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**PIMCO**

# Behavioral Guidance During Market Volatility

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## Behavioral Guidance During Market Volatility



**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Please note that the following contains the opinions of the manager as of the date noted, and may not have been updated to reflect real time market developments. All opinions are subject to change without notice.

# Agenda

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1

**Market landscape**

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2

**Introduction to behavioral finance**

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3

**Common biases**

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**Best practices to mitigate behavioral biases**

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**Glossary / Resources**

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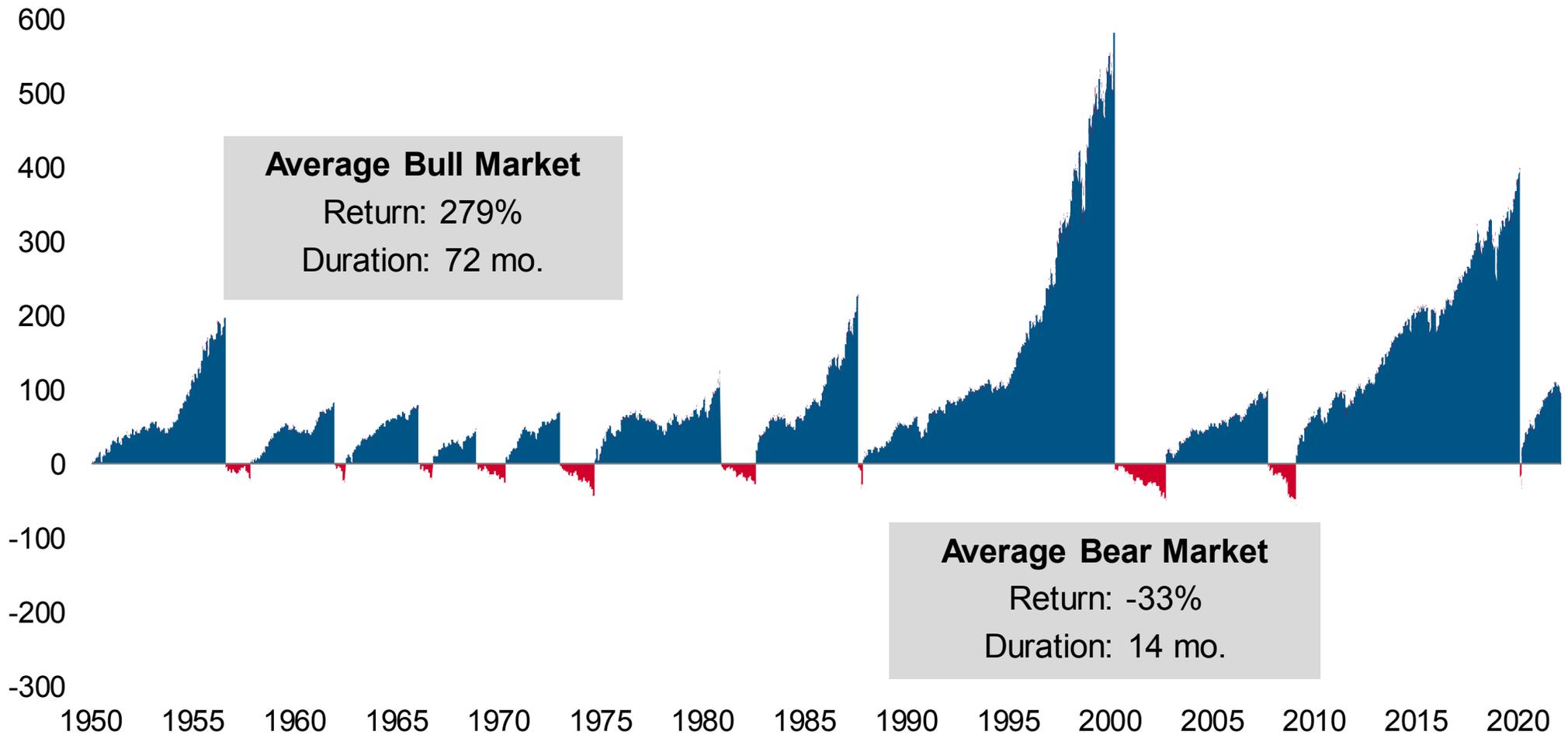
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**Appendix**

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# Market landscape

Cumulative price return of each U.S. bull and bear market (%)



For illustrative purposes only

As of 28 February 2022; Source: Bloomberg

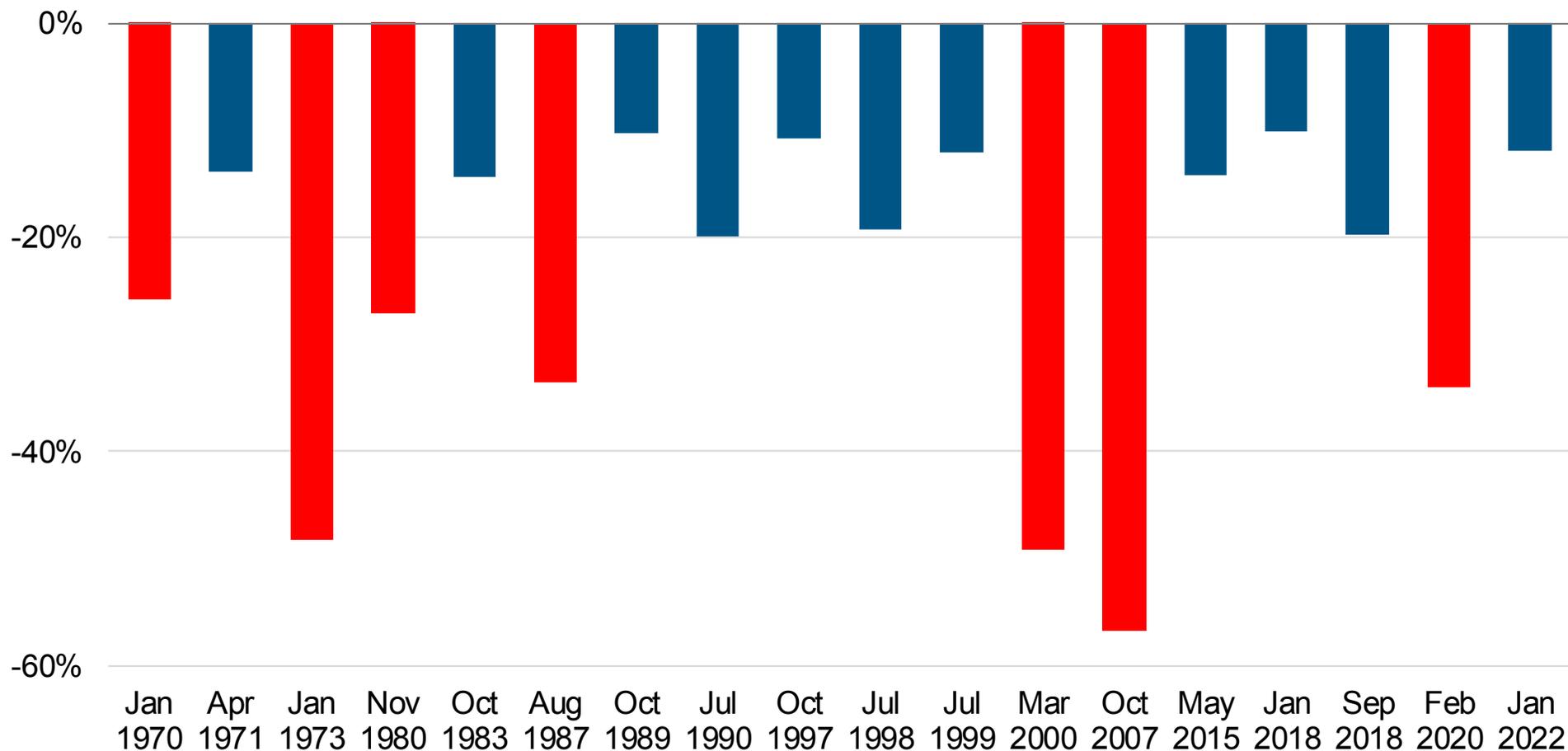
Past performance is not a guarantee or a reliable indicator of future results.

