ECONOMIST ENTERPRISE

Retirement anxiety despite strong pay

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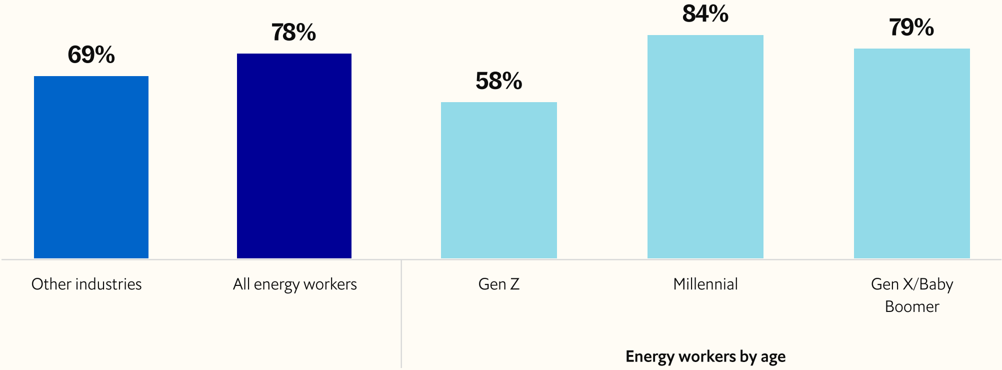
Stable incomes today, but anxious about retirement tomorrow

"I am concerned that inflation will erode the value of my retirement benefits."

Percentage who agree



Source: Economist Enterprise 2025 US Benefits 2.0 survey

Energy and utilities workers enjoy relatively strong and stable incomes today—but remain highly concerned about their retirement outlook.[1] The latest Benefits 2.0 survey, conducted by Economist Enterprise and supported by Nuveen, finds that nearly four in five (78%) are worried that inflation will erode the value of their retirement benefits, compared with 69% in other industries—the highest level of concern across sectors.

This anxiety is most pronounced among mid-career employees: 84% of millennials express concern, compared with 79% of Gen X and Baby Boomers, and just 58% of Gen Z. This suggests those in their peak earning years are most attuned to whether their retirement benefits are keeping pace with long-term financial risks.

References

1 US Department of Energy, "2025 United States Energy & Employment Report", August 2025, https://www.energy.gov/documents/2025-useer-national-report

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