



THE FINANCIAL SYMMETRY INVESTMENT SOLUTION

ENHANCE TODAY | ENRICH TOMORROW



RULES-BASED PROCESS

**MANAGING AN INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO IS A
PROCESS, NOT A ONE-TIME DECISION.**

AT FINANCIAL SYMMETRY, WE BELIEVE AN EFFECTIVE INVESTMENT
STRATEGY INVOLVES DISCIPLINE, EVIDENCE-BASED RESEARCH
AND A DEFINED PROCESS.

THREE-STEP INVESTMENT PROCESS

DEVELOP INVESTMENT PLAN

- Timing of when you need the money
 - Bonds/cash for the next five to seven years
 - Stocks for long-term growth

IMPLEMENT INVESTMENT PLAN

- Purchase low cost, high quality mutual funds/ETFs
- Tilt portfolio towards investments with higher expected returns
 - Factors (small, value, and profitability)
 - Valuations (global diversification)

MONITOR INVESTMENT PLAN*

- Opportunistic rebalancing (buy low/sell high)
- Tax efficiency (tax loss harvesting)
- Market/life adjustments (stock target changes)

*A summary of FSI's Investment Rules is available upon request



DEFINE INVESTMENT SUCCESS AS ACHIEVING YOUR GOALS

Focus on long-term results, not short-term performance.



REPORT CONSOLIDATED PORTFOLIO RESULTS

Holdings, balances, and returns available on FSI Client Center.



ONGOING COMMUNICATION

Proactive advice and answers to your questions.

<https://www.financialsymmetry.com/category/market-outlook/>



DISCIPLINED INVESTMENT STRATEGY

Team strategy built on over 20 years of experience, discipline, and evidence-based research.

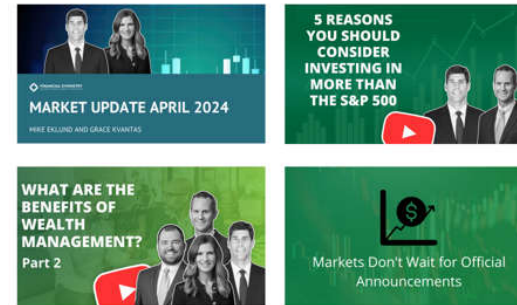


WE INVEST THE SAME WAY AS OUR CLIENTS (FIDUCIARIES)