The Q1 bear market is not included in the "average bear market" calculation. In all other periods, bear markets are peak-to-trough price declines of 20% or more in the S&P 500. Bull markets are all other periods in the S&P 500. Returns shown on a logarithmic scale. Returns are in USD. Total return is calculated by using the total return for each bull or bear period and the duration for each period to represent an average cumulative total return for each market.

Refer to Appendix for additional chart, index and risk information.

# Market corrections

Since 1970, only seven market corrections have become bear markets



As of February 2022

Source: Bloomberg

Each period listed represents the beginning month/year of either a market correction or a bear market. The general definition of a market correction is a market decline that is more than 10%, but less than 20%. A bear market is usually defined as a decline of 20% or greater. The market is represented by daily price returns of the S&P 500 Index.

Refer to Appendix for additional chart, index and risk information.

*Past performance is not indicative of future results.*

# Market reactions to geopolitical shocks

Geopolitical sell-offs are typically short-lived



For illustrative purposes only

As of 28 February 2022

Source: Bloomberg

Refer to Appendix for additional chart, index and risk information.

Past performance is not indicative of future results.

## Market reactions to geopolitical shocks

S&P 500 Index

Event	Starting date	Drawdown from event date	Drawdown length (days)	1 month forward	3 months forward	12 months forward
Bombing of Syria	4/7/17	-1.19%	6	1.86%	2.74%	12.62%
Brexit vote	6/23/16	-4.07%	4	4.44%	4.95%	19.20%
Russia invades Ukraine (Crimea)	2/20/14	0.00%	1	1.93%	3.61%	17.06%
Arab Spring	12/18/10	0.00%	0	4.10%	2.89%	0.10%
Iraq War	3/20/03	-2.93%	11	2.35%	14.28%	29.18%
September 11 attacks	9/11/01	-11.56%	10	-0.93%	4.71%	-15.50%
U.S enters Gulf War	1/16/91	0.00%	0	18.07%	22.47%	38.44%
Soviet invasion of Afghanistan	12/24/79	-2.20%	10	5.44%	-4.50%	31.41%
<b>Mean</b>				<b>3.23%</b>	<b>4.16%</b>	<b>18.13%</b>

For illustrative purposes only

Source: Bloomberg

Refer to Appendix for additional index and risk information.

Past performance is not indicative of future results.

## Market reactions to geopolitical shocks

Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index

Event	Starting date	Performance during initial equity drawdown	1 month forward	3 months forward	12 months forward
Bombing of Syria	4/7/17	-0.16%	0.22%	0.85%	0.98%
Brexit vote	6/23/16	-0.19%	1.08%	1.24%	1.32%
Russia invades Ukraine (Crimea)	2/20/14	-0.11%	-0.06%	1.88%	5.07%
Arab Spring	12/18/10	-0.54%	0.50%	1.40%	8.12%
Iraq War	3/20/03	-0.45%	0.75%	3.85%	6.52%
September 11 attacks	9/11/01	0.00%	1.50%	0.47%	8.61%
U.S enters Gulf War	1/16/91	-0.03%	2.89%	3.76%	15.19%
Soviet invasion of Afghanistan	12/24/79	0.00%	0.27%	-8.54%	0.24%
<b>Mean</b>			<b>0.62%</b>	<b>1.32%</b>	<b>5.79%</b>

For illustrative purposes only

Source: Bloomberg

Refer to Appendix for additional index and risk information.

Past performance is not indicative of future results.

# Introduction to behavioral finance

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## Defining behavioral finance

Conventional finance (classical economics) generally ignores how real people make decisions and that people make a difference

Investors do not always process information correctly and therefore can infer incorrect probability distributions about future rates of return

Even given the correct probability distributions, they often make inconsistent or systematically suboptimal decisions

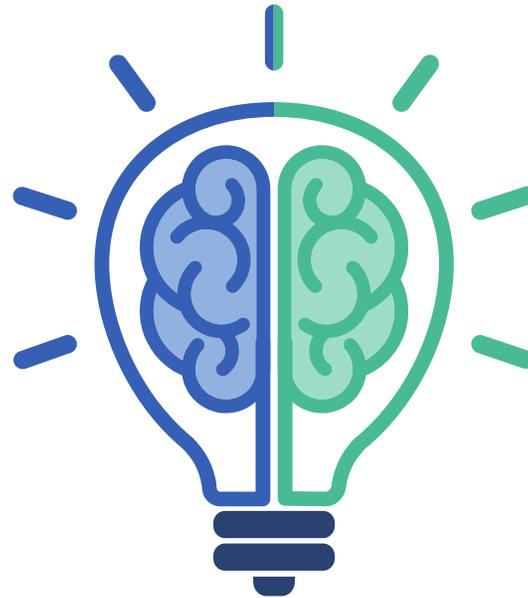
# Introduction to behavioral finance

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The fight for control over decisions

