



# *my*RA®

Financial Literacy and Education Commission Public Meeting

NOVEMBER 18, 2015







## Introduction and Agenda

#### **Topics:**

- About *my*RA
- What's new
- Saver and employer feedback
- How you can engage
- Support for you

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#### Millions of Americans aren't saving – or aren't saving enough for retirement

- According to a <u>2015 Federal Reserve Report</u>, 31 percent of nonretired individuals said they have no retirement savings or pension whatsoever.
- Among workers who do not participate in a 401(k) or other defined contribution plan, 42 percent say it's because their employer does not offer one.

#### *my*RA can help people start saving

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## Saving with myRA is...





- Savers can set up automatic contributions
- If changing jobs, the account stays with the saver
- Savers can withdraw money they put in (contributions) without tax and penalty<sup>1</sup>

- ✓ No risk of losing money
- The investment is backed by the U.S. Treasury
- ✓ The account safely earns interest<sup>1</sup>



- No cost to open and no fees
- Savers contribute an amount they choose (\$2, \$20, \$200 whatever fits their budget!)<sup>2</sup>
- Savers can enjoy the tax advantages this type of investment brings<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Interest earned can be withdrawn without tax and penalty five years after your first contribution if you are over age 59 1/2 or meet certain other conditions, such as using the funds for the purchase of your first home. Accounts earn interest at the same rate as investments in the Government Securities Fund, which had an average annual return of 3.19% over the ten-year period ending December 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Annual and lifetime contribution limits and annual earned income limits apply, as do conditions for tax-free withdrawal of earnings. Limits listed are for 2015 and may be adjusted annually for cost-of-living increases. To learn about key features of a Roth IRA and for other requirements and details, go to **myRA.gov/roth-ira**.

#### What's new: expanded funding options for savers

#### Three ways to contribute to your myRA account



From your paycheck



From your checking or savings account

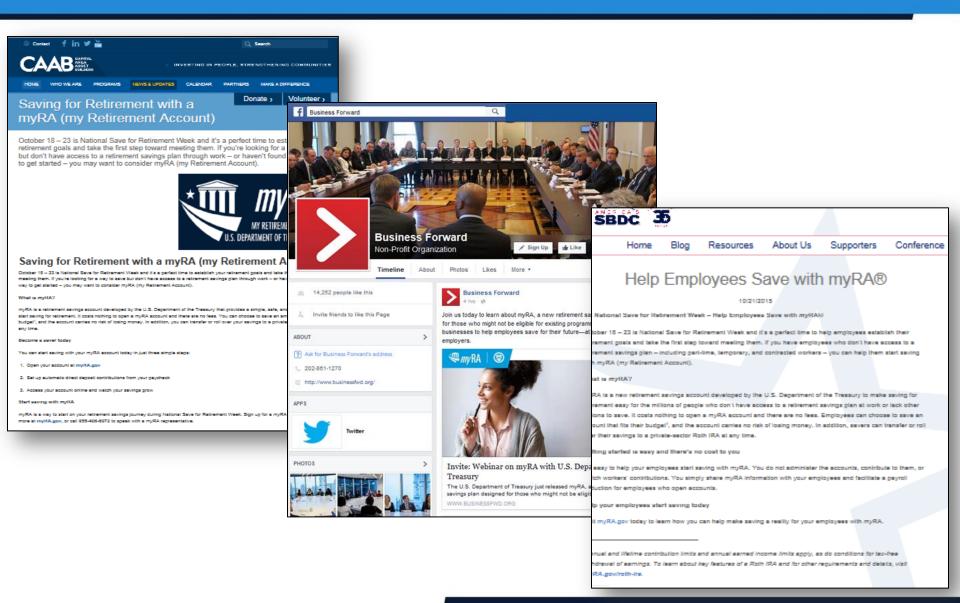


From your federal tax refund

*"my*RA has definitely helped me in terms of saving and getting used to saving."

