

The ICA Guide

2021 edition: Class A shares



**CAPITAL
GROUP®**

**AMERICAN
FUNDS®**



Investment fundamentals
have proven successful
for 87 years

More than eight decades of experience

One of your first investment decisions is knowing whom to trust with your hard-earned money. At Capital Group, we think our history and results speak for themselves, as shown by the record of our first fund, The Investment Company of America.®

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Our founder focused on investment principles and integrity

Jonathan Bell Lovelace spent most of the 1920s at a Detroit banking/brokerage firm, developing his investment research techniques and earning impressive results. By 1929, before the stock market crash, he could see no logical relationship between stock market prices and their underlying values, so he sold his interest in the firm, took his investments out of the market and moved to California.

When Lovelace founded Capital Group in 1931, he established three core principles that we hold to this day:

- Do the thorough research necessary to determine the actual worth of an organization.
- Buy securities at reasonable prices relative to their prospects.
- Always be guided by a total commitment to honesty and integrity.

This content, developed by Capital Group, home of American Funds, should not be used as a primary basis for investment decisions and is not intended to serve as impartial investment or fiduciary advice.

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Figures shown are past results for Class A shares and are not predictive of results in future periods. Current and future results may be lower or higher than those shown. Prices and returns will vary, so investors may lose money. Investing for short periods makes losses more likely. Unless otherwise indicated, results shown are at the 5.75% maximum sales charge for Class A shares (3.50% for investments of \$100,000 or more) with all distributions reinvested. For current information and month-end results, visit capitalgroup.com.

Investments are not FDIC-insured, nor are they deposits of or guaranteed by a bank or any other entity, so they may lose value.



The legacy of our first fund

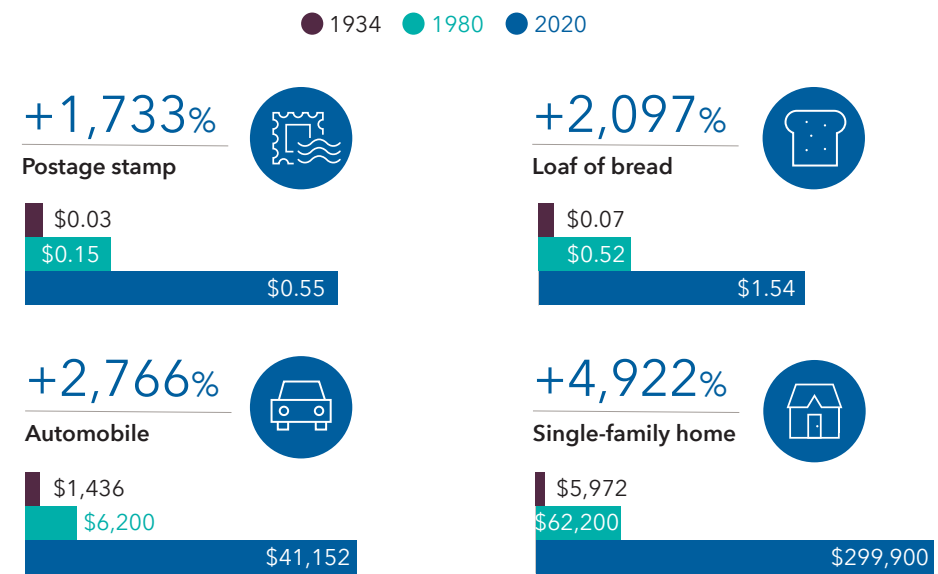
Our oldest fund, The Investment Company of America (ICA), has stood the test of time. Since 1934, the fund has persevered through market highs and lows, world conflicts and ever-changing technology. We’ve always remained focused on our objective – to provide long-term growth of capital and income by investing in solid companies with potential for future dividends. Today, ICA has earned the trust of more than 3 million shareholders.

The fund has a legacy of keeping investors’ long-term returns well ahead of the cost of living. Over the 87 years ended December 31, 2020, a hypothetical \$1,000 investment in ICA would have grown to \$19.7 million and earned an average annual total return of 12.0% – more than three times the rate of inflation (3.5%).

Stocks have outpaced other investments

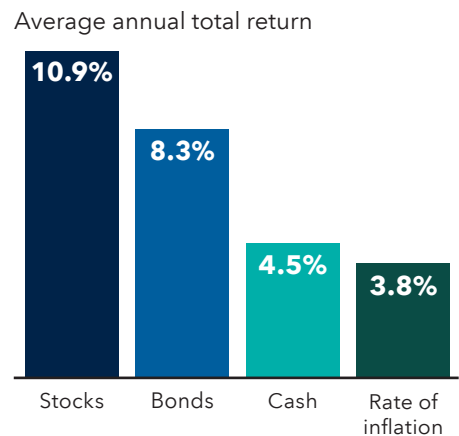
Stocks have provided an effective hedge against inflation over the long term. Some investments that have been considered less risky – such as bonds, Treasury bills, certificates of deposit (CDs) and savings accounts – may be more appropriate for short-term savings strategies. Over time, trying to avoid risk could mean settling for a lower return on your investment, as shown in this chart.

It’s key to stay ahead of inflation and the rising cost of living



Sources: United States Postal Service, Bureau of Labor Statistics, mediaroom.kbb.com (Kelley Blue Book), National Association of Realtors.

Stocks have had the highest returns over the past 50 years



All results calculated with dividends reinvested for the period December 31, 1970, through December 31, 2020. Source: Ibbotson (stocks: U.S. large cap stocks; bonds: U.S. long-term government bonds; cash: 30-day Treasury bills). The indexes are unmanaged and, therefore, have no expenses. Figures shown are past results and are not predictive of results in future periods. Unlike fund shares, investments in Treasury bills, CDs and savings accounts are guaranteed. Rate of inflation is measured by the Consumer Price Index, which is computed from data supplied by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Informed investing during retirement

Look at the hypothetical investments of two fictional couples, the Boones and the Klausens, over a 20-year period of their retirement to see the difference that a portfolio of ICA and The Bond Fund of America® (BFA) would have made.

Margaret and Harry Boone

Twenty years ago – at the end of 2000 – the Boones and the Klausens retired. Each couple had \$500,000 to invest.

The Boones were attracted to low costs associated with index funds and wanted a portfolio with significant stocks so the account had the potential to grow over time. They put their money into an index fund blend of 60% Standard and Poor's 500 (S&P 500) Index and 40% Bloomberg Barclay's U.S. Aggregate Index.

They started taking monthly withdrawals totaling \$20,000 – or 4% of the initial investment – for the first year. They increased the amount they withdrew by 3% each year thereafter to help offset inflation. As a result, their annual withdrawals increased from \$20,000 in 2001 to \$35,070 in 2020.

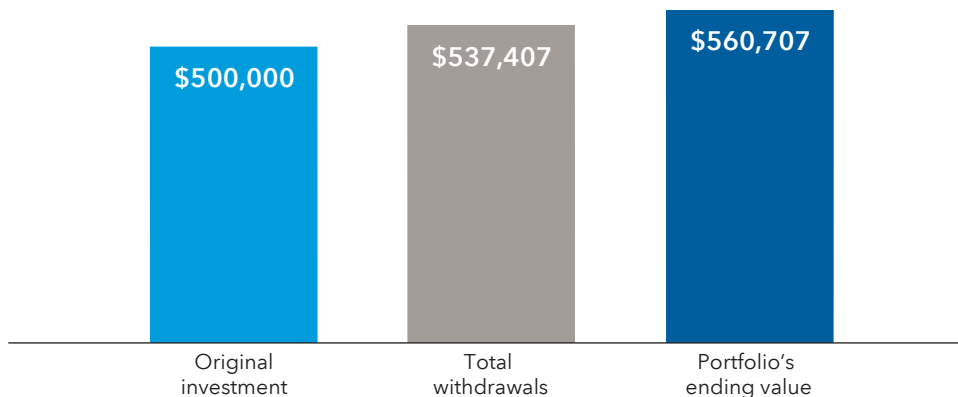
By December 31, 2020, the Boones would have:

- Withdrawn a total of \$537,407 during the 20-year period.
- Had \$560,707 remaining in their account.



Portfolio results for the 20 years ended December 31, 2020

60% S&P 500/40% Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Index



Investors cannot invest directly in an index.

The return of principal for bond portfolios and for portfolios with significant underlying bond holdings is not guaranteed. Investments are subject to the same interest rate, inflation and credit risks associated with the underlying bond holdings. Lower rated bonds are subject to greater fluctuations in value and risk of loss of income and principal than higher rated bonds.

Passive (index) funds are not striving to outpace their benchmarks; rather, they seek to replicate the benchmark's return pattern.

S&P 500 Index is a market capitalization-weighted index based on the results of approximately 500 widely held common stocks. Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Index represents the U.S. investment-grade fixed-rate bond market. The indexes are unmanaged, and their results include reinvested distributions but do not reflect the effect of sales charges, commissions, account fees, expenses or U.S. federal income taxes.

