

Investing

R. Teal Witter



Reasons to Save: Taxes

Taxes are expensive (rates as of 2020):

- Federal top marginal income tax is 37%
 - Colorado (flat-)income tax is 4.63%
 - New York State top marginal income tax is 8.82%
 - New York City top marginal income tax is 3.88%
 - California top marginal income tax is 12.3%



The maximum tax you pay ranges from **41.63%** (Colorado) to **49.7%** (New York City)

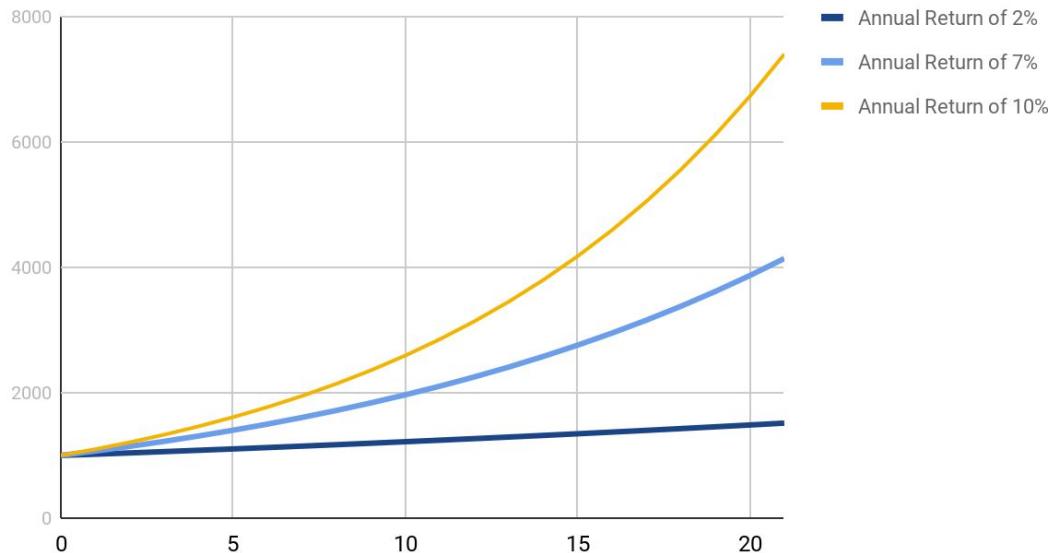
Spending \$1 ≈ Earning \$2



Reasons to Save: Compounding

\$1,515 = \$1000 in 69 years with 2%
\$4,140 = \$1000 in 69 years with 7%
\$7,400 = \$1000 in 69 years with 10%

Growth of \$1000 over 21 years

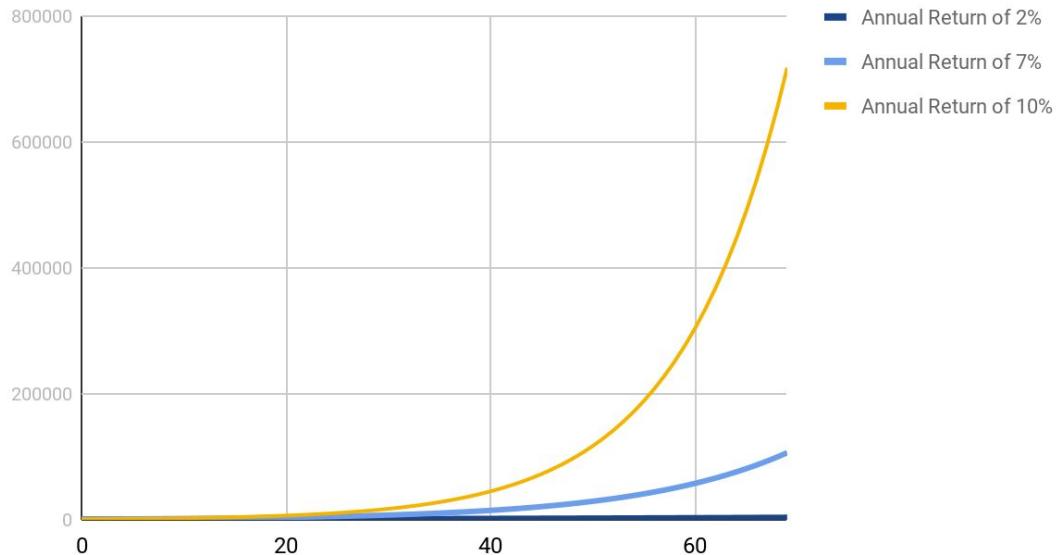




Reasons to Save: Compounding

\$3,921 = \$1000 in 69 years with 2%
\$106,532 = \$1000 in 69 years at 7%
\$717,951 = \$1000 in 69 years at 10%

