

IRA / Roth IRA Comparison Report for Samuel Sample

Report produced May 21, 2002

This report reflects assumptions contained in the attached Notes. This report is not complete unless the Notes are attached.

Many Americans are eligible to make contributions on a pre-tax basis to a traditional Individual Retirement Account (IRA), or on an after-tax basis to a Roth IRA, or some of each.

No federal or state income taxes are paid on pre-tax contributions — the more you contribute, the lower your taxes. And fund growth is not taxed as long as the earnings remain in the fund. But all funds withdrawn are taxable.

With after-tax contributions, you don't get any tax break on contributions to the plan. But future withdrawals, including any fund earnings, are generally received tax-free.

Which is better? In most cases there is no simple answer to this question. The two options are mathematically equivalent, assuming an equivalent level of investment in either plan, the same pattern of future withdrawals, and no change in tax rates over time. But such exact equivalence is unlikely in reality. A desire to postpone all withdrawals from the plan for as long as possible tends to favor the after-tax option, since pre-tax plans are subject to required distributions as you get older.

The fact remains that while we can make assumptions, sometimes very reliable ones, about our own behavior, no one can dependably predict the long-term future of tax legislation, or of other factors that may make a difference. In effect, by making a choice in this matter, you are placing a bet on the future. For most people the most prudent strategy is to hedge the bet by putting some of their funds into each alternative, with more going into the one that seems more likely to perform better.

We have run thousands of simulations in order to make a reasonable evaluation of the most prudent mix using the assumptions specified in the attached notes.

The outcomes of those simulations suggest an allocation of \$2,400 (69%) to the pre-tax account, and \$1,064 (31%) to the after-tax account.

Pre-tax

After-tax

Sample Pre-tax / After-tax Contribution Report for Samuel Sample

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		Pre-tax Contribution Strategy										After-tax Contribution Strategy			
Year	Age	Pre-tax Account Opening Balance	Pre-tax Account Transfers	Pre-tax Account Earnings	Pre-tax Account Closing Balance	Side Fund Opening Balance	Side Fund Transfers	Side Fund Earnings	Side Fund Taxes	Side Fund Closing Balance	Total Closing Balance	Account Opening Balance	Account Transfers	Account Earnings	Account Closing Balance
2002	48	4,000	0	320	4,320	0	0	0	0	0	4,320	4,000	-1,340	213	2,873
2003	49	4,320	0	346	4,666	0	0	0	0	0	4,666	2,873	0	230	3,103
2004	50	4,666	0	373	5,039	0	0	0	0	0	5,039	3,103	0	248	3,351
2005	51	5,039	0	403	5,442	0	0	0	0	0	5,442	3,351	0	268	3,619
2006	52	5,442	0	435	5,877	0	0	0	0	0	5,877	3,619	0	290	3,908
2007	53	5,877	0	470	6,347	0	0	0	0	0	6,347	3,908	0	313	4,221
2008	54	6,347	0	508	6,855	0	0	0	0	0	6,855	4,221	0	338	4,559
2009	55	6,855	0	548	7,404	0	0	0	0	0	7,404	4,559	0	365	4,923
2010	56	7,404	0	592	7,996	0	0	0	0	0	7,996	4,923	0	394	5,317
2011	57	7,996	0	640	8,636	0	0	0	0	0	8,636	5,317	0	425	5,743
2012	58	8,636	0	691	9,327	0	0	0	0	0	9,327	5,743	0	459	6,202
2013	59	9,327	0	746	10,073	0	0	0	0	0	10,073	6,202	0	496	6,698
2014	60	10,073	0	806	10,878	0	0	0	0	0	10,878	6,698	0	536	7,234
2015	61	10,878	0	870	11,749	0	0	0	0	0	11,749	7,234	0	579	7,813
2016	62	11,749	0	940	12,689	0	0	0	0	0	12,689	7,813	0	625	8,438
2017	63	12,689	0	1,015	13,704	0	0	0	0	0	13,704	8,438	0	675	9,113
2018	64	13,704	0	1,096	14,800	0	0	0	0	0	14,800	9,113	0	729	9,842
2019	65	14,800	0	888	15,688	0	0	0	0	0	15,688	9,842	0	591	10,433
2020	66	15,688	0	941	16,629	0	0	0	0	0	16,629	10,433	0	626	11,059
2021	67	16,629	0	998	17,627	0	0	0	0	0	17,627	11,059	0	664	11,722
2022	68	17,627	0	1,058	18,685	0	0	0	0	0	18,685	11,722	0	703	12,425
2023	69	18,685	0	1,121	19,806	0	0	0	0	0	19,806	12,425	0	746	13,171
2024	70	19,806	0	1,188	20,994	0	0	0	0	0	20,994	13,171	0	790	13,961
2025	71	20,994	-792	1,260	21,462	0	792	0	228	564	22,026	13,961	0	838	14,799
2026	72	21,462	-838	1,288	21,911	564	838	34	251	1,186	23,097	14,799	0	888	15,687

