

# **Using data science tools and techniques for creating and maintaining a passive investment portfolio**

CITRENZ 2021 Workshop, facilitated by  
Arthur Valle

# Arthur Valle, PhD

- PhD in Production and System Engineering: **Process Mining**
- **Six Sigma** Black Belt
- 23+ years of experience in IT Management: Lean Six Sigma, **CMMI**, ITIL, PMBOK, Agile/Scrum, etc
- DIY Investor (since 2016)
- Currently teaching and researching at Wintec-Waikato Institute of Technology, NZ
- Founder of **TRENDSET** ([www.trendsetconsulting.com/en](http://www.trendsetconsulting.com/en))

# Disclaimer

- I am not an authorised financial advisor.
- This is not an investment recommendation.
- Past performance does not guarantee future return.



# Content

- Why invest?
- Why passive investing?
- Key terminology
- Example of passive portfolio
- 3 steps to implement the passive strategy
- Data Science tools & techniques
- Research Project
- Conclusion

# WHY INVEST?

*"YOU, OWNER OF  
PROFITABLE COMPANIES ALL  
OVER THE WORLD"*

- **You won't get rich** working for others - or even for yourself - from 9 am to 6 pm every day.

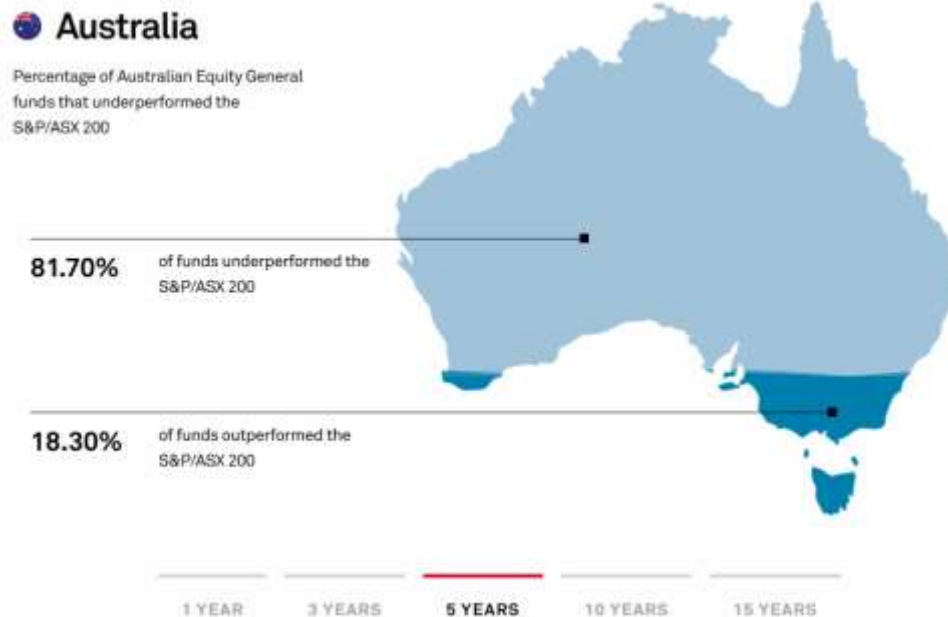
*"FREE TIME IN THE FUTURE"*

- For a decent retirement, you need to **put your money to work for you and wait the time act on it.**

# WHY PASSIVE INVESTING?

*"IF YOU CAN'T BEAT IT, JOIN IT"*

- In the long run, **very few investors are able to consistently "beat the market"**, with low risk.



Source: <https://www.spglobal.com/spdji/en/research-insights/spiva/>

*"INVESTING SHOULD BE AS BORING AS WATCHING THE GRASS TO GROW"*

- Do not waste your time reading balance sheets to find "the next Tesla": **it's the time in the market and regular contributions that will buy you "free time in the future"**.
- Dedicate your hours for your current source of income (or even new ones), but **put your savings (and time) to work for you!**

# WHY PASSIVE INVESTING?

**BFG\_BurgerFuel (brown) +  
WHS\_TheWareHouse (green) vs NZ Top 50  
(blue)**

BFG Price History



<https://www.nzx.com/instruments/BFG>

**AIA\_AucklandAirport (blue) +  
BFG\_BurgerFuel (brown) vs NZ Top 50  
(green)**

AIA Price History



<https://www.nzx.com/instruments/AIA>

# Key terminology

## Passive Investment:

- An investment strategy, **aiming to obtain the same average return as the stock market indexes**, such as S&P 500 or NZX 50.
- Implemented via index funds: greater diversification (and consequently less risky) than picking isolated companies' shares.
- Requires less effort (and knowledge):
  - it avoids unnecessary *buys* and *sells*
  - tends to have returns similar to active investing, in the long run.

## ETFs (or index funds):

- ETF (Exchange Traded Fund) is a **financial asset traded on the stock exchange. It replicates the performance of a given index.**
- ETFs are used in the passive investment strategy as they are naturally diversified and have lower management fees.
- Examples of NZX's ETFs:
  - Smartshares NZ Top 50 (FNZ)
  - Smartshares Emerging Markets ETF (EMF)
  - Smartshares S&P/ASX 200 ETF (AUS)
  - Smartshares Global Equities ESG ETF (ESG)



# EXAMPLE OF A SIMPLE PASSIVE PORTFOLIO, WITH JUST 4 ETFs:

## 25% in **Developed Markets** Equities

- Invest in listed companies from developed markets: US, Europe, Japan, etc

## 25% in **Emerging Market** Equities

- Invest in listed companies from Emerging Markets: China, Russia, Brazil, Mexico, etc

## 25% in **New Zealand** Equities

- Invest in the local New Zealand listed companies.

## 25% in **Australian** Equities

- Invest in Australian listed companies.



# 3 STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE PASSIVE STRATEGY?

Step 1: Objectives, profile and portfolio

- Define your **investment goals** (ex: 12% return per year) and **build a portfolio with assets that have the capability** to achieve the goals but that also **fits your profile** as an investor (conservative, moderate, aggressive, etc)

# STEP1 DATA SCIENCE TOOLS & TECHNIQUES

- For checking (statistical) capability: *Normality Test, Mean, Standard Deviation, Confidence Intervals, Hypothesis Testing, Control Charts, Sigma level*
- For selecting assets classes and assets and composing the portfolio: *(in addition to the ones above) DOE-Design of Experiments, ANOVA, Back testing, Correlation*

Sample size (n):	117
Average ( $\bar{x}$ ):	0.0104894
Median:	0.011455171
Sample Standard Deviation (S):	0.0249749
Sum of Squares:	0.0723545
b:	0.267764
Skewness:	-0.182217
Skewness Shape:	 Potentially <b>Symmetrical</b> (pval=1.585)
Excess kurtosis:	0.0576749
Tails Shape:	 Potentially <b>Mesokurtic</b> , normal like tails (pval=0.897)
P-value:	0.636628
Outliers:	-0.162790698, -0.061967027, 0.083333333

<https://www.statskingdom.com/320ShapiroWilk.html>

## Shapiro-Wilk test, using a right-tailed normal distribution

### 1. $H_0$ hypothesis

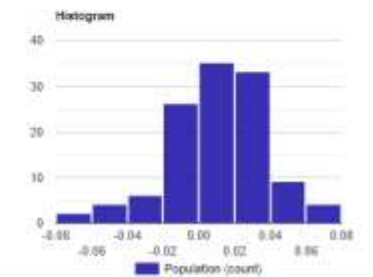
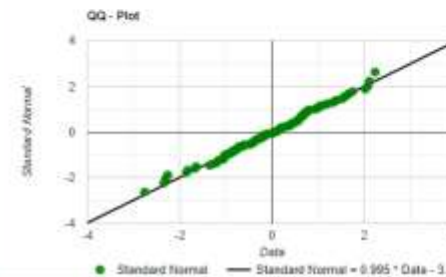
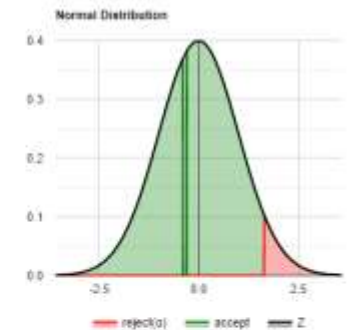
Since p-value >  $\alpha$ , we accept the  $H_0$ .  
It is assumed that the data is normally distributed.  
In other words, the difference between the data sample and the normal distribution is not big enough to be statistically significant.

### 2. P-value

p-value is **0.636628**, hence, if we would reject  $H_0$  the chance of type I error (rejecting a correct  $H_0$ ) would be too high: 0.6366 (63.66%)  
The larger the p-value, the more it supports  $H_0$ .

