John Hancock

MUTUAL FUNDS

10 proven strategies

to help secure your financial future

Would you sleep easier if you knew you were financially prepared for the future?

Would you feel better knowing you were on track for early retirement? Ready for any emergency? And would it comfort you to know that if you died unexpectedly, your family would be well cared for?

These are not idle questions. The events of the past few years have been difficult, to say the least. Americans have had their confidence and resilience tested on many fronts, from corporate culpability and unemployment to a volatile stock market and security fears.

John Hancock Funds would like to help you as you work to secure your financial future. This guide is designed to help you by introducing you to 10 time-tested strategies that can work for you, no matter what your age or income level. If you've already implemented some of these strategies — congratulations! And keep up the good work.

If you haven't already put these simple, practical concepts to work, however, we hope that you will decide the time is NOW to take control of your finances.

The future you build today is the future you'll enjoy tomorrow. We wish you every success!

10 proven strategies to help secure your financial future

PAGE

STRATEGY #1

Know where you stand today

Where does the money go? In order to successfully build any plan for the future, you need to know the answer. This will help you better understand your current situation and budget, identify spending habits you don't like, reduce debt and find additional dollars to invest.

Note: For this exercise, please use your net or take-home pay. For many people, take-home pay (after all taxes have been deducted) is much less than the gross, and this is the amount that should be kept in mind for any budget discussions.

Income (Please enter monthly amount)

Wages, salary, commissions & bonuses $_______________

Other income $_______________

A **Total annual income** (monthly x 12) **$_______________**

Expenses (Please enter monthly amount)

Household Expenses

Mortgage/rent payments $_______________

Taxes $_______________

Medical/health $_______________

Insurance premiums (life/LTC/disability) $_______________

Tuition & child care $_______________

Homeowner's insurance $_______________

Telephone, cell phone $_______________

Cable & computer $_______________

Gas & electric $_______________

Water $_______________

Transportation (car/commuting costs) $_______________

Services (house cleaning/landscaping) $_______________

Groceries $_______________

Restaurants $_______________

Clothing, dry cleaning $_______________

Entertainment (movies/vacations) $_______________

Pet supplies & services $_______________

Other (hairdressing/newspapers/etc.) $_______________

Credit card payments

Credit card balance #1 $_______________

Credit card balance #2 $_______________

Credit card balance #3 $_______________

Charitable contributions

Gifts $_______________

Donations $_______________

Other expenses

Other ______________________ $_______________

Other ______________________ $_______________

Other ______________________ $_______________

Other ______________________ $_______________

Other ______________________ $_______________

B **Total annual expenses** (monthly x 12) **$_______________**

Total dollars available to invest or save

Total annual income **A** **– Total annual expenses** **B** **= TOTAL DOLLARS AVAILABLE $_______________**

Looking at your spending patterns, are you surprised by any item? Pleased? Frightened?
If you don't like what you see, work with your financial professional to develop a budget and plan.

These worksheets will automatically calculate for you at www.jhfunds.com.

Assets & Income	Current value
Primary residence	$______________
Vacation home, commercial/rental property	$______________
Blue Book value of automobiles	$______________
Trucks, boats, other	$______________
Checking accounts	$______________
Savings accounts	$______________
529 Plans	$______________
Individual stocks	$______________
Individual bonds	$______________
Retirement IRAs (401(k)/SEP/SIMPLE/403(b))	$______________
Variable annuities	$______________
Immediate/fixed annuities	$______________
Mutual funds	$______________
Money market accounts	$______________
Certificates of deposit	$______________
Pension	$______________
Other assets	$______________
Veteran's benefits	$______________
A Total assets	**$______________**

Liabilities	Current debt
Balance on home mortgage	$______________
Tuition loans	$______________
Credit card balances	$______________
Home equity loans	$______________
Medical expenses	$______________
Car loans	$______________
Other long-term debt	$______________
Miscellaneous money owed	$______________
B Total liabilities	**$______________**

Total net worth

Total assets A – Total liabilities B = TOTAL NET WORTH **$______________**

Are you happy with your assets-to-liabilities ratio? If you think there's room for improvement, talk to your financial professional about reducing debt or making your investments work harder for you.

STRATEGY #2

Be prepared for emergencies

Once you have a clear understanding of your current financial position, the next step is to prepare yourself and your family in the event of an unforeseen situation. When you're in a crisis, it's hard to think calmly and clearly about the best course of action. That's why we strongly urge you to do the preparation NOW, when presumably you have time to think.

Financial emergencies

The past few years have shown Americans how quickly things can change financially. The stock market hit unprecedented volatility, savings were depleted, famous corporations closed their doors. For many people, their "worst-case" scenarios were realized.

Financial experts all agree that an emergency fund is a necessary part of everyone's financial plan. How much you set aside will be determined by your living expenses, but on average, you should have a minimum of three to six months' total living expenses set aside. In arriving at your total, you should include all of your everyday expenses as well as your big ones like mortgage or rent. The worksheet on page 2 that you've already completed should be helpful to you in arriving at your total.

Do you feel totally secure in your job? Are you in an industry where you could easily find another job? Then a three-month reserve might be sufficient. But for most people, six to nine months might be the better goal, especially if you are the only or primary breadwinner. An unofficial rule of thumb says that you should allow one-month's job search for every $10,000 in salary you hope to make. Take all of these factors into consideration when setting up your emergency fund.

It's important to make sure you keep this money separate from your other funds! An emergency fund means just that, and shouldn't be kept in a checking account for daily use or household expenses.

Medical emergencies

Before you need the information, write down and keep in a handy place all the vitals for you and your family. Physicians and phone numbers, blood type, allergies, medications and other family details are all important, as are insurance ID numbers and coverage terms.

Personal emergencies

If you're delayed in traffic, is there someone who can pick your child up at day care? Do you know the full names and telephone numbers of all of your children's teachers?

Make life simpler for yourself

Set aside 30 minutes to complete this brief information overview *today*, and save yourself a few headaches down the road. Make sure you keep it up-to-date, and in an easily accessible place where you always have it at hand. You'll be glad you did!