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2027	73	21,911	-887	1,315	22,339	1,186	887	71	275	1,869	24,207	15,687	0	941	16,628
2028	74	22,339	-939	1,340	22,740	1,869	939	112	302	2,617	25,358	16,628	0	998	17,626
2029	75	22,740	-993	1,364	23,112	2,617	993	157	331	3,437	26,548	17,626	0	1,058	18,683
2030	76	23,112	-1,051	1,387	23,448	3,437	1,051	206	361	4,332	27,780	18,683	0	1,121	19,804
2031	77	23,448	-1,106	1,407	23,749	4,332	1,106	260	393	5,305	29,054	19,804	0	1,188	20,992
2032	78	23,749	-1,170	1,425	24,004	5,305	1,170	318	428	6,366	30,369	20,992	0	1,260	22,252
2033	79	24,004	-1,231	1,440	24,213	6,366	1,231	382	464	7,515	31,728	22,252	0	1,335	23,587
2034	80	24,213	-1,295	1,453	24,371	7,515	1,295	451	502	8,759	33,130	23,587	0	1,415	25,002
2035	81	24,371	-1,362	1,462	24,472	8,759	1,362	526	543	10,103	34,575	25,002	0	1,500	26,502
2036	82	24,472	-1,431	1,468	24,509	10,103	1,431	606	586	11,555	36,064	26,502	0	1,590	28,093
2037	83	24,509	-1,504	1,471	24,476	11,555	1,504	693	632	13,120	37,596	28,093	0	1,686	29,778
2038	84	24,476	-1,579	1,469	24,365	13,120	1,579	787	680	14,806	39,171	29,778	0	1,787	31,565
2039	85	24,365	-1,646	1,462	24,181	14,806	1,646	888	729	16,612	40,793	31,565	0	1,894	33,459
2040	86	24,181	-1,715	1,451	23,917	16,612	1,715	997	780	18,544	42,461	33,459	0	2,008	35,466
2041	87	23,917	-1,785	1,435	23,567	18,544	1,785	1,113	833	20,609	44,175	35,466	0	2,128	37,594
2042	88	23,567	-1,856	1,414	23,125	20,609	1,856	1,237	889	22,812	45,937	37,594	0	2,256	39,850
2043	89	23,125	-1,927	1,388	22,586	22,812	1,927	1,369	948	25,160	47,746	39,850	0	2,391	42,241
2044	90	22,586	-1,981	1,355	21,960	25,160	1,981	1,510	1,004	27,647	49,607	42,241	0	2,534	44,775
2045	91	21,960	-2,033	1,318	21,244	27,647	2,033	1,659	1,061	30,278	51,522	44,775	0	2,687	47,462
2046	92	21,244	-2,083	1,275	20,436	30,278	2,083	1,817	1,121	33,056	53,492	47,462	0	2,848	50,309
2047	93	20,436	-2,129	1,226	19,533	33,056	2,129	1,983	1,182	35,986	55,519	50,309	0	3,019	53,328
2048	94	19,533	-2,147	1,172	18,559	35,986	2,147	2,159	1,238	39,054	57,613	53,328	0	3,200	56,528
2049	95	18,559	-2,158	1,114	17,514	39,054	2,158	2,343	1,294	42,261	59,775	56,528	0	3,392	59,919
2050	96	17,514	-2,162	1,051	16,403	42,261	2,162	2,536	1,351	45,608	62,011	59,919	0	3,595	63,515
2051	97	16,403	-2,158	984	15,229	45,608	2,158	2,736	1,407	49,096	64,324	63,515	0	3,811	67,325

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2052	98	15,229	-2,145	914	13,998	49,096	2,145	2,946	1,464	52,723	66,720	67,325	0	4,040	71,365
2053	99	13,998	-2,089	840	12,748	52,723	2,089	3,163	1,510	56,465	69,214	71,365	0	4,282	75,647
After-tax					9,083					56,465	65,548				75,647

**Pre-tax / After-tax Contribution Report
for Samuel Sample — Notes**
Report produced May 21, 2002

The IRA / Roth IRA Comparison report illustrates how two different retirement plan contribution strategies might compare under a range of hypothetical scenarios.