> Jada H. Grady Wright & Associates

#### Partner organizations are key to myRA's success



#### myRA messaging in partner communications



#### Blog posts to members

#### Engage and connect on myRA via social media

On October 12, **Young Invincibles** hosted a #MillennialMon Twitter chat with the **National Urban League** about financial security for millennials and *my*RA.



2.6 million impressions generated from 352 Twitter mentions by 54 users, including **Doorways to Dreams** and **CFED**.



#### **Conferences and events**

- myRA presentation, panel discussion or keynote
- Webinar
- PowerPoint slides and talking points
- Materials distribution support



posts

Exhibit booth



#### Other ideas to share myRA

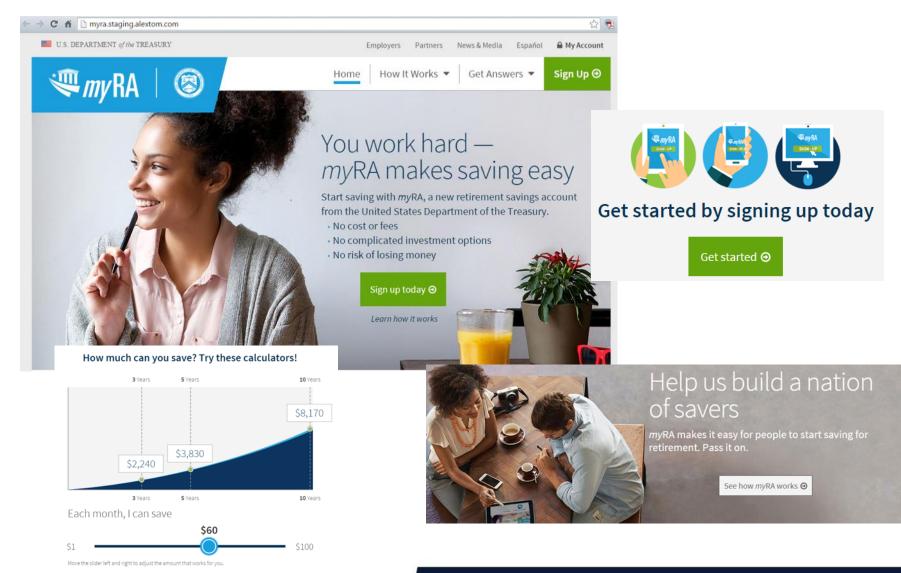
- E-blast
- Teach *my*RA in your financial literacy curriculum
- Share e-newsletter content (social posts, newsletter articles and more with your members, affiliates, stakeholders and those you serve)

#### Original research and materials



U.S. Department of the Treasury

#### Refreshed website: myRA.gov



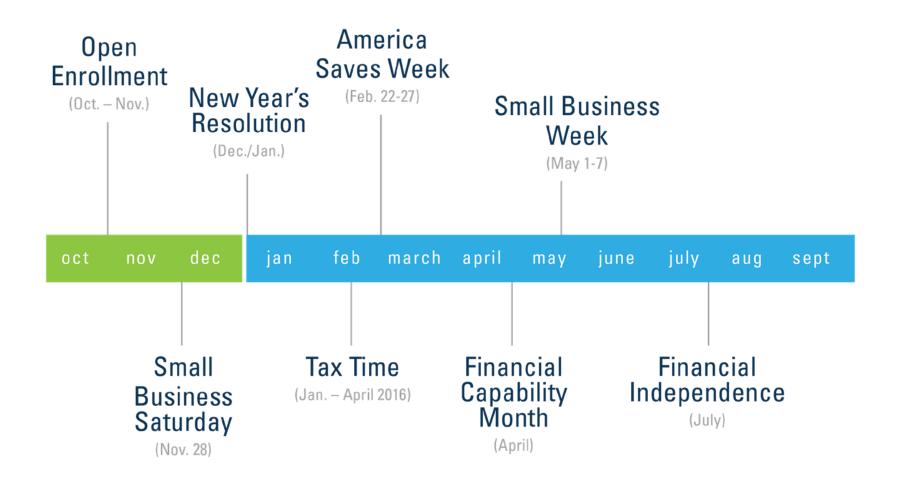
#### New look, new content

- Flyer
- Poster
- At-a-glance graphic
- Videos
- Newsletter articles
- Fact sheet
- Top questions
- Employee meeting toolkit:
  - Intranet content
  - Presentation to employees
  - Email templates
  - Key facts

Materials are available on myRA.gov



#### Key times to share myRA messages



# Thank you!

Please visit myRA.gov for more information or email us at myRA@treasury.gov.