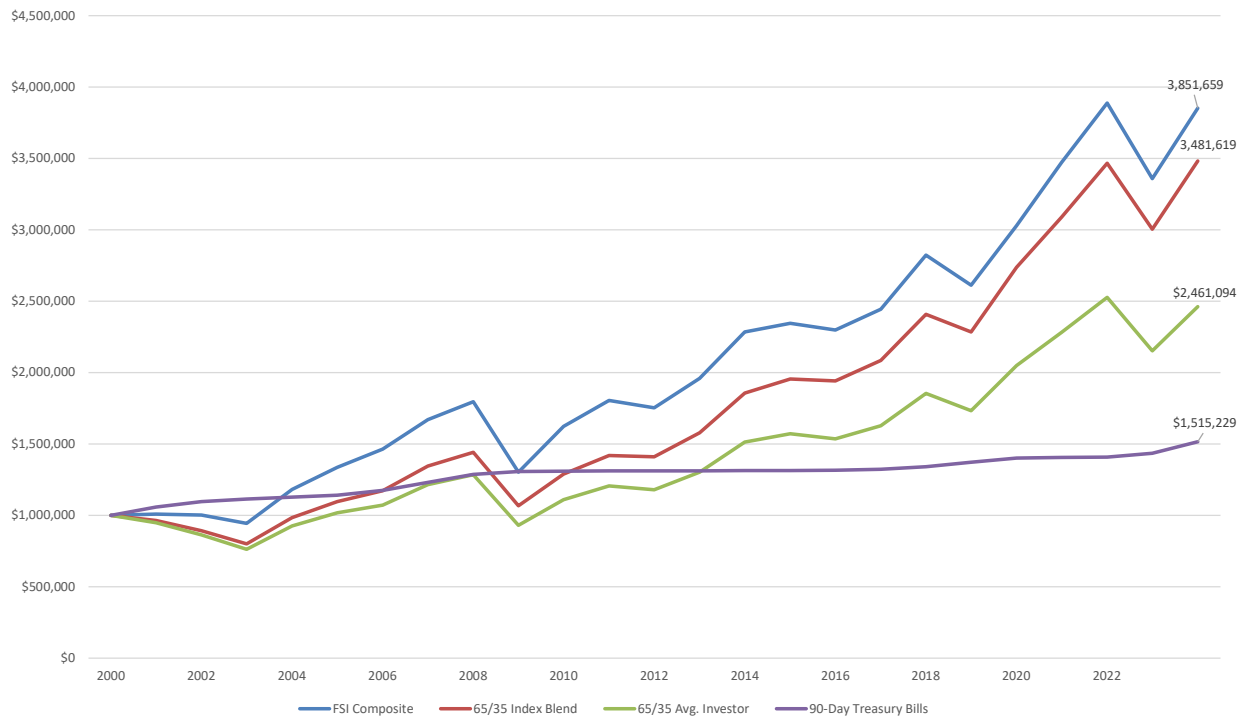
FAITH IN THE FUTURE

We have faith that human progress will continue, our global economy will continue to grow, and the markets will go up over time.



SIX THINGS TO EXPECT

FSI HISTORICAL RESULTS (1999-2023)



Category

Annualized Returns 1999-2023

FSI Composite	5.8%
65/35 Index Blend	5.3%
65/35 Avg. Investor	3.8%
90-Day Treasury Bills	1.7%

THE RETURN STATISTICS ABOVE REFLECT ACTUAL FSI CLIENT RETURNS AFTER FEES FROM 12/31/1999 TO 12/31/2023. THE AVERAGE FSI CLIENT ALLOCATION DURING THIS PERIOD WAS APPROX. 65% STOCKS AND 35% FIXED INCOME. SEE NEXT SLIDE FOR FOOTNOTE DETAILS.

FSI HISTORICAL RESULTS

RETURNS FOR INDIVIDUAL CLIENTS VARIED SIGNIFICANTLY DUE TO SEVERAL FACTORS SUCH AS:

- Strategies are specific to each client's personal situation and represent a wide range of risk profiles.
- Some client holdings have low-cost basis and may be held solely due to the client's tax situation.
- We advise a portion of our clients on a non-discretionary basis, and some of our recommendations are declined by clients.

FOOTNOTES

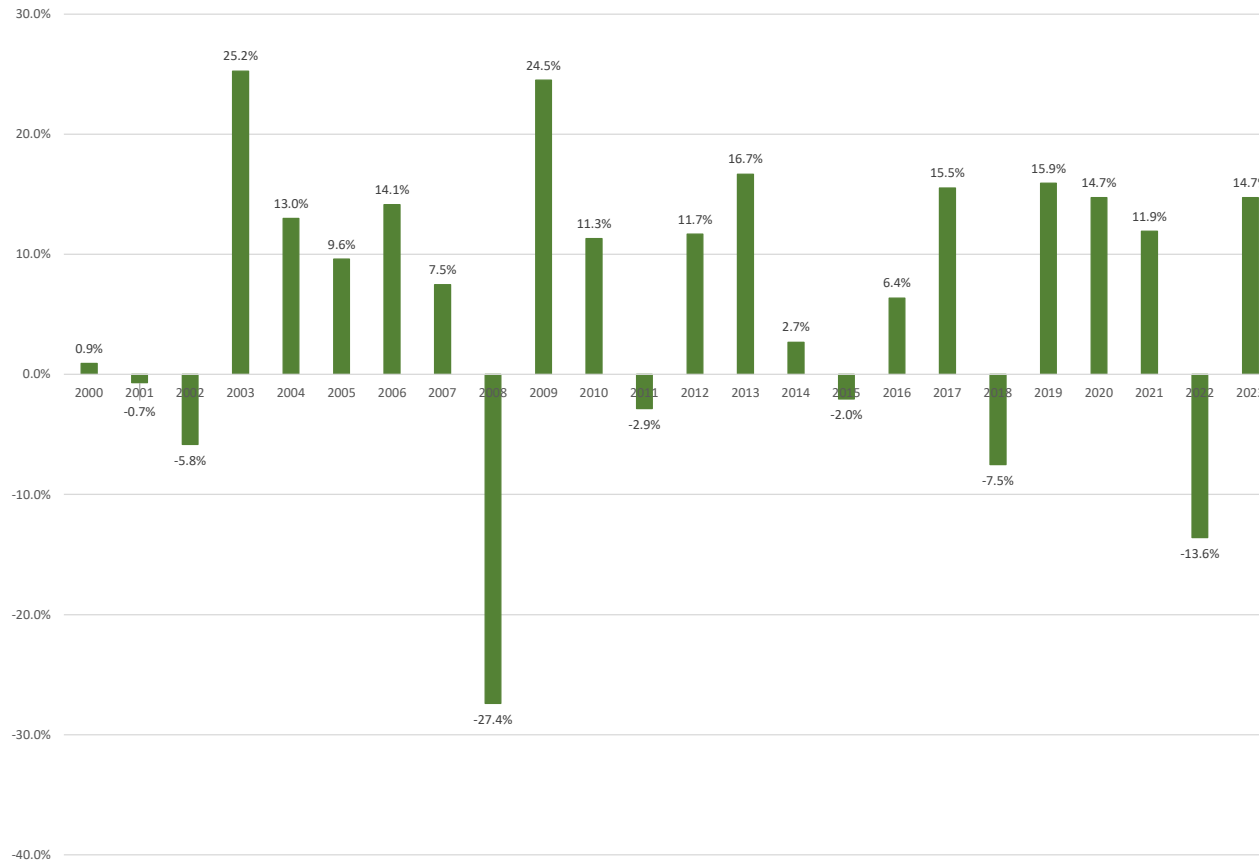
- The FSI Client Returns includes all Financial Symmetry investment management clients, representing 69 clients with \$25,499,759 of assets as of 12/31/1999 and 738 clients with \$956,070,193 of assets as of 12/31/2023.