### 3. The statistics

W is **0.990919**. It is in the 95% critical value accepted range: [0.9779; 1.0000]



# WHAT ARE EXAMPLES OF LONG-TERM FINANCIAL GOALS?

## Example 1: **Preservation of capital**

- for example, a return target of around 1.5% per year.

## Example 2: **Protection against inflation and/or devaluation of the currency**

- a return target of 3 to 5% per year.

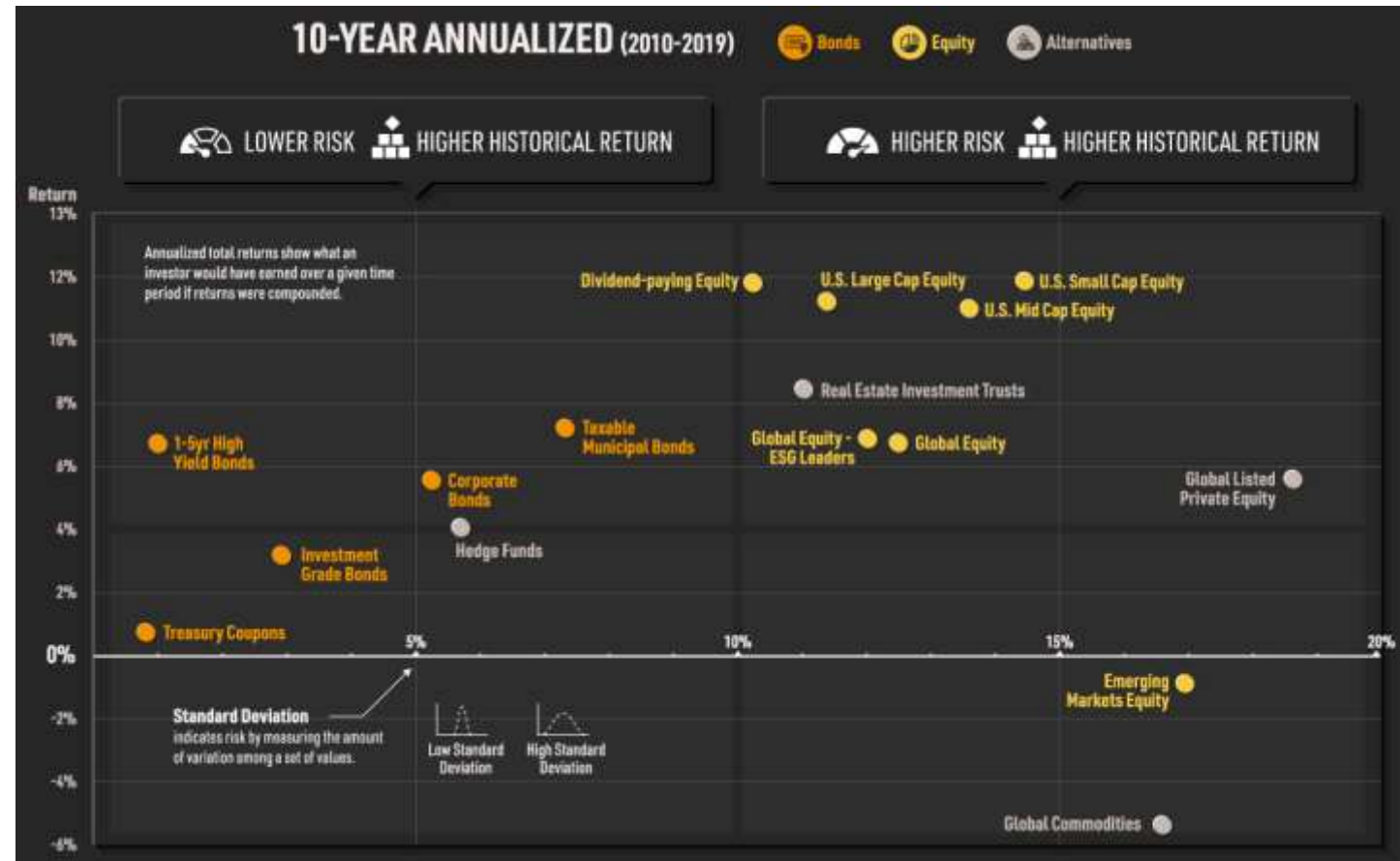
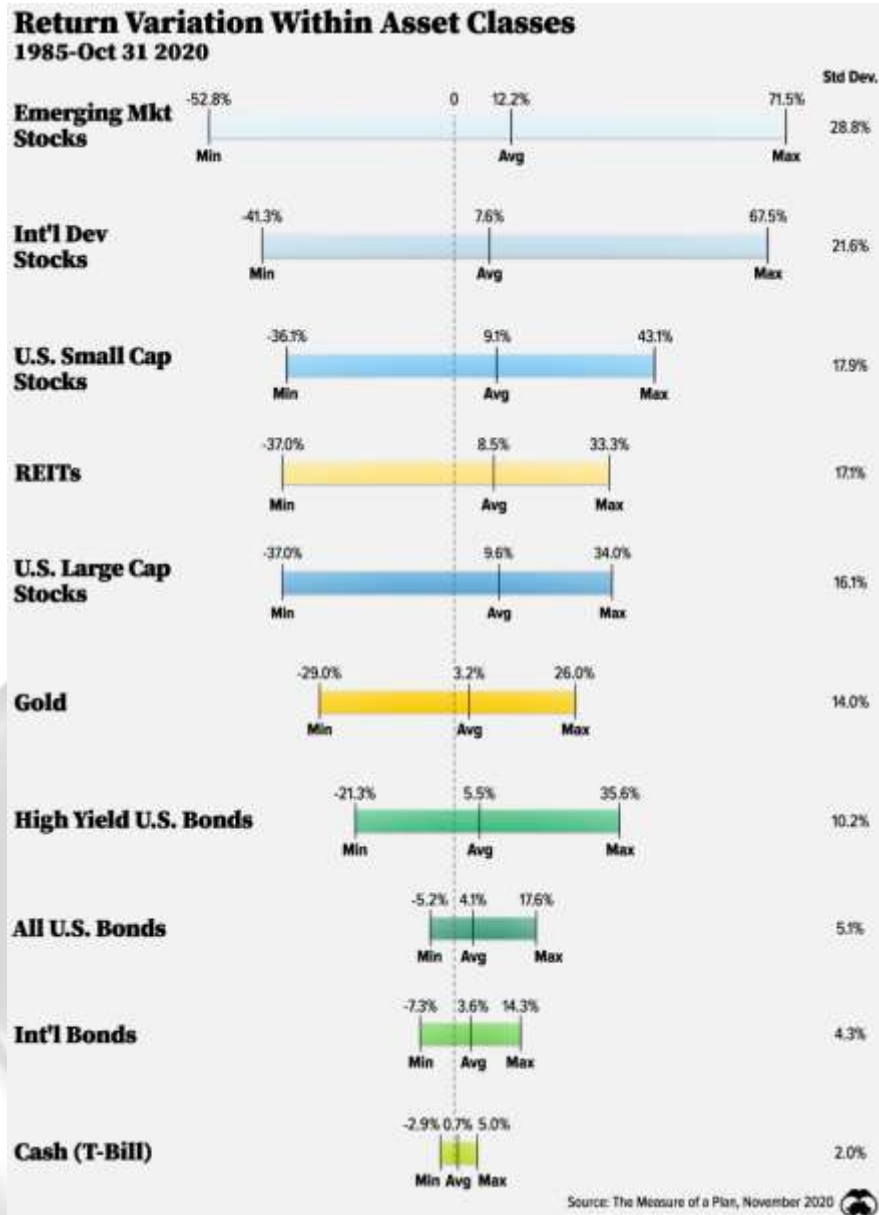
## Example 3: **Passive income**

- a target of 0.40% per month, similar to the returns of real estate rentals.

## Example 4: **Monetizing capital**

- an average return expectation from 8 to 12% per year.

