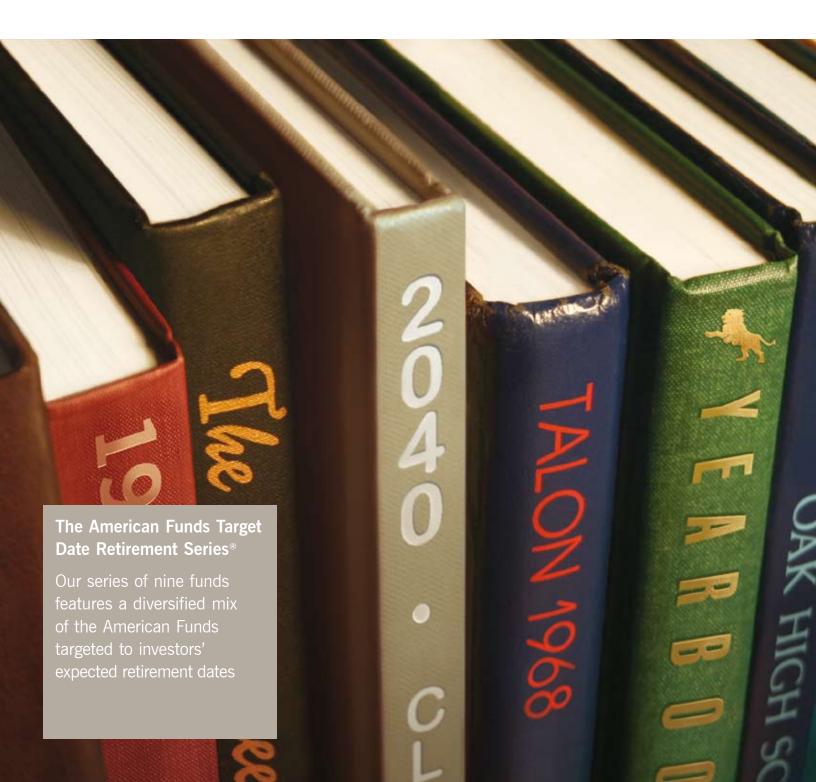


# A class of their own



## Overview

Each of the portfolios comprises a different mix of the American Funds. Based on their target retirement date, the portfolios incorporate varying degrees of risk and are diversified among growth, growth-and-income, equity-income/balanced and bond funds. Over time, each target date fund will increasingly emphasize income-oriented investment objectives.

#### Managing risk over time

Each of these funds attempts to balance investors' long-term needs for both return and stability. This is accomplished by moving from a higher percentage of growth funds to a higher percentage of income-oriented funds over time.

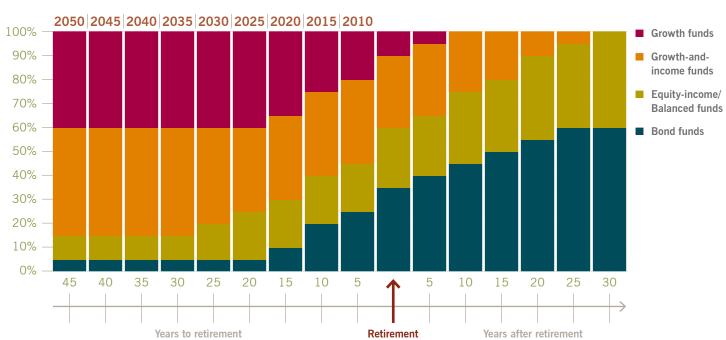
As you can see from the chart below, there's still a meaningful proportion of growth and growth-and-income funds as the portfolios shift toward a more income-oriented strategy during investors' retirement years. Since many individuals may spend 20 to 30 years in retirement, we believe an equity component is sensible, particularly in the early years of retirement.

The funds are designed to become increasingly income-oriented as investors get closer to and pass their retirement dates. To help achieve this objective, our Portfolio Oversight Committee monitors the underlying fund allocations in each of the portfolios and, as needed, makes changes in response to market conditions.

#### The benefits of the American Funds Series

- With target date funds, investors can choose a single investment option as their overall retirement portfolio.
- The target date portfolios are actively managed to become more income-focused over time.
- Members of the Portfolio Oversight Committee draw on their experience managing the American Funds to create and manage the allocations of each portfolio.
- The series continues American Funds tradition of seeking long-term value while managing risk.
- As always, we are committed to keeping our investment management fees low.

