



How to Turn \$500K to \$1M Into Reliable Retirement Income

Without Guesswork, Market Panic,
or Running Out of Money

By Bob Rubin · Rubin Wealth Advisors

The Real Challenge of Retirement

For most people, retirement is not just a financial shift; it is a psychological one.

You have spent decades saving, investing, and watching your accounts grow. You were rewarded for discipline, patience, and consistency. Now, suddenly, you are expected to flip the switch and start spending those same assets.

That is uncomfortable for almost everyone.

In fact, many retirees hesitate to spend at all, not because they cannot afford to, but because they do not feel confident they will be okay long-term.

“How do I turn what I have built into income I can actually rely on, without second-guessing every decision?”

That is where most plans fall short.

At Rubin Wealth Advisors, we focus on creating predictable, structured income strategies that give you clarity and confidence. So, instead of reacting to markets or headlines, you can focus on actually enjoying retirement.

What Are You Really Trying to Accomplish?

Before we ever talk about investments, we need to understand what success looks like for you.

Most retirees fall into one, or more, of these categories:

1. Avoid Running Out of Money

This is the most common concern, and for good reason. You do not want to be in a position later in life where you are forced to cut back or depend on others.

2. Maintain Your Lifestyle

You have worked hard to build your life. Retirement should be about maintaining that standard, not worrying about whether you can afford it.

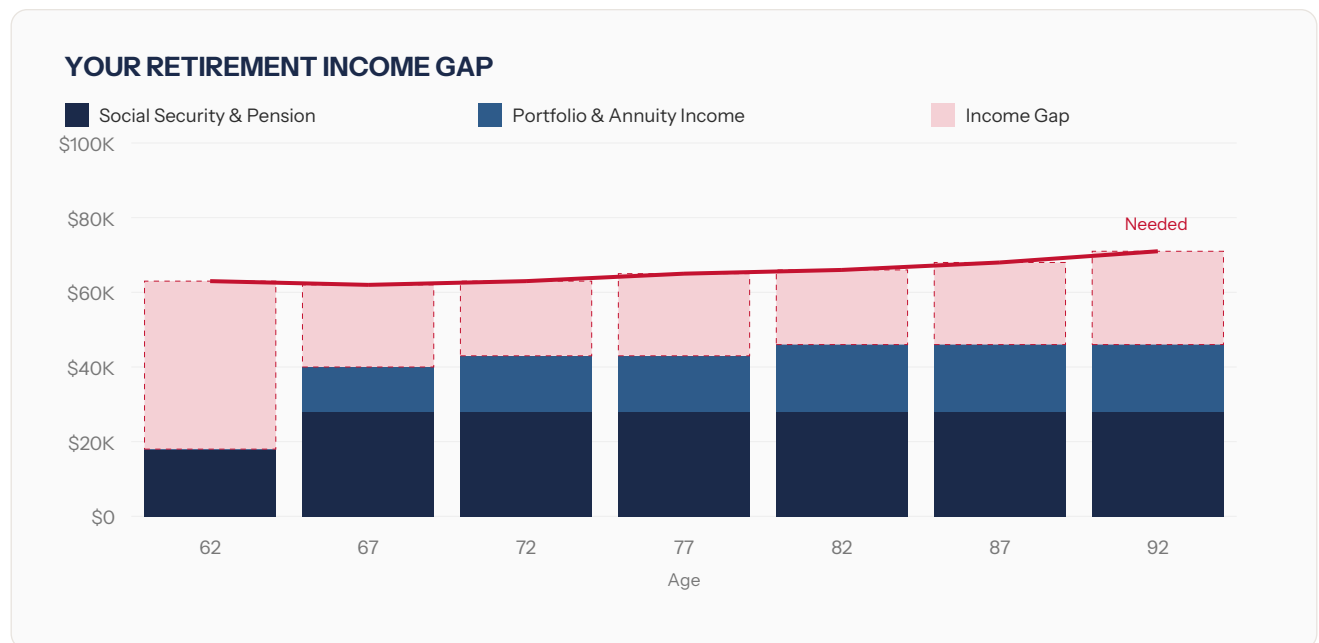
3. Leave a Legacy

For some, the goal is not just to sustain wealth, but to grow it for the next generation or for causes they care about.

4. Maximize Enjoyment

Others want to fully enjoy their retirement years, even if it means drawing down assets more aggressively.

There is no one-size-fits-all answer. But your strategy should reflect **your priorities**, not a generic allocation or outdated rule of thumb.



The 3 Biggest Threats to Your Retirement

Even well-funded retirements can fail if these risks are not properly addressed.



1. Living Longer Than Expected

People consistently underestimate how long retirement lasts. It is very common today for retirement to span 25 to 35 years, or more. That means your portfolio is not just funding a phase; it is supporting an entirely new chapter of life.

If your plan assumes a shorter timeline, you may be taking on more risk than you realize.

2. Inflation: A Corrosive Force on Your Wealth

Inflation is one of the most corrosive forces retirees face. It does not happen all at once; over time, though, it quietly erodes your purchasing power.