Emergency contact information

COMPLETION DATE

SELF

Full legal name

Social security # | Birth date

Driver's license # | Passport #

Current employer & address

HR contact name & phone

Supervisor name & phone

Primary care physician name & phone

Medical plan name & identification #

Blood type | Allergies

Medications

SPOUSE

Full legal name

Social security # | Birth date

Driver's license # | Passport #

Current employer & address

HR contact name & phone

Supervisor name & phone

Primary care physician name & phone

Medical plan name & identification #

Blood type | Allergies

Medications

EMERGENCY CONTACT LIST

Name	Home phone	Cell phone
Name	Home phone	Cell phone
Name	Home phone	Cell phone
Name	Home phone	Cell phone

Be prepared for emergencies

CHILDREN

Pediatrician name & phone

Specialist name & phone

Day care provider name & phone

Name (child 1)	Social security #	Grade
School name	School phone	Teacher
Name (child 2)	Social security #	Grade
School name	School phone	Teacher
Name (child 3)	Social security #	Grade
School name	School phone	Teacher
Name (child 4)	Social security #	Grade
School name	School phone	Teacher

PETS

Veterinarian name & phone

Pet 1	Pet 2

FINANCIAL PROFESSIONAL

Financial professional name & Firm name

Firm address & phone

Account 1	Account 2	Account 3

Financial professional name & Firm name

Firm address & phone

Account 1	Account 2	Account 3

Financial professional name & Firm name

Firm address & phone

Account 1	Account 2	Account 3

ATTORNEY & TAX PROFESSIONAL

Attorney name & Firm name

Firm address & phone

Tax professional name & Firm name

Firm address & phone

ASSETS

Insurance planner name	Policies & accounts owned:
Address & phone	
Life insurance	Disability
Long-term care	Other
Insurance agent name	Policies & accounts owned:
Address & phone	
Homeowner's	Automobile
Umbrella policy	Other
Bank name	Address
Checking/Savings/CDs #	ATM card #
Bank name	Address
Checking/Savings/CDs #	ATM card #

LOANS

Mortgage	Holder & account #
Address & phone	
Home equity loan	Holder & account #
Address & phone	
Second mortgage	Holder & account #
Address & phone	
Car loan	Holder & account #
Address & phone	
Car loan	Holder & account #
Address & phone	
Miscellaneous loan	Holder & account #
Address & phone	

CREDIT CARD

Issuer	Phone
Billing address	Account #
Issuer	Phone
Billing address	Account #

STRATEGY #3

Insure for the unexpected

One of the most important things you can do now to protect your family is to make sure you have adequate insurance for their needs. Having health insurance is critical, but there are other forms of insurance that are equally important to consider, and may make sense for you and your family.

Life insurance

Life insurance answers the question: "How will my family live without me?" If you are married, have children, own a home or are responsible for other family members, then you should probably have life insurance.

One rule of thumb is to buy life insurance that is equal to five to seven times your annual income, but there are many factors to consider when determining how much protection you should have. Consider your income and debts, future income needs and the protection for your family you want when planning. There are several different types of life insurance available to suit most people's needs and budgets.

Permanent life insurance provides lifelong protection, and is also known by such names as whole life, universal life and variable life. As long as you pay premiums, the death benefit will always be there. Most permanent policies have a feature known as cash value, or surrender value, which allows for options such as borrowing or using the cash value for other purposes.

Term life insurance is a specified amount of life insurance coverage, at a guaranteed rate, for a specified period of time. Term life insurance is usually the least expensive form of life coverage, pays a benefit only if you die during the term, and is often used to cover specific needs that will disappear in time (a mortgage, for example) or for younger people looking for some measure of protection.

Disability insurance

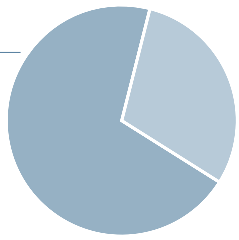
If you're the primary breadwinner, or you run your own business, you might want to consider disability insurance. Disability income will replace your salary or wages by providing monthly benefits in the event of accident or illness. The total benefits paid are tax-free, and are determined by a number of factors.

Long-term care insurance

Long-term care insurance (LTC) is an insurance policy that offers care or treatment for an injury, illness or loss of functional capability. LTC insurance offers many benefits including a way for a family to protect itself against the high cost of nursing homes; the national average cost of a semi-private room is now $80,000 a year and, by 2030, is expected to exceed $190,000 per year.[1]

Of the people who reach age 65 —

70%
may need long-term care at some point during their life.[2]



Insurance is one of those things that you hope you never need to use…but you're very happy to have the coverage, just in case. A careful evaluation with an insurance professional is the best course of action to determine your individual needs.

1 John Hancock Financial Services, 2007
2 Consumer Reports, 8/08

STRATEGY #4

Create a will and estate plan

If you do nothing else to take care of your legal affairs, you should write a will. Every adult should have one, but the majority of us — about 70% — do not.[3]

Put it in writing

A will is important even if you don't think you have assets. If you die without a will, state laws will determine the division of your property and assets, and that might not be to your liking. You might want to leave money to a person, or give items with sentimental value to someone, but if it isn't written down it can cause significant conflict in a family. A will is used to:

1. **Determine who will inherit what.**
   It's unlikely that the division of property written in your state's laws will exactly match your wishes. The only way to be sure is to have a will or trust direct how your assets are divided and what sentimental items go to each person.

2. **Name a guardian for your children and name the executor of your estate.**
   Without a will, the state will appoint a guardian for your children and make other important decisions. If you have minor children or family members with special needs, then a will and proper estate plan is a necessity. In addition to naming someone you trust as guardian, you can also detail the lifestyle you want for your children. These decisions are left to the guardian or executor if there is no will in place.

While we strongly urge you to seek professional advice, there are some Web sites with great information on the subject of wills, and some self-help sites that will help you create a simple will on your own. Try www.nolo.com, www.legacywriter.com or search using the key phrase **"wills and estate planning."**

Estate planning

Estate planning is about more than just taxes. The goal is to protect your assets during your lifetime and distribute them according to your instructions when you die.

Of course, each person's situation is unique and estate planning is an area where professional legal and tax advice is crucial. But if you are married, are divorced or remarried, have children, have family members with special needs, or have assets beyond a home and retirement accounts, you could probably benefit. Estate planning can help you:

- Minimize death expenses
- Avoid death taxes
- Deliver assets to the proper people
- Help a business to survive
- Ease the burden on your heirs
- Name a guardian for yourself, should you become incapacitated

Some common estate planning tools include life insurance, 529 plans, wills and trusts, and long-term care insurance. Good legal and financial advice, and advance planning, can help relieve stress on your family and help your estate pay as little in taxes as possible.

As with any legal document, make sure to keep your will and estate plan current. Any time you have a major life change — marriage, divorce, birth, death, job change — you should reexamine your will and estate plan to make sure it still reflects your needs.

