

Myth #15:

I recently inherited some money. Folks are telling me to invest it in the stock market, not into a home.

The Facts:

- Average home values in Hattiesburg have shown an appreciation value for 2008 of .48%.
- Historical growth of 3% to 6% when averaged over nearly 2 decades.
- The financial markets have struggled to grow for most of this century.
- As of November 2008 the Dow is down 40% for the year.
- The NASDAQ is down 45% through November 2008.
- Homeownership has certainly proven to be a stronger and safer family investment.
- Plus, it's hard to raise a family in a stock portfolio and you get some really great tax benefits to boot.

Sources: Flex MLS, Hattiesburg, Mississippi Economic Council, Dow Jones Average, Nasdaq