## System 1: The intuitive system

Uncontrolled  
Effortless  
Associative  
Fast  
Unconscious  
Skilled



## System 2: The reflective system

Controlled  
Effortful  
Deductive  
Slow  
Self-aware  
Rule-following

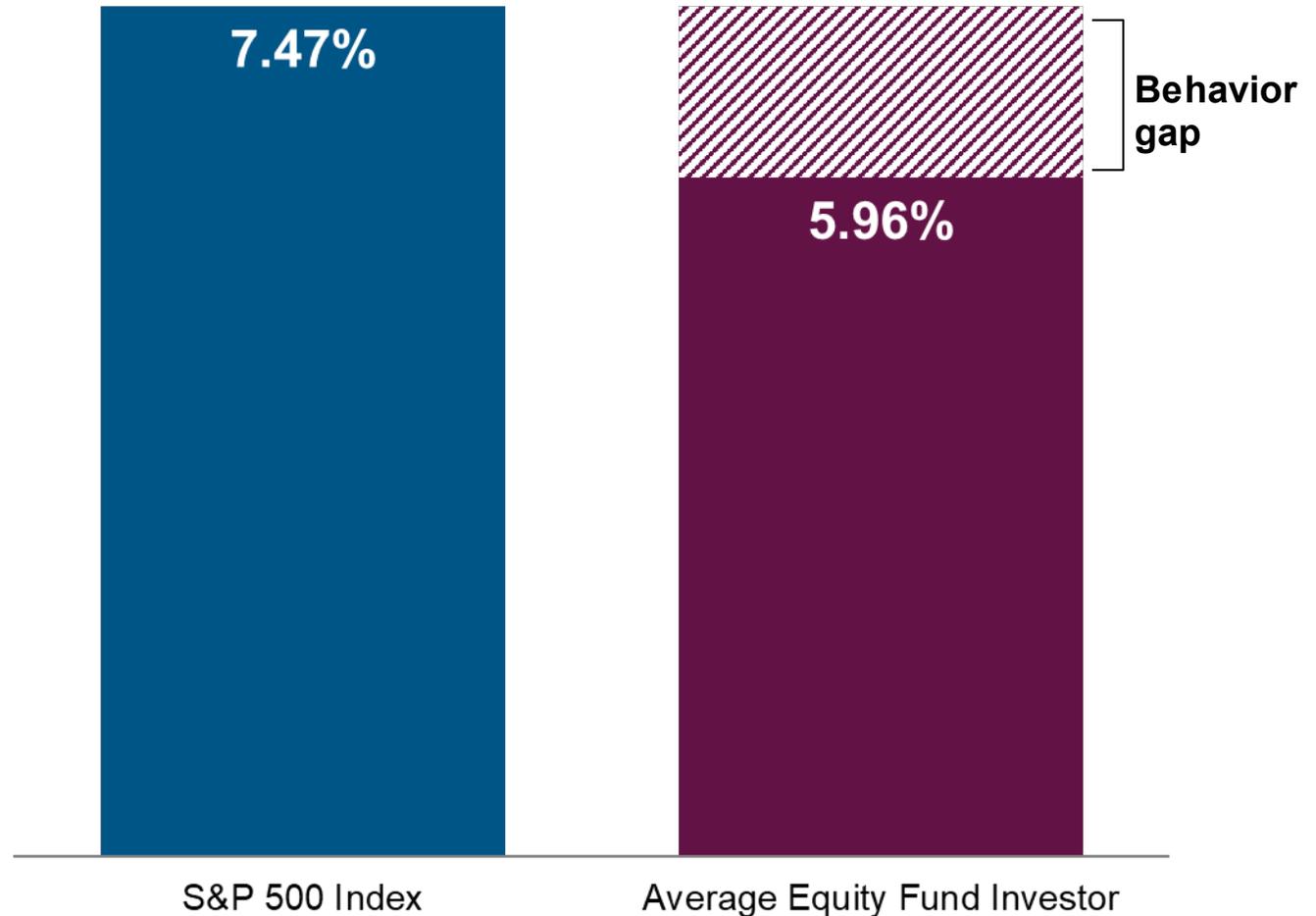
Source: *Thinking Fast and Slow*, Daniel Kahneman

# Introduction to behavioral finance

## The cost of bad behaviors

- Investment results are more dependent on investor behavior than on investment performance
- Investors are generally their own worst enemy
- Financial advisors can help provide behavioral coaching to investors

Market return vs. average investor return (2000-2020)



Period ended 31 December 2020

Source: Quantitative Analysis of Investor Behavior, 2021, DALBAR, Inc., dalbar.com

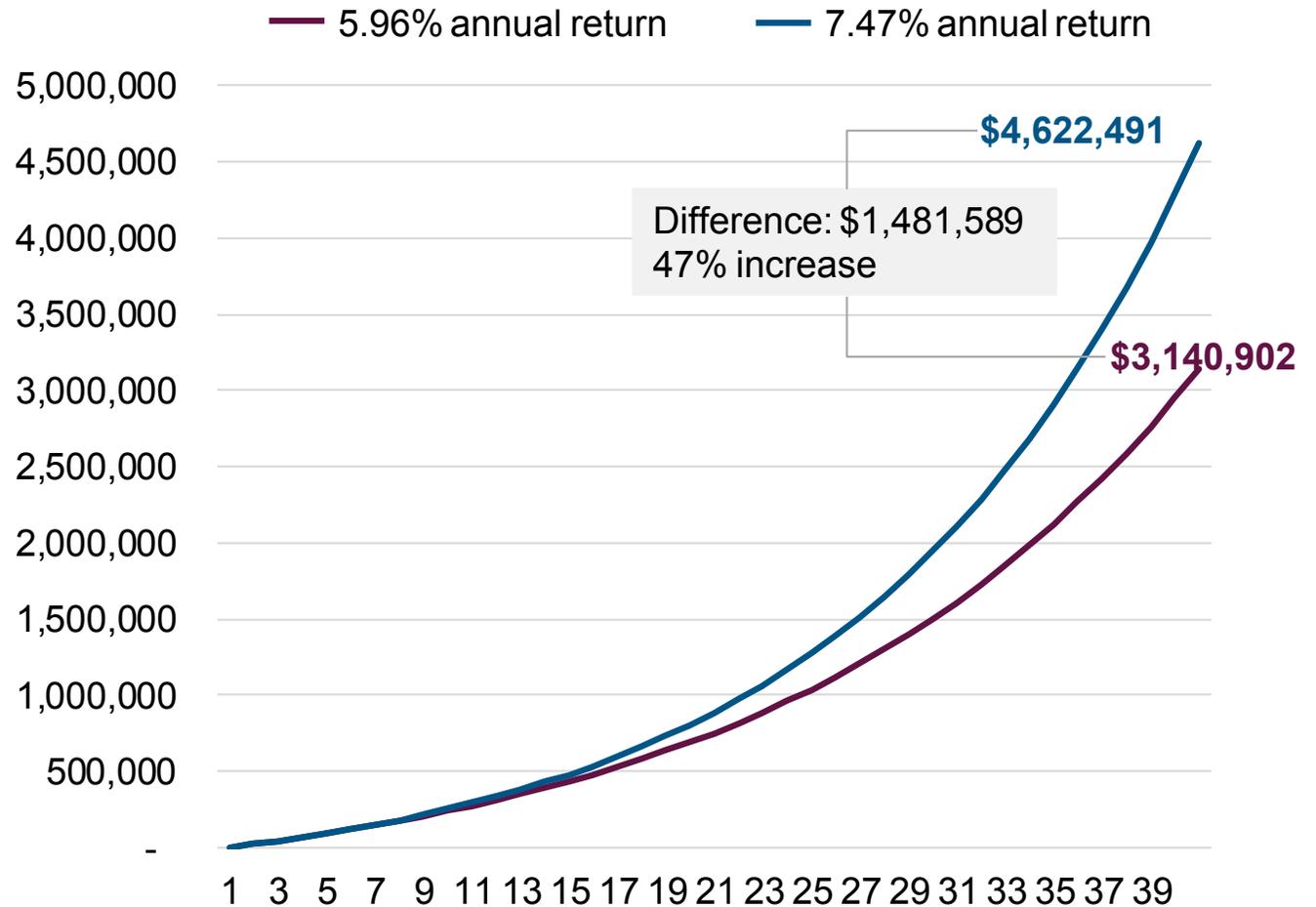
Past performance is not indicative of future results.

