

# The ICA Guide

2022 edition: Class A shares



**CAPITAL  
GROUP®**

**AMERICAN  
FUNDS®**



Investment fundamentals  
have proven successful  
for 88 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.®

## Highlights

Informed investing versus simply saving	4
What ICA investors own	6
Investing in stocks requires skill	7
Compare the historic results	8
How ICA is managed	9
There have always been reasons not to invest	10
The ICA mountain chart	11
Time, not timing, is what matters	15
What if the stock market doesn't go up?	16
The benefit of time	17
Dividends have made the difference	18
Growth over a wide variety of periods	19
Investing for retirement	20
Customizing withdrawals	21
An 88-year history of investment success	22
What makes ICA a rare opportunity	23



## 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.

All Capital Group trademarks mentioned are owned by The Capital Group Companies, Inc., an affiliated company or fund. All other company and product names mentioned are the property of their respective companies.

**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. Returns at net asset value (NAV) do not reflect a sales charge. If a sales charge had been deducted, the results would have been lower. Returns at maximum offering price (MOP) reflect the deduction of 5.75% maximum sales charge (3.50% for investments of \$100,000). For current information and month-end results, visit [capitalgroup.com](http://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.**

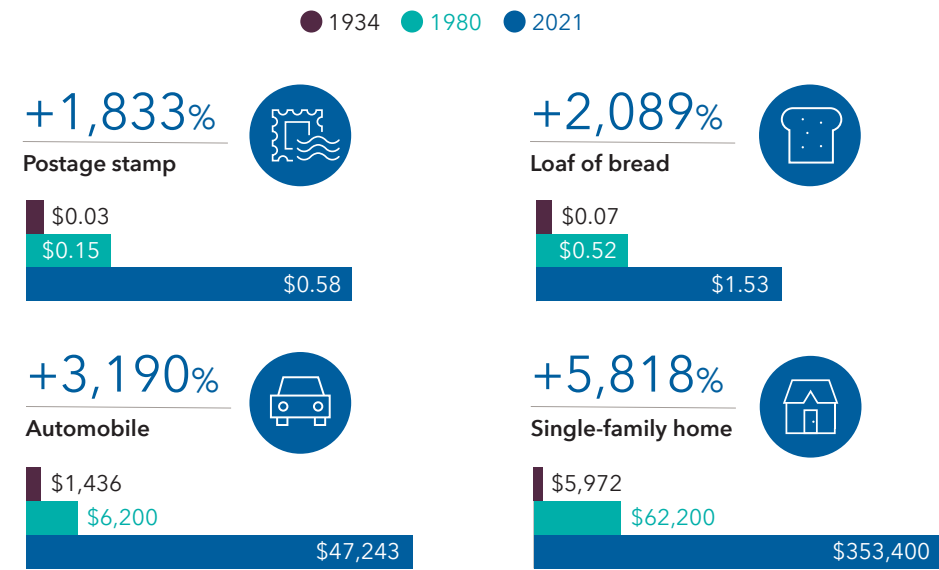


### The legacy of our first fund

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 almost three million shareholders.

The fund has a legacy of keeping investors’ long-term returns well ahead of the cost of living. Over the 88 years ended December 31, 2021, a hypothetical \$1,000 investment in ICA (at MOP) would have grown to \$24.6 million and earned an average annual total return of 12.2% – more than three times the rate of inflation (3.5%).

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

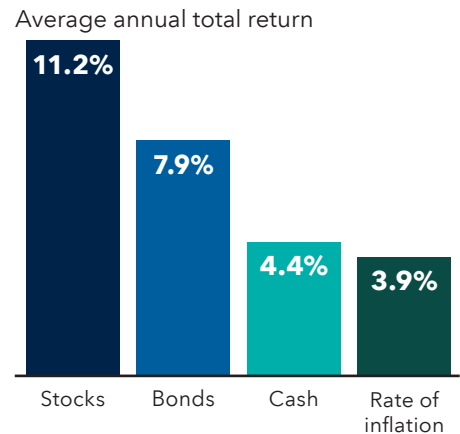


Sources: United States Postal Service, Bureau of Labor Statistics, mediaroom.kbb.com (Kelley Blue Book), National Association of Realtors.

### Stocks have 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.

### Stocks have had the highest returns over the past 50 years



All results calculated with dividends reinvested for the period December 31, 1971, through December 31, 2021. 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. Investors cannot invest directly in an index. There have been periods when the fund has lagged the index. 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 versus simply saving

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 ICA has made.

