

Varshney & Villegas Private Investments

The 2021 FORECAST: Markets and Economy POST COVID-19, POST ELECTION, POST RECESSION







GOLDENSTONE WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Varshney & Villegas Private Investments

"Your Stepping Stone To A Golden Life"



2021 – THE YEAR OF RECOVERY AND HEALING – AND A NEW BULL MARKET

TAILWINDS – SOFT LANDING

- Markets closed out 2020 on strong note
- Great year for Bitcoin, SPACS, IPOS
- Economic growth, unemployment, retail sales, consumer/business confidence, PMIs



- HOUSING MARKET strong
- Federal reserve Monetary policy and US Treasury fiscal stimulus
- ➤ K Shaped recovery, structural changes
- Earnings Season HAS BEEN GREAT
- INTEREST RATES AND INFLATION STILL LOW
- THIS IS THE FIRST YEAR OF THE BULL CYCLE after shortest recession on record



2021 – THE YEAR OF RECOVERY AND HEALING – AND A NEW BULL MARKET

HEADWINDS

- ✤ VACCINE ROLLOUT IS SLOW
- ✤ US TREASURY YIELD HAS CROSSED 1.4%
- 1% increase in rates 12% loss in Buying Power
- OUR FDERAL DEFICIT IS IN EXCESS OF \$3 TRILLION, AND THE FEDERAL DEBT AT 100% OF GDP



- \$15 trillion in sovereign debt that is negative yielding
- Too much stimulus may be inflationary
- COMMODITY PRICES (SILVER, COPPER, LUMBER) ALL INDICATE HIGH INFLATIONARY PRESSURES
- ✤ UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS STILL ELEVATED
- CHINA HAS BECOME STRONGER DURING THE COVID CRISIS WITH EUROPE AND REST OF

Best/worst days for the S&P 500 since 1950

Calendar Days	S&P 500Gain	Return 1 year later†
10/13/08	11.6%	7.0%
10/28/08	10.8%	10.9%
3/24/20	9.4%	Ś
3/13/20	9.3%	Ś
10/21/87	9.1%	9.8%
3/23/09	7.1%	42.7%
4/6/20	7.0%	Ś
11/13/08	6.9%	20.0%
11/24/08	6.5%	29.8%
3/10/09	6.4%	59.2%
11/21/08	6.3%	36.4%
3/26/20	6.2%	Ś
3/17/20	6.0%	Ś
7/24/02	5.7%	16.4%
9/30/08	5.4%	-9.4%
Average	7.6%	22.3%

Best Days

Worst Days

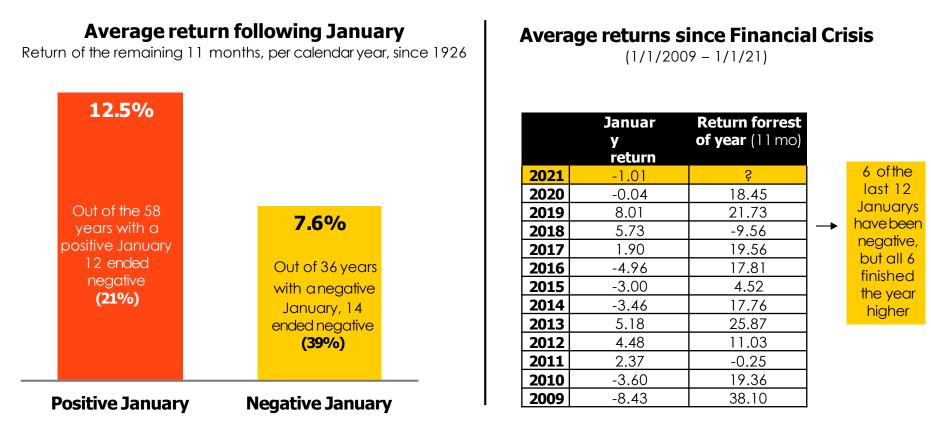
Calendar Days	S&P 500Decline	Return 1 year later†
10/19/1987	-20.5%	23.1%
3/16/2020	-12.0%	Ś
3/12/2020	-9.5%	Ś
10/15/2008	-9.0%	20.8%
12/01/2008	-8.9%	35.9%
09/29/2008	-8.8%	-4.1%
10/26/1987	-8.3%	23.5%
10/09/2008	-7.6%	17.8%
3/9/2020	-7.6%	Ś
10/27/1997	-6.9%	21.5%
08/31/1998	-6.8%	38.0%
01/08/1988	-6.8%	15.3%
11/20/2008	-6.7%	45.1%
05/28/1962	-6.7%	26.7%
08/08/2011	-6.7%	25.2%
Average	-8.9%	24.1%

