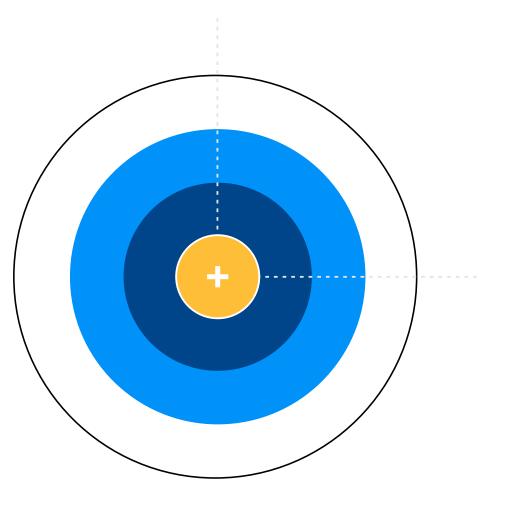
# Navigating the target date fund selection process





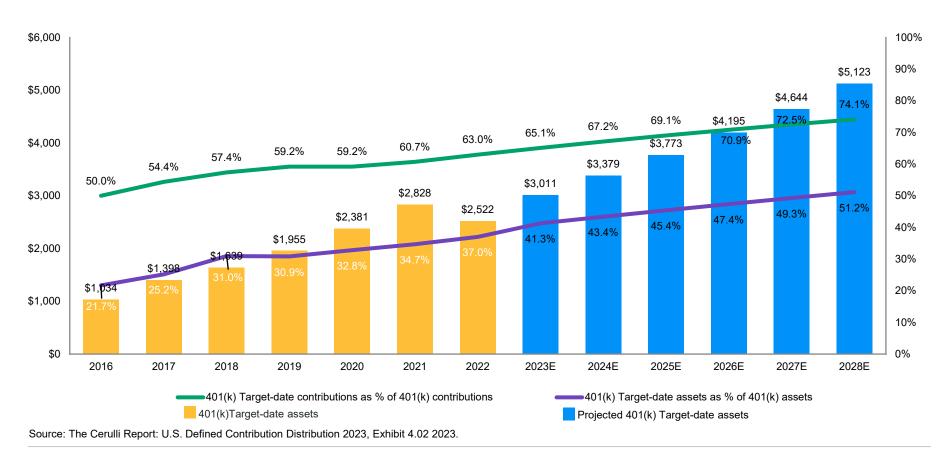
# Why is this so important?



## The use of target date funds continues to grow

Representing 63% of 401(k) contributions in 2022 and projected to reach 74% by 2028

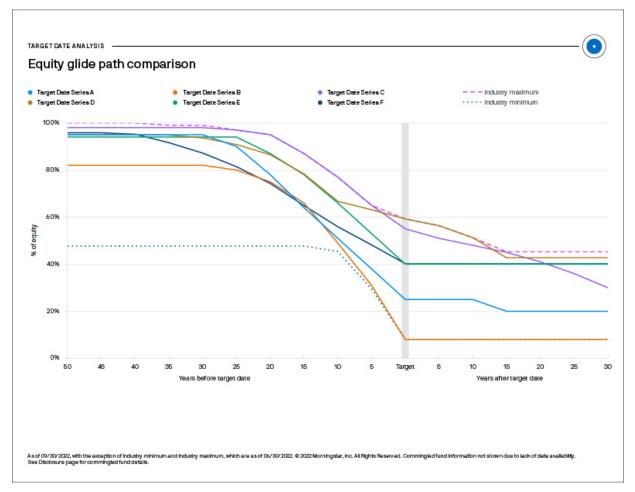
401(k) Target-Date Assets and Contributions, 2014-2024E (\$billions)





## Target date fund glide paths can vary widely

Target Date Compass equity glide path comparison



Source: Target Date Compass report; for illustrative purposes only.