- The 65/35 blend of indices used for comparison consists of:

	<u>1999-2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015-2023</u>
◦ S&P 500 Total Return	32.5%	32.5%	32.5%
◦ MSCI AWI Ex. US			22.75%
◦ Russell 2500	4.5%	9.75%	9.75%
◦ Barclays Aggregate Bond	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%
◦ US 3 Month T-Bills	15.0%	15.0%	15.0%
◦ Morgan Stanley EAFE	28.0%	19.5%	
◦ MSCI Emerging Markets		3.25%	

- The Average 65/35 Fund Investor annual return difference was 1.5% lower than the 65/35 Index Blend, as calculated from [Vanguard Advisor Alpha study](#) behavioral coaching value add.
- 90-Day Treasury Bills used as a cash proxy.

FSI ANNUAL RETURNS (1999-2023)



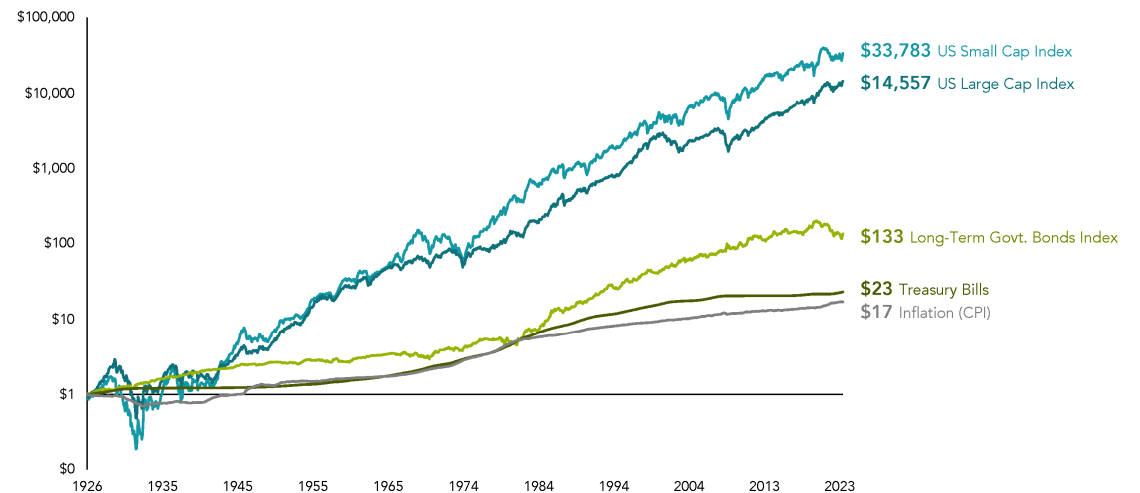
ABOVE ARE ACTUAL ANNUAL FSI COMPOSITE RETURNS AFTER FEES SINCE 2000. THE AVERAGE FSI CLIENT ALLOCATION DURING THIS PERIOD WAS APPROX. 65% STOCKS AND 35% FIXED INCOME. INVESTMENT RETURNS DON'T OCCUR IN A STRAIGHT LINE WHICH IS WHY WE STRUCTURE YOUR PORTFOLIO BASED ON YOUR UNIQUE SITUATION, FACTORING IN YOUR EXPECTED FUTURE CASH FLOW (RISK CAPACITY) AND ABILITY TO HANDLE MARKET DECLINES (RISK TOLERANCE).

