



Join Kate Pizzi and a panel of experts at the annual New England States Government Finance Officers' Association fall conference. Register today>

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Nearly One Third of Pensions Within Striking Distance of a Buyout

Nearly one third of pensions have a funding of 95% or more, making a buyout or risk transfer deal two possibilities they could pursue, according to analysis of 500 plans with collective assets of more than \$100 billion published by RiskFirst. [Read more>](#)

Cash Balance Plans Evolving to Look More Like 401(k)s

Cash balance plans that move away from traditional interest crediting rates based on a long-term index, such as a 30-year Treasury bond, to a crediting rate based on real market returns have the best and most stable funded statuses among cash balance plans, according to research by consulting firm October Three. [Read more>](#)

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July a Slow Trading Month for 401(k) Investors

July was a particularly slow month for trading in 401(k) plans, with no days of above-normal trading activity, according to the Alight Solutions 401(k) Index. This was the first month of no days of above-normal trading activity since June 2017 and continues the lull in trading, with only one day of above-normal trading in both May and June. [Read more>](#)

Target-date Outcomes Improve With Introduction of Alternative Investments

As more plans adopt qualified default investment alternatives for their set-it-and-forget-it participants, target-date funds have grown to nearly \$2 trillion in assets. [Read more>](#)

Can Mutual Funds Limit Pension Risk as Effectively as SMAs?

Separately managed accounts (SMAs) allow for more precise matching of key rate durations than collective investment trusts or mutual funds, but do the benefits of this incremental improvement in precision

outweigh the extra complexity and potential cost? [Read more>](#)



How To Motivate Millennials To Participate In Retirement Savings

Millennials comprise one-third of the U.S. labor force, making them the single-largest generation at work today, according to Pew Research Center. But they don't appear to be functioning as full-fledged members of the workforce just yet - at least when it comes to participating in benefit plans. [Read more>](#)

How Confident are 401k Participants, Really?

If you haven't encouraged plan sponsors to educate participants about what lies ahead, you might want to get started. During the past two years, defined contribution (DC) plan participants have become more confident about their financial well-being and their prospects for retirement. [Read more>](#)

Participants Report Diverse Communication Preferences

Results of a participant survey conducted by CUNA Mutual show a close tie between in-person training, short topical online videos, and self-guided learning modules as the preferred way to receive education about retirement plans. [Read more>](#)

Newsworthy notes



Promotions:

Ellen Kucenski, consulting actuary, has been promoted to Pension Practice Leader of the Actuarial Services Group. [Read press release>](#)

We are proud to support these upcoming events:

- Hartford Area Habitat for Humanity's 'Sticks for Bricks' golf tournament
- West Hartford Chamber of Commerce golf tournament
- Wheeler Clinic's 'Farm to Table' gathering