## DC plan lawsuits: Hundreds of cases since 2006

Nearly 100 cases filed in 2020—5x as many as 2019



More plaintiffs law firms are entering the business

**Example:** Some traditional personal injury firms are advertising for DC plan participants and filing cases



Smaller plans targeted

**Example:** Plan sponsor with \$97 million plan sued in September 2017



**Example:** Law firms are finding new categories of defendants to sue and raising creative new claims

## Defendants have paid more than \$1 billion to settle

Source: J.P. Morgan Asset Management



## Class-action law firms have begun zeroing in on TDFs

Looking for 401(k) participants who are concerned about their plans' TDFs

## **Possible claims:**

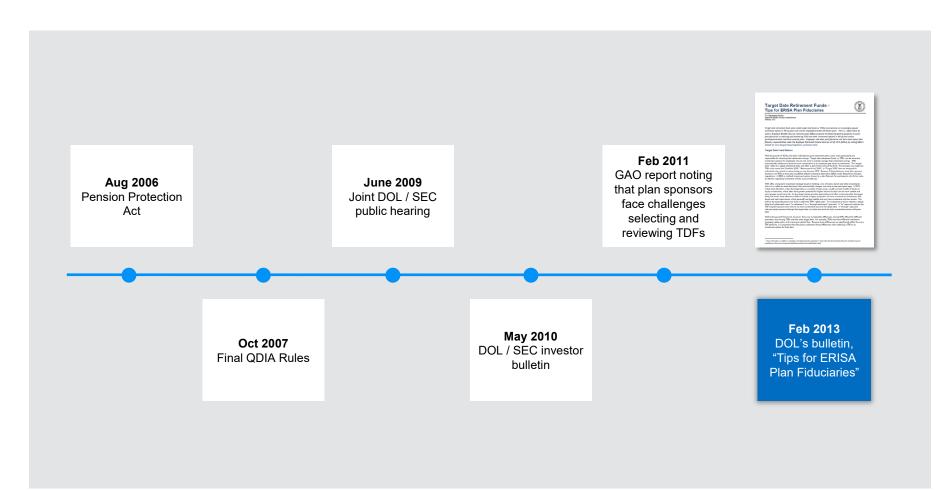
1	2	3	4
Improper investment	Excessive fees	Self-dealing or	Improper default
strategy		imprudent selection	selection

"If you are a participant or the fiduciary of a Plan who is concerned about the target date fund in your 401(k), you may contact us to review your plan's information."

Source: See, e.g., the website of the Cohen Milstein law firm



## Regulatory guidance has led up to "Tips for ERISA Plan Fiduciaries"



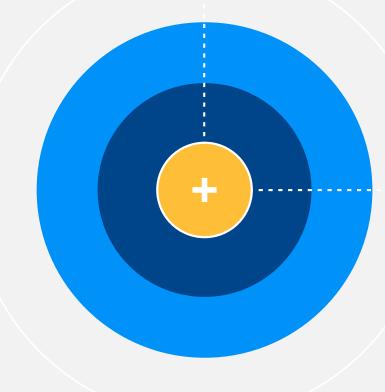
Source: J.P. Morgan Asset Management



Target Date Compass® can help...

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## SMART AND SIMPLE FUND COMPARISON TARGET DATE COMPASS®



## **Robust analytics**

Advanced data customization and easy-to-understand charts and graphs.

## **Customizable reports**

Select and reorder the content you share with clients and prospects.



## Faster fund selection

Filter by: fund type, equity exposure, diversification, active exposure and more 02

# What can l expect?

An objective, documented, repeatable process



## What does this mean?

- **ENGAGE** in an objective process that obtains information to evaluate the prudence of any plan investment option
- **REVIEW** TDF information such as performance, fees, and expenses
- **CONSIDER** how a TDF's characteristics align with participant traits, such as ages, likely retirement dates, DB plan participation, salary levels, turnover rates, contribution rates and withdrawal patterns

Questionnaire	Target Date Type
Facilitates important discussions about plan needs and objectives	Helps determine which TDFs may be most appropriate for plan
Quadrant Map	Analysis Report

Our research of retirement plan participant behaviour continues to highlight important trends and implications for target date fund design

Insufficient contribution rates

Participants typically contribute from their pay check

> **5%** at the start **6%** by age 45 **Never reach 10%**



Source: J.P. Morgan retirement research, 2018-2019.