Figures shown are past results for Class A shares and are not predictive of results in future periods. Current and future results may be lower or higher than those shown. Prices and returns will vary, so investors may lose money. Investing for short periods makes losses more likely. Unless otherwise indicated, results shown are at net asset value with all distributions reinvested. If the maximum sales charge of 5.75% for ICA and 3.75% for BFA had been deducted, results would have been lower. For current information and month-end results, visit capitalgroup.com.

Vivian and Joe Klausen

The Klausens relied on American Funds to help build their nest egg. After meeting with their financial professional, they decided to keep \$500,000 in a portfolio of 60% ICA and 40% BFA. They wanted to invest in stocks for their growth potential. They liked ICA because of its focus on dividend-paying companies, which have historically been less volatile than more growth-oriented companies and can be an attractive source of income in both low and rising interest-rate environments. They selected BFA as their core bond fund.

They also took monthly withdrawals totaling \$20,000 the first year, increasing 3% each year, thereafter. As a result, like the Boones, their 2020 withdrawals totaled \$35,070.

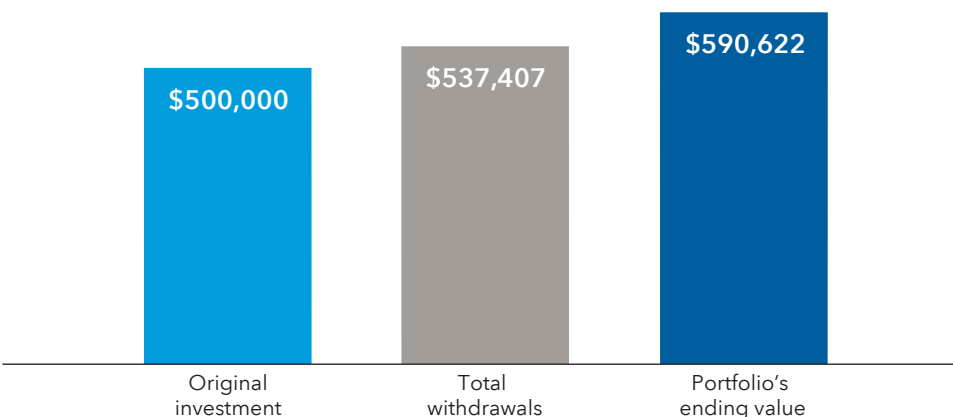
By December 31, 2020, the Klausens would have had:

- Withdrawn a total of \$537,407 during the 20-year period.
- Seen their portfolio's value rise to \$590,622 at the end of the 20-year period that included three major market downturns – the dot-com bubble, the global financial crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic. Of course, there would have been times when the funds lagged the indexes.



Portfolio results for the 20 years ended December 31, 2020

60% ICA/40% BFA



The hypothetical examples on pages 4 and 5 reflect actual historical results. Results assume the index and fund blends are rebalanced monthly. Your investment experience, of course, will depend on the amount you invest and when you invest.

Returns reflecting payment of the maximum 5.75% (ICA) and 3.75% (BFA) sales charge for Class A shares as of December 31, 2020:

	Average annual total returns				Expense ratio
	1 year	5 years	10 years		
ICA	7.92%	11.50%	11.10%		0.59%
BFA	6.56	4.04	3.61		0.61

Investment results assume all distributions are reinvested and reflect applicable fees and expenses. Expense ratios are as of each fund's prospectus available at the time of publication. When applicable, investment results reflect fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements, without which results would have been lower. Please see capitalgroup.com for more information.

What ICA investors own

A hypothetical \$10,000 investment in ICA on December 31, 2020, bought part ownership in approximately 200 companies. Of those, here are the 75 largest, representing 80% of total assets.



The fund's 75 largest equity holdings and what a \$10,000 investment bought

Microsoft	\$678	Keurig Dr Pepper	\$85	Intel	\$49
Broadcom	515	CSX	80	Royal Caribbean Cruises	48
Facebook	410	General Electric	79	Altria Group	46
Amazon	344	American International Group	78	GlaxoSmithKline	46
Comcast	326	Chevron	77	Chubb	45
Alphabet	312	Nestlé	76	Charter Communications	45
Abbott Laboratories	269	Rio Tinto	75	Medtronic	45
Home Depot	231	L3Harris Technologies	74	American Tower	42
Netflix	229	Citigroup	73	Northrop Grumman	42
Apple	213	Thermo Fisher Scientific	73	Samsung Electronics	41
Philip Morris International	207	Lamb Weston Holdings	72	Adobe	40
UnitedHealth Group	162	General Dynamics	72	Freeport-McMoRan	39
JPMorgan Chase	155	ServiceNow	66	Royalty Pharma	38
Linde	148	Hasbro	65	SBA Communications	36
Amgen	123	British American Tobacco	64	Discover Financial Services	35
Raytheon Technologies	120	Illinois Tool Works	63	Concho Resources	35
Gilead Sciences	116	Accenture	60	PG&E	35
PNC Financial Services Group	112	Crown Castle International	58	ConocoPhillips	34
Daiichi Sankyo	106	Amphenol	58	AIA Group	34
EOG Resources	98	AbbVie	57	Exelon	33
General Motors	98	McDonald's	55	Sempra Energy	33
Mastercard	97	Stanley Black & Decker	54	NextEra Energy	33
Carrier Global	90	PepsiCo	52	Aptiv	31
Merck & Co.	89	S&P Global	51	Other equities	1,542
ASML Holding	88	BlackRock	51		
Baker Hughes	85	BHP Group	50		

\$9,586	+	\$27	=	\$9,613	+	\$387	=	\$10,000
Total stocks		Bonds & notes		Total investment securities		Net cash & equivalents		Total

Portfolios are managed, so holdings will change. Certain fixed income and/or cash & equivalents holdings may be held through mutual funds managed by the investment adviser or its affiliates that are not offered to the public.

Cash & equivalents includes short-term securities, accrued income and other assets less liabilities. It may also include investments in money market or similar funds managed by the investment adviser or its affiliates that are not offered to the public.

Investing in stocks requires skill

ICA's investment professionals draw on long experience and in-depth research to make decisions about the fund's holdings. A professionally managed well-diversified portfolio can make a difference over time.

Imagine that, 87 years ago, you could have invested \$1,000 in each of any five companies in the Dow Jones Industrial Average.¹ When one company in the index was replaced by another, proceeds from the sale of the original company were invested in the

new one. Based on that strategy, today you would have a portfolio of five of the well-known companies listed below. Which five companies would you want to own today?

If you could have invested \$1,000 each in any five of these companies (or their predecessors) 87 years ago, which five would you choose?

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Express
replaced Manville in 1982 | <input type="checkbox"/> Goldman Sachs Group
replaced Bank of America in 2013, which replaced Altria Group in 2008, which replaced General Foods in 1985 | <input type="checkbox"/> Nike
replaced Alcoa ² in 2013, which replaced National Steel in 1959, which replaced Coca-Cola in 1935 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amgen
replaced Pfizer in 2020, which replaced Eastman Kodak in 2004 | <input type="checkbox"/> Home Depot
replaced Sears in 1999 | <input type="checkbox"/> Procter & Gamble |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apple
replaced AT&T ² in 2015, which replaced Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company in 1999 | <input type="checkbox"/> Honeywell International
replaced Raytheon ² in 2020, which replaced Nash-Kelvinator in 1939 | <input type="checkbox"/> salesforce.com
replaced ExxonMobil in 2020 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boeing
replaced INCO in 1987 | <input type="checkbox"/> IBM²
replaced Chrysler in 1979 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3M²
replaced Anaconda Copper in 1976, which replaced American Smelting in 1959 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caterpillar
replaced Navistar International in 1991 | <input type="checkbox"/> Intel
replaced Chevron in 1999 | <input type="checkbox"/> Travelers Companies
replaced Citigroup ² in 2009, which replaced Westinghouse Electric in 1997 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chevron
replaced Honeywell in 2008 | <input type="checkbox"/> Johnson & Johnson
replaced Bethlehem Steel in 1997 | <input type="checkbox"/> UnitedHealth Group
replaced Kraft Foods in 2012, which replaced American International Group in 2008, which replaced International Paper in 2004, which replaced Loew's in 1956 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cisco Systems
replaced General Motors in 2009 | <input type="checkbox"/> JPMorgan Chase²
replaced Primerica ² in 1991 | <input type="checkbox"/> Verizon Communications
replaced AT&T ² Corp in 2004, which replaced International Business Machines in 1939 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coca-Cola
replaced Owens-Illinois Glass in 1987, which replaced National Distillers in 1959, which replaced United Aircraft in 1934 | <input type="checkbox"/> McDonald's
replaced American Brands in 1985 | <input type="checkbox"/> Visa
replaced Hewlett-Packard in 2013, which replaced Texaco in 1997 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disney²
replaced USX in 1991 | <input type="checkbox"/> Merck
replaced Esmark ² in 1979, which replaced Corn Products Refining in 1959 | <input type="checkbox"/> Walgreens Boots Alliance
replaced General Electric in 2018 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dow²
replaced Borden in 1935 | <input type="checkbox"/> Microsoft
replaced Union Carbide in 1999 | <input type="checkbox"/> Walmart²
replaced Woolworth in 1997 |

¹ Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) is a price-weighted average of 30 actively traded industrial and service-oriented blue chip stocks. List is as of December 31, 2020.