## Margaret and Harry Boone

Twenty years ago – at the end of 2001 – the Boones and the Klausens retired. Each couple had \$500,000 to invest.

The Boones put their money in a 20-year U.S. government bond that paid a guaranteed 5.74% a year. They were satisfied with their “safe” annual income of \$28,700.

Twenty years ago, you may have been able to get by on that. But it takes \$45,284 today to buy what \$28,700 bought in 2001. Even worse, when the Boones’ bond matured at the end of 2021, they went to buy another and found the rate on 20-year Treasuries was 1.94%. That would provide them with only \$9,700 a year.

Of course, the Boones are guaranteed their original \$500,000 nest egg – although that won’t buy as much as it used to either.

The Boones’ “safe” investment, it seems, wasn’t so safe after all.



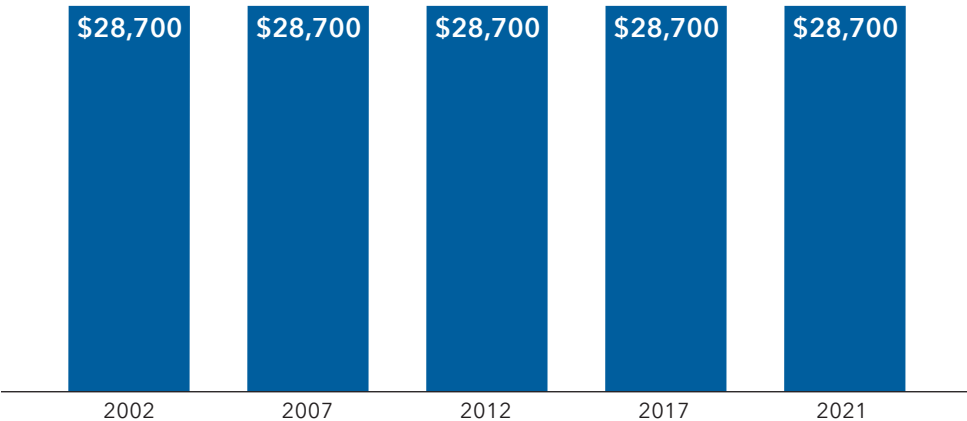
\$500,000  
Original investment

\$574,000  
Total income payments

\$500,000  
Value of investment  
as of December 31, 2021

## Annual income from a 20-year Treasury bond

The Boones’ long-term U.S. government bond paid the same amount, year after year ...





## Investing where your money can grow may lessen the impact of inflation.

### Vivian and Joe Klausen

The Klausens invested their \$500,000 in ICA (at NAV). They sought to increase their withdrawals each year to help outpace inflation and cover additional expenses they might have as they grew older.

As a result, they decided to take monthly withdrawals totaling \$20,000 – or 4% of their \$500,000 investment – the first year. After that, the total amount they withdrew each year increased by 3%.

Although they started out living on less than the Boones, the Klausen's annual withdrawals grew from \$20,000 to \$35,070 over the 20 years. Also their original investment more than doubled. Over the long term, they enjoyed greater rewards than the Boones because, by investing in a portfolio of stocks, they chose to accept greater volatility, recognizing they could lose money.

Despite recent volatility, the last 20 years were generally good for stocks and for ICA. In fact, in all of the 69 20-calendar-year periods in ICA's lifetime, the Klausens would have more in their account than the Boones after two decades of withdrawals.