# EXPECTED RETURNS (AND RISKS)



<https://advisor.visualcapitalist.com/asset-class-risk-and-return/>

<https://www.visualcapitalist.com/historical-returns-by-asset-class/>

# (GLOBALLY) DIVERSIFIED & LOW CORRELATED ASSETS

Vanguard

Global equity investing:  
The benefits of diversification  
and sizing your allocation

Vanguard Research April 2021

Figure 1. Historical mix of global equity market capitalization

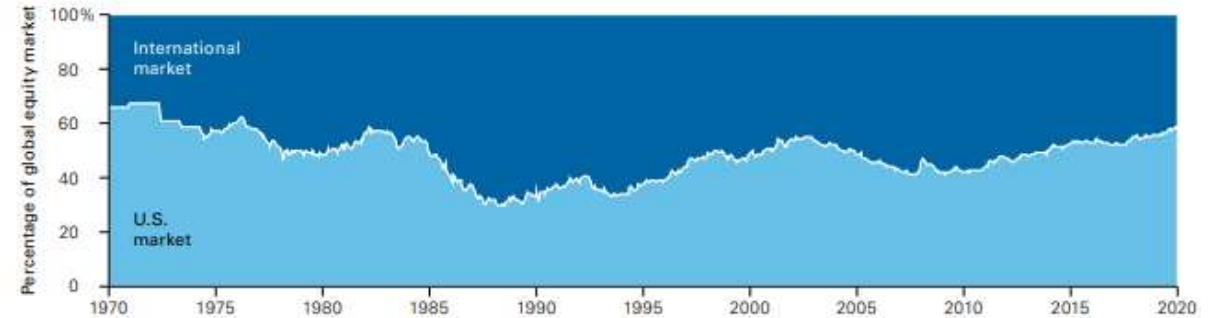


Figure 4. Historically, correlations have risen, meaning less impact from global diversification

12-month and 10-year rolling correlations between U.S. and international stocks

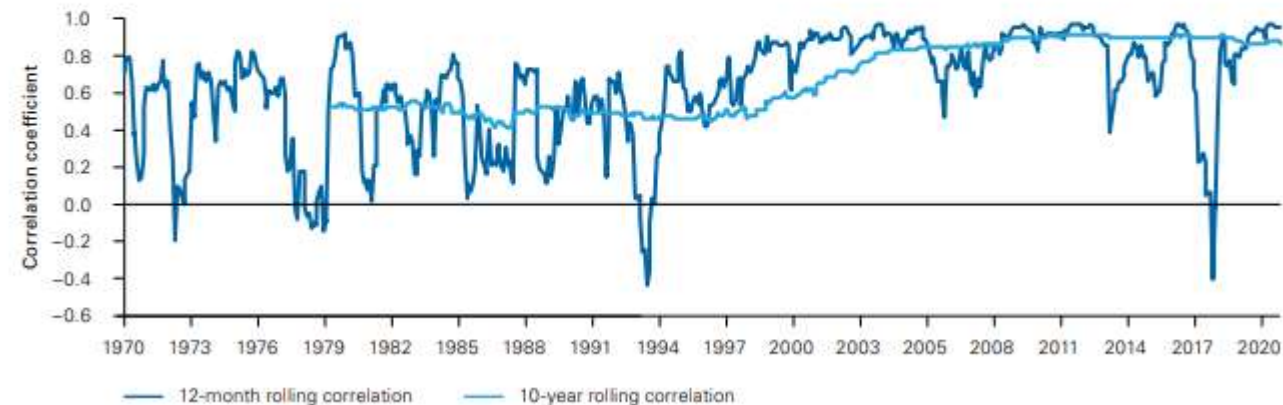
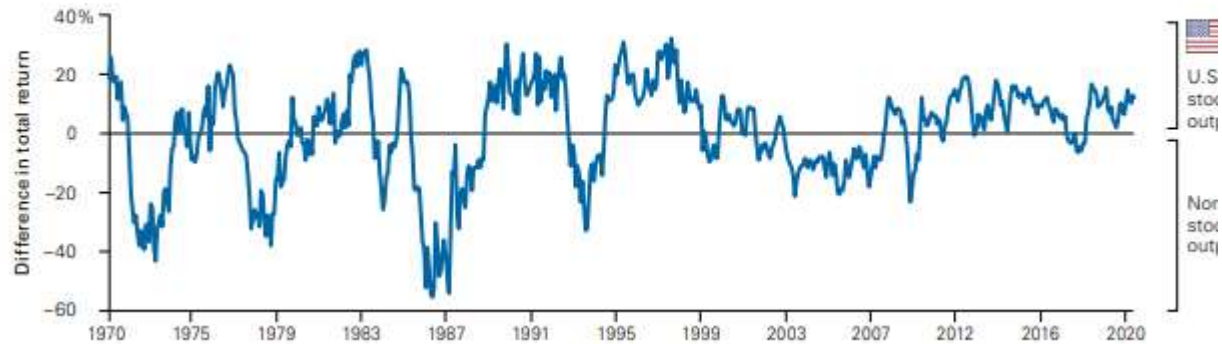


Figure 6. Trailing 12-month return differential between U.S. and non-U.S. stocks



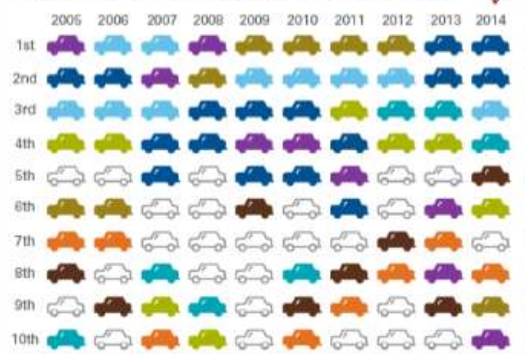


# ASSET CLASSES DIVERSIFICATION & EQUALLY WEIGHTED PORTFOLIO

Past performance data may be good criteria for selecting cars . . .

8 of the top 10 cars from 2005 persisted in the top 10 in 2014.

Family sedans as rated by Consumer Reports, 2005–2014<sup>1</sup>



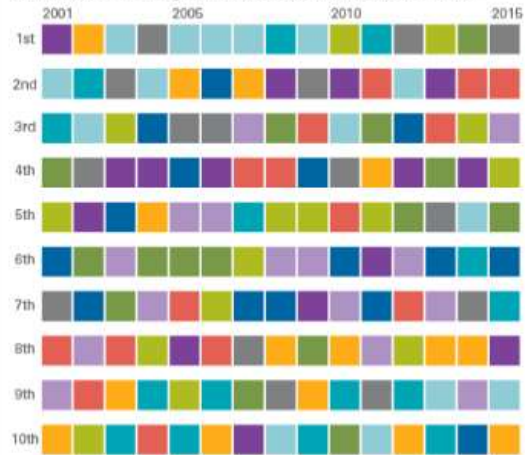
- Legend
- 1st VW Passat
- 2nd Toyota Camry
- 3rd Honda Accord
- 4th Subaru Legacy
- 5th Nissan Altima
- 6th Mazda6
- 7th Chevrolet Malibu
- 8th Hyundai Sonata

(legend ordered by 2005 ranking)  
Note: Some models appear twice in a given year as both regular and hybrid versions.

. . . but not necessarily for selecting investments

A look at the returns of various stock indexes shows no discernible pattern.

Annual-return ranking for selected stock indexes, 2001–2015<sup>1</sup>



- Legend
- 1st Russell 2000 Value
- 2nd MSCI Emerging Markets
- 3rd Citigroup WGBI Non-U.S.
- 4th Russell 1000 Value
- 5th Russell 2000 Growth
- 6th MSCI EAFE Value
- 7th MSCI EAFE Small + Mid Cap
- 8th Russell 1000 Growth
- 9th MSCI EAFE Growth
- 10th S&P GSCI Total Return

Asset Class Returns

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	YTD
REIT	25.1%	EM	HG Bnd	EM	REIT	REIT	REIT	Sm Cap	REIT	REIT	Sm Cap	EM	Cash	Lg Cap	Sm Cap	REIT
EM	32.6%	Int'l Stk	Cash	HY Bnd	Sm Cap	HG Bnd	EM	Lg Cap	Lg Cap	Lg Cap	HY Bnd	Int'l	HG Bnd	REIT	EM	Sm Cap
Int'l Stk	26.9%	AA	AA	Int'l Stk	EM	HY Bnd	Int'l Stk	Int'l Stk	AA	HG Bnd	Lg Cap	Lg Cap	HY Bnd	Sm Cap	Lg Cap	Lg Cap
Sm Cap	18.4%	HG Bnd	HY Bnd	REIT	HY Bnd	Lg Cap	Sm Cap	AA	HG Bnd	Cash	EM	Sm Cap	REIT	Int'l Stk	AA	Int'l
AA	16.7%	Lg Cap	Sm Cap	Sm Cap	Lg Cap	AA	Lg Cap	HY Bnd	Sm Cap	Int'l Stk	REIT	AA	Lg Cap	AA	Int'l Stk	AA
Lg Cap	13.8%	Cash	Lg Cap	Lg Cap	AA	Cash	HY Bnd	REIT	HY Bnd	AA	AA	REIT	AA	EM	HY Bnd	EM
HY Bnd	11.8%	HY Bnd	REIT	AA	Int'l Stk	Sm Cap	AA	Cash	Cash	Sm Cap	HG Bnd	HY Bnd	Sm Cap	HY Bnd	HG Bnd	HY Bnd
Cash	6.7%	Sm Cap	Int'l Stk	HG Bnd	HG Bnd	Int'l Stk	HG Bnd	HG Bnd	EM	HY Bnd	Int'l Stk	HG Bnd	Int'l Stk	HG Bnd	Cash	Cash
HG Bnd	4.3%	REIT	EM	Cash	Cash	EM	Cash	EM	Int'l Stk	EM	Cash	Cash	EM	Cash	REIT	HG Bnd