Cash flow volatility

Participants are taking loans

13% borrow, on average,20% of account



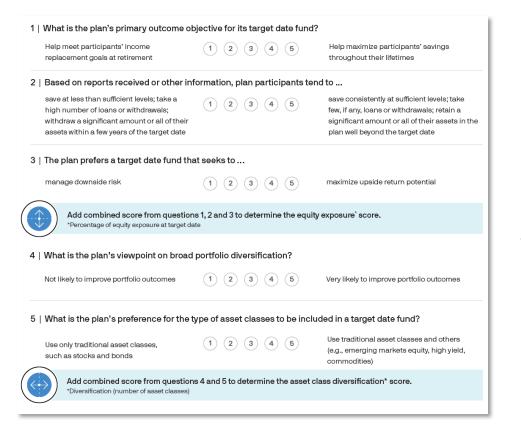
Withdrawals at retirement

More participants are remaining in the plan post-retirement

> **42%** of participants remain in the plan three years after retirement



## Spotlight: Determine the plan's Target Date Type





"Based on thirty-two years of experience working on questionnaires focused on helping individuals and organizations assess investment choices it is my judgment that the Target Date Compass® questionnaire is objective and balanced."

Mathew Greenwald, Ph.D. President, Greenwald Research

Source: "Target Date Compass Brochure" - J.P. Morgan Asset Management, April 2018.





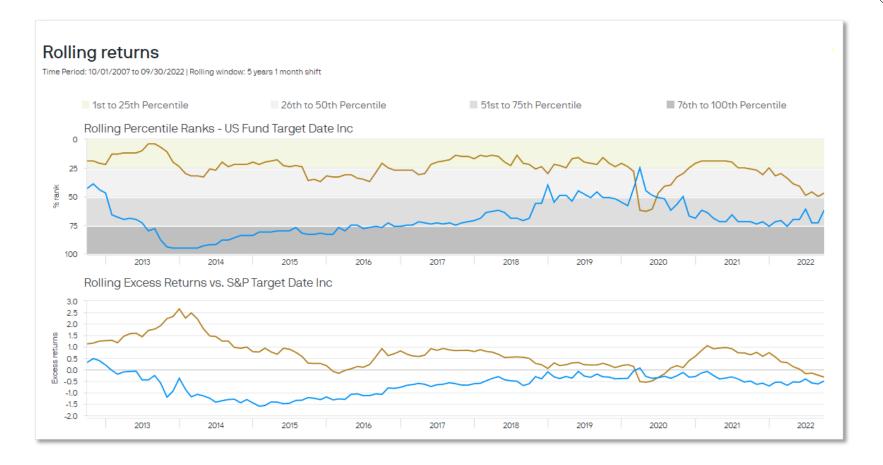
#### What does this mean?

- **REVIEW** plan investment options periodically to ensure that they should continue to be offered
- **CONSIDER** any significant changes in the TDF, such as management team, investment strategy or ability to perform
- **EVALUATE** if the plan's TDF goals have changed

Questionnaire	Instant access
Facilitates important discussions about plan needs and objectives	Investors may log into tool at any time to review updated information
Quarterly data	
Regular updates allow for periodic review of TDFs to determine if they are still right for the plan	



## Spotlight: 5-year rolling returns



As of 09/30/2022. © 2022 Morningstar, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. All performance information is shown net of fees. Performance information may include extended performance returns, provided by Morningstar, where available. Performance includes the reinvestment of income. % rank in category refer to Morningstar's open end and exchange traded fund universe. Calculation period defaults to a maximum of15 years; If selected funds or benchmark incepted more recently than 15 years ago, the calculation period for each fund will default to the shorter of each fund's and benchmark inception.