## Results from the Financial Management Survey

Leandro Carvalho, Arie Kapteyn & Htay-Wah Saw

\*This project was funded by the Social Security Administration (SSA), Health and Human Services (HHS), and Society of Actuaries (SOA)



Center for Economic and Social Research



#### The Financial Management Survey

In 2012 the Federal Reserve Board conducted an online survey – the Older Adult Survey – to study the financial lives of older U.S. adults

The Older Adult Survey was originally fielded online using the RAND American Life Panel (ALP) with participants age 40 and older

Since December of 2012 the American economy has steadily recovered from the Great Recession

In April of 2015 we fielded the Financial Management Survey in the University of Southern California's (USC) Understanding America Study to investigate how the financial lives of Americans have changed with the recovery





#### The Understanding America Study (UAS)

USC's Understanding America Study (UAS) is an Internet panel with ~2,500 respondents 18 and over living in the U.S.

About twice a month respondents receive an email with a request to visit the UAS site and complete a questionnaire

Panel members are recruited through address-based sampling

Respondents without Internet access at the time of recruitment are provided tablets and Internet access

A lot of information on panel members: numeracy, financial literacy, personality traits, core HRS instrument, risk aversion, etc.





# In the last 3 years, did you retire or did you do any planning for your retirement?

	18-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+	All
Yes	8%	16%	22%	40%	12%	17%
No	91%	84%	78%	60%	88%	87%
Number of respondents	447	264	326	219	128	1,384

Notes: Asked of all respondents. "In the last 3 years, did you retire or do planning for your retirement?"



#### In preparing for retirement, whom did you ask for advice?

	18-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+	All
Didn't ask for advice	30%	20%	10%	29%	41%	24%
Spouse/partner	38%	52%	38%	36%	19%	38%
Other family member	18%	45%	19%	13%	13%	20%
Caregiver who is not a family						
member	1%	3%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Employer	16%	9%	24%	18%	0%	16%
Banker	0%	3%	3%	3%	11%	3%
Financial advisor	37%	39%	43%	39%	32%	39%
Attorney	0%	2%	7%	7%	0%	5%
Friend	4%	26%	17%	18%	9%	15%
Community group/Counseling						
agency	1%	0%	3%	3%	0%	2%
Other	5%	0%	6%	8%	4%	6%
Number of respondents	44	42	84	103	19	292

Notes: Asked of all respondents who retired or planned to retire in the past 3 years.



and Social Research



#### Does your retirement planning consider the following?

	18-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+	Total
Ability to pay your bills in the longer	72%	73%	73%	70%	79%	72%
term						
How inflation will increase your	56%	72%	55%	65%	61%	62%
expenses						
Support for your spouse after your death	39%	45%	31%	42%	32%	39%
How you can cope with a major illness	44%	44%	50%	55%	67%	51%
How you can cope with a long stay in a	28%	32%	27%	40%	53%	35%
nursing home						
None of the above	19%	15%	15%	14%	21%	16%
Number of respondents	39	40	83	101	17	280

Notes: Asked of all respondents who retired or planned for retirement in the past 3 years. "Does your retirement plan consider?"