² These companies had different names when they replaced a DJIA-listed company: Alcoa (Aluminum Company of America, 1959); Altria Group (Philip Morris Companies, 1985); AT&T (SBC Communications, 1999; American Telephone & Telegraph, 1939); Citigroup (Travelers Group, 1997); Disney (Walt Disney Company, 1991); Dow (DuPont, 1935); Esmark (Swift & Company, 1959); IBM (International Business Machines, 1979); JPMorgan Chase (J.P. Morgan & Company, 1991); Primerica (American Can, 1934); Raytheon (United Technologies, 2020; United Aircraft, 1939); 3M (Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing, 1976); Walmart (WalMart Stores, 1997).

Turn the page to see how your choices would have compared to ICA.



Compare the historic results



Based on a hypothetical \$1,000 investment over the 87-year period ended December 31, 2020, none of the Dow companies would have outpaced an investment in ICA, even though some of them may have done better than ICA in some periods during their lifetimes.* Of course, in selecting these five stocks, you were precluded from changing your investments over the years. This example helps illustrate the importance of diversification and active management and shows how ICA can be appropriate for a large-cap core investment allocation.

Note that you invested \$1,000 in each of five different stocks. Had you invested an equivalent \$5,000 in ICA, it would have significantly outpaced any five stocks you chose over the same period.

The process of replacing stocks in the Dow would have often meant selling low (when a stock was being removed from the Dow) and buying high (when its replacement was being added to the Dow).

Market value (excluding dividends)

ICA	\$1,634,797
Procter & Gamble	1,381,305
Home Depot	443,923
McDonald's	388,469
Visa	329,886
Coca-Cola	321,691
Microsoft	260,893
Merck	198,775
Apple	168,376
salesforce.com	162,304
Goldman Sachs Group	152,348
Intel	145,154
Walgreens Boots Alliance	126,435
Dow	114,040
Disney	113,825
Nike	100,293
Honeywell	69,886
Boeing	63,790
Walmart	63,022
3M	55,278
Amgen	52,122
American Express	38,145
JPMorgan Chase	28,242
Travelers Companies	26,730
Chevron	23,064
Caterpillar	15,757
Johnson & Johnson	14,993
IBM	9,595
UnitedHealth Group	5,723
Verizon Communications	4,380
Cisco Systems	2,252

* It was assumed that the entire \$1,000 was invested in each stock and that fractional shares were purchased to use up the amount. No brokerage charges were included in the cost. Adjustments were made for all stock splits, stock dividends and spin-offs. In 2009, General Motors filed for protection under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. It was delisted from the New York Stock Exchange and was replaced by Cisco Systems in the Dow Jones Industrial Average. Since no proceeds were realized from GM due to the bankruptcy proceedings, shares of Cisco were purchased with a new \$1,000 in order to continue this illustration of investments in the 30 stocks comprising the DJIA. Past results are not predictive of results in future periods.



ICA investors have benefited from the professional management of a diversified portfolio.

How ICA is managed

The Capital SystemSM features multiple managers, combining independence and teamwork. We begin by defining a clear investment objective and assembling a team best equipped to pursue investment opportunities.

ICA's holdings, which include approximately 198 stocks,* represent the individual investment ideas of nine portfolio managers and 51 investment analysts.

Broad diversification

Each portfolio manager invests in their highest conviction ideas, so fund portfolios tend to contain a diverse group of securities.

Rigorous risk management

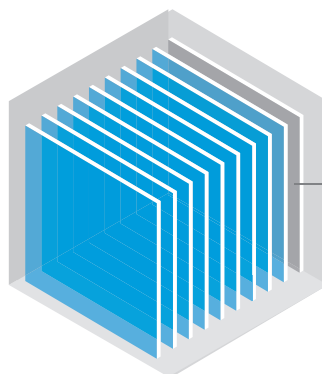
The diverse combination of portfolio managers and investment analysts in each fund is designed to lower volatility while striving for superior long-term results.

Consistent with fund objectives

The fund's principal investment officer, along with a coordinating group, reviews investments for consistency with fund objectives and overall guidelines.

The Capital System's multiple manager approach

A diverse group of portfolio managers and analysts brings complementary investment approaches, experience levels, backgrounds and areas of focus.



Analysts

In most funds, including ICA, a group of investment analysts manages a portion of the fund, known as the research portfolio.

Portfolio managers

Each portfolio manager is assigned a portion of the overall assets to manage independently, enabling them to focus on their highest conviction ideas.



Chris Buchbinder

Experience:
25 years

Office:
San Francisco



Grant Cambridge

Experience:
28 years

Office:
Los Angeles



Barry Crosthwaite

Experience:
25 years

Office:
San Francisco



Joyce Gordon

Experience:
41 years

Office:
Los Angeles



Martin Jacobs

Experience:
33 years

Office:
Los Angeles



James B. Lovelace

Experience:
39 years

Office:
Los Angeles



Don O'Neal

Experience:
36 years

Office:
San Francisco



Martin Romo

Experience:
29 years

Office:
Washington, D.C.



James Terrile

Experience:
26 years

Office:
Los Angeles

Portfolio manager information is as of the fund's prospectus dated March 1, 2021. Portfolio segments do not reflect actual allocations.

* As of December 31, 2020. Holdings will change.

There have always been reasons not to invest

Many investors may be tempted to base investment decisions on emotion, but ICA has given its shareholders good reason to look beyond the headlines. Here's what would have happened (in terms of dollar amounts and average annual total returns) if you had invested \$10,000 in ICA on these historic days.

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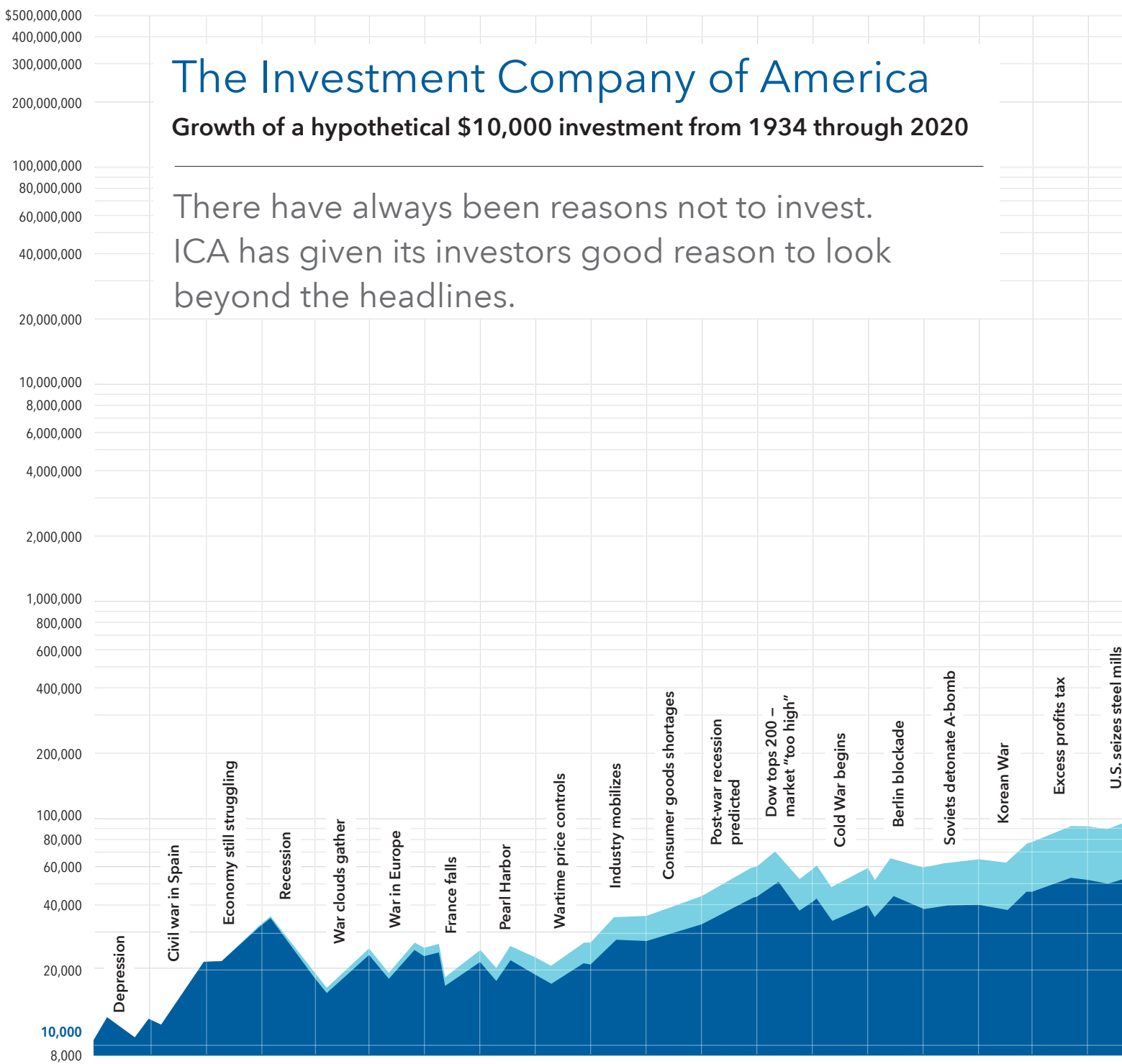