Sources: BlackRock; Morningstar as of 9/30/20. Returns are principal returns, dividends not included. U.S. stocks are represented by the S&P 500 Index and the IA SBBI US Lrg Stock USD Index, an unmanaged index that is generally considered representative of the U.S. stock market. Index performance is for illustrative purposes only. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Past performancedoes not guarantee or indicate future results. †Average returns and returns 1-year following each period are for illustrative purposes only. Markets are volatile and investments made in those markets can and do fluctuate. Investors shouldnot expect historical returns shown to be a guarantee of future expected performance.

JANUARY MARKET RETURNS

So goes January, so goes the year?

Annual percentage returns



Source: Morningstar as of 1/31/21. U.S. Stocks represented by the S&P 500 Index after 1979 and by the IA SBBI US Lrg Cap Index before 1979. Past performance does not guarantee or indicate future results. Index performance is for illustrative purposes only. You can not invest directly in the index.



WTF??

Goldenstone 2021 Year-End Targets

- Our 2021 S&P 500: 4300
- Federal Funds Rate: 0-0.25%
- 10 Year Yield: 1.5%
- Oil: \$55
- Gold: \$1,800
- US Dollar: Stronger
- US GDP growth: 5%
- US Unemployment Rate: 6%
- S&P 500 Earnings: \$175







BlackRock Systematic Active Equity

Decoding the Markets

BlackRock

Investing for 2020 and Beyond

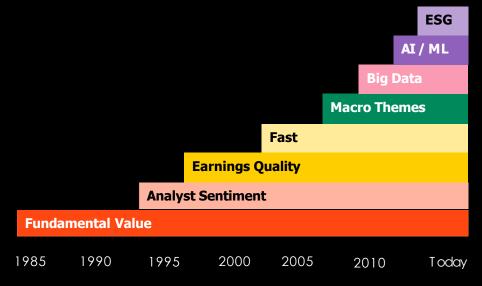
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Systematic Active Equity

Systematic Active Equity (SAE) Platform

Summary

- **Philosophy:** We believe better and more differentiated investment insights, driven by new data and new techniques, are necessary to best seek investment success
- **Goal:** Deliver consistent and differentiated alpha, excess returns that are largely un-associated with smart beta factors and/or other active managers
- **Culture:** Scientific and transparent, building new tools and leveraging new data to develop differentiated insights
- **History & Scale:** Over 30-year of innovation across global equity markets.* Approx. 90 dedicated investment professionals



SAE platform AUM: \$126B USD

Long Only	High Conviction Alpha	Outcome
\$116 billion	\$6 billion	\$4 billion
Alpha Til†s (Regional / Global) Advantage Series (Regional / Regional Styles / Global)	Alpha Advantage (Regional / Global) Absolute Return (Regional /Global)	Income (Global) ESG/Impact (Regional / Global) Defensive Alpha (Global)

AUM in USD as of 30 September 2020 *Including time within Barclays Global Investors and Wells Fargo Nikko Investment Advisors

Adding new sources as markets and data evolve

The world has changed: Snapshot of last five years

- Digital world = big data
- Advances in Machine Learning & Artificial Intelligence now allow realistic simulations in high dimensional spaces
- Ability to measure thousands of relevant attributes in <u>real-time</u>: consumer behaviors, product developments, company trends, regional features, etc
- New opportunities for forecasting & building portfolios



Everything measurable will be measured

For illustrative purposes only. Not intended to be investment advice or a recommendation to take any particular investment action.

What type of stocks does SAE invest in?