#### Who managed your investments last year?

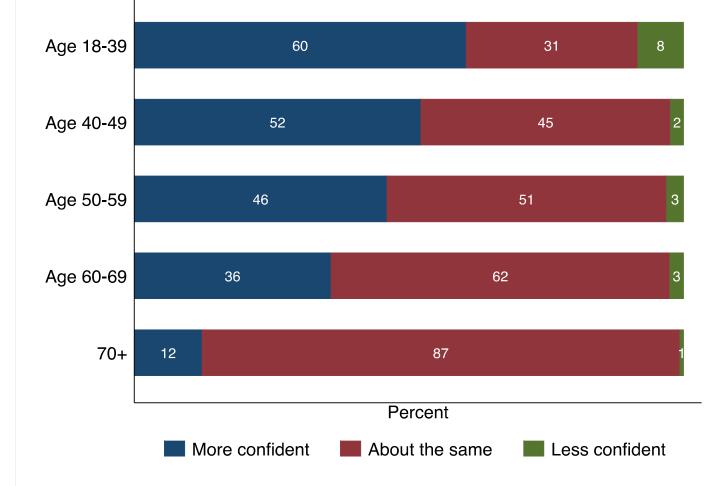
	18-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+	All
I don't have any investments	63%	46%	42%	46%	35%	50%
I managed my investments myself	23%	32%	28%	22%	38%	27%
Friend(s)/family member(s)	4%	2%	3%	2%	0%	3%
Professional(s)	12%	22%	26%	31%	34%	21%
Caregiver who is not a family member (specify)	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Number of respondents	447	265	326	219	129	1,386

Notes: Asked of all respondents. "If you have any investments, please tell us who managed your investments in the last year."



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#### Compared to 5 Years Ago, How Confident Do You Feel in Your Ability to Make Fin. Decisions?

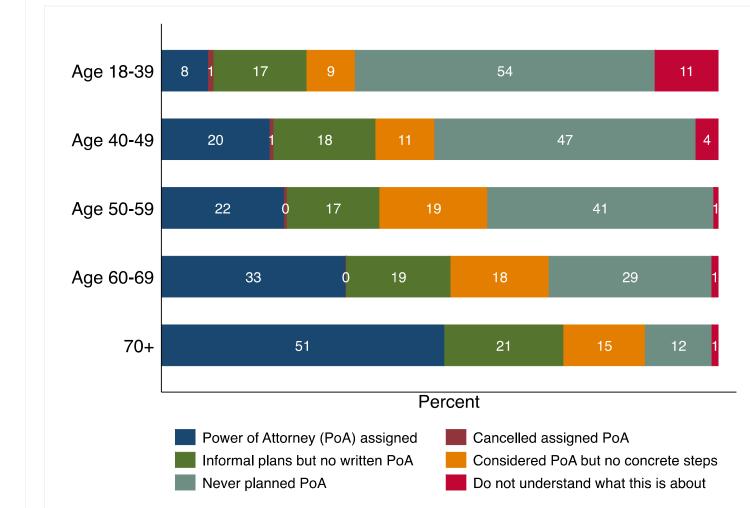




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## Named Someone to Make Fin. Decisions for You?









#### Named someone to decide on health care needs if unable to?

	18-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+	All
Yes	33%	57%	53%	68%	83%	51%
No	67%	43%	47%	32%	16%	49%
Number of respondents	448	265	326	219	129	1,387

*Notes*: Asked of all respondents. "Have you named someone to decide on your health care needs if you are unable to do it so yourself?"





#### Summary

A fifth of respondents in their 50s had planned for retirement in the past 3 years

In preparing for retirement, a quarter did not seek advice. 4 in 10 asked advice from a financial advisor