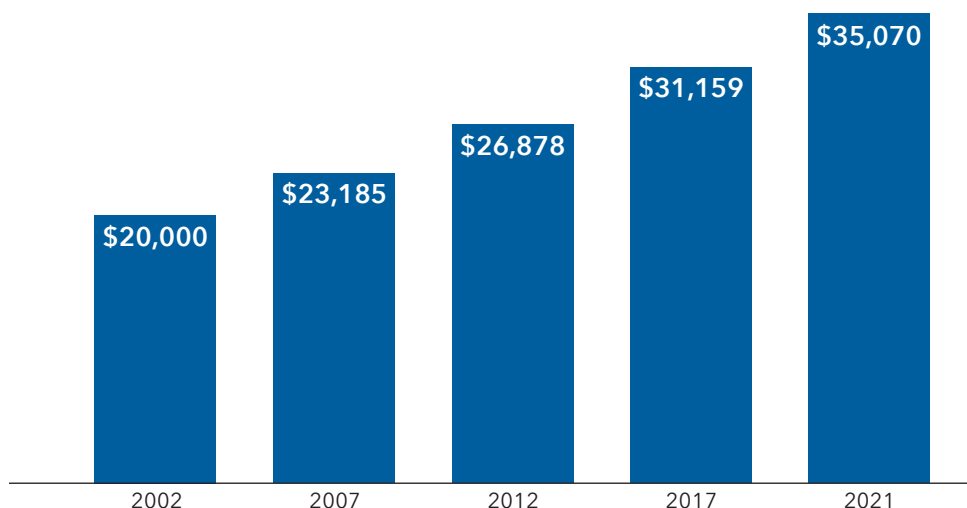
**\$500,000**  
Original investment

**\$537,407**  
Total withdrawals

**\$1,054,678**  
Value of investment  
as of December 31, 2021

### Annual withdrawal amounts from ICA

... while the Klausens were able to increase their withdrawals every year.



The hypothetical examples on pages 4 and 5 reflect actual historical results. Your investment experience, of course, will depend on the amount you invest and when you invest. Treasury bonds are guaranteed by the U.S. government; fund shares are not.

# What ICA investors own

A hypothetical \$10,000 investment in ICA on December 31, 2021, bought part ownership in approximately 175 companies. Of those, here are the 75 largest, representing 85% of total assets.



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

Microsoft	\$851	Gilead Sciences	\$90	Northrop Grumman	\$49
Broadcom	455	ServiceNow	90	Illinois Tool Works	48
Meta Platforms	423	PG&E	88	Nestlé	46
Alphabet	386	Accenture	81	AES	44
Amazon.com	365	CSX	78	Rio Tinto	43
Comcast	312	Crown Castle International	77	Vale	42
Netflix	288	ASML Holding	75	American Tower	42
Abbott Laboratories	279	Canadian Natural Resources	75	SBA Communications	40
Home Depot	267	Amgen	72	TFI International	40
Philip Morris International	219	Royal Caribbean Cruises	71	General Mills	38
Apple	200	S&P Global	67	Applied Materials	35
UnitedHealth Group	198	Edison International	65	Alia Group	32
Linde	157	Amphenol	63	BHP Group	32
General Electric	153	EOG Resources	63	Teva Pharmaceutical Industries	32
Raytheon Technologies	147	AbbVie	62	ConocoPhillips	32
Carrier Global	143	NextEra Energy	58	Stanley Black & Decker	32
JPMorgan Chase	131	Keurig Dr Pepper	57	Exelon	30
General Motors	121	McDonald's	55	International Flavors & Fragrances	30
Mastercard	116	Morgan Stanley	55	CME Group	30
PNC Financial Services Group	113	Adobe	55	L3Harris Technologies	29
British American Tobacco	112	Freeport-McMoRan	54	BlackRock	28
Thermo Fisher Scientific	109	Chubb	53	Altria Group	28
Chevron	106	Hasbro	52	Equinix	26
Baker Hughes	106	Danaher	49	Other equities	1,218
General Dynamics	92	PepsiCo	49		
American International Group	90	Aptiv	49		

\$9,688	+	\$12	=	\$9,700	+	\$300	=	\$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 and equivalents holdings may be held through mutual funds managed by the investment adviser or its affiliates that are not offered to the public.

The information shown may include affiliates of the same issuer when applicable.

Cash and 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, 88 years ago, you could have invested \$1,000 in each of any five companies in the Dow Jones Industrial Average.<sup>1</sup> 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) 88 years ago, which five would you choose?

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

<sup>1</sup> 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, 2021.

<sup>2</sup> 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 88-year period ended December 31, 2021, 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).

## Ending value (excluding dividends)

ICA (at MOP)	\$2,018,984
Procter & Gamble	1,623,932
Home Depot	693,595
McDonald's	485,305
Microsoft	394,495
Coca-Cola	347,326
Visa	326,840
Apple	225,326
Goldman Sachs Group	221,004
Merck	186,236
salesforce.com	185,351
Walgreens Boots Alliance	165,367
Intel	150,049
Nike	118,158
Dow Inc.	116,547
Disney	97,308
Honeywell	68,510
Walmart	63,258
Boeing	59,993
3M	56,176
American Express	51,612
Amgen	51,000
JPMorgan Chase	35,194
Chevron	32,050
Travelers Companies	29,788
Caterpillar	17,897
Johnson & Johnson	16,297
IBM	10,188
UnitedHealth Group	8,194
Verizon Communications	3,873
Cisco Systems	3,189

\* 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 System<sup>SM</sup> 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

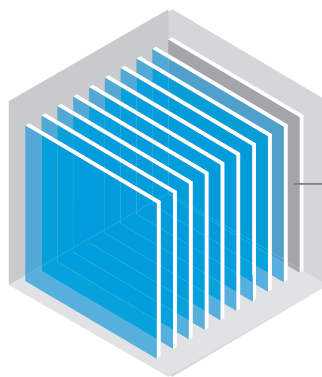
The diverse combination of portfolio managers and investment analysts in each fund is designed to lower volatility while striving for superior long-term outcomes.

