T. Rowe Price

INSIGHTS

Growth over time

Taking a long-term view can help position your portfolio for success in any market. **PAGE 12**

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Welcome Shareholder

For investors seeking long-term growth, it's important to adopt an approach that can position your portfolio for success in any market environment, whether sticky inflation, geopolitical conflict, or an upcoming U.S. election. Uncertain conditions may be challenging, but they can also uncover opportunities for those who are prepared.

Our cover story, "Growth over time," discusses how having an investment plan in place, being patient, and making incremental adjustments along the way can help keep your financial goals on track. In these pages, we also explore a variety of topics from maximizing your Social Security benefits and boosting your retirement savings to uncovering new opportunities in fixed income.

We hope you find this issue both practical and informative as you navigate your investment journey. Thank you for placing your trust in T. Rowe Price.

Philip Korenman
Head of T. Rowe Price Individual Investors

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*Call **1-800-401-1788** to request a prospectus or summary prospectus; each includes investment objectives, risks, fees, expenses, and other information that you should read and consider carefully before investing. All data included in this issue are as of 6/30/24, unless otherwise indicated. For up-to-date standardized returns, visit **troweprice.com/performance**.*

The printing release date for the Fall 2024 issue was in mid-August.

COVER PHOTOGRAPH BY CANYALICN

Boost your savings

Cutting spending now can help you save more for the future.

While many investors know they should—or could—be saving more for retirement, they might struggle with how to do so. If you want to save more and need to find room in your current budget, here are some steps you can take.

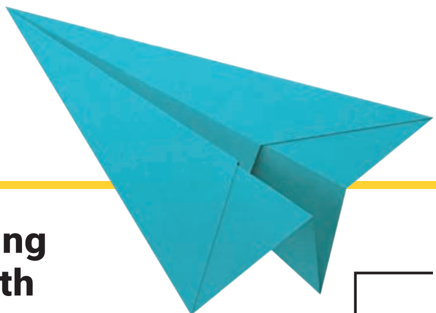
Establish a baseline for what you're earning, saving, and spending. Our budget worksheet can help you get started (troweprice.com/budgetworksheet). Based on your inputs, the worksheet will calculate your monthly surplus or deficit, as well as provide instructions for determining your savings rate.

Look for ways to trim expenses in each of the spending categories on the worksheet. For specific ideas about expenses to cut, check out our article, "Spend Less to Save More" at troweprice.com/spendlesstosavemore.

Identify a dollar amount you can redirect from your expenses to savings, based on your savings rate and spending observations, then take steps to reduce or eliminate the selected expenses.

Set up automated investments to ensure you save money before you can be tempted to spend it.

Aim to save **at least 15%** of your gross income between employee and employer contributions.

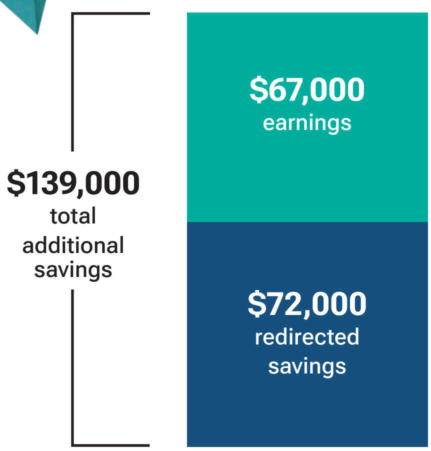


The power of saving $300 more a month

Amanda is 45 years old, and after examining her budget, she finds that by cancelling several unused subscriptions, ordering carryout once per week (instead of twice), and restructuring her cable/internet and cellphone services, she can save $300 more per month.

Amanda makes the necessary changes and begins redirecting $300 per month to an investment account earning an average after-tax return of 6% per year.

By age 65, Amanda has saved an additional $139,000 ($72,000 in redirected savings and $67,000 in earnings). With a higher monthly investment amount or average return, the results would be even more significant.



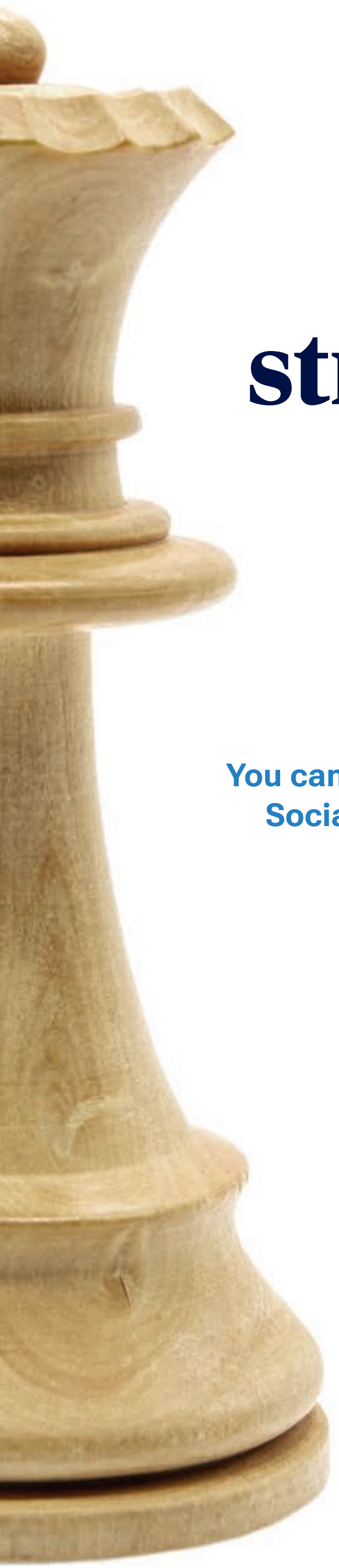
NEXT STEPS

Learn more about how you can achieve and enjoy the retirement lifestyle you envision at **troweprice.com/retirement** or call a Financial Consultant at **1-800-401-5340**.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ROTTENMAN

This example is for illustrative purposes only and is not meant to represent the performance of any specific investment option. The assumptions used may not reflect actual market conditions or your specific circumstances. Ending dollar figure has been rounded to the nearest thousand and assumes a $0 starting balance and consistent monthly investments at the end of each month for the years specified. All investments involve risk, including possible loss of principal.