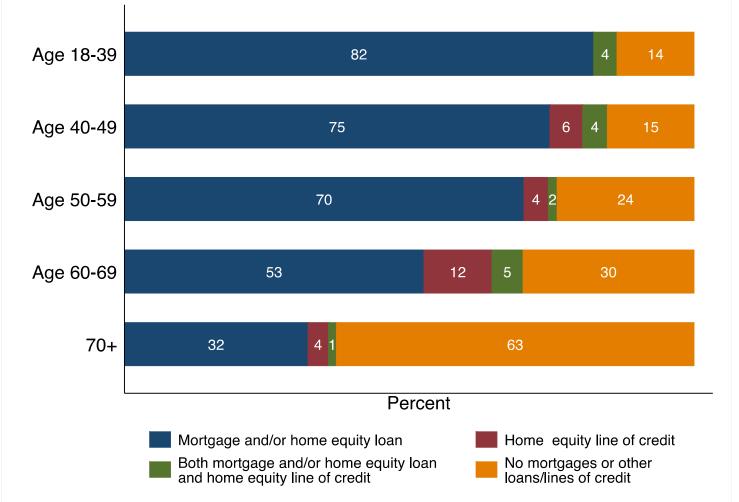
Among those with investments, half managed the investments themselves and 4 in 10 sought advice from a professional

The evidence *suggests* that respondents may be overconfident about their decision-making capabilities as they age

As a consequence, half of the 70+ group had assigned a PoA



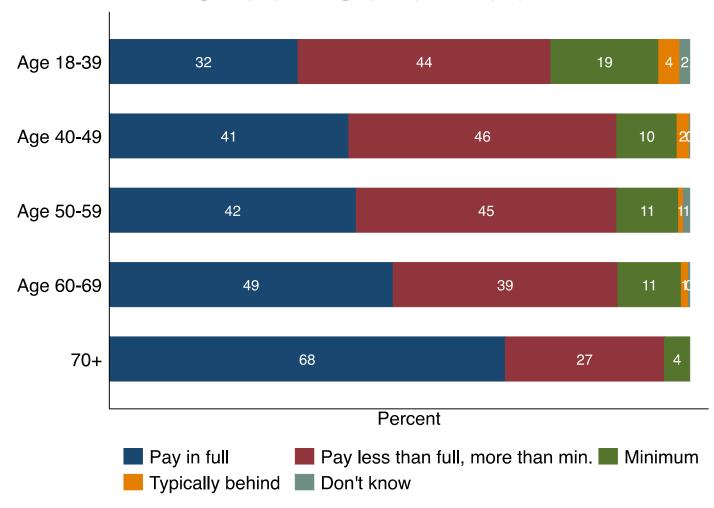
## **Home-Secured Debt**



USCDornsife Center for Economic and Social Research



## **Credit Card Debt**







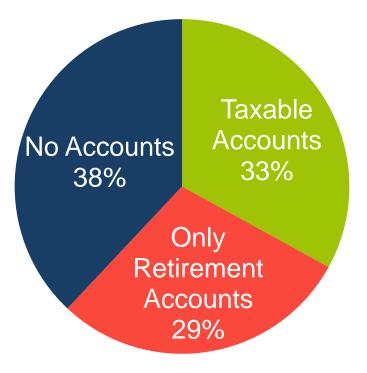
# A Snapshot of Investor Households in America

FLEC Meeting November 18, 2015 Gary Mottola, Ph.D.



