At a Glance | February 20, 2020

HSAs and Investing

The EBRI HSA Database contains data on 9.8 million accounts with total assets of $22.8 billion.¹

INVESTED HSAS

Only 5 percent of health savings accounts (HSAs) in the EBRI HSA Database had assets invested in options beyond cash at the end of 2018. Despite this, invested assets accounted for 26 percent of the total assets in the EBRI HSA Database.

HSA BALANCES

HSAs with invested assets had significantly higher balances at the end of 2018 than accounts without invested assets when examining those accounts by the year in which the account was opened.

HSA DISTRIBUTIONS

While it might be expected that individuals who invested their account balance were using the account solely as a long-term savings vehicle, the opposite appears to have been true. Both investors and non-investors used the HSA to self-fund medical expenses.

Facts

End-of-Year Balances Were Much Higher in Accounts With Investments

Average Account Balance Among HSAs With Contributions

HSA DISTRIBUTIONS

The Likelihood and Size of Distributions Were Higher in Accounts With Investments

Average annual HSA distribution

Without Invested Assets

59% took a distribution

$1.8k

With Invested Assets

63% took a distribution

$2.6k

¹ As of Dec. 31, 2018.
² 2004 or earlier. Includes Archer Medical Savings Account (MSA) rollovers.