Ask T. Rowe Price



Can I create a smarter strategy for claiming Social Security?

You can use the complicated rules of Social Security to your advantage.

Q: What is the best age to take my benefits?

A: Social Security assigns you a full retirement age (FRA) based on your birth year. At your FRA, the amount of your monthly benefit is called your primary insurance amount (PIA). However, PIA isn't the maximum you can receive—waiting until age 70 to start collecting increases the benefits based on your own earnings history. If you choose to wait until 70 to take your Social Security benefits, your monthly benefit will increase by 24%–32% from what it would have been at FRA.

Social Security also allows you to start collecting benefits as early as age 62. But if you start collecting benefits at 62 instead of at your FRA, your monthly benefits would permanently decrease by 25%–30% depending on your birth year.

You can find your full retirement age at ssa.gov/benefits/retirement/planner/agereduction.html.

Starting your benefits at age 70 could increase monthly payments by 2x.

Q: Should life expectancy play a role in my strategy?

A: Yes, a thoughtful strategy includes life expectancy. Obviously, we don't know exactly how long we will live. An actuarial table may suggest that, on average, people who have made it to age 62 can expect to live into their mid-80s. You might adjust your estimate based on your health, family history, and other factors.

In addition to an average or expected life span, you should think about a "plan to" age. That age is a conservative estimate for how long your household assets and income will potentially need to last in the case that you live a longer-than-average life.

A thoughtful plan-to age accounts for the risk that you—or your spouse—live much longer than expected. Getting the greatest possible monthly benefit can mean a better standard of living should you outlive your other resources. It can also ensure that your surviving spouse is left with the most Social Security income possible upon your passing.

Q: Are there ways to maximize my benefits if I'm married?

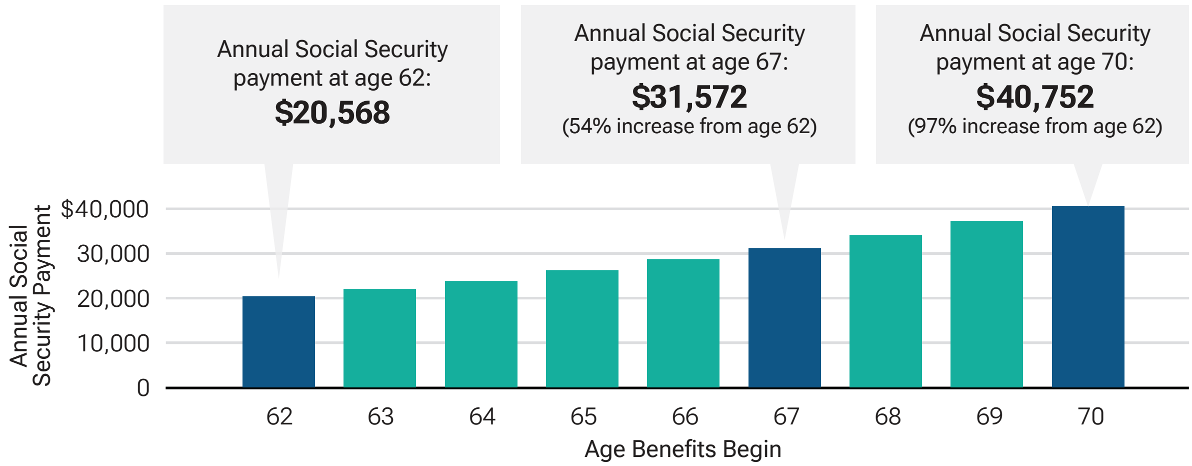
A: Since there are two of you, you must carefully think about how a Social Security claiming strategy could perform given various life expectancies and how that strategy will affect the longer-living spouse. Your filing choices affect spousal benefits (available when you're both living) and survivor benefit options (when one of you has passed away).

Spousal benefits are Social Security benefits that one spouse may be able to draw based on the other spouse's

PHOTOGRAPH BY IURII KACHKOVSKYI

The real benefits of delaying Social Security

Each year you delay claiming your benefits may translate to a permanent increase in your benefit amount.



Social Security payments calculated using the Quick Calculator on the ssa.gov website. Assumes an individual who is age 62 in 2024 (with a full retirement age of 67 years) and is continuing to work and earn $100,000 each year until claiming benefits. All figures reflect current dollars. Actual benefits would be higher to reflect future adjustments for inflation.

earning record. And spousal benefits can mean substantially more in joint lifetime cumulative benefits. A spousal benefit can be as much as 50% of the higher-earning spouse's FRA benefit—depending on when they claim. Note that if the lower-earning spouse claims any benefits before FRA, the spousal benefit is reduced, but claiming after FRA does not result in any delayed credits. And that person can't get spousal benefits until the higher earner claims.

There are two ways that spousal benefits might be available to you or your spouse. The lower-earning spouse might be able to:

- Apply for a spousal benefit instead of their own (because the spousal benefit is higher).
- Apply for their own benefit then switch to a higher spousal benefit later.