3 www.nolo.com

STRATEGY #5

Reduce debt

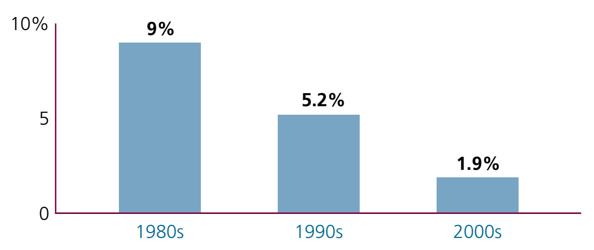
If you want to feel more confident about the future, and feel good about your finances, you need to have discipline and firm control on your spending. Recently, many people have run up large bills and debts because they were confident they could easily pay the money back. Today, total consumer debt in America is nearly $2.5 trillion. Out of that, $943 billion is revolving debt, which is essentially credit card debt.[1] Clearly, debt is a problem for many people. If you can't pay the bills, how can you start saving for emergencies or investing for the future?

Reflect back on the asset and liabilities sheet in strategy #1; how did you feel after completing it, when you saw the final numbers? Happy, mildly anxious or distraught? The answer can tell you whether or not you need to make changes in your spending habits. For most people, reducing debt has to be a priority.

A nation of debtors?

- Average personal debt in the U.S., not counting mortgage debt, is about $13,000.[2]
- 40% of American families spend more than they earn.[1]
- Average personal wealth of a 50-year old American, including home equity: less than $40,000.[2]

Average personal saving rate[2]



Credit card debt

Interest rates charged on credit cards do not move in step with the Fed; the average interest rate on credit cards is 13.4%.[2] That's a lot to pay when money in the bank is only earning 1%–3%. Consider these statistics:

- About half of active credit card accounts are not paid off monthly.[3]
- The average American household has over $8,500 worth of credit card debt.[1]
- 28% of Americans admit that it has been difficult to pay off their credit card balances.[4]

If you continually charge up big credit card bills, there's nothing that will help until you stop doing so. But if you have your spending under control, and are now looking to pay down debt, there are some options for you.

- If you're a good customer with a record of repayment, call and request a lower interest rate. Be prepared to make your case, and be firm — don't hesitate to speak to a supervisor. Your chances are good; more than half of those who asked to pay less got their rate reduced, according to a recent study.[2]
- If your current issuer won't lower your rate, and you're willing to change companies, there are many options. Go to www.bankrate.com for helpful information and rate comparisons.
- There is some good news for consumers looking to reduce debt: interest rates are historically low. A lower interest-rate environment can mean positive things for consumers, because they pay less for many loans like mortgages, automobiles and college. So consumers can actually save a lot of money on debt repayment, and in many cases, lock in to lower rates for long periods of time.

It isn't easy when so many temptations exist, but controlling spending and reducing your debt burden is always a smart thing to do.

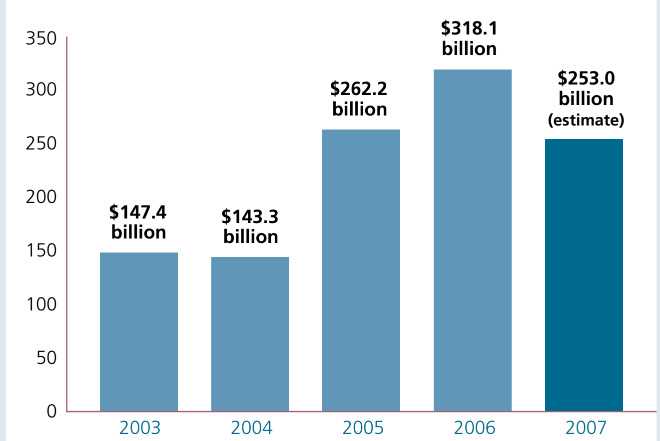
1 Federal Reserve, 6/08
2 www.bankrate.com, 2008
3 Experian, 2008
4 Javelin Strategy & Research, 7/08

Home Equity

As you pay back the principal of the loan, you build equity in your home. Once equity has been built up on a property, some people choose to tap into that resource for a variety of reasons.

While taking some equity out to put on a home addition or to do needed home repairs can make sense, you should talk to your financial professional before taking action. New debt can have a dramatic effect on your financial well-being. If you've borrowed some of your home equity, now may be a good time to start paying it back— especially if you have an adjustable-rate mortgage.

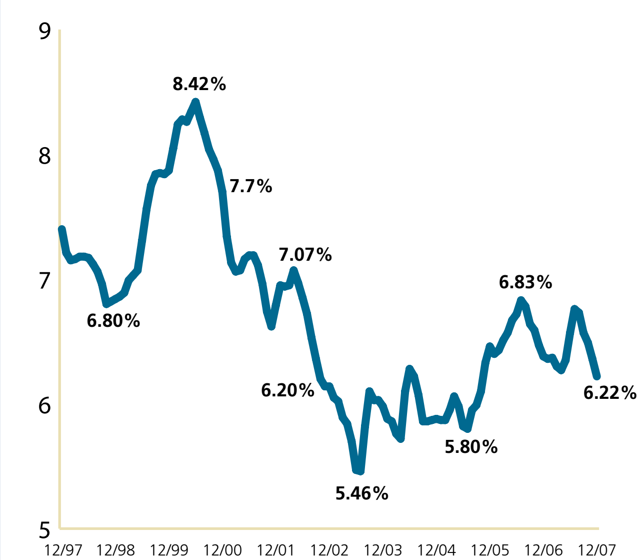
Equity extraction through mortgage refinancing[6]



Mortgages

Some types of debt, such as mortgages, are considered good debt. After all, you have to live somewhere, so why not in your own home? You benefit from ownership, the chance to build equity as home prices increase over the long term and the tax break on mortgage interest.

Home mortgage rates[5]



College loans

If you or your children owe money for college loans, and you haven't yet consolidated your loans, you might want to consider it. Loan consolidation allows borrowers to combine several loans into one, extend the payment period and lock in an interest rate. To find out current rates, go to www.salliemae.com or simply enter "student loan consolidation" in an Internet search.