## 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.



**Aline Avzaradel**

**Experience:**  
19 years

**Office:**  
San Francisco



**Chris Buchbinder**

**Experience:**  
26 years

**Office:**  
San Francisco



**Grant Cambridge**

**Experience:**  
29 years

**Office:**  
Los Angeles



**Martin Jacobs**

**Experience:**  
33 years

**Office:**  
Los Angeles



**James B. Lovelace**

**Experience:**  
40 years

**Office:**  
Los Angeles



**Don O'Neal**

**Experience:**  
37 years

**Office:**  
San Francisco



**Martin Romo**

**Experience:**  
30 years

**Office:**  
Washington, D.C.



**Jessica Spaly**

**Experience:**  
25 years

**Office:**  
San Francisco



**James Terrile**

**Experience:**  
27 years

**Office:**  
Los Angeles

Portfolio manager information is as of the fund's prospectus dated March 1, 2022. Portfolio segments do not reflect actual allocations.

\* As of December 31, 2021. Holdings will change. Certain fixed income and/or cash and equivalents holdings may be held through mutual funds managed by the investment adviser or its affiliates that are not offered to the public.

# 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 (at MOP) on these historic days.



- **Pearl Harbor was bombed.**  
(December 7, 1941)
  - 10 years later you would have had \$34,710 | 13.3%
  - by the end of 2021 you would have had \$95,714,141 | 12.1%
- **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 2021 you would have had \$11,123,541 | 11.5%
- **The Berlin Wall was erected.**  
(August 13, 1961)
  - 10 years later you would have had \$23,180 | 8.8%
  - by the end of 2021 you would have had \$5,889,321 | 11.1%
- **President Kennedy was assassinated.**  
(November 22, 1963)
  - 10 years later you would have had \$22,945 | 8.7%
  - by the end of 2021 you would have had \$5,484,303 | 11.5%
- **President Nixon resigned.**  
(August 9, 1974)
  - 10 years later you would have had \$40,379 | 15.0%
  - by the end of 2021 you would have had \$2,513,849 | 12.4%
- **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 2021 you would have had \$347,941 | 10.9%
- **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 2021 you would have had \$222,030 | 10.4%
- **Terrorists attacked the World Trade Center.**  
(September 11, 2001)
  - 10 years later you would have had \$12,715 | 2.4%
  - by the end of 2021 you would have had \$53,476 | 8.6%

