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Hypothetical Illustration

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The Investment Company of America A

**Prepared For BUS-123 Spring 2014**

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**This report is not complete unless all pages, as noted below, are included. Please read the information in "Important Information" found at the beginning of this report.**

## Hypothetical Illustration

### Important Information

Figures shown are past results and are not predictive of results in future periods. Current and future results may be lower or higher than those shown. Share prices and returns will vary, so investors may lose money. Investing for short periods makes losses more likely. Investments are not FDIC-insured, nor are they deposits of or guaranteed by a bank or any other entity, so they may lose value. For more current information and month-end results, visit [americanfunds.com](http://americanfunds.com).

Regular investing does not ensure a profit or protect against loss. Investors should consider their willingness to keep investing when share prices are declining. Indexes are unmanaged and, therefore, have no expenses. Results for the Lipper indexes do not reflect sales charges. There have been periods when the fund has lagged the index. While it is not possible to invest directly in an index, you can invest in an index fund.

This illustration must be preceded or accompanied by the fund's current summary prospectus or prospectus, which details charges, expenses, investment objectives and operating policies. The American Funds are distributed by American Funds Distributors, Inc.

Investment results assume all distributions are reinvested and reflect applicable fees and expenses. The investment adviser for the Target Date Retirement Series is currently waiving its management fee of 0.10%. After December 31, 2013, the adviser may modify or terminate the waiver, but only with fund board approval. From September 1, 2004, through December 31, 2008, the investment adviser to the American Funds and the business manager for The Tax-Exempt Fund of Maryland, The Tax-Exempt Fund of Virginia and Washington Mutual Investors Fund waived a portion of their management fees. The investment adviser has also reimbursed expenses for some funds and share classes. Investment results shown reflect the waiver and reimbursements, without which the results would have been lower. The waiver may be adjusted or discontinued by the investment adviser, subject to any limitations in the fund's prospectus. The expense ratios are as of each fund's prospectus available at the time of publication. The Target Date Retirement Series include the weighted average expenses of the underlying funds. Please see the funds most recent prospectus for details.

#### Standardized Average Annual Total Returns for Quarter Ended 12/31/2013

Returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized.

Security Name	Inception Date	Max. Initial Sales Charge/CDSC	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years	Since Inception
The Investment Company of America A	1/1/1934	5.75% Front	24.81%	14.85%	6.51%	12.17%

#### Gross Charges and Expenses

Fund Name	Sales Charge	Max CDSC	Max Redem Fee	Mgmt Fee	Distribution (12b-1) Fee	Other Expenses	Total Gross Operating Expense
The Investment Company of America A	5.75%	1.00%	-	0.24%	0.23%	0.15%	0.62%

The fund does not assess redemption fees. However, shareholders redeeming shares may be subject to the fund's Purchase Blocking Policy as described in the prospectus.

Investors should carefully consider investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses. This and other important information is contained in the fund prospectuses, summary prospectuses and CollegeAmerica Program Description, which can be obtained from a financial professional and should be read carefully before investing.

The illustration included herein does not reflect the effects of taxes in some or all of the investments.

If the results shown on the following pages do not reflect deduction of an initial sales charge (i.e. they are at net asset value), please note that they would have been lower if the sales charge had been deducted.

Class A shares are subject to an up-front maximum sales charge (5.75% for equity and target date funds, 3.75% for most bond funds, and 2.50% for Intermediate Bond Fund of America, Short-Term Bond Fund of America, American Funds Short-Term Tax-Exempt Bond Fund, and Limited Term Tax-Exempt Bond Fund of America). The sales charge declines for accounts and aggregated investments (\$25,000 for equity and target date funds, \$100,000 for most bond funds, and \$500,000 for Intermediate Bond Fund of America, Short Term Bond Fund of America, American Funds Short-Term Tax-Exempt Bond Fund, and Limited Term Tax-Exempt Bond Fund of America). There is no initial sales charge on purchases of \$1 million or more. A 1% contingent deferred sales charge (CDSC) may be assessed if a redemption occurs within one year of purchase. Results on the following pages reflect deduction of the CDSC if the investment is \$1 million or more and a withdrawal is selected within one year of purchase. Illustrations run after January 26, 2010 use data and calculations provided by Lipper; therefore, results may differ from previous illustrations. Certain withdrawals before age 59 1/2 may be subject to income tax and, if applicable, to a 10% federal penalty. For current information and month-end results, visit [americanfunds.com](http://americanfunds.com).