Stocks underpinned by attractive fundamentals

Improving & persistent profits

Rising earnings expectations

Attractive valuations

Stocks supported by positive sentiment and market activity

Views of market participants such as analysts

Positioning of other investors and expectations of future flows

Trading opportunities arising from short term liquidity effects

Relationships between stocks and other asset classes

Stocks with positive exposure to macro themes

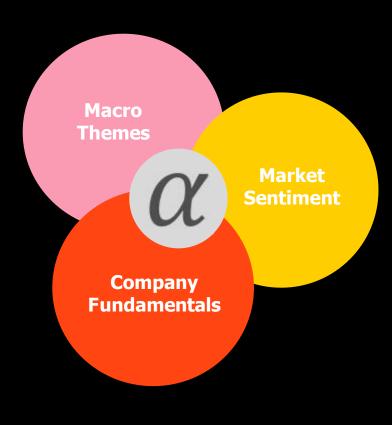
Domestic economic conditions

Exporters exposed to the external macro backdrop

Industries, countries & styles

Includes beta timing model

SAEhas 30 years of experience in understanding the drivers of equity returns*

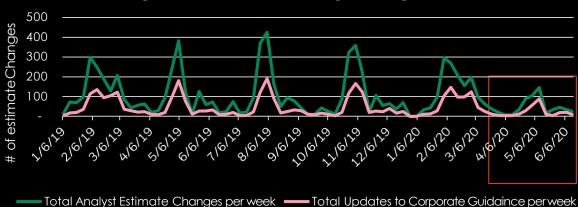


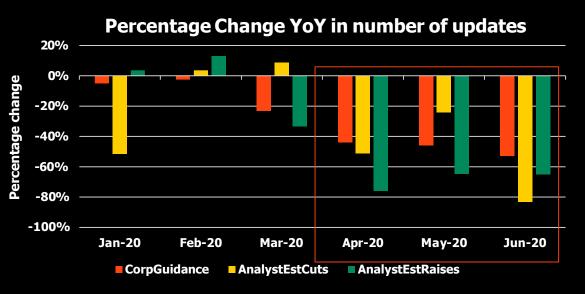
66 Alternative Data is going to become the new oxygen in the investment process."

Source: Jeff Shen, Co-CIO of Systematic Active Equities.

Traditional data during Covid-19

- SAE believes that the COVID-19 crisis underlined the need for a diversified library of alternative data sources.
- Some traditional data sources became less relevant as COVID-19 began to impact the US population and US Economy.
- We observe alarge decline in the frequency of updates to both corporate guidance (pink) and analyst estimates (green).
- During both April and May 2020, Sellside analysts produced~70% fewer updates, vs the same period in 2019 (for US all cap universe).
- Investors that relied on such traditional sources of investment data were using data that had become somewhat stale.





Updates per week Analyst estimates and corporate guidance

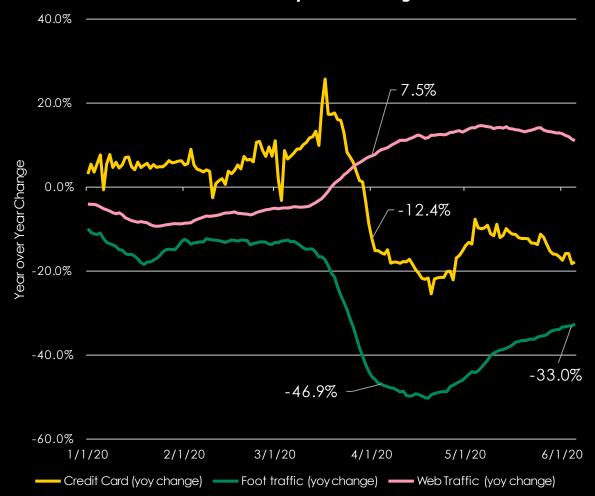
Source: BlackRock, as at 17 June 2020, Subject to change

Forecasting Same Store Sales Growth Using Geo Location Data



Alternative Data during Covid-19

- In contrast, we observed that alternative data sources were quite relevant during the COVID-19 market crisis.
- These sources provided atimely and crucial understanding of firm fundamentals.
- These data sources are very difficult to on-board and decipher in the best of times.
- And no single data source is enough to best measure firm performance.
- For example, investors that relied only on foot traffic could have missed important shifts, observable via web traffic and credit card transactions.