# Introduction to behavioral finance

## The impact of bad behaviors

### Assumptions

- Annual contribution: \$20,500
- 40 years
- Investor return: 5.96%
- Investment return: 7.47%



Source: PIMCO

**For illustrative purposes only.** Charts are provided for illustrative purposes and are not indicative of the past or future performance of any PIMCO product.

Refer to Appendix for additional investment strategy and risk information.

Past performance is not indicative of future results.

# Common biases

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## Cognitive

- Anchoring
- Confirmation
- Framing
- Mental accounting

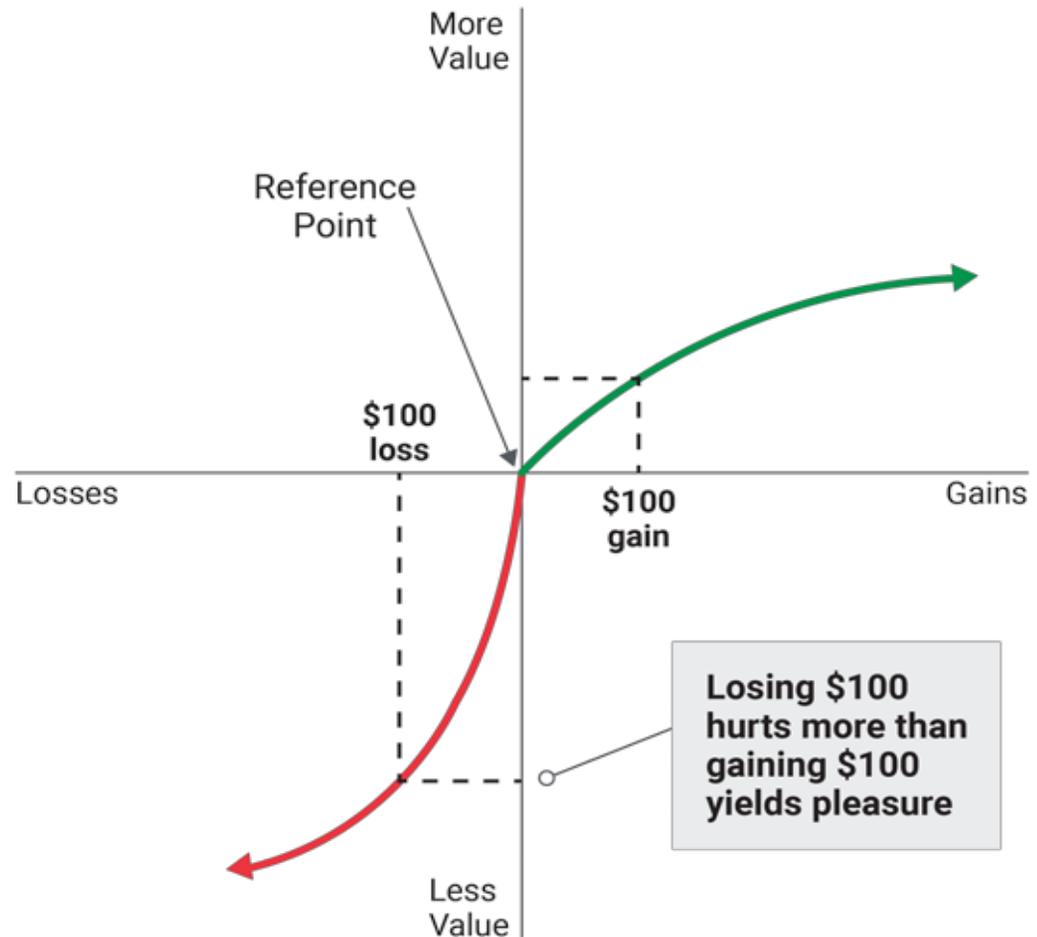


## Emotional

- Loss aversion
- Recency
- Overconfidence
- Status quo

# Loss aversion

- The pain of losses is twice as painful as the pleasure of gains
- Prevents investors from unloading unprofitable investments (also known as “get-even-itis”)
- Causes investors to take additional risk to avoid pain from losses



Source: Daniel Kahneman and Amos Tversky (1979) "Prospect Theory: An Analysis of Decision under Risk," *Econometrica*, XLVII (1979), 263-291. For illustrative purposes only.