Source: <https://novelinvestor.com/asset-class-returns/>



Source: <https://www.visualcapitalist.com/picking-investments-nothing-like-buying-new-car/>



# EQUALLY WEIGHTED PORTFOLIO

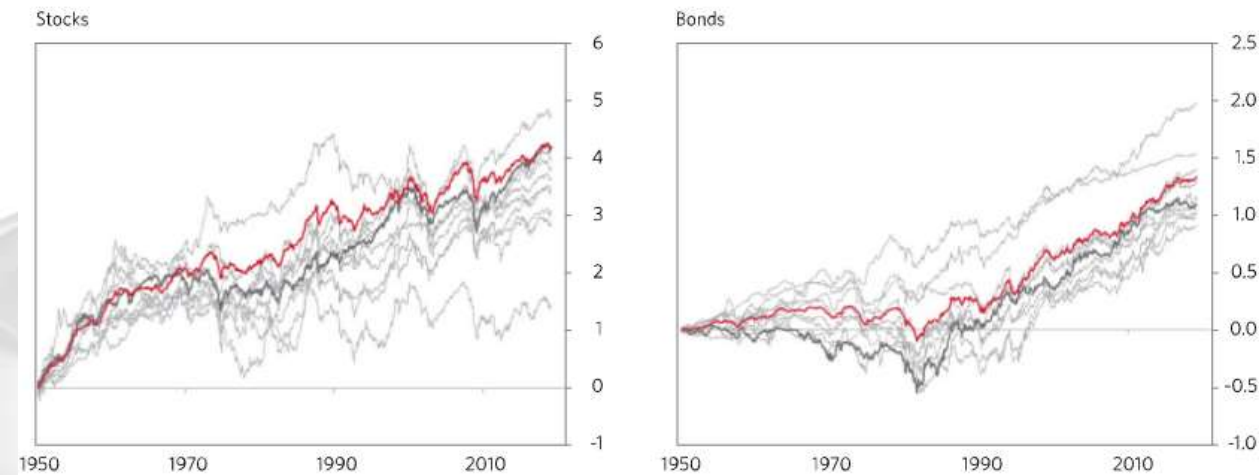
Equity Market Cumulative Excess Returns Since 1900 (In Scale)

— DEU — GBR — USA — FRA — RUS — Equal-Weight



Cumulative Excess Returns (In)

— Individual Countries — USA — Equal-Weight



## 1980s

Sweden	503%
Korea	354%
Japan	310%
Spain	188%
Equal Weight	185%
Germany	179%
United Kingdom	173%
Italy	169%
France	158%
Switzerland	96%
United States	96%
Australia	39%
Norway	23%
Canada	-4%

Avg. Correl. 46%  
Best - Worst 507%

## 1990s

Switzerland	231%
United States	217%
Sweden	190%
France	117%
United Kingdom	110%
Spain	96%
Germany	92%
Australia	59%
Equal Weight	53%
Canada	52%
Italy	40%
Norway	2%
New Zealand	-6%
Japan	-47%
Taiwan	-49%
Korea	-66%

Avg. Correl. 50%  
Best - Worst 296%

## 2000s

Norway	48%
Brazil	45%
Canada	42%
Australia	36%
Korea	22%
Spain	17%
Equal Weight	1%
New Zealand	-3%
Switzerland	-4%
Sweden	-13%
Taiwan	-23%
United Kingdom	-23%
United States	-27%
France	-32%
Italy	-35%
Germany	-36%
Japan	-41%

Avg. Correl. 74%  
Best - Worst 89%

## 2010s

United States	182%
New Zealand	149%
Sweden	146%
Japan	105%
Germany	99%
Switzerland	97%
France	92%
United Kingdom	83%
Norway	78%
Equal Weight	74%
Taiwan	55%
Canada	54%
Australia	41%
Korea	27%
Italy	20%
Spain	11%
Brazil	-26%

Avg. Correl. 65%  
Best - Worst 209%

FNZ Price History



<https://www.nzx.com/instruments/FNZ>

# 3 STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE PASSIVE STRATEGY?

Step 2: **Stay invested**

- **Contribute periodically** to your portfolio (and re-balance it whenever needed).



# STEP2 DATA SCIENCE TOOLS & TECHNIQUES

- For Predictions: *(in addition to the previously mentioned ones) Interval Plot, Regression, Time Series, MonteCarlo Simulation, Machine Learning*

## Results - APA Style

M: 95% CI [0.0059, 0.015]

SD: 95% CI [0.022, 0.029]

Mean confidence interval: [0.005916280526, 0.01506253749].

Alternatively: 0.01048940901 ± 0.004573128482

Margin of Error (MOE): 0.004573128482.

Standard Error (S.E): 0.002308930928.

Since the population's  $\sigma$  is not known, the formula uses the **T distribution** with  $n-1$  degrees of freedom.

If you would calculate the confidence interval over an infinite number of samples with a sample size of **117**, **95%** of the calculated confidence intervals will contain the mean's true value.

$$\bar{x} \pm T_{1-\alpha/2}(df) * \frac{S}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$\bar{x} \pm T_{1-0.05/2}(116) * \frac{0.02497490656}{\sqrt{117}}$$

$$\bar{x} \pm T_{0.975}(116) * \frac{0.02497490656}{\sqrt{117}}$$

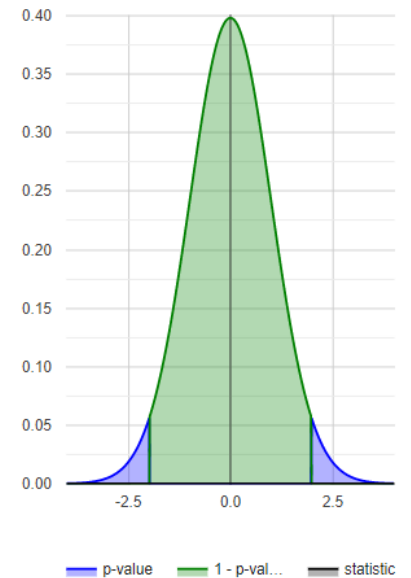
$$0.01048940901 \pm 1.980625937 * \frac{0.02497490656}{\sqrt{117}}$$

$$0.01048940901 \pm 1.980625937 * 0.002308930928$$

Since  $T_{\alpha/2} = -T_{1-\alpha/2}$ , you may use  $T_{\alpha/2}$  instead of  $T_{1-\alpha/2}$

You may calculate T using the [distribution calculator](#) with distribution:'T',DF:116

Distribution: T(df:116)



Standard deviation confidence interval: [0.0221331023, 0.02866059369]

Variance confidence interval: [0.0004898742175, 0.0008214296308]

# FUTURE-VALUE FORMULA

$$\text{Future value} = \text{Starting Value} \times (1 + \text{rate})^{\text{time}} + \frac{\text{contribution} \times \left( (1 + \text{rate})^{\text{time}} - 1 \right)}{\text{rate}}$$

## With contributions:

Monthly contribution:

1000

Starting balance:

1000

Duration (in number of months):

240



Average return rate (% per month):



PS: Calculations made using the future value with regular contributions formula:

$$FV = \text{StartingBalance} \times (1 + \text{rate})^{\text{time}} + \text{Contribution} \times \frac{(1 + \text{rate})^{\text{time}} - 1}{\text{rate}}$$

Forecasted end balance:

1,000,147.92 \$

## Without contributions:

Monthly contribution:

0

Starting balance:

1000

Duration (in number of months):



Average return rate (% per month):



PS: Calculations made using the future value with regular contributions formula:

$$FV = \text{StartingBalance} \times (1 + \text{rate})^{\text{time}} + \text{Contribution} \times \frac{(1 + \text{rate})^{\text{time}} - 1}{\text{rate}}$$

Forecasted end balance:

