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**Doing all  
the things  
other  
advisors  
forget to  
do.™**



Donald O'Connor,  
MA, abd Ph.D.

## THE ASSET PROTECTION FINANCIAL GROUP LLC

2306 Berlin Turnpike, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

Newington, CT. 06111

Phone 860-667-8444 Fax 860-667-3888

Toll-free: 1-866-311-3563

Email: [don@assetprollc.com](mailto:don@assetprollc.com) Website: [www.assetprollc.com](http://www.assetprollc.com)

*“We do all the things other advisors forget to do”™*

### That's a lot of Moola!

Hope this finds you well! I ran across some interesting numbers that I thought I would share with you. When I talk to people about their finances, many times they will ask me how they are doing as compared to average. So I found some recent averages of what Americans have saved up.

The 2006 Retirement Confidence Survey conducted by the Employees Benefit Research Institute totaled people's average savings and investments for all workers, ages 55+, and all retirees together. Here's what they found:

<u>Total Savings and Investments</u>	<u>All Workers</u>	<u>Ages 55+</u>	<u>All Retirees</u>
Less than \$10,000	39%	36%	30%
\$10,000 -- \$24,999	14%	6%	12%
\$25,000 -- \$49,999	12%	8%	14%
\$50,000 -- \$99,999	12%	12%	11%
\$100,000 -- \$149,000	5%	7%	7%
\$150,000 -- \$249,000	6%	5%	6%
\$250,000 -- \$499,999	6%	13%	12%
More than \$500,000	6%	13%	10%

Those numbers may be fun or painful to look at depending on your point of view but I did find another number in their findings that is down right scary!

*(continued)*

**A Note from Donald O'Connor, MA, abd Ph.D ....**

According to the Employee Benefit Research Institute, Americans age 55 who live to age 90 would need to have at least \$210,000 in savings and investments (by age 65) to pay for insurance to supplement Medicare and out-of-pocket medical expenses in retirement!

Wow! Staying healthy costs a lot more than it used too! That chunk of money could seriously cut into a person's vacation savings!

If you have any questions on these numbers or anything else, please feel free to give me a call at 860-667-8444.

Sincerely,



Donald O'Connor, MA, <sup>abd</sup> Ph.D

## Cheddar-Potato Soup

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Quick Fix Meals with Robin Miller

Show:

2 teaspoons olive oil  
1 teaspoon dry mustard  
1 cup diced onion  
1 cup diced celery  
6 cups reduced-sodium chicken or vegetable broth  
2 cups mashed potatoes  
8 ounces shredded Cheddar

1/4 teaspoon ground white pepper  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
Hot sauce, optional

Add oil to a large pot set over medium-high heat. Add onion and celery and sauté for 2 to 3 minutes, or until they start to soften. Add stock and mashed potatoes and bring to a simmer. Using a hand blender or regular blender, puree soup until smooth (when using a regular blender, work in batches to prevent messy cleanups!). Add Cheddar, salt, white pepper, dry mustard and hot sauce. Stir to combine and allow the cheese to melt.