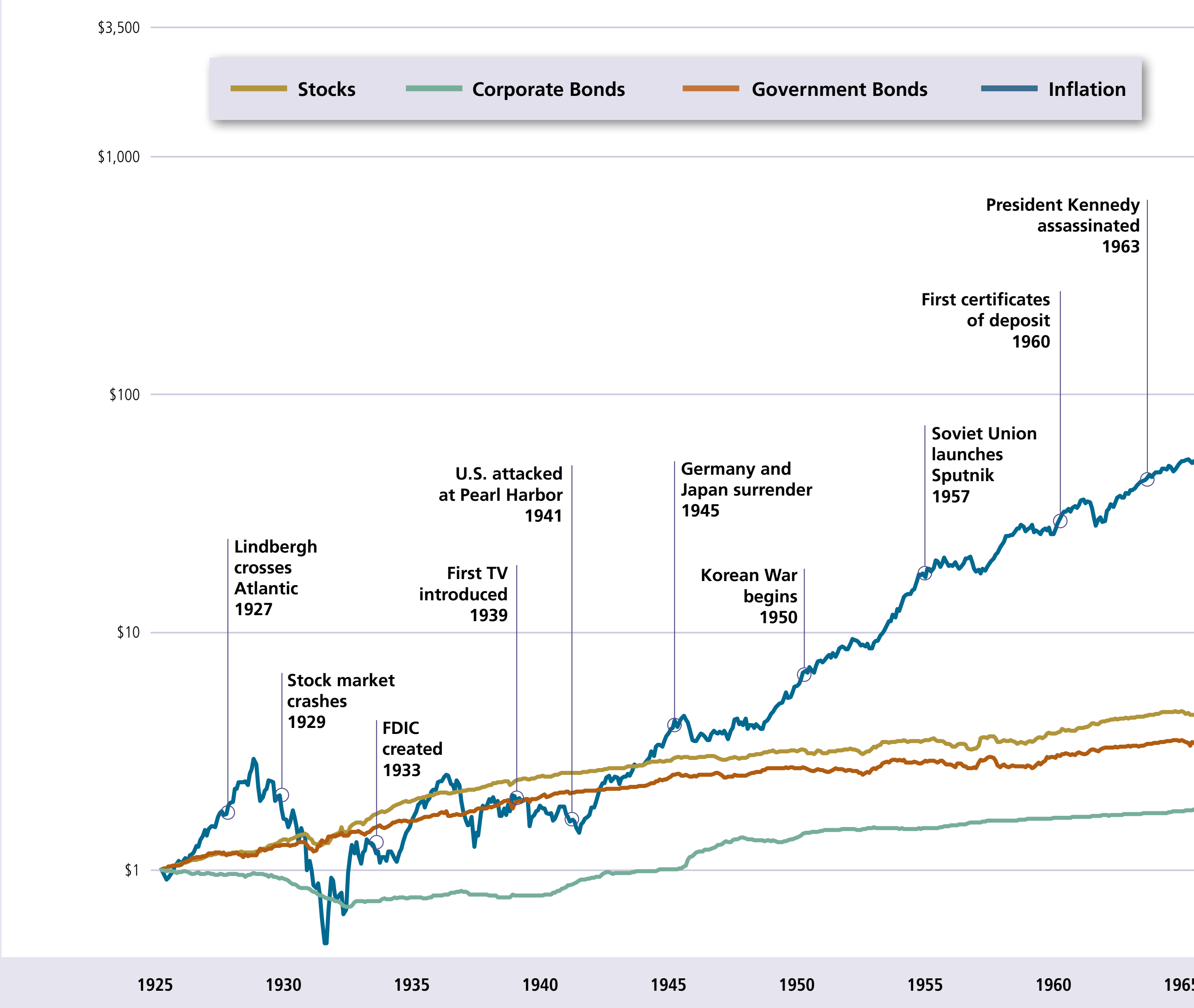
5 Bloomberg/Federal Housing Financing Board, 2008
6 Freddie Mac, 2008

STRATEGY #6

Invest for the long term

For many people, stocks are part of a long-term investment plan to help them achieve their financial goals. That's because stocks have been the best performers over time, easily outpacing inflation and other common types of investments. But with so much that can happen in the world, it might not seem like a good time to invest.

Growth of a dollar over time



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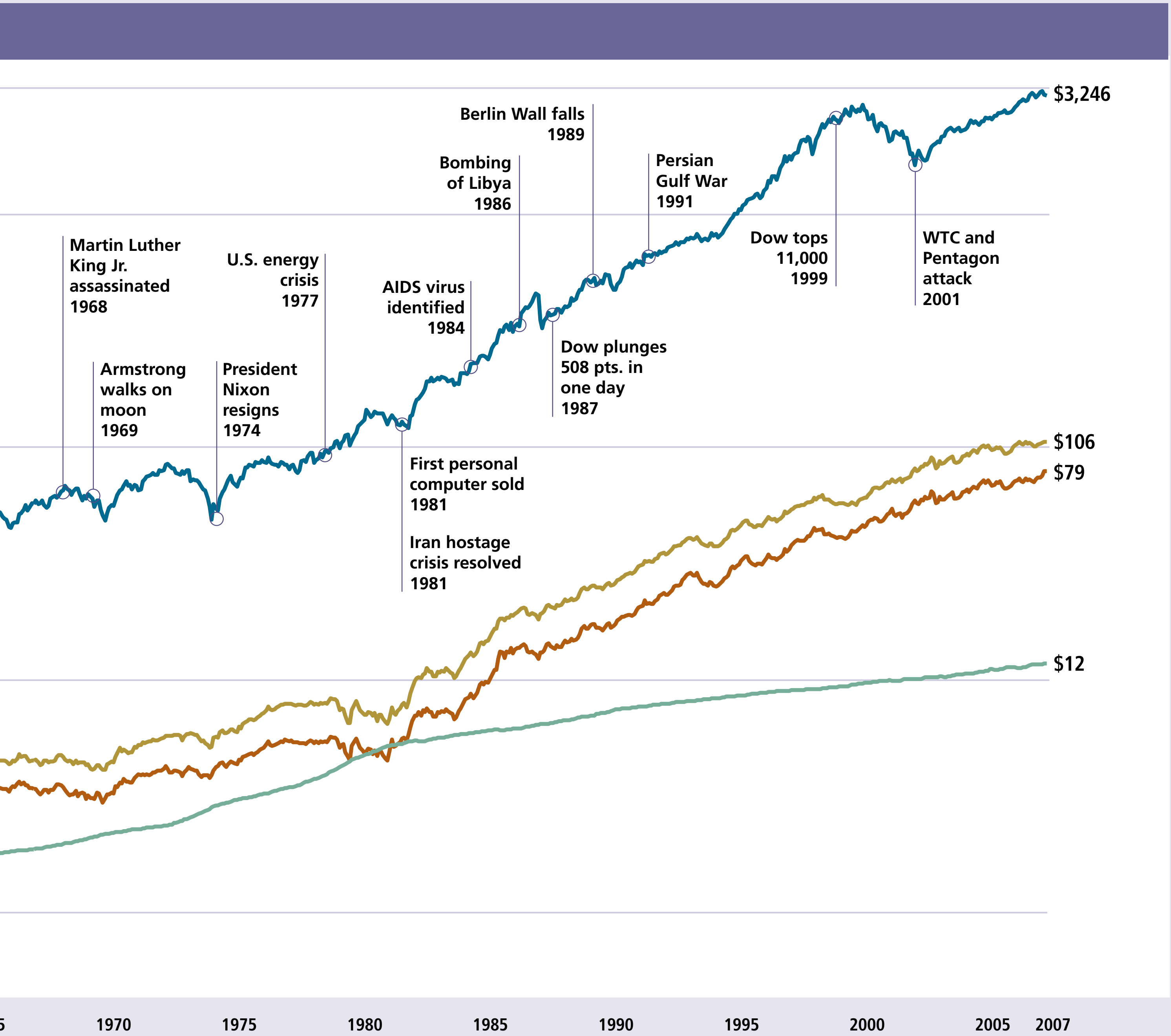
Now take a look at this chart of the S&P 500. It highlights not only market movements, but some of the crises other generations faced: war, disease, corporate failures and tragedies. Are the tough times we face now so much different from theirs then? Pick a time period from the chart and think of the turmoil that investors at the time lived through. If you could go back in time, would you advise people of the period to put money in the market, or not? You'd probably urge them to invest!



