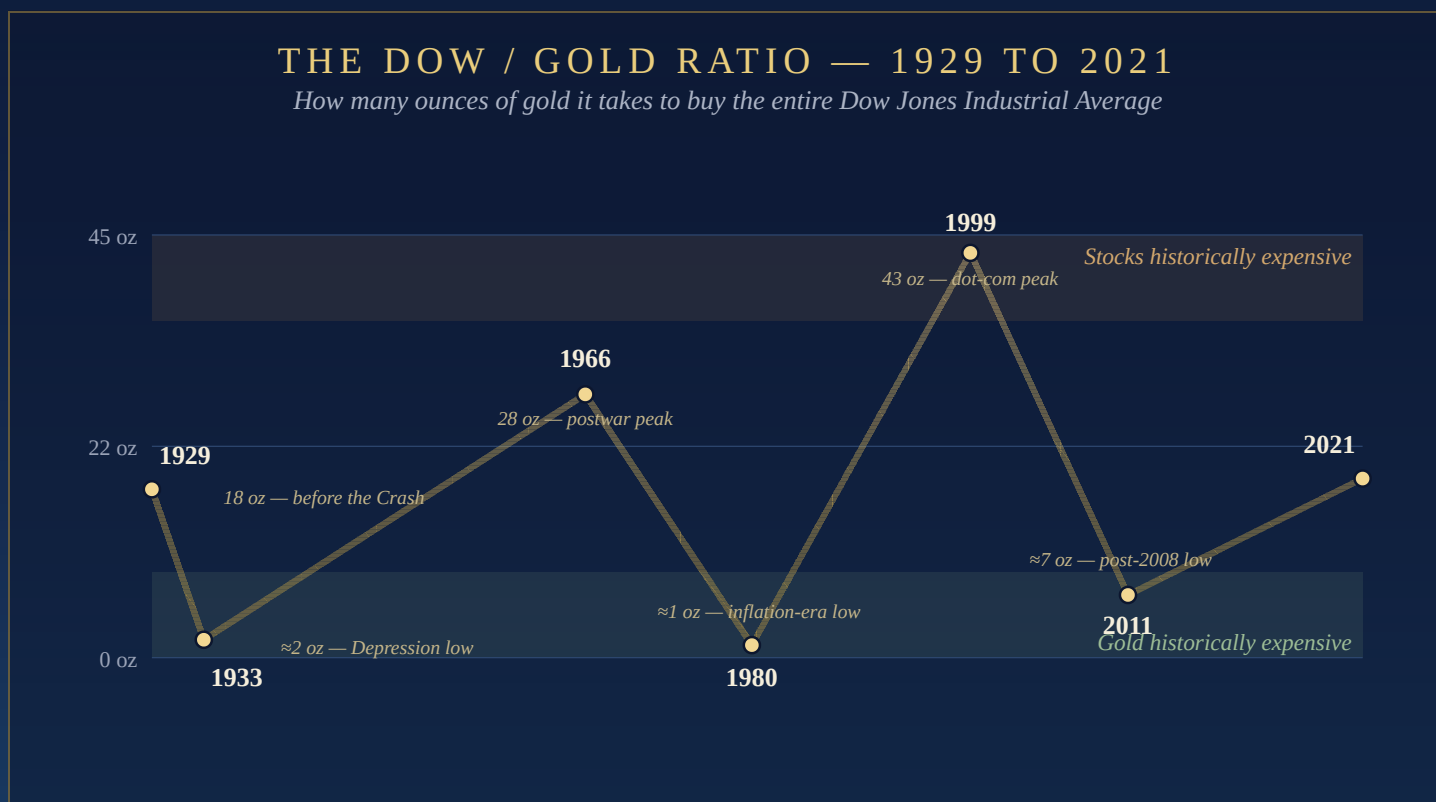


One Hundred Years of Wisdom, *Held in a Single Number*

Before you read another headline, look at this chart. For a century it has quietly guided careful households through every boom and every fall.



Check It Yourself — No Computer Needed

Everything you need is in the business section of any newspaper, or one phone call to your bank or library.

1.

Find the **Dow Jones Industrial Average** — printed daily in the business pages.

2.

Find the **price of one ounce of gold** — listed nearby, under commodities or metals.

3.

Divide the Dow by the **gold price**. That number is today's Dow/Gold ratio.

4.

Mark it on the chart above. **Is it high or low? Rising or falling?** Check again in a few months.

A librarian can help you find both numbers in minutes — and this page is yours to keep.

I. One Number, A Century of Signals

Take the Dow Jones Industrial Average. Divide it by the price of one ounce of gold. The result — the **Dow/Gold ratio** — tells you how many ounces of gold it would take to buy the entire Dow. Tracked for nearly a hundred years, through depression, war, inflation, and recovery, it has never trended in one direction forever. It swings, in long and patient cycles, between two extremes.

II. What the Last Hundred Years Showed

When it rose — *stocks led*

The long climbs — the 1950s and '60s, the 1980s and '90s — were eras when financial assets (the Dow, the S&P 500, the NASDAQ) rewarded patient owners.

When it fell — *hard assets led*

The long declines — the 1970s, the 2000s — were eras when gold, silver, oil, and other hard assets preserved and grew household wealth.

III. How Careful Households Read It Forward

No one can tell the future, and history may not repeat itself. But history is the only record we are given — and patterns that held for a century deserve a place at the family table. Read forward, the ratio asks one steady question: **where are we in the cycle?** Across the last hundred years, readings near the top of the range (above 40) came near major stock-market peaks; readings near the bottom (1 to 2) came near the turning points that favored a return to stocks. A household that checks this one number a few times a year — noting whether it rises or falls, sits high or low — is reading the same map careful stewards of wealth have read for generations.

THE DISCIPLINE, IN PLAIN WORDS

Do not chase headlines. **Check the ratio. Note its direction. Note where it sits in its hundred-year range.** Let that — not fear, not fashion — guide how your household balances financial assets and hard assets over years, not days.

Why this comes to you free. Legacy Extended sells no product and manages no one's money. We are a family entrusted with community resources, carrying forward one conviction: the frameworks careful stewards have used for a century belong to every household in our community. This is one of an ongoing series on economic mobility — each piece written to stand on its own, and yours to keep.

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SCAN TO KEEP
THIS LESSON