





WDC EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT IMPACT: PRE- AND POST-RSG



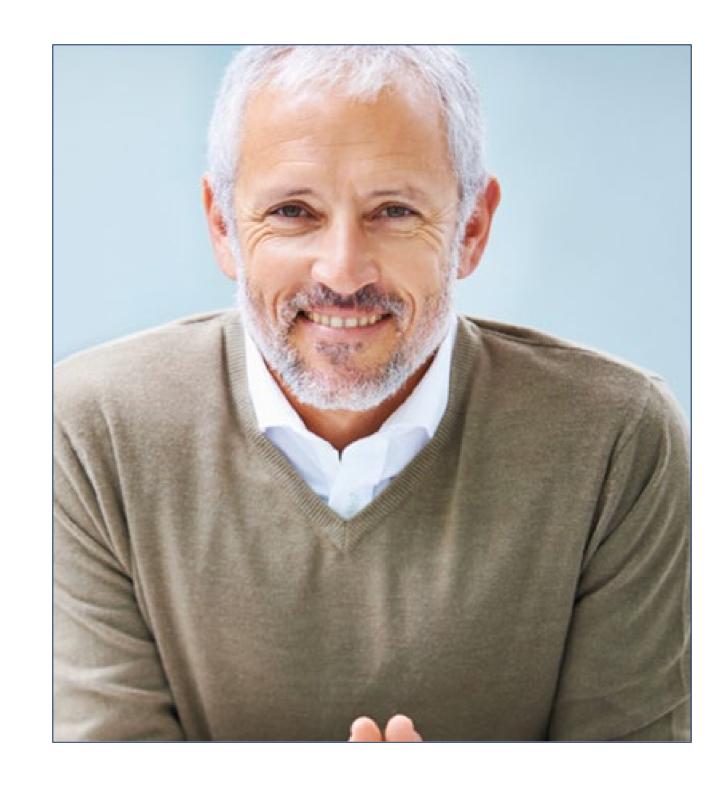


COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL PLANNING AND WDC

Utilization Stats:

66 inquiries/outreaches (Kristy calling her prior book)

- Nine plans fully delivered
- Four plans currently in process
- 46 employees are undecided (have not declined but have not started the planning process)
- Eight employees have declined planning





RSG CUSTOMER SATISFACTION: 2021 OVERALL RESULTS

Q1 How would you rate your satisfaction with Empower Retirement?

4.3 out of 5

Q2 How likely are you to recommend Empower Retirement to someone?

4.4 out of 5

Q3 As a result of today's discussion, how much more knowledgeable do you feel about your options?

4.2 out of 5

Q4 As a result of today's discussion, how much more confident do you feel about your retirement or financial plan?

4.3 out of 5

Q5 Please rate your overall experience with this call today.

4.4 out of 5





The Future of Advice



Professional Diversity





Retirement Readiness Reviews and advice from your Empower Retirement Plan Advisor¹



¹ The Retirement Readiness Review, provided by an Empower representative, may provide investment counseling and/or recommendations. The Retirement Readiness Review is provided by an Empower representative registered with Advised Asset Group, LLC at no additional cost to participants. There is no guarantee provided by any party that use of the review will result in a profit RO1670991-0621

Empower retirement plan advisors are professionals who provide one-on-one personalized guidance on government plan investing and saving strategies, distributions, retirement planning and more.



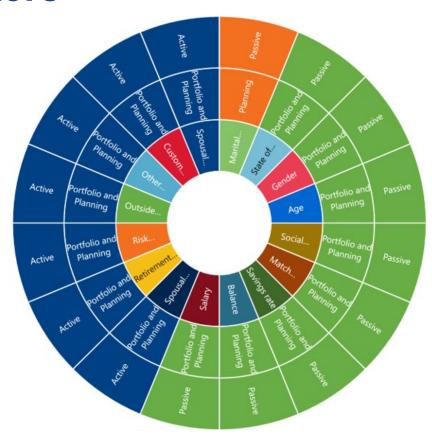
Personalization Matters

Passive variables: datapoints collected through our recordkeeping platform

- Age (avg: 51 years old)
- Salary (avg: \$69k)
- Desired retirement income (100% default)
- Gender (49% male, 51% female)
- Balance (avg: \$96,887)
- Savings rate (avg: 3.6%)