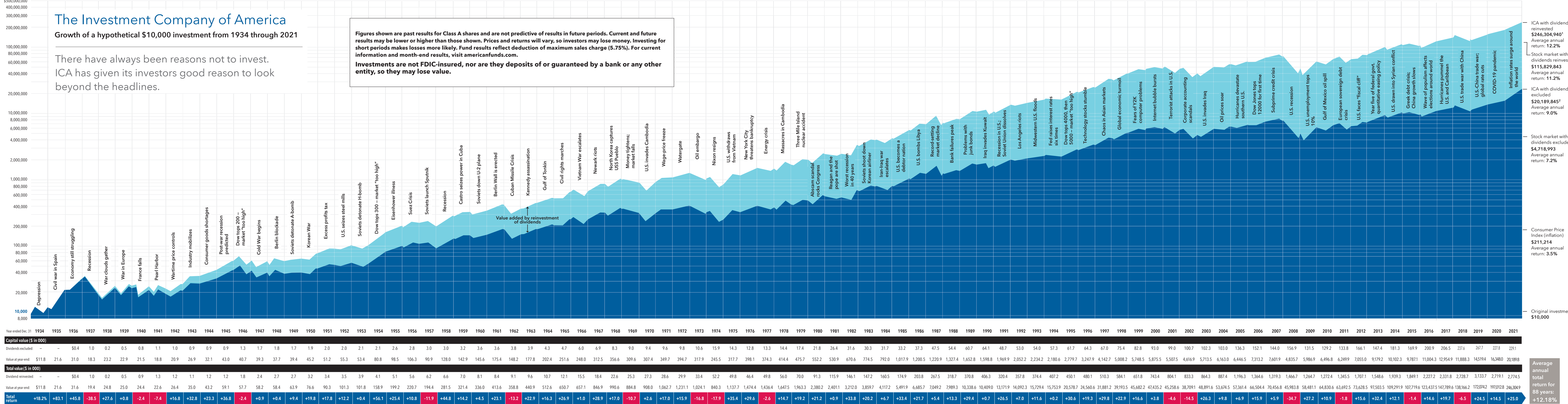


**Growth of a hypothetical \$10,000 investment from 1934 through 2021**

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

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. Fund results reflect deduction of maximum sales charge (5.75%). For current information and month-end results, visit [americanfunds.com](http://americanfunds.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.**



**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.

Here are ICA's average annual total returns on a \$1,000 investment with all distributions reinvested for periods ended March 31, 2022:

	1 year	5 years	10 years
Class A shares	<b>4.98%</b>	<b>11.14%</b>	<b>12.08%</b>

Expense ratio was **0.57%** as of the fund's prospectus available at time of publication.

The stock market is represented by the S&P 500 Index, a market capitalization-weighted index based on the results of approximately 500 widely held common stocks. This index is unmanaged, and its results include reinvested dividends and/or distributions but do not reflect the effect of sales charges, commissions, account fees, expenses or U.S. federal income taxes. There have been periods when the fund has lagged the index. Investors cannot invest directly in an index.

<sup>1</sup>Includes dividends of \$43,510,750 and capital gain distributions totaling \$101,218,511, reinvested in the years 1936-2021.

<sup>2</sup>Includes reinvested capital gain distributions of \$10,415,573, but not income dividends totaling \$4,739,189 taken in cash.

## 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 168 feet tall, which is about as tall as most 17-story buildings. The lighter blue section, which shows how the investment would have done if dividends had been reinvested in more shares, would be 2,053 feet tall – over thirteen 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 (at MOP) on the worst possible day to invest – the day the stock market peaked.<sup>1</sup> 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 <sup>2</sup>	Value on 12/31
3/19/02	\$ 10,000	\$ 7,789
12/31/03	20,000	19,264
12/28/04	30,000	30,567
3/4/05	40,000	42,641
12/27/06	50,000	58,909
10/9/07	60,000	71,435
5/2/08	70,000	53,092
12/30/09	80,000	76,985
12/29/10	90,000	94,889
4/29/11	100,000	102,059
10/5/12	110,000	127,583
12/31/13	120,000	178,672
12/26/14	130,000	209,735
5/19/15	140,000	215,861
12/20/16	150,000	257,028
12/28/17	160,000	317,568
10/3/18	170,000	305,230
12/27/19	180,000	389,880
12/31/20	190,000	456,156
12/29/21	200,000	579,460

**Average annual total return (3/19/02-12/31/21): 9.86%**

## Best-day investments (market lows)

Date of market low	Cumulative investment <sup>2</sup>	Value on 12/31
10/9/02	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,693
3/11/03	20,000	26,483
10/25/04	30,000	39,448
4/20/05	40,000	52,782
1/20/06	50,000	72,101
3/5/07	60,000	86,753
11/20/08	70,000	67,852
3/9/09	80,000	101,507
7/2/10	90,000	124,162
10/3/11	100,000	132,933
6/4/12	110,000	164,640
1/8/13	120,000	230,638
2/3/14	130,000	269,859
8/25/15	140,000	276,485
2/11/16	150,000	329,191
1/19/17	160,000	405,740
12/24/18	170,000	389,445
1/3/19	180,000	497,454
3/23/20	190,000	585,230
1/29/21	200,000	743,237

**Average annual total return (10/9/02-12/31/21): 11.70%**

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.

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

<sup>2</sup> 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?