#### Investment strategy for the target date portfolios



#### The series can serve as a qualified default investment alternative

The American Funds Target Date Retirement Series is designed to meet the Department of Labor's requirements for a qualified default investment alternative under the Pension Protection Act. Specifically, target date funds are intended for retirement plans offering automatic enrollment, for plan participants who don't choose their own funds, and for those who prefer a single investment option that automatically adjusts its allocations over time.

#### Financial professionals can help investors create a customized strategy

Target date funds may not be the best choice for every individual. Financial professionals can play a key role in determining when a target date fund may be the right choice for investors seeking a total retirement portfolio in one fund. In addition, investors can benefit from financial professionals who can help them see the bigger picture and take into account factors such as risk tolerance, other assets they may have and their overall financial needs.

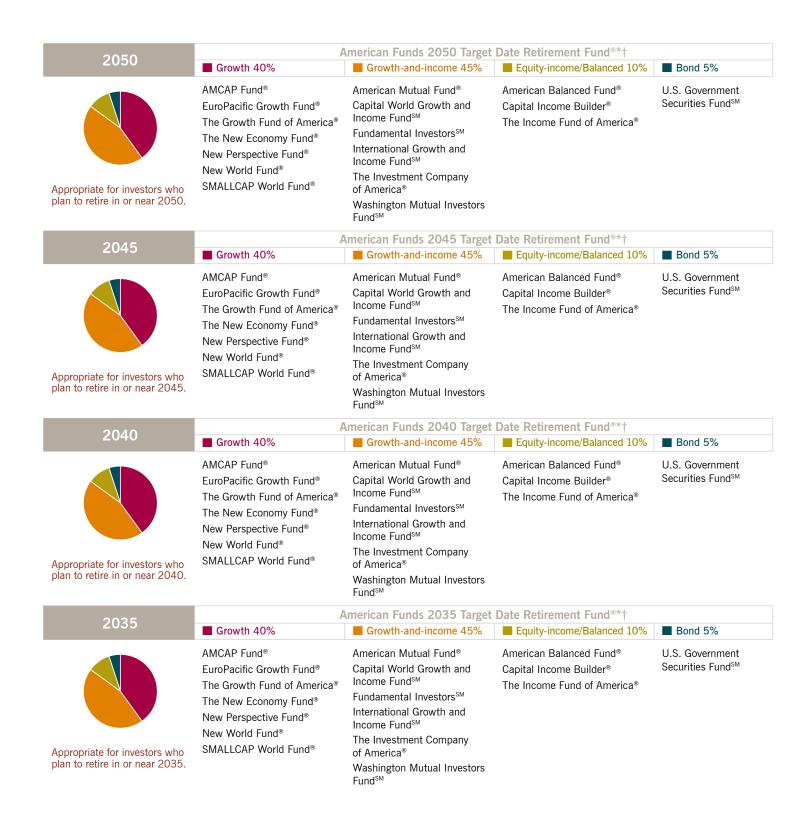
#### Portfolios aligned with investors' time horizons

The series consists of nine target date fund portfolios, each with a retirement date ranging from 2010 through 2050 in five-year increments. Each target date fund serves as a single diversified retirement portfolio with an underlying investment strategy aligned with that expected retirement date.

The target date funds are designed to address two of the major challenges facing those saving for retirement. First, they seek to help younger investors achieve higher growth potential over time with a higher equity component. Second, for investors closer to retirement, the funds aim to protect their savings through a more income-oriented focus since there is less time to recoup potential losses in a volatile market.

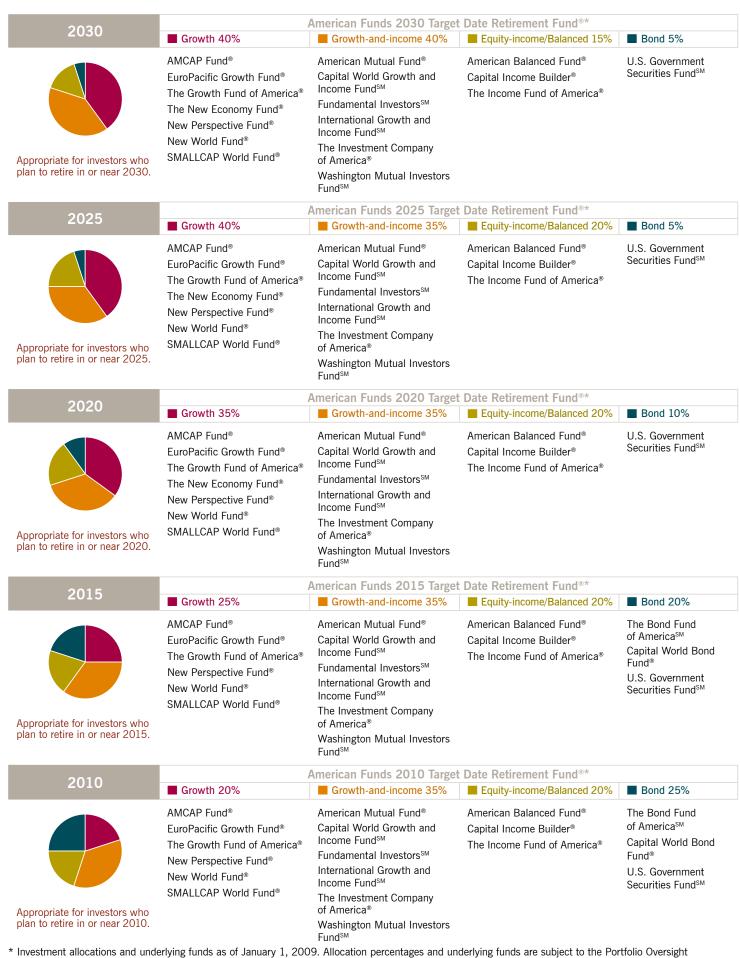
The series is available through tax-deferred retirement plans in Class A and all Class R shares and through IRAs in Class A shares.

