

STAYING INVESTED: DON'T MISS THE BEST DAYS

August 2026

Market volatility is unsettling. When the market waters get rough, investors can be tempted to jump out to try to avoid short-term losses. But historically, some of the market's biggest gains occur when volatility is highest, making them difficult to predict and easy to miss.

Data shows that missing even a few of the market's best days can significantly erode long-term returns. A hypothetical \$100,000 fully invested in the S&P 500 since 1989 would have grown to \$4,562,759. But missing just the top 5 trading days reduces that to \$2,818,161 — a difference of more than \$1.7 million.

Time in the market matters more than timing the market. Staying invested, even when it feels difficult, can be one of the most effective ways to protect and grow long-term wealth.

Hypothetical \$100,000 Investment in the S&P 500 Index (1989-2026)



Source: BNY Investment Strategy & Research Group, Macrobond. Data as of June 30, 2026.

Past performance is not necessarily an indication of future results. For illustrative purposes only.

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S&P 500: The S&P 500 is an index designed to track the performance of the largest 500 US companies.

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MARK-977465-2026-07-29

GU-914 - 31 August 2027

IM-DMBSTDYHO-0826

