



By the Numbers

1. **“TIME IN” vs. “TIMING”** - The split between “up” and “down” time periods for the S&P 500 index from 1950 to the end of 2020, i.e., the **last 71 years**, as measured by: **Days:** 54% up and 46% down; **Months:** 60% up, 40% down; **Quarters:** 67% up, 33% down; **Years:** 73% up, 27% down; **5-Year Rolling Time Periods:** 79% up, 21% down; and finally **10-Year Rolling Time Periods:** 89% up, 11% down. The S&P 500 consists of stocks chosen for market size, liquidity and industry group representation. It is a market value weighted index with each stock's weight in the index proportionate to its market value (source: BTN Research).
2. **MULTIPLIER** – The “**American Rescue Plan Act of 2021**” includes **\$1,400 cash payments** made to 110 million households. If each taxpayer that received \$1,400 had a “**marginal propensity to consume**” of 60%, the initial taxpayer would save \$560 and **spend \$840**, and then in turn the party that received the \$840 would save \$336 and **spend \$504**, and the next party would save \$202 and **spend \$302**, and so on. Ultimately the original \$1,400 cash payment would result in **\$2,100 of economic activity**, i.e., \$840 + \$504 + \$302 + . . . (source: BTN Research).
3. **MONEY THAT THEY WILL SPEND** - 42% of the \$1.9 trillion “**American Rescue Plan Act of 2021**,” i.e., **\$800 billion** out of the **\$1.9 trillion**, is **direct support** that will be **distributed to households** in the form of **stimulus payments, unemployment benefits and child tax credits** (source: American Rescue Plan Act of 2021).
4. **TRILLIONS TO HELP** - The **6 bills** (totaling **\$5.6 trillion of aid**) passed by Congress to combat the **impact of the pandemic** in the **last 13 months** are 1) HR # 6074 (**\$8.3 billion** in March 2020); 2) HR # 6201 (**\$3.5 billion** in March 2020); 3) HR # 748 aka the CARES Act (**\$2.3 trillion** in March 2020); 4) HR # 6312 aka CARES # 2 Act (**\$484 billion** in April 2020); 5) HR # 133 (**\$900 billion** in December 2020); and 6) HR # 1319 aka the American Rescue Plan Act (**\$1.9 trillion** in March 2021) (source: Congress).
5. **ALMOST HALF OF ADULTS** - 46% of American adults experienced a **loss of income** or they live with someone that experienced a **loss of income** in the **nearly 1-year** following President Donald Trump's declaration of a pandemic-driven “**national emergency**,” i.e., from 3/13/20 to 2/28/21 (source: Census Bureau).
6. **SAME NUMBER ABOVE AND BELOW** - 50% of the **153.8 million Form 1040s** that were filed for **tax year 2018** (a total of 76.9 million returns) reported **less than \$40,000 of adjusted gross income** (source: IRS).
7. **AND IN THE NEXT YEAR** - 2020 was the **10th year in the last 70 years**, i.e., 1951-2020, that the US economy had **contracted**. Our nation's “**gross domestic product**” (GDP) **shrank by 3.5%** last year. Following the 9 previous “down” years, the US economy has **rebounded in the next year** with positive growth **7 out of 9 times**, growing by an average of **+3.3% per year** for all 9 “bounce back” years (source: Commerce Department).
8. **AN OPINION** - Jamie Dimon, JPMorgan Chase CEO, forecasted on 3/01/21 that “there's a **very good chance** you're going to have a **gangbuster economy** for the rest of 2021 and easily into 2022” (source: Bloomberg TV).
9. **FED THINKS** - The **median forecast** (released on Wednesday 3/17/21) made by the **11 members** of the Federal Open Market Committee (**FOMC**) for “**change in real GDP**” during 2021 was **+6.5%**. Actual GDP (gross domestic product) annual growth has been **at least +6.5%** just once (1984) in the **last 50 years** (source: Federal Reserve).
10. **LESS BABIES** - The global “**total fertility rate**” has been **cut in half** (down 51%) in the **last 50 years**, falling from **4.922 “births per woman”** in 1968 to **2.415 “births per woman”** in 2018 (source: The World Bank).
11. **TEN YEARS APART** - Banks repossessed just **1,428 homes** nationwide in January 2021. Banks repossessed **78,133 homes** nationwide in January 2011 (source: Attom Data Solutions).
12. **RIGHT DIRECTION** - As of 9am ET on Friday 3/19/21, **8,327 Americans had died** from the **COVID-19 virus** over the **previous 7-day period**. That's the **7th consecutive week of declining US death totals** from the pandemic and represents a **64% drop in weekly deaths** since Friday 1/29/21 (source: NBC News).
13. **LONG OVERDUE** - The **federal gas tax** is 18.4 cents per gallon today, but the tax **has not been raised** since 10/01/93 or nearly **27 ½ years ago**. However **37 US states** have raised their respective state gas tax **since 2010**. Gas taxes are used to fund improvements to **highways and bridges** (sources: Amer. Society of Civil Engineers).
14. **NOT GOING** – 2.17 million freshmen **started college** in the fall of 2020, down 13% (**327,513 fewer students**) from the 2.50 million freshmen that began college in the fall of 2019 (source: National Student Clearinghouse).
15. **NICE JOB** - Justin Thomas, the # 2 ranked golfer in the world, **won \$2.7 million** on Sunday 3/14/21 with his win at **The Players Championship** in Florida, the **largest payout** from a single golf tournament in history (source: PGA).

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