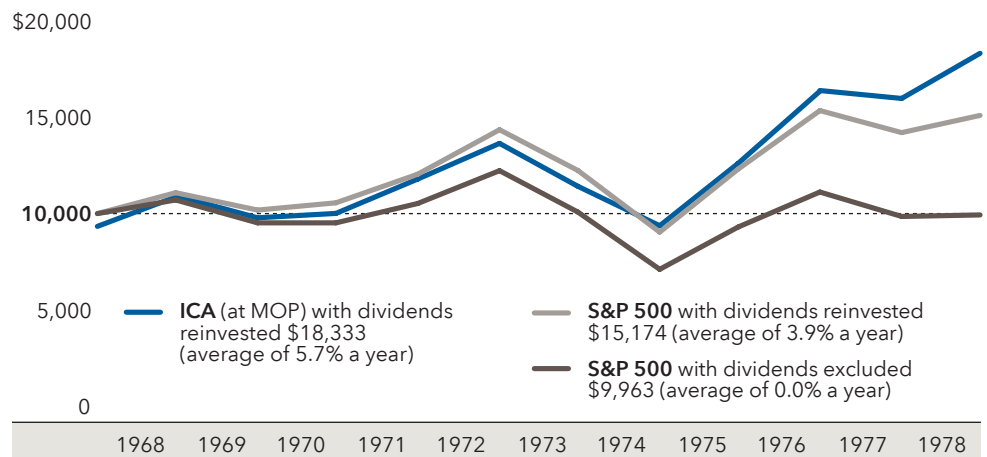
ICA's professional management has frequently enabled the fund to do better than the market. The charts below show how ICA compared to the S&P 500 Index during two past periods when the stock market was relatively flat.

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.

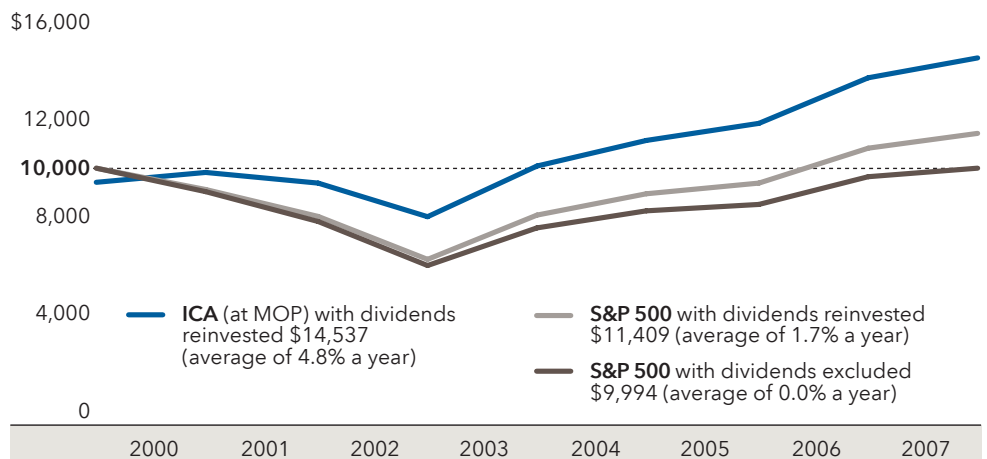
Before the 2007-2009 decline, the market had been relatively flat for the previous eight-year period. At the beginning of 2000, the S&P 500 index value was 1,469.25, and 2007 ended with a value of 1,468.36. However, a hypothetical investment in ICA, with dividends reinvested, would have seen an average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



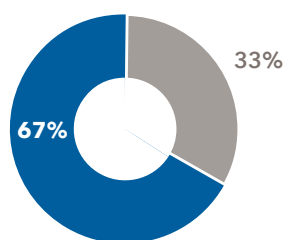
The S&P 500 Index is unmanaged and, therefore, has no expenses. Investors cannot invest directly in an index. There have been periods when the fund has lagged the index.

# 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.

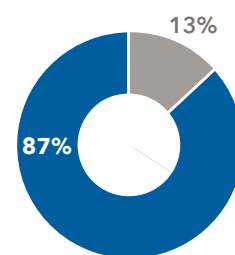
Here is ICA's record of positive results (at MOP) over calendar periods from January 1, 1934, through December 31, 2021. As you can see, one-year investments are more likely to experience negative results than are investments held for longer periods. If those short-term investors had held for just two 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



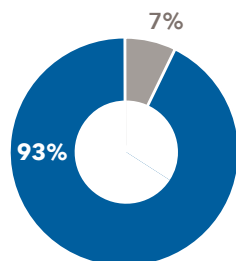
■ Positive periods: 59  
■ Negative periods: 29

Three-year periods



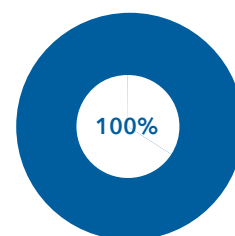
■ Positive periods: 75  
■ Negative periods: 11

Five-year periods



■ Positive periods: 78  
■ Negative periods: 6

10-year periods



■ Positive periods: 79  
■ 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 33% 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 74 of the past 85 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.

