

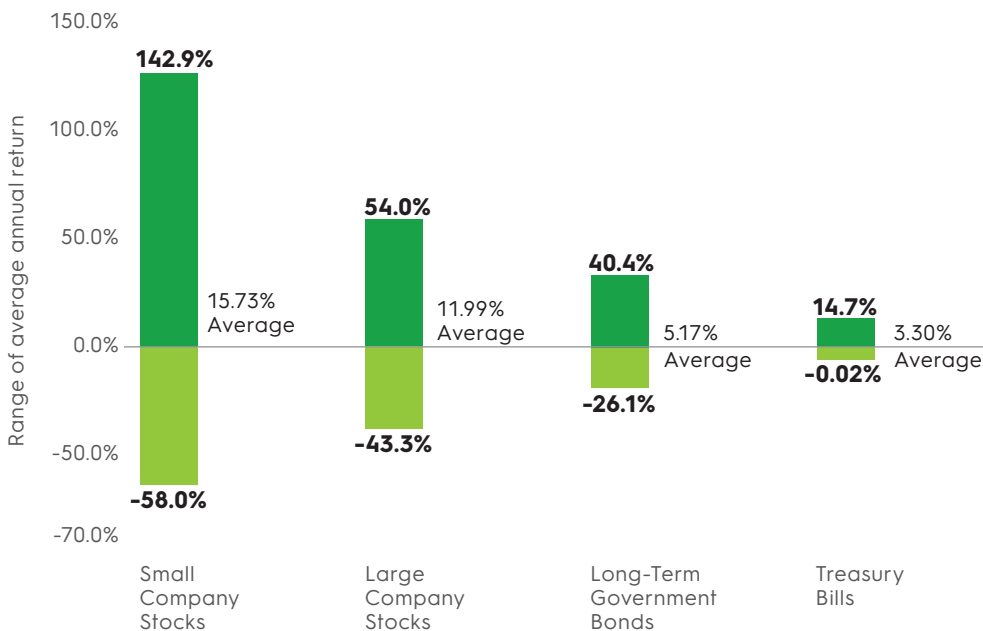
SOUND STRATEGIES

The higher the peak, the lower the valley

When it comes to the markets, high rewards also mean greater risks, as the chart illustrates. By not putting all their investments in one asset class, investors can create a diversified portfolio designed to help withstand the severe peaks and valleys that can occur in the investment markets.

Although a diversified portfolio is not a guarantee against loss, it is a method used to manage risk.

ASSET CLASS HIGHS AND LOWS, 1926 - 2024



This is a hypothetical example for illustrative purposes only and is not representative of any particular investment.

Small Company Stocks represented by fifth capitalization quintile of stocks on the NYSE for 1926 - 1981, and the performance of the Dimensional Fund Advisors (DFA) U.S. Mid Cap Portfolio, thereafter. Large Company Stocks represented by Standard & Poor's 500®, which is an unmanaged group of securities and is considered to be representative of the stock market in general. Long-Term Government Bonds represented by the 20-year U.S. Government Bond. Treasury bills represented by the 30-day U.S. Treasury Bill.

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Both Government Bonds and Treasury Bills are guaranteed as to the timely payment of principal, offer a fixed rate of return if held to maturity and are insured by the U.S. Government. There are many types of investment risk, including principal risk, purchasing power risk (inflation) and credit risk. Investments in smaller company stocks generally carry a higher level of volatility and risk over the short term.

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