



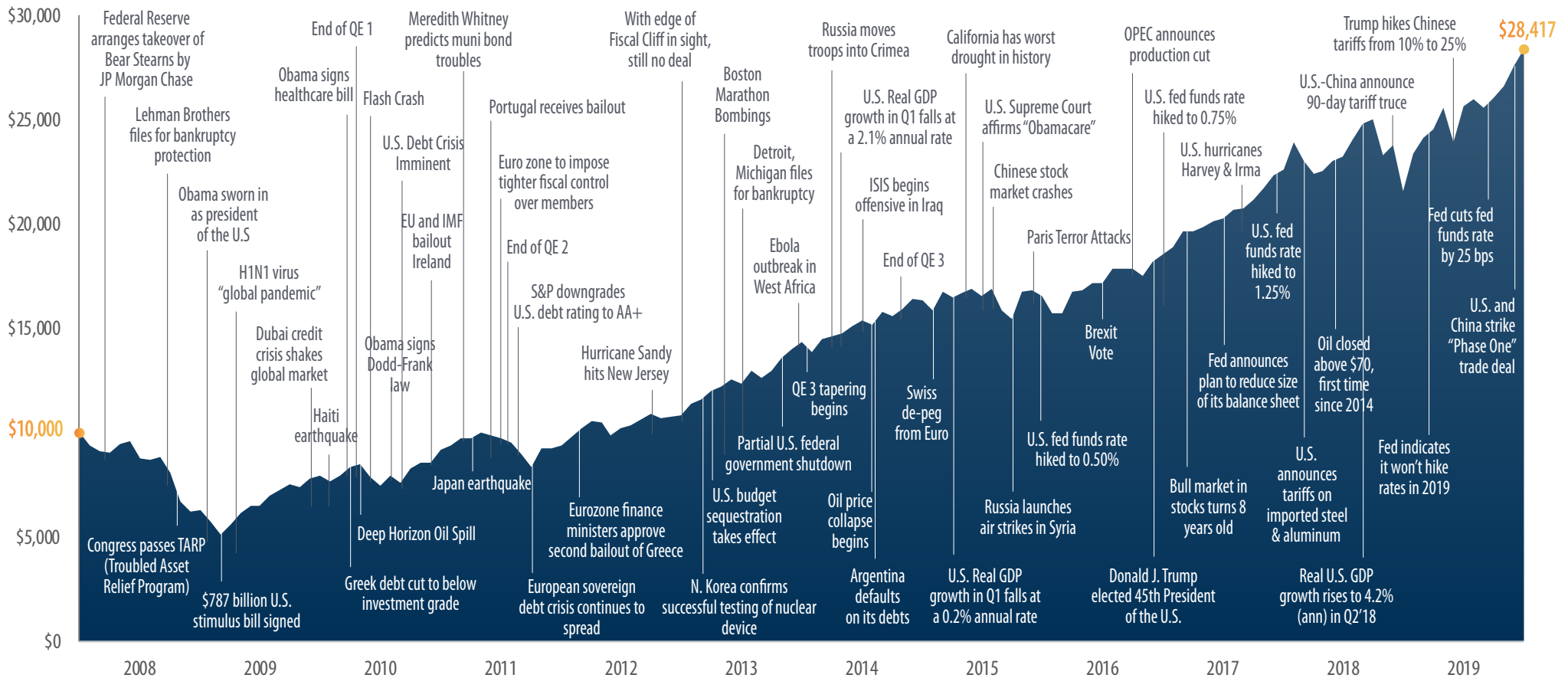
CLIENT RESOURCE KIT
MARKETS IN PERSPECTIVE

 **First Trust**

January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2019

This chart shows the growth of \$10,000 based on S&P 500 Index performance over the last several years. Although past performance is no guarantee of future results, we believe looking at the market's overall resiliency through several major crises and events helps to gain a fresh perspective on the benefits of investing for the long-term.

THE AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURN OF THE S&P 500 INDEX FOR THE PERIOD SHOWN BELOW WAS 9.09%.



