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| **PROTECTING RETIREMENT INCOME FROM INFLATION**Inflation eats away your pension and reduces your buying power in retirement. Here we look at some options you could consider to help protect your income. Inflation rose to 2.1% in May 2021, which was at the time the highest level since the start of the pandemic. As the rate of inflation increases, those in retirement could be hit the hardest. It’s pretty obvious that should prices go up but your income doesn’t, then you won’t be able to buy as much as before. Luckily, there are ways to help try and inflation proof your retirement income. How to plan for inflation in retirement: |
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| **1. Check if you get pension protection** |
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| Most people are entitled to the State Pension and it forms a vital part of their income in retirement. The income they get will be protected against inflation by the government's ‘triple lock rule’. This means your State Pension income will normally increase by the higher of either inflation, earnings growth or 2.5%. If you have a defined benefit (DB) pension, often known as a final salary scheme, the income you get will normally go up in line with inflation or by a fixed percentage. Your employer can tell you if you have a DB pension or ask your pension provider.  |
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| **2. Consider Increasing your Pension contributions**You can arrange to increase your monthly or annual contributions through lump sums up to the maximum of your annual income or £40,000 whichever is the least.Increasing your contribution now will ensure that you are making the best provision for combatting inflation when drawing down your pension in retirement.  Even a small increase in your pension contributions now can offset the erosion of inflation later.  |
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| **3. The Cash vs Investing Balance**Cash can be eroded by inflation over time. Once you have sufficient emergency cash saved in an easily accessible account, choosing to invest, rather than holding lots of cash, can help inflation proof your retirement income. Investing gives you an improved chance of beating inflation over the long term. However, unlike the security offered by cash, all investments, and the income they pay, can go up as well as down in value. You need to be happy with the risks involved, as you could get back less than you put in. |
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| **Inflation Over Time Eats Cash**When you consider that your retirement could last 30 years or more. Then if your income stays the same in that time, and inflation stays at 2% a year (the Bank of England target), this would nearly halve what you could afford in 30 years’ time.  |
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| **Example of what £10,000 could be worth in the future:** |
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| **Contact us to get help with your retirement options**Decisions about your pension are very important. Make sure you understand all your options and their risks. Check that the option you choose is right for your circumstances before you apply. |
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| [**Click here to read our  Money Matters Magazine**](https://www.angloifa.com/files/1116/3222/4850/Sept_Oct2021_-_Anglo.pdf) |
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