Based on a \$1,000 investment in 1934, ICA (at MOP) would have generated \$473,919 in cash dividends. However, reinvesting all distributions would have added \$22.1 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
<b>2021</b>	<b>\$24,629,048</b>		<b>\$2,018,984</b>		<b>\$473,919</b>		<b>\$22,136,145</b>

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 88-year history can be used to illustrate the fund's results over a variety of meaningful periods through December 31, 2021, starting with a hypothetical \$1,000 investment (at MOP).

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	<b>\$2,733</b> +22.3% a year (1995-1999)	<b>\$675</b> -7.6% a year (1937-1941)	<b>\$1,724</b> +11.5% a year (2016-2020)
10 years	<b>\$5,169</b> +17.9% a year (1982-1991)	<b>\$1,106</b> +1.0% a year (1999-2008)	<b>\$3,041</b> +11.8% a year (1955-1964)
15 years	<b>\$11,602</b> +17.8% a year (1975-1989)	<b>\$2,141</b> +5.2% a year (2001-2015)	<b>\$5,192</b> +11.6% a year (1991-2005)
20 years	<b>\$22,427</b> +16.8% a year (1979-1998)	<b>\$3,322</b> +6.2% a year (1999-2018)	<b>\$9,589</b> +12.0% a year (1967-1986)
25 years	<b>\$51,263</b> +17.1% a year (1975-1999)	<b>\$8,280</b> +8.8% a year (1994-2018)	<b>\$15,575</b> +11.6% a year (1958-1982)
30 years	<b>\$60,232</b> +14.6% a year (1975-2004)	<b>\$15,687</b> +9.6% a year (1990-2019)	<b>\$29,189</b> +11.9% a year (1961-1990)
40 years	<b>\$154,588</b> +13.4% a year (1958-1997)	<b>\$43,750</b> +9.9% a year (1969-2008)	<b>\$96,648</b> +12.1% a year (1982-2021)
50 years	<b>\$673,050</b> +13.9% a year (1950-1999)	<b>\$131,454</b> +10.2% a year (1969-2018)	<b>\$318,383</b> +12.2% a year (1955-2004)

# 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 (at MOP). 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 1987 through 2001, and then withdrew 5% a year over a 20-year period ended December 31, 2021. They would have taken a total of \$575,967 in withdrawals – and would still have \$1,044,306 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
1987	\$ 12,000	\$ 11,320	–
1988	24,000	24,681	–
1989	36,000	44,414	–
1990	48,000	56,504	–
1991	60,000	84,096	–
1992	72,000	102,021	–
1993	84,000	126,105	–
1994	96,000	137,879	–
1995	108,000	193,157	–
1996	120,000	243,231	–
1997	132,000	328,747	–
1998	144,000	417,236	–
1999	156,000	498,979	–
2000	168,000	530,142	–
2001	180,000	516,523	–
2002		417,579	\$ 25,826
2003		503,073	20,879
2004		525,335	25,154
2005		533,812	26,267
2006		590,188	26,691
2007		595,729	29,509
2008		365,279	29,786
2009		442,701	18,264
2010		466,214	22,135
2011		435,233	23,311
2012		480,396	21,762
2013		608,777	24,020
2014		650,433	30,439
2015		609,018	32,522
2016		665,157	30,451
2017		760,127	33,258
2018		675,584	38,006
2019		804,227	33,779
2020		873,955	40,211
2021		1,044,306	43,698
		Total withdrawals: \$575,967	



# 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 (at MOP) over the 20-year period ended December 31, 2021:

## Dividends in cash

\$58,254

\$353,816

Dividends in cash Ending value

Year	Dividends in cash	Ending value
2002	\$ 1,764	\$ 80,908
2003	3,556	100,126
2004	5,361	108,003
2005	7,750	112,972
2006	10,416	128,161
2007	12,940	133,219
2008	15,689	84,743
2009	17,994	104,917
2010	20,258	113,853
2011	22,603	109,526
2012	25,514	123,635
2013	28,096	160,861
2014	31,274	177,037
2015	34,250	171,514
2016	37,771	192,844
2017	41,391	227,028
2018	45,555	208,336
2019	50,246	254,444
2020	54,239	286,489
2021	58,254	353,816
Total dividends in cash: \$58,254		

## Self-adjusting withdrawals

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

\$107,565

\$194,694

Total withdrawals Ending value

Year	Withdrawals	Ending value
2002	\$5,000	\$ 77,851
2003	3,893	93,790
2004	4,689	97,940
2005	4,897	99,520
2006	4,976	110,031
2007	5,502	111,064
2008	5,553	68,100
2009	3,405	82,534
2010	4,127	86,918
2011	4,346	81,142
2012	4,057	89,562
2013	4,478	113,496
2014	5,675	121,263
2015	6,063	113,541
2016	5,677	124,007
2017	6,200	141,713
2018	7,086	125,951
2019	6,298	149,935
2020	7,497	162,934
2021	8,147	194,694
Total withdrawals: \$107,565		