# Loss aversion

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## Examples

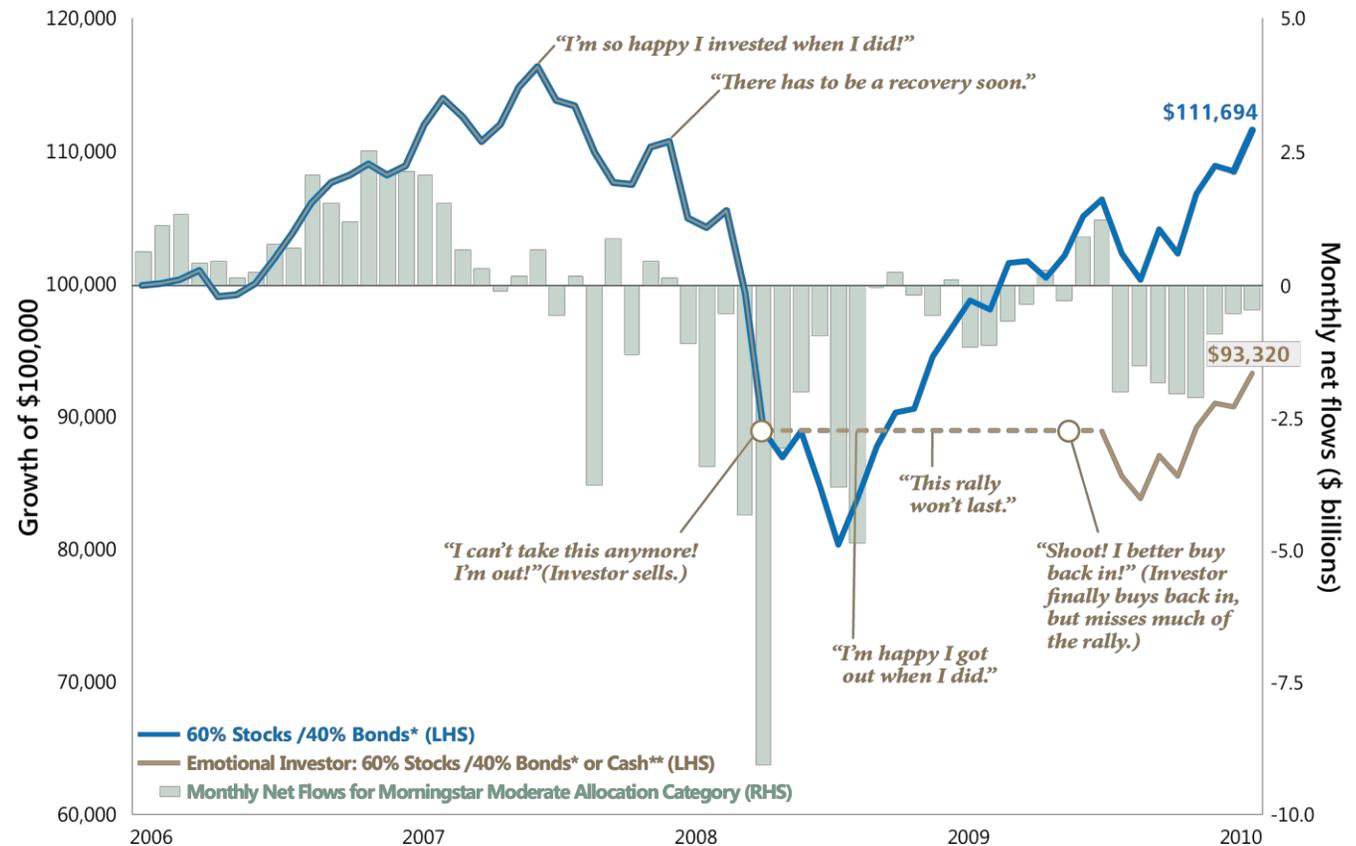
- ▶ Investing only in perceived safe investments with low returns, reducing future purchasing power
- ▶ Holding a stock below purchase price solely to avoid taking a loss
- ▶ The unwillingness to sell a home for less than it was purchased for
- ▶ Focusing only on positions that are underwater while ignoring total portfolio holdings
- ▶ Holding the belief that an investment loss doesn't exist until it's sold
- ▶ Selling winning positions instead of losing investments to avoid accepting defeat

Source: PIMCO

# Recency bias – trend chasing

## Investor's behavior and thoughts during a volatile market (2006–2010)

- Investors often look at recent returns when making important financial decisions
- It's easier to emotionally validate a choice when we follow a trend
- Causes investors to chase performance, buy high, sell low



January 2006 to December 2010. Source: Morningstar, Bloomberg, PIMCO

Hypothetical example for illustrative purposes only. Not indicative of the past or future performance of any PIMCO product.

\* Stocks are represented by S&P 500 Index. Bonds are represented by Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index. It is not possible to invest in an unmanaged index.

\*\* These results are based on hypothetical modeling and are intended for illustrative purposes only. Emotional Investor is assumed to move to cash on 10/31/2008 and back to 60% Stocks /40% Bonds on 30 April 2010.

Refer to Appendix for additional hypothetical example, index, investment strategy and risk information.

# Best practices to mitigate behavioral biases

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**1** Identify behavioral risk framework

**2** Create an investment policy statement

**3** Enroll in automated investment programs

**4** Diversify to reduce portfolio volatility

**5** Consider asset bucketing

**6** Encourage a long-term perspective

**7** Rebalance portfolios regularly

Source: PIMCO

## Defining risk effectively

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Risk is abstract



Risks are often expressed in the form of probabilities.  
But for many people, probabilities are less important than **consequences** and **exposure**.

# Strategy

## Identify behavioral risk

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### Discovery questions

- How has the recent volatility affected you? Has it changed any of your personal goals?
- Are you comfortable with your current allocation and holdings?  
What specific changes are you considering?
- How do you define risk? How do you measure it? How do you try to manage it?
- What risk is causing you the greatest concern today?
- If you received new funds today, how would you invest them?
- What's more important to you now: regaining the value recently lost, or protecting the capital you have today?
- What action would you take if your portfolio increased 10% next month?  
Declined 10% next month?
- What would be more disturbing: holding securities that continue to decline in value, or selling securities that eventually rise?
- Which would you prefer: a portfolio with lower volatility and lower returns, or one with higher returns and greater volatility?

Source: PIMCO

## Strategy

### Create an investment policy statement

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#### An investment policy statement can help

- Implement selected guidelines and methodology
- Maintain asset allocation
- Confirm benchmarks for performance monitoring
- Provide a disciplined approach during periods of volatility
- Reduce behavioral tendencies
- Manage risk

# Strategy

## Enroll in automated investment programs

Dollar cost averaging at \$100 per month

### Rising market

	When the share price is:	You buy:
January	\$10	10.00 shares
February	\$15	6.67 shares
March	\$20	5.00 shares
April	\$25	4.00 shares

- Avg. cost per share: **\$15.58** (\$400/25.67 shares)
- Avg. market price per share: **\$17.50** (\$70/4 purchases)

### Declining market

	When the share price is:	You buy:
January	\$25	4.00 shares
February	\$20	5.00 shares
March	\$10	10.00 shares
April	\$5	20.00 shares

- Avg. cost per share: **\$10.26** (\$400/39 shares)
- Avg. market price per share: **\$15.00** (\$60/4 purchases)

Source: PIMCO

For Illustrative Purposes Only.

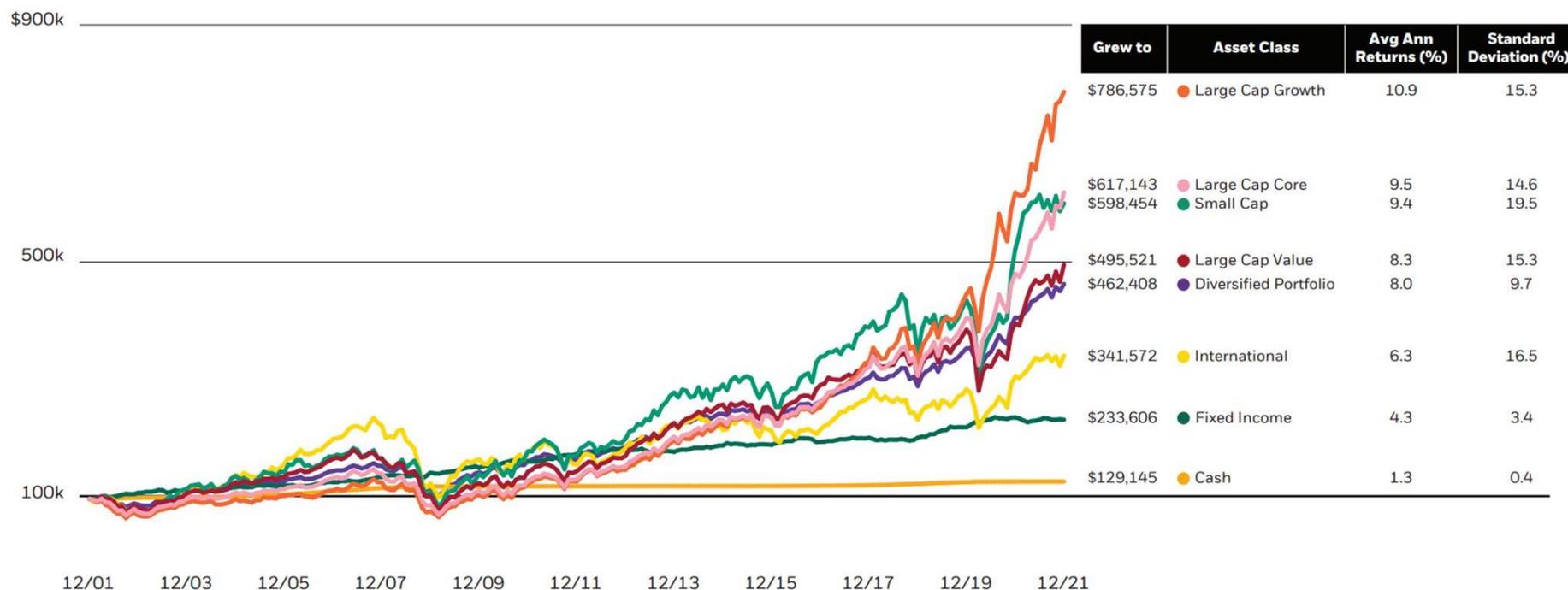
Refer to Appendix for additional investment strategy and risk information.

