

Survey Shows 70% Increase in Exit Planning Professionals in the Last Two Years

Advisor growth accelerating in response to the Silver Tsunami of exiting business owners

SAN ANTONIO, TX, UNITED STATES, April 16, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The fifth annual National Exit Planners Survey was released today, showing an increase of over 70% in the number of professional advisors who obtained an exit planning certification in the last two years.

Some 50% of small employers (5 to 500 employees) in the United States are owned by people over 60 years old.



These are the Baby Boomers, born between 1945 and 1964. As a generation, they have been characterized by their dedication to work in the pursuit of material comforts. As business owners, they have stayed "on the job" longer and in greater numbers than any previous generation.



Experts predicted the retirement surge back in 2010 when the first Boomers turned 65 years old. and again in 2015 when they turned 70. But age is inevitable and it's finally catching up with them."

John F. Dini, CEXP, CEPA, CBEC, CEMC, Founder and CEO of ExitMap

An exodus from businesses ownership was predicted when the first Boomers turned 65 in 2010, but only about a third have done so to date. The remaining 2,000,000 business owners with a median age of 70 are creating a surge in demand for financial and business planning services.

According to John F. Dini, Founder and CEO of ExitMap "We predicted the retirement surge back in 2010 when the first Boomers turned 65 years old. and again in 2015 when they turned 70. But age is inevitable and it's finally catching up with them".

The National Exit Planners Survey was first conducted in 2021 by ExitMap LLC, a provider of

coaching exercises for advisors to help owners determine their options and objectives in transition. In its first year, it was distributed to fewer than 3,400 advisors. By 2023 that number had grown to 4,288 advisors. In 2025 the surveyed population exploded to 7,346 advisors.

The resuts of the survey showed that almost 50% of advisors have been practicing in the field for less than



Certified ExitMap Coach (CEMC) Badge

three years. Despite the rapid growth in the number of practitioners, over 86% reported as many or more planning engagements in 2024 than in 2023.

ExitMap tracks exit planning certifications awarded by three organizations in the industry, the Exit Planning Institute (EPI), Business Enterprise Institute (BEI), and the International Exit Planning Association (IEPA). The 434 survey responses allow a confidence level (that the results represent the industry) of 99% with a 3.6% margin of error.

Business transition is a complex undertaking, and certified planners include business consultants, financial planners, appraisers, bankers, insurance agents, business brokers, attorneys and accountants. Virtually all practitioners (98%) expect exit planning to lead to additional advisory work in some or all cases.

While Private Equity has investments equal to approximately 20% of all equity in mid-market businesses, exit planning is increasingly undertaken by the owners of more Main Street companies. Main Street businesses are defined as having an Enterprise Value of less than \$3,000,000 and are more likely to be directly managed by an owner or owners. Over two-thirds of advisors responded that half or more of their clients are in the Main Street category.

A copy of the National Exit Planners Survey is available for free download at www.ExitPlannersSurvey.com.

ExitMap LLC provides a system of software-driven coaching exercises to the exit planning industry. Many owners have difficulty adjusting to a retirement that lacks the activity, identity and purpose of being a business owner. ExitMap provides a streamlined framework for advisors to guide business owners through exit planning focused on their goals for life after the business.

Contacts:

John F. Dini, CExP, CEPA, CBEC, CEMC: Founder and CEO of ExitMap LLC. jdini@exitmap.com, (800) 653-5405

Hannah Chalker, CEPA, CVGA, CEMC: Director of Business Development. hchalker@exitmap.com, (800) 653-5405

John F Dini ExitMap LLC +1 800-653-5405 jdini@exitmap.com Visit us on social media:

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