

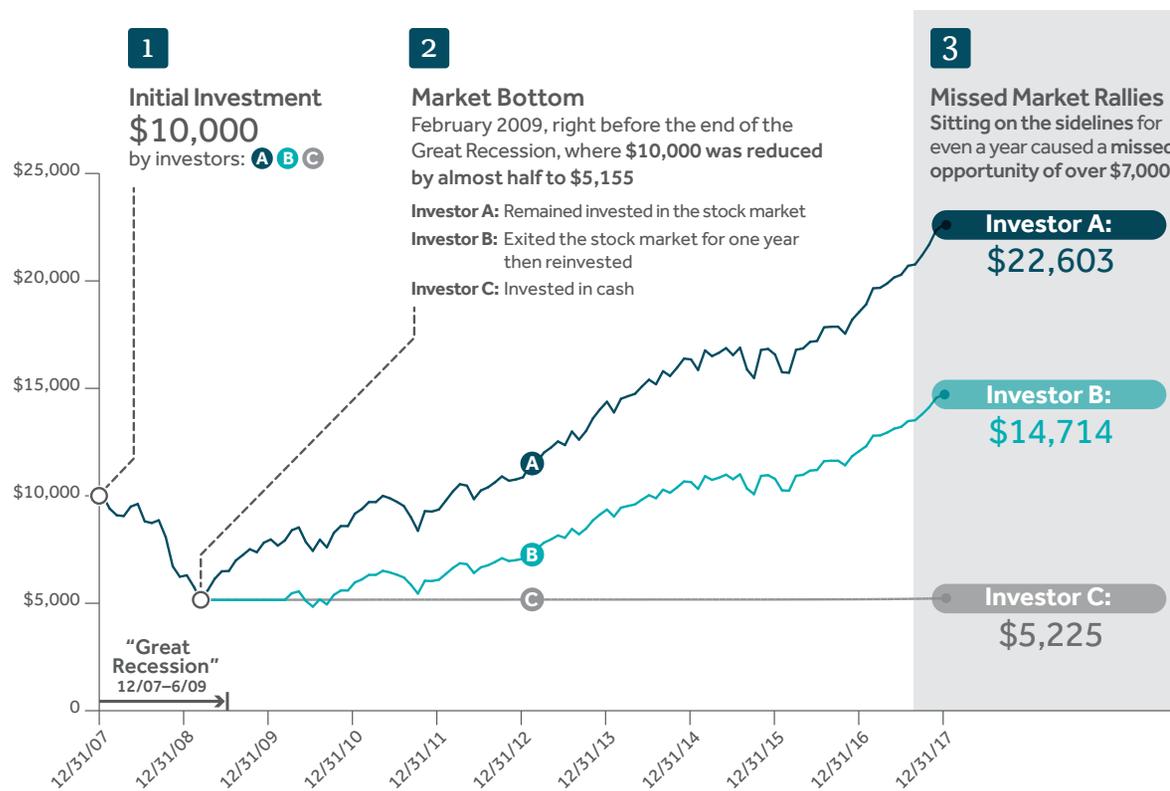
“Time in” the market vs. “timing” the market

The benefits of maintaining a long-term investment approach

Between January 2007 – December 2017, a period that included the “Great Recession” and the recovery that followed, three investors—Mrs. Steadfast, Mr. Periodic, and Ms. Doubtful—each invested \$10,000 in the stock market. By February 2009 (the market bottom), the value of each investors’ initial investment dropped by almost half to \$5,155.

Attempts to Time the Market May Lead to Missed Market Rallies¹

December 2007 – December 2017



After that point:

- Mrs. Steadfast remained committed to her long-term investment and stayed fully invested in the stock market to realize a final ending value of \$22,603.
- Mr. Periodic decided to briefly exit the stock market by investing in cash for a year before reinvesting back into the market—realizing a final ending value of \$14,714.
- Ms. Doubtful, however, exited the stock market all together by investing solely in cash—which provided her with a final ending value of \$5,225.

Based on this illustration, not only did Mrs. Steadfast recover her initial value, she realized a higher ending value than both Mr. Periodic and Ms. Doubtful combined.



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1. Source: Morningstar, as of 12/31/17. The stock market is represented by the S&P 500® Index, which is an unmanaged group of securities considered to be representative of the stock market in general. Cash is represented by the 30-day U.S. Treasury bill. Treasury securities are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government as to payment of principal and interest if held to maturity. The data assumes reinvestment of income and does not account for taxes or transaction costs. Stocks have been more volatile than bonds or cash. Holding a portfolio of securities for the long term does not ensure a profitable outcome and investing in securities always involves risk of loss. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. It is not possible to invest in an index. legislative changes which could affect the market for and value of municipal securities. Bonds are also subject to credit risk, in which the bond issuer may fail to pay interest and principal in a timely manner.

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