Past performance is not indicative of future results.

# Strategy

## Diversify to reduce portfolio volatility

Growth of a hypothetical \$100,000 investment over the last 20 years (2002-2021)



As of 31 December 2021

\*Standard deviation is calculated using monthly returns.

For illustrative purposes only.

Source: Informa Investment Solutions

**Cash** is represented by the ICE BofA 3-month Treasury Bill Index. **Diversified portfolio** is composed of 35% of the Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index, 10% of the MSCI EAFE Index, 10% of the Russell 2000 Index, 22.5% of the Russell 1000 Growth Index and 22.5% of the Russell 1000 Value Index. **Fixed income** is represented by the Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index. **International** is represented by the Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) EAFE Index. **Large cap core** is represented by the S&P 500 Index. **Large cap growth** is represented by the Russell 1000 Growth Index. **Large cap value** is represented by the Russell 1000 Value Index. **Small cap** is represented by the Russell 2000 Index.

**Past performance is not a guarantee or a reliable indicator of future results.**

Refer to Appendix for additional index and risk information.

# Strategy

## Consider asset bucketing

Goal	Time horizon	Dollar amount	Priority level	Strategy
Purchase second home	6 months	\$1.5 million	High	
Education for four children	4 years each; 5 years out	\$1.0 million	High	
Lifestyle	25 years out	\$2.5 million	Low	
Bequest for children	50 years out	\$2.0 million	Low	

■ Cash   
 ■ Fixed income   
 ■ Equities   
 ■ Alternatives

Sample for illustrative purposes only.

Source: PIMCO

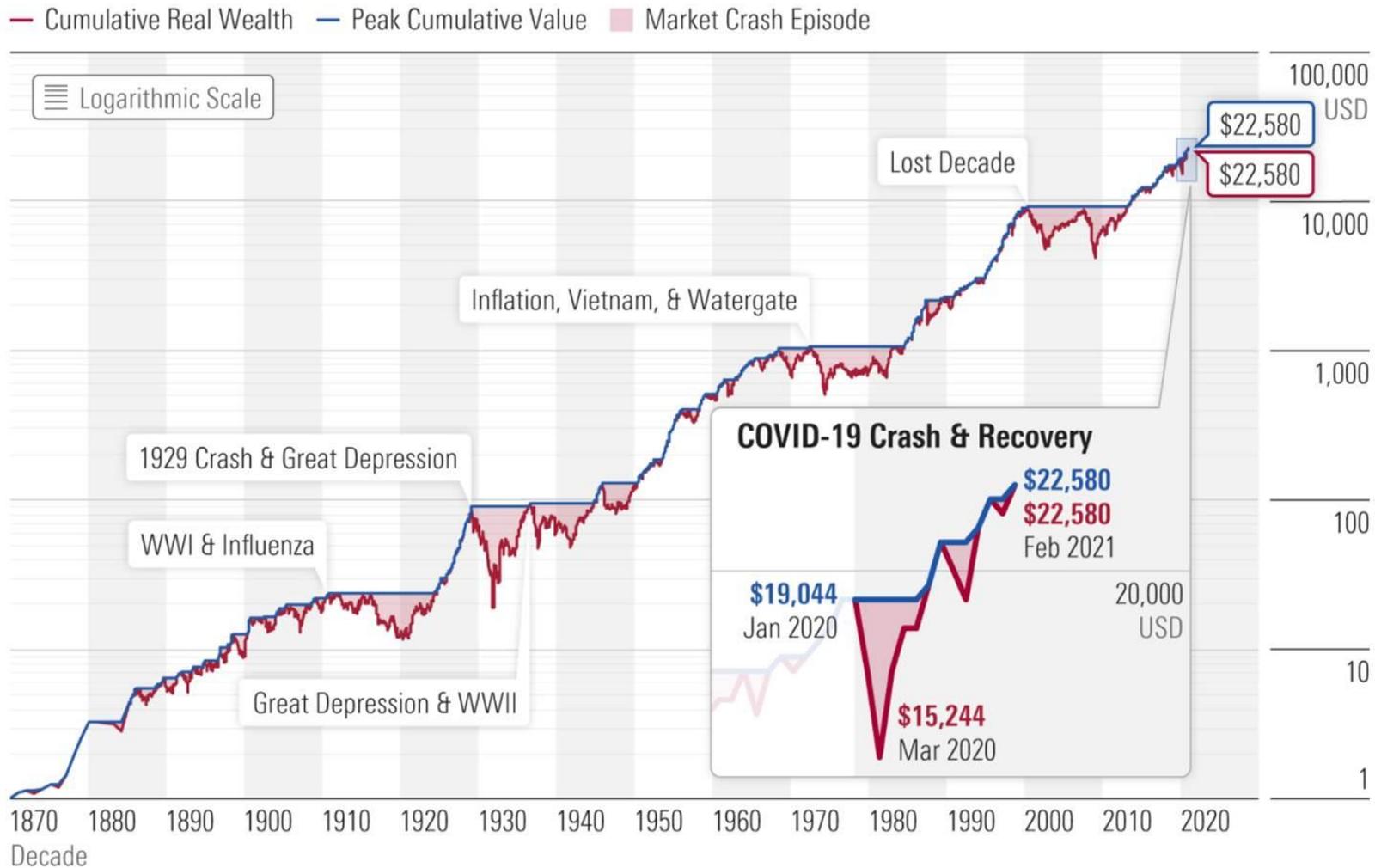
Refer to Appendix for additional investment strategy and risk information.

