Financial Well-Being

Understanding Investment Strategies for Building Wealth

SMART INVESTING 101

Now is the time to:

- Learninvestingfundamentals
- Plan for your future
- Protect your assets

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A Moment for Disclosures...

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Securities and Insurance Products:

Not FDIC Insured ● May lose value ● No bank guarantee

Not a deposit • Not insured by any federal government entity

What's Your Current Tax Bracket?

Income thresholds at which each tax bracket begins for 2005:



\$0 - \$7,300	10%
\$7,301 - \$29,700	15%
\$29,701 - \$71,950	25 %
\$71,951 - \$150,150	28%
\$150,151 - \$326,450	33%
\$326,451+	35%



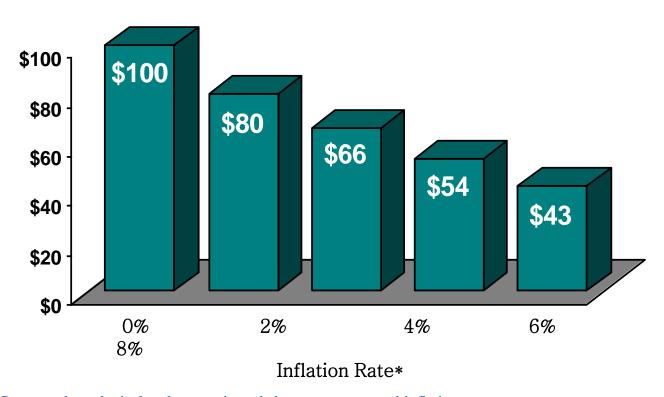
\$0 - \$14,600	10%
\$14,601 - \$59,400	15%
\$59,401 - \$119,950	25 %
\$119,951 - \$182,800	28%
\$178,651 - \$326,450	33%
\$326,451+	35 %

Impact of Taxes on Your Investment Income

Taxable	After	After
Rate of Return	28% Taxes	25% Taxes
6.00%	4.32%	4.50%
5.75%	4.14%	4.31%
5.50%	3.96%	4.13%
5.25%	3.78%	3.94%
5.00%	3.60%	3.75%
4.75%	3.42%	3.56%
4.50%	3.24%	3.38%
4.25%	3.06%	3.19%
4.00%	2.88%	3.00%
3.75%	2.70%	2.81%
3.50%	2.52%	2.63%
3.25%	2.34%	2.44%
3.00%	2.16%	2.25%

Inflation's Impact

What \$100 is Worth After 10 Years at Various Rates of Inflation



^{*}Rates are hypothetical and are not intended to represent actual inflation rates.

Just DO IT!

- I don't need a lot of money to begin investing
- I will not let crisis be my motivation
- No one will do this for me, but I don't have to do it alone
- Learning follows a curve
- All the answers aren't out there
- Risk is not synonymous with loss

You Need to Plan!

Where are you now?

- Net Worth Statement
- Budgeting
- Debt Obligations

Where are you going?

- Short & Long Term Goals
- College Planning
- Retirement Needs Calculation

How will you get there?

- Debt vs. Equity Investments
- Qualified Retirement Plans
- Tax-Advantaged Investments
- Estate Planning and Wills

Net Worth Statement:

ASSELS Cash	ASSETS
Cash (checking and savings accou Money Market Accounts	nts) Total Cash
Personal Property House (fair market value) Cars (fair market value) Furs, jewelry Antiques, collectibles	Total Personal Property
Liquid Investments Stocks Bonds T-Bills *CD *Annuities *Employee Savings Plan	Total Liquid Investments
Non-liquid Investments IRAs and Keoghs 401(k) plans Company pension plan Investment Real Estate Life Insurance (Term) Life Insurance (Other)	Total Non-Liquid Investments
	TOTAL ASSETS

^{*}Liquidity limited by regulations and investment type; penalties may apply

Net Worth Statement: Liabilities

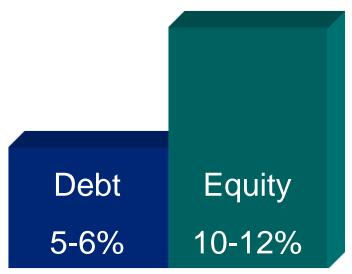
Unpaid bills Taxes Mortgage/Rent Insurance premiums Utilities Charge Account Balances Other	Total Bills	
Loans Home Improvement/Equity Cars Education Mortgage Other	Total Loans	
Mortgages Home Vacation Property	Total Mortgage	
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	