10,892.55 \$

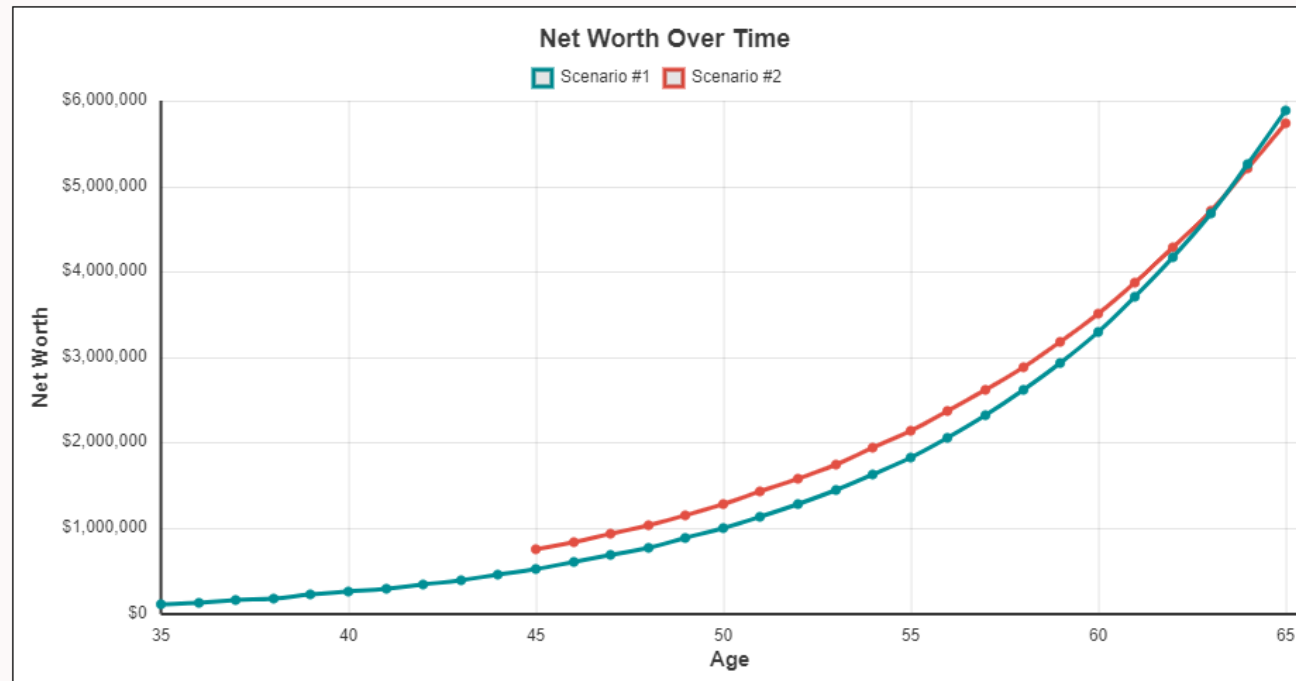
Source: <https://www.trendsetconsulting.com/en>

# Comparing two brothers...

Assumption	Scenario #1	Scenario #2
Starting age	35	45
Starting net worth (\$)	100000	750000
Annual savings (today's dollars)	12000	12000
Investment return (% per year in today's dollars)	12	10

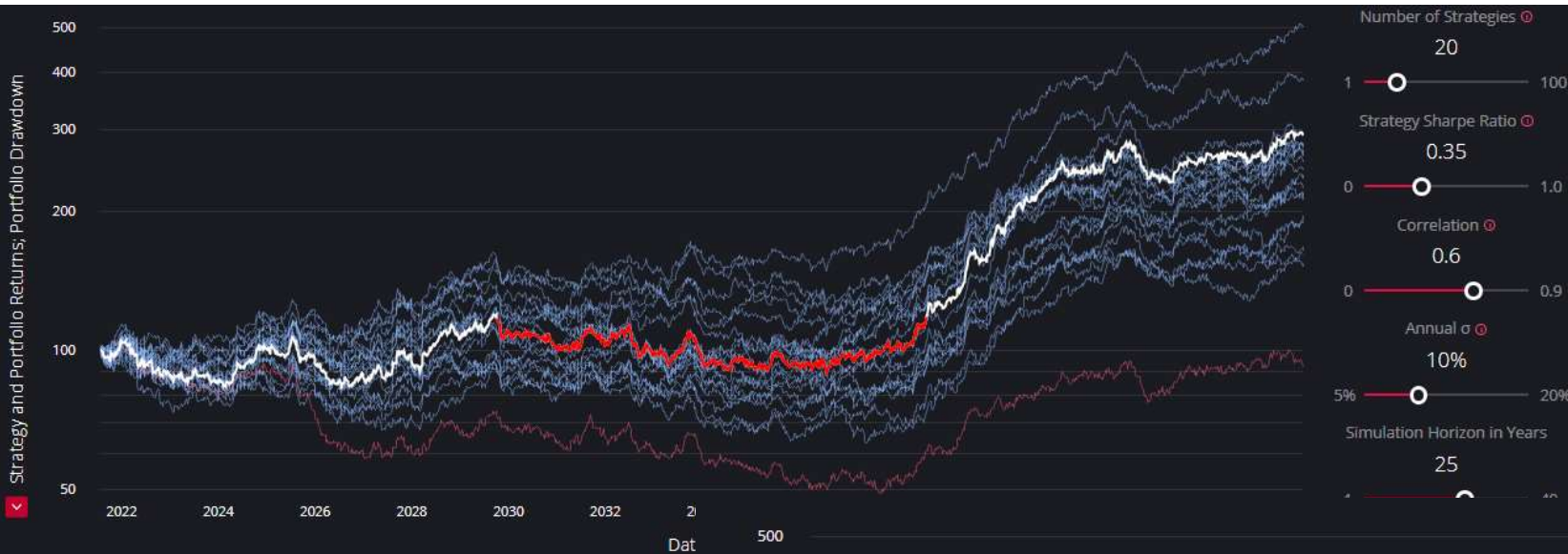
Number of years to look ahead

[+ ADVANCED OPTIONS](#)



Source: <https://themeasureofaplan.com/net-worth-scenario-tool/>

# MonteCarlo Simulation



% of Strategies with Loss after 25 years  
5%

Mean Strategy Sharpe Ratio  
0.340



Source: <https://tools.winton.com/thefuture/>

# 3 STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE PASSIVE STRATEGY?

## Step 3: **Time and opportunities**

- Do not panic about crisis or negative news: **take advantage of opportunities and market conditions/cycles.**
- **Let the time (ie. compound interest!) to act, protecting and monetizing your capital in the long run.**

# STEP3 DATA SCIENCE TOOLS & TECHNIQUES

- For recognizing opportunities: *Hypothesis testing, Control Charts, RSI-Relative Strength Index*

## Method: Z-score

[How to calculate the standard deviation?](#)

Average = **0.00905**.

S = **0.0308**.

Lower = Average -  $k \cdot S$  =  $0.00905 - 3 \cdot 0.0308$  = **-0.08326924627490881**.

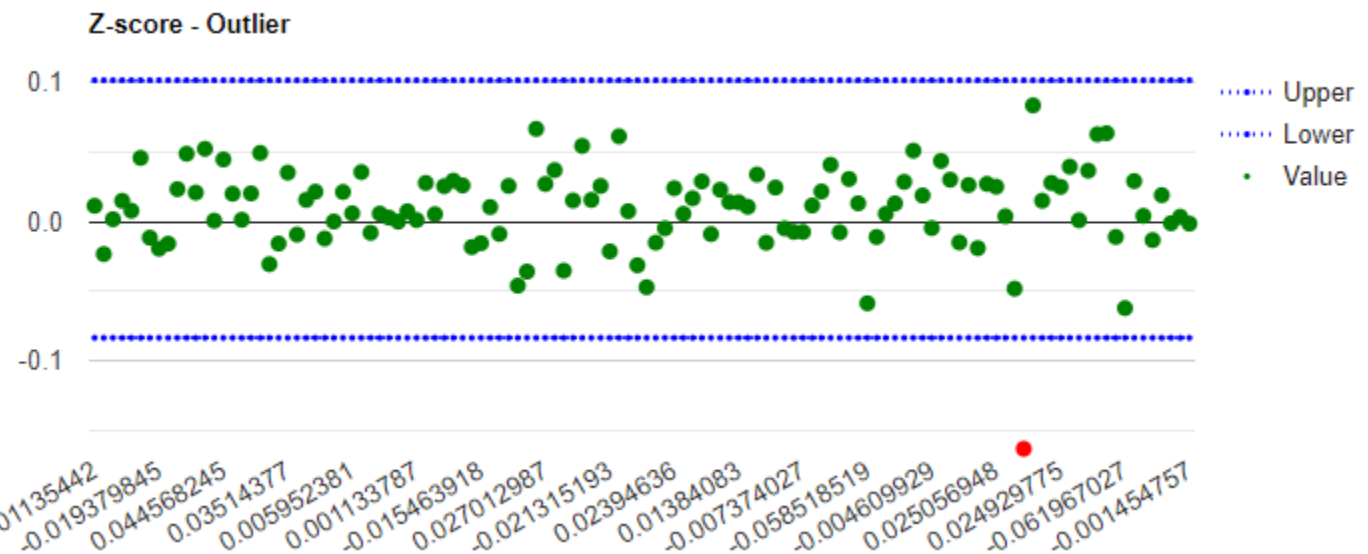
Upper = Average +  $k \cdot S$  =  $0.00905 + 3 \cdot 0.0308$  = **0.10136652064157547**.