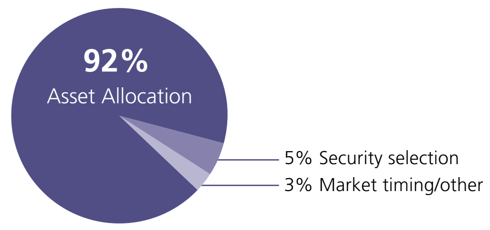
Keep things in perspective. If you're serious about your future, consider buying stocks for the long term. Think of the advice that you would have given investors in other years, faced with economic uncertainties…and take your own advice!

STRATEGY #7

Asset allocate

Asset allocation is an investment term referring to the percentage of money you should put in various asset classes such as stocks, bonds or cash. Using the right asset allocation can potentially lower your investment risk and increase your returns, and your asset allocation decision is one of the most important you can make. In fact, research indicates that 92% of the variation in portfolio returns can come from asset allocation decisions. So how should you allocate your investments? The two most important considerations are your time horizon and your risk tolerance.

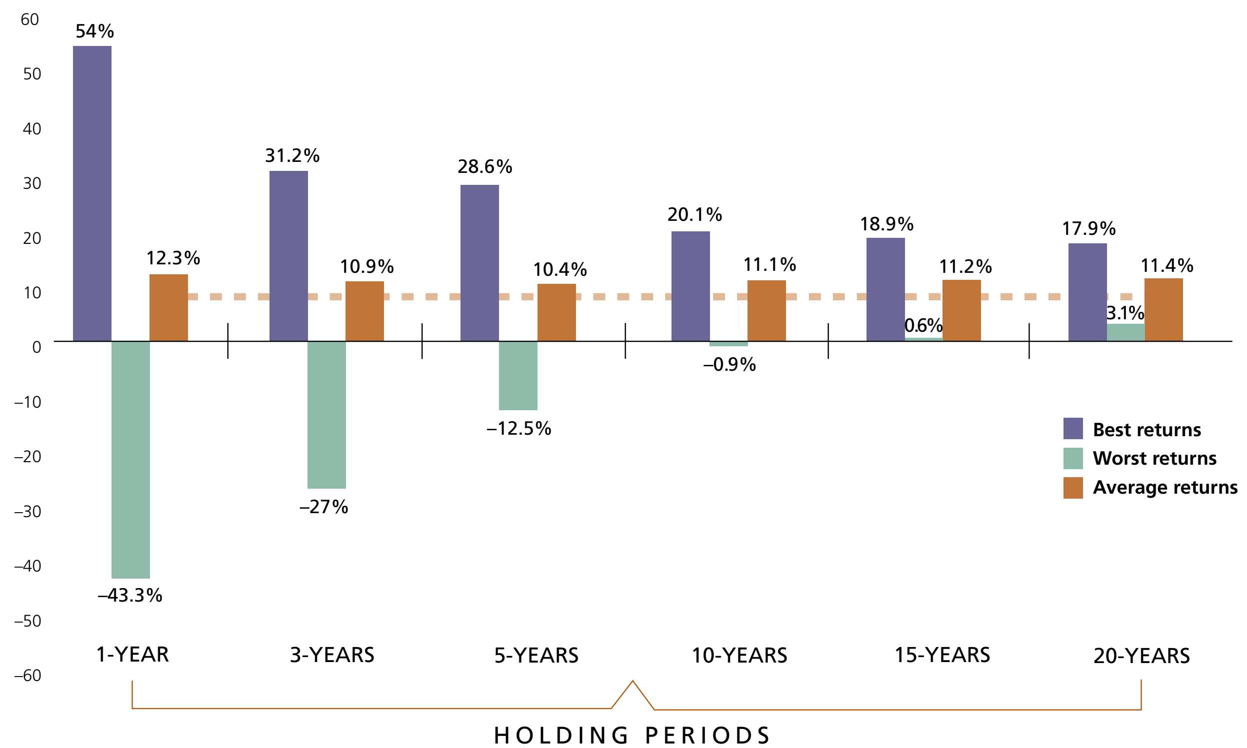
Portfolio returns[1]



Time horizon

Time horizon refers to your age and how many years you have to invest before you need the money. A long time horizon allows you to bear more risk in your investments because of your ability to ride out potential fluctuations by holding your investments through an entire market cycle. The chart below illustrates the market's volatility over specified time periods.

Investment risk lessens over a longer time horizon — S&P Index 1926–2007[2]



1 Brinson, Singer and Breebower, "Determinants of Portfolio Performance II," *Financial Analyst Journal*, May/June 1991.

2 Source: Calculated by John Hancock Funds, LLC using information and data presented in ENCORR Software, ©2008 Morningstar, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission. This information container herein: (1) is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its content providers; (2) may not be copied or distributed; and (3) is not warranted to be accurate, complete or timely. Neither Morningstar nor its content providers are responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index and cannot be invested in directly. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. This data is not intended to represent the performance of any John Hancock mutual fund.