#### **Investor Households in America**

#### Nearly 4 in 10 households do not own an investment account

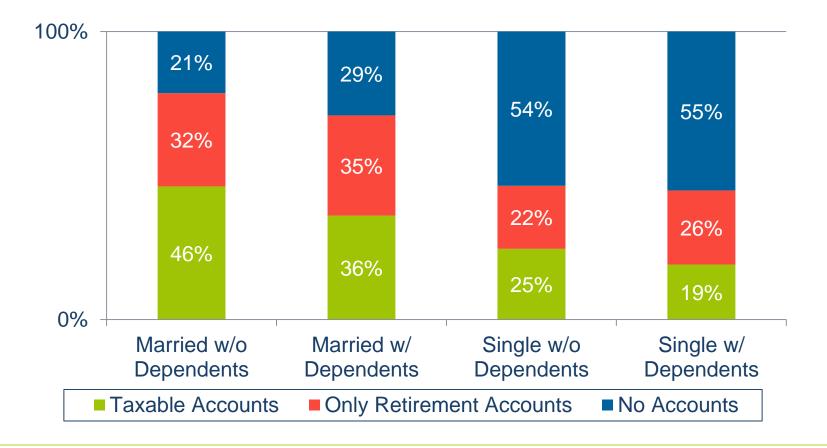




Slide 31 Copyright 2015 FINRA Investor Education Foundation

## **Investment Status by Household Composition**

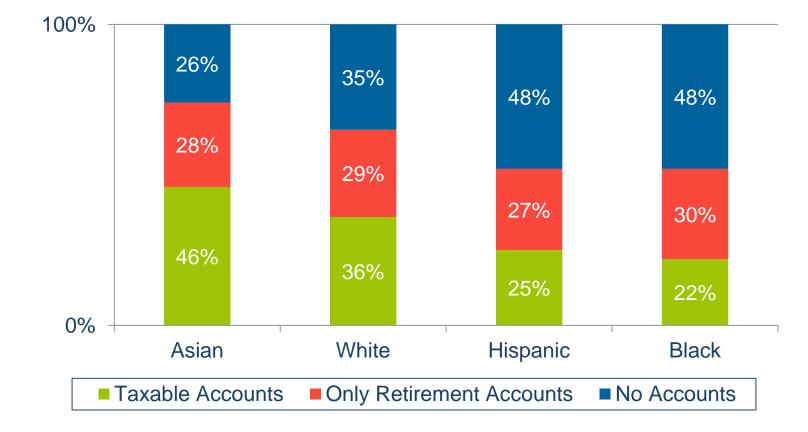
#### Married households are more likely to own taxable investments





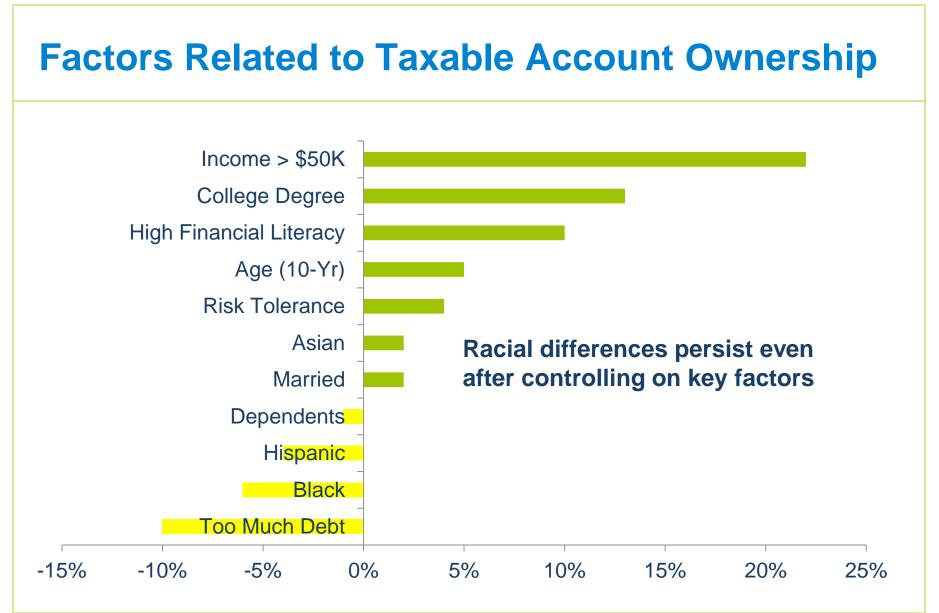
#### **Investment Status by Race**

## Blacks and Hispanics trail Asians and whites in investment account ownership





Slide 33 Copyright 2015 FINRA Investor Education Foundation





Slide 34 Copyright 2015 FINRA Investor Education Foundation

## **Key Takeaways**

- A large segment of American households does not own any investment accounts
- Investment account ownership is associated with a number of demographic variables—even after controlling on important factors
- Financial literacy is positively associated with investment account ownership—but the nature of the relationship is not clear
- What about gender?
- What can be done to increase investment account ownership?