Alternative data for US corporates during COVID-19

Case Study – Power of alternative data

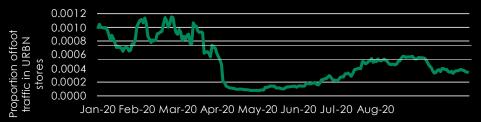
Clothing Retailer-Mobile App Users



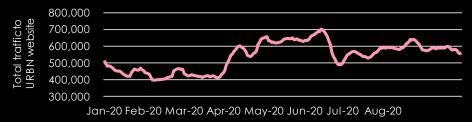
100,000 80,000 40,000 20,000

Jan-20 Feb-20 Mar-20 Apr-20 May-20 Jun-20 Jul-20 Aug-20

Clothing Retailer – Foot Traffic



Clothing Retailer – Web Traffic

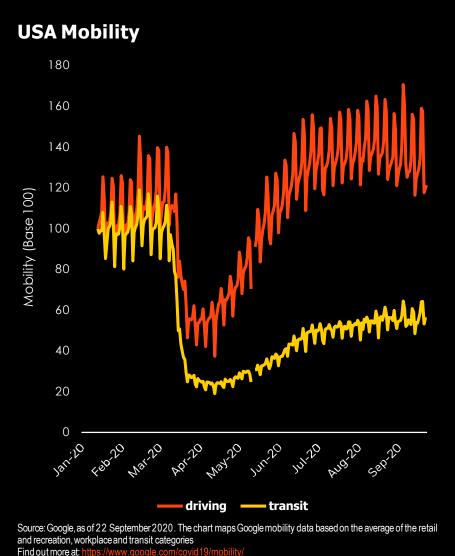


Clothing Retailer Cut to Sell, citing `Ghost Town' Stores

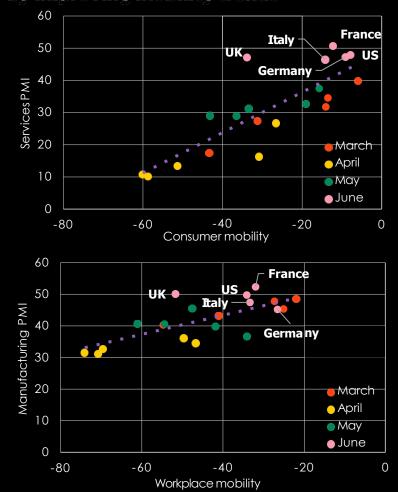
- The Clothing Retailer fell 7% after a downgrade, largely driven by what analyst saw in the NYC store (almost no customers & boarded up windows.
- SAE alternative data looked much less bearish, with an increase in appusers, foot traffic rebounding, ereceipts strong, webtraffic still elevated, and credit card spending good, if decliningslightly
- Stock rose after the broker downgrade due to delivering better than expected Q2 results, with sales beating the highest analyst estimate.

*Source: Bloomberg & Loop Capital Markets. Research report as 20th July 2020. All other data as at 27th August. Company shown for illustrative purposes only

Mobility Data: A snapshot of economic activity



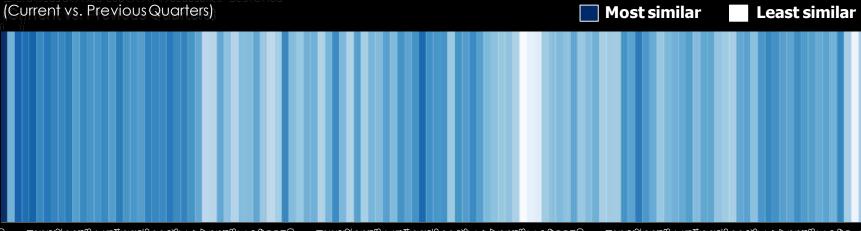
Pick up in activity is beyond what predicted by improving mobility trends



Source: BlackRock Investment Institute, Haver, Markit July 2020.

Using Technology to Better Understand Market Environment

BlackRock Most Similar Index



	Week	Month	Quarter
1	1991-07-14	1990-12-31	1990-12-31
2	2005-05-01	1990-11-30	1991-06-30
3	2005-05-15	1991-07-31	1991-12-31
4	1990-12-30	2005-05-31	2005-09-30
5	2005-05-08	2005-04-30	1991-09-30

	Week	Month	Quarter
6	1990-12-23	2018-04-30	1992-06-30
7	2018-04-08	1991-11-30	2012-12-31
8	1990-12-16	2012-11-30	1996-09-30
9	1990-12-02	1991-05-31	1993-03-31
10	1990-12-09	1996-03-31	1994-12-31

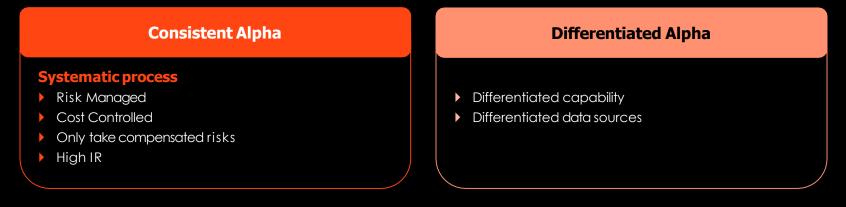
Source: BlackRock, as of 24 September 2020. The Most Similar Index (MSIM) seeks to measure the economic environment based on a proprietary set of micro and macro economic data metrics. The chart compares the current MSIM reading with historical quarterly periods. Darker shades of blue implies that the economic environment is more similar to the current economic environment. Lighter shades of blue or white implies that the environment is less similar to the current economic environment.