Sample size (n) = **120**.

Outlier count: **1**.

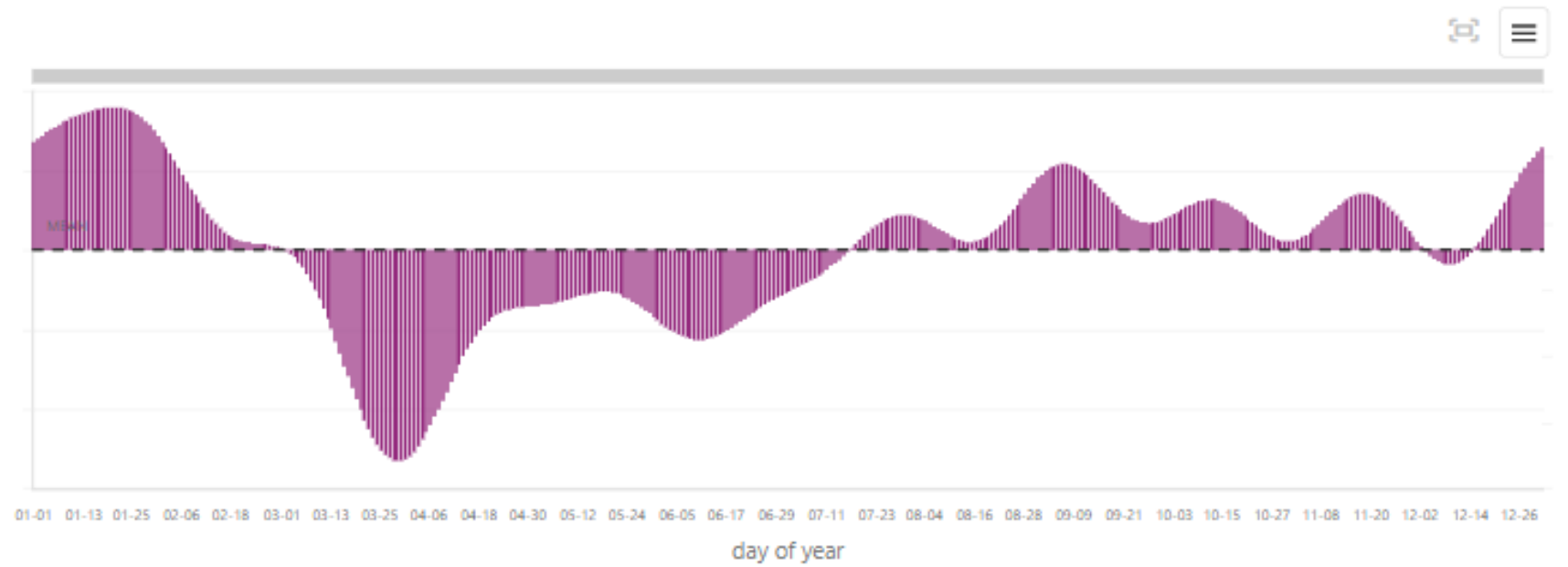
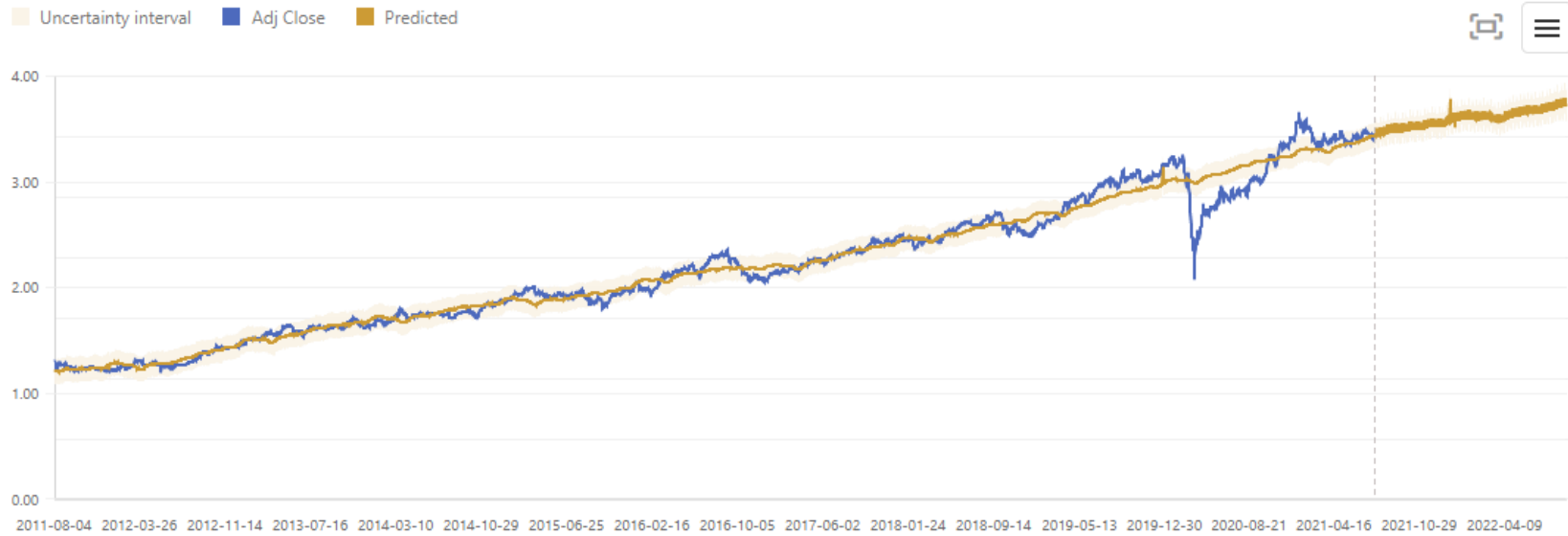
**Outliers: -0.162790698.**

