# