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The stockmarket is fuelling America's economy

What happens in the event of a slump?

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Oct 9th 2025 | 5 min read

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But does the stockmarket power the economy? At most points in time, it would be a ridiculous question. In recent months, though, the rise in American share prices has coincided with, and been fed by, a rush of popular enthusiasm for investing. And as people see the line go up, they become more likely to spend. Now the answer to the question has important implications for the path of America's stockmarket boom and its economy.