



# Stocks Best May Since 1990

JUNE 2025



In May, the S&P 500 Index rose 6%, experiencing its highest May performance in 35 years. The Dow Jones Industrial Average gained 4% in the month, while the Nasdaq climbed nearly 10% over the same period. International stocks also performed strongly, with the MSCI EAFE Index rising 4.5% in May.

Following nine consecutive days of positive trading days that ended on May 2nd, the S&P 500 rose steadily during the month, reflecting improved investor sentiment due to the tariff rollback that eased concerns about intensifying trade disputes.

Leading the strong performance was the “Magnificent Seven” stocks that include Alphabet (Google’s parent company), Amazon.com, Apple, Meta (Facebook’s parent company), Microsoft, NVIDIA and Tesla, accounting for approximately 60% of the S&P 500’s gains in May. Information Technology was the top-performing sector, increasing almost 11%, followed by Communication Services’ robust return of nearly 10%. Stocks in the Consumer Discretionary and Industrials sectors also saw strong returns, up around 9% each. The only sector to decline in May was Health Care, as an uncertain regulatory environment and limited innovation weighed on its stocks.

While the tariff landscape remains fluid with ongoing legal and trade negotiations, the U.S. economic data remains mostly positive. Job openings in April were slightly higher

than expected, at 7.4 million.<sup>1</sup> The Consumer Price Index rose 2.3% over the 12 months ending in April, indicating relatively low inflation.<sup>2</sup>

The quick market decline and subsequent dramatic rebound that occurred over the past few months demonstrate the power of staying invested so an investor can capture the market’s best days. Since no one can predict market highs or lows, consistent investing over time is generally a smart strategy for long-term growth.

As we enter the summer months, consider revisiting your short-, intermediate and long-term financial goals and refining your investment strategy if needed. Consult a Buska Financial Advisor to ensure your investment allocation aligns with any changes to your goals and situation.

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey News Release. <sup>2</sup> U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index.

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