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Long Term U.S. Inflation

Updated July 2006

Today's 50 Top Trending Stocks

1,929% Inflation!

The Chart to the right shows the Annual Inflation Rates for each decade. Each bar represents the average Annual Inflation for the decade (not the total cumulative inflation for that 10 year period).

The final Yellow bar shows the average annual inflation rate since the government began tracking it in 1913.

As we can see the Average annual inflation rate is 3.43%. That doesn't sound too bad until we realize that at that rate prices will double every 20 years.

That means that every two bars on average prices have doubled or about 5 doublings since they began keeping records.

Five Doublings sounds like prices increased by 10 times right? But it gets even worse than that! Because it isn't just a arithmetic doubling it is compounded. So just as compound interest can multiply your savings, compound inflation can multiply the effects of inflation. As you can see from the cumulative Inflation chart since 1913 we have seen 1929% inflation.

