

# BY THE NUMBERS

1. **STOCKS & WHITE HOUSE** - From **1936-2020**, the S&P 500® has averaged **+6.7% per year** (total return) during the **1st year** of a 4-year presidential term, **+8.7% per year** during the **2nd year**, **+18.5% per year** during the **3rd year**, and **+9.8% per year** during the **4th year**. **2022** will be year # 2 of a 1st-term **Biden administration**. The S&P 500® consists of 500 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. **JUST THREE MONTHS LEFT** - Through 9 months of 2021, i.e., **YTD through Thursday 9/30/21**, the S&P 500® is up **+15.9% YTD** (total return). The index was **up +18.4%** (total return) in 2020 (source: BTN Research).
3. **BONDS** - The **worst year** for the **taxable bond market** in the **last 45 years** (1976-2020) was a **loss of 2.92%** (total return) in 1994. The **YTD performance** (through 9/30/21) of the **taxable bond market** is a **loss of 1.56%** (total return). The Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate Bond Index (created in 1986 with backdated history calculated to 1976), calculated using publicly traded **investment grade government bonds, corporate bonds and mortgage-related bonds** with at least 1 year until final maturity, **was used as the bond measurement** (source: Bloomberg Barclays).
4. **GET ME OUT** - 3 out of 4 American adults surveyed (74%) say they **would sell out** of the US stock market if equities suffered a “**moderate or big decline**.” 3,000 adults were surveyed in late summer 2021 (source: Vise).
5. **PANDEMIC DEATHS** - In the **12 months** from 9/30/20 to 9/30/21, **492,253 Americans died** from the COVID-19 virus, including **56,532 deaths** in just the **last month**. As of 9/30/21, **699,485 Americans have died** as a result of the pandemic going back to the initial US death in **January 2020** (source: NBC News, Meet the Press, First Read).
6. **PAY FOR NEW PROGRAMS** - 53% of consumers surveyed in August 2021 believe the “**average income tax rate**” paid by American taxpayers **will increase** in the **next 12 months**. The 53% result is the **highest level recorded** in a monthly survey that has been conducted **since 2015** (source: Survey of Consumer Expectations).
7. **JOBS** - As of 8/31/21, the **lowest** unemployment rate of any US state was 2.2% in **Nebraska**, while the **highest** jobless rate was 7.7% in **Nevada**. The **national unemployment rate** was 5.2% (source: Department of Labor).
8. **DID NOT GO TO COLLEGE** - 64% of American adults at least age 25 **do not have a bachelor's degree** from college (source: Census Bureau).
9. **SKILLS NEEDED** - 75% of executives surveyed in December 2020 anticipate **increased spending in “automation and technology”** through December 2024 (source: McKinsey Global Economic Conditions survey).
10. **TRILLION?** - In a 9/24/21 speech, **President Biden** said “I’m tired of trickle-down. The **trillionaires** and billionaires are doing very, very well.” The **richest American** today is Elon Musk, **worth \$199.7 billion** (source: White House).
11. **BIG DEBT** – Our **national debt** has grown from **\$14.790 trillion** on 9/30/11 to **\$28.427 trillion** on 9/30/21, an increase of **\$13.637 trillion**. That’s equivalent to adding **\$3.73 billion of new debt per day**, or **\$156 million per hour**, or **\$2.6 million per minute**, or **\$43,207 per second** over the **past decade** (source: Treasury Department).
12. **THE KIDS GOT IT** - An IRA that is **transferred at death** to a **non-spouse beneficiary**, e.g., adult child or grandchild, would have to be **fully distributed** by December 31st of the calendar year **10 years after the death** of IRA owner. The **non-spouse beneficiary** is allowed **but not required** to take **taxable distributions** prior to the end of the 10 years. Please consult a **tax expert** for details (source: Internal Revenue Service Publication 590-B).
13. **STUFF GOING NOWHERE** - **73 vessels** were anchored and **awaiting entry into the ports** of Long Beach and Los Angeles on Sunday 9/19/21, **an all-time record**. An additional **37 vessels** were **drifting in the ocean** within **20 miles** of Long Beach and Los Angeles, but far enough offshore **to prevent them** from successfully dropping an anchor (source: Marine Exchange of Southern California).
14. **ALL IN THE FAMILY** – One **political party** has controlled the **White House**, the **Senate** and the **House of Representatives** in 23 of the last 65 years (35%), i.e., 1957-2021. **Republicans** last controlled the White House, the Senate and the House in 2018. **Democrats** control all 3 this year (source: BTN Research).
15. **WHO WILL BE NEXT?** - Through the first **4 weeks of the college football season**, a total of **25 ranked teams** in the AP (writers) weekly poll have been beaten, the **greatest number of ranked teams to lose** through the first 4 weeks of a college football season in polling that dates back **85 years**. The highest ranked football teams to lose were **# 3 ranked Clemson** in week # 1 and **# 3 ranked Ohio State** in week # 2 (source: ESPN).