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# Strategy

## Encourage a long-term perspective

Market crash timeline: Growth of \$1 and the U.S. stock market's real peak values



Data as of Feb. 28, 2021.

Sources: Kaplan et al. (2009); Ibbotson (2020); Morningstar Direct; Goetzmann, Ibbotson, and Peng (2000); Pierce (1982); econ.yale.edu/shiller/data.htm; Ibbotson Associates SBBI US Large-Cap Stock Inflation Adjusted Total Return Extended Index.

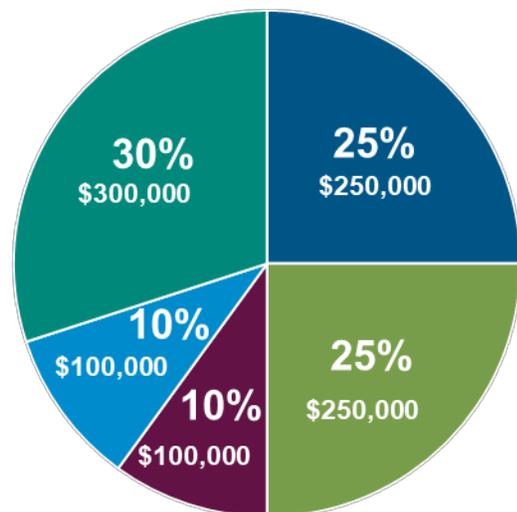
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Refer to Appendix for additional index and risk information.

# Strategy

## Portfolio rebalancing after market decline

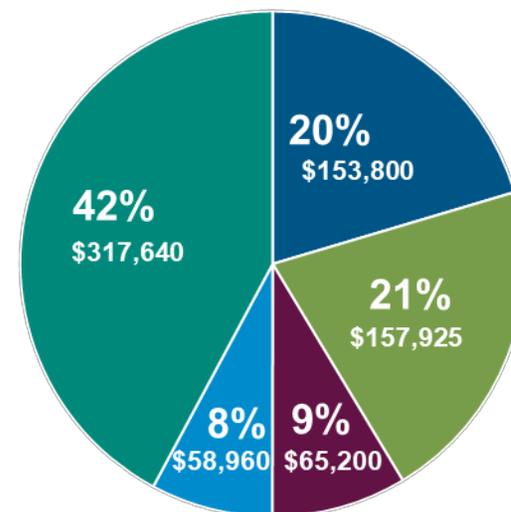
Initial allocation January 2008  
\$1,000,000



Performance 2008

Large growth	-38.48%
Large value	-36.83%
Small cap	-34.80%
International	-41.04%
Fixed income	+5.88%

Allocation January 2009  
\$753,525



2009 portfolio → Target allocation → Required change

Category	2009 portfolio	Target allocation	Required change
Large growth	\$153,800	\$188,381	+\$34,581
Large value	\$157,925	\$188,381	+\$30,456
Small cap	\$65,200	\$75,353	+\$10,153
International	\$58,960	\$75,353	+\$16,393
Fixed income	\$317,640	\$226,057	-\$91,583

Source: PIMCO; Large growth = Russell 1000 Growth Index, Large value = Russell 1000 Value Index, Small Cap = Russell 2000 Index; International = MSCI EAFE; Fixed Income = Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index.

For illustrative purposes only. No representation is being made that any account, product, or strategy will or is likely to achieve profits, losses, or results similar to those shown.

Refer to Appendix for additional index and risk information.

Past performance is not indicative of future results.

# Glossary

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**Anchoring**

Tendency to rely too heavily on one piece of information as a reference point when making a decision.

**Behavioral Finance**

The integration of classical economics and finance with psychology and the decision-making sciences that seeks to describe how people really behave and make decisions.

**Cognitive Dissonance**

Mental discomfort felt by an individual simultaneously holding two contradictory beliefs.

**Confirmation Bias**

Only acknowledging information that confirms one's opinions or beliefs.

**Familiarity Bias**

Preference to invest in what is familiar instead of what is new.

**Framing**

Presenting information in such a way to achieve a desired outcome. People tend to reach conclusions based on the way the scenario is presented, or framed.

**Herd Bias**

Tendency to follow a course of action because others are also doing it.

**Hindsight Bias**

Gives a false sense of security and can lead to excessive risk-taking. Tendency to view events as having been more predictable, and thus actions more correct or incorrect, than was apparent as the situation was unfolding.

**Home Bias**

Tendency to overweight exposure to their domestic market or industry sector and invest less in foreign markets or other sectors.

Source: PIMCO

# Glossary

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<b>Information Overload</b>	Increasing choices results in greater indecision.
<b>Loss Aversion</b>	Tendency to strongly prefer avoiding losses to acquiring gains.
<b>Mental Accounting</b>	Dividing assets into separate groups based on where they originated or are located and assigning different levels of utility.
<b>Overconfidence</b>	Overestimating one's own abilities and knowledge. People acquire too much confidence from the information that is available to them, and they think they are right more often than they actually are.
<b>Prospect Theory</b>	People choose between probabilistic alternatives that involve risk, where probabilities of outcomes are unknown.
<b>Recency Bias</b>	Using only recent data to make future decisions.
<b>Self attribution</b>	Take credit for good outcomes and pass on blame for bad outcomes.
<b>Status quo</b>	Tendency to stay with current investments, faced with an array of options, select the one that keeps conditions the same.
<b>Substitution</b>	Process of subconsciously replacing, or substituting, a complex scenario or judgment with a more straightforward scenario that is easier to comprehend.

Source: PIMCO

# Resources

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- *The Behavior Gap*, Carl Richards
- *Why Smart People Make Big Money Mistakes*, Gilovich and Belsky
- *The Behavioral Investor*, Daniel Crosby
- *Nudge*, Richard Thaler
- *Predictably Irrational*, Dan Ariely
- *Thinking Fast and Slow*, Daniel Kahneman

Source: PIMCO

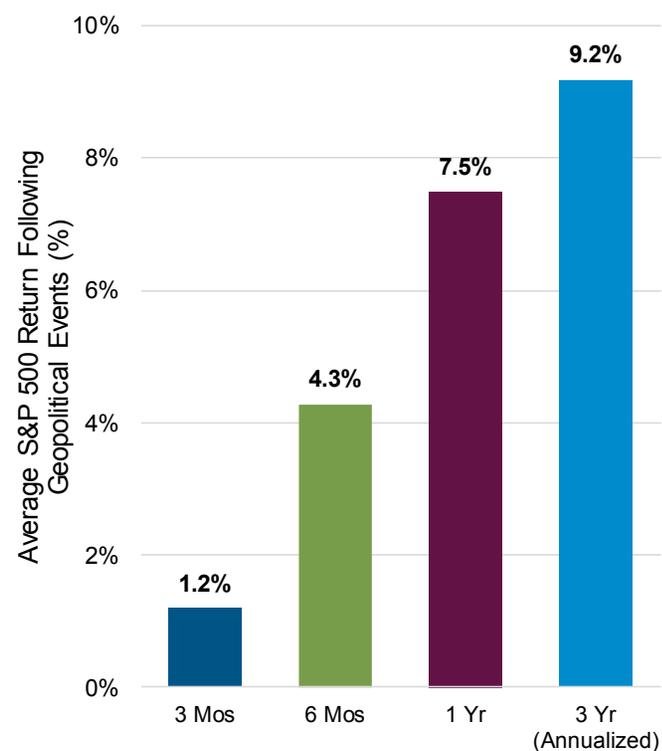
# Appendix



# Equity market reaction to major geopolitical events

As shocks begin to fade, equity market performance historically has turned largely positive