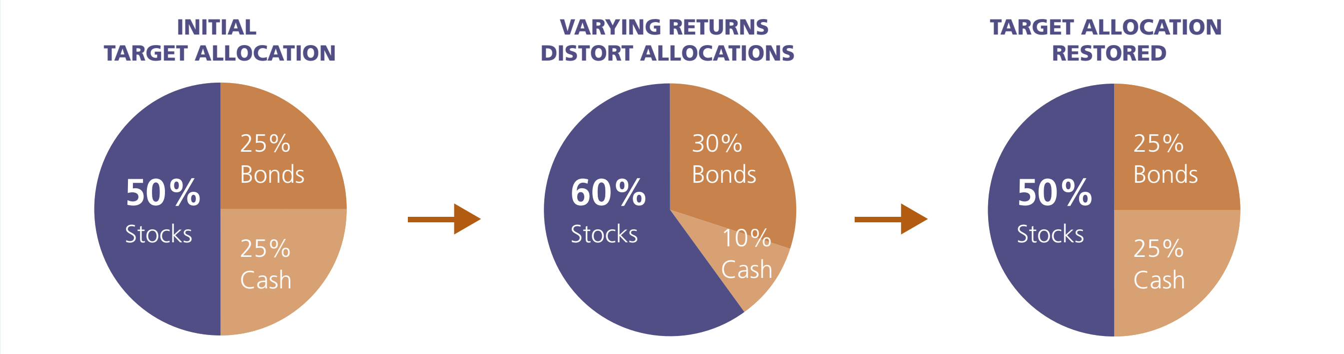
Risk tolerance

Each investor has a different comfort level with risk and will react to market fluctuations in a variety of ways. If you see a sudden market drop of 20% as an opportunity to buy more stocks, you have a high risk tolerance. If the very idea of losing 20% of your retirement account keeps you up at night, you have a lower risk tolerance. Your financial professional can help you determine what mix of assets best suits your unique situation.

The importance of rebalancing

Stock and bond values don't move in a straight line. Left alone, your portfolio can stray far from your original asset allocation. By regularly "rebalancing," or shifting your money among investments in order to maintain your target allocations, your portfolio is more likely to maintain a consistent risk profile.

Why rebalance?



Rebalancing has another potential benefit. Although rebalancing is not a market timing strategy, its very nature can force you to move money from an asset class that has performed well (selling high) into an asset class or fund that has performed poorly (buying low). This strategy may provide attractive returns over time and reduce the overall volatility of your portfolio.

Asset allocation and rebalancing add discipline to the investment process, something most investors need. Before establishing an asset allocation or rebalancing program, make sure you understand all the implications. An expert opinion from a source that isn't emotionally involved in the decision, like a financial professional, can be a great help.

STRATEGY #8

Dollar-cost average

Buy low, sell high, is the best way we know to accumulate wealth. The best way to buy low right now? We strongly urge you to consider dollar-cost averaging. It's critically important to consider what — and how — you invest, because what appears to be the smart choice isn't necessarily so. Let's assume that Investors A, B and C realize that they need to save more, and decide to begin a systematic savings plan. They each invest $1,000 each month. Where is the best place to invest?

A: A stock that goes up

	Price	Shares purchased
Jan	$80.00	12.5
Feb	$81.97	12.2
Mar	$84.75	11.8
Apr	$84.03	11.9
May	$86.96	11.5
Jun	$91.74	10.9
Jul	$90.09	11.1
Aug	$94.34	10.6
Sep	$96.15	10.4
Oct	$95.25	10.5
Nov	$98.04	10.2
Dec	$100.00	10.0
TOTAL		133.6

Start price:
$80.00

End price:
$100.00

Average price per share:
$90.25

Average cost per share:
$89.80

Investor A's great stock did well. Since Investor A bought fewer shares as the stock price rose, his average cost per share was slightly lower than the average price per share during the year.

B: A stock that remains relatively flat

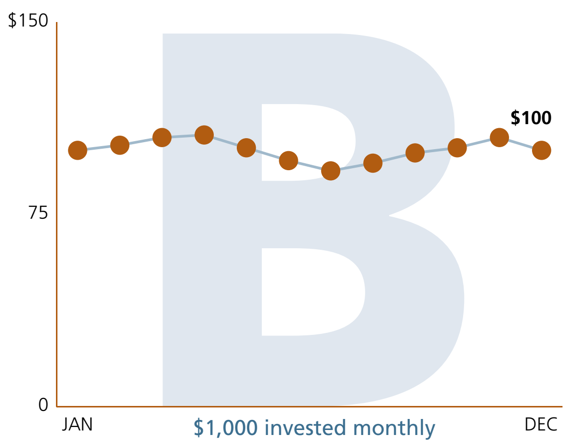
	Price	Shares purchased
Jan	$100.00	10.0
Feb	$102.04	9.8
Mar	$105.26	9.5
Apr	$106.38	9.4
May	$101.01	9.9
Jun	$96.15	10.4
Jul	$91.74	10.9
Aug	$95.24	10.5
Sep	$100.00	10.0
Oct	$101.01	9.9
Nov	$105.26	9.5
Dec	$100.00	10.0
TOTAL		120.0

Start price:
$100.00

End price:
$100.00

Average price per share:
$100.17

Average cost per share:
$100.00



Investor B's conservative investment held steady. But the downside of a conservative account is limited upside. The strategy reduced his average cost per share minimally compared to the average price.

C: A stock that fluctuates

	Price	Shares purchased
Jan	$110.00	9.1
Feb	$91.74	10.9
Mar	$84.03	11.9
Apr	$75.76	13.2
May	$68.03	14.7
Jun	$59.88	16.7
Jul	$54.95	18.2
Aug	$64.10	15.6
Sep	$75.19	13.3
Oct	$86.21	11.6
Nov	$91.74	10.9
Dec	$100.00	10.0
TOTAL		156.0

Start price:
$110.00

End price:
$100.00

Average price per share:
$80.17

Average cost per share:
$76.90

Investor C's first $1,000 bought 9 shares. But as Investor C's stock fell, the $1,000 bought more and more shares. Using dollar-cost averaging helped Investor C reduce the average price paid for each share, making the strategy effective for the long term.

For the client who is dollar-cost averaging, **Option C**, a stock that fluctuates, may be the best choice!

These examples are for illustrative purposes only. Most investments generally fluctuate according to market conditions. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.