# 3. Understand the fund's investments ... and how these will change over time

### What does this mean?

- **READ** the TDF's prospectus or offering materials
- **UNDERSTAND** the principal strategies and risks of the TDF and any underlying asset classes and investments it may hold
- **EVALUATE** the TDF's glide path and if it reaches its most conservative asset allocation at or after its target date
- **REVIEW** how the TDF's exposure to more volatile assets after its target date aligns with participant withdrawal patterns

Analysis report	
Glide path comparison page displays the shape & slope	
	Analysis Report
	Asset class summary page lists underlying asset classes



#### What does this mean?

- CONSIDER variations in TDF costs, both in amount and type; even small differences can have a serious impact on reducing long-term retirement savings
- **UNDERSTAND** overall costs, including fees and expenses, for both the TDF and the underlying funds, as well as any sales loads
- ASK what services and expenses make up the difference if the expense ratios of the individual component funds are substantially less than the overall TDF
- **EVALUATE** if these costs are justified in terms of improved performance

Analysis report	
Comparative information on net and gross expense ratios	
	Analysis Report All data is net of fee
	(i.e. Growth of \$10K, trailing performance, rolling returns)



Fiduciaries are not required to choose the cheapest funds...

## "

"Fiduciaries have latitude to value investment features other than price (and indeed are required to do so)", for example "potential for higher return, lower financial risk, more services offered, or greater management flexibility."<sup>1</sup>

## "

"Unquestionably, fiduciaries need not choose the cheapest fees available to the exclusion of other considerations."<sup>2</sup>

# "

"The fact that it is possible that some other funds might have had even lower [expense] ratios is beside the point; nothing in ERISA requires every fiduciary to scour the market to find and offer the cheapest possible fund (which might, of course, be plagued by other problems)."<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>White v. Chevron Corp., 2016 WL 4502808 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 29, 2016), aff'd appeal, Memo. Opinion, 9thCir. November 13, 2018; U.S. Supreme Court order denying certiorari May 28, <sup>2</sup> Patterson v. The Capital Group Companies, Inc., et. (C.D. Cal. January 23, 2018; <sup>3</sup> Hecker v. Deere & Co., 556 F. 3d 575 (7<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2009)



# 5. Inquire about whether a custom or non-proprietary TDF would be a better fit for your plan

#### What does this mean?

- CONSIDER if a custom TDF provides benefits by incorporating the plan's existing core funds into the TDF
- **EVALUATE** diversification advantages of nonproprietary TDFs that include component funds that are managed by fund managers other than the TDF provider
- WEIGH costs and administrative tasks involved in creating a custom or non-proprietary TDF against these potential benefits

larget date series snap	Shot				
MUTUAL FUND ASSETS					
(\$mm) as of 09/30/2022	\$3,115	\$5,383	\$6,290	\$1,891	\$1,813
Earliect inception date	11/07/2013	04/30/2010	10/30/2006	12/31/2014	04/29/2005
GLIDE PATH					
% of equity at target date	52.0%	8.0%	52.0%	45.25%	35.0%
% of equity at landing point	25.0%	8.0%	25.0%	45.25%	35.0%
Glide path end (age)	85	65	85	65	65
# of appet clapped	9	10	11	11	9
Tactical	Yec	Yec	Yes	Yec	Yec
FUNDSTRUCTURE					
Fund of funds	Yeo	Yee	Yes	Yec	Yec
Open architecture (%)	43%	54%	53%	72%	71%
Active exposure (%)	43.42%	46.13%	94.38%	27.73%	74,44%
UNDERLYING FUND INFORMATION					
# of underlying funds	25	23	36	12	26
Average manager tenure (years)	8.04	8.10	8.84	14.22	10.07
Longect manager tenure (yeare)	26.21	26.21	25.57	21.58	27.58

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# Spotlight: Case against plan sponsor and custom TDF representative settles for \$14M