Our mission is to deliver Consistent, Differentiated, Alpha

We have a Research Driven investment culture which constantly innovates in seeking to generate alpha

Our passion is combining insight and technology in seeking to deliver differentiated investment returns across the broadest possible opportunity set

We systematically implement these insights into portfolios in a risk-managed and cost-controlled manner with a goal to deliver consistent returns over time



Systematic Active Equity Platform Goals

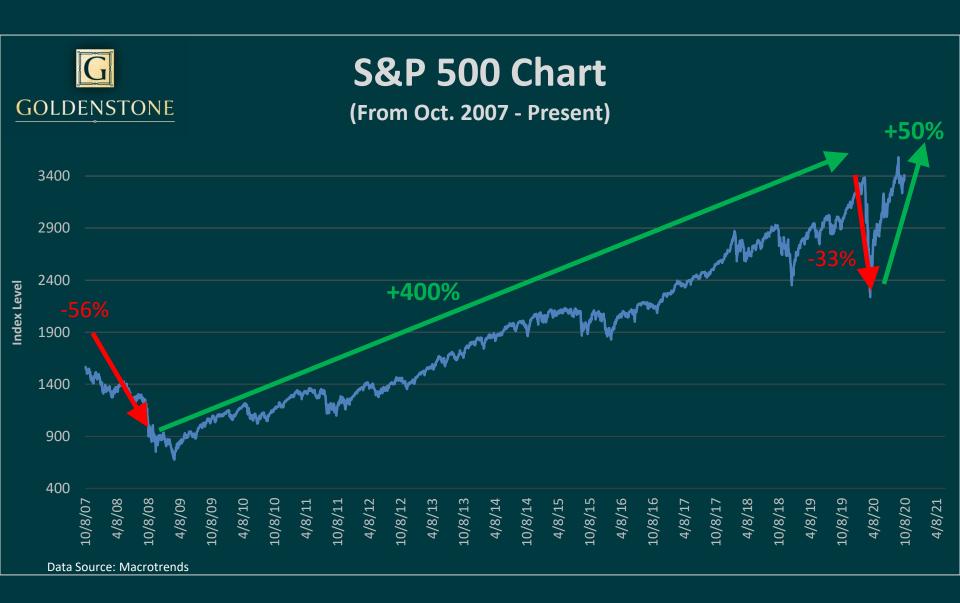
Clients need Alpha, not just Exposure

1720, Sir Isaac Newton lost a fortune in the South Sea Company, the hottest stock in England.

Newton concluded... [That he] 'can calculate the motions of the heavenly bodies, but not the madness of people.'

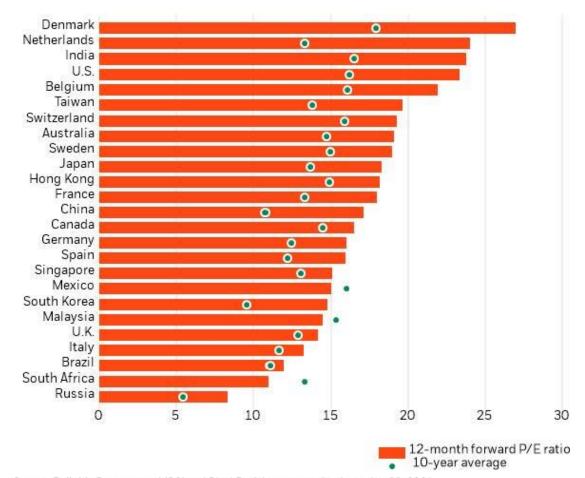
"We don't have to be smarter than the rest. We have to be more disciplined than the rest."