American Funds Target Date Retirement Series Funds	For investors planning to retire in this approximate time period
2050	2048–2052
2045	2043–2047
2040	2038–2042
2035	2033–2037
2030	2028–2032
2025	2023–2027
2020	2018–2022
2015	2013–2017
2010	2008–2012



- \* Investment allocations and underlying funds are as of January 1, 2009. Allocation percentages and underlying funds are subject to the Portfolio Oversight Committee's discretion and will evolve over time. Underlying funds may be added or removed during the year. For quarterly updates of the underlying fund allocations, visit AmericanFundsRetirement.com.
- † Although some of the target date funds have the same initial allocation, those closest to their target date will begin to shift their allocations sooner.

Most investments carry some degree of risk. For example, equity investments are subject to market fluctuations. Investing outside the United States (especially in developing countries) involves certain risks, such as currency fluctuations, as does investing in smaller companies, as more fully described in the prospectus. Small-company stocks entail additional risks, and they can fluctuate in price more than larger company stocks. Lower rated bonds are subject to greater fluctuations in value and risk of loss of income and principal. The return of principal for bond funds and for funds with significant underlying bond holdings is not guaranteed. Fund shares are subject to the same interest rate, inflation and credit risks that are associated with the underlying bond holdings. Bond prices and a bond fund's share price will generally move in the opposite direction of interest rates. Fund shares of the U.S. Government Securities Fund are not guaranteed by the U.S. government. Diversification does not eliminate the risk of investing; losses are possible in diversified portfolios.



<sup>\*</sup> Investment allocations and underlying funds as of January 1, 2009. Allocation percentages and underlying funds are subject to the Portfolio Oversight Committee's discretion and will evolve over time. Underlying funds may be added or removed during the year. For quarterly updates of the underlying fund allocations, visit **AmericanFundsRetirement.com**.



### The American Funds difference

The investment professionals on the Portfolio Oversight Committee manage the Target Date Retirement Series by carefully selecting the underlying funds from among the same American Funds that have helped our investors save for retirement for nearly 80 years. In fact, since 1931 we've consistently applied the following five factors to investing:

#### A long-term, value-oriented approach

We seek to buy securities at reasonable prices relative to their prospects and hold them for the long term. Instead of asking "Where will this security be in three to six months?" we prefer to ask, "Where will this company or issuer be in five to 10 years?"

#### An extensive global research effort

Our investment professionals travel the world to find the best investment opportunities and gain a comprehensive understanding of companies and markets.

#### The multiple portfolio counselor system

Our unique approach to portfolio management, developed 50 years ago, blends teamwork with individual accountability and has provided American Funds with a sustainable method of achieving fund objectives.

#### **Experienced investment professionals**

Our portfolio counselors have an average of 25 years of investment experience, providing a depth of knowledge and broad perspective that few organizations have.

#### A commitment to low management fees

At American Funds, we strive to keep our investment management fees low so that overall costs to retirement plan investors — including management fees, recordkeeping and other administrative costs — can remain reasonable.

Investors should carefully consider the objectives, risks, charges and expenses of the American Funds and, if applicable, any other investments in their plan. This and other important information is contained in the funds' prospectuses, which are available from the plan's financial professional and on the Web at *AmericanFundsRetirement.com*. It's important that investors read the prospectuses carefully before investing. Investors should also consider consulting with their personal tax adviser.