Geopolitical Events and S&P 500 Reactions		Before Event			After Event					
Event	Event Date	3 Mos	1 Mo	1 Week	1 Week	1 Mo	3 Mos	6 Mos	1 Yr	3 Yr (Ann.)
Pearl Harbor Attack	12/7/1941	-7.37	-2.41	2.19	-6.33	-0.99	-10.23	-7.23	7.25	18.44
North Korea Invades South Korea	6/25/1950	10.89	2.41	0.90	-5.38	-7.84	3.87	9.45	20.55	15.44
Hungarian Uprising	10/23/1956	-5.64	-0.07	-1.07	0.54	-2.12	-1.79	0.77	-8.19	11.03
Suez Crisis	10/29/1956	-4.58	2.32	0.37	2.59	-4.35	-2.73	0.34	-8.84	11.36
Cuban Missile Crisis	10/16/1962	-0.40	-2.20	-0.21	-6.29	5.40	14.41	23.27	32.09	20.69
Kennedy Assassination	11/22/1963	-1.99	-4.59	-3.79	5.20	6.71	12.53	17.89	27.79	7.96
Gulf of Tonkin Incident	8/2/1964	4.52	0.70	-0.34	-1.59	-1.05	3.11	6.92	5.89	8.25
Six-Day War	6/5/1967	0.95	-6.36	-2.28	4.08	4.12	7.37	9.33	16.57	-1.54
Tet Offensive	1/30/1968	-1.20	-3.71	-0.82	-1.07	-3.80	5.92	6.88	13.87	4.62
Munich Olympics	9/5/1972	2.95	0.96	0.98	-2.48	-1.87	6.48	2.75	-3.10	-4.77
Yom Kippur War	10/6/1973	9.31	4.73	1.31	1.45	-4.17	-9.11	-13.78	-40.87	2.04
Iranian Revolution	1/7/1978	-3.21	-0.79	-3.66	-2.11	-0.98	-0.26	6.35	14.09	20.02
Reagan Shooting	3/30/1981	0.42	2.29	-1.04	0.12	-0.30	-0.67	-10.83	-11.82	11.49
Iraq's Invasion of Kuwait	8/2/1990	6.03	-2.03	-1.15	-3.13	-7.86	-10.44	-0.60	14.02	12.03
9/11 Terrorist Attacks	9/11/2001	-12.62	-8.10	-3.54	-5.44	0.59	4.42	7.69	-15.50	2.66
Madrid Bombing	3/11/2004	3.77	-4.24	-4.12	1.42	3.03	3.07	2.38	10.34	10.21
London Subway Bombing	7/5/2005	2.46	0.89	0.31	1.47	1.91	-0.24	6.68	7.46	3.56
Boston Marathon Bombing	4/15/2013	6.01	-0.41	-0.67	0.66	7.09	8.96	10.56	21.23	12.58
Bombing of Syria	4/7/2017	3.98	-0.36	-0.24	-1.11	1.94	3.48	9.32	12.72	6.19
North Korea Missile Crisis	7/28/2017	4.21	1.42	0.00	0.23	-0.92	4.91	17.32	16.24	11.35
Saudi Aramco Drone Strike	9/14/2019	4.69	6.09	1.02	-0.49	-1.25	5.87	-8.99	14.66	?
Iranian General Killed in Airstrike	1/3/2020	11.67	4.75	-0.12	0.98	0.53	-22.68	-2.28	18.21	?
Russian Invasion of Ukraine	2/24/2022	-8.47	-2.61	-2.07	1.79	?	?	?	?	?



As of 9 March 2022. SOURCE: PIMCO, Bloomberg

Geopolitical events selected based on commonly recognized market moving crises that took place from 7 December 1941 to present.

**Past performance is not a guarantee or a reliable indicator of future results.**

Refer to Appendix for additional index and risk information.

# Appendix

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**Past performance is not a guarantee or a reliable indicator of future results.**

## CHART

Performance results for certain charts and graphs may be limited by date ranges specified on those charts and graphs; different time periods may produce different results. Charts are provided for illustrative purposes and are not indicative of the past or future performance of any PIMCO product.

## HYPOTHETICAL EXAMPLE

HYPOTHETICAL PERFORMANCE RESULTS HAVE MANY INHERENT LIMITATIONS, SOME OF WHICH ARE DESCRIBED BELOW. NO REPRESENTATION IS BEING MADE THAT ANY ACCOUNT WILL OR IS LIKELY TO ACHIEVE PROFITS OR LOSSES SIMILAR TO THOSE SHOWN. IN FACT, THERE ARE FREQUENTLY SHARP DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HYPOTHETICAL PERFORMANCE RESULTS AND THE ACTUAL RESULTS SUBSEQUENTLY ACHIEVED BY ANY PARTICULAR TRADING PROGRAM.

ONE OF THE LIMITATIONS OF HYPOTHETICAL PERFORMANCE RESULTS IS THAT THEY ARE GENERALLY PREPARED WITH THE BENEFIT OF HINDSIGHT. IN ADDITION, HYPOTHETICAL TRADING DOES NOT INVOLVE FINANCIAL RISK, AND NO HYPOTHETICAL TRADING RECORD CAN COMPLETELY ACCOUNT FOR THE IMPACT OF FINANCIAL RISK IN ACTUAL TRADING. FOR EXAMPLE, THE ABILITY TO WITHSTAND LOSSES OR TO ADHERE TO A PARTICULAR TRADING PROGRAM IN SPITE OF TRADING LOSSES ARE MATERIAL POINTS WHICH CAN ALSO ADVERSELY AFFECT ACTUAL TRADING RESULTS. THERE ARE NUMEROUS OTHER FACTORS RELATED TO THE MARKETS IN GENERAL OR TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ANY SPECIFIC TRADING PROGRAM WHICH CANNOT BE FULLY ACCOUNTED FOR IN THE PREPARATION OF HYPOTHETICAL PERFORMANCE RESULTS AND ALL OF WHICH CAN ADVERSELY AFFECT ACTUAL TRADING RESULTS.

## INVESTMENT STRATEGY

There is no guarantee that these investment strategies will work under all market conditions or are appropriate for all investors and each investor should evaluate their ability to invest long-term, especially during periods of downturn in the market. No representation is being made that any account, product, or strategy will or is likely to achieve profits, losses, or results similar to those shown.

## INDEX

It is not possible to invest directly in an unmanaged index.

## RISK

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# Appendix

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