- **Pearl Harbor was bombed.**
(December 7, 1941)
 - 10 years later you would have had \$34,710 | 13.3%
 - by the end of 2020 you would have had \$76,559,213 | 12.0%
- **The Soviets launched Sputnik, vaulting into space ahead of the U.S.**
(October 4, 1957)
 - 10 years later you would have had \$38,083 | 14.3%
 - by the end of 2020 you would have had \$8,897,427 | 11.3%
- **The Berlin Wall was erected.**
(August 13, 1961)
 - 10 years later you would have had \$23,180 | 8.8%
 - by the end of 2020 you would have had \$4,710,712 | 10.9%
- **President Kennedy was assassinated.**
(November 22, 1963)
 - 10 years later you would have had \$22,945 | 8.7%
 - by the end of 2020 you would have had \$4,386,749 | 11.2%
- **President Nixon resigned.**
(August 9, 1974)
 - 10 years later you would have had \$40,379 | 15.0%
 - by the end of 2020 you would have had \$2,010,761 | 12.1%
- **The Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped a record 22% in one day.**
(October 19, 1987)
 - 10 years later you would have had \$44,268 | 16.0%
 - by the end of 2020 you would have had \$278,308 | 10.5%
- **Iraqi troops invaded Kuwait, setting off the first Gulf War.**
(August 2, 1990)
 - 10 years later you would have had \$41,882 | 15.4%
 - by the end of 2020 you would have had \$177,596 | 9.9%
- **Terrorists attacked the World Trade Center.**
(September 11, 2001)
 - 10 years later you would have had \$12,715 | 2.4%
 - by the end of 2020 you would have had \$42,774 | 7.8%

The Investment Company of America

Growth of a hypothetical \$10,000 investment from 1934 through 2020

There have always been reasons not to invest.
ICA has given its investors good reason to look
beyond the headlines.

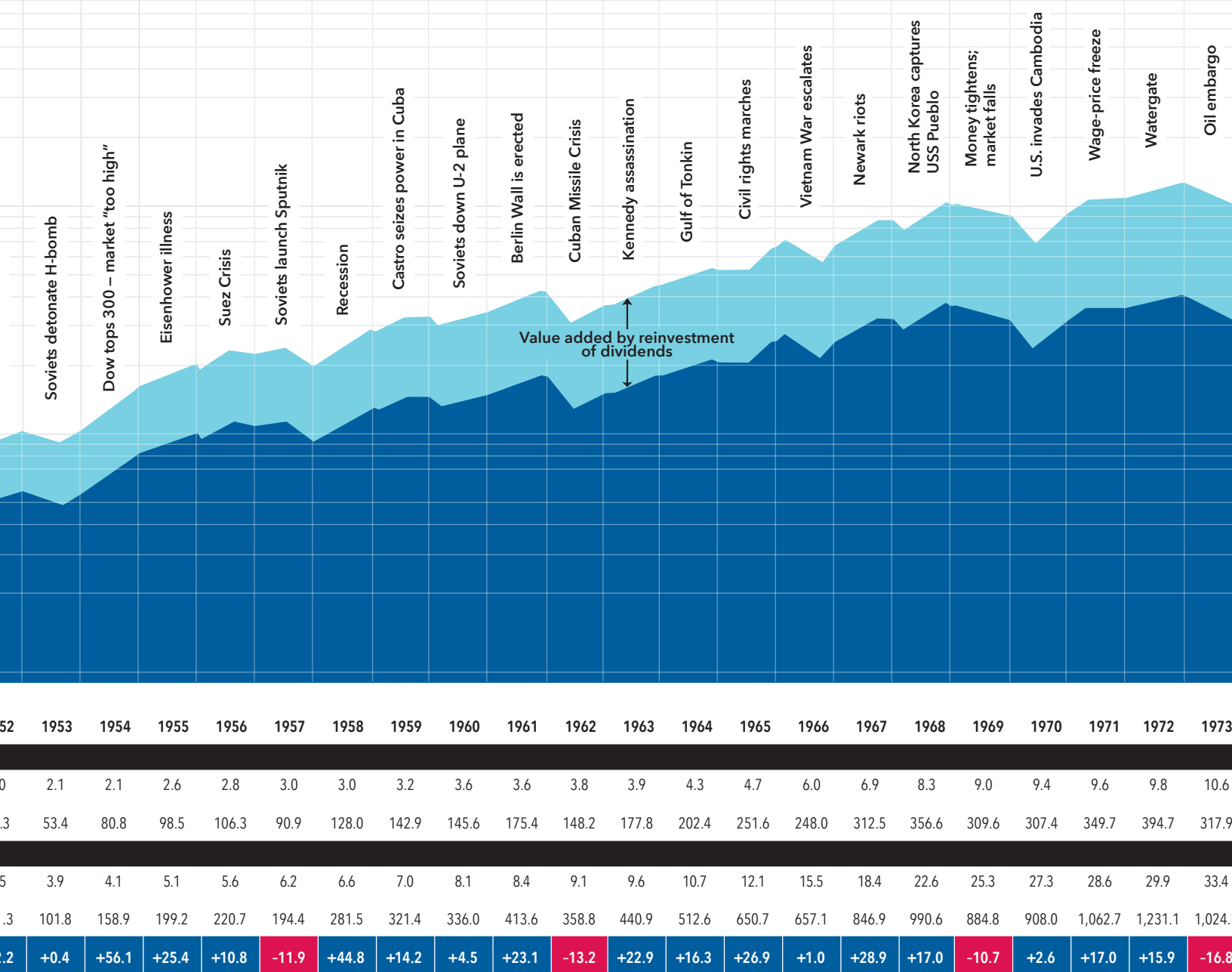


Year ended Dec. 31	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Capital value (\$ in 000)																			
Dividends excluded:	—	—	\$0.4	1.0	0.2	0.5	0.8	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.3	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.9	2.0	2.1
Value at year-end:	\$11.8	21.6	31.0	18.3	23.2	22.9	21.5	18.8	20.9	26.9	32.1	43.0	40.7	39.3	37.7	39.4	45.2	51.2	55.1
Total value (\$ in 000)																			
Dividend reinvested:	—	—	\$0.4	1.0	0.2	0.5	0.9	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.8	2.4	2.7	2.7	3.2	3.4	3.6
Value at year-end:	\$11.8	21.6	31.6	19.4	24.8	25.0	24.4	22.6	26.4	35.0	43.2	59.1	57.7	58.2	58.4	63.9	76.6	90.3	101.9
Total return	+18.2%	+83.1	+45.8	-38.5	+27.6	+0.8	-2.4	-7.4	+16.8	+32.8	+23.3	+36.8	-2.4	+0.9	+0.4	+9.4	+19.8	+17.8	+12.1

Results reflect payment of the maximum 5.75% sales charge for Class A shares on a hypothetical \$10,000 investment. Thus the net amount invested was \$9,425. The maximum initial sales charge was 8.5% prior to July 1, 1988. As outlined in the prospectus, the sales charge is reduced for larger investments. There is no sales charge on dividends or capital gain distributions that are reinvested in additional shares. The results shown are before taxes on fund distributions and sale of fund shares. Past results are not predictive of results in future periods. Results for other share classes may differ.

