



PACIFIC CAPITAL



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This is not a prediction, but it is a warning...not to panic, not to completely cash out, but to seriously review your financial plan in detail and to stress test it today.

Markets are at all-time highs with very low volatility and it appears that people are getting too comfortable and taking their life jackets off. These 6 stats demonstrate why it's a good time to pause and evaluate your finances.

1. Personal credit card debt continues to climb at a rapid pace and is now estimated to be over \$1 trillion. (*WalletHub*)
2. U.S. investor optimism recently hit the highest levels seen since the year 2000, just before the tech-bubble crash. (*Gallup*)
3. Total debt per person has doubled since 2008 to an average of \$64,500. (*Financial Management Service*)
4. The equity bull market is now over 113 months old, the longest run in the history of the financial markets. (*FactSet*)
5. Since 2008, U.S. government debt has risen from \$10.6 trillion to approximately \$21.5 trillion. (*Statista*)
6. Real estate prices have escalated in the past few years. National median home prices are 32% higher than inflation. In 2005, that number was 35%. Additionally, the SPDR S&P Homebuilders ETF is up 400% since March of 2009. (*Dotdash*)

Yes, we have many reasons to be positive about the economy in the long run. However, now is a good time to be watchful of your personal finances. When the next big downturn comes, it will be too late to prepare.

Our core purpose at Pacific Capital is to help you enjoy life by removing your stress about money. Schedule a brief Goals Conversation® with our team by visiting our [website](#) today - no cost or obligation involved. You may also click [HERE](#) for our google reviews.