-Warren Buffett





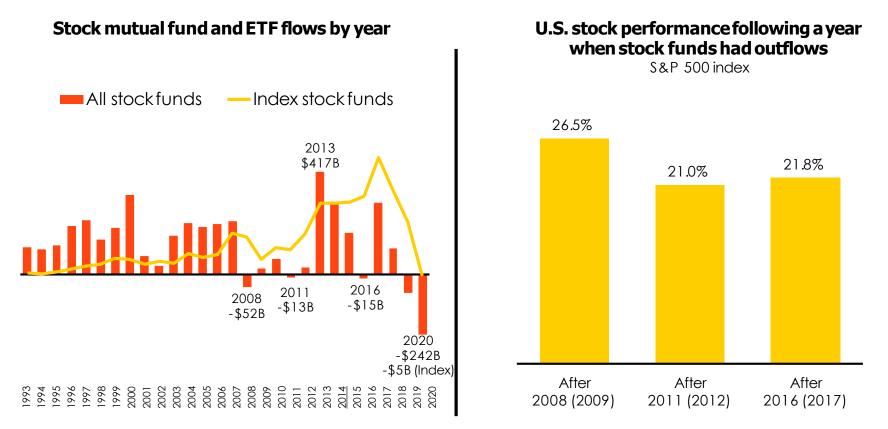
Equity valuation by market



Source: Refinitiv Datastream, MSCI and BlackRock Investment Institute. Jan 29, 2021 Notes: The bars show the current 12-month forward P/E ratios of MSCI country indexes. The dots show the 10-year average for each market, The P/E ratios are calculated using I/B/E/S earnings estimates for the next 12 months. The markets shown are the largest 25 by market cap as of June 2015. **RECORD OUTFLOWS IN STOCK FUNDS**

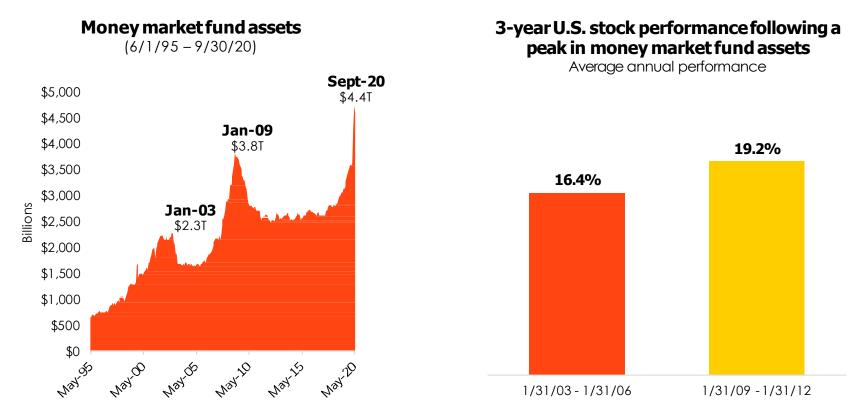
Record outflows in stock funds

(even index funds)



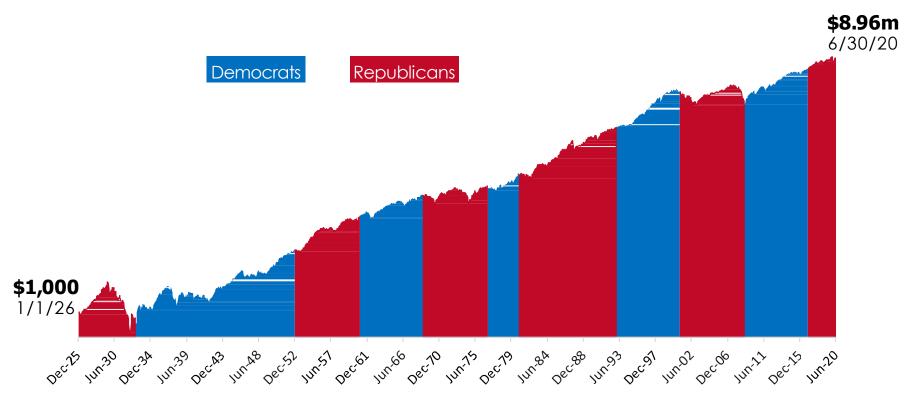
Source: Morningstar as of 9/30/20. Stock mutual funds and ETFs are represented by Morningstar Broad Equity Category. Stock marketrepresented by the S&P500 Index. Pastperformance does not guarantee or indicate futureresults. Indexperformance is for illustrative purposes only. You cannot invest/directly in the index.

