

The Truth About Social Security: Why “Wait Until 70” Might Be Bad Advice

For decades, standard retirement advice was simple: wait until age 70 to claim Social Security so you get the biggest monthly check possible. On paper, waiting adds about 8% per year to your payout.

But what most traditional advisors leave out is the break-even math—and the real risks facing the system.

The Problem with Waiting

Imagine your baseline Social Security benefit is \$2,000 a month at age 67:

- **Claim early at 62:** You receive roughly \$1,400 a month.
- **Wait until 70:** You receive roughly \$2,480 a month.

Waiting looks great until you realize this: the person who claimed at 62 has already collected over \$134,000 in cash before the late claimer receives a single dime.

In this simplified example, the break-even point is around age 80. Whether claiming earlier puts more money in your pocket depends on how long you live and your individual circumstances. Plus, claiming earlier takes pressure off your personal savings and gives you guaranteed income today.

The System Is Facing Pressure

According to the 2026 Social Security Trustees Report, the retirement and survivor benefits trust fund is projected to exhaust its reserves in 2032. Without legislative changes, continuing income would be sufficient to pay approximately 78% of scheduled benefits.

With fewer workers supporting each retiree than in decades past, the real question isn't just “Should I wait?”—it's “Will full benefits be there if I do?”

Traditional Social Security	Single monthly benefit, claiming-age rules, and potential benefit reductions after projected trust fund reserve depletion in 2032 unless legislation changes.
Guaranteed Annuity Ladder	Activate additional guaranteed lifetime income as needed, within each contract's permitted dates and terms. Fixed annuity guarantees protect against direct market declines; beneficiary protections depend on the contract.

A Better Way: Build Your Own Private Pension

Instead of relying solely on a rigid government system, you can build a personal income ladder using top-rated insurance carriers:

- **Scheduled Income “Raises”:** Turn on income streams at different ages (e.g., age 65, 70, and 75) to give yourself automatic monthly raises that fight inflation.

With an income ladder, you can choose when to activate the next available deferred income annuity, within its contractual options. If inflation or rising expenses begin to erode your purchasing power, that next stream can add guaranteed monthly income for life.

- **Zero Market Risk:** Your core income is protected from market downturns and economic volatility.
- **Spouse & Legacy Protections:** Structured annuity contracts can provide lifetime income for a surviving spouse and may include options to pass remaining benefits to heirs.

Why Distance Doesn't Matter When Securing Your Future

You don't need to visit a physical office to put a bulletproof retirement plan in place.

Through secure digital portals, virtual consultations, and direct partnerships with multi-billion-dollar insurance institutions, our team helps families across the country build predictable, worry-free income plans from the comfort of home.

Source for 2032 projection: Social Security Administration, 2026 Trustees Report. Annuity guarantees are subject to contract terms and the issuing insurer's claims-paying ability.