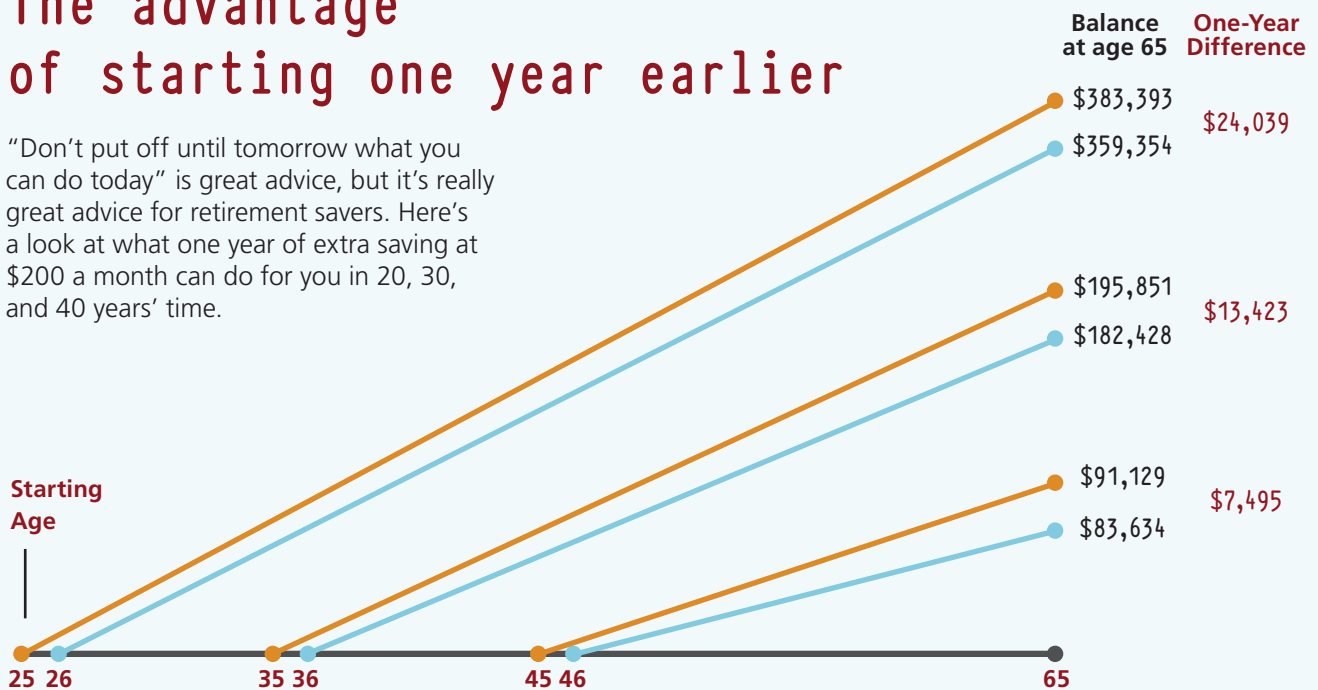


# DECIDE HOW MUCH TO SAVE

Your contributions represent the main fuel that generates the growth of your savings. In 2023, the IRS allows you to contribute up to \$22,500 to your plan, \$30,000 if you're age 50 or older. (Amounts can vary by plan.) The more you save, the greater the potential accumulation over time. The earlier you start can make a big difference, too.

## The advantage of starting one year earlier

"Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today" is great advice, but it's really great advice for retirement savers. Here's a look at what one year of extra saving at \$200 a month can do for you in 20, 30, and 40 years' time.