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- The A/529A share 1, 5, and 10-year return for each fund is based on the MOP value.
- The "Average annual return on the investment" is based on the initial investment and the breakpoint chosen.
- Cumulative Volume Discount Reflected Where Applicable in This Illustration.
- NOTE: Systematic Accumulation Plans cannot assure a profit or protect against loss in declining markets.

## Hypothetical Illustration

### The Investment Company of America A

Date	Initial Investment	Initial Sales Charges	Net Amount Invested	Shares Purchased
12/31/1983	100.00	5.75%	94.23	8.368

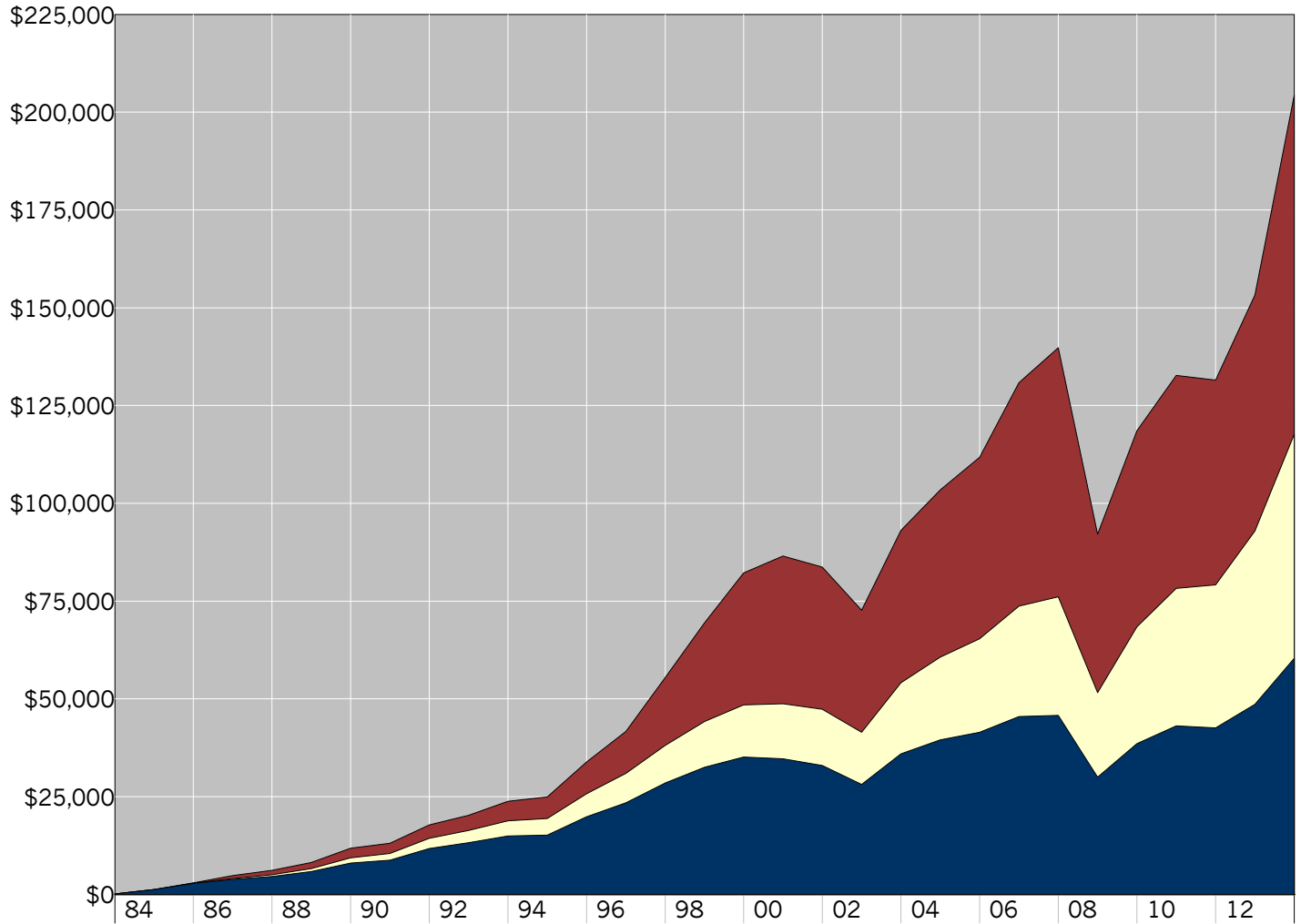
\$100 initial investment on 12/31/1983. Dividends and capital gains are reinvested. Subsequent investments of \$100 from 02/1984 to 12/2013 every month, on the first day of the month. The Initial investment is subject to a 5.75% sales charge. Subsequent investments are subject to a sales charge of up to 5.75%. The effects of income and capital gains taxes are not demonstrated.