If the lower-earning spouse has a PIA benefit greater than half the PIA of the higher-earning spouse, neither partner will be able to receive spousal benefits. This is because a person will always be paid their own benefit if it's higher than the spousal benefit. On the other hand, if the lower-earning spouse's PIA benefit is less than half of the higher-earning spouse, they will qualify for a spousal benefit, but only once the higher earner has claimed their own benefits. To maximize combined benefits, it's usually best for the higher-earning spouse to claim at age 70.

Another consideration for married couples is survivor benefits, which can protect the financial stability of the longer-to-live spouse. When one spouse passes away, only the larger of the two Social Security benefits will remain. Therefore, with a smart strategy, a couple can maximize the higher earner's benefit and leverage it to financially protect the life of the longest to live—regardless of who that is. ■

NEXT STEPS

Our Social Security Optimizer tool can help you better understand your choices and maximize your strategy. Find it at **troweprice.com/socialsecurityoptimizer**.

How elections impact the stock market

Exploring the historical relationship between U.S. presidential elections and the performance of the broader U.S. equity market.

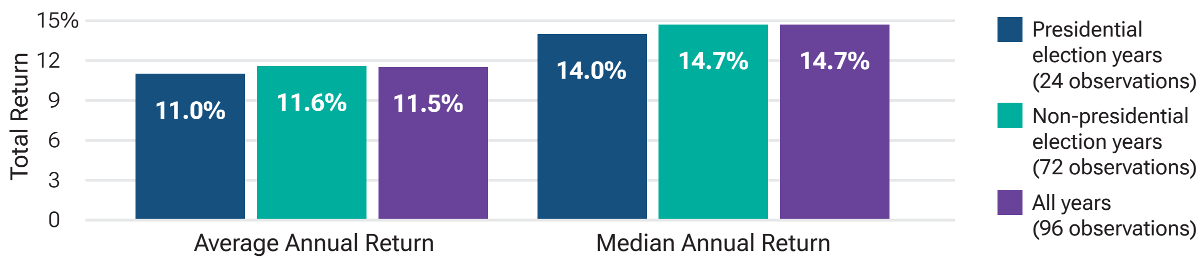
The presidential election—and what it means for the markets—looms large in the minds of investors both in the U.S. and abroad. Looking back at nearly 100 years of data can help investors understand broad trends around U.S. presidential election years and how they stack up to other years.

Only 24 presidential elections have occurred since 1927, so it's difficult to draw statistically significant conclusions about how those elections impacted stock market returns.

Moreover, we would caution against focusing on a single variable that ignores

Average and median returns for presidential election and other years

Total returns for the S&P 500 were modestly lower in presidential election years.



December 31, 1927, to December 31, 2023.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

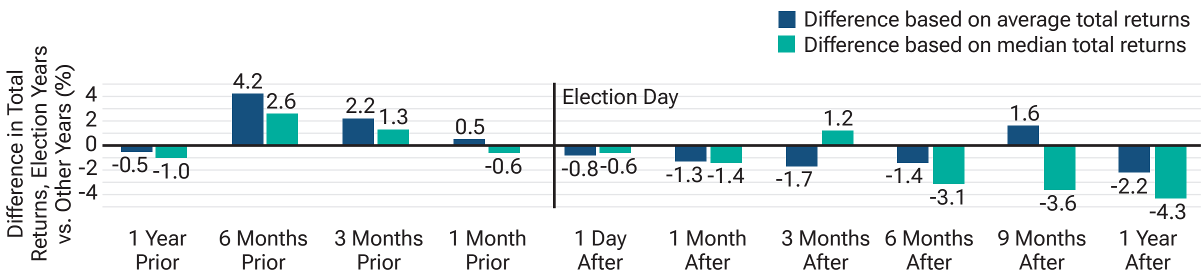
Source: T. Rowe Price analysis of data from Bloomberg Finance L.P. **See Additional Disclosure.**

Total returns include gross dividends. We use average and median annual returns to see if an outlier data point might be skewing the results. Conclusions are stronger when the average and median returns are either both positive or both negative.

ILLUSTRATION BY BILBO BAGGINS

Average returns before and after presidential elections

S&P 500 returns were generally higher leading up to a presidential election, but tend dip in the months following Election Day.



December 31, 1927, to December 31, 2023. **Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.**

Source: T. Rowe Price analysis of data from Bloomberg Finance L.P. **See Additional Disclosure.**

Total returns include gross dividends and are cumulative for the specified period before and after the election. We used the first Tuesday of November (Election Day in the U.S.) as the cutoff date in all other years to account for seasonality. The one-year return prior to the 1928 election was excluded from the sample because of a lack of available data.

the many other factors that historically have driven market returns. Some of the elections in our sample occurred in years when major economic developments—not the elections themselves—had an outsized influence on equity markets.

Examples include the Great Depression (1932), World War II (1940 and 1944), the bursting of the technology bubble (2000), the global financial crisis (2008), and the coronavirus pandemic (2020).

Timing of presidential elections and market returns

Average and median total returns for the S&P 500 Index were modestly lower in presidential election years compared with both nonelection years and with the long-term average for the past 96 years of market performance (see "Average and median returns for presidential election and other years").

Historical data also show that S&P 500 returns were generally higher in the runup to a presidential election than in nonelection years (see "Average returns before and after presidential elections"). After Election Day, however, stock market returns over the one-, six-, and 12-month periods were meaningfully lower than in corresponding periods. Perhaps this is because the market took the newly elected president's campaign promises for granted and was disappointed by what ultimately came to pass in the months immediately following the election.