Dollar-cost averaging is the simple investment strategy of investing a consistent amount on a regular basis, usually monthly. By practicing dollar-cost averaging, you ensure that you're buying fewer shares at a high price and more shares at a lower price, which is a goal among many investors. This may lower the average price you pay for an investment, while lowering the risk of buying at the wrong time. **Be aware that dollar-cost averaging does not assure a profit or protect against loss in a declining market. Such a plan involves continuous investment in securities regardless of fluctuating price levels. An investor should consider his/her financial ability to continue his purchases through periods of low price levels.**

These examples are hypothetical and are not intended to imply the performance of any specific John Hancock Fund.

STRATEGY #9

Contribute the maximum to retirement plans

The #1 financial concern for most Americans is having enough money to live comfortably in retirement. How are we doing? Currently, 40% of Americans are not saving for retirement.[1] That leaves lots of room for improvement.

What's behind the retirement concerns?

- **Americans are living longer**. The average man lives to age 74, while the average woman lives to age 80.
- **We retire younger**. The average retiree leaves the workforce around age 62. And since you can expect to live for many more years in retirement, your savings need to last for a long time.
- **Traditional pensions are fading**. Pensions that promise retirees a percentage of salary are rare these days, because many companies have switched to defined contribution plans.
- **Social Security won't be enough**. Social Security was never meant to be the sole source of income in retirement. The average monthly benefit to a single person is $1,086, only a little above standard poverty levels.[2] And some people aren't convinced that Social Security as we know it will even be around by the time they retire.

Saving for retirement is probably more important than ever before!

How to succeed? **Pay yourself first**. It's a question of priorities. If you pay yourself first in the way of retirement contributions, you ensure that your most important goal receives the funding it deserves. After you pay yourself first, then you can budget for your other expenses. Guess what? You'll find that you have the money for your bills, even if it means you sometimes cut a restaurant meal or delay a purchase.

Retirement plans offer:

Pre-tax contributions — Many types of retirement vehicles allow contributions to be made before taxes, offering you a tax break as well as savings opportunities.

Participating in a retirement plan helps you save for the future and reduces your taxable income, resulting in tax savings.

	Pre-tax retirement contribution	No retirement contribution
Yearly income	$45,000	$45,000
Pre-tax retirement contribution	$2,700	$0
Taxable income	$42,300	$45,000
Federal taxes (including FICA & Medical)	$11,421	$12,150
Tax savings	$729	$0

Matching contributions — If you're fortunate to work for a company that offers matching contributions, take advantage of them! If your company matches the first 3% or 4% of your contribution, for example, you should contribute as much as you can, but at least enough to receive the full benefit of the match. A company match is like free money — why would you waste the opportunity?

Securing a comfortable retirement may be easier than you think. Take advantage of the tax breaks and any matching opportunities available, pay yourself first — and get started today!

1 2007 Retirement Confidence Survey — EBRI/ASEC/Greenwald
2 Social Security Administration, 3/08

Tax deferral — Tax benefits and compound growth make regular contributions grow faster than you might think. Over long periods of time, tax deferral makes an incredible difference in the amount you accumulate.

Painless savings — Saving regularly, through an employer's plan, is the easiest and most convenient way to save. Your regular contributions will be deducted from your paycheck each pay period. You don't actually see the money, so you don't miss it. And of course, it lets you **pay yourself first**.

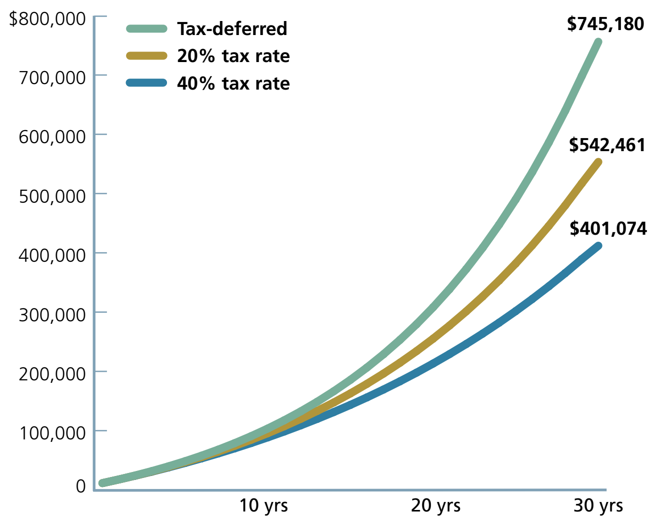
If your employer doesn't have a plan, or you're self-employed, you can set up a systematic investment program yourself. Simply establish the appropriate retirement account, and choose the automatic investment option available from the provider of your choice. (Most mutual fund companies, including John Hancock Funds, offer this free of charge.) The amount will be automatically deducted from your checking or savings account on a monthly basis, so you never have to write a check or look for a stamp.

Retirement contribution — Maximum limits in 2008

IRAs, Traditional or Roth	**$5,000 + $1,000 catch up**
SIMPLE IRAs & SIMPLE 401(k)s	**$10,500 + $2,500 catch up**
401(k)s, 403(b)s, 457(b) plans	**$15,500 + $5,000 catch up**
Owner-only 401(k)s	**$46,000 + $5,000 catch up**

NOTE: Catch-up provisions are available only to people age 50 years or older. The IRS imposes a 10% penalty for early withdrawal if you are under age 59½, in addition to regular income taxes.

Power of tax deferral



This example is hypothetical and does not represent any particular investment. Chart assumes $500 invested monthly at 8% for 30 years tax-deferred, with 20% tax rate and 40% tax rate.

STRATEGY #10

Seek expert advice

You entrust your health to your doctor. You put your car in the hands of a trained mechanic. Doesn't your financial prosperity deserve the same professional attention? Apart from having good health, having money and managing finances are two of the factors that matter most in determining the quality of your life. At John Hancock Funds, we believe that seeking expert help and establishing a relationship with a professional is the best way to secure the kind of life you want to live.

Do you have someone to help you set long-term goals and plan for the future? A trained professional will be able to assist you in making sense of what you hear in the media, living within your means, understanding what you own and how it works, along with many other important financial lessons. Here are some of the financial professionals most commonly used to develop a well-rounded plan.

Financial Consultants

These people might also be called brokers, financial planners, investment counselors or registered representatives. They are usually investment experts who can help you map out a long-term plan, and offer a wide range of products (mutual funds, separate accounts, stocks, bonds), services (advice, asset allocation, rebalancing) and expertise (retirement planning, estate planning). Financial consultants must pass stringent exams and coursework, must be registered with FINRA, have continuing education requirements, and may also hold other licenses and designations.