<https://www.statskingdom.com/outlier-calculator.html>





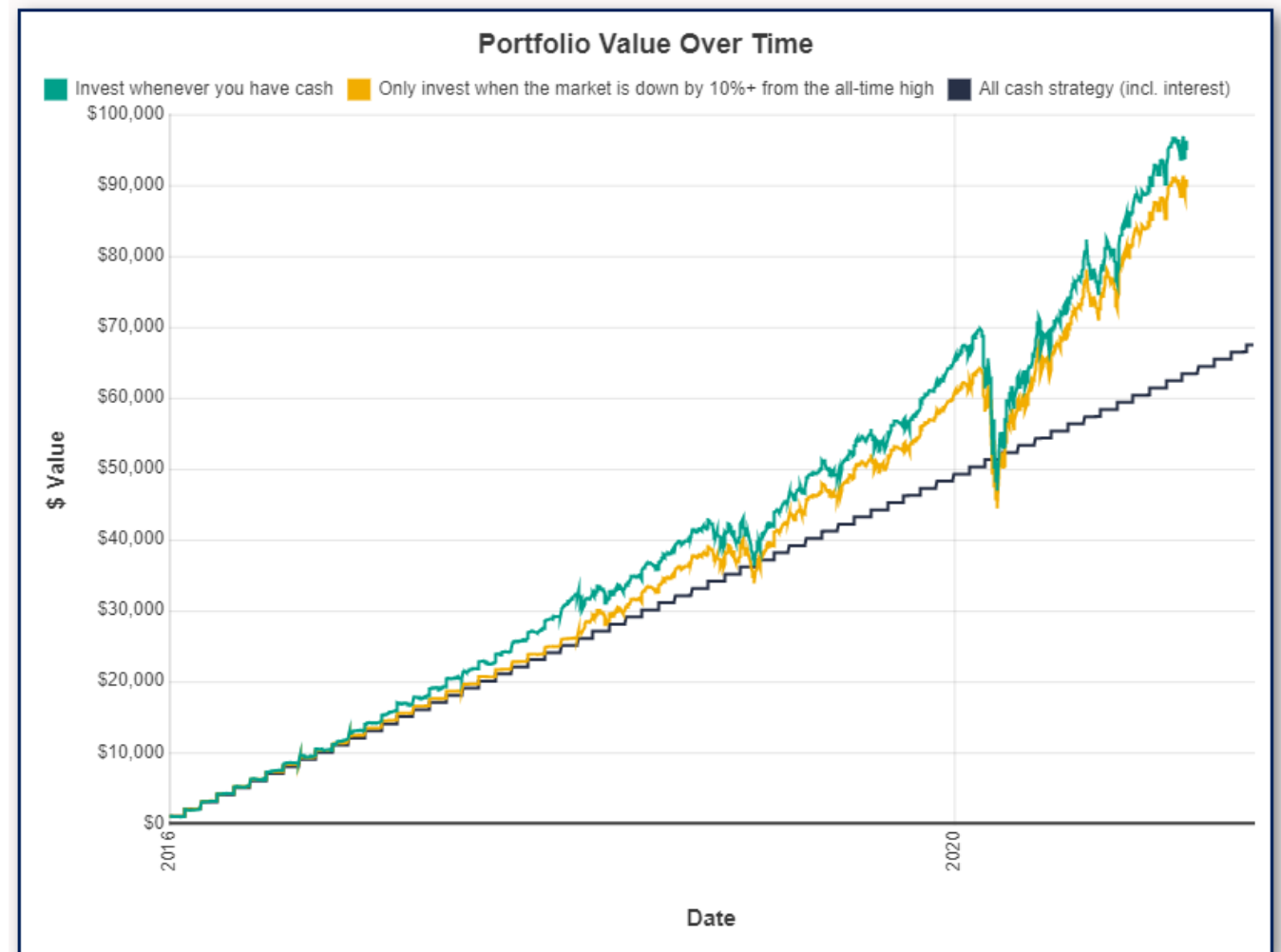
# Where is the market going to?



Tool: <https://graphite-note.com/>

# Should I wait for corrections?

Your Current & Future Savings		
Initial Contribution	\$	<input type="text" value="1000"/>
Monthly Contribution	\$	<input type="text" value="1000"/>
Market Timing Strategy		
Only invest when the market is down by <b>x%+</b> from the current all-time high	%	<input type="text" value="10"/>
Time Period		
	<input type="text" value="2016"/>	<input type="text" value="2021"/>
	<input type="text" value="1980"/>	<input type="text" value="2021"/>
- Advanced Options		
Other Assumptions		
Interest rate on cash	%	<input type="text" value="0.25"/>
Trading transaction fee	\$ per trade	<input type="text" value="5"/>



<https://thefeatureofaplan.com/market-timing/>

# Research Project

INFO811/2102 Our Financial Market related project

## 1. Scoping and Planning: 3

1.1 Scoping and Planning – Identify the subject an...

1.2 Scoping and Planning – Determine goals and r...

1.3 Scoping and Planning – Determine the require...

## 2. Data Understanding:

2.1 Data understanding - Locate and explore requi...

2.2 Data understanding - Evaluate the data and s...

## 3. Data Processing:

3.1 Data Processing - Extract the set of required d...

3.2 Data Processing - Prepare the extracted data...

3.3 Data Processing - Familiarize with and filter d...

## 4. Data Mining and Analysis:

4.1 Data Mining and Analysis - Apply data science...

organizational policies, business rules and standard processes")

- To what extent the performed processes, in general, follow the standard process of the organization? (based on goal: "Identify and address the cause of deviations from organizational policies, business rules and standard processes")

- What are the actual bottlenecks of the process? (based on goal: "Identify and remove bottlenecks")

- Are there activities in the process that may be eliminated? (based on goal: "Identify and eliminate unwarranted practices")

- What is the actual performance of the process, in terms of duration, cost and resources? (based on goal: "Improve aspects of process performance such as duration of process, costs involved, resources required, etc.")

What are the goals for your Data Science project? \*

Considering the region/country-based ETFs listed in the NZX-New Zealand Exchange, to identify which ones, and what percentage (ex: 25%) to allocate in each one in order to create a investor's profile and goals oriented passive investment portfolio that has the statistical capability of meeting the expected returns over the long term.

Updated by arthur 7 days ago

What are the relevant research questions (derived from the goals)? \*

- 1) Considering the region/country-based ETFs listed in the NZX-New Zealand Exchange, which ones have the statistical capability of returning more than 1% per month over the long run?
- 2) From the resulting ETFs from 1), what is an optimum distribution (i.e percentages) to be able to create an passive investment portfolio that has the statistical capability of meeting the expected returns over the long term while aligned to the investor's profile and goals.
- 3) What is the forecast for the portfolio returns over 1, 5 and 10 years?

# Conclusion

- Investing is a fascinating topic.
- Active (supp. by Industry) x Passive (supp. by Academia) Strategies is an interesting debate.
- Other disciplines, such as Data Science, can also be part of the investor's toolbox (not only Macro-economics, Accounting, Company Valuations).

# Thank You!

Arthur Valle, PhD

*Principal Academic Staff Member*

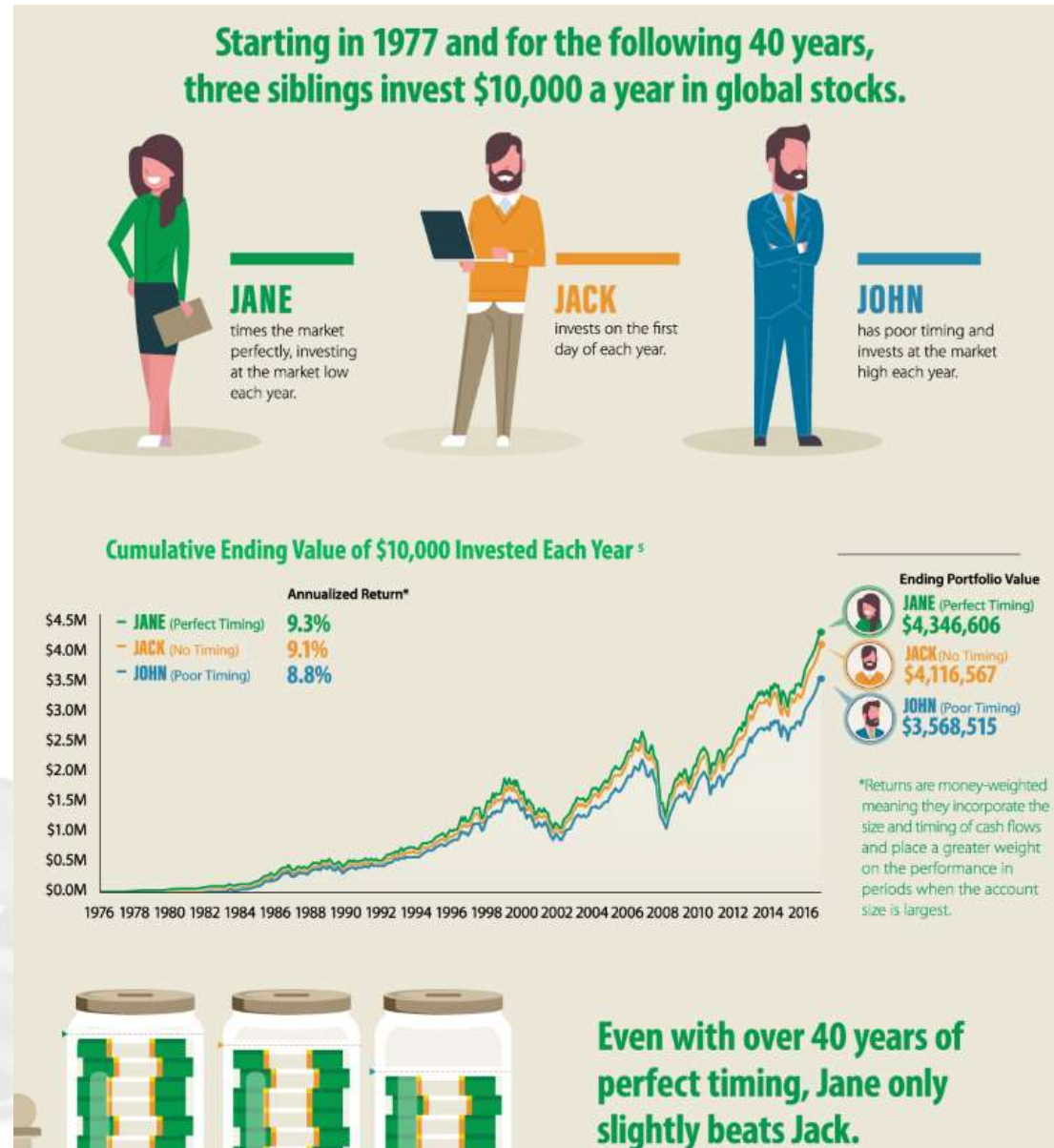
arthur.valle@wintec.ac.nz



# Bonus



# Should I time the market?



Source: <https://www.visualcapitalist.com/anatomy-market-correction/>

# EXPECTED KIWISAVER RETURNS (AND FEES)

## FMA KiwiSaver Tracker

- Home: Funds with 5-year track record
- Show me individual funds
- Dig into the data: select 1-year or 5-year returns**
- Highest fee funds by Risk Profile
- About the Tracker