Presidential elections and volatility

Volatility is a measure of how much and how quickly prices move over a given span of time. Except for the 12 months before and the month immediately following the election, the S&P 500 experienced less volatility, on average, in and around election years compared with similar periods in nonelection years. These historical volatility trends may come as a bit of a surprise given the general uncertainty that tends to loom around presidential elections.

Historical data suggest that stock market volatility has experienced similar seasonal effects across all years. In both election and

nonelection years, volatility was generally higher in the lead-up to the first Tuesday in November (the date of U.S. presidential elections) than in the corresponding periods after. Perhaps less surprisingly, in presidential election years, the average level of market volatility was at its highest in the one month and three months prior to Election Day.

Focus on the economy and fundamentals

Narratives highlighting correlations between the results of U.S. presidential elections and stock market performance often circulate in the runup to Election Day. T. Rowe Price's quantitative analysis of historical data suggests that relationships do exist.

For example, average returns for the S&P 500 have been modestly lower in presidential election years relative to other years. Market volatility was also lower, on average, in many of the periods in and around past presidential elections.

Still, past performance does not guarantee future results, and investors should be cautious about altering their investment strategy based simply on what could happen. We believe that investment decisions should be based on longer-term fundamentals, not near-term political outcomes. Trying to time the market based on short-term dynamics, political or otherwise, is extraordinarily difficult.

Policy matters

In terms of the economy and industry-level business fundamentals, government policy will matter to an extent, as will the makeup of Congress after the elections. When one party controls the White House and has majorities in the Senate and House of Representatives, the potential to pass meaningful legislative changes is greater. Divided government, on the other hand, usually makes it harder to push through sweeping changes. ■

NEXT STEPS

This U.S. election season, as in the past, T. Rowe Price analysts will publish a steady stream of content exploring key policy issues for the U.S. and global economies, the financial markets, and specific industries. Explore these insights at **troweprice.com/insights**.

ILLUSTRATION BY BILBO BAGGINS

Additional Disclosure

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Mutual Fund Spotlight

The power of low duration bonds

A solution for investors seeking higher returns than money market investments.

Investors often overlook the strategic importance of the cash allocation within their portfolios. With many turning to traditional money market funds due to their focus on preservation and liquidity, they might overlook alternatives like low duration* bond funds that potentially offer incrementally higher yields. The T. Rowe Price Ultra Short-Term Bond Fund (TRBUX) can be a strategic allocation for investors without immediate liquidity needs looking to enhance returns while managing liquidity and risk.

Money market funds and their limitations

Assets in money market funds surged to over $6 trillion as of June 2024, according to the Investment Company Institute (ICI). Despite their popularity, money market funds come with their own set of limitations. These funds must adhere to stringent Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) regulations, which include constraints on liquidity and maturity. The weighted average maturity (WAM) of money market funds is capped at 60 days, making it challenging to lock in higher yields for extended periods.

The benefits of ultra short-term bond funds

Unlike traditional money market funds, ultra short-term bond funds, such as the T. Rowe Price Ultra Short-Term Bond Fund, have the flexibility to invest in a wider range of low duration instruments. These funds target higher yields through a diverse investment approach, moving beyond the confines of government-backed securities. The flexibility to invest in instruments maturing in up to three years allows these funds to lock in higher yields, offering a potential advantage over traditional money market funds by taking on additional risk.

Risks and considerations

While pursuing higher yields, it is important to acknowledge the inherent risks associated with ultra short-term bond funds. These include credit risk, liquidity risk, call risk, and interest rate risk. (Although, ultra short-term bond funds still have lower interest rate risk than longer-duration bonds.) The flexibility in investment holdings also means there is more variability in principal value compared with money market funds.

The role of credit analysis

As economic conditions fluctuate and the potential for recession looms, strong fundamental credit analysis becomes crucial. T. Rowe Price leverages its team of global credit analysts to navigate these challenges and make informed investment decisions. This expertise

T. Rowe Price Ultra Short-Term Bond Fund

Average annual total returns as of June 30, 2024

1 Year	5 Year	10 Year
6.76%	2.64%	2.15%

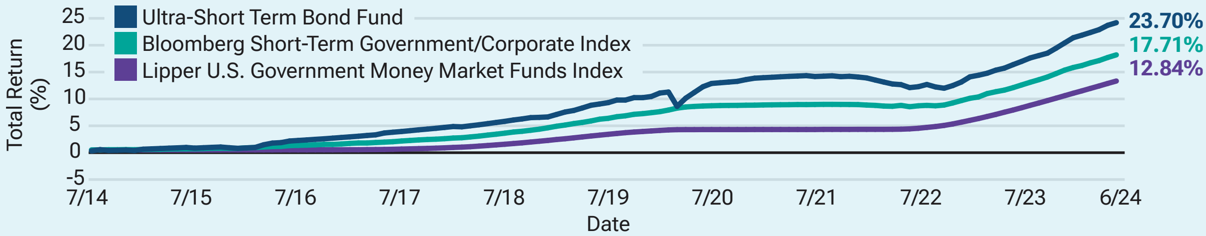
As of June 30, 2024. Performance data quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. To obtain the most recent month-end performance, visit troweprice.com.

Gross expense ratio: 0.33%. Returns are for Investor Class.

Total return figures include changes in principal value, reinvested dividends, and capital gain distributions.

Fund cumulative return outpaced money market funds

As of June 30, 2024, the T. Rowe Price Ultra Short-Term Bond Fund reported a cumulative total return of 23.70% over the 10-year period, outperforming traditional money market funds.



