

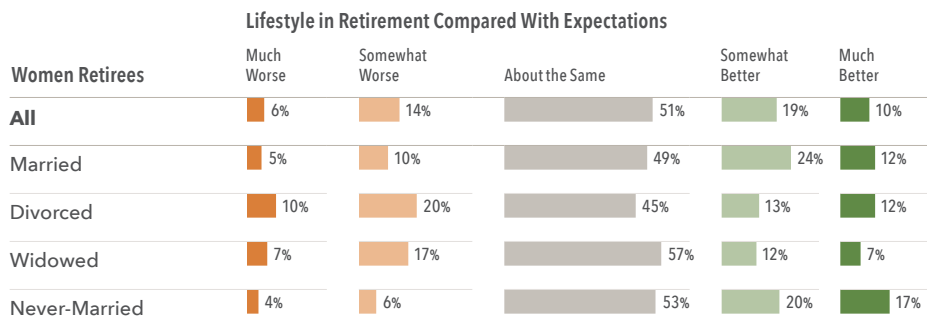
At a Glance | July 2, 2020

Retirement Lifestyle and Spending: Women Retirees' Expectations vs. Realities

LIFE IN RETIREMENT

The overall expectations for lifestyle in retirement were more likely to be met for married and never-married women retirees. Divorced and widowed retirees were most likely to rate their overall lifestyle in retirement as somewhat or much worse than expected.

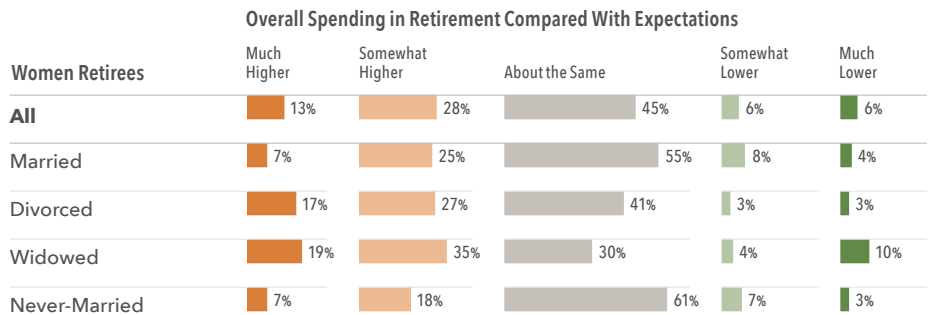
How does your overall lifestyle in retirement now compare to how you expected it to be before you retired?



EXPENSES AND SPENDING

Widowed women retirees were least likely to say that overall spending was in line with their expectations and most likely to say it was much lower than expected.

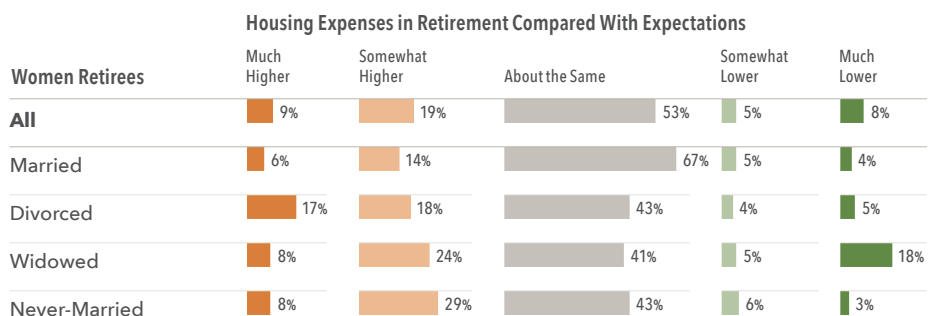
Are your overall expenses and spending in retirement higher or lower than you expected?



HOME SWEET HOME

Housing expenses were more likely to meet expectations or be lower than expected for married women retirees than for unmarried retirees. Divorced women retirees stood out, saying that housing expenses were much higher than expected.

Are your housing expenses in retirement higher or lower than you expected?



SOURCE: Craig Copeland, "Retirement Confidence Survey: Attitudes Toward Retirement by Women of Different Marital Statuses," EBRI Issue Brief, no. 507 (Employee Benefit Research Institute, June 8, 2020).

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