

Question:

If you want a secure future, should you do anything about it now or wait until you're older?

Investing \$5,000 a year.

Look at Start Age of 25 (yellow shading). Compare Results for age 45 (orange shading).

Table 2: Yearly investments of \$5,000 at Start Age held to End Age at Return which is the Median for the Period 1928-2012 in a broad market investment tracking the S&P 500 Index Fund (dividends reinvested). (Data Provided by Thomson Reuters)

Can you rely on historical returns? This data is calculated based on the MEDIAN return for each holding period including the boom and bust years from 1928 - 2012. If you are an optimist, you'll want to compare the BEST market periods during this time frame. If you are a skeptic, study the WORST periods. How? Ask for our Market Math for Millennials white paper by emailing readers@juliejason.com.

Start Age	End Age	Holding Period (Years)	Yearly INVESTMENTS of \$5,000	Result at End Age (\$)
25	65	40	200,000	3,343,913
30	65	35	175,000	1,957,923
35	65	30	150,000	1,355,960
40	65	25	125,000	749,159
45	65	20	100,000	386,576
50	65	15	75,000	193,309
55	65	10	50,000	92,144
60	65	5	25,000	33,985

