Growth Potential

As markets have grown and international companies have thrived, the performance of many international stock markets has been impressive. Graph 12-2 depicts the growth of \$1.00 invested in international stocks as well as U.S. large company stocks, long-term government bonds, Treasury bills, and a hypothetical asset returning the inflation rate over the period from the end of 1969 to the end of 2005. Of the asset classes shown, International stocks accumulated the highest ending wealth by year-end 2005. International stocks have outperformed U.S. large company stocks for the past four years.