Record assets in money market funds



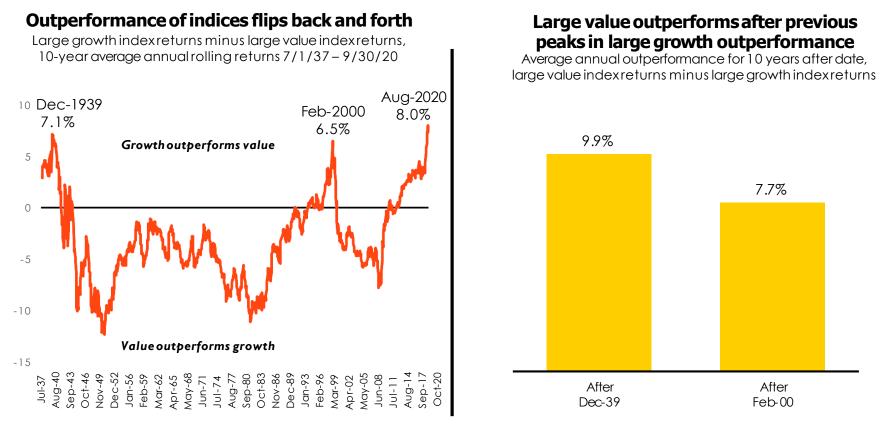
Morningstar as of 9/30/20. U.S. stocks represented by the S&P 500 Index, an unmanaged index that is generally considered representative of the U.S. stock market. Past performancedoes not guarantee or indicate future results. Index performance is for illustrative purposes only. You cannot invest directly in the index.

Stocks have continued higher regardless of presidential party



Morningstar as of 6/30/20. Stock marketrepresented by the S&P500 Index from 1/1/70 to 6/30/20 and IASBBIU.S. largecap stocks index from 1/1/26 to 1/1/70. Past performance does not guarantee or indicate future results. Indexperformance is for illustrative purposes only. You cannot invest directly in the index.

Largest growth cycle in history



Source: Morningstar as of 9/30/20. Large growth index represented by the Russell 1000 Growth TR USD Index from 1/1/87 to 9/30/20 and Fama-French Large Growth TR index from 7/1/37 to 1/1/87. Large value index represented by the Russell 1000 Value TR USD Index from 1/1/87 to 9/30/20 and the Fama-French Large Value TR index from 7/1/37 to 1/1/87. Past performance does not guarantee or indicate future results. Index performance is for illustrative purposes only. You cannot invest directly in the index.

Historic bounce back in small caps

Small capstocks outperformed large capsin 2020 for the first time in 4 years

Historic small cap outperformance over large cap stocks in the last 4 months

(4-month rolling performance, 1979-1/31/2021) 34.6% 40 2/28/00 26.4% 30 1/31/21 20 10 \cap -10 -20 Apr-79 May-81 Jun-83 Jul-85 Aug-87 Sep-89 Nov-93 Dec-95 Jan-98 Feb-00 Mar-02 May-06 Jun-08 Aug-12 Apr-04 Jul-10 Oct-16 Nov-18 Dec-20 Oct-91 Sep-14

Top 10 periods of small cap outperformance

(4-month rolling performance, 1/1/79-1/31/21)

	Top 10: (Sm cap- Lg cap)	3 years later: (Sm cap- Lg cap)
Feb-00	34.6%	0.4%
Jan-21	26.4%	Ś
Dec-20	19.1%	Ş
Aug-80	17.3%	7.1%
Mar-91	17.2%	6.5%
Mar-88	14.9%	-8.8%
Apr-88	14.9%	-9.4%
Aug-03	14.7%	3.5%
Apr-91	14.6%	6.4%
Oct-80	14.2%	3.8%

Source: Morningstar as of 1/31/21. Large cap stocks are represented by the S&P 500 Index. Small-cap stocks are represented by the Russell 2000 TRUSD Index. Past performance does not guaranteeor indicate future results. Index performance is for illustrative purposes only. You cannot invest directly in the index.

A diversified portfolio can work even though it never feels good

Last 20 years

40% U.S. stocks, 10% international stocks, 5% small cap stocks, 5% emerging market stocks, 30% U.S. bonds, 10% high yield bonds

		▼		
Years	S&P 500	Diversified Portfolio		
2000–2002†	-18.4%	-6.8%		"Ilost money"
2003–2007	82.9%	80.1%		"Ididn't make asmuch"
2008	-37.0%	-24.0%		"Ilost money"
2009–2019	351.0%	195.9%		"Ididn't make asmuch"
2020†	-30.4%	-20.7%		"Ilost money"
2020‡	51.8%	30.0%		"Ididn't make asmuch"
Total Return	247.1%	253.5%		"Diversification can work even
Gr \$100K	\$347,100	\$353,530		when it feels like its losing"

