



## History of the American and NASDAQ Stock Exchanges

### Selected References

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The American Stock Exchange (AMEX) got its start in the 1800's and was known as the "Curb Exchange" until 1921 because it met as a market at the curbstone on Broad Street near Exchange Place. Its founding date is generally considered as 1921 because this is the year when it moved into new quarters on Trinity. However, it wasn't until 1953 that it officially became the [American Stock Exchange](#).<sup>↗</sup> In November 1998, the [National Association of Security Dealers](#)<sup>↗</sup> announced that the American Stock Exchange would merge with the National Association of Securities Dealers creating "The Nasdaq-Amex Market Group." However, the American Stock Exchange remained as an active exchange.



Above:  
Broad Street and curb brokers, New York City, 1916  
photographed by Irving Underhill.  
[Prints and Photographs Division](#) (Library of Congress)  
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In October 1, 2008, the American Stock Exchange was [acquired](#)<sup>↗</sup> by NYSE Euronext. [NYSE Euronext](#)<sup>↗</sup> integrated amex.com content and data into the nyse.com website, phasing out amex.com, effective January 16, 2009. The new name is [NYSE Amex](#)<sup>↗</sup>.

Founded by the National Association of Securities Dealers, the [NASDAQ](#)<sup>↗</sup> began trading on February 8, 1971, as the world's first electronic stock market, trading for over 2,500 securities. In 2000, NASDAQ membership voted to [restructure and spin off](#)<sup>↗</sup> NASDAQ into a shareholder-owned, for-profit company. In 2007, the NASD merged with the New York Stock Exchange's regulation committee to form the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). In May 2007, NASDAQ [announced](#)<sup>↗</sup> a transaction to create global exchange and technology company with Swedish exchange operator, OMX. Later that year, on November 7, 2007, NASDAQ OMX announced that it had signed an [agreement](#)<sup>↗</sup> to acquire the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, the oldest stock exchange in America, founded in 1790. Today NASDAQ is the largest electronic stock market with over 3,000 companies listed.

### Internet Resources

- [Equities](#)<sup>↗</sup> (Product Look-up for NYSE Euronext publicly traded securities)
- [Federal Reserve Bulletin Statistical Supplement](#)  
See AMEX (monthly/yearly) table 1.36, "Stock Market, Selected Statistics"
- [Wikipedia - NASDAQ](#)<sup>↗</sup>
- [Financial Industry Regulatory Authority \(FINRA\)](#)<sup>↗</sup>
- [NASDAQ Statistical Milestones](#)<sup>↗</sup>
- [NASDAQ Daily Market Statistics](#)<sup>↗</sup>
- [NASDAQ Listed Company Finder](#)<sup>↗</sup>
- [Securities and Exchange Commission Historical Society](#)<sup>↗</sup>

Among the interesting items found in the PAPERS section of this site are the National Association of securities Dealers (NASD) Annual Report, NASD Notice to Members, and NASD News.

## Additional Reading

- **NASDAQ : A History of the Market That Changed the World** by Mark Ingebretsen. 1st ed. Roseville, Calif. : Forum, c2002.  
LC Call Number: HG4574.2 I54  
Catalog Record: [2002016972](#)  
[Table of Contents](#)  
[Publisher's Description](#)
- **AMEX: A History of the American Stock Exchange, 1921-1971** by Robert Sobel. New York, Weybright and Talley [1972].  
LC Call Number: HG4575.S6  
Catalog Record: [72086971](#)
- **The Curbstone Brokers : The Origins of the American Stock Exchange** by Robert Sobel. Washington, D.C. : BeardBooks, 2000.  
LC Call Number: HG4575.2 .S663 2000  
Catalog Record: [00023571](#)

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