DISCIPLINE OVER DECADES

- For nearly a century, equities have provided compound returns exceeding three times the general rate of inflation (see graph to right).
- Historically, equities have been the greatest generator of real wealth - net of inflation - effortlessly available to ordinary people.

Capital Markets Have Rewarded Long-Term Investors

Monthly growth of wealth (\$1), 1926–2023



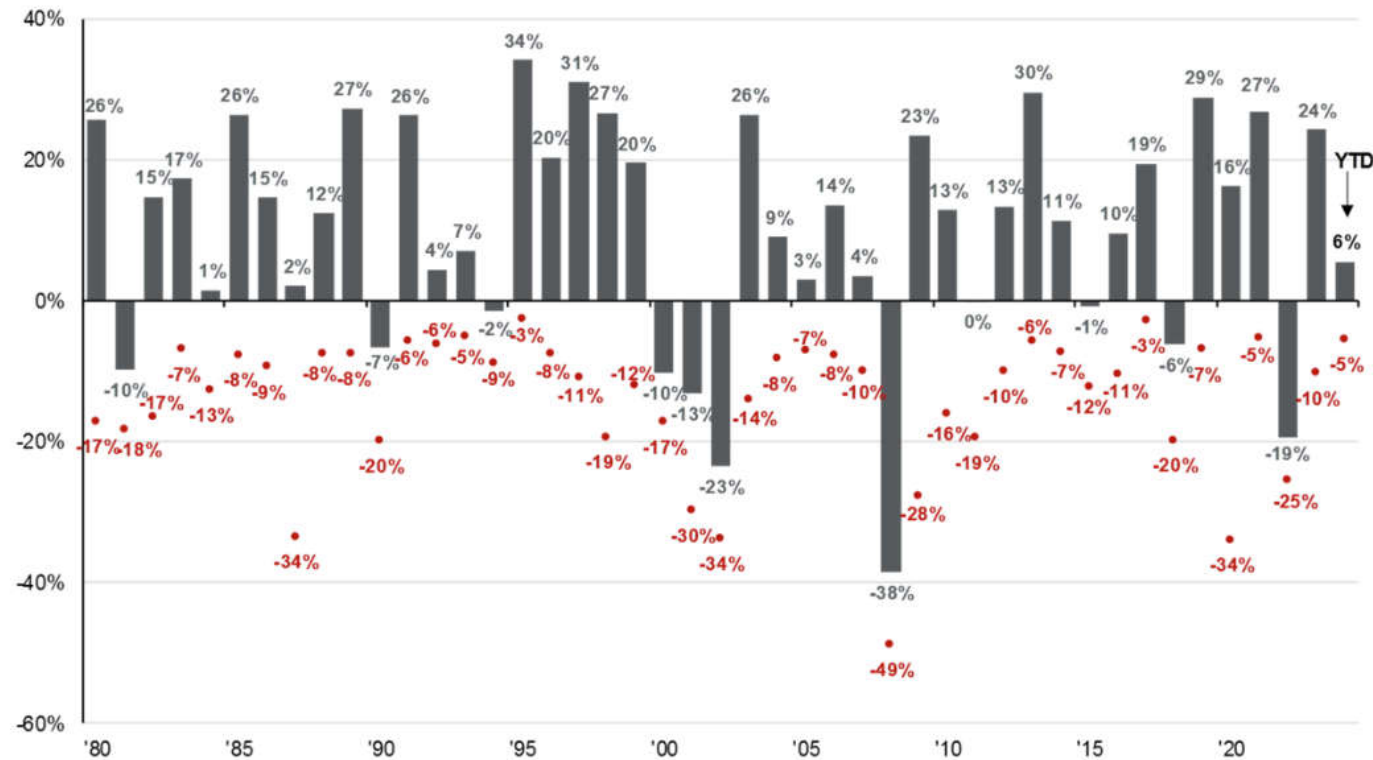
Past performance is no guarantee of future results. In US dollars. Indices are not available for direct investment. Their performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio.