Date	Investment(s)	Dividend Income	Cumulative Dividend Income	Capital Gains	Shares Held	Total Value
12/31/1984	1,200	28	28	4	111	1,226
12/31/1985	1,200	79	107	59	220	2,978
12/31/1986	1,200	133	240	659	366	4,827
12/31/1987	1,200	218	458	330	486	6,127
12/31/1988	1,200	310	767	441	629	8,141
12/31/1989	1,200	411	1,178	611	774	11,801
12/31/1990	1,200	496	1,674	190	898	13,044
12/31/1991	1,200	421	2,095	368	1,017	17,772
12/31/1992	1,200	503	2,597	352	1,130	20,209
12/31/1993	1,200	556	3,153	908	1,269	23,760
12/31/1994	1,200	634	3,788	812	1,411	24,932
12/31/1995	1,200	731	4,518	1,360	1,568	33,881
12/31/1996	1,200	806	5,324	1,692	1,721	41,700
12/31/1997	1,200	880	6,205	4,641	1,962	55,427
12/31/1998	1,200	1,028	7,233	5,992	2,235	69,442
12/31/1999	1,200	1,167	8,399	7,020	2,532	82,195
12/31/2000	1,200	1,349	9,749	5,431	2,786	86,519
12/31/2001	1,200	1,479	11,227	1,680	2,933	83,679
12/31/2002	1,200	1,554	12,782	1,385	3,093	72,628
12/31/2003	1,200	1,637	14,419	670	3,228	93,094
12/31/2004	1,200	1,703	16,121	1,175	3,364	103,436
12/31/2005	1,200	2,324	18,445	2,794	3,564	111,762
12/31/2006	1,200	2,677	21,121	7,522	3,904	130,835
12/31/2007	1,200	2,609	23,731	7,419	4,242	139,775
12/31/2008	1,200	2,926	26,657	0	4,395	92,110
12/31/2009	1,200	2,553	29,209	0	4,568	118,550
12/31/2010	1,200	2,596	31,805	0	4,713	132,710
12/31/2011	1,200	2,770	34,575	0	4,855	131,517
12/31/2012	1,200	3,546	38,121	2,083	5,081	153,257
12/31/2013	1,200	3,238	41,360	12,994	5,567	204,303
<b>Total</b>	<b>36,000</b>	<b>41,360</b>	<b>41,360</b>	<b>68,591</b>	<b>5,567</b>	<b>204,303</b>

Average Annual Return on the investment for the period of 12/31/1983 - 12/31/2013 : 9.91%

**Hypothetical Illustration**
**12/31/1983 - 12/31/2013**
**Total Ending Amount= \$204,303**

**The Investment Company of America A** : \$100 initial investment on 12/31/1983. Dividends and capital gains are reinvested. Subsequent investments of \$100 from 02/1984 to 12/2013 every month, on the first day of the month. The Initial investment is subject to a 5.75% sales charge. Subsequent investments are subject to a sales charge of up to 5.75%. The effects of income and capital gains taxes are not demonstrated.



- Capital Gains (Ending Amount: \$86,630)
- Income (Ending Amount: \$57,332)
- Principal (Ending Amount: \$60,341)

This graph must be accompanied by the underlying Hypo illustration(s).