

A Snapshot Of How Stocks Have Performed So Far In This Millennium

5-Year Cumulative Total Returns (Domestic & Foreign Equity Indices)

Period	S&P 500	S&P MidCap 400	S&P SmallCap 600	MSCI Daily TR Net World ex-U.S. (USD)	MSCI Daily TR Net Emerging Markets (USD)
2000-2004	-10.98%	57.73%	73.09%	-3.77%	23.65%
2001-2005	2.75%	51.09%	66.72%	27.16%	139.54%
2002-2006	35.03%	67.69%	80.14%	103.36%	225.03%
2003-2007	82.86%	111.81%	110.39%	171.57%	382.95%
2004-2008	-10.47%	-0.40%	4.49%	9.94%	44.65%
2005-2009	2.11%	17.46%	6.97%	22.07%	105.65%
2006-2010	11.99%	32.16%	25.47%	16.18%	82.44%
2007-2011	-1.24%	17.72%	10.10%	-18.86%	12.63%
2008-2012	8.59%	28.51%	28.46%	-15.99%	-4.49%
2009-2013	128.19%	169.04%	163.37%	80.12%	99.33%
2010-2014	105.14%	114.97%	121.81%	28.93%	9.22%
2011-2015	80.75%	66.06%	72.14%	14.75%	-21.83%
2012-2016	98.18%	104.03%	115.67%	34.29%	6.55%
2013-2017	108.14%	101.20%	109.94%	43.29%	23.72%

Source: Bloomberg, Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

View from the Observation Deck

1. Today's blog post features the cumulative total return performance of five major equity indices (three domestic and two foreign) since the start of 2000.
2. We chose to highlight rolling 5-year periods due to the fact that equity investors have endured two severe and lengthy bear markets as well as a significant number of challenging global events since 2000. We also like to occasionally remind investors that the buy and hold strategy can still serve them well over time.
3. Here are just a few of the challenging global events we alluded to: 9/11 terrorist attacks in U.S. (2001); Invasion of Iraq/2nd Gulf War (2003); U.S./Global financial crisis (2008-2009); Greek debt crisis (2009); U.S. stock market flash crash (2010); Japan's tsunami/9.0 earthquake (2011); and the UK's decision (Brexit vote) to leave the European Union (2016).
4. Emerging markets equities clearly performed the best in the first decade covered by the table, but have underperformed the U.S. indices markedly in the current decade.
5. Mid- and small-capitalization (cap) stocks in the U.S. have performed the best in the current decade, but also performed relatively well in the first decade.
6. Points 4 and 5 indicate that investors have been willing to assume some additional risk, by favoring emerging markets, small-cap and mid-cap stocks, despite all of the negative events occurring around the globe, in our opinion.
7. From 12/31/99-12/31/17, the average annual total returns for the five equity indices were as follows (not shown in table): 5.4% (S&P 500); 9.89% (S&P MidCap 400); 10.22% (S&P SmallCap 600); 3.55% (MSCI Daily TR Net World ex-U.S. in USD); and 7.38% (MSCI Daily TR Net Emerging Markets in USD), according to Bloomberg.

This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. The illustration excludes the effects of taxes and brokerage commissions and other expenses incurred when investing. Investors cannot invest directly in an index. The S&P 500 Index is a capitalization-weighted index comprised of 500 stocks used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. The S&P MidCap 400 Index is a capitalization-weighted index that tracks the mid-range sector of the U.S. stock market. The S&P Small Cap 600 Index is a capitalization-weighted index that tracks U.S. stocks with a small market capitalization. The MSCI World (ex-U.S.) Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed markets excluding the U.S. The MSCI Emerging Markets Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure equity market performance of emerging markets.

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