

# BALANCE



We hope you are enjoying the summer months and making the most out of the longest days of the year. As summertime is perfect for fun and games, in this edition of 'Financial Balance' we want to introduce you to a lesson in Assets and Liabilities via "SRP Monopoly."

## **Golden Rule of SRP Monopoly:**

## **Accumulate Assets & Avoid Liabilities**

Asset: Anything that appreciates (value increases) over some time.

Liability: Anything that depreciates (decreases in value) over some time.



In "SRP Monopoly" (a.k.a. "real life") if you land on an Asset, you should pick it up as soon as you can! That way everyone pays rent to you and your net worth accumulates over time. An Asset puts money in your pocket. Examples of Assets include cash, investments, property, equipment, as well as intellectual property and brand recognition.

A Liability takes money out of your pocket. You want to control them at all costs. Examples of Liabilities would include rent, utilities, mortgage debt, bank debt, taxes owed, and more.

#### Why are Assets so important?

In the modern world, currency is used to represent our energy. We earn US dollars in exchange for work, and more dollars typically represent more (or smarter and more efficient) work. The drawback to this is that any form of money is only good for as long as we can use it. With rising inflation and interest rates, dollars are depreciating in value, which decreases the purchasing power of your cash. This is why a cash-only savings strategy can be a problem. In the long run, it's typically a good idea to have a mix of cash AND other assets, because assets can combat or "outpace" inflation, creating more value for you.

## **Superman vs. Kryptonite:**

### Beat Inflation like a Hero

Don't you want to be a financial Superman, soaring through the sky as a financially independent individual? You may be noticing that inflation, our Kryptonite, can stir uncertainty and hold us back from flying quite as high. Inflation recently hit a



40 year high at 8.6% on the consumer price index (CPI). Everyday necessities such as food, shelter, and energy are continuing to rise in price at the fastest pace in multiple decades.

To be financially free and soar like Superman there are some things you can do to combat inflation.

- Look into diversifying your portfolio across different types of inflation-resistant assets and asset classes
- Consider fixed income investments like Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities (TIPS).
- Consider equity investments such as commodity producers and Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs).
- Lower your exposure to investments that are easily affected by inflation, like some Treasury bonds.
- Pay down debt and cut back on spending.

#### Be Proactive not Reactive

An economic recession poses risks that investors need to be ready for and creating a varied investment mix allows one to take steps to help protect their portfolio. To stay on track of your retirement goals, revise your risk tolerance and financial situation to see if any changes need to be made. Depending on your financial situation, it may be a good time to rethink your expenses and find areas to cut back on. Cutting on expenses can be difficult to think about when you are unaware of the bigger picture of where all your money is being spent. To help visualize and be proactive on saving money and distributing spending to have the right fit, SRP has updated their **50/30/20 budget worksheet** to do just that. This worksheet can help guide you to being proactive in conquering your financial life goals.





## Here's Our Favorite Summer Budget Tip to Recover What's Yours!

Nowadays there is a subscription for everything. Sorting through monthly subscriptions and canceling those that may not be as practical anymore, such as magazine subscriptions and your cable/satellite TV package, can be a BIG saver! Make sure to follow up on any "free trials" that have expired and are now costing you precious pennies.

## In case you missed it...

We had a record number of registrants and attendees at our 3Q Participant Education Event, 'Roth 401(k) / 403(b) Strategies.' In case you missed it, check out the replay **HERE** and you can down-load Roth resources **HERE**.





Are you ready to take more control of your journey toward Financial Independence? Check out **here** what the SRP WELLth team is doing to help retirement plan participants with personalized and robust Financial Planning and Investment Management solutions.

Use the links below to learn more about WELLth or to schedule your complimentary consultation.

**Learn More About WELLth** 

Schedule a Complimentary Consultation

Securities offered through LPL Financial, Member FINRA/SIPC. Investment advisory services are offered through Global Retirement Partners, an SEC Registered Investment Advisor. Global Retirement Partners and Strategic Retirement Partners (SRP) are separate entities from LPL Financial.

Global Retirement Partners employs (or contracts with) individuals who may be (1) registered representatives of LPL Financial and investment adviser representatives of Global Retirement Partners; or (2) solely investment adviser representatives of Global Retirement Partners. Although all personnel operate their businesses under the name Strategic Retirement Partners (SRP), they are each possibly subject to differing obligations and limitations and may be able to provide differing products or services.

This material was created for educational and informational purposes only and is not intended as ERISA, tax, legal, or investment advice. If you are seeking investment advice specific to your needs, such advice services must be obtained on your own separate form this educational material.

Wealth management (i.e. WELLth) services are provided separately from retirement plan consulting services you may receive from SRP. They may involve an advisory agreement and/or an additional fee.

Government bonds and Treasury bills are guaranteed by the US government as to the timely payment of principal and interest and, if held to maturity, offer a fixed rate of return and fixed principal value.

Treasury inflation-protected securities (TIPS) help eliminate inflation risk to your portfolio as the principal is adjusted semiannually for inflation based on the Consumer Price Index – while providing a real rate of return guaranteed by the U.S. Government.

The fast price swings in commodities will result in significant volatility in an investor's holdings. Commodities include increased risks, such as political, economic, and currency instability, and may not be suitable for all investors.

Investing in Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) involves special risks such as potential illiquidity and may not be suitable for all investors. There is no assurance that the investment objectives of this program will be attained.

Investing involves risk including loss of principal.