Court denied defendants' motion to dismiss



## Johnson v. Fujitsu: Plaintiffs sued both the plan sponsor and the target date fund manager

**Court ruled on the motion to dismiss in April 2017** 

## Parties agreed to settle and the Court approved the settlement in May 2018\*

## Allegations regarding TDFs include:

- Plan sponsor hired TDF investment professional "with no public track record" of managing TDFs "despite a marketplace replete with competitive TDF offerings and experienced investment professionals"
- Financial professional allocated "a wildly excessive percentage" to "speculative asset classes"
- The custom TDFs were more expensive than others available in the market
- Some underlying funds selected by the professional were not representative of their asset classes and/or had limited track records
- "Fundamental flaws" in the TDFs' design and implementation caused them to significantly underperform their benchmarks

\*Johnson v. Fujitsu Technology and Business of America, Inc., et. al. (N.D. Cal. May 11, 2018)





### What does this mean?

- **PLAN** for employees to receive appropriate information about TDFs in general, the use of TDFs as a retirement investment option and the plan's specific TDF offering
- OUTLINE TDF basics to employees
- **DISTRIBUTE** disclosures required by law, including greater detail about plan and investment option fees and expenses, as well as risk considerations

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JPMorg

At least choosing a retirement fund can be ea .PMoroan SmatBetirement\*

How JPMorgan can help



# 7. Take advantage of available sources of information to evaluate the TDF and suggestions you received regarding the TDF selection



#### What does this mean?

 BENEFIT from commercially available sources of information and services to assist in the decisionmaking and review process

Third party data	
Target Date Compass uses independent information from Morningstar	
	Third party data Questionnaire developed with Mathew Greenwald & Associates to ensure objectivity





#### What does this mean?

- **DOCUMENT** the selection and review process
- **DETAIL** how decisions about individual investment options are reached

Questionnaire	
Facilitates important discussions about plan needs and objectives	
	Analysis report
	Detailed comparative analysis can be valuable for documenting due diligence and selection process



# It's more important than ever that fiduciaries prudently select and review TDFs

Likely the most important investment decision facing DC plan fiduciaries

Target date funds represent a growing share of 401(k) assets

An increasing number of lawsuits are being filed against plan fiduciaries concerning their selection of TDFs

Class action law firms are increasingly focusing on TDFs

When it's the default, the stakes are even higher

- Possible claim: "You put me into this investment so you should have chosen it more carefully."
- The QDIA safe harbor does not protect fiduciaries who imprudently select the default.

## Participants with the highest account balances tend to be those nearing retirement

- 10,000 baby boomers reach age 65 every day
- They have the most to lose
- Significant portfolio losses could prompt them to sue



# "

"...Target Date Compass offers a holistic process for plan fiduciaries to evaluate and select TDFs, and may be looked to to help plan fiduciaries meet six of the eight considerations described in the DOL Tips."

- Groom Law Group

Source: "How Target Date Compass can assist in evaluating and selecting Target Date Funds" - Groom Law Group, March 2018. Emphasis added.





## Key benefits



Fiduciary focus



Customary results

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Objective data



Time saving process



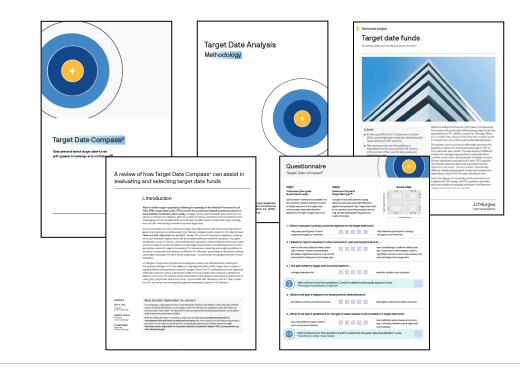
## Legislative and Regulatory Program

- Quarterly DC Review Webcasts
- Whitepapers and bulletins

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## **Target Date Investing**

- Target Date Compass®
- Translating Department of Labor guidance into action



J.P.Morgan



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TARGET DATE FUNDS: Target date funds are funds with the target date being the approximate date when investors plan to retire. Generally, the asset allocation of each fund will change on an annual basis, with the asset allocation becoming more conservative as the fund nears the target retirement date. The principal value of the fund(s) is not guaranteed at any time, including at the target date.

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