

## 2022 Graded Scores – Social Security

|                              | Score        | Grade    | Percentage of Respondents |                    |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------|----------|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                              |              |          | TOTAL<br>(n = 1,500)      | 55-59<br>(n = 794) | 60-65<br>(n = 706) |
| Answered 0 incorrect         | 100%         | <b>A</b> | <1%                       | 0%                 | <1%                |
| Answered 1 incorrect         | 92%          | <b>A</b> | 2%                        | 2%                 | 3%                 |
| Answered 2 incorrect         | 85%          | <b>B</b> | 7%                        | 6%                 | 8%                 |
| Answered 3 incorrect         | 77%          | <b>C</b> | 14%                       | 13%                | 15%                |
| Answered 4 incorrect         | 69%          | <b>D</b> | 16%                       | 16%                | 17%                |
| Answered 5 incorrect         | 62%          | <b>D</b> | 17%                       | 17%                | 16%                |
| Answered 6 or more incorrect | 54% or lower | <b>F</b> | 44%                       | 47%                | 40%                |

Note: Graded scores have been updated since the initial issuance of this report.

**Percentage of Respondents Who Answered  
Social Security TRUE/FALSE Statements Correctly**

|   | TOTAL             |                   | 55-59           | 60-65           |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|   | 2022<br>(n=1,500) | 2021<br>(n=1,500) | 2022<br>(n=794) | 2022<br>(n=706) |
| In most cases, if I take benefits before my full retirement age, they will be reduced for early filing. (TRUE)  | 89%               | 94%               | 88%             | 90%             |
| If I am receiving benefits before my full retirement age and continue to work, my benefits might be reduced based on how much I make. (TRUE)  | 82%               | 86%               | 81%             | 83%             |
| If I have a spouse, he or she can receive benefits from my record even if he or she has no individual earnings history. (TRUE)  | 72%               | 78%               | 70%             | 75%             |
| If I have a spouse and he or she passes away, I will receive both my full benefit and my deceased spouse's full benefit. (FALSE)  | 68%               | 75%               | 65%             | 71%             |
| Generally, if I am in a same-sex marriage, there are different eligibility requirements when it comes to Social Security retirement benefits. (FALSE)   | 65%               | --                | 63%             | 67%             |
| The money that comes out of my paycheck for Social Security goes into a specific account for me and remains there, earning interest, until I begin to receive Social Security benefits. (FALSE) | 62%               | 73%               | 61%             | 64%             |
| Under current law, Social Security benefits could be reduced by 20% or more for everyone by 2035. (TRUE)  | 60%               | 64%               | 64%             | 56%             |
| If I file for retirement benefits and have dependent children aged 18 or younger, they also may qualify for Social Security benefits. (TRUE)  | 58%               | 56%               | 56%             | 60%             |
| If I get divorced, I might be able to collect Social Security benefits based on my ex-spouse's Social Security earnings history. (TRUE)   | 57%               | --                | 54%             | 61%             |
| Under current Social Security law, full retirement age is 65 no matter when you were born. (FALSE)  | 56%               | 67%               | 51%             | 62%             |
| If I delay taking Social Security benefits past the age of 70, I will continue to get delayed retirement credit increases each year I wait. (FALSE)   | 49%               | 54%               | 50%             | 49%             |
| Social Security retirement benefits are subject to income tax just like withdrawals from a traditional IRA account. (FALSE)   | 42%               | --                | 45%             | 39%             |
| I must be a U.S. citizen to collect Social Security retirement benefits. (FALSE)  | 24%               | 31%               | 21%             | 28%             |