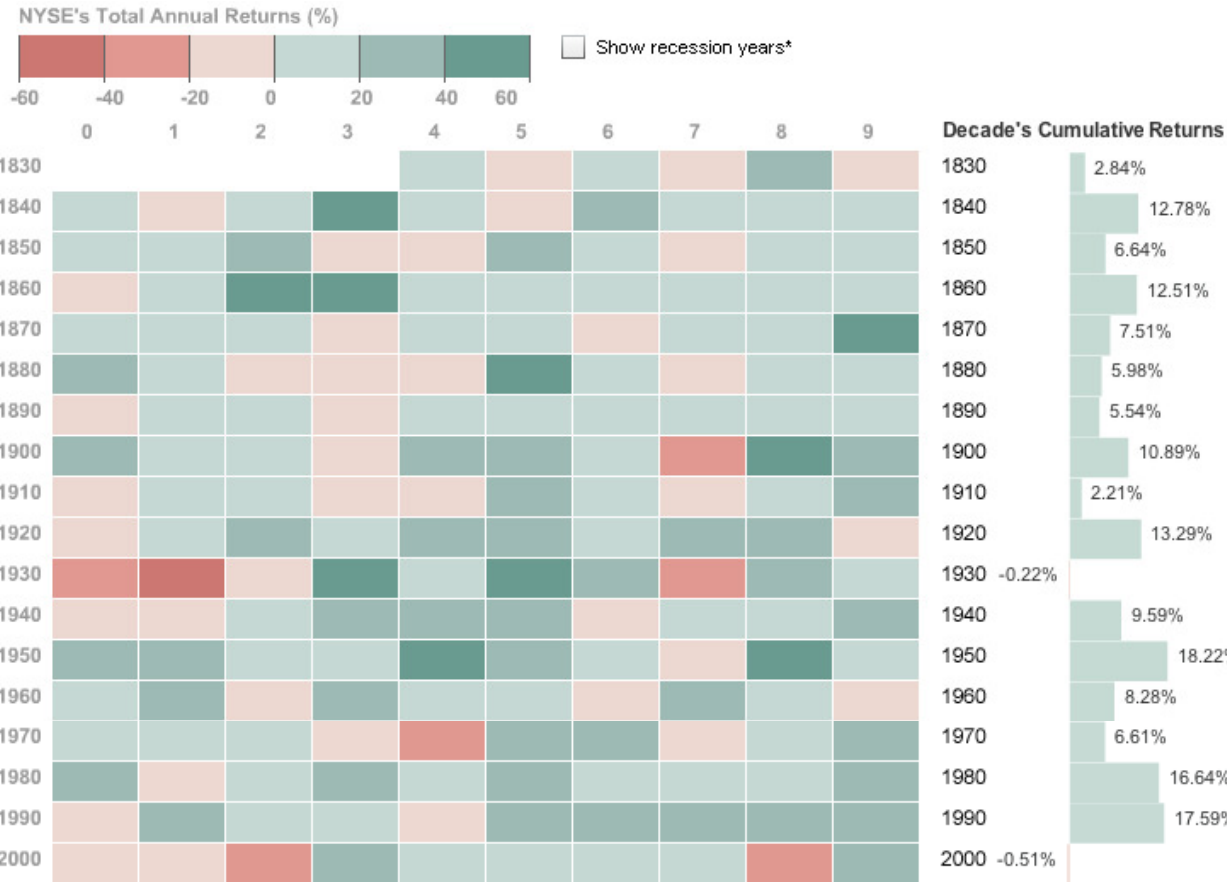


Worst Decade Ever

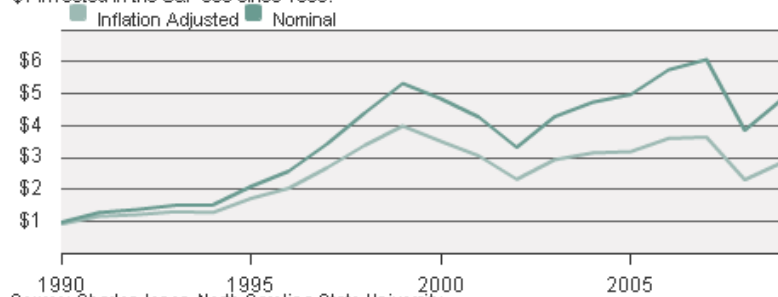
This decade is on pace to be the worst period ever for owning stocks. On the right are the annual returns, by year and decade, for a broad measure of stock-ownership. Stock returns were even better during the Civil War and World War I than from 2000 to 2009. Roll over each square to see the total returns for each year.



Note: The NBER labels recessions only from 1857 on.
 *Years indicated as recession years were in recession for at least 6 months.
 Source: Yale International Center for Finance database of the New York Stock Exchange and Ibbotson
 Produced by: Mei Lan Ho-Walker, Susan McGregor, Stephen Grocer / WSJ.com

Losing Ground

After subtracting for inflation, a bad decade for stocks looks even worse. Here's a look at the value of \$1 invested in the S&P 500 since 1990.



Returns for the S&P 500 by Decade