As of June 30, 2024. **Performance data quoted represent past performance and do not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. To obtain the most recent month-end performance, visit troweprice.com.**

Index data are for illustrative purposes only and are not indicative of any specific investment. Investors cannot invest directly in an index. The Lipper U.S. Government Money Market Funds Index is not a benchmark for the fund and is included for illustrative purposes only.

Sources: T. Rowe Price, Bloomberg Index Services Limited, Lipper.

is essential to managing the additional credit and interest rate risks associated with low duration bond funds.

Making strategic decisions

For investors looking to optimize their cash allocations, considering low duration bonds like the T. Rowe Price Ultra Short-Term Bond Fund may be a fruitful strategy. These funds offer an attractive balance of yield and risk, particularly for those without immediate liquidity needs. However, it is essential to stay informed or work with a financial advisor to ensure that investment choices align with individual risk tolerance and long-term financial goals.

By understanding the benefits and risks of funds, such as the T. Rowe Price Ultra Short-Term Bond Fund, investors can make more strategic decisions to maximize their return potential while effectively managing risk. ■

NEXT STEPS

Learn more about the T. Rowe Price Ultra Short-Term Bond Fund at **troweprice.com/sbf** or call a Financial Consultant at **1-800-401-5251**.

*Duration measures a bond's sensitivity to changes in interest rates.

Risks: All investments are subject to risk, including possible loss of principal. Investments are not FDIC-insured.

Money market mutual funds: You could lose money by investing. Although money market funds typically seek to preserve the value of an investment at $1 per share, it cannot guarantee it will do so.

While **U.S. government-backed securities** generally are considered to be among the highest credit quality, they are subject to market risk. The primary source of risk is the possibility of rising interest rates, which generally cause bond prices, and a bond fund's share price, to fall.

Ultra short-term bond funds and short-term bond funds are subject to credit risk, liquidity risk, call risk, and interest rate risk. Yield and share price will vary with interest rate changes. The funds involve more risk than a money market mutual fund and are not subject to the same diversification and maturity standards. The net asset value will fluctuate, and investing in these products could result in the loss of principal.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. All charts and tables are shown for illustrative purposes only.

Reduce your exposure to cyber attacks

The increasing threat of fraud has become a significant concern in today's interconnected world.

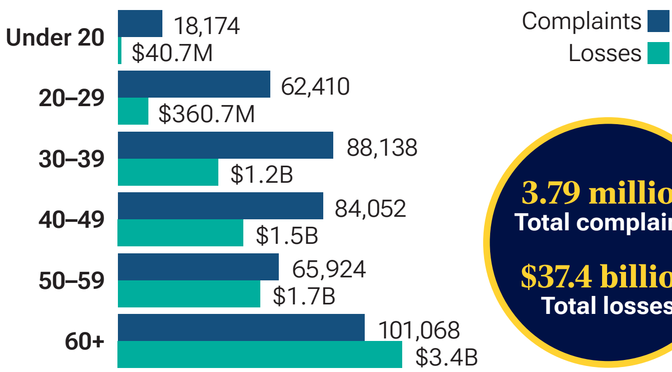
With the rapid advancement of technology, fraudsters have developed more sophisticated methods to manipulate, influence, or deceive people into making common security mistakes. Complaints to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center have nearly doubled since 2019. Cybercriminals often pose as other people on social media and networking platforms to steal data and spread misinformation. In addition, they employ attack techniques such as phishing (the use of malicious email), smishing (the use of text messages), and vishing (the use of telephone or voice-based attacks) to deceive individuals and businesses, leading to substantial financial losses and reputational damage.

As fraud evolves, continuous education and awareness are essential to mitigate its risk and protect your sensitive information. Here are practical tips you can use to help keep your financial accounts secure and avoid falling victim to a scam:

- Use a unique password for your T. Rowe Price accounts
- Enable two-factor authentication
- Regularly monitor your accounts
- Always verify any unsolicited emails prior to acting, even if it appears to come from someone you know. Cybercriminals can compromise email accounts and impersonate people you know to trick you into giving up account credentials and other sensitive information.

Complaints and losses by age

Among the most impacted are those age 60+, who have reported losing over twice as much than any other age group over the last five years.