- At 3% inflation, your expenses can more than double.
- What costs \$60,000 today could cost over \$140,000 in 30 years.

This is why overly conservative strategies can backfire. If your money is not growing, it is actually losing ground.

3. Healthcare Costs

Healthcare expenses often rise faster than general inflation and tend to increase later in retirement. These costs can significantly impact your plan if they are not properly accounted for.

A strong retirement income plan does not ignore these risks; it is built around them.

Income vs. Cash Flow: This Changes Everything

One of the biggest misconceptions in retirement planning is the idea that you should only live off “income.”

“I will just live off dividends and interest.”

While that sounds safe, it can actually limit your flexibility and long-term success.

The Key Difference

Income: Dividends and interest payments

Cash Flow: The actual money you withdraw and spend

The Smarter Approach: Total Return

Instead of restricting yourself to income-only strategies, we focus on total return:

- Growth from investments
- Income from dividends and interest
- Strategic withdrawals, when appropriate

This approach allows for greater flexibility, better diversification, and more consistent outcomes over time.

Tax Efficiency Is Critical

Not all income is taxed the same way, and this is where smart planning can make a significant difference.

Interest and many dividends are taxed as ordinary income, often at higher rates. Long-term capital gains from selling appreciated assets are typically taxed at lower rates.

By strategically managing withdrawals and asset sales, we can often generate the same, or greater, cash flow while paying less in taxes.

This is one of the key advantages of a professionally managed retirement income strategy.

Where Do Annuities Fit In?

One of the biggest concerns retirees have is uncertainty. Markets fluctuate. Headlines change. That uncertainty can lead to hesitation or poor decisions.

That is where annuities can play a role.

What Annuities Can Provide

- Guaranteed income for life
- Protection from market volatility, depending on the structure
- A stable income base you cannot outlive

The Balanced Strategy

In most cases, the best solution is not choosing one approach; it is combining them. We typically structure plans with:

- An investment portfolio for growth, flexibility, and long-term appreciation
- Annuities to cover essential expenses and reduce uncertainty

This allows you to cover your core needs with confidence and keep the rest of your portfolio invested for growth.

You are not sacrificing opportunity; you are creating stability where it matters most.

Social Security Maximization

Social Security maximization is the process of strategically determining when you and your spouse should begin taking benefits in order to maximize your total lifetime income. Rather than simply claiming at the earliest or most common age, we analyze multiple timing scenarios based on your health, income needs, spousal benefits, and overall retirement plan. By coordinating these decisions properly, we can often increase your total household income significantly over time while reducing the risk of leaving valuable benefits on the table.

Social Security is one of the most important income sources in retirement, and one of the most misunderstood.

The timing of when you take benefits can have a significant impact on your lifetime income.

Key Questions We Help Answer

- When should you take Social Security?
- When should your spouse take benefits?
- How do you maximize total household income?

Many people make this decision based on incomplete information or general advice.

But even small adjustments can result in tens, or even hundreds, of thousands of dollars in additional lifetime income.

As part of our process, we offer a complimentary Social Security maximization analysis to help you make the most informed decision possible.

The 4 Retirement Income Strategies

Most successful retirement plans follow one of these approaches, or a combination of them:

1. Income-Only Strategy

Relying strictly on dividends and interest. This approach focuses on generating enough income so that you never have to touch your principal. While it may feel conservative, it can limit growth and may not keep up with inflation.

2. Total Return Strategy

Using a diversified portfolio and withdrawing strategically. This strategy focuses on overall portfolio performance, combining growth and income. It allows for more flexibility and can be more tax-efficient.

3. Hybrid Strategy (Most Common)

Combining portfolio growth with guaranteed income. This approach blends an actively managed portfolio with annuities to create both growth and stability.

4. Income Bridge Strategy

Using short-term assets while waiting for Social Security or pension income to begin. This strategy uses more conservative investments to cover the early retirement years.

The key is not picking a single strategy, but designing the right mix based on your situation.

Are You a Good Fit?

This approach is designed for individuals who:

- Have \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 or more saved for retirement
- Want reliable income without unnecessary risk
- Are concerned about inflation, taxes, or market volatility
- Prefer a structured plan over guesswork

If that sounds like you, this process can provide significant clarity.

Your Next Step

Simple and No Pressure

Most people already have pieces of a retirement plan. What they are missing is clarity on whether it actually works, and whether it will continue to work long-term.

That is where we come in.

With a Retirement Income Review, We Will:

- Identify your income gap
- Evaluate whether your current strategy is sustainable
- Optimize your Social Security timing
- Determine whether annuities or portfolio adjustments make sense

There is no pressure and no obligation — just a clear, structured look at your situation.

Schedule Your Complimentary Review

<https://go.oncehub.com/BobAspen>

Or simply reply to the message you received, and we will coordinate a time that works best for you.

Rubin Wealth Advisors

Helping you turn savings into reliable income, with clarity and confidence.