This illustration uses many assumptions about both the present and the future. Some of these are simplifying assumptions or are intended to be hypothetical, and they will be detailed in the notes that follow. Other elements of the illustration make the more fundamental assumption that the future will be very similar in important ways to the present, including that tax laws (other than tax rates) will not change, and that investment performance will be steady. It is virtually certain that these assumptions will not prove correct. In particular, the pattern of investment performance will differ from the rates of return illustrated. Furthermore, even if the average investment performance matched that illustrated, but the annual performance fluctuated from year to year, you would get results different from those illustrated.

This illustration, therefore, is not intended to predict future results, or to represent the future performance of any financial product. Its purpose is purely to compare pre-tax vs. after-tax retirement savings strategies.

The illustration assumes a single pre-tax (traditional IRA) contribution of \$4,000.00. The comparable after-tax Roth IRA contribution is \$2,660.00, after estimated taxes of \$1,340.00.

WARNING: The plan contributions illustrated in this report are subject to limits specified in the Internal Revenue Code and related regulations and rulings. The contribution amounts specified have not been tested during the course of the current calculation, and their appearance in this report may not be taken as certification that these contribution amounts are permissible.

No voluntary withdrawals are illustrated.

Under current tax law, only the pre-tax contribution fund is subject to required minimum distributions, generally starting after age 70½. This report illustrates such distributions, assuming use of the final regulations issued by the IRS in April 2002. All required distributions are assumed to occur at the end of the year illustrated. (See section on taxation, below, for more information.)

All funds are assumed to earn a net pre-tax annual return of 8.00% (+/- 5.00%) per year before the retirement age of 65 (+/- 10 years). Upon retirement and thereafter, all funds are assumed to earn a net pre-tax of return of 6.00% (+/- 5.00%) per year. These rates are hypothetical and are not intended to reflect the future performance of any actual product.

Any applicable taxes are assumed to be payable at the end of the illustration year. Federal taxes are calculated based on taxable income, using current federal tax tables, as adjusted for annual inflation of 2.50% (+/- 5.00%). Current taxable income has been entered as \$120,000.00, with annual increases until retirement of 3.00% (+/- 5.00%), a decrease at retirement of 30.00% (+/- 20.00%), and annual changes after retirement of 3.00% (+/- 5.00%). Taxes on fund after-tax deposits, where applicable, are calculated as reductions in otherwise taxable income; fund earnings and withdrawals, where applicable, are calculated as additions to other taxable income. Where appropriate, such taxation may overlap more than one tax bracket. The tax filing status is assumed to be Married Filing Jointly for all years. A level state + local marginal rate of 5.00% is assumed to apply for all years to all taxable income. All state and local taxes are assumed to be deductible from federal income taxes. Taxability of transactions is assumed to follow federal rules, although in reality a small number of states have different rules. In estimating taxes, any effects of taxable income on allowable deductions, exemptions or tax credits have not been taken into account. It is assumed that you are not subject to the Alternative Minimum Tax. You should review all tax assumptions with your personal tax advisor.

To the extent that required minimum distributions exceed voluntary withdrawals (if any), they are indicated as transfers to the side fund. Income taxes on these amounts are also shown in the side fund account.

The final line on the sample ledger shows the after-tax equivalent of any final balances. The final pre-tax balance is still subject to taxes, so that in order to compare it to the after-tax balance, which is generally not subject to taxes, the pre-tax balance must be reduced. Such reductions, where applicable, are assumed to occur at the marginal tax rate in effect if the reduction were spread over a five-year period.

The sample ledger on the preceding pages reflects the basic assumptions outlined in these notes, without regard to the “+/-” variances. However, in determining the pre-tax / after-tax contribution split on the first page of this report, 4000 randomly generated scenarios were tested using the variances described above. Random values were assigned along normal

probability distributions, using standard deviations equal to half of the “+/-” amounts. Death dates were also randomized, using mortality tables specially adapted by Still River Retirement Planning Software, Inc., reflecting sex and smoking status as these items were input. In the case of premature death, tax advantages may not be realized, or not to the extent otherwise expected. Both the ratio of scenarios that favored each alternative strategy, and the ratio of the cumulative present values of the final year balances for all scenarios (discounted at an average of the pre-retirement and after-retirement rates of return), were calculated. The final allocation is the average of the two ratios, and in this case came out to 40% for the after-tax account. The ratio that appears on the first page of this report is smaller because it does not reflect the total pre-tax commitment, but rather the lower amount actually contributed after taxes have been paid.