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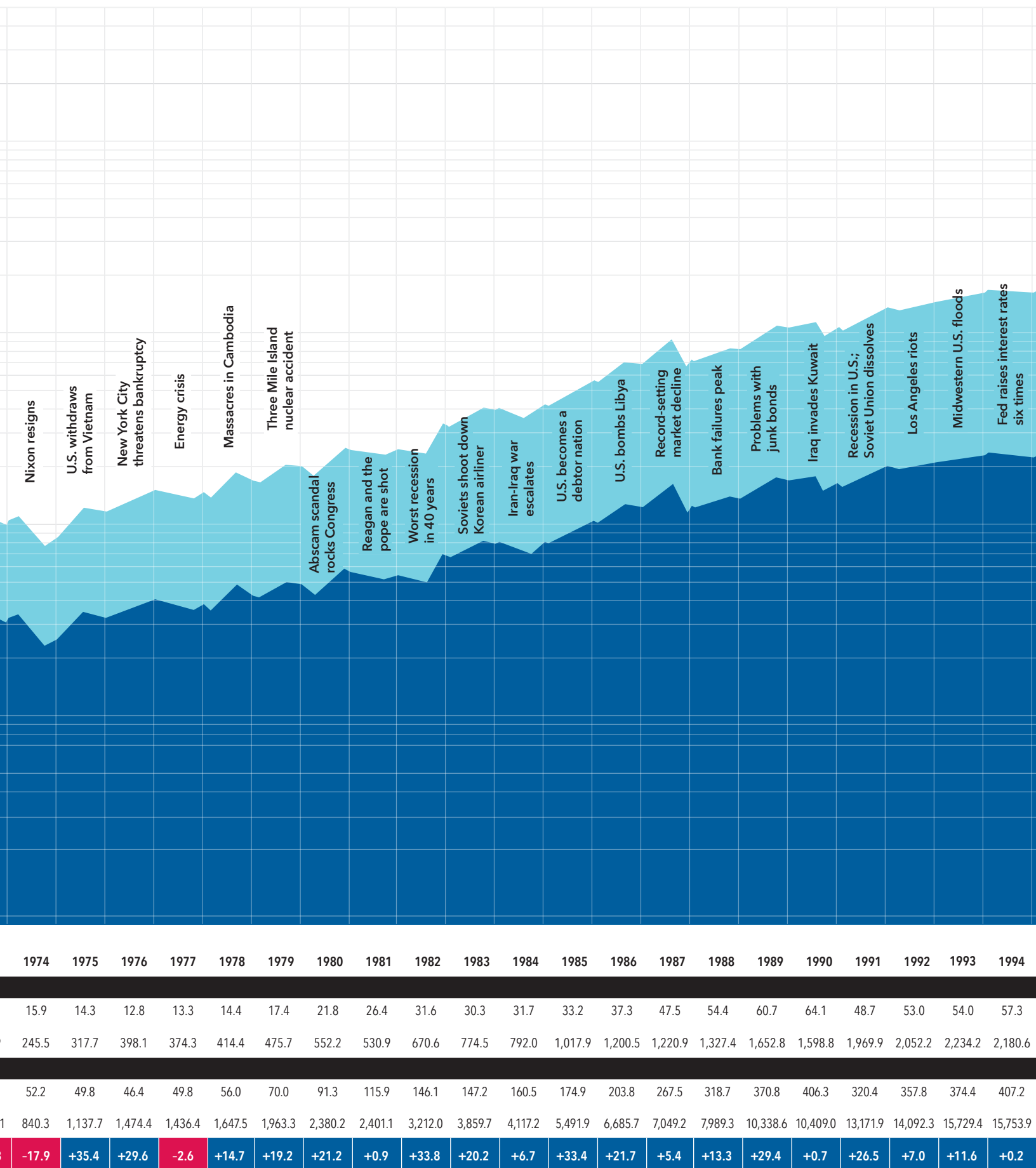
Investments are not FDIC-insured, nor are they deposits of or guaranteed by a bank or any other entity, so they may lose value.



Here are ICA's average annual total returns on a \$1,000 investment with all distributions reinvested for periods ended December 31, 2020:

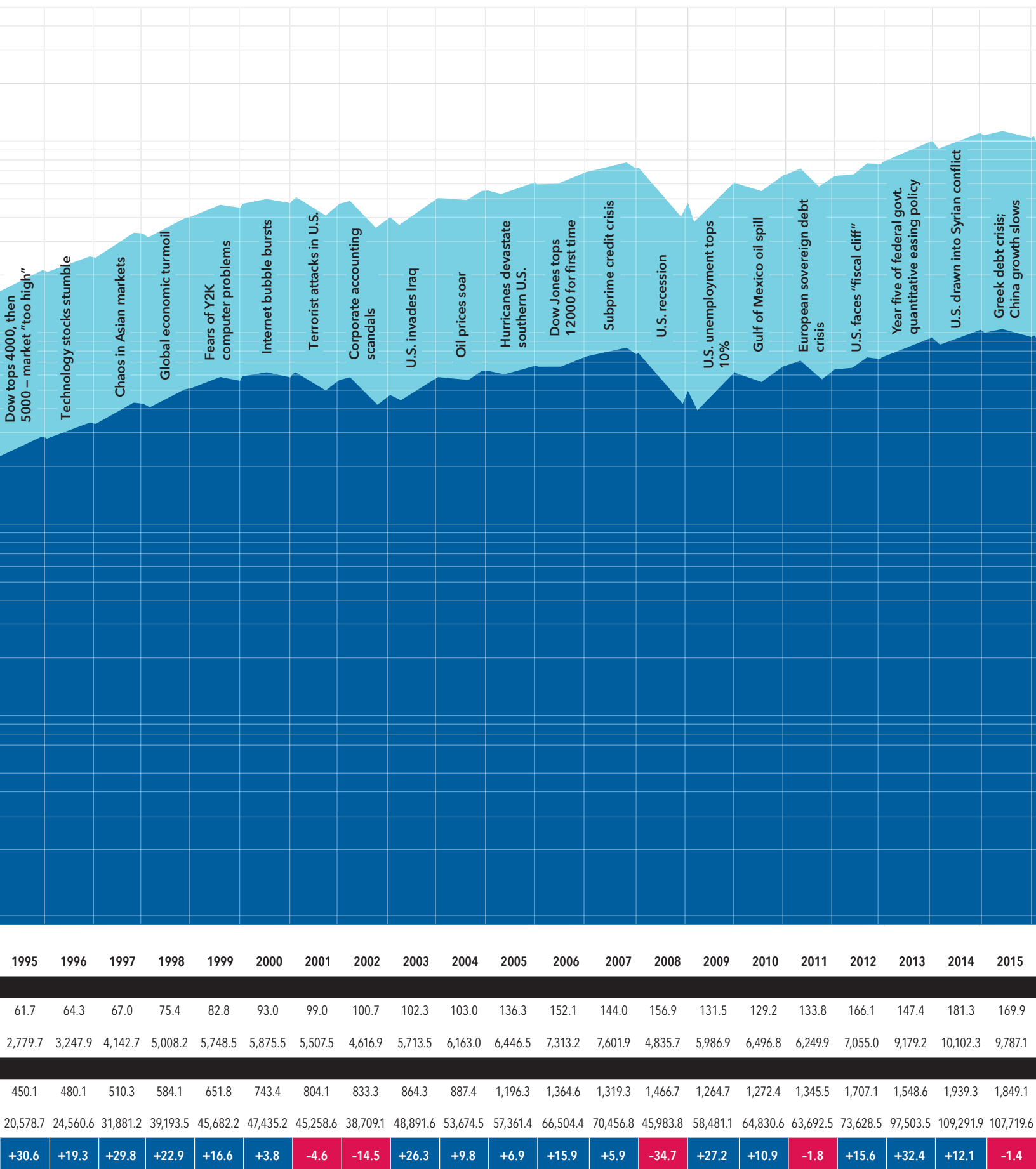
	1 year	5 years	10 years
Class A shares	7.92%	11.50%	11.10%

Expense ratio was **0.59%** as of the date of publication.



