Financial HOUSE



Organizing Your Financial House

A Self-Assessment for Financial Confidence

At Financial House, every client relationship begins the same way: with a conversation. Before we can help you prioritize, organize, and simplify your financial life, we need a clear picture of where things stand today: what you have, how it all fits together, and where the gaps may be.

This self-assessment walks through the same areas we explore with new clients as they approach and enter retirement. For each statement, simply indicate whether you can confidently say yes, you're not sure, or this doesn't yet apply. There are no right or wrong answers, only an honest starting point.

By the time you're done, we hope you'll have a clearer sense of which areas of your financial house are well-built and which may need attention. Our goal is to give you what you need to move forward with clarity, confidence, and a plan that's truly yours.

Questions

How to respond: *Click the best answer* n/a Y N

Retirement Timelines

Y N I have determined the age range at which I/we wish to retire.

n/a Y N I have discussed with my spouse what we want life in retirement to look like. *(Where? With whom? Doing what?)*

Y N I know how much income I'll need annually during retirement to maintain my/our lifestyle.

Y N I know how much I/we need to save to hit my/our retirement needs.

Y N I have accounted for variable costs like health care, long-term care, and inflation.

Investment Strategy

Y N I have documented where all my/our investments are and how to access them.

Y N I have set clear short-term and long-term investment objectives with an investment strategy matching those timelines.

Y N I have a diversified investment portfolio that aligns with my/our risk tolerance.

Y N I know how I/we will draw reliable income from my/our retirement nest egg.

Y N I am maximizing contributions to retirement accounts like 401(k)s, IRAs, Roth IRAs, deferred comp, or employee stock plans.

Tax Planning

- Y N I know my/our current tax bracket and how it impacts my/our income and investments.
- Y N I have implemented strategies to reduce my/our taxable income, such as contributing to retirement accounts or making charitable donations.
- Y N I am planning for future tax implications on my/our retirement income and investments.
- Y N I have consulted with a tax professional to optimize my/our tax situation.
- Y N I have created a tax-efficient income strategy for drawing from retirement investments.

Estate Planning

- Y N I have a recently updated (within 3-5 years) will and a trust to ensure my/our assets are distributed according to my/our wishes.
- Y N I have designated beneficiaries on all my/our financial accounts and insurance policies.
- Y N I have considered how estate taxes may affect the transfer of my/our assets to heirs.
- Y N I have established durable powers of attorney and healthcare directives.
- Y N I have communicated my/our estate plans with my/our family and executors.

Insurance and Risk Management

- Y N I have adequate life insurance coverage to protect my/our family in case of unforeseen events.
- Y N I have evaluated my/our needs for disability and long-term care insurance.
- Y N My property is adequately insured against risks like theft, fire, or natural disasters.
- Y N I reviewed my/our insurance policies last year to ensure they still meet my/our needs.
- Y N If something happens to me, my emergency contact, spouse, and/or dependents would know who to contact for financial questions.

Education Planning *(if applicable)*

- Y N I have a goal-driven savings plan for my children's or grandchildren's education expenses.
- Y N I have explored education savings plans like 529 plans for tax advantages.
- Y N I understand the projected education costs and how they fit into my/our financial plan.
- Y N I am balancing education savings with other financial goals like retirement.
- Y N I have considered alternatives to college and how 529 accounts can be used in other ways.

Fixed Costs in Retirement

- Y N I know the total amount of my/our fixed costs in retirement, including interest rates.
- Y N I am making strides to reduce the amount of money going out the door every month.
- Y N I have considered refinancing or eliminating any long-term debt still outstanding.
- Y N I am avoiding taking on new debt that could impede my/our financial goals.
- Y N I have a plan in place to match my/our expenses to fixed, guaranteed income in retirement.

Overall Financial Health

- Y N I have a goal-driven, progress-measured financial plan.
- Y N I have set specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART) financial goals.
- Y N I regularly track my/our progress towards my/our goals and adjust my/our plan as needed.
- Y N I review and update my/our financial plan annually or when significant life events occur.
- Y N I am working with a financial advisor to help me/us navigate complex financial decisions.

So, how did you do?

Count up your "N" answers across all eight sections.

0–8 "N"s — Your foundation is solid.
You've clearly put thought into your retirement, investments, and family's future. A periodic check-in helps keep things aligned as life changes.

9–16 "N"s — You're in decent shape, with room to build.
This is where most people land. A few areas, often tax strategy, estate documents, or income planning, could use attention, and that's completely normal.

17+ "N"s — Let's sit down together.
A higher count just means there's a clear opportunity to bring order and confidence to your financial picture, exactly what this exercise is for.

Every ***"N"*** is a place where thoughtful planning can help — not a judgment on how you've managed things so far.

Want to work toward "Yes" on every question?

Our team at Financial House partners with clients to build comprehensive, personalized financial plans. We'd love to sit down with you, walk through this together, and help you build a financial house that's truly built to last.

Contact us

Financial HOUSE

5818 Kennett Pike • Centreville, DE 19807
(302) 654-5451 • information@financialhouse.com

Financial House and LPL Financial do not provide tax or legal advice/services.
Please consult your tax or legal advisor regarding your specific situation.
Securities and Advisory services offered through LPL Financial, a Registered Investment Advisor. Member FINRA & SIPC.
The LPL Financial representatives associated with this website may discuss and/or transact securities business only with residents of the following states: AK, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KY, ME, MD, MA, MI, MT, NV, NJ, NM, NY, NC, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, VT, VA, & WA.