## 1999 Women's Retirement Confidence Survey

Ruth Helman, Mathew Greenwald \& Associates Pamela Ostuw, Employee Benefit Research Institute

ASEC Partners' Meeting, Nov. 17, 1999


## Working-Age Women's Overall Confidence in Retirement Income Prospects



## Retirement Readiness Rating Among Working-Age Women



## Saving Money for Retirement Among Women and Men



## Attitudes About Finances and Buying Habits

- I always research and plan for a big purchase ( $81 \%$ of women say this describes them very well or well).
- I am disciplined at saving ( $68 \%$ of women).
- I enjoy financial planning (58\% of women).
- Just when I think I have a handle on my finances, something sets me back ( $50 \%$ of women).
- I pay off my credit cards each month ( $49 \%$ of women).
- I frequently spend money when I don't plan to (37\% of women).
- I am not willing to take any financial risks, no matter what the gain (34\% of women).
- I am willing to take substantial financial risk for substantial gain ( $27 \%$ of women).


## Attitudes About Saving and Planning

- I think anyone can have a comfortable retirement, if they just plan and save ( $69 \%$ of women say this describes them very well or well).
- I am more of a saver than an investor ( $57 \%$ of women).
- If I just save some money each month, I will be fine in my retirement ( $37 \%$ of women).
- I feel it is pointless to plan for retirement because it is too far away to know what I will need ( $14 \%$ of women).
- I think preparing for retirement takes too much time and effort ( $10 \%$ of women).


## Retirement Needs Calculation Among Women and Men



## Could You Save \$20 More Per Week for Retirement?

Among Working-Age Women Who Have Saved for Retirement


Among Working-Age Women Who Have Not Saved for Retirement


## Expected Major Sources of Retirement Income Among Working-Age Women



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