

INVESTORS START TO LOOSEN UP

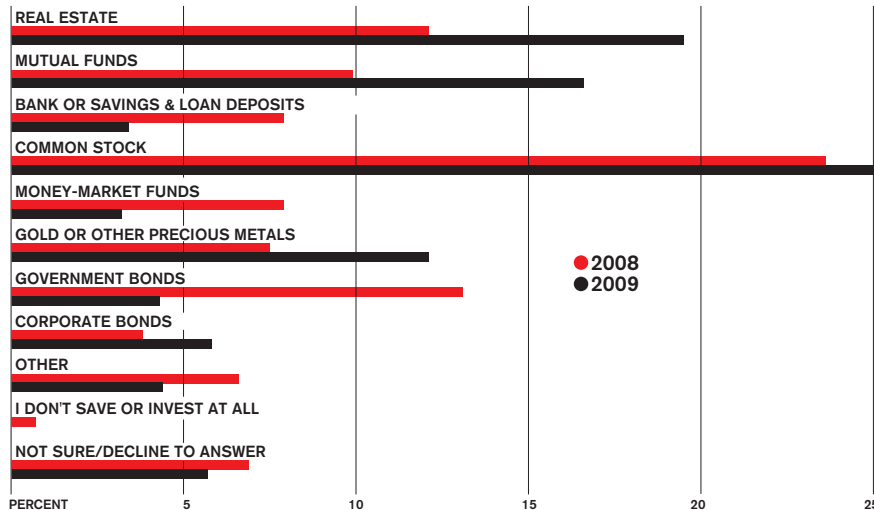
Americans are venturing away from the safest harbors, though gold is still popular. *By Peter Coy*

A *Bloomberg BusinessWeek* poll finds that investors are less fearful than they were a year ago, at the height of the financial crisis. Real estate has regained favor, as have mutual funds. Gold is big, too—a sign that some investors are worried about inflation and a sinking dollar. Meanwhile, safe government bonds and money market funds have lost

popularity. Betraying their home bias, American investors are much more likely than foreign investors to pick the U.S. as the market with the best potential. *Bloomberg BusinessWeek* Research Services conducted online interviews with 770 American investors and 158 foreign investors from Dec. 1-8.

Renewed interest in mutual funds and real estate

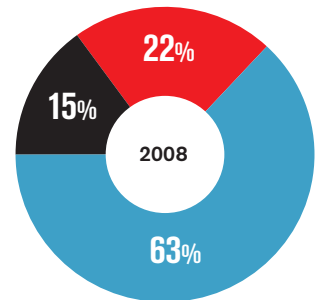
IF YOU HAD TO CHOOSE ONE INVESTMENT YOU THINK WOULD BE BEST RIGHT NOW, WHAT WOULD IT BE?



Americans are increasingly likely to look abroad

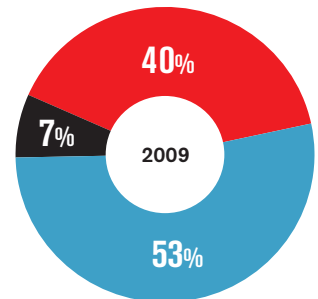
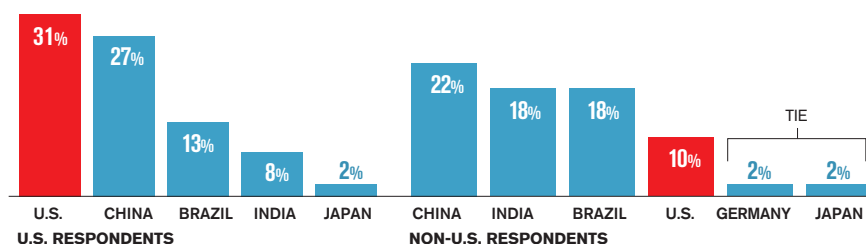
HOW DO YOU THINK YOU WILL CHANGE YOUR PORTFOLIO OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS*?

- DIVERSIFY TO BE MORE EXPOSED TO INTERNATIONAL STOCKS
- RESTRUCTURE INTO MORE U.S.-BASED STOCKS
- NOT CHANGE MY MIX OF U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL STOCKS



Americans pick their own stock market as 'most likely to succeed'

WHAT COUNTRY'S STOCK MARKET DO YOU THINK WILL PRODUCE THE BEST RETURNS FOR INVESTORS OVER THE NEXT 12 MONTHS?



*Responses of U.S. investors