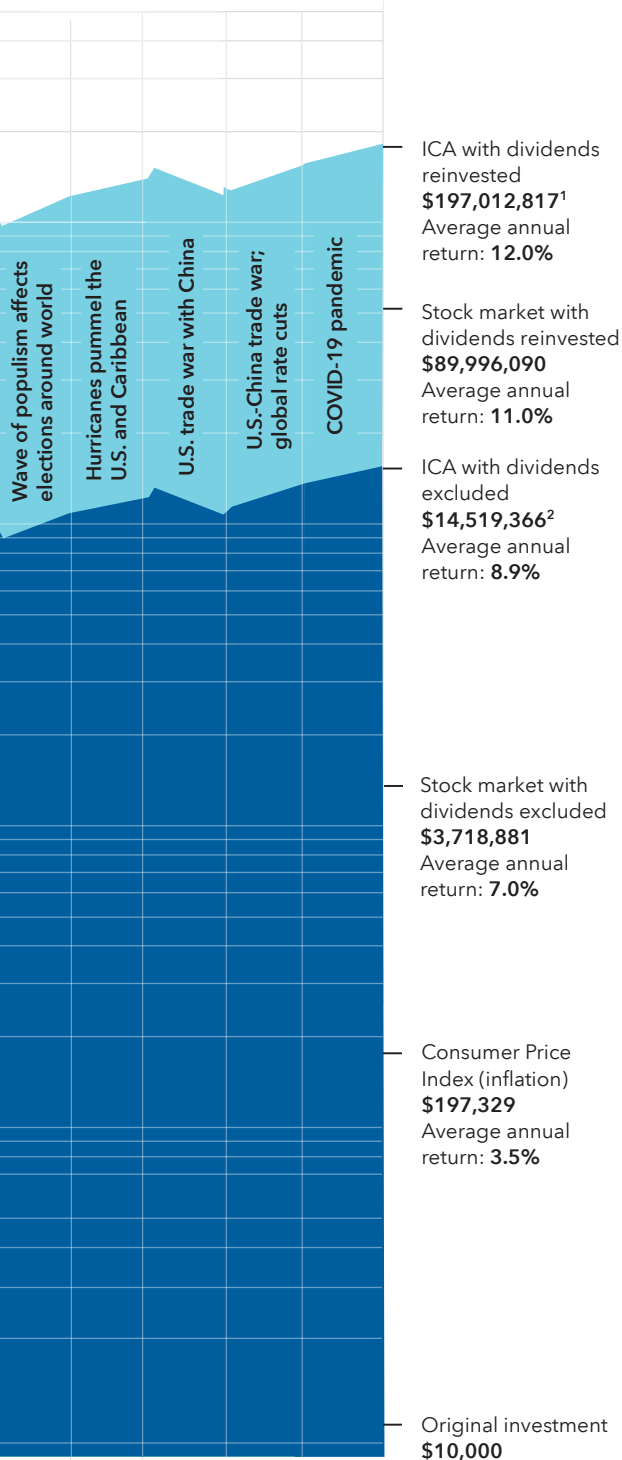
fund's prospectus available at time

The stock market is represented by S&P 500, a market capitalization-weighted index based on the results of approximately 500 widely held common stocks. The index is unmanaged and, therefore, no expenses. There have been periods when the fund has lagged the index. Investors cannot invest directly in an index.



¹Includes dividends of \$40.736,283 and capital gain distributions totaling \$87,811,032, reinvested in the years 1936–2020.

²Includes reinvested capital gain distributions of \$9,312,444, but not income dividends totaling \$4,510,058 taken in cash.



2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
200.9	206.5	237.6	267.7	227.8
11,004.3	12,954.9	11,888.3	14,519.4	16,348.0
2,227.2	2,331.8	2,728.7	3,133.7	2,719.1
123,437.5	147,789.6	138,166.2	172,072	197,012.8
+14.6	+19.7	-6.5	+24.5	+14.5

Average
annual
total
return for
87 years:
+12.04%

Not drawn to scale

This chart is based on a logarithmic scale, so it uses smaller and smaller increments for larger numbers. If the scale were arithmetic – with, say, one inch representing every \$10,000 – the dark blue area (indicating results if dividends had been excluded) would be 136 feet tall, which is about as tall as most 14-story buildings. The lighter blue section, which shows how the investment would have done if dividends had been reinvested in more shares, would be 1,642 feet tall – over ten times the height of the Statue of Liberty. This illustrates the difference reinvesting your dividends can make.





Time, not timing, is what matters

Louie the Loser never times anything right. Every year, for the past 20 years, he's invested \$10,000 in ICA on the worst possible day to invest – the day the stock market peaked.¹ So why is he smiling? Because Louie's investment would have done well regardless of when he invested.

Worst-day investments (market highs)

Date of market high	Cumulative investment ²	Value on 12/31
5/21/01	\$10,000	\$8,689
3/19/02	20,000	15,222
12/31/03	30,000	28,654
12/28/04	40,000	40,951
3/4/05	50,000	53,746
12/27/06	60,000	71,835
10/9/07	70,000	85,134
5/2/08	80,000	62,032
12/30/09	90,000	88,354
12/29/10	100,000	107,493
4/29/11	110,000	114,443
10/5/12	120,000	141,902
12/31/13	130,000	197,641
12/26/14	140,000	230,992
5/19/15	150,000	236,814
12/20/16	160,000	281,150
12/28/17	170,000	346,459
10/3/18	180,000	332,226
12/27/19	190,000	423,504
12/31/20	200,000	494,655

Average annual total return (5/21/01-12/31/20): 8.29%

Best-day investments (market lows)

Date of market low	Cumulative investment ²	Value on 12/31
9/21/01	\$10,000	\$10,750
10/9/02	20,000	19,890
3/11/03	30,000	38,100
10/25/04	40,000	52,203
4/20/05	50,000	66,477
1/20/06	60,000	87,982
3/5/07	70,000	103,582
11/20/08	80,000	78,835
3/9/09	90,000	115,474
7/2/10	100,000	139,768
10/3/11	110,000	148,267
6/4/12	120,000	182,369
1/8/13	130,000	254,126
2/3/14	140,000	296,180
8/25/15	150,000	302,430
2/11/16	160,000	358,936
1/19/17	170,000	441,367
12/24/18	180,000	422,735
1/3/19	190,000	538,917
3/23/20	200,000	632,705

Average annual total return (9/21/01-12/31/20): 10.39%

A program of regular investing neither ensures a profit nor protects against loss, and investors should consider their willingness to keep investing when share prices are declining.

¹ As measured by the unmanaged Dow Jones Industrial Average, a price-weighted average of 30 actively traded industrial and service-oriented blue chip stocks.

² Cumulative volume discount applied when appropriate.

The average annual total returns shown take into account subsequent investments.

What if the stock market doesn't go up?

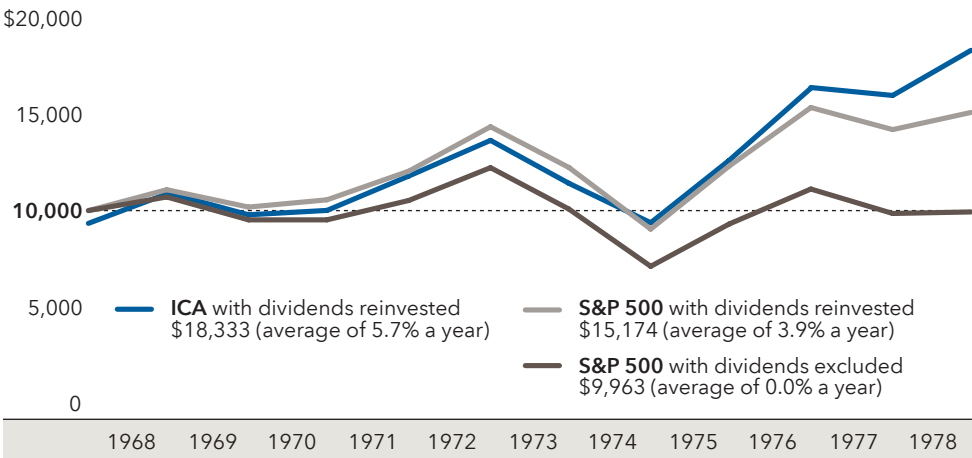
ICA's professional management has frequently enabled the fund to do better than the market. The charts below show how ICA compared to the S&P 500 during two past periods when the stock market was relatively flat.

The S&P 500 began 1968 with an index value of 96.47. More than a decade later, at the end of 1978, it stood at 96.11 – right back where it had started. But an investor still could have benefited. A hypothetical investment of \$10,000 in the S&P 500, with reinvested dividends, would have grown to \$15,174. That \$10,000 invested in ICA would have grown to \$18,333.

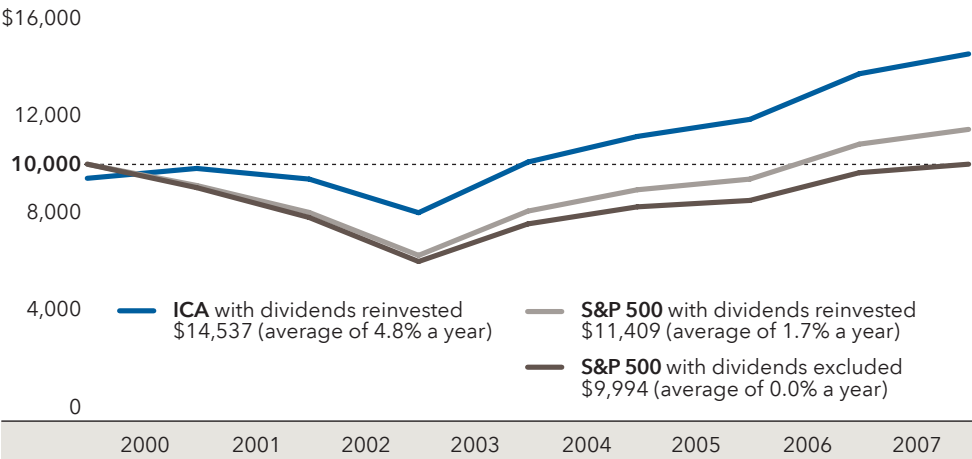
Before the 2007-2009 decline, the market had been relatively flat for the previous eight-year period. At the beginning of 2000, the S&P 500 index value was 1,469.25, and 2007 ended with a value of 1,468.36. However, a hypothetical investment in ICA, with dividends reinvested, would have seen an average annual total return of 4.8% during that period, while the S&P 500, with reinvested dividends, averaged only 1.7%.

