# Investing in the Stock Market Tends to Build Wealth 

Investing in the stock market during an up market is a no-brainer for many individuals. Yet investing during a downturn takes a bit more moxie. It's harder to see the long term when the here and now is so pessimistic.

But we believe investing should be about the long term. We also think that wealth is built at market lows. What do we mean? When the market has experienced a broad and prolonged sell off, many of the world's best companies tend to fall alongside the not-so-great ones. So if investors could buy what they believe to be good stocks at fire-sale prices, they tend to get rewarded over time. What is the basis for our belief?

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This chart explains. Hypothetically, if an investor put $\$ 100,000$ in the S\&P 500® Index* in 1965, they would have \$26,853,000 (not adjusted for inflation) in 2021. That is an average annual return of $10.31 \%$. Even adjusted for inflation, the average annual return was $6.22 \%$. There is one word that explains this phenomenon: Compounding. But compounding takes patience and at times of market turmoil, a steel reserve.

## Hypothetical Growth of a $\mathbf{\$ 1 0 0 , 0 0 0}$ Over Time





|  | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 | 1970 | 1971 | 1972 | 1973 | 1974 | 1975 | 1976 | 1977 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Amount | \$111,599 | \$104,440 | \$121,273 | \$134,147 | \$122,673 | \$131,927 | \$150,398 | \$177,265 | \$148,391 | \$117,118 | \$163,017 | \$181,290 | \$164,900 |
| Total Return | 12.45\% | -10.06\% | 23.98\% | 11.06\% | -8.50\% | 4.01\% | 14.31\% | 18.98\% | -14.66\% | -26.47\% | 37.20\% | 23.84\% | -7.18\% |


|  | 1978 | 1979 | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Amount | \$191,672 | \$224,478 | \$282,887 | \$262,460 | \$341,497 | \$411,067 | \$443,606 | \$560,656 | \$736,683 | \$736,683 | \$847,947 | \$1,042,716 | \$1,033,837 |
| Total Return | 6.56\% | 18.44\% | 32.42\% | -4.91\% | 21.55\% | 22.56\% | 6.27\% | 31.73\% | 18.67\% | 5.25\% | 16.61\% | 31.69\% | -3.10\% |


|  | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Amount | \$1,364,171 | \$1,469,742 | \$1,641,784 | \$1,660,703 | \$2,247,184 | \$2,862,088 | \$3,660,887 | \$4,814,361 | \$5,564,232 | \$5,274,296 | \$4,563,802 | \$3,645,199 | \$4,686,592 |
| Total Return | 30.47\% | 7.62\% | 10.08\% | 1.32\% | 37.58\% | 22.96\% | 33.36\% | 28.58\% | 21.04\% | -9.10\% | -11.89\% | -22.10\% | 28.68\% |



| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Amount | $\$ 15,276,730$ | $\$ 14,549,268$ | $\$ 18,642,521$ | $\$ 21,973,233$ | $\$ 26,853,051$ |
| Total Return | $21.83 \%$ | $-4.38 \%$ | $31.49 \%$ | $18.40 \%$ | $28.71 \%$ |

Source: officialdata.org. Data is for the S\&P 500 from 1965 through 2021. Total returns include reinvested dividends. The S\&P $500^{\circledR}$ is an unmanaged index used as a general measure of market performance. It is not possible to invest directly into an index. However, investors may invest in mutual funds, ETFs ("funds"), and investment strategies ("strategies) that attempt to follow the S\&P 500 Index. There is no guarantee that funds and strategies will achieve the same results as the S\&P 500 Index.

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