

# Sector Annual Returns

**2014 to 2023**

This chart compares 10 years of calendar year performance of each of the 11 sectors of the S&P 500. Choose any sector—Information technology in the sky blue box, for example—and follow its performance over the past 10 years. Notice how this sector has performed near or at the top and bottom compared to other sectors throughout the 10 years. Or take Energy in the dark red box. This sector shows the best performance for three out of the past 10 years, but has also been among the worst performers within

the same time period. This demonstrates the importance of sector diversification, since each sector tends to vary in performance from one year to the next. A sector that leads one year could trail the next year. While diversification can help reduce market risk, it does not eliminate it, and does not assure a profit or protect against loss in a declining market. However, you may be able to help mitigate losses by diversifying your investments across multiple sectors.

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>30.19%</b> Real estate	<b>10.11%</b> Consumer discretionary	<b>27.36%</b> Energy	<b>38.83%</b> Information technology	<b>6.47%</b> Health care	<b>50.29%</b> Information technology	<b>43.89%</b> Information technology	<b>54.64%</b> Energy	<b>65.72%</b> Energy	<b>57.84%</b> Information technology
<b>28.98%</b> Utilities	<b>6.89%</b> Health care	<b>23.49%</b> Communication services	<b>23.84%</b> Materials	<b>4.11%</b> Utilities	<b>32.69%</b> Communication services	<b>33.30%</b> Consumer discretionary	<b>46.19%</b> Real estate	<b>1.57%</b> Utilities	<b>55.80%</b> Communication services
<b>25.34%</b> Health care	<b>6.60%</b> Consumer staples	<b>22.80%</b> Financials	<b>22.98%</b> Consumer discretionary	<b>0.83%</b> Consumer discretionary	<b>32.13%</b> Financials	<b>23.61%</b> Communication services	<b>35.04%</b> Financials	<b>-0.62%</b> Consumer staples	<b>42.41%</b> Consumer discretionary
<b>20.12%</b> Information technology	<b>5.92%</b> Information technology	<b>18.86%</b> Industrials	<b>22.18%</b> Financials	<b>-0.29%</b> Information technology	<b>29.37%</b> Industrials	<b>20.73%</b> Materials	<b>34.53%</b> Information technology	<b>-1.95%</b> Health care	<b>18.13%</b> Industrials
<b>15.98%</b> Consumer staples	<b>4.68%</b> Real estate	<b>16.69%</b> Materials	<b>22.08%</b> Health care	<b>-2.22%</b> Real estate	<b>29.01%</b> Real estate	<b>13.45%</b> Health care	<b>27.28%</b> Materials	<b>-5.48%</b> Industrials	<b>12.55%</b> Materials
<b>15.20%</b> Financials	<b>3.40%</b> Communication services	<b>16.29%</b> Utilities	<b>21.03%</b> Industrials	<b>-8.38%</b> Consumer staples	<b>27.94%</b> Consumer discretionary	<b>11.06%</b> Industrials	<b>26.13%</b> Health care	<b>-10.53%</b> Financials	<b>12.36%</b> Real estate
<b>9.83%</b> Industrials	<b>-1.53%</b> Financials	<b>13.85%</b> Information technology	<b>13.49%</b> Consumer staples	<b>-12.53%</b> Communication services	<b>27.61%</b> Consumer staples	<b>10.75%</b> Consumer staples	<b>24.43%</b> Consumer discretionary	<b>-12.27%</b> Materials	<b>12.15%</b> Financials
<b>9.68%</b> Consumer discretionary	<b>-2.53%</b> Industrials	<b>6.03%</b> Consumer discretionary	<b>12.11%</b> Utilities	<b>-13.03%</b> Financials	<b>26.35%</b> Utilities	<b>0.48%</b> Utilities	<b>21.57%</b> Communication services	<b>-26.13%</b> Real estate	<b>2.06%</b> Health care
<b>6.91%</b> Materials	<b>-4.85%</b> Utilities	<b>5.38%</b> Consumer staples	<b>10.85%</b> Real estate	<b>-13.29%</b> Industrials	<b>24.58%</b> Materials	<b>-1.69%</b> Financials	<b>21.12%</b> Industrials	<b>-28.19%</b> Information technology	<b>0.52%</b> Consumer staples
<b>2.99%</b> Communication services	<b>-8.38%</b> Materials	<b>3.39%</b> Real estate	<b>-1.01%</b> Energy	<b>-14.70%</b> Materials	<b>20.82%</b> Health care	<b>-2.17%</b> Real estate	<b>18.63%</b> Consumer staples	<b>-37.03%</b> Consumer discretionary	<b>-1.33%</b> Energy
<b>-7.78%</b> Energy	<b>-21.12%</b> Energy	<b>-2.69%</b> Health care	<b>-1.25%</b> Communication services	<b>-18.10%</b> Energy	<b>11.81%</b> Energy	<b>-33.68%</b> Energy	<b>17.67%</b> Utilities	<b>-39.89%</b> Communication services	<b>-7.08%</b> Utilities

# S&P 500 sectors

The S&P 500® Index is a market-cap weighted index that represents the average performance of a group of 500 large capitalization stocks. Each of the 11 sectors of the S&P 500 are defined below.

■ **Communication services** represents companies involved in advertising, broadcasting, cable and satellite, publishing, movies and entertainment and interactive media and services, as well as those that provide telecommunication services primarily through a fixed-line, wireless, cellular, high bandwidth or fiber optic cables.

■ **Consumer discretionary** companies are most sensitive to economic cycles, such as automotive, household durable goods, textiles & apparel, leisure equipment, hotels, restaurants, consumer retailing and services.

■ **Consumer staples** companies have businesses that are less sensitive to economic cycles such as manufacturers and distributors of food and beverages, tobacco, and producers of non-durable household goods and personal products.

■ **Energy** companies have businesses that are involved in the construction or provision of oil rigs, drilling equipment, energy related service and equipment or engaged in exploration, production, refining of or transportation of oil and gas products, coal, and other consumable fuels.

■ **Financials** represents companies whose activities include banking, mortgage finance, consumer finance, specialized finance, investment banking, brokerage, asset management and custody, corporate lending, insurance and financial investment.

■ **Health care** companies manufacture health care equipment and supplies or provide healthcare related services. Companies involved in research, development, production and marketing of pharmaceuticals and biotechnology products.

■ **Industrials** companies produce tangible goods including aerospace and defense, construction, engineering, building products, electrical equipment and industrial machinery. Companies that provide commercial services such as printing, employment, office services and environmental services, as well as transportation services including airlines, couriers, marine, road and rail, and transportation infrastructure.

■ **Information technology** companies primarily develop software such as applications, systems, database management, internet, information technology consulting and services, and home entertainment. Companies that manufacture or distribute communications equipment, computers and peripherals, electronic equipment and related instruments, as well as semiconductors and semiconductor equipment manufacturers.

■ **Materials** represents companies that manufacture chemicals, construction materials, glass, paper, forest products and related packaging products and metals, minerals, and mining companies, including steel producers.

■ **Real estate** represents the sector containing Real estate Management and Development Services and all Real estate Investment Trusts (REITs), with the exception of Mortgage REITs.

■ **Utilities** represents companies that are considered electric, gas, or water utilities or companies that operate as independent producers or distributors of power.

## It's easy to get started

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