US Small Cap is the CRSP 6-10 Index. US Large Cap is the S&P 500 Index. US Long-Term Government Bonds is the IA SBBI US LT Govt TR USD. US Treasury Bills is the IA SBBI US 30 Day TBill TR USD. US Inflation is measured as changes in the US Consumer Price Index. CRSP data is provided by the Center for Research in Security Prices, University of Chicago. S&P data © 2024 S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, a division of S&P Global. All rights reserved. US Long-term government bonds and Treasury bills data provided by Ibbotson Associates via Morningstar Direct. US Consumer Price Index data is provided by the US Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics.

DISCIPLINE OVER DECADES

S&P intra-year declines vs. calendar year returns

Despite average intra-year drops of 14.2%, annual returns were positive in 33 of 44 years

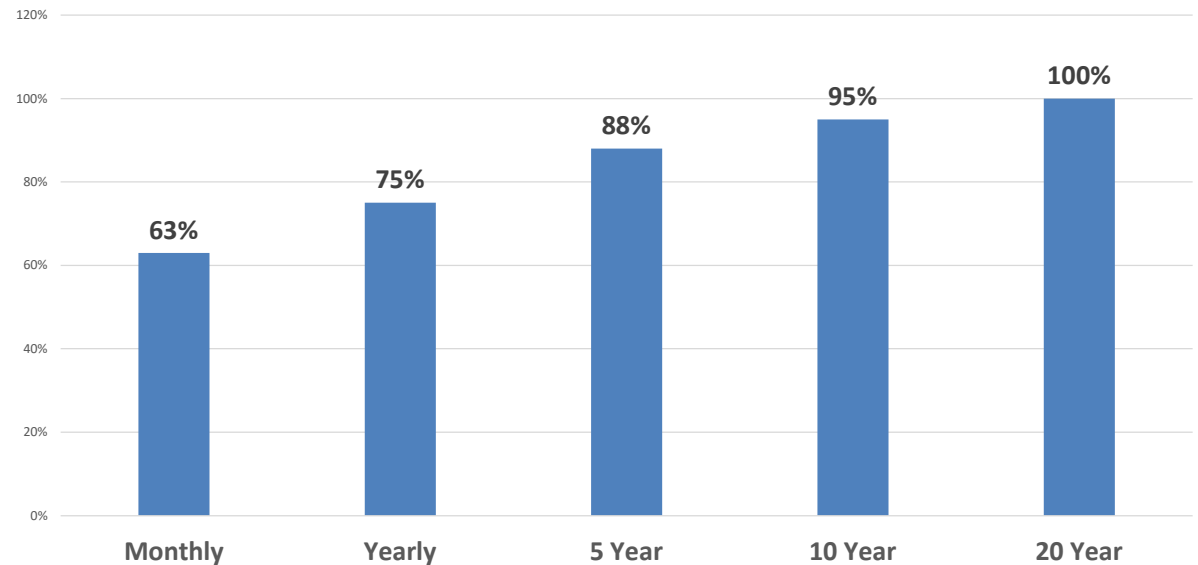


- Investors earn the long-term premium return of equities over bonds/cash as a reward for patiently enduring their occasional declines.

DISCIPLINE OVER DECADES

- Time has been the great healer in equity investing, in that the temporary declines have historically all passed away, while the premium equity returns abides.
- For nearly a century, approximately 88% of all the rolling five-year periods have produced positive equity returns with dividends reinvested.

