Reasons for a Change in Retirement Age

Workers who report a change in their expected retirement age in 2014 most often cite the poor economy (25 percent), according to a new report from the nonpartisan Employee Benefit Research Institute.

Other reasons cited included the inability to afford retirement (18 percent), a change in their employment situation (17 percent) and health care costs (12 percent), according to the 2014 Retirement Confidence Survey.

Since 2009, between 20 and 25 percent of workers have reported that the age at which they expect to retire increased in the past year, although fewer expressed that opinion in 2014. Only 15 percent of workers report an increase in their expected retirement age in the past year, compared with 22 percent that did so in the 2013 RCS.

Nevertheless, the median (midpoint) age at which workers expect to retire has remained stable at 65 for most of the 24 year-history of the RCS, the longest running survey of its kind in the nation.

Additional information on retirement savings trends can be found in the 2014 Retirement Confidence Survey, as well as findings from prior waves of the RCS, is available online at http://www.ebri.org/surveys/rcs/

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