Source: First Trust Advisors L.P. This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of 500 stocks used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. Investors cannot invest directly in an index. Index returns do not reflect any fees, expenses, or sales charges. Stocks are not guaranteed and have been more volatile than the other asset classes. These returns were the result of certain market factors and events which may not be repeated in the future. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

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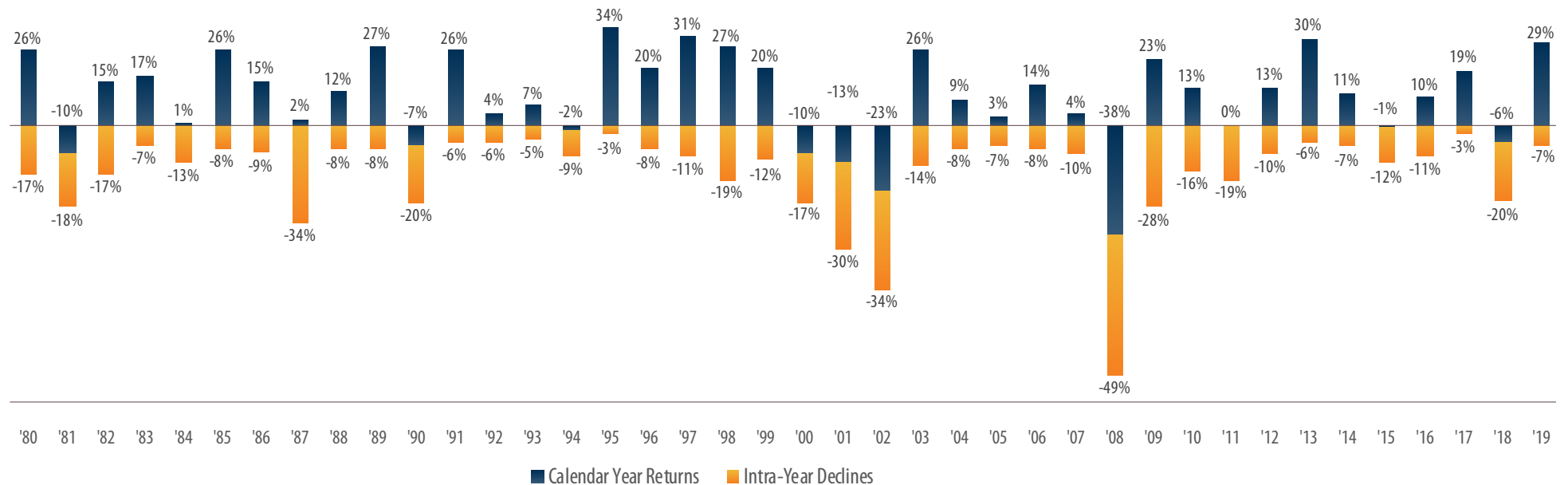
Investors tend to see short-term volatility as the enemy. Volatility may lead many investors to move money out of the market and “sit on the sidelines” until things “calm down.” Although this approach may appear to solve one problem, it creates several others:

1. When do you get back in? You must make two correct decisions back-to-back; when to get out and when to get back in.
2. By going to the sidelines you may be missing a potential rebound. This is not historically unprecedented; see chart below.
3. By going to the sidelines you could be not only missing a potential rebound, but all the potential growth on that money going forward.

We believe the wiser course of action is to review your plan with your advisor and from there, decide if any action is indeed necessary. This placates the natural desire to “do something”, but helps keep emotions in check.

INTRA-YEAR DECLINES VS. CALENDAR YEAR RETURNS

Volatility is not a recent phenomenon. Each year, one can expect the market to experience a significant correction, which for the S&P 500 has averaged approximately 14% since 1980. Although past performance is no guarantee of future results, history has shown that those who chose to stay the course were rewarded for their patience more often than not.



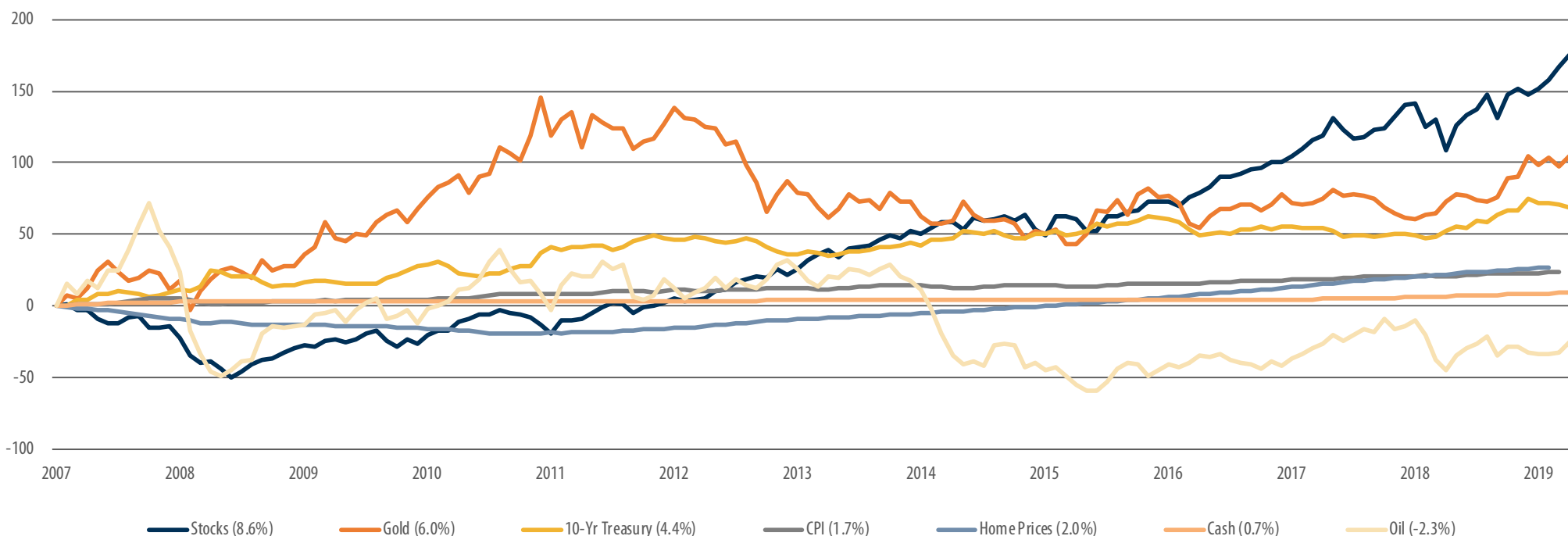
Source: First Trust Advisors L.P., Bloomberg, as of 12/31/19. The benchmark used for the above chart is the S&P 500 Index. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of 500 stocks used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. Investors cannot invest directly in an index. Index returns do not reflect any fees, expenses, or sales charges. Returns are based on price only and do not include dividends. This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. These returns were the result of certain market factors and events which may not be repeated in the future. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

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This chart shows the cumulative return of different asset classes following the S&P 500 Index market peak before the Financial Panic of 2008. Although past performance is no guarantee of future results, we believe a comparison of asset class performance through the financial panic and subsequent recovery helps to show the benefits of investing for the long-term.

CUMULATIVE RETURN (%)

Sep '07 = 0 (annualized returns in parenthesis)



Source: Standard & Poor's, Bloomberg, Federal Housing and Finance Agency (FHFA), Bureau of Labor Statistic (BLS), U.S. Treasury, New York Mercantile Exchange (NYM). Monthly data September 2007 – December 2019. Housing data through October 2019 and CPI data through November 2019 (latest data available). Stocks represented by the S&P 500 Total Return Index. Gold represented by gold spot price per Troy ounce. 10-Year Treasury represented by the 10-year Treasury note constant maturity total return index. CPI represented by the BLS Consumer Price Index. Home prices represented by the FHFA Home Price Index. Cash represented by the 3-month Treasury bill constant maturity total return index. Oil prices represented by the NYM Generic 1st Crude Futures Index. This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

The asset classes shown here offer different characteristics in terms of income, tax treatment, capital appreciation and risk. Common stocks are subject to risks, such as an economic recession and the possible deterioration of either the financial condition of the issuers of the equity securities or the general condition of the stock market. An investment in commodities involves specific risks including but not limited to: global supply and demand, depletion of natural resources, excess capacity, production costs, economic recession, domestic and international politics, currency exchange rates, government regulations, volatile interest rates, consumer spending trends and overall capital spending levels. Fixed income securities are generally subject to credit risk, income risk, and interest rate risk. Credit risk is the risk that an issuer may default on its obligation to make principal and/or interest payments when due. Income risk is the risk that income could decline during periods of falling interest rates. Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of fixed income securities will decline because of rising interest rates. Homebuilding companies can be significantly affected by the national, regional and local real estate markets.

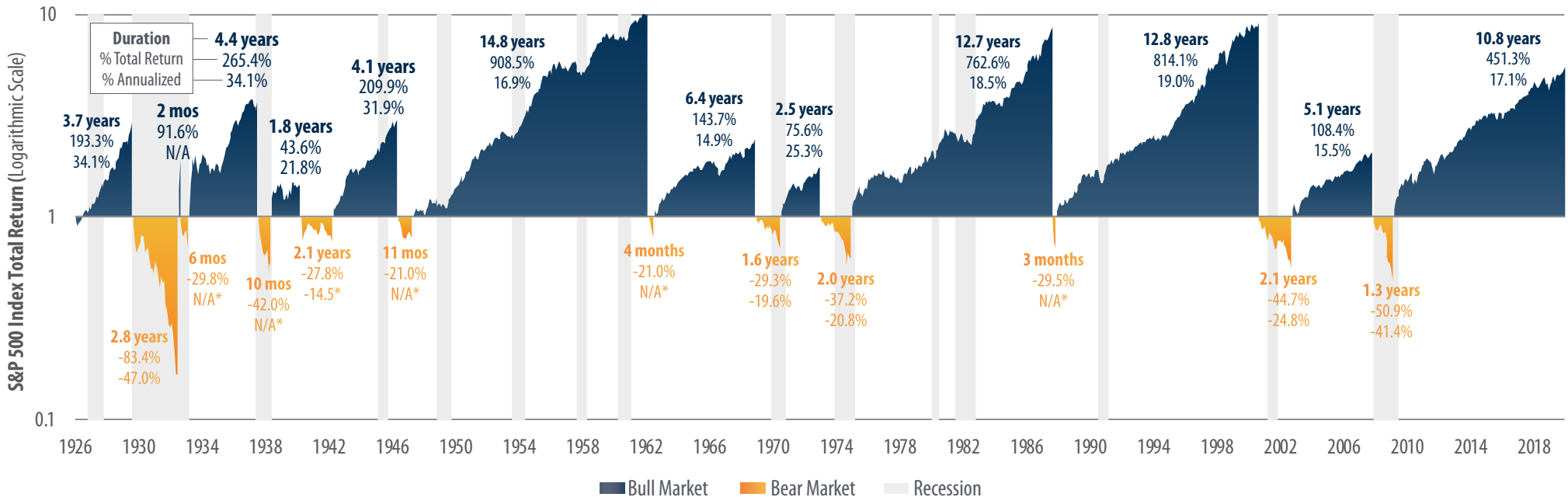
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History of U.S. Bear & Bull Markets

Since 1926

This chart shows historical performance of the S&P 500 Index throughout the U.S. Bull and Bear Markets from 1926 through 2019. Although past performance is no guarantee of future results, we believe looking at the history of the market's expansions and recessions helps to gain a fresh perspective on the benefits of investing for the long-term.

- The average **Bull Market** period lasted 6.6 years with an average cumulative total return of 339%.
- The average **Bear Market** period lasted 1.3 years with an average cumulative loss of -38%.



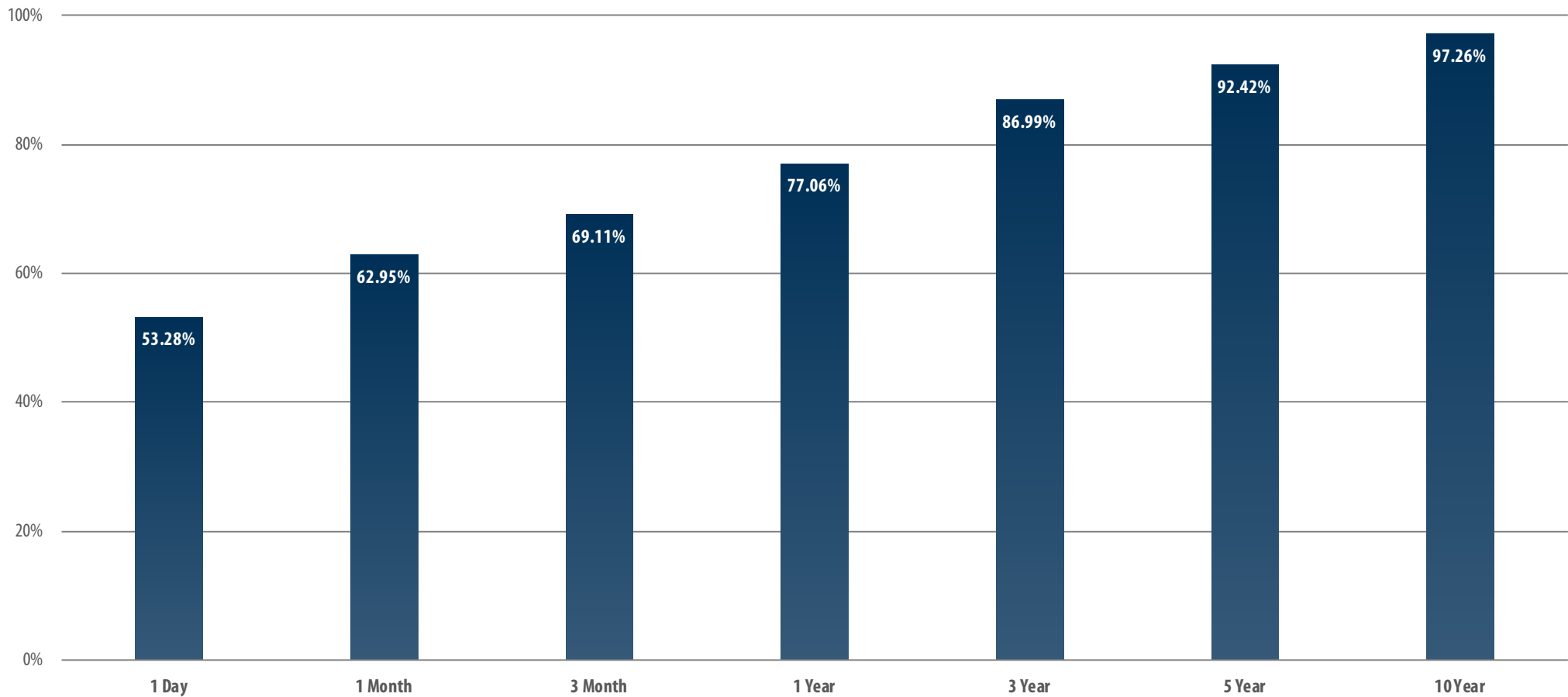
Source: First Trust Advisors L.P., Bloomberg. Returns from 1926 - 2019. *Not applicable since duration is less than one year.

These results are based on monthly returns—returns using different periods would produce different results. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of 500 stocks used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. Investors cannot invest directly in an index. Index returns do not reflect any fees, expenses, or sales charges. This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. These returns were the result of certain market factors and events which may not be repeated in the future. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. The information presented is not intended to constitute an investment recommendation for, or advice to, any specific person. By providing this information, First Trust is not undertaking to give advice in any fiduciary capacity within the meaning of ERISA, the Internal Revenue Code or any other regulatory framework. Financial advisors are responsible for evaluating investment risks independently and for exercising independent judgment in determining whether investments are appropriate for their clients.

Probability of Positive Returns

S&P 500 Index: 12/31/1936 to 12/31/2019

Investing in the stock market can be volatile. For this reason, we believe it is important to keep proper perspective when stocks rise or fall over short periods of time. History has shown that the odds of achieving a positive return are dramatically increased the longer the investment horizon.



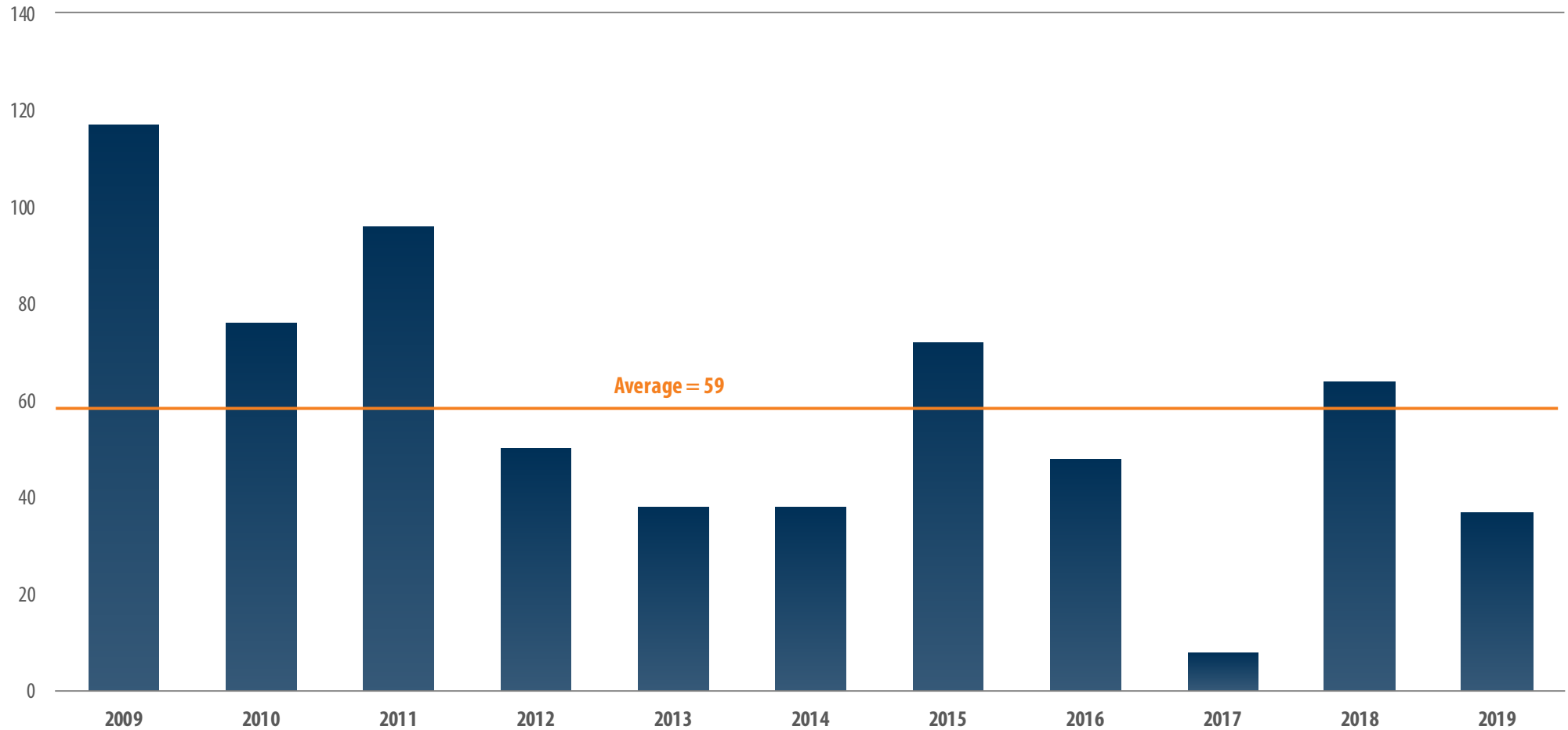
Source: Bloomberg.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. The illustration excludes the effects of taxes and brokerage commissions or other expenses incurred when investing. These returns were the result of certain market factors and events which may not be repeated in the future. This chart is based on the total returns of the S&P 500 Index. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of 500 stocks used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. The index cannot be purchased directly by investors.

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S&P 500 Daily Volatility

of Days With >1% Moves



Source: Bloomberg, First Trust Advisors L.P. This chart is based on the price returns of the S&P 500 Index for the period 12/31/2008 through 12/31/2019.