U.S. Stock Market
July 1926-March 2024
Probability of Seeing Gain



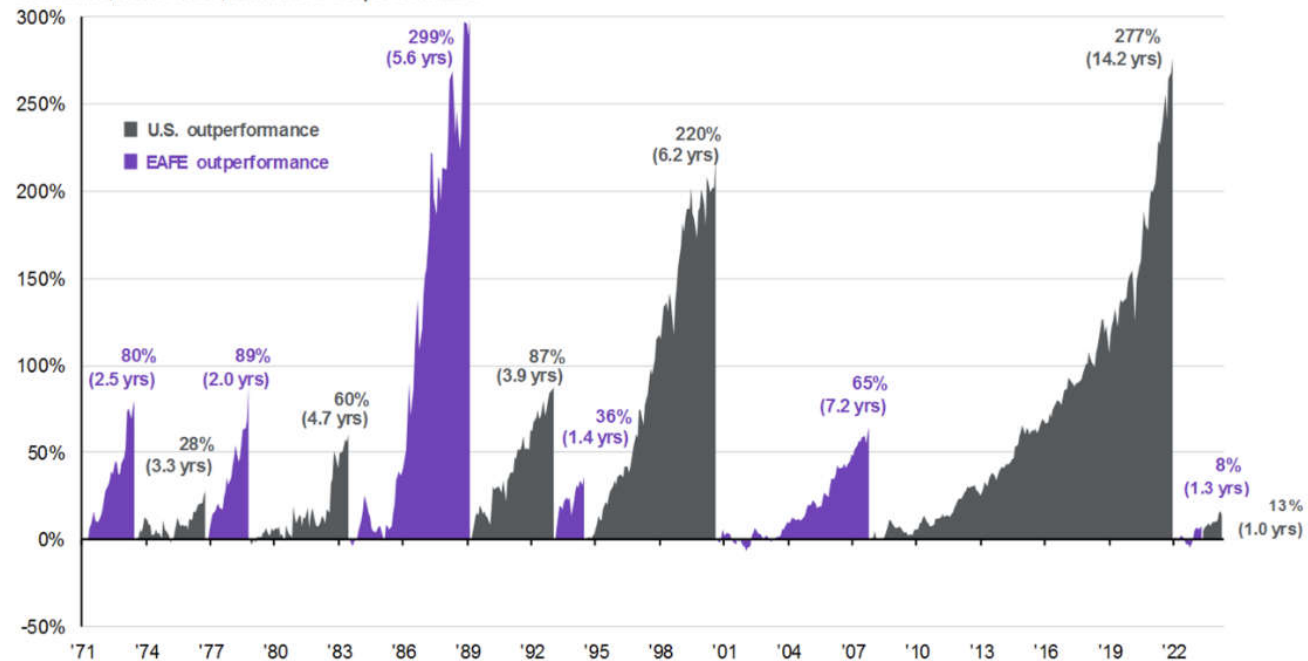
Source: Fama/French Total US Market Research Index

DISCIPLINE OVER DECADES

- Over the last 50 years, there have been different regimes of U.S. vs. international outperformance.
- Global diversification is a prudent form of risk management. However, it also means you'll never be fully invested in the best or worst performers.

MSCI EAFE and MSCI USA relative performance

U.S. dollar, total return, cumulative outperformance



Source: JP Morgan – Guide to Markets

Ten Investment Principles

- 1. Your Goals** – We are long-term, goal-focused, planning-driven investors.
- 2. Own vs. Loan** – Historically, the owners of companies (stocks) received a substantially higher return than their lenders (bonds/cash) because the owners take on more risk.
- 3. Investor Behavior** – We’ve found that the more often investors change their portfolios (in response to fads or fears), the worse their long-term results.
- 4. Market Timing** – We do not believe the economy can be consistently forecast, nor can the markets be consistently timed.
- 5. Market Declines** – Investors earn the long-term premium of equities as a reward for enduring occasional declines.
- 6. Your Portfolio** – We are short-term pessimists (bonds/cash) and long-term optimists (stocks).
- 7. Diversification** – We believe in an intelligently diversified portfolio, which means some holdings will always be “underperforming.”
- 8. Benchmarks** – We only care about the benchmark that indicates whether you are on track to achieve your financial goals.
- 9. Investor Returns** – We believe that ~90% of an investor’s lifetime return will be driven by the percentage of their portfolio in equities, their behavior in response to market fads or fears, and the quality of their investment plan.
- 10. Opportunity** – We tilt your portfolio towards investments with higher expected returns over decades, not days.