## Fixed-amount withdrawals

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

\$100,000

\$191,401

Total withdrawals Ending value

Year	Withdrawals	Ending value
2002	\$5,000	\$ 77,851
2003	5,000	92,496
2004	5,000	96,187
2005	5,000	97,539
2006	5,000	107,707
2007	5,000	109,104
2008	5,000	67,258
2009	5,000	79,556
2010	5,000	82,647
2011	5,000	76,306
2012	5,000	82,986
2013	5,000	104,192
2014	5,000	111,542
2015	5,000	105,008
2016	5,000	114,957
2017	5,000	132,186
2018	5,000	118,965
2019	5,000	142,660
2020	5,000	157,516
2021	5,000	191,401
Total withdrawals: \$100,000		

# An 88-year history of investment success

Year	ICA's total return (at NAV)	Stock market	Consumer prices	Year	ICA's total return (at NAV)	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	2021	+25.0	+28.7	+7.0
1977	-2.6	-7.2	+6.7	88-year average annual total returns through 12/31/21			
1978	+14.7	+6.6	+9.0	+12.3% +11.2% +3.5%			
				Number of best years			
				33 33 22			

Sources – Stock market: S&P 500 Index, 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 distribution 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:

helping investors pursue their dreams for

**88** years

net assets of approximately

**\$126 billion**, with \$3.8 billion in reserves of cash & equivalents

invested in such diverse industries as software, interactive media & services, semiconductors & semiconductor equipment, internet & direct marketing retail and aerospace & defense

a management team of **nine portfolio managers** with an average of 30 years of investment industry experience

research offices located throughout the United States, Europe and Asia

paid a dividend every year since **1936**

increased regular dividends in 74 of the past 85 calendar years (if dividends were taken in cash and capital gains were reinvested, not including special dividends)



All figures are as of December 31, 2021, except for portfolio manager information, which is as of the fund's prospectus dated March 1, 2022.



# The Capital Advantage<sup>®</sup>

Since 1931, Capital Group, home of American Funds, has helped investors pursue long-term investment success. Our consistent approach – in combination with The Capital System<sup>SM</sup> – 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.<sup>1</sup>

## 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 97% of 20-year periods.<sup>2</sup> Fixed income funds have helped investors achieve diversification through attention to correlation between bonds and equities.<sup>3</sup> Fund management fees have been among the lowest in the industry.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Investment industry experience as of December 31, 2021.

<sup>2</sup> Based on Class A share results at net asset value for rolling calendar-year periods starting the first full calendar year after each fund's inception through December 31, 2021. 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](https://capitalgroup.com) for more information on specific expense adjustments and the actual dates of first sale.

<sup>3</sup> Based on Class A share results at net asset value as of December 31, 2021. 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. S&P 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.

<sup>4</sup> On average, our management fees were in the lowest quintile 63% of the time, based on the 20-year period ended December 31, 2021, versus comparable Lipper categories, excluding funds of funds.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average ("Index") is a product of S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC and/or its affiliates and has been licensed for use by Capital Group. Copyright © 2022 S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, a division of S&P Global, and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved. Redistribution or reproduction in whole or in part is prohibited without written permission of S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC. The S&P 500 is a product of S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC and/or its affiliates and has been licensed for use by Capital Group. Copyright © 2022 S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, a division of S&P Global, and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved. Redistribution or reproduction in whole or in part is prohibited without written permission of S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC. Source: Bloomberg Index Services Limited. BLOOMBERG<sup>®</sup> is a trademark and service mark of Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates (collectively "Bloomberg"). Bloomberg or Bloomberg's licensors own all proprietary rights in the Bloomberg Indices. Neither Bloomberg nor Bloomberg's licensors approves or endorses this material, or guarantees the accuracy or completeness of any information herein, or makes any warranty, express or implied, as to the results to be obtained therefrom and, to the maximum extent allowed by law, neither shall have any liability or responsibility for injury or damages arising in connection therewith.

**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 June 30, 2022, 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, results reflect fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements, without which they would have been lower. Please see [capitalgroup.com](https://capitalgroup.com) for more information.

American Funds Distributors, Inc., member FINRA.