

Split-Interest Trusts, Filing Year 2012

Split-interest trusts make distributions to both charitable and noncharitable beneficiaries, while providing tax benefits to their donor. All split-interest trusts must file Form 5227, *Split-Interest Trust Information Return*, annually to report financial activity, including asset holdings, income, and distributions, and to determine if they should be treated as a private foundation. This return is not used to calculate tax liability. Based on the method and timing of distributions, split-interest trusts are divided into four categories:

- Charitable remainder annuity trusts,
- Charitable remainder unitrusts,
- Charitable lead trusts, and
- Pooled income funds.

Investment Allocation



 Other investments includes items not classified into the categories shown, such as annuities, bonds issued by foreign governments, hedge funds and venture capital investments.



Highlights of the Data

- The number of Forms 5227 filed with the IRS has declined in recent years. In Filing Year 2012, the IRS received 113,688 Forms 5227, down from 117,710 in 2011. Charitable remainder unitrusts continued to be the most common split-interest trusts, accounting for more than three-quarters (80.3 percent) of returns filed in 2012.
- Total investments made up the majority of assets, increasing 1.5 percent to \$8.7 billion in 2012. Corporate stock remained the largest investment category, accounting for 88 percent of total assets.
- Trustees of split-interest trusts reported approximately \$4.3 billion in charitable distributions. Charities established for public or societal benefit received \$2.5 billion in distributions, 58 percent of the total.

Further information about tax statistics is available on the IRS' website at <u>www.</u> <u>irs.gov/taxstats</u>. Detailed information on split-interest trusts, including articles and detailed statistical tables are located at <u>http://www.irs.gov/uac/SOI-Tax-Stats-Split-Interest-Trust-Statistics</u>.



Organization Tax Statistics

Allocation of Charitable Distributions by Purpose, Filing Year 2012