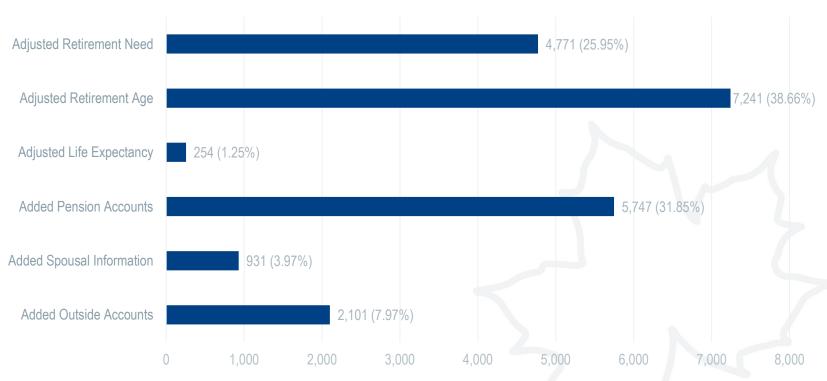
Active variables: datapoints provided by participants





Active Personalization in Managed Accounts

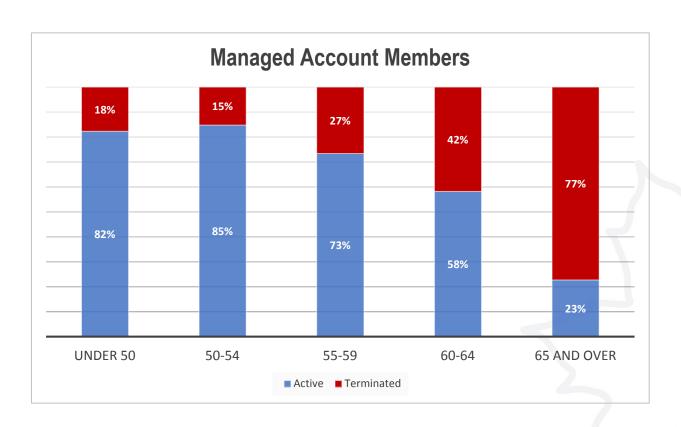
Personalization of WDC Managed Account Members



Total Population in Managed Accounts - 19,227 (45.7% have actively personalized their account)



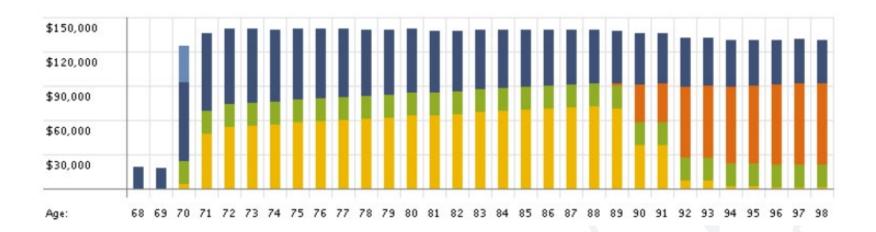
Managed Accounts Members – Active vs Terminated



- 52% of the plan assets are held by terminated participants
- 84% of the plan assets are held by near-retirees or retirees



Advice Through Retirement

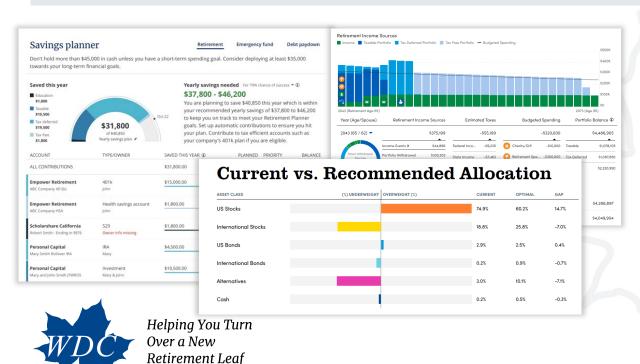


Deferred Compensation
Social Security
RothIRA
Pension
Outside Taxable Account



Investing in the Future of Advice

- Comprehensive retirement investment, savings and income withdrawal advice
- Seamless transition from retirement planning to income planning
- Easy personalization customizes the strategy for each situation
- Interact on your own or be guided by your investment advisor representative
- There is no guarantee provided by any party that participation in any of the advisory services will result in a profit.







Benchmarking



Industry benchmarking data

All plans

Plan design and features	Small plan (\$5M-\$50M)	Mid plan (>\$50M-\$200M)	Large plan (\$200M-\$1B)	Mega plan (>\$1B)	All plans
01(k) plan	89.6%	82.5%	82.9%	79.7%	87.9%
403(b) plan	9.5%	13.8%	18.4%	14.8%	10.6%
457 plan	7.4	13.8%	20.0%	24.1%	10.0%
NQDC plan	4.4%	15.3%	29.7%	41.8%	9.7%
Other	27.2%	28.3%	32.6%	32.8%	26.5%
		Plan features			
Auto-enrollment	48.3%	66.6%	73.5%	69.4%	48.2%
Scheduled increases	20.5%	36.9%	38.8%	41.0%	22.3%
Scheduled increases limit	56.0	64.8%	57.7%	69.6%	58.2
Offer matching contribution	75.4%	79.5%	77.0%	85.0%	75.0%
Simple traditional match	34.7%	33.2%	35.8%	43.6%	36.6%
Roth offered	78.4%	78.8%	83.1%	84.5%	76.9%
Loans offered	82.5%	86.2%	92.2%	91.5%	82.0%
		Investments			
Managed account offered	28.7%	32.2%	39.9%	51.1%	31.1%
Self-directed brokerage account offered	18.1%	24.8%	41.2%	53.5%	23.2%
Retirement income solution offered	21.7%	24.6%	35.5%	47.4%	24.4%