3.79 million
Total complaints

$37.4 billion
Total losses

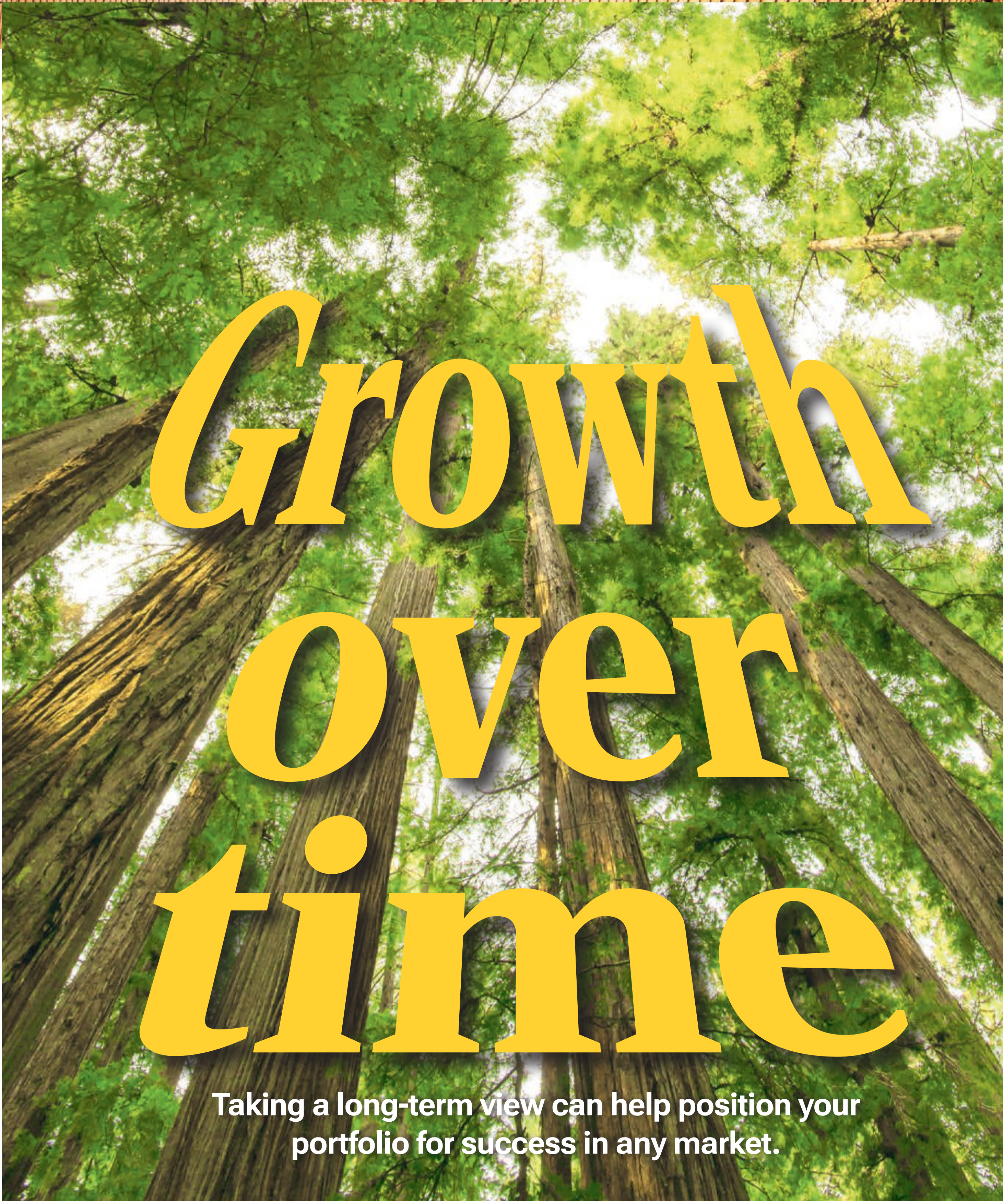
- Never reply directly to any suspicious message. Always follow-up through another means of communication, such as a phone call or alternative email address to validate the information.

Be deliberate in reducing your exposure to cyber attacks by detecting and avoiding attack techniques.

NEXT STEPS
Learn more about how to protect yourself from fraud at **troweprice.com/security**.

Source: https://www.ic3.gov/Media/PDF/AnnualReport/2023_IC3Report.pdf

Not all complaints include an associated age range—those without this information are excluded from this table.
Additional Disclosure As appropriate, complaints are reviewed by IC3 analysts, who apply a crime type and adjust the total loss. Crime types and losses can be variable and can evolve based upon investigative or analytical proceedings. Complainant/entity is identified as the individual filing a complaint. Some complainants may have filed more than once, creating a possible duplicate complaint. Complaint counts represent the number of individual complaints received from each state and do not represent the number of individuals filing a complaint.



Growth over time

Taking a long-term view can help position your portfolio for success in any market.

Investors have been confronted with heightened market uncertainty and interest rates above pre-pandemic levels. While these conditions pose challenges, they also present unique opportunities for those who are prepared to adopt a strategic, long-term approach to investing.

Amid this prevailing uncertainty, the case for long-term investing remains compelling. Attempting to time the market, especially during periods of heightened volatility, is often more detrimental than beneficial. Instead, planning ahead, being patient, and considering smaller adjustments along the way can help keep your financial goals on track. During times of economic uncertainty, it's important to focus on the things that can be controlled.

1 Maintain a long-term perspective

When investing for longer-term goals, understand that whatever is happening in the headlines may not be happening in your account. Time smooths out market fluctuations, which can help investors put many concerns into context. For instance, the S&P 500 Index has experienced double-digit annual losses in five of the last 50 years (12/31/73–12/31/23). While one-year returns may fluctuate dramatically, over any cumulative rolling 10-year period during that time, the S&P 500 has not experienced double-digit losses. And stocks have never lost ground, double-digit or otherwise, in any rolling 15-calendar year period over the last 50 years (see "Look at the stock market through a 15-year lens").

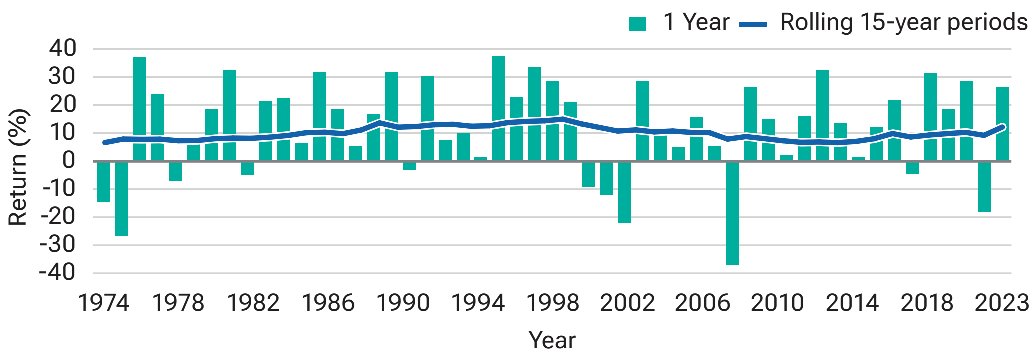
Therefore, for a long-term goal, investors can feel more confident holding on to stocks during periods of market volatility, even if they experience short-term declines. (Past performance cannot guarantee future results. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.)

