Traditional *vs*. Roth IRAs

Perhaps both Traditional and Roth IRAs can play a part in your retirement plans.

IRAs can be an important tool in your retirement savings belt, and whichever you choose to open could have a significant impact on how those accounts might grow.

IRAs, or Individual Retirement Accounts, are investment vehicles used to help save money for retirement. There are two different types of IRAs: Traditional and Roth. Traditional IRAs, created in 1974, are owned by roughly 35.1 million U.S. households; and Roth IRAs, created as part of the Taxpayer Relief Act in 1997, are owned by nearly 24.9 million households.[1]

Both kinds of IRAs share many similarities, and yet, each is quite different. Let's take a closer look.

Up to certain limits, Traditional IRAs allow individuals to make tax-deductible contributions into the retirement account. Distributions from Traditional IRAs are taxed as ordinary income, and if taken before age 59½, may be subject to a 10 percent federal income tax penalty. For individuals covered by a retirement plan at work, the deduction for a Traditional IRA in 2019 has been phased out for incomes between $103,000 and $123,000 for married couples filing jointly and between $64,000 and $74,000 for single filers.[2,3]

Also, within certain limits, individuals can make contributions to a Roth IRA with after-tax dollars. To qualify for a tax-free and penalty-free withdrawal of earnings, Roth IRA distributions must meet a five-year holding requirement and occur after age 59½. Like a Traditional IRA, contributions to a Roth IRA are limited based on income. For 2019, contributions to a Roth IRA are phased out between $193,000 and $203,000 for married couples filing jointly and between $122,000 and $137,000 for single filers.[2,3]

In addition to contribution and distribution rules, there are limits on how much can be contributed to either IRA. In fact, these limits apply to any combination of IRAs; that is, workers cannot put more than $6,000 per year into their Roth and Traditional IRAs combined. So, if a worker contributed $3,500 in a given year into a Traditional IRA, contributions to a Roth IRA would be limited to $2,500 in that same year.[4]

Individuals who reach age 50 or older by the end of the tax year can qualify for annual *catch-up* contributions of up to $1,000. For these IRA owners, the 2019 IRA contribution limit is $7,000.[4]

If you meet the income requirements, both Traditional and Roth IRAs can play a part in your retirement plans. Once you've figured out which will work better for you, only one task remains: opening an account.

Contact us for help in financial planning.

CEFCU Investment Services & Wealth Management is a marketing name used by CEFCU. CEFCU Investment Services Advisors are registered representatives of CUNA Brokerage Services, Inc. Securities sold, advisory services offered through CUNA Brokerage Services, Inc. (CBSI), member FINRA/SIPC, a registered broker/dealer and investment advisor. CBSI is under contract with the financial institution to make securities available to members. Trust services available through Members Trust Company, a federal thrift regulated by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. **Not NCUA/NCUSIF/FDIC insured, May Lose Value, No Financial Institution Guarantee. Not a deposit of any financial institution.** FR-2035796.1-0218-0320

This material was prepared by MarketingLibrary.Net Inc., and does not necessarily represent the views of the presenting party, nor their affiliates. All information is believed to be from reliable sources; however we make no representation as to its completeness or accuracy. Please

note - investing involves risk, and past performance is no guarantee of future results. The publisher is not engaged in rendering legal, accounting or other professional services. If assistance is needed, the reader is advised to engage the services of a competent professional. This information should not be construed as investment, tax or legal advice and may not be relied on for the purpose of avoiding any Federal tax penalty. This is neither a solicitation nor recommendation to purchase or sell any investment or insurance product or service, and should not be relied upon as such. All indices are unmanaged and are not illustrative of any particular investment.

Citations.

1 - https://www.ici.org/pdf/per23-10.pdf [12/17]
2 - https://www.marketwatch.com/story/gearing-up-for-retirement-make-sure-you-understand-your-tax-obligations-2018-06-14 [6/14/18]
3 - https://money.usnews.com/money/retirement/articles/new-401-k-and-ira-limits [11/12/18]
4 - https://www.irs.gov/retirement-plans/plan-participant-employee/retirement-topics-ira-contribution-limits [11/2/18