Growth of \$1000 over 69 years





Taxes on Capital Gains

If you sell \$7,400 in stock that you bought for \$1,000,
you owe \$6,400 in capital gains

Federal top capital gains tax is 23.8%
State capital gains tax = state income tax

The maximum tax you pay ranges from **28.43%** (Colorado) to **36.5%** (New York City)



Spending \$2 ≈ Growing \$3



Last 30 Years

8% / year \approx 10x over last 30 years

Performance of \$1000 over last 30 years

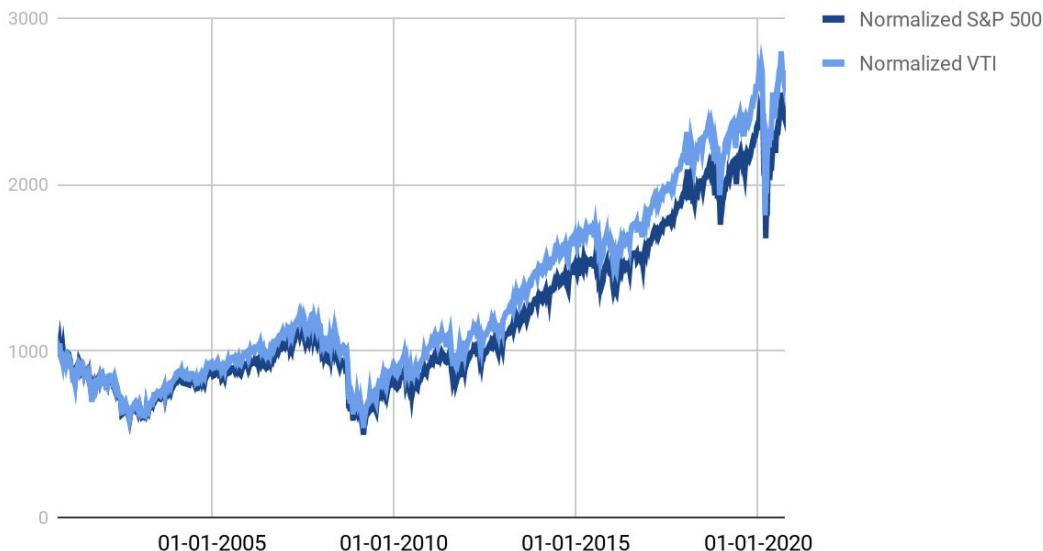




Last 20 Years

4.7% / year \approx 2.5x over last 20 years

Performance of \$1000 over last 20 years





Last 10 Years

11.6% / year \approx 3x over last 10 years

Performance of \$1000 over last 10 years



Dollar Cost Averaging

Date	Price	Investment	Shares	
02-14-2020	83.54	1000	11.97	
02-21-2020	82.64	1000	12.10	
02-28-2020	73.09	1000	13.68	
03-06-2020	73.3	1000	13.64	
03-13-2020	66.11	1000	15.13	
03-20-2020	56.01	1000	17.85	
03-27-2020	61.74	1000	16.20	
04-03-2020	60.03	1000	16.66	
04-09-2020	67.81	1000	14.75	
04-17-2020	69.69	1000	14.35	
04-24-2020	68.9	1000	14.51	
Average Price	Total Investment	Total Shares	Price per Share	
	69.35	11000	160.84	68.39



Recommendation

- Open a brokerage account (e.g. Vanguard)
- Invest a fixed amount every month into S&P 500 or VTI #dollarcostaveraging
- Keep ~1 year of expenses in treasuries (e.g. VGSH)