Supporting Federal Employee Investment: Department of Defense and Social and Behavioral Sciences Team TSP Pilots

Will Tucker, Social and Behavioral Sciences Team (SBST)

11/18/2015



## **SBST: Who We Are**

- Cross-agency group of applied behavioral scientists.
- Mission: translate findings and methods from the social and behavioral sciences into improvements in Federal policies and programs for the benefit of the American people.
- Chaired by the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP); includes representation from over a dozen agencies, as well as offices within the Executive Office of the President.



## **Military Investing in TSP: Motivation**

- Civilian Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Participation: ~87.5%
- Military Servicemember TSP Participation: ~42%
- Financial readiness of Servicemembers: key priority of Department of Defense



## **Pilot One: Email Outreach**

# ~808,000 Servicemembers not enrolled in TSP (~58% of active duty)

# Randomly assigned to one of ten groups: a no-email control and nine email groups

GROUP A ROTH TSP: SMARTDOCS for January 2, 2015

Subject: Important! Your Action Needed in January to Continue Your Roth TSP Election

As a Both TSP participant, your window to submit new contribution elections is here. You may submit your new Roth TSP elections based on percentages of basic pay, special pay, incentive pays and honuses any time through Jan. 31, 2015, to avoid any interruption in your retirement investment plans.

Your elections may be submitted quickly and securely using myPay. You may also use the revised TSP-U-1 form available at www.tsp.gov. Forms must be submitted to your finance office to be applied to your military pay account.

We will send you reminders throughout January to make sure you have the information, worksheets and time to get your Roth TSP elections completed within the allotted time.

Election submissions received after Jan. 31, 2015, will result in a lapse in Roth TSP contributions.

For more information on the change to percentage-of-pay selections and how you can make sure your investment plans continue, visit www.dfas.mil/TSP\_AC.html.

My POC for this effort is Matthew Seyler at matthew.seyler@dfas.mil

Bruce N. Keith Director, ESS Military Pay GROUP B ROTH TSP: SMARTDOCS for January 2, 2015

Subject: Roth TSP - You Must Take Action Now to Avoid Interrupting Your 2015 Retirement Investment Contribution

Dear Servicemember,

It's a New Year: Re-enroll in your Roth TSP by submitting your new contribution percentages today! Because of changes to the way contributions are now being calculated, you must re-enroll this January or your contributions will be stopped February 1.

Avoid interrupting contributions by taking these three simple steps:

Log in at mypay.dfas.mil
 Click on the "Traditional TSP and Roth TSP" link.
 Enter your Roth TSP contribution percentages of basic, special, incentive, and bonus pay.

For more information on the change to percentage-of-pay selections, visit www.dfas.mil/TSP\_AC.html. If you prefer to use a paper form, complete the TSP-U-1 form available at tsp.gov and submit it to your finance office.

Matthew Seyler ( matthew.seyler@dfas.mil ) is the POC for this Roth TSP update.