Source: PLANSPONSOR 2020 Plan Benchmarking Report - All Plans

Industry benchmarking data

457 Plans

Plan design and features	Small plan (\$5M-\$50M)	Mid plan (>\$50M-\$200M)	Large plan (\$200M-\$1B)	Mega plan (>\$1B)	All plans
401(k) plan	47.0%	30.4%	36.6%	38.6%	42.2%
403(b) plan	47.0%	58.0%	70.4%	49.1%	52.9%
457 plan	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
NQDC plan	4.0%	14.5%	15.5%	17.5%	11.3%
Other	29.0%	27.4%	32.4%	26.3%	28.9%
		Plan features			
Auto-enrollment	41.3%	50.0%	64.2%	43.4%	46.3%
Scheduled increases	13.2%	22.2%	24.6%	21.2%	17.0%
Scheduled increases limit	55.6%	50.0%	38.9%	47.8%	44.4%
Offer matching contribution	72.2%	66.7%	54.8%	59.6%	63.5%
Simple traditional match	50.9%	33.3%	28.1%	48.4%	41.1%
Roth offered	74.7%	72.2%	74.6%	78.5%	77.8%
Loans offered	78.5%	79.7%	89.4%	78.2%	79.0%
		Investments			
Managed account offered	29.9%	38.3%	48.4%	57.1%	40.9%
Self-directed brokerage account offered	21.8%	29.6%	52.5%	76.4%	38.9%
Retirement income solution offered	28.4%	32.0%	45.6%	46.8%	35.6%



Source: PLANSPONSOR 2020 Plan Benchmarking Report – 457 Plans

Empower benchmarking data

Government-state

Plan design and features	Small plan (\$5M-\$50M)	Mid plan (>\$50M-\$250M)	Large plan (>\$250M-\$1B)	Mega plan (>\$1B)	All plans
401(k) plan		40.00%		23.53%	13.04%
403(b) plan	14.29%				4.35%
401(a) plan	57.14%	40.00%	30.00%	5.88%	30.43%
457 plan	28.57%		70.00%	64.71%	47.83%
Other		20.00%		5.88%	4.35%
		Plan features			
Auto-enrollment	0.00%	20.00%	30.00%	11.76%	13.04%
Scheduled increases		0.00%	33.33%	0.00%	16.67%
Scheduled increase limit			6.00%		6.00%
Match rate dollar for dollar		100.00%			100.00%
Single tier match formula		100.00%			100.00%
Roth offered	21.43%	40.00%	60.00%	70.59%	50.00%
Loans offered	28.57%	40.00%	30.00%	52.94%	39.13%
Max loans allowed	1	0	0	0	0
		Investments			
QDIA usage	7.14%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	2.17%
Managed account offered	71.43%	60.00%	50.00%	82.35%	69.57%
Managed account adoption	8.86%	15.64%	29.60%	24.58%	16.27%
Self-directed brokerage account offered	21.43%	40.00%	50.00%	70.59%	47.83%
Retirement income solution offered	21.43%	0.00%	10.00%	0.00%	8.70%

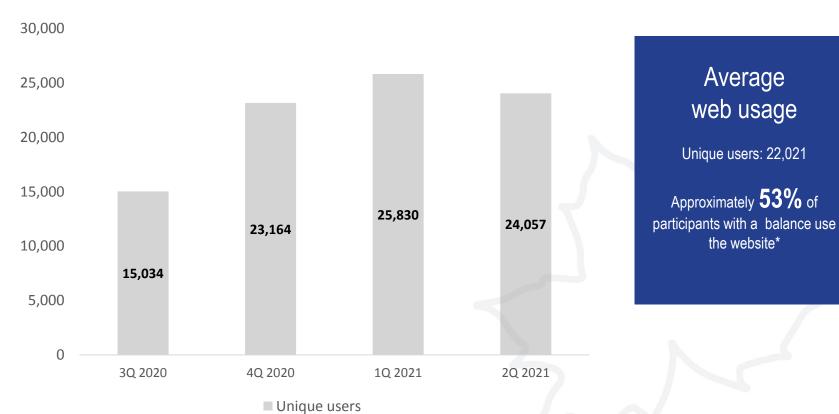
Source: Empower Retirement median results for plans in benchmark population as of December 31, 2020.