Growth of a hypothetical \$10,000 investment in periods when the stock market was flat

December 31, 1967-December 31, 1978



December 31, 1999-December 31, 2007



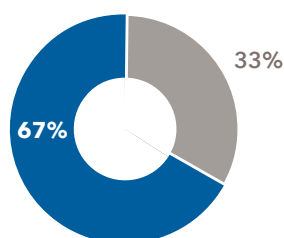
The S&P 500 is unmanaged and, therefore, has no expenses. Investors cannot invest directly in an index.

The benefit of time

Investors who have stayed in the fund through occasional (and inevitable) periods of declining stock prices historically have been rewarded for their long-term outlook.

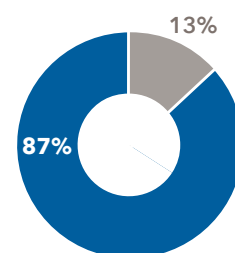
Here is ICA's record of positive results over calendar periods from January 1, 1934, through December 31, 2020. As you can see, one-year investments are more likely to experience negative results than are investments held for longer periods. If those short-term investors had held on for just two more years, they would have seen fewer than half as many negative periods. Note that every 10-year period has shown positive results.

One-year periods



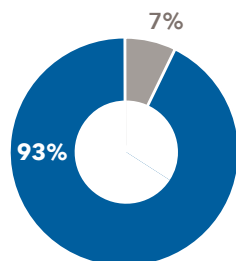
■ Positive periods: 58
■ Negative periods: 29

Three-year periods



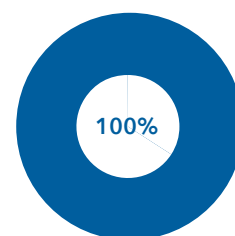
■ Positive periods: 74
■ Negative periods: 11

Five-year periods



■ Positive periods: 77
■ Negative periods: 6

10-year periods



■ Positive periods: 78
■ Negative periods: 0

It's important to stay invested through highs and lows.

Dividends have made the difference

Reinvested regular dividends can contribute significantly to a fund's returns; in fact, they account for 34% of ICA's total return over its lifetime.



Why are dividends so important?

- Dividends are a good indicator of a company's strength. The balance sheet and management's confidence in the company are factors in how investors value its stock.
- Dividends can provide a cushion during stock market declines. Investments that pay income have tended to be more stable, so dividends play a critical role in helping ICA balance risk and return.
- ICA has increased its dividends in 73 of the past 84 calendar years.* The long-term view integral to ICA's investment philosophy also extends to dividends. The managers do not simply look for current dividends, but also at the ability of a company to grow its dividends over time.

The chart at right illustrates, by decade, the actual value added by the reinvestment of dividends in ICA.

*ICA has paid dividends every year since 1936.

Figures shown are past results for Class A shares and are not predictive of results in future periods. Current and future results may be lower or higher than those shown. Prices and returns will vary, so investors may lose money. Investing for short periods makes losses more likely. Unless otherwise indicated, results shown are at the 5.75% maximum sales charge for Class A shares (3.50% for investments of \$100,000 or more) with all distributions reinvested. For current information and month-end results, visit capitalgroup.com.

Based on a \$1,000 investment in 1934, ICA would have generated \$451,006 in cash dividends. However, reinvesting all distributions would have added \$17.6 million to the account value.

Value of \$1,000 invested on 1/1/34

As of 12/31	Value (dividends reinvested)	-	Value (excluding dividends)	+	Dividend amount taken in cash	=	Value added by reinvesting dividends
1940	\$ 2,438		\$ 2,146		\$ 285		\$ 7
1950	7,661		4,519		1,592		1,550
1960	33,598		14,560		4,217		14,821
1970	90,797		30,742		10,211		49,844
1980	238,005		55,224		24,179		158,602
1990	1,040,843		159,883		65,885		815,075
2000	4,743,241		587,546		131,608		4,024,087
2010	6,482,680		649,678		257,101		5,575,901
2020	\$19,700,125		\$1,634,797		\$451,006		\$17,614,322

Account values and dividends taken in cash are rounded to the nearest dollar.

Growth over a wide variety of periods

ICA has persevered through market highs and lows, world conflicts and the ever-changing scope of technology.

What does “long term” mean to you? Ten years? Twenty? Fifty? ICA’s 87-year history can be used to illustrate the fund’s results over a variety of meaningful periods through December 31, 2020, starting with a hypothetical \$1,000 investment.

Over any calendar period this long	Here’s the best you would have done	Here’s the worst you would have done	And here’s the median
5 years	\$2,733 +22.3% a year (1995-1999)	\$675 -7.6% a year (1937-1941)	\$1,724 +11.5% a year (2016-2020)
10 years	\$5,169 +17.9% a year (1982-1991)	\$1,106 +1.0% a year (1999-2008)	\$2,962 +11.5% a year (1941-1950)
15 years	\$11,602 +17.8% a year (1975-1989)	\$2,141 +5.2% a year (2001-2015)	\$5,192 +11.6% a year (1991-2005)
20 years	\$22,427 +16.8% a year (1979-1998)	\$3,322 +6.2% a year (1999-2018)	\$9,589 +12.0% a year (1967-1986)
25 years	\$51,263 +17.1% a year (1975-1999)	\$8,280 +8.8% a year (1994-2018)	\$15,681 +11.6% a year (1968-1992)
30 years	\$60,232 +14.6% a year (1975-2004)	\$15,687 +9.6% a year (1990-2019)	\$29,285 +11.9% a year (1951-1980)
40 years	\$154,588 +13.4% a year (1958-1997)	\$43,750 +9.9% a year (1969-2008)	\$95,385 +12.1% a year (1967-2006)
50 years	\$673,050 +13.9% a year (1950-1999)	\$131,454 +10.2% a year (1969-2018)	\$328,231 +12.3% a year (1946-1995)

Investing for retirement



Bob and Cathy Quan began preparing for retirement 15 years ago with their first investment of \$1,000 a month in ICA. Their financial professional set up an Automatic Investment Plan to move money directly from their checking account into the fund.

Now looking ahead to 20 years in retirement, and aiming to preserve their principal, the Quans plan to make monthly withdrawals at an annual rate of 5% of their account value at each year-end, reinvesting their dividends and capital gain distributions.

It's impossible to predict how much money they will withdraw over the next 20 years, of course. But this chart shows how the plan would have worked if they had invested \$1,000 a month from 1986 through 2000, and then withdrew 5% a year over a 20-year period ended December 31, 2020. They would have taken a total of \$604,996 in withdrawals – and would still have \$942,792 left.

Regular investing does not ensure a profit or protect against loss. Investors should consider their willingness to keep investing when share prices are declining.

For illustrations of higher or lower withdrawal rates, please ask your financial professional.

* Cumulative volume discount applied when appropriate.

Year	Cumulative investment*	Value of account	Withdrawals
1986	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,957	–
1987	24,000	24,001	–
1988	36,000	39,139	–
1989	48,000	63,168	–
1990	60,000	75,423	–
1991	72,000	108,047	–
1992	84,000	127,771	–
1993	96,000	154,847	–
1994	108,000	166,666	–
1995	120,000	230,760	–
1996	132,000	288,174	–
1997	144,000	387,099	–
1998	156,000	488,968	–
1999	168,000	582,639	–
2000	180,000	616,049	–
2001		557,207	\$ 30,802
2002		450,470	27,860
2003		542,698	22,523
2004		566,713	27,135
2005		575,858	28,336
2006		636,674	28,793
2007		642,652	31,834
2008		394,050	32,133
2009		477,570	19,702
2010		502,936	23,878
2011		469,514	25,147
2012		518,235	23,476
2013		656,728	25,912
2014		701,665	32,836
2015		656,987	35,083
2016		717,548	32,849
2017		819,998	35,877
2018		728,796	41,000
2019		867,572	36,440
2020		942,792	43,379
		Total withdrawals: \$604,996	

Customizing withdrawals

Over time, your income needs will probably vary, so you should develop a plan that fits your circumstances. Here are a few ways to set up withdrawals, based on a hypothetical investment of \$100,000 over the 20-year period ended December 31, 2020:

Dividends in cash

\$52,453

\$268,474

Dividends in cash Ending value

Self-adjusting withdrawals

(Assumes monthly withdrawals at an annual rate of 5% of the previous year's account value.)

\$94,764

\$147,388

Total withdrawals Ending value

Fixed-amount withdrawals

(Assumes monthly withdrawals at an annual rate of 5% of the initial \$100,000 investment.)