### Select a date ending

- 3/31/2020
- 6/30/2020
- 9/30/2020
- 12/31/2020

### 2 Select return period

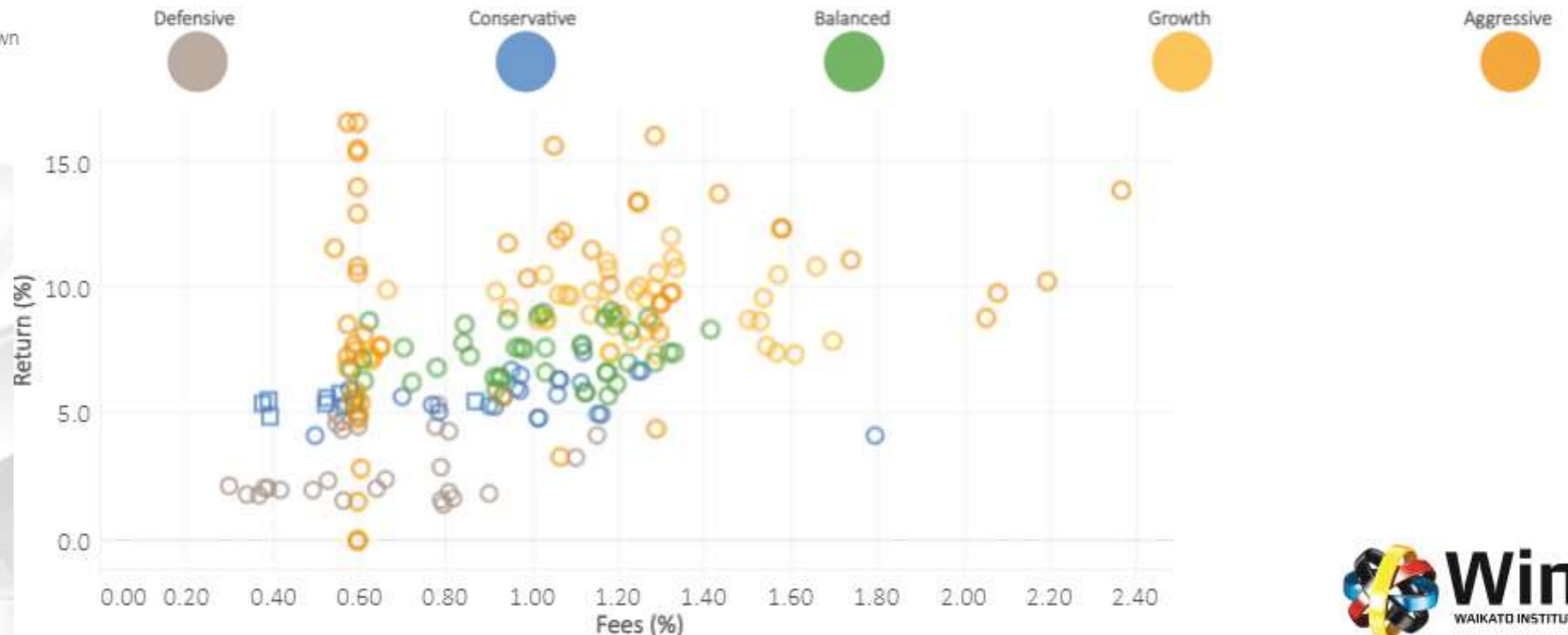
- Average 5-year return (%)
- Return in the last year (%)

### 3 Select risk profile type

- Target
- Actual

### Show fund type

To see multiple fund types, hold down CTRL while making selections.



Source: <https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/fmaadmin/viz/FMAKiwiSaverTracker/Story1>

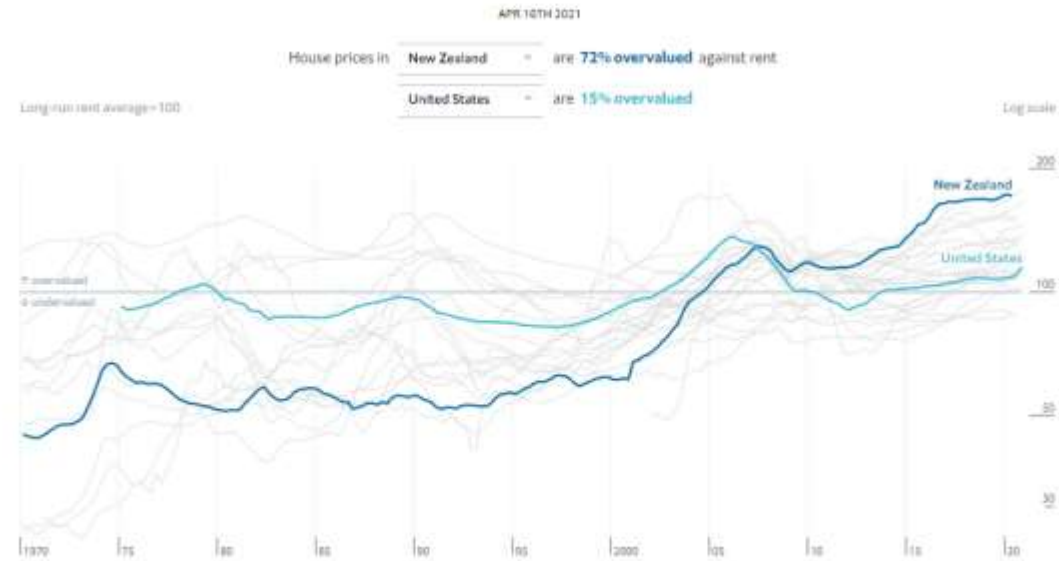


# SHOULD I BUY OR SHOULD I RENT?

Graphic detail

## House price data Global house prices

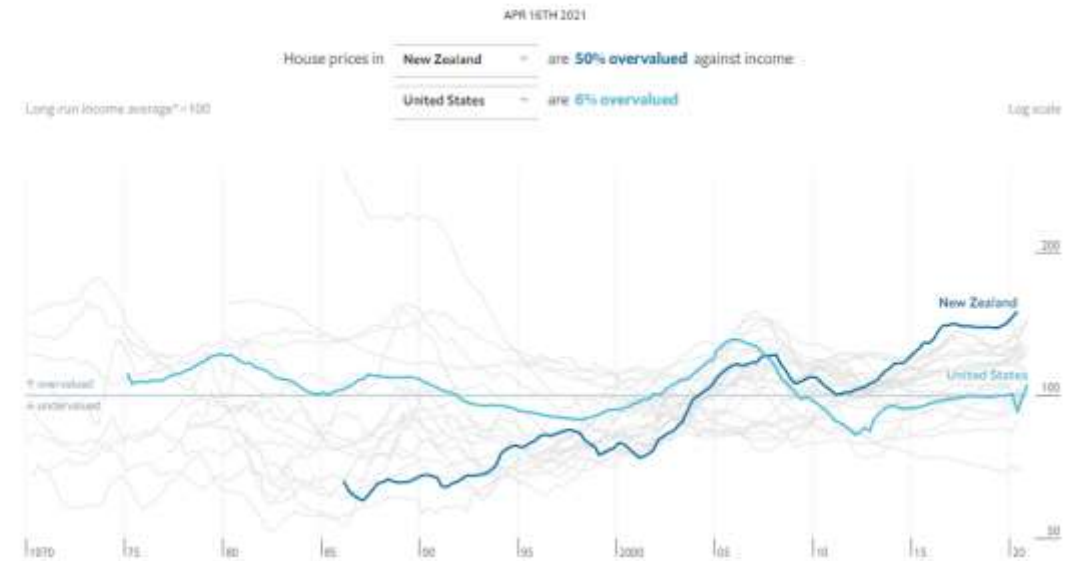
Our interactive guide to housing data across the world



Graphic detail

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Source: <https://www.economist.com/graphic-detail/global-house-prices>