2022 | Communications Proposal



Web traffic





Unique users: A distinct web user login. For the time frame in question, each web user login is only counted once, regardless of how many times they log in during that period

*Based on total participant accounts with a balance in 457 on 8/31/2021: 41,368

Participant data

APPROXIMATELY

84%

EMAILS ON FILE FOR PARTICIPANTS WITH A BALANCE 67,472

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS WITH A
BALANCE

41,368

ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS WITH A
BALANCE

17,229
ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS
AGE 50+

26,136

TERMINATED PARTICIPANTS
WITH A BALANCE

5,754

CONTRIBUTING 1% or \$50 OR LESS PER PAY PERIOD

8,501

PARTICIPANTS WHO HAVEN'T INCREASED CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2+ YEARS 3,900

PARTICIPANTS WHO HAVEN'T INCREASED CONTRIBUTIONS IN 10 YEARS



WDC Lifetime Income Score Statistics

	LIS
Female	90.3%
Male	96.5%

	LIS
State	95.7%
Local	90.7%

Age Ranges	LIS
30-39 yrs	79.5%
40-49 yrs	90.5%
50-59 yrs	105.3%
60-67 yrs	111.5%
Over 67 yrs	134.1%
Under 30 yrs	79.4%



2022 Communications Proposal

Q1

America Saves Week: February 21-25

Goal: Enroll, Save More, My Financial Path, Beneficiary, Account preferences

Audience: All participants

Tactics:

- Daily emails
- Flyer
- Web banner
- Social media post
- Employer communications
 - Newsletter
 - Non-participating employer outreach
 - Benefits fairs and conventions
 - Employer plan reviews as needed/requested
 - Survey
 - Survey email
 - Webinar

Q2

New web experience: April

Goal: See the new web experience, aggregate accounts

Audience: All participants

Tactics:

- Email
- Mailer
- Web banner
- Social media post
- Video

Q3

Lifetime Income Score Campaign: September

Goal: Go online, check LIS score, save more, Meet with Plan Advisor

Audience: Participants with an LIS 70-100%; Participants with an LIS under 70%

Tactics:

- Email: 2 personalized
- Mailer
- Social media post
- Web banner and video
- Post-login plan message
- My Total Retirement 90-Day Free Look Campaign (August-October):
 3 emails and mailer
- Annual participant survey

Q4

Terminated Checkup campaign: October

Goal: Stay in the Plan (review fees), Check investments, Meet with your RPA, Attend Retiree Webinar

Audience: All terminated participants

Tactics:

- Email
- Mailer
- Social media post
- Retiree Webinar

Retirement Readiness Reviews with Retirement Plan Advisors Monthly Retirement Solutions Group terminated participants mailer At-risk participants automated campaign 38

Tweets

- Calendar of tweets in addition to those provided for campaigns
 - Tied to monthly holidays/themes
 - 12 extra tweets on topics like: enroll, naming a beneficiary, check LIS, meet with RPA, check savings rate, stay in plan, etc.
 - Discussion





Plan Design and Administrative Features



Plan design and administrative features

IMPLEMENTED

	Yes	No	Comments
Consolidated recordkeeping	✓		
Open architecture	✓		
Auto-enrollment		Х	
Auto-increase		Х	
Employer match		Х	
Roth	✓		
Loans		Х	
Self-directed brokerage	✓		
Fee disclosure and transparency	✓		
Investment advisory services	✓		
Annual investment product review	✓		
Qualified default investment alternative (QDIA)	✓		
Target date glide path review	✓		
DB and DC integration	✓		
Personalized participant communications (PPCs)	✓		Cybersecurity disclosure
Annual plan review and benchmarking	✓		

IMPLEMENTED

	Yes	No	Comments
Payroll data interchange (PDI)	✓		Central Payroll
Indicative data (SSN, name, address, DOB, gender)	✓		
Employment data (eligibility, hire, term and rehire dates)	✓		
Contributions (EE before tax, Roth, after tax, ER match)	√		
Salary (for Lifetime Income Score)	✓		
Email address (for electronic delivery)	✓		
Online deferral process	✓		
Plan Service Center	✓		
To-do list	✓		Local office manages
QDRO services	✓		
Hardship approval services	✓		
Beneficiary recordkeeping	✓		
Online enrollment	✓		Plan Enrollment Code
Online file cabinet	✓		



Investment Advisory Services offered by Advised Assets Group, LLC (AAG), a registered investment adviser.

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