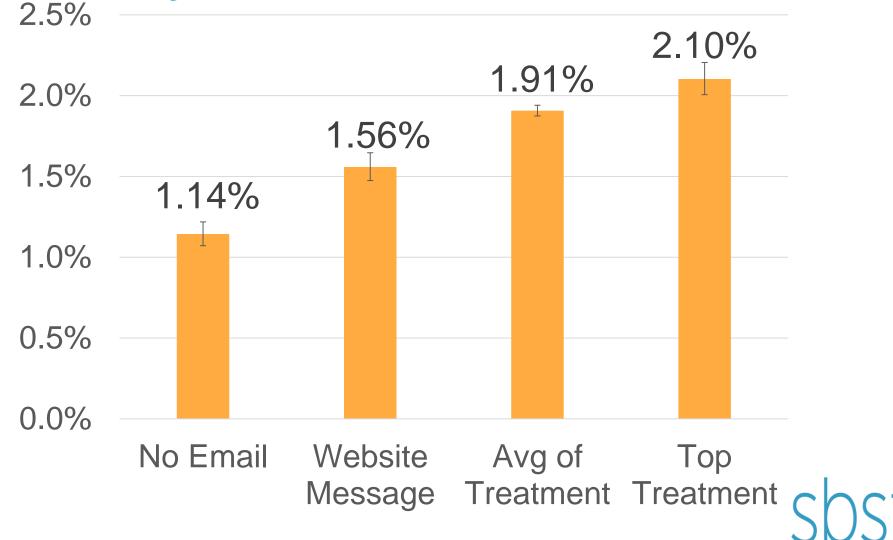
Sincerely,

Bruce N. Keith Director, ESS Military Pay

PS. Start 2015 off on the right foot - go to mypay.dfas.mil and take care of your future today. Make continuing your retirement investment plans an easy to do New Year's resolution.

SDSt SDSt

## **Results: Percent of Servicemembers Newly Enrolled**



## **Pilot One: Key Takeaways**

 Impact: As a result of pilot there are 5,000+ Servicemembers newly investing, more than \$1.3 mm in contributions in the first month alone

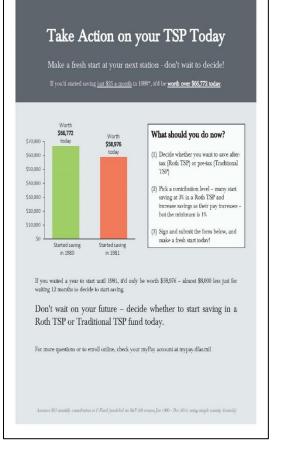
#### 2. Lessons:

- Top performing: long term benefits; clear action steps
- Lowest performing: sending website information
- Positive factors: clear action steps, simulating choice, long term benefits
- No effect: intermediate term tax benefits
- Small negative effect: fresh start (tax season)
- Scale-Up: DOD will be sending out targeted messages to unenrolled Servicemembers informing of opportunities to invest in TSP going forward COC

## Pilot Two: Prompting Choice



## **Prompted Choice**



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## **Prompted Choice: Percent Newly Enrolled**



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## **Pilot Two: Key Takeaways**

- 1. Creating a Moment of Choice & Action: Investing is easy to put off, or delay decisions and follow up.
- 2. Make it Easy.
- 3. More to be Done: 300,000+ Servicemembers undergo permanent change of duty station (PCS) each year.

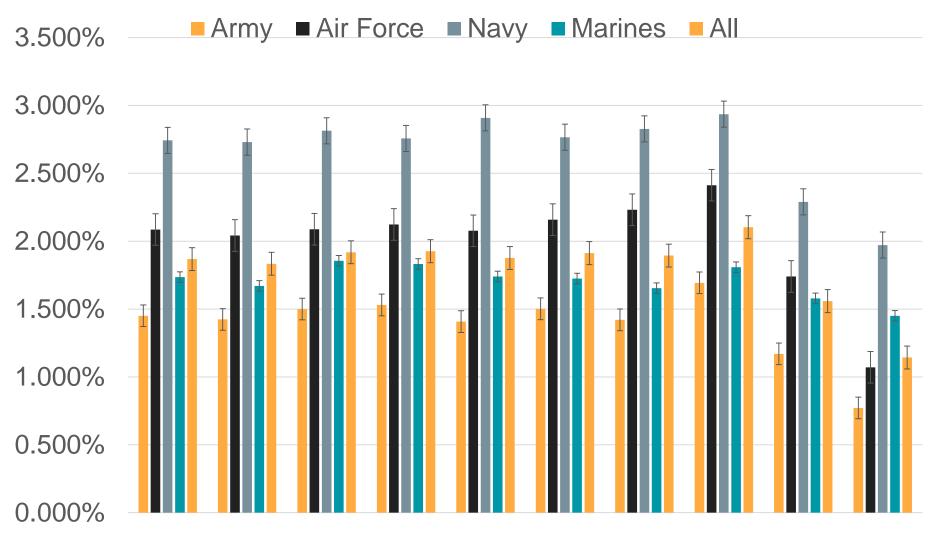


# sbst.gov

For more information:

william.tucker@gsa.gov





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