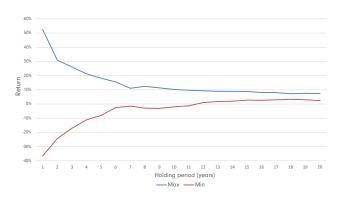
Putting time on your side

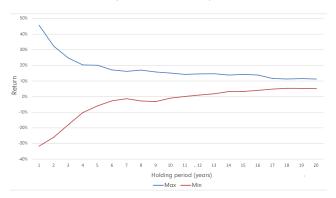
Investing in the stock market can be very rewarding. However, as share prices fluctuate, it is also possible that you can lose money. This can particularly be the case when you react to short-term stock market falls. This is why it's typically recommended that investors should take a longer-term view as the longer you hold your shares, the more chance there is that you will achieve a positive return on your investment, but this is not quaranteed.

This conclusion is supported by history. We have looked back at equity market returns since 1995 to see how investors would have fared by investing in UK and international stock markets over different discrete time periods. As the charts below highlight, an investor who stayed invested in the UK equity market for at least 12 years (11 years in the case of global equities) would have made money over any period. So putting time on your side really does work.

The impact holding period has on your investment UK shares (FTSE All Share Index)



International shares (MSCI World Index)



Data source for chart and table: Datastream as at 31.01.2025. Indices calculated in GBP, based on monthly returns, disregarding inflation. This graph shows the highest and lowest annualised return from the UK and global equity markets over different investment periods (ranging from 1 to 20 years) since the start of the first quarter of 1995. The following indices were used: FTSE All Share Index (UK equity market) and MSCI World Index (global equity market). Fidelity has been licensed by FTSE International Limited to use the name FTSE All-Share Index.

- Stock markets are prone to short-term fluctuations
- Investors should typically have at least a five-to-ten-year time horizon

Index Performance

The table below shows annual returns over each of the last five years from two key indices – The FTSE All-Share and MSCI World.

| | Jan 20 to Jan 21 | Jan 21 to Jan 22 | Jan 22 to Jan 23 | Jan 23 to Jan 24 | Jan 24 to Jan 25 |
|----------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| FTSE All-Share | -7.55% | 18.90% | 5.20% | 1.90% | 17.06% |
| MSCI World | 11.39% | 19.79% | 1.37% | 13.67% | 24.97% |

Source: Refinitiv Datastream, from 31.01.2020 to 31.01.2025. Based on total return of the FTSE All Share and MSCI World in GBP terms.

Please note that past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns



Important information

The value of investments can go down as well as up, so you may get back less than you invest. Changes in currency exchange rates will affect the value of any overseas investments. This information is not a personal recommendation for any particular investment. If you are unsure of the suitability of an investment you should speak to an authorised financial adviser.

