Principles of Investing Chartbook

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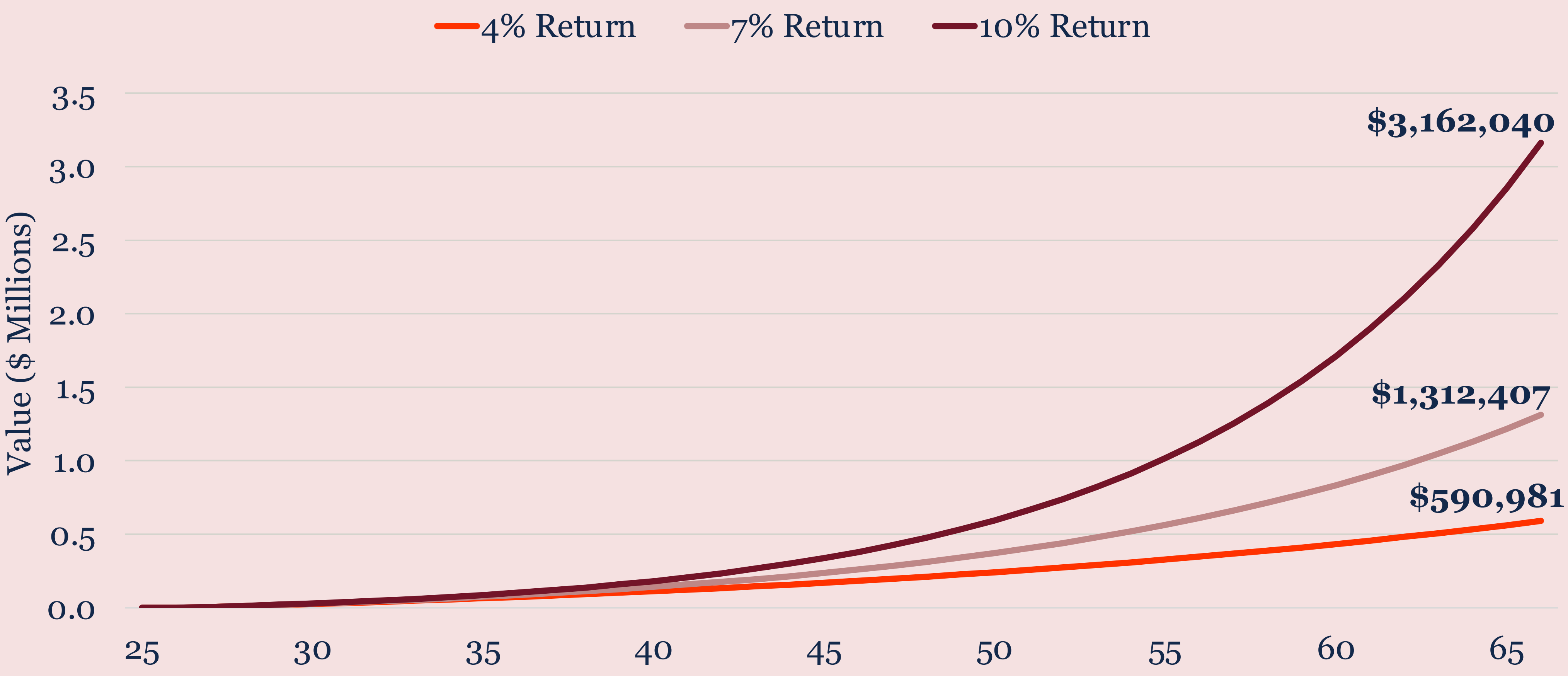
The Power of Compounding

$500/MONTH FROM AGE 25 TO 65 AT DIFFERENT RATES OF RETURN



Source: Carson Investment Research 5/5/2026

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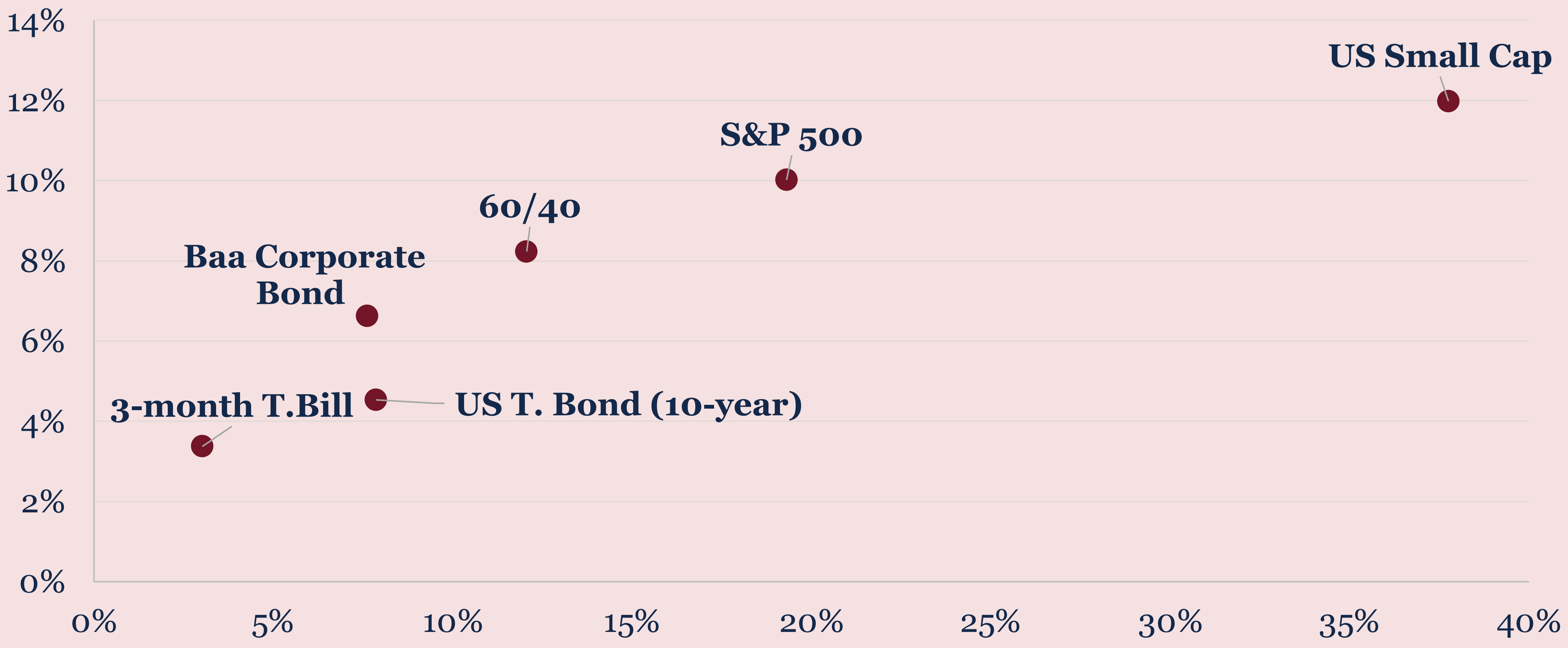
This hypothetical example is for illustrative purposes only.

The More Risk You Take, the Higher the Potential Returns

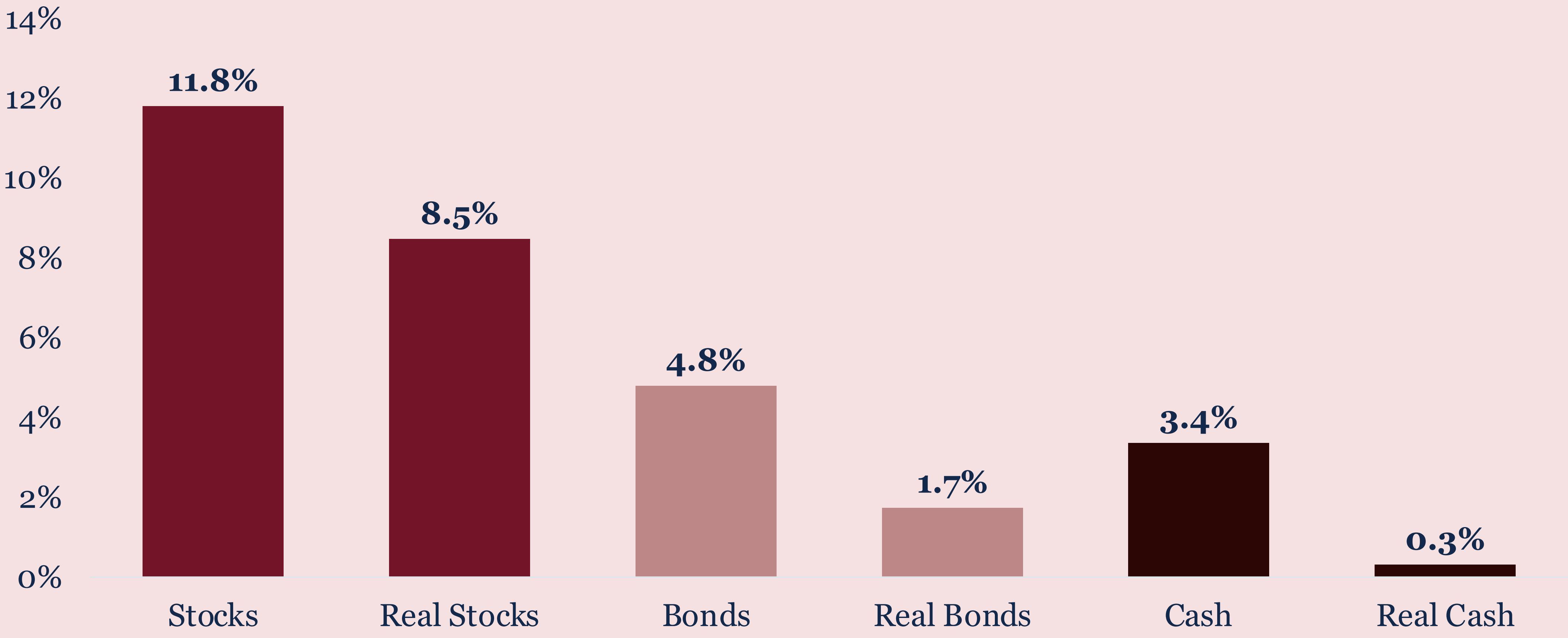
HISTORICAL RISK-RETURN PROFILE OF ASSET CLASSES (1928-2025)



Source: Carson Investment Research, Aswath Damodaran, NYU Stern School of Business 3/10/26
Note: 60/40 is 60% S&P 500 Index with 40% 10-Year Treasury Bond

Returns Before and After Inflation

USING GEOMETRIC S&P 500, 10-YEAR TREASURY, AND T-BILLS FOR CASH RETURNS FROM 1928-2025. YEARLY CPI DATA.



Source: Carson Investment Research, FactSet 12/29/2025

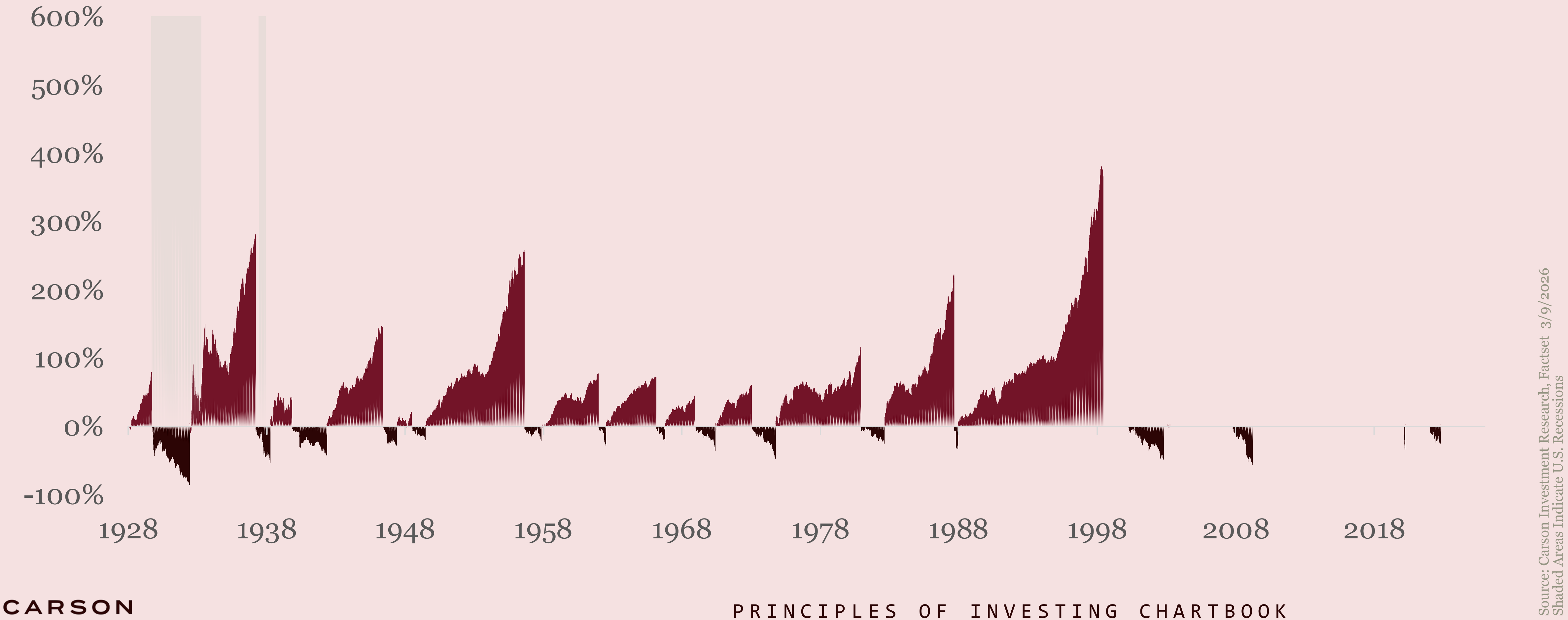
The Carson Quilt Chart

RETURNS FOR VARIOUS SECTORS (2010-2025)

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Return (Since 2001)	Risk (Since 2001)	2000s	2010s	2020s
Small Cap 26.9%	Fixed Income 7.8%	Int'l EM 18.2%	Small Cap 38.8%	Large Cap 13.7%	Growth 5.7%	Small Cap 21.3%	Int'l EM 37.3%	Cash 1.8%	Growth 36.4%	Growth 38.5%	Large Cap 28.7%	Comdty 16.1%	Growth 42.7%	Growth 33.4%	Int'l EM 32.9%	Growth 9.8%	Growth 17.0%	Int'l EM 9.6%	Growth 15.2%	Growth 18.1%
Mid Cap 25.5%	Growth 2.6%	Value 17.5%	Mid Cap 34.8%	Value 13.5%	Large Cap 1.4%	Value 17.3%	Growth 30.2%	Fixed Income 0.0%	Large Cap 31.5%	Small Cap 20.0%	Growth 27.6%	Cash 1.5%	Large Cap 26.3%	Large Cap 25.0%	Int'l Dev 26.6%	Mid Cap 9.3%	Mid Cap 17.3%	Comdty 7.1%	Large Cap 13.6%	Large Cap 16.7%
Int'l EM 18.9%	Large Cap 2.1%	Int'l Dev 17.3%	Growth 33.5%	Mid Cap 13.2%	Fixed Income 0.5%	Mid Cap 13.8%	Int'l Dev 25.0%	Growth -1.5%	Mid Cap 30.5%	Large Cap 18.4%	Comdty 27.1%	Value -7.5%	Int'l Dev 18.2%	Mid Cap 15.3%	Growth 21.5%	Large Cap 8.9%	Large Cap 15.1%	Fixed Income 6.3%	Mid Cap 13.2%	Value 13.7%
Comdty 16.8%	Moderate Benchmark 0.7%	Mid Cap 17.3%	Value 32.5%	Growth 13.0%	Cash 0.0%	Large Cap 12.0%	Large Cap 21.8%	Large Cap -4.4%	Value 26.5%	Int'l EM 18.3%	Value 25.2%	Fixed Income -13.0%	Mid Cap 17.2%	Value 14.4%	Large Cap 17.5%	Int'l EM 8.5%	Int'l EM 20.6%	Mid Cap 5.0%	Small Cap 11.8%	Mid Cap 12.3%
Growth 16.7%	Value 0.4%	Small Cap 16.3%	Large Cap 32.4%	Moderate Benchmark 6.6%	Moderate Benchmark -0.6%	Comdty 11.8%	Mid Cap 18.5%	Moderate Benchmark -4.8%	Small Cap 25.5%	Mid Cap 17.1%	Mid Cap 22.6%	Int'l Dev -14.5%	Small Cap 16.9%	Small Cap 11.5%	Moderate Benchmark 14.0%	Small Cap 8.2%	Small Cap 20.0%	Moderate Benchmark 3.6%	Value 11.8%	Comdty 12.0%
Value 15.5%	Cash 0.1%	Large Cap 16.0%	Int'l Dev 22.8%	Fixed Income 6.0%	Int'l Dev -0.8%	Int'l EM 11.2%	Small Cap 14.6%	Value -8.3%	Int'l Dev 22.0%	Moderate Benchmark 13.3%	Small Cap 14.8%	Moderate Benchmark -14.8%	Moderate Benchmark 14.9%	Moderate Benchmark 10.5%	Comdty 12.5%	Value 7.6%	Value 15.2%	Small Cap 3.5%	Moderate Benchmark 8.0%	Small Cap 11.8%
Large Cap 15.1%	Mid Cap -1.5%	Growth 15.3%	Moderate Benchmark 15.3%	Small Cap 4.9%	Mid Cap -2.4%	Moderate Benchmark 7.4%	Moderate Benchmark 14.4%	Mid Cap -9.1%	Moderate Benchmark 19.8%	Int'l Dev 7.8%	Int'l Dev 11.3%	Mid Cap -17.3%	Value 11.5%	Int'l EM 7.5%	Small Cap 12.4%	Moderate Benchmark 6.5%	Moderate Benchmark 9.7%	Cash 2.8%	Int'l Dev 5.5%	Int'l Dev 11.2%
Moderate Benchmark 12.6%	Small Cap -4.2%	Moderate Benchmark 11.5%	Cash 0.0%	Cash 0.0%	Value -3.8%	Growth 7.1%	Value 13.7%	Small Cap -11.0%	Int'l EM 18.4%	Fixed Income 7.5%	Moderate Benchmark 11.1%	Large Cap -18.1%	Int'l EM 9.8%	Comdty 5.4%	Value 12.1%	Int'l Dev 5.3%	Int'l Dev 16.5%	Value 2.5%	Fixed Income 3.7%	Moderate Benchmark 8.4%
Int'l Dev 7.8%	Int'l Dev -12.1%	Fixed Income 4.2%	Fixed Income -2.0%	Int'l EM -2.2%	Small Cap -4.4%	Fixed Income 2.6%	Fixed Income 3.5%	Comdty -11.2%	Fixed Income 8.7%	Value 2.8%	Cash 0.0%	Int'l EM -20.1%	Fixed Income 5.5%	Cash 5.3%	Mid Cap 9.5%	Fixed Income 3.8%	Fixed Income 4.2%	Int'l Dev 1.2%	Int'l EM 3.7%	Int'l EM 7.8%
Fixed Income 6.5%	Comdty -13.3%	Cash 0.1%	Int'l EM -2.6%	Int'l Dev -4.9%	Int'l EM -14.9%	Int'l Dev 1.0%	Comdty 1.7%	Int'l Dev -13.8%	Comdty 7.7%	Cash 0.5%	Fixed Income -1.5%	Small Cap -20.4%	Cash 5.1%	Int'l Dev 3.8%	Fixed Income 6.8%	Cash 1.8%	Cash 0.5%	Large Cap -0.9%	Cash 0.5%	Cash 3.1%
Cash 0.1%	Int'l EM -18.4%	Comdty -1.1%	Comdty -9.5%	Comdty -17.0%	Comdty -24.7%	Cash 0.3%	Cash 0.8%	Int'l EM -14.6%	Cash 2.2%	Comdty -3.1%	Int'l EM -2.5%	Growth -29.1%	Comdty -7.9%	Fixed Income 1.3%	Cash 3.6%	Comdty 1.5%	Comdty 15.5%	Growth -4.0%	Comdty -4.7%	Fixed Income -0.3%

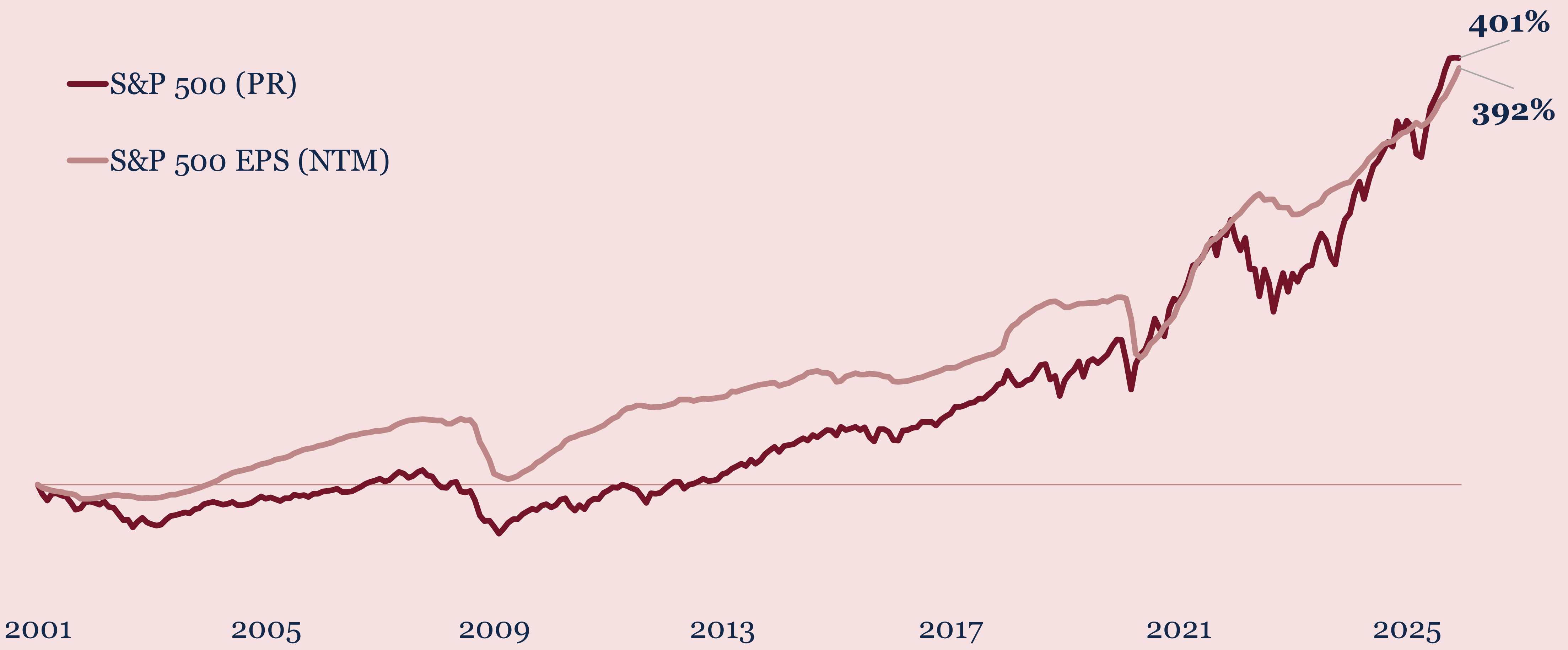
Source: Carson Investment Research, Morningstar Direct as of 10/31/2025. Moderate benchmark consists of 14% S&P 500 TR, 8% Russell Mid Cap TR, 4% Russell 2000 TR, 8% Russell 1000 Value TR, 8% Russell 1000 Growth TR, 18% MSCI ACWI Ex-USA NR, 35% Bloomberg US Agg Bond TR, 5% Bloomberg US Treasury 1-3M TR

S&P 500 — Bull & Bear Market Performance Since 1928



S&P 500 Earnings and Price

NEXT 12-MONTH EARNINGS VS. S&P 500 PRICE RETURN | PAST 25 YEARS 2001-2025



Source: Carson Investment Research, FactSet 2/17/2026

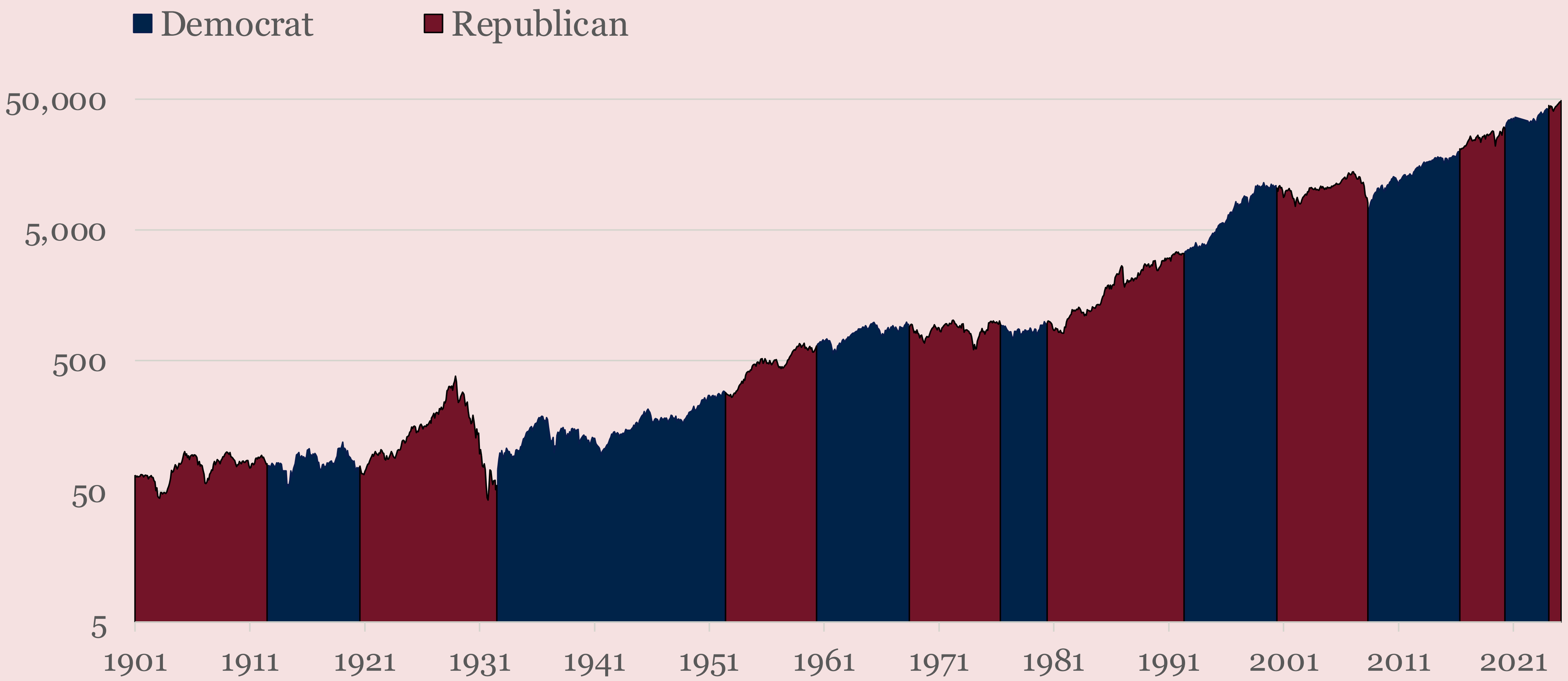
Chart of Fears

DOW JONES (LOG SCALE) WITH MAJOR GEOPOLITICAL EVENTS SINCE 1900

Source: Carson Investment Research, FactSet 12/31/2025

Don’t Mix Politics and Investing

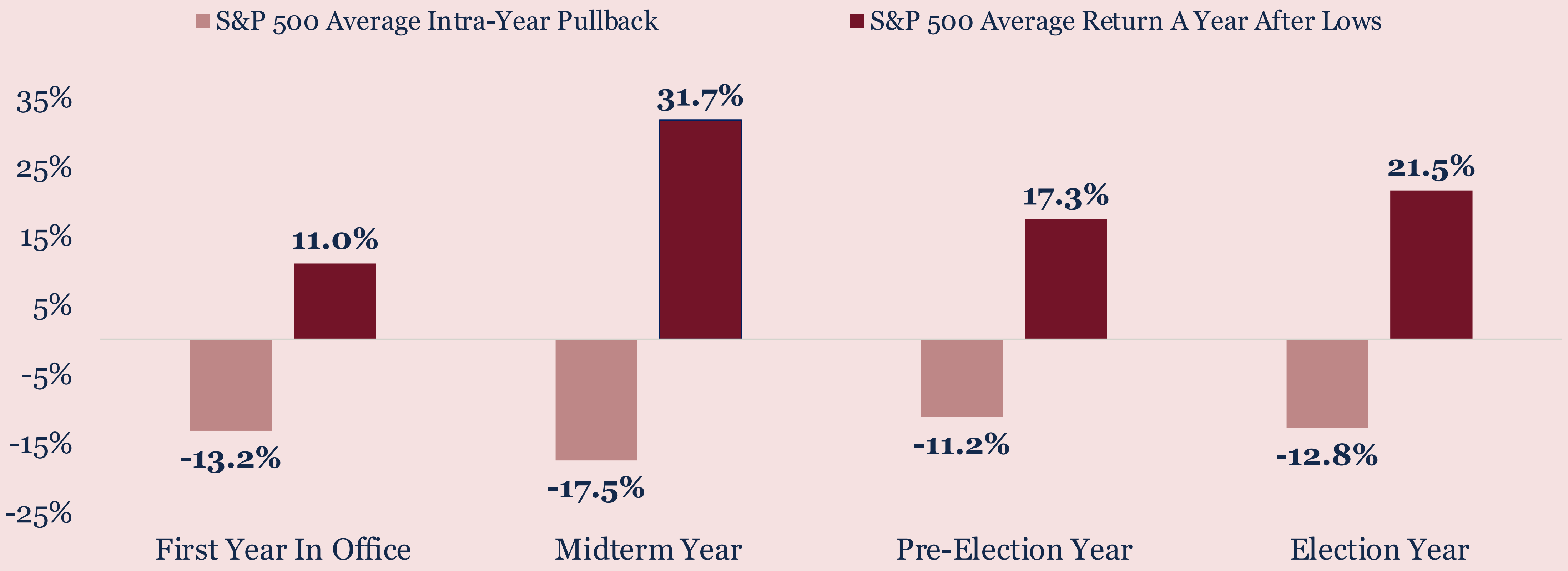
DOW RETURNS (LOG SCALE) SINCE TEDDY ROOSEVELT WAS IN OFFICE (1901 TO CURRENT)



Source: Carson Investment Research, FactSet 12/31/2025

Midterm Years See the Largest Intra-Year Pullback

PULLBACKS AND RETURNS A YEAR OFF THE LOWS FOR THE S&P 500 INDEX BASED ON THE FOUR-YEAR PRESIDENTIAL CYCLE



Source: Carson Investment Research, FactSet 1/18/2026 (1950 - 2025)

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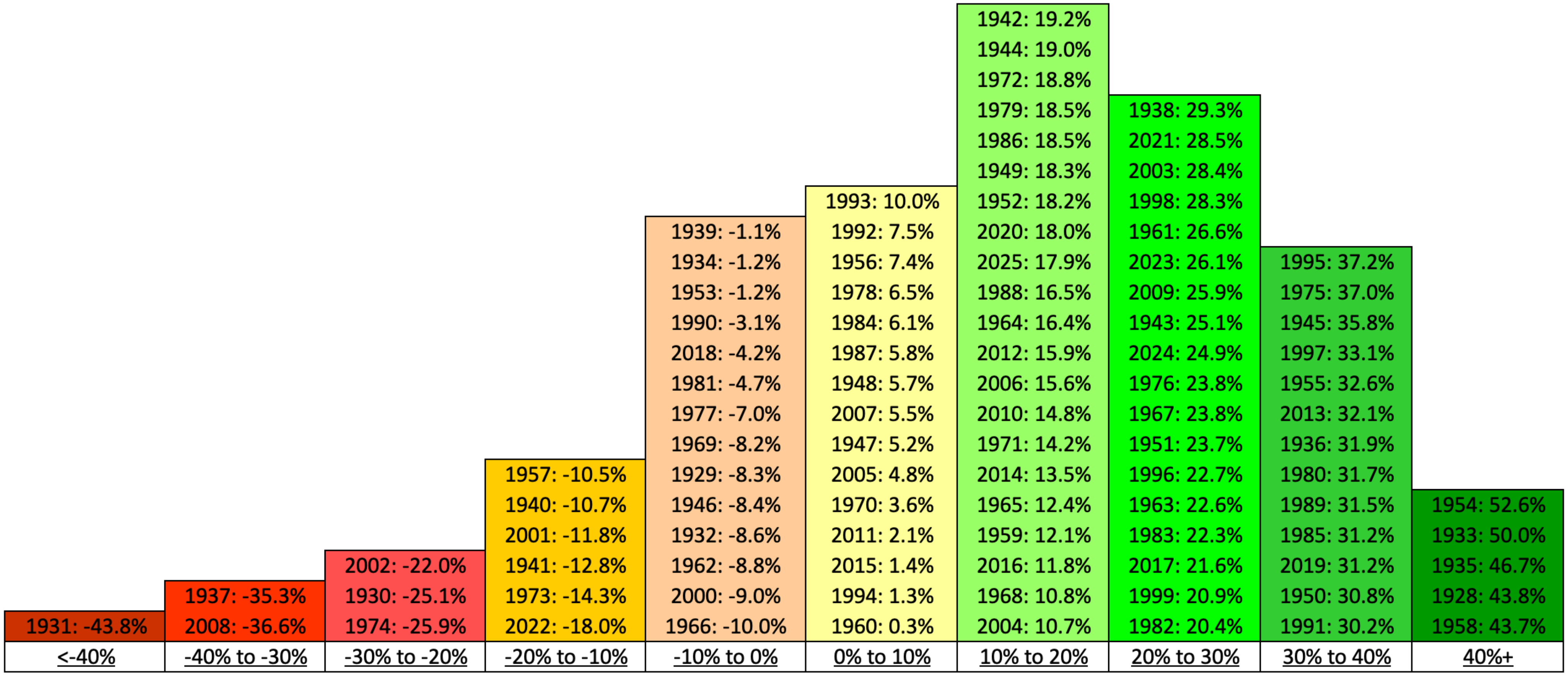
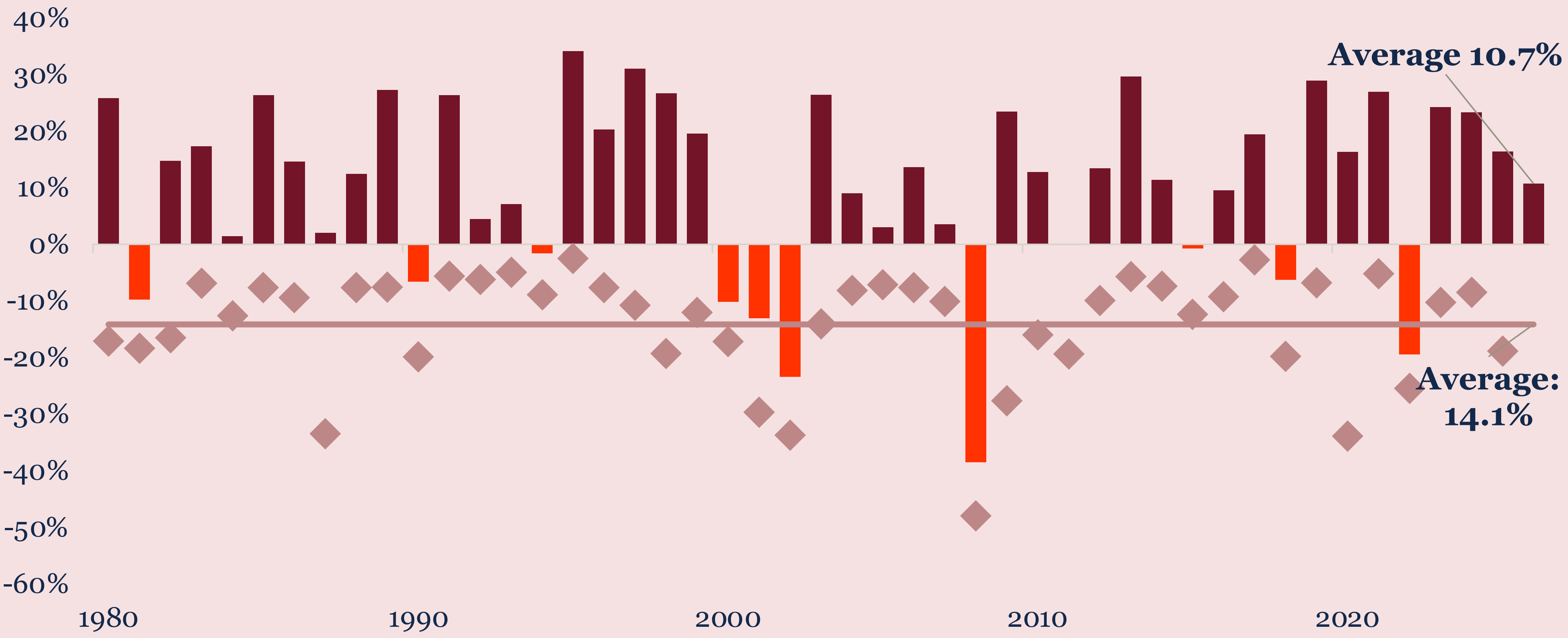
Distribution of S&P 500 Annual Returns

1928-PRESENT



Source: Carson Investment Research, Aswath Damodaran, NYU Stern School of Business 1/22/2026
(1966 is a -9.97% total return, just missing the cut)

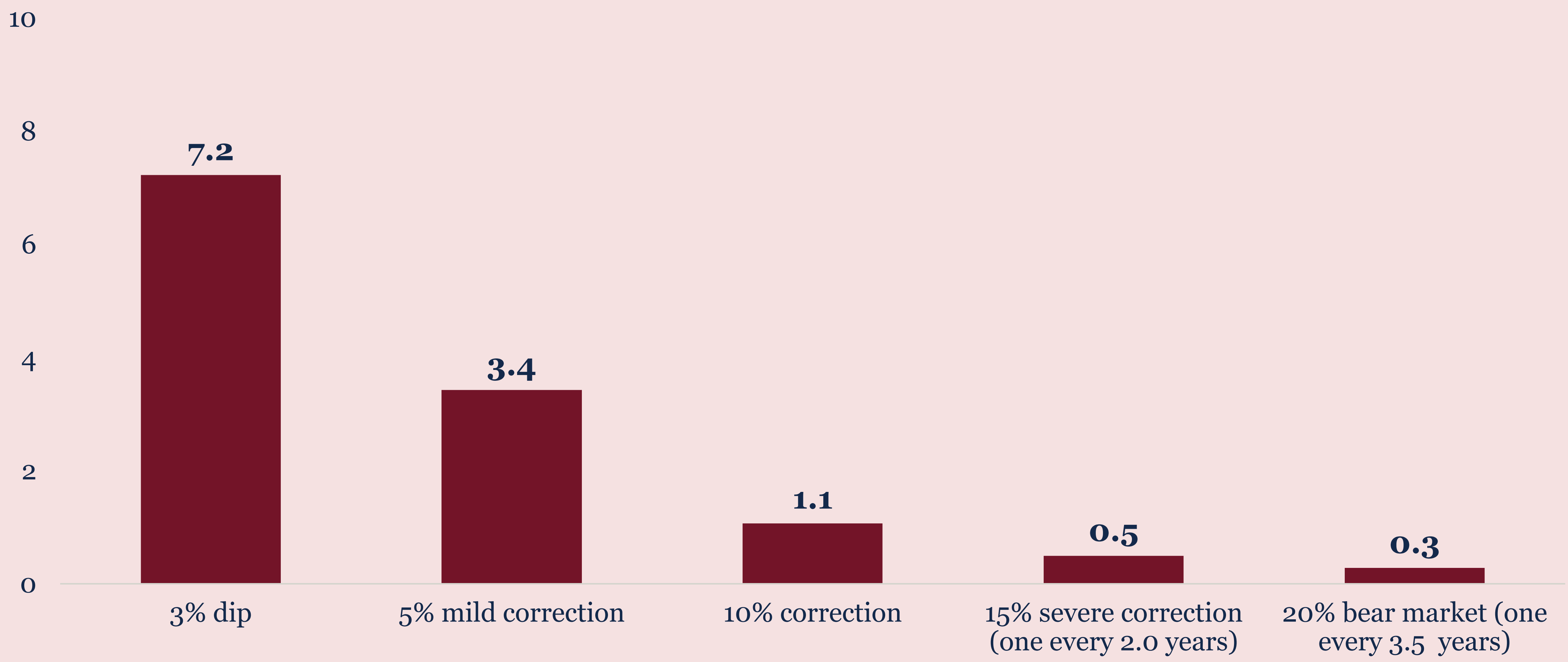
S&P 500 Index Max Pullback Per Calendar Year



Source: Carson Investment Research, YCharts 12/31/2025 (1980 - Current)
Final value is the average.

Volatility Is the Toll We Pay to Invest

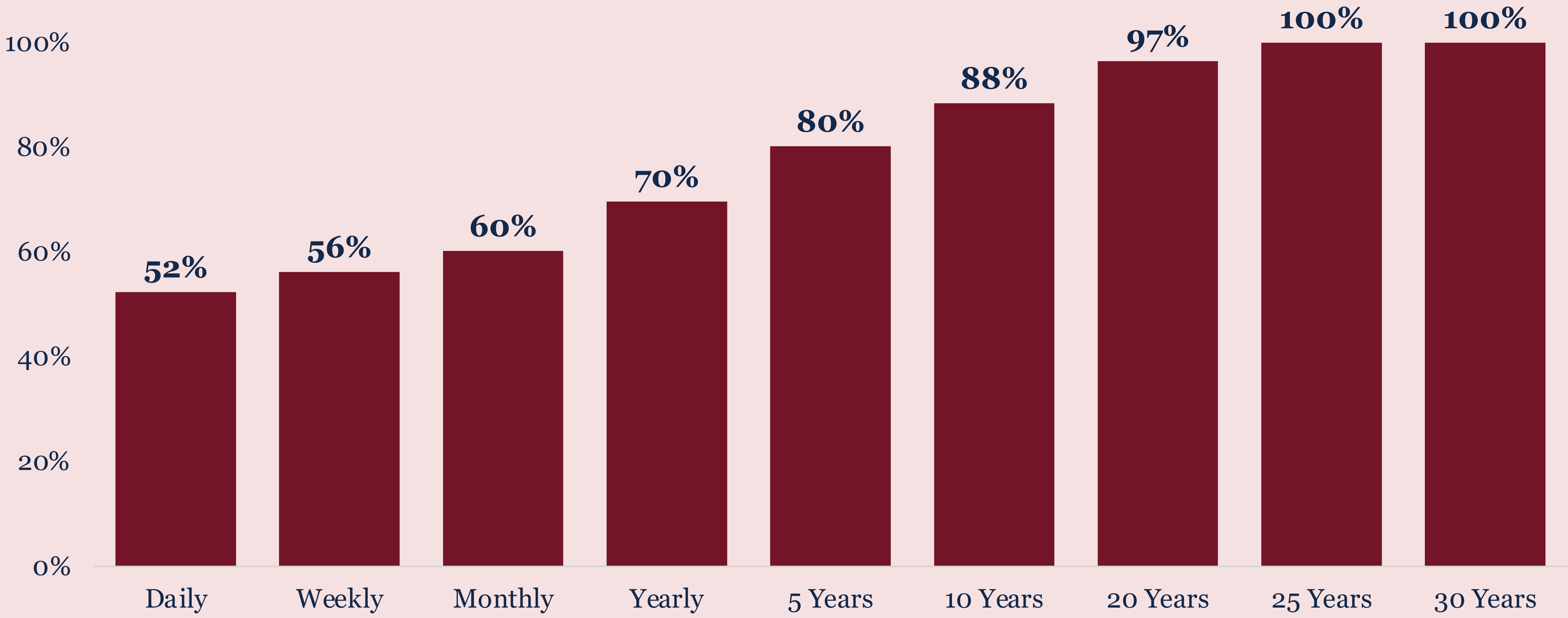
THE NUMBER OF S&P 500 VARIOUS DECLINES PER YEAR (1928-2025)



Source: Carson Investment Research, Ned Davis Research 12/31/25

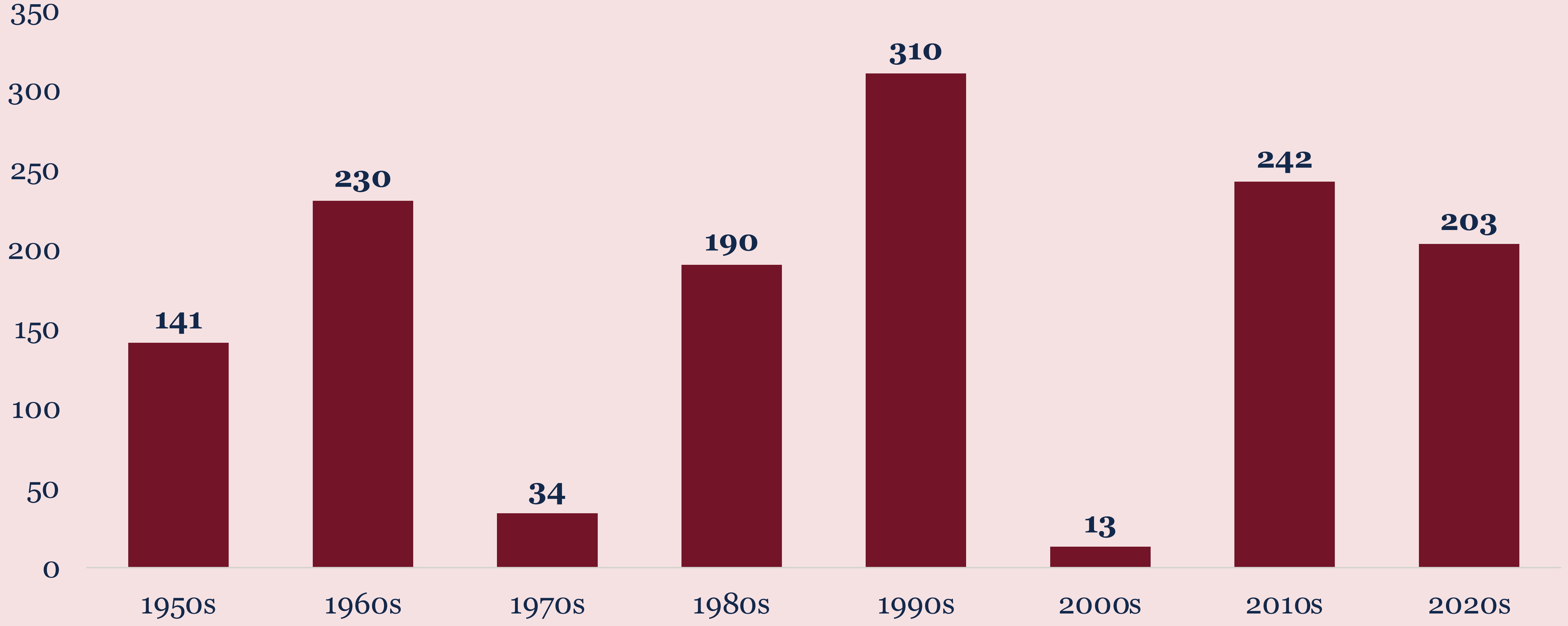
The Longer the Holding Period, the More Potential to See Gains

S&P 500 % HIGHER BASED ON VARIOUS TIMEFRAMES (1928-2025)



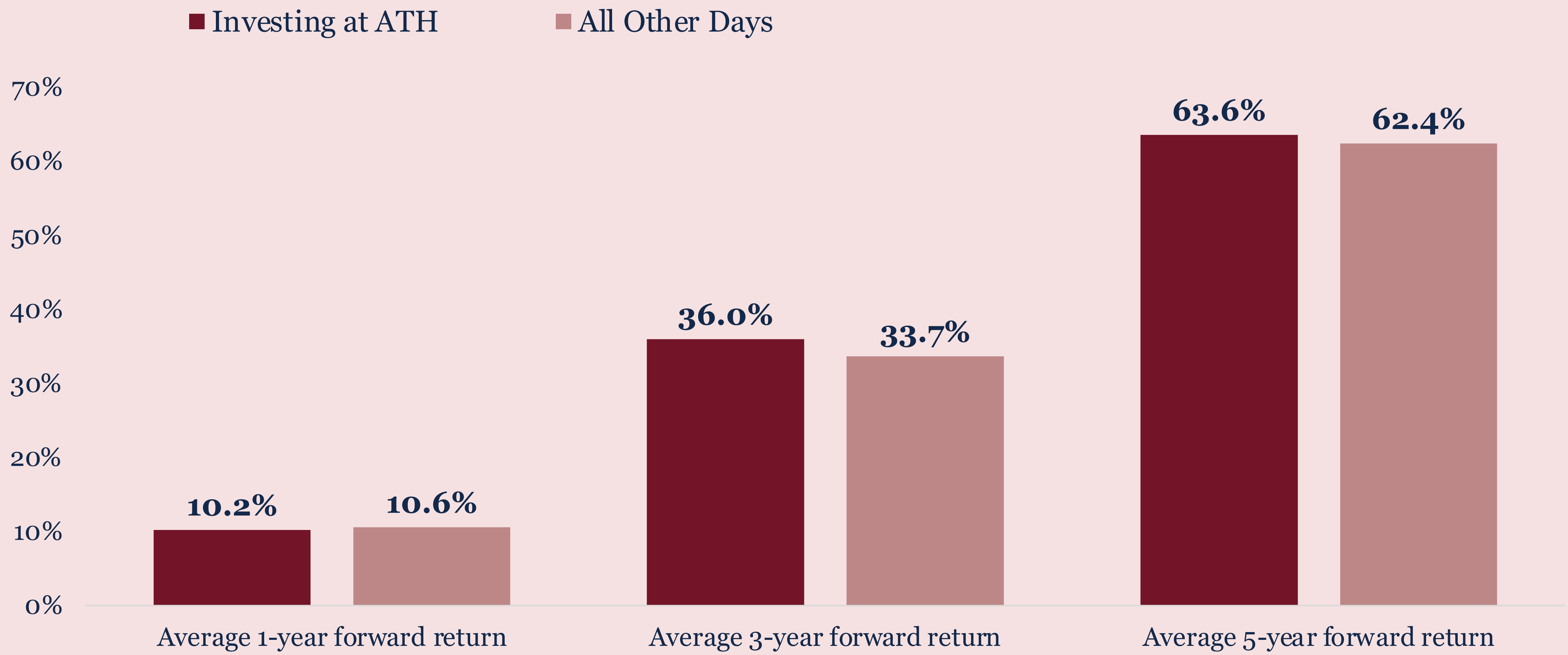
Source: Carson Investment Research, FactSet 12/31/25 (1928 - Current)

How Many New Highs per Decade?



Source: Carson Investment Research, FactSet 4/20/26

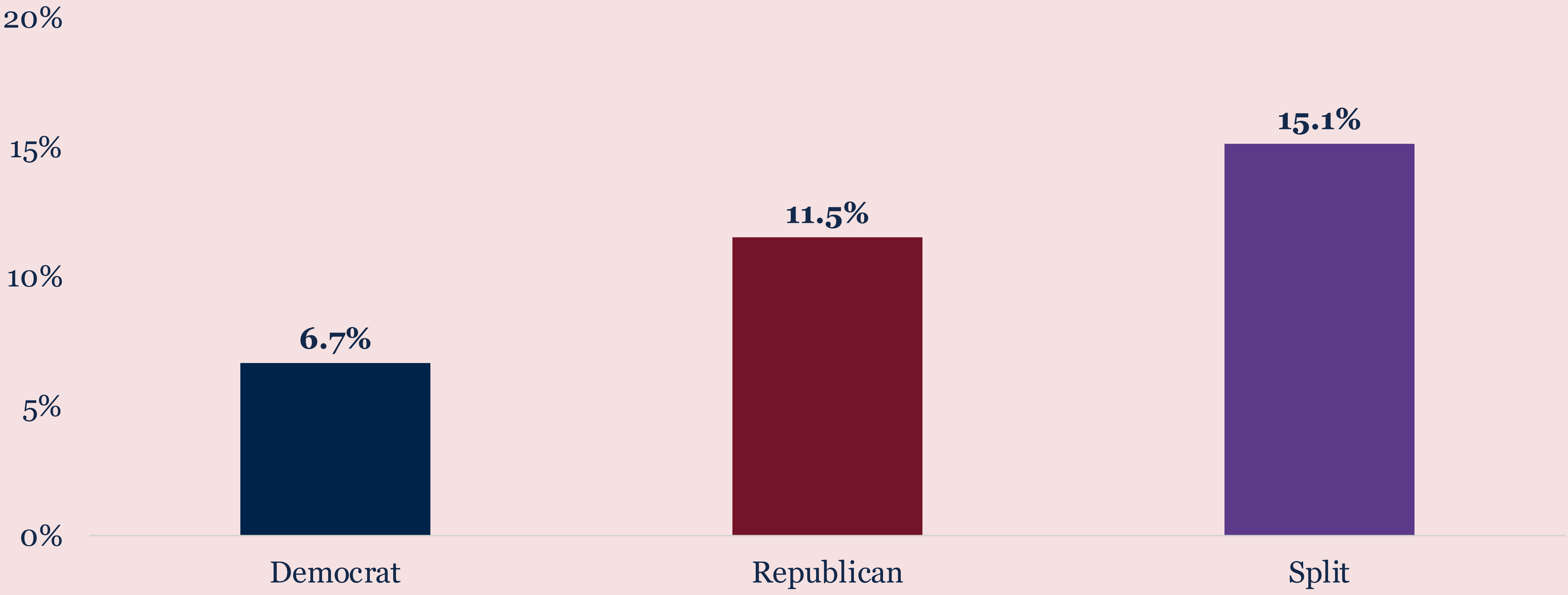
Don't Fear All-Time Highs (ATH)



Source: Carson Investment Research, FactSet 4/20/2026
Using Total Return, 1979-Present

A Split Congress Tends to Be the Best for Stocks Historically

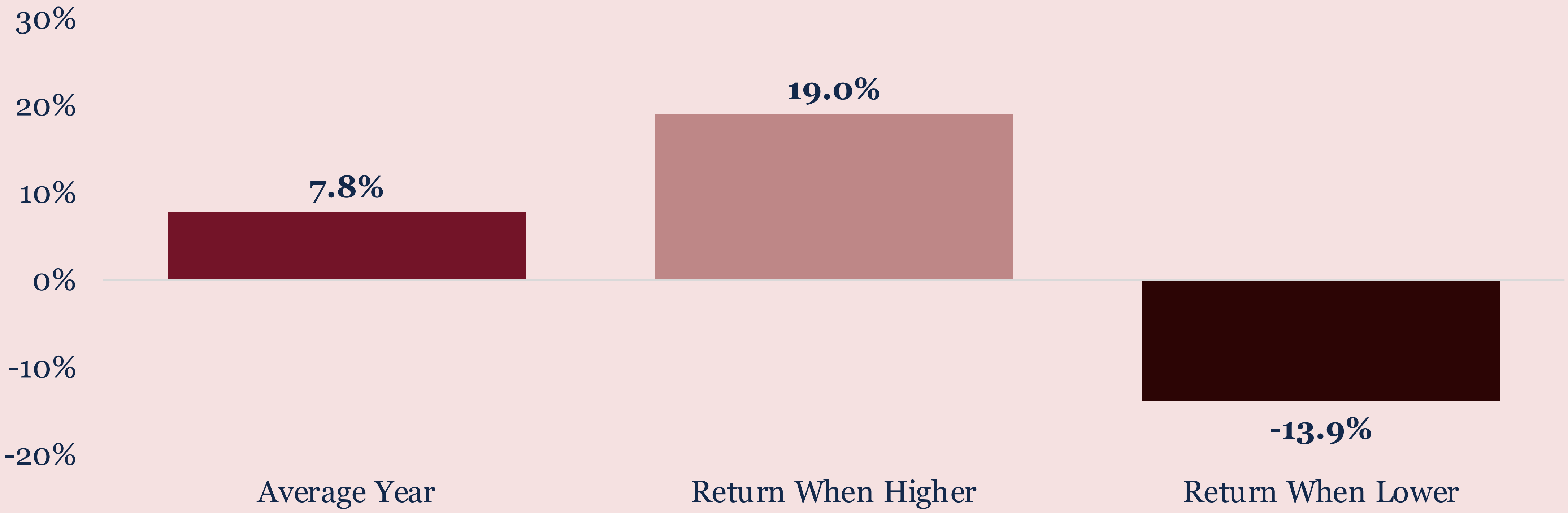
AVERAGE S&P 500 ANNUAL RETURN (1951-2025)



Source: Carson Investment Research, FactSet 1/20/2026 (1951 - 2025)
Starts in 1951 with the 82nd Congress