Net Worth Calculation

Total Assets	
_	
Total Liabilities	
=	
NET WORTH	

Debt vs. Equity Investments

- Debt Instruments minimal risk, less growth
- Equity Investments greater risk, greater growth potential



Risk to Reward

Equity High Risk/ **Investments** Stocks **High Reward** Real Estate **Potential** Commodities (pork bellies) Average Annual Returns:10-12% **Debt Instruments (Income)** Money Market Accounts **GNMA's** Bonds Average annual return:5-6% Low Risk/ Low Reward **Potential** Cash/Savings Accounts

Debt Instruments: The Inverse Relationship



Bond Value	Interest rate	Annual Income
\$1,000	5%	\$50
\$500	10%	\$50

Smart Investment Strategies to Consider

- Diversification
- Asset Allocation
- Dollar Cost Averaging

Smart Points to Remember...

- Bad market = good time to buy?
- Buy quality!
- Shorter the term, harder to earn \$\$
- Pay <u>yourself first</u>

Basic Rules of Investing that Everyone Should Know

- Have a long-term horizon
- Don't try to time the market
- Invest regularly
- Proper diversification and asset allocation is crucial
- Have a realistic risk tolerance
- Set realistic expectations

Average Annual Returns

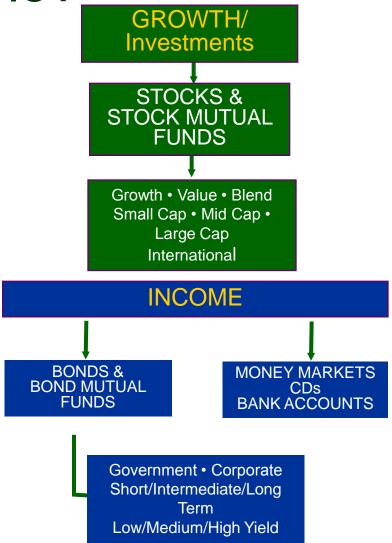
Historically, some investments have grown faster than others!

Asset Class	Average Annual Return
Common Stocks	11.6%
Long Term Gov't Bonds	5.4%
US Treasury Bills	3.9%

Differences in return may be due to investment objectives, risks, insurance features, tax consequences, liquidity, volatility.

Source: Federal Reserve database representing returns from 12/31/28-12/31/02

What's Available?



Tax-Advantaged Choices

- 401(k) plans
- IRAs
- Other Investments:
 - Tax-Free/Exempt
 - Tax-Managed
 - Tax-Deferred

Variable Annuities: An Overview

- Tax-Deferred
- Accumulation vs. Payout
- Choice of investment portfolios
- Fixed rate account*
- Guaranteed Death Benefit
- Guaranteed Income Protection (some)
- Payout Options

^{*}Guaranteed by the issuing insurance program

Variable Annuities: Tax Issues

- 10% penalty-free withdrawals annually*
- Income taxes due upon withdrawal
- Possible 10% IRS penalty for early withdrawals before age 59-1/2 and taxes at your current income level**

^{*} Withdrawals in excess of 10% may be subject to surrender

^{**} Some exceptions may apply: first home, disability charges

Risky Business?

- Inflation Risk
- Interest Rate Risk
- Economic Risk
- Market Risk
- Specific Risk

Manage Risk Through Insurance

- Home/Auto Insurance
- Disability Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Long Term Care Insurance

The Retirement Reality

You need to save more than you think!

Year	5%	8%
1	\$1,233	\$1,253
3	\$3,891	\$4,081
5	\$6,829	\$7,397
10	\$15,593	\$18,417
20	\$41,275	\$59,295

Based on \$100 savings deposits made at beginning of each month with interest compounded monthly. This illustration is hypothetical and not indicative of any particular investment.

Future Values of \$100/Month

	10 years	20 years	30 years
Growth at 8%	\$18,335	\$59,196	\$150,252
Withdrawal at 4%	\$733 per year	\$2,368 per year	\$6,010 per year

A Winning Formula

- PLAN
- SAVE
- <u>INVEST =</u> FINANCIAL GOALS