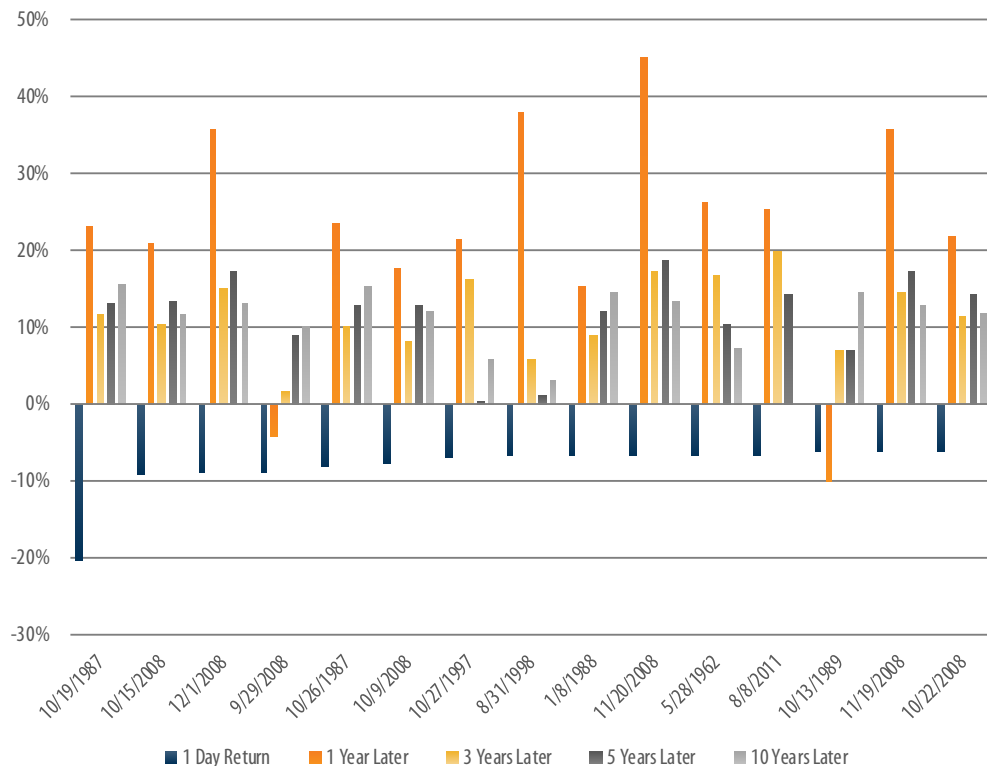
Past performance is no guarantee of future results. This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. The illustration excludes the effects of taxes and brokerage commissions and other expenses incurred when investing. Investors cannot invest directly in an index. The S&P 500 Index is a capitalization-weighted index comprised of 500 stocks used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance.

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Performance After Its Worst Days

The chart and table below list the 15 largest single day percentage losses in the S&P 500 Index since 1960 and the subsequent price performance of the index for the 1-, 3-, 5-, and 10-year periods that followed. Looking back, the S&P 500 Index produced positive price appreciation, on average, in each of the periods. While stocks have sometimes experienced extreme volatility over short periods of time, we believe investors who remain committed to their long-term investment plan will continue to be rewarded over longer periods. Of course, past performance is no guarantee of future results.

S&P 500 INDEX PERFORMANCE DURING AND AFTER EXTREME DOWN DAYS



Date	1 Day Return	1 Year Later	3 Years Later	5 Years Later	10 Years Later
10/19/1987	-20.47%	+23.19%	+11.60%	+13.04%	+15.43%
10/15/2008	-9.03%	+20.79%	+10.49%	+13.34%	+11.72%
12/01/2008	-8.93%	+35.85%	+15.10%	+17.21%	+12.96%
09/29/2008	-8.79%	-4.14%	+1.60%	+8.86%	+10.17%
10/26/1987	-8.28%	+23.59%	+10.20%	+12.93%	+15.25%
10/09/2008	-7.62%	+17.76%	+8.29%	+12.73%	+12.21%
10/27/1997	-6.87%	+21.48%	+16.30%	+0.47%	+5.76%
08/31/1998	-6.80%	+37.93%	+5.80%	+1.04%	+2.97%
01/08/1988	-6.77%	+15.31%	+8.96%	+12.01%	+14.66%
11/20/2008	-6.71%	+45.05%	+17.34%	+18.81%	+13.38%
05/28/1962	-6.68%	+26.14%	+16.79%	+10.39%	+7.14%
08/08/2011	-6.66%	+25.26%	+19.94%	+14.27%	N/A
10/13/1989	-6.13%	-10.07%	+7.05%	+6.99%	+14.44%
11/19/2008	-6.12%	+35.75%	+14.65%	+17.26%	+12.80%
10/22/2008	-6.10%	+21.87%	+11.35%	+14.37%	+11.88%
Average	-8.13%	+22.38%	+11.70%	+11.58%	+10.72%

Source: Bloomberg. Performance is price return only (no dividends). The charts are for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. Returns are average annualized returns, except those for periods of less than one year, which are cumulative. Index returns do not reflect any fees, expenses, or sales charges. Stocks are not guaranteed and have been more volatile than the other asset classes. These returns were the result of certain market factors and events which may not be repeated in the future. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of 500 stocks used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. Investors cannot invest directly in an index.

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