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RETIREMENT SAVINGS WORRY LOOMS LARGE



More than a third of all investors say "living for today" impedes saving for the future

NEW YORK, June 30, 2015 — E*TRADE Financial Corporation (NASDAQ: ETFC) today announced results from the most recent wave of *StreetWise*, E*TRADE's quarterly tracking study of experienced investors. Results show that investors worry more frequently about saving for retirement than they do about their personal relationship issues, potential job loss, or physical injury. Yet, at the same time, they admit that short-term expenses hinder their long-term savings efforts, not the least of which includes emotional spending.

According to the study, investors cite wanting to "live for today" as a major barrier to saving for retirement — behind only health care, and statistically tied for second with housing costs and day-to-day living expenses like food or utilities.

"Investors have the all-too-human tendency to prioritize today's expenses over future security," says Lena Haas, SVP, Retirement, Investing, and Savings at E*TRADE Financial. "The key to combatting this emotional decision-making is in how we contribute to our long-term plan. We must remove emotion from the equation — and we can do that through automation."

Ms. Haas offered the following tips for creating a more automated investing approach to saving for retirement:

- Automate your 401(k) and get the match. Setting up contributions to automatically deduct from each paycheck will help instill discipline and erase emotional financial decision-making. Additionally, many employers offer 401(k) plans with a contribution match. Learn the facts about your employer's plan and determine if you can take advantage of a matching feature, as not doing so is akin to leaving money on the table.
- Set up an AIP and employ dollar cost averaging. For those without a 401(k) option, or who also have a Roth or Traditional IRA, <u>Automatic Investing Programs</u> (AIPs) make investing routine. Dollar cost averaging allows investors to put even small sums of money to work by buying a fixed amount of a given security every week, month, quarter, or however often they decide to invest.
- Put cash to work. Emotional decision-making can also cause investors to keep too
 much cash in their investing accounts. Asset allocation tools, like E*TRADE's <u>Online</u>
 <u>Portfolio Advisor</u>, can help investors with planning for retirement. For investors with
 dividend-paying securities, consider <u>Dividend Reinvestment Programs</u> (DRIPs), which
 offer a way to automatically reinvest any cash earned from dividends.

E*TRADE is a partner in helping investors balance today's needs with tomorrow's goals through pioneering digital tools and personalized, smart guidance, both online and from nearly 300 seasoned financial consultants on the phone or in-person at branches throughout the U.S. To learn more about how E*TRADE helps investors make retirement easier, visit etrade.com/retirement.

For useful insight from E*TRADE and third-party investment professionals, follow the company on Twitter, <u>@ETRADE</u>.

About E*TRADE Financial

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About the Survey

This wave of the survey was conducted from March 31 to April 10 of 2015 among an online U.S. sample of 1,002 self-directed active investors who manage at least \$10,000 in an online brokerage account. The survey has a margin of error of ±3.1 percent at the 95 percent confidence level. It was fielded and administered by ResearchNow. The panel is 65 percent

male and 35 percent female with an even distribution across online brokerages, geographic regions, and age bands.

Referenced Data

How often, if at all, do you worry about each of the following? (%=Always/Frequently)	
Not having enough saved for retirement	30%
Loss of a loved one	30%
Not understanding how to invest smartly	22%
Personal relationship issues	20%
Loss of a job	18%
Physical injury	17%

When it comes to saving what you want for retirement, how much of a barrier is each (%=Very/Somewhat significant)	ch of the following?
Healthcare costs for your family	45%
Rent or mortgage	38%
Wanting to live for today	37%
Day-to-day living expenses like food or utilities	35%
Education costs for your children	32%
Childcare	20%
Paying down student loans	20%

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