## Using an IRA to Build Wealth

## Executive Summary

A 65-year-old who contributed the maximum to an IRA every year since 1977 (age 20) in the S\&P 500 would have the following balances on $6 / 30 / 2022$ :
Amount Contributed .................. \$ 166,500
6/30/2022 Balance .................... \$ 2,231,985
6/30/2022 Dividends ................. \$ 39,222

Maximum IRA Contribution

IRA contributions were first allowed in 1975. The maximum contribution has been as follows:

|  | Maximum Contribution | In 2022 Dollars |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1975. | .. \$ 1,500 | \$ 8,094 |
| 1982. | 2,000 | 5,963 |
| 2002. | 3,000 | 4,763 |
| 2005. | . 4,000 | 5,897 |
| 2008. | .. 5,000 | 6,660 |
| 2013. | .. 5,500 | 6,715 |
| 2019. | . 6,000 | 6,702 |

Beginning in 2002, investors 50 years and older have been able to make a $\$ 1,000$ Catch-up Contribution.

## Several Interesting IRA Facts:

1. IRAs held $\$ 13.2$ trillion in assets as of $3 / 3 / 2022$. This is more than the $\$ 7.3$ trillion held in 401(k) plans.
2. Beginning in 1998, taxpayers could contribute to a Regular IRA (tax-deductible) or a Roth IRA (after-tax but earnings tax-free).
3. Since 2008, allowed contributions have been increased due to inflation, but they have only been adjusted in $\$ 500$ increments. Note how in 2022 dollars, the IRA contribution has stayed consistent since 2008 (right-hand column in table above). But the current \$6,000 contribution is less than the $1975 \$ 1,500$ contribution adjusted for inflation.
4. Because of high inflation, the IRA limit will likely increase to $\$ 6,500$ in 2023.

Keith Note: $\quad$ Another interesting fact—the IRA limit in 1982 was about $9.9 \%$ of what a typical household earned. In 2020, it was about 8.9\%. REMEMBER THAT OLD ADDAGE, "Save 10\% of your income?" It is still true TODAY!

## Contribute the Maximum = Become Wealthy?

On the next page is a chart showing how much a 65 -year-old in 2022 would have accumulated in their IRA after 45 years of investing.

1. Maximum contribution in each year on March $31^{\text {st }}$ from 1977 (age 20).
2. Contributions made into the S\&P 500 (expenses not considered).
3. Dividends reinvested at the end of each quarter.
At 6/30/22, the results were:

Keith Note: The BIG gains in compounding come in the later years...

## START EARLY!

Note: IRA contributions can only be made if someone has earned income (wages or selfemployment income).

- If you have extra money, consider making gifts to help your young child or grandchild fund a Roth IRA.
- Small contributions into a Roth IRA for a young person can grow to large sums with compounding.
- Many children/grandchildren earn money working summer jobs in high school. That is a great time to help them start a Roth IRA.


## Investing Maximum IRA Contribution Using S\&P 500

| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Year } \\ & \text { (ending } \\ & 12 / 31 \text { ) } \end{aligned}$ | Age | IRA <br> Contribution | Cumulative Investment | Year End Value | Hypothetical Income Stream |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1977 | 20 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,504 | 82 |
| 1978 | 21 | 1,500 | 3,000 | 3,283 | 184 |
| 1979 | 22 | 1,500 | 4,500 | 5,548 | 306 |
| 1980 | 23 | 1,500 | 6,000 | 9,419 | 439 |
| 1981 | 24 | 1,500 | 7,500 | 10,368 | 572 |
| 1982 | 25 | 2,000 | 9,500 | 15,218 | 740 |
| 1983 | 26 | 2,000 | 11,500 | 20,851 | 860 |
| 1984 | 27 | 2,000 | 13,500 | 24,324 | 1,134 |
| 1985 | 28 | 2,000 | 15,500 | 34,433 | 1,310 |
| 1986 | 29 | 2,000 | 17,500 | 42,923 | 1,460 |
| 1987 | 30 | 2,000 | 19,500 | 46,880 | 1,677 |
| 1988 | 31 | 2,000 | 21,500 | 56,820 | 2,079 |
| 1989 | 32 | 2,000 | 23,500 | 77,227 | 2,500 |
| 1990 | 33 | 2,000 | 25,500 | 76,820 | 2,903 |
| 1991 | 34 | 2,000 | 27,500 | 102,401 | 2,985 |
| 1992 | 35 | 2,000 | 29,500 | 112,399 | 3,127 |
| 1993 | 36 | 2,000 | 31,500 | 125,786 | 3,333 |
| 1994 | 37 | 2,000 | 33,500 | 129,600 | 3,770 |
| 1995 | 38 | 2,000 | 35,500 | 180,634 | 4,164 |
| 1996 | 39 | 2,000 | 37,500 | 224,332 | 4,591 |
| 1997 | 40 | 2,000 | 39,500 | 301,666 | 4,912 |
| 1998 | 41 | 2,000 | 41,500 | 389,959 | 5,076 |
| 1999 | 42 | 2,000 | 43,500 | 474,209 | 5,229 |
| 2000 | 43 | 2,000 | 45,500 | 432,792 | 5,219 |
| 2001 | 44 | 2,000 | 47,500 | 383,579 | 5,319 |
| 2002 | 45 | 3,000 | 50,500 | 301,344 | 5,836 |
| 2003 | 46 | 3,000 | 53,500 | 391,613 | 7,128 |
| 2004 | 47 | 3,000 | 56,500 | 437,366 | 7,694 |
| 2005 | 48 | 4,000 | 60,500 | 463,085 | 9,022 |
| 2006 | 49 | 4,000 | 64,500 | 540,510 | 10,473 |
| 2007 | 50 | 5,000 | 69,500 | 575,393 | 11,944 |
| 2008 | 51 | 6,000 | 75,500 | 367,007 | 11,621 |
| 2009 | 52 | 6,000 | 81,500 | 472,358 | 9,590 |
| 2010 | 53 | 6,000 | 87,500 | 549,936 | 10,547 |
| 2011 | 54 | 6,000 | 93,500 | 567,396 | 13,138 |
| 2012 | 55 | 6,000 | 99,500 | 664,016 | 16,631 |
| 2013 | 56 | 6,500 | 106,000 | 886,457 | 18,263 |
| 2014 | 57 | 6,500 | 112,500 | 1,014,637 | 20,639 |
| 2015 | 58 | 6,500 | 119,000 | 1,035,581 | 23,002 |
| 2016 | 59 | 6,500 | 125,500 | 1,165,906 | 25,038 |
| 2017 | 60 | 6,500 | 132,000 | 1,427,318 | 27,291 |
| 2018 | 61 | 6,500 | 138,500 | 1,371,538 | 31,054 |
| 2019 | 62 | 7,000 | 145,500 | 1,810,343 | 34,091 |
| 2020 | 63 | 7,000 | 152,500 | 2,154,423 | 33,589 |
| 2021 | 64 | 7,000 | 159,500 | 2,780,666 | 36,825 |

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