Source: Morningstar asof 9/30/20. †Performance is from 10/1/2000 to 12/31/02. †Performance is from 1/1/20 to 3/23/20. ‡Performance is from 3/24/20 to 9/30/20. Diversified Portfolio is represented by 40% S&P 500 Index, 10% MSCI EAFE Index, 5% Russell 2000 Index, 30% Bloomberg Barclays USAggregate Bond Index, and 10% Bloomberg Barclays USCorporate High Yeld Index, 5% FTSEEmerging Stock Index.. Past performancedoes not guarantee or indicate future results. Index performance is for illustrative purposes only. You cannot invest directly in the index.



The psychology of investing

Keeping calm amid market turbulence

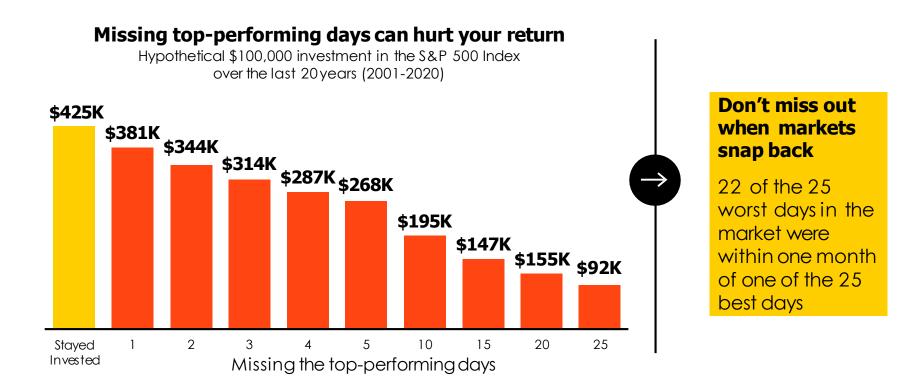
Keys to investment success



Asset allocation and security selection

Investor behavior

It's time in the market, not timing the market

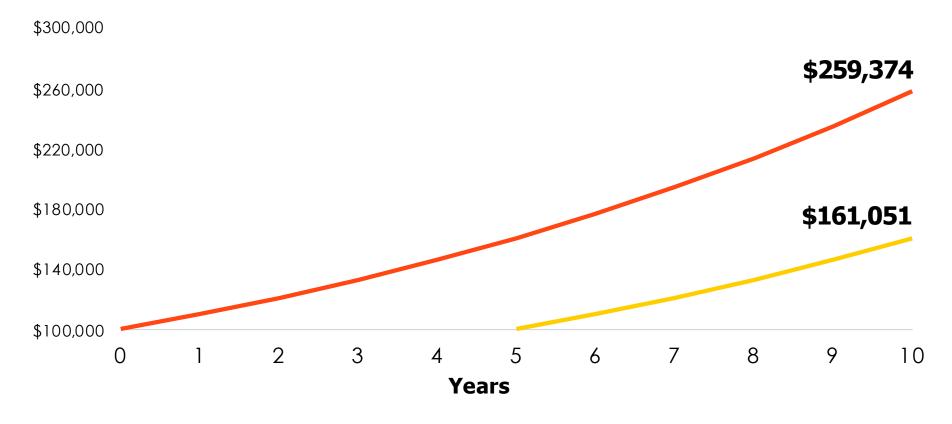


Source: BlackRock; Bloomberg as of 12/31/20. Stocks are represented by the S&P 500 Index, an unmanaged index that is generally considered representative of the U.S. stock market. Past performance does not guarantee or indicate future results. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

Waiting for the "right time to invest" can leave you behind

Compound interest... *"The eighth wonder of the world" –* **Albert Einstein**

Hypothetical growth of \$100,000 assuming 10% annual yield



"Be fearful when others are greedy. Be greedy when others are fearful."

-Warren Buffett

Building Discipline





- Take Control of Your Wealth Today!!
- For Low Cost 401(k) Plans, Holistic Premier Asset Management, and Financial Planning, reach out to Sanjay Varshney
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Foundations Unbiased

Trusted Respected

SEPs Estate Plans

Varshney & Villegas Private Investments

GOLDENSTONE

WEALTH MANAGEMENT

401Ks Trusts

Roth IRAs

Thank You! No Commissions Financial Ranning Fiduciary No Conflict of Interest

Your Stepping Stone To A Golden Life

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