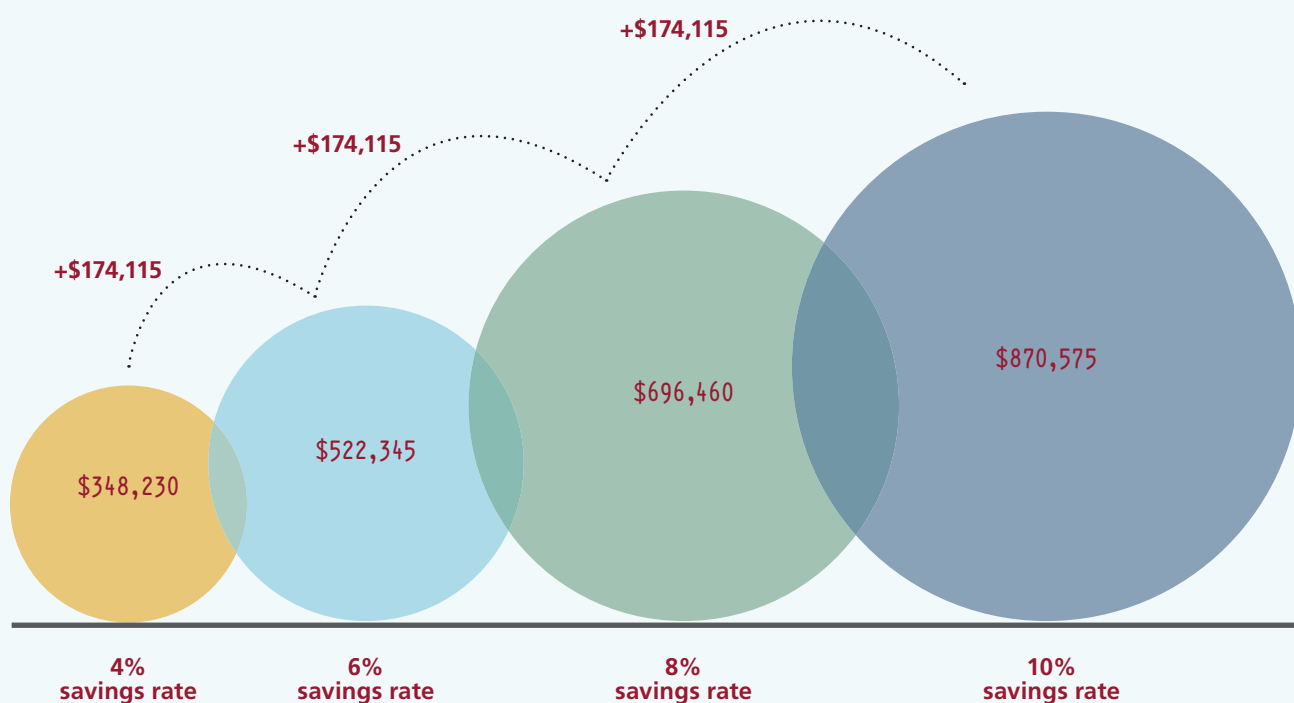
This is a hypothetical illustration and is not indicative of any product or performance; it does not reflect any taxes due upon distribution or any fees associated with investing. Investment options are subject to market risk. It assumes \$200 monthly contributions, 6% annual return, and retirement at age 65.

Keep in mind that boosting your pretax contribution has less impact on take-home pay than you may think because the amount you contribute lowers your taxable income for the year. For example, if you're in the 15% tax bracket, a \$5,000 annual contribution reduces your take-home pay by only \$4,250.

## DECIDE HOW MUCH TO SAVE

### Every little bit counts

Even a small increase in your workplace retirement plan deferral rate can make a big difference in the size of your savings. Say you're 30 years old, earn an annual salary of \$52,000, and get paid biweekly. Deferring 2% of your salary to your plan may reduce your take-home pay by \$28, but by age 65 you could potentially accumulate more than \$174,000 in retirement savings. Defer another 2% and you could gain another \$174,000. The chart below shows the impact saving 2% more can make.



Savings-rate assumptions include 3% annual raises and 6% annual investment returns, calculated using the "Retirement Contribution Effects on Your Paycheck" tool at [bankrate.com](http://bankrate.com).

As a rule of thumb, try to put **10% – 15% of your income toward your retirement**. It's an easy-to-remember target, and the sooner you start to save, the likelier you may be to reach your financial goals. Check your progress by using the Contribution Planner at [LincolnFinancial.com/ContributionPlanner](http://LincolnFinancial.com/ContributionPlanner).



Think long-term commitment