2 Reassess asset allocation to reduce investment risk

Investors may not be able to control the markets, but they can control their asset allocation. Stocks have the most growth potential over the long term, but history shows they are also more affected by short-term market volatility.

Look at the stock market through a 15-year lens

Stocks have never experienced losses in any rolling 15-calendar year period over the last 50 years.



Sources: T. Rowe Price, created with Zephyr StyleADVISOR, and S&P. See **Additional Disclosure** on last page of this article. Price return calculations include dividends and capital gains. Annual returns began in calendar year 1974. Rolling 15-calendar year annualized returns began calendar year 1960. **Past performance cannot guarantee future results.** It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Chart is for illustrative purposes only.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MILLERCD8; CANYALICN

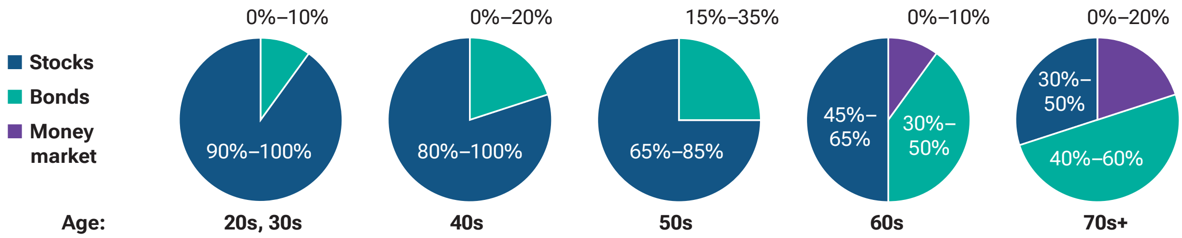
When investors are in their 20s, 30s, or even 40s, they have time on their side, which will allow them to withstand and bounce back from volatility. An investment portfolio that's 80% to 100% stocks could be reasonable. As investors get closer to retirement, they should start to introduce more bonds into the mix. Generally, bonds have provided a buffer to dampen short-term market fluctuations and historical volatility, resulting in a more balanced investment approach.

The key consideration when determining an asset allocation is how an individual's investment mix will impact their lifestyle in the near term. Some people may feel the need to take some kind of action following a stock market downturn. But if you have an asset allocation appropriate for your time horizon, the best action may be to be patient.

One way to assess if your current allocation is for you is by asking yourself: If my investment portfolio value dropped significantly today, would it impact my near-term lifestyle? The answer to this question can help investors put together an appropriate asset allocation for their circumstances. For example, for those with many years until retirement, that answer may be "no." For those closer to or in retirement, a significant drop could be concerning, and they might need to pull back on stocks and add bonds to their investment portfolio.

Sample asset allocations by age

In general, the longer your time horizon, the more of your portfolio you should hold in stocks. As investors get closer to and are in retirement, adding bonds can help dampen short-term ups and downs of the market while still providing growth opportunity over a retirement that could last decades.



In evaluating equity exposure, consider other assets, income, and investments (e.g., equity in a home, Social Security benefits, individual retirement plan investments, savings accounts, and interests in other qualified and nonqualified plans) in addition to interests in a particular plan or IRA.

These allocations are age-based only and do not take risk tolerance into account. Our asset allocation models are designed to meet the needs of a hypothetical investor with an assumed retirement age of 65 and a withdrawal horizon of 30 years. The model asset allocations are based upon analysis that seeks to balance long-term return potential with anticipated short-term volatility. The model reflects our view of appropriate levels of trade-off between potential return and short-term volatility for investors of certain ages or time frames. The longer the time frame for investing, the higher the allocation is to stocks (and the higher the volatility) versus bonds or cash.

Limitations: While the asset allocation models have been designed with reasonable assumptions and methods, the tool provides models based on the needs of hypothetical investors only and has certain limitations: The models do not take into account individual circumstances or preferences, and the model displayed for your investment goal and/or age may not align with your accumulation time frame, withdrawal horizon, or view of the appropriate levels of trade-off between potential return and short-term volatility. Investing consistent with a model allocation does not protect against losses or guarantee future results. Please be sure to take other assets, income, and investments into consideration in reviewing results that do not incorporate that information. Other T. Rowe Price educational tools or advice services use different assumptions and methods and may yield different outcomes.

PHOTOGRAPH BY CANYALICN

3 Adjust saving and spending amid stock volatility

Another factor investors can control is how much they're saving and spending. In the earlier stages of saving for retirement, a stock market downturn can be advantageous, because buying shares at lower prices can mean greater potential for long-term growth. This may require some discipline and patience, however, as historically, it has taken three to five years for stocks to recover from a bear market. Automating contributions can help investors keep their savings on track by reducing the likelihood that they'll make sudden changes in response to stock market conditions.

If an investor is planning to retire soon or is already in retirement, their spending is a powerful lever that can help them weather a down stock market. Small spending adjustments could garner a large payoff. Investors should assess their budget and determine where they might be able to cut expenses or put off larger purchases if the markets take a turn.

4 Create a cash contingency

You can't predict future volatility levels of the market, and investments may be impacted at any time by events and factors that are out of your control. For retirees, a cash contingency could be used as an alternative to fund living expenses if there is an extended stock market downturn. Investors can draw from this account instead of having to sell investments at an inopportune time, locking in a loss. Considering that a 60% stock/40% bond investment portfolio recovered within two years during the last two bear markets, it may be reasonable for retirees to have one to two years of living expenses in a contingent cash account.