Insurance planners

Insurance agents help people protect their loved ones, and guard against unexpected occurrences, through a range of insurance products such as life, disability and long-term care insurance. Agents must complete education and exams, and be licensed at the state level. Many agents are licensed to sell securities in addition to insurance, and those with the Chartered Financial Consultant (ChFC) designation have completed coursework in investments, taxation, and estate and financial planning.

Accountants

You might think of your Certified Public Accountant, or CPA, as someone who can advise you on tax issues, and of course that's correct. But some CPAs can also help you with investments and estate planning. Many CPAs are accredited by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants as Personal Financial Specialists after completing three years of financial planning and passing a comprehensive exam.

Attorneys

Lawyers can be called upon for a wide range of services, from setting up a will or a trust for a family, to creating an estate plan, to serving as executor or filing papers for probate. Many complex financial transactions require the services of an attorney, and it's always a good idea to have someone selected before you actually need his or her assistance. Lawyers must complete years of specialized schooling and pass Bar Exams in their respective states before being allowed to practice.

Depending upon your financial needs, you might use several of these experts, or all of them, over the course of your lifetime. Since these are usually people involved in your community, they can help you with referrals to other experts you might need, too.

John Hancock can help

When you invest with John Hancock Funds, you gain an investment partner with more than 30 years of investment experience. We are committed to helping people reach their financial goals by providing professional quality and consistency in the way we manage our funds. John Hancock Funds is the mutual fund affiliate of John Hancock Financial Services, Inc. The reputation that accompanies our name also inspires great expectations. We are committed to not just meeting, but exceeding your expectations.

DOMESTIC EQUITY	CLASS A
Balanced Fund	SVBAX
Classic Value Fund	PZFVX
Classic Value Fund II	JHVAX
Classic Value Mega Cap Fund	JMEAX
Growth Opportunities Fund	GOOGX
Large Cap Equity Fund	TAGRX
Large Cap Select Fund	MSBFX
Mid Cap Equity Fund	JCEAX
Optimized Value Fund	JOVAX
Rainier Growth Fund	RGROX
Small Cap Fund	DSISX
Small Cap Equity Fund	SPVAX
Small Cap Intrinsic Value Fund	JHIAX
Sovereign Investors Fund	SOVIX
U.S. Core Fund	GOCGX
U.S. Global Leaders Growth Fund	USGLX
Value Opportunities Fund	GOUGX

ASSET ALLOCATION	CLASS A
TARGET RISK	
Lifestyle Aggressive Portfolio	JALAX
Lifestyle Balanced Portfolio	JALBX
Lifestyle Conservative Portfolio	JALRX
Lifestyle Growth Portfolio	JALGX
Lifestyle Moderate Portfolio	JALMX
TARGET DATE	
Lifecycle 2045 Portfolio	JLJAX
Lifecycle 2040 Portfolio	JLIAX
Lifecycle 2035 Portfolio	JLHAX
Lifecycle 2030 Portfolio	JLFAX
Lifecycle 2025 Portfolio	JLEAX
Lifecycle 2020 Portfolio	JLDAX
Lifecycle 2015 Portfolio	JLBAX
Lifecycle 2010 Portfolio	JLAAX
RETIREMENT INCOME	
Lifecycle Retirement Portfolio	JLRAX
Retirement Distribution Portfolio	JRDAX
Retirement Rising Distribution Portfolio	JRRAX

GLOBAL / INTERNATIONAL EQUITY	CLASS A
Global Opportunities Fund	JGPAX
Global Shareholder Yield Fund	JGYAX
Greater China Opportunities Fund	JCOAX
International Allocation Portfolio	JAIAX
International Classic Value Fund	JHFAX
International Core Fund	GIDEX
International Growth Fund	GOIGX

SPECIALTY	CLASS A
Financial Industries Fund	FIDAX
Global Real Estate Fund	JREAX
Health Sciences Fund	JHGRX
Regional Bank Fund	FRBAX

INCOME	CLASS A
Bond Fund	JHNBX
Floating Rate Income Fund	JFIAX
Government Income Fund	JHGIX
High Yield Fund	JHHBX
Investment Grade Bond Fund	TAUSX
Strategic Income Fund	JHFIX

TAX-FREE INCOME	CLASS A
California Tax-Free Income Fund	TACAX
High Yield Municipal Bond Fund	JHTFX
Massachusetts Tax-Free Income Fund	JHMAX
New York Tax-Free Income Fund	JHNYX
Tax-Free Bond Fund	TAMBX

PRIVATE ACCOUNT STRATEGIES

Sovereign Dividend Performers
Sovereign Dividend Performers Balanced
MFC Global Mid Cap Equity
MFC Global Small Cap Equity
John Hancock U.S. Global Leaders Growth

All products may not be available at all firms.

Why John Hancock Funds?

For more than three decades, John Hancock Funds has been helping individual, corporate and institutional clients reach their most important financial goals. With so many fund companies to choose from, why should you invest with us?

A name you know and trust

When you invest with John Hancock Funds, you are investing with one of the most recognized and respected names in the financial services industry. Our parent company has been helping individuals and institutions increase and protect wealth since 1862.

Solutions across the investing spectrum

We offer equity, income, international, sector and asset-allocation investment solutions managed by leading institutional money managers. We take a disciplined, team approach to portfolio management and research, leveraging the expertise of seasoned investment professionals.

Committed to you

Our shareholders come first. We work hard to provide you with the products you may need to build a solid financial foundation. We believe in the value of advice and partner with financial professionals in a commitment to help you reach your long-term investing goals.

A fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses should be considered carefully before investing. The prospectus contains this and other important information about the Fund. To obtain a prospectus, contact your financial professional, call John Hancock Funds at 1-800-225-5291 or visit our Web site at www.jhfunds.com. Please read the prospectus carefully before investing or sending money.

- John Hancock Funds has won many awards in 2008, including "**Best Overall Communications**" from the Mutual Fund Education Alliance, for the third year in a row.
- John Hancock Signature Services, Inc., the transfer and shareholder services agent for John Hancock Funds, was awarded "**5-Star**" performer status for telephone customer service for the first two quarters of 2008 from National Quality Review.
- In 2008, the John Hancock Funds' public Web site won "**Best Mutual Fund Website**" and the Financial Professional Web site won "**Outstanding Website**" from the Web Marketing Association.

the future is yours

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