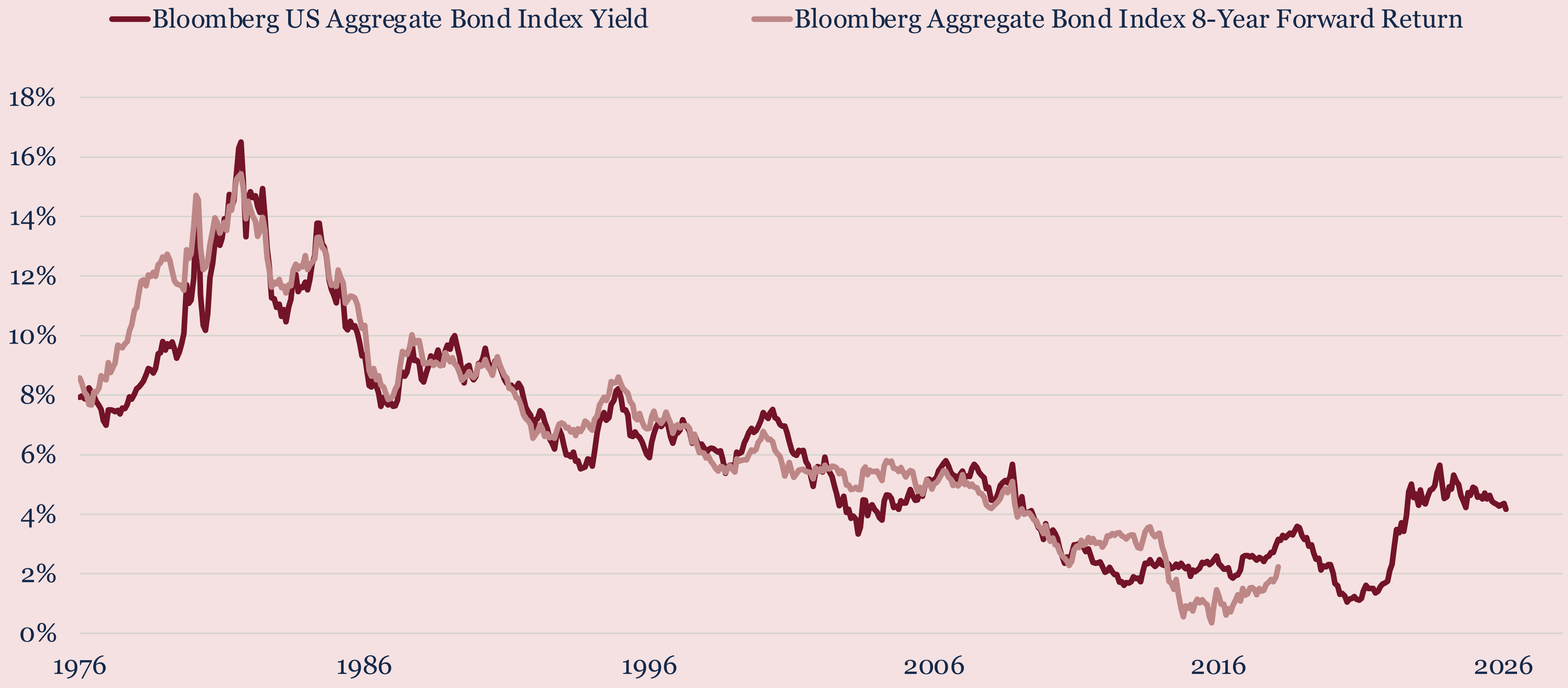
Historically When The S&P 500 is Higher For the Year, Big Gains Are Perfectly Normal

AVERAGE ANNUAL RETURNS FOR THE S&P 500 (1928-2024)



Source: Carson Investment Research, FactSet 9/24/2025

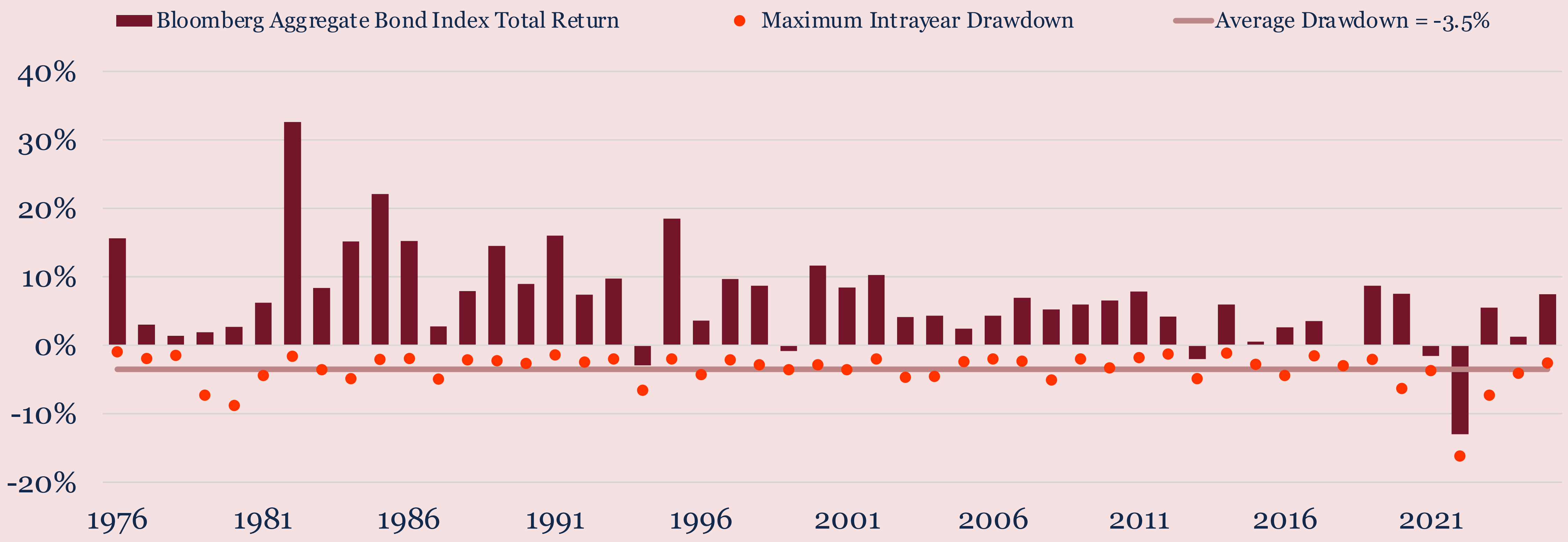
Yields Guide Future Returns



Source: Carson Investment Research, FactSet 3/6/2026
All indexes are unmanaged and can't be invested in directly.
Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Bonds Are Risk Assets, but Recent Drawdowns Are Anomalous

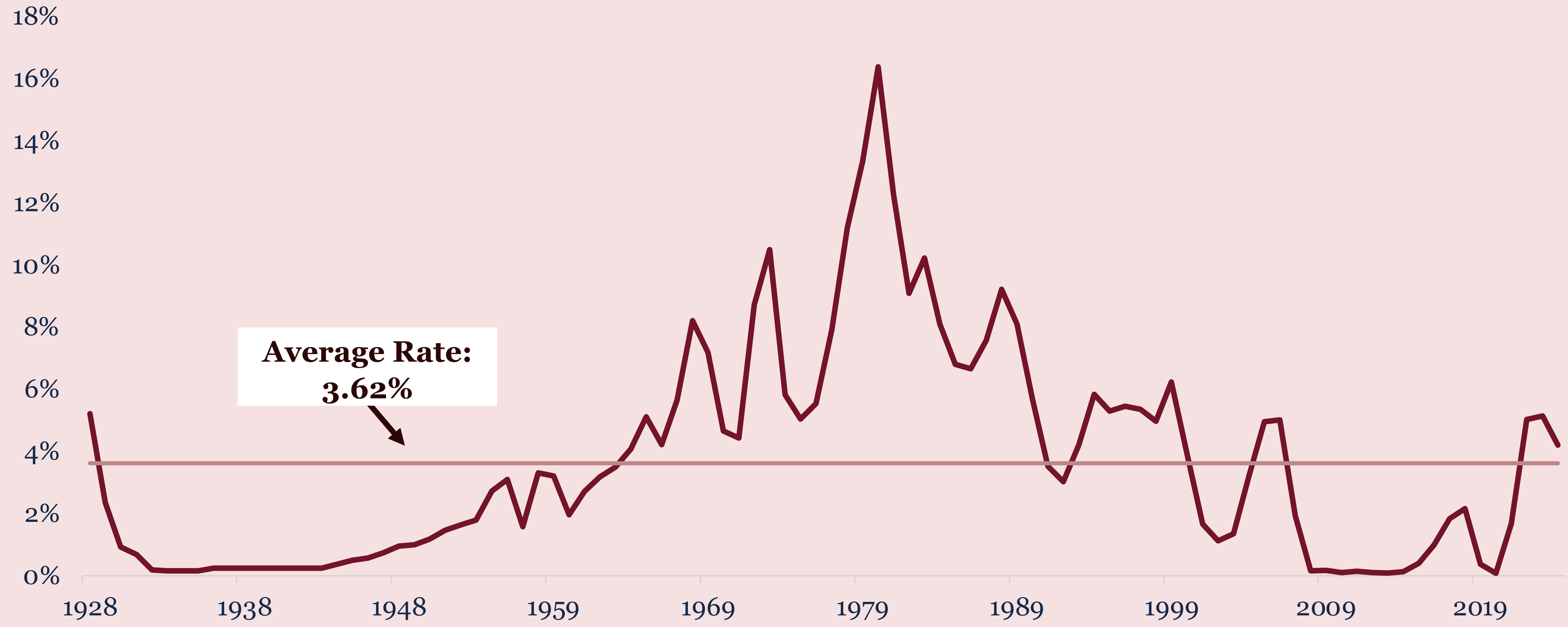
HIGHER STARTING YIELDS HELP PROVIDE A CUSHION AGAINST LARGER DRAWDOWNS



Source: Carson Investment Research, FactSet 11/30/2025
Drawdowns are based on monthly data for 1976-1988.

Historical Interest Rates Going Back to 1928

FEDERAL FUNDS RATE



Source: Carson Investment Research, FRED 2/12/2026

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14600 Branch Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68154