\$100,000

\$116,632

Total withdrawals Ending value

Year	Dividends in cash	Ending value
2001	\$1,625	\$90,446
2002	1,653	75,820
2003	1,679	93,830
2004	1,692	101,212
2005	2,238	105,868
2006	2,498	120,101
2007	2,365	124,841
2008	2,576	79,414
2009	2,160	98,320
2010	2,122	106,693
2011	2,198	102,639
2012	2,728	115,860
2013	2,420	150,745
2014	2,978	165,904
2015	2,789	160,728
2016	3,299	180,717
2017	3,392	212,751
2018	3,903	195,234
2019	4,396	238,444
2020	3,742	268,474
Total dividends in cash: \$52,453		

Year	Withdrawals	Ending value
2001	\$5,000	\$87,109
2002	4,355	70,423
2003	3,521	84,841
2004	4,242	88,595
2005	4,430	90,025
2006	4,501	99,532
2007	4,977	100,467
2008	5,023	61,602
2009	3,080	74,659
2010	3,733	78,625
2011	3,931	73,400
2012	3,670	81,016
2013	4,051	102,667
2014	5,133	109,692
2015	5,485	102,708
2016	5,135	112,175
2017	5,609	128,191
2018	6,410	113,934
2019	5,697	135,629
2020	6,781	147,388
Total withdrawals: \$94,764		

Year	Withdrawals	Ending value
2001	\$5,000	\$87,109
2002	5,000	69,818
2003	5,000	82,350
2004	5,000	85,048
2005	5,000	85,635
2006	5,000	93,907
2007	5,000	94,483
2008	5,000	57,716
2009	5,000	67,420
2010	5,000	69,194
2011	5,000	63,088
2012	5,000	67,706
2013	5,000	83,956
2014	5,000	88,860
2015	5,000	82,652
2016	5,000	89,339
2017	5,000	101,514
2018	5,000	90,293
2019	5,000	106,953
2020	5,000	116,632
Total withdrawals: \$100,000		

An 87-year history of investment success

Year	ICA's total return	Stock market	Consumer prices	Year	ICA's total return	Stock market	Consumer prices
1934	+25.4%	-1.5%	+1.5%	1979	+19.2%	+18.6%	+13.3%
1935	+83.1	+47.7	+3.0	1980	+21.2	+32.5	+12.5
1936	+45.8	+33.8	+1.4	1981	+0.9	-4.9	+8.9
1937	-38.5	-35.0	+2.9	1982	+33.8	+21.5	+3.8
1938	+27.6	+31.0	-2.8	1983	+20.2	+22.6	+3.8
1939	+0.8	-0.4	0.0	1984	+6.7	+6.3	+3.9
1940	-2.4	-9.8	+0.7	1985	+33.4	+31.7	+3.8
1941	-7.4	-11.6	+9.9	1986	+21.7	+18.7	+1.1
1942	+16.8	+20.4	+9.0	1987	+5.4	+5.3	+4.4
1943	+32.8	+25.8	+3.0	1988	+13.3	+16.6	+4.4
1944	+23.3	+19.7	+2.3	1989	+29.4	+31.7	+4.6
1945	+36.8	+36.4	+2.2	1990	+0.7	-3.1	+6.1
1946	-2.4	-8.1	+18.1	1991	+26.5	+30.5	+3.1
1947	+0.9	+5.7	+8.8	1992	+7.0	+7.6	+2.9
1948	+0.4	+5.4	+3.0	1993	+11.6	+10.1	+2.7
1949	+9.4	+18.8	-2.1	1994	+0.2	+1.3	+2.7
1950	+19.8	+31.7	+5.9	1995	+30.6	+37.6	+2.5
1951	+17.8	+24.0	+6.0	1996	+19.3	+23.0	+3.3
1952	+12.2	+18.3	+0.8	1997	+29.8	+33.4	+1.7
1953	+0.4	-1.0	+0.7	1998	+22.9	+28.6	+1.6
1954	+56.1	+52.6	-0.7	1999	+16.6	+21.0	+2.7
1955	+25.4	+31.5	+0.4	2000	+3.8	-9.1	+3.4
1956	+10.8	+6.5	+3.0	2001	-4.6	-11.9	+1.6
1957	-11.9	-10.8	+2.9	2002	-14.5	-22.1	+2.4
1958	+44.8	+43.3	+1.8	2003	+26.3	+28.7	+1.9
1959	+14.2	+12.0	+1.7	2004	+9.8	+10.9	+3.3
1960	+4.5	+0.5	+1.4	2005	+6.9	+4.9	+3.4
1961	+23.1	+26.9	+0.7	2006	+15.9	+15.8	+2.5
1962	-13.2	-8.7	+1.3	2007	+5.9	+5.5	+4.1
1963	+22.9	+22.8	+1.6	2008	-34.7	-37.0	+0.1
1964	+16.3	+16.5	+1.0	2009	+27.2	+26.5	+2.7
1965	+26.9	+12.5	+1.9	2010	+10.9	+15.1	+1.5
1966	+1.0	-10.1	+3.5	2011	-1.8	+2.1	+3.0
1967	+28.9	+24.0	+3.0	2012	+15.6	+16.0	+1.7
1968	+17.0	+11.1	+4.7	2013	+32.4	+32.4	+1.5
1969	-10.7	-8.4	+6.2	2014	+12.1	+13.7	+0.8
1970	+2.6	+3.9	+5.6	2015	-1.4	+1.4	+0.7
1971	+17.0	+14.3	+3.3	2016	+14.6	+12.0	+2.1
1972	+15.9	+19.0	+3.4	2017	+19.7	+21.8	+2.1
1973	-16.8	-14.7	+8.7	2018	-6.5	-4.4	+1.9
1974	-17.9	-26.5	+12.3	2019	+24.5	+31.5	+2.3
1975	+35.4	+37.2	+6.9	2020	+14.5	+18.4	+1.4
1976	+29.6	+23.9	+4.9	87-year average annual total returns through 12/31/20			
1977	-2.6	-7.2	+6.7	+12.1% +11.0% +3.5%			
1978	+14.7	+6.6	+9.0	Number of best years			
				33 32 22			

Sources – Stock market: S&P 500, with reinvestment of dividends; consumer prices: Consumer Price Index as measured by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Results for ICA are shown at net asset value with all distributions reinvested.

What makes ICA a rare opportunity

This growth-and-income fund has outshone many individual stocks, and it would be difficult to find a company that could match its statistics:

in the same business for **87** years

net assets of approximately
\$109 billion, with \$4.2 billion in reserves of cash or cash equivalents

invested in such diverse industries as software, interactive media & services, semiconductors & semiconductor equipment, pharmaceuticals and media

a management team of **nine portfolio managers** with a median eight years of experience with the fund

research offices located throughout the United States, Europe and Asia

paid a dividend every year since **1936**

increased regular dividends in 73 of the past 84 calendar years (if dividends were taken in cash and capital gains were reinvested, not including special dividends)



All figures are as of December 31, 2020, except for portfolio manager information, which is as of the fund's prospectus dated March 1, 2021. ICA has paid dividends every year since 1936.

The Capital Advantage[®]

Since 1931, Capital Group, home of American Funds, has helped investors pursue long-term investment success. Our consistent approach – in combination with The Capital SystemSM – has resulted in superior outcomes.

Aligned with investor success

We base our decisions on a long-term perspective, which we believe aligns our goals with the interests of our clients. Our portfolio managers average 27 years of investment industry experience, including 21 years at our company, reflecting a career commitment to our long-term approach.¹

The Capital System

The Capital System combines individual accountability with teamwork. Funds using The Capital System are divided into portions that are managed independently by investment professionals with diverse backgrounds, ages and investment approaches. An extensive global research effort is the backbone of our system.

American Funds' superior outcomes

Equity funds have beaten their Lipper peer indexes in 88% of 10-year periods and 96% of 20-year periods.² Fixed income funds have helped investors achieve diversification through attention to correlation between bonds and equities.³ Fund management fees have been among the lowest in the industry.⁴

¹ Investment industry experience as of December 31, 2020.

² Based on Class A share results at net asset value for rolling periods through December 31, 2020. Periods covered are the shorter of the fund's lifetime or since the comparable Lipper index inception date (except Capital Income Builder and SMALLCAP World Fund, for which the Lipper average was used). Expenses differ for each share class, so results will vary. Visit capitalgroup.com for more information on specific expense adjustments and the actual dates of first sale.

³ Based on Class A share results at net asset value as of December 31, 2020. Thirteen of the 17 fixed income American Funds that have been in existence for the three-year period showed a three-year correlation below 0.3. Standard & Poor's 500 Index was used as an equity market proxy. Correlation based on monthly total returns. Correlation is a statistical measure of how two securities move in relation to each other. A correlation ranges from -1 to 1. A positive correlation close to 1 implies that as one security moves, either up or down, the other security will move in "lockstep," in the same direction. A negative correlation close to -1 indicates that the securities have moved in the opposite direction.

⁴ On average, our management fees were in the lowest quintile 66% of the time, based on the 20-year period ended December 31, 2020, versus comparable Lipper categories, excluding funds of funds.

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Investors should carefully consider investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses. This and other important information is contained in the fund prospectuses and summary prospectuses, which can be obtained from a financial professional and should be read carefully before investing. If used after March 31, 2021, this brochure must be accompanied by a current American Funds quarterly statistical update.

Investment results assume all distributions are reinvested and reflect applicable fees and expenses. The expense ratio (shown on the mountain chart) is as of the fund's prospectus available at the time of publication. When applicable, investment results reflect fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements, without which results would have been lower. Please see capitalgroup.com for more information.

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