Consider The Potential Opportunity Costs Before You Sell In May And Go Away!

Performance of S&P 500 Index & 11 Major Sectors (May-October)

Year (May-Oct.)	S&P 500 Total Return	# of Sectors Up	Top Sector Total Return	
2018	3.39%	7	Consumer Staples	11.27%
2017	9.10%	9	Information Technology	18.91%
2016	4.06%	7	Information Technology	15.83%
2015	0.77%	7	Consumer Discretionary	8.37%
2014	8.22%	10	Health Care	16.69%
2013	11.14%	8	Industrials	18.63%
2012	2.16%	9	Telecom. Services	11.96%
2011	-7.11%	2	Utilities	7.34%
2010	0.74%	8	Telecom. Services	17.15%
2009	20.03%	11	Financials	30.85%
2008	-29.28%	0	Consumer Staples	-11.43%
2007	5.49%	8	Energy	21.06%
2006	6.11%	11	Real Estate	20.68%
2005	5.27%	9	Energy	15.45%
2004	2.96%	9	Real Estate	21.11%
2003	15.61%	11	Information Technology	30.01%

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

View from the Observation Deck

1. The old axiom in the stock market about selling your stocks at the close of April and then buying back in at the start of November once made some sense from a seasonality standpoint.
2. When the U.S. was more of an industrialized economy it was not uncommon for plants and factories to close for a month or longer in the summer to retool and allow employees to vacation.
3. The theory was that companies would conduct less commerce in that six-month span, which would likely translate into lower earnings.
4. Today, due in large part to globalization, the world is far more interconnected and competitive, and there is less room for downtime, in our opinion.
5. From 2003 through 2018, there were just two instances (2008 & 2011) in which the S&P 500 Index posted a negative total return from May through October, and the 2008 occurrence was during the financial crisis.
6. The average total return for the S&P 500 Index for the May-October periods in the table was 3.67%, which is nothing to run from, in our opinion.
7. Thirteen of the 16 top-performing sectors in the table posted total returns in excess of 10.00% (May-October). For comparative purposes, from 1926-2016, the S&P 500 Index posted an average annual total return of 9.99%, according to Ibbotson & Associates/Morningstar.

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 (currently 505) used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance, while the 11 major S&P 500 Sector Indices are capitalization-weighted and comprised of S&P 500 constituents representing a specific sector. As of 9/28/18, the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) was reconstituted and the Telecommunications Services sector was renamed Communication Services. GICS sector information for periods prior to 9/28/18 may not necessarily be comparable to the reconstituted sectors.