5 Be flexible and prepared for future market volatility

It's important for investors to consider all their options and think of ways in which they're willing to be more flexible. Should the market turn when they'd planned to retire, could they continue to work for a couple more years? If newly retired, could they find part-time work to supplement their income? And if the market volatility were strong and sustained, leading to greater economic uncertainty, would they be prepared if they were to lose their job? For all these reasons, they should keep up with connections, continue to build a network, and refresh their résumé.

We might not know when market volatility may occur or how long a downturn may persist, but having a plan in place and being willing to make small adjustments can help investors maintain control. ■

NEXT STEPS

See how your current portfolio measures up to a Target Asset Allocation with our new Portfolio Optimizer tool at **troweprice.com/portfoliooptimizer** or call a Financial Consultant at **1-800-541-1574**.

Additional Disclosure

All investments involve risk, including possible loss of principal.

Updates

529 plans managed by T. Rowe Price

For over 20 years, T. Rowe Price has managed three 529 college savings plans that have helped families save for a brighter future. T. Rowe Price is committed to helping you choose the right path for one of the most important investment decisions that families face today, saving for future education. Our 529 plans offer benefits such as:

- Investment options, including enrollment-based and fixed portfolios
- Recurring contributions with an option to set up annual automatic increases to the amount contributed
- An online gifting portal that makes it easy for friends and family to contribute to your account

NEXT STEPS
Learn more by visiting **troweprice.com/college**.

Be sure to review any 529 college savings plan offered by your home state or your beneficiary's home state, as there may be state tax or other state benefits, such as financial aid, scholarship funds, and protection from creditors that are only available for investments in the home state's plan. Be sure to read the college savings plan's disclosure document, which includes investment objectives, risks, fees, charges and expenses, and other information that you should read and consider carefully before investing.

Please take a brief survey to help us improve your experience

In order to provide you with the best possible experience, we are conducting a brief survey about our T. Rowe Price Insights magazine and other financial content. The survey will take about 3–5 minutes to complete, and your responses will be kept confidential. We value your feedback as we continue to evolve the tools and resources we make available to you.

NEXT STEPS
Take the survey at **troweprice.com/insightssurvey**.

PHOTOGRAPH BY LEIGH TRAIL

Maximize your charitable giving

A tax-smart strategy can help you make the most of your contributions.

Donors typically have a strong commitment to philanthropy and a desire to support the causes they care about. And tax deductions for charitable contributions provide an important benefit within a financial strategy for charitable contributions. Making strategic choices about how you donate can help optimize your contributions.

Donate long-term appreciated securities, which would allow the donors to deduct the fair market value of their contribution and avoid potentially significant capital gains taxes on those assets.

Combine two years' worth of contributions into one tax year, which could result in a higher total itemized deduction for the donors in that year above the applicable standard deduction.

Leverage a donor-advised fund, which allows donors to combine multiple years of giving into one tax year, along with the option to spread out distributions to charities over multiple years.* In the meantime, any balance in the account has the potential for tax-free growth. ■

How DAFs make giving easier

Donor-advised funds (DAFs) are public charities that accept irrevocable gifts, invest those gifts for potential growth, and then distribute those funds to qualified nonprofit organizations per the donor's recommendation. Their benefits include:

- Facilitating the liquidation of appreciated assets to potentially eliminate capital gains tax liability.
- Simplifying recordkeeping for tax time.
- Providing the flexibility to time charitable tax deductions.
- Enabling the involvement of additional family members to develop a multigenerational approach to philanthropy.

NEXT STEPS

Grow your giving power with T. Rowe Price Charitable. Visit **trowepricecharitable.org**.

PHOTOGRAPH BY DRAZEN

*You will not receive a second charitable deduction at the time a grant distribution is made from your donor-advised fund. T. Rowe Price Charitable is an independent, nonprofit corporation and sponsor of donor-advised funds founded by T. Rowe Price to assist individuals with planning and managing their charitable giving.

Five steps to a successful retirement

Each of these factors plays an important role in ensuring you can live the lifestyle you want.

1 Determine your retirement expenses

There's more to planning for retirement than just saving money. It's about knowing how that money will fund your expenses when you stop working. Gaining a better understanding of what those expenses might be is a crucial first step.

Our Retirement Budget Worksheet can help you assess your spending needs both before and in retirement.

troweprice.com/retirementbudgetworksheet

2 Preserve your purchasing power

Inflation could create a gap between your planned income and what you actually need to pay your bills. Holding stocks in your retirement portfolio is one of the most effective tools available to help your savings keep pace with rising prices.

See how your current portfolio measures up to a Target Asset Allocation with our new Portfolio Optimizer tool.

troweprice.com/portfoliooptimizer

PHOTOGRAPH BY JORDI SALAS

3 Understand your Social Security benefits

When to claim Social Security is a big decision with a potentially big impact. While each investor's situation is different, knowing some basics can help you see how Social Security fits into your overall retirement plan.

Our Social Security Optimizer tool can help you find a strategy designed to maximize your benefits.

troweprice.com/socialsecurityoptimizer

4 Diversify your investments and account types

Finding the asset and account mix that is appropriate for your investing horizon and risk tolerance is key to long-term investing success.

Discover a broad range of investment products to help you realize your retirement goals.

troweprice.com/retirement

5 Develop a withdrawal strategy

Starting to draw down your savings can be a challenge after years of putting money aside. A strategy that includes a sustainable withdrawal rate and an order for which accounts to draw from can help ensure that you make the most of your money.

Work with a T. Rowe Price advisor to design an actionable plan for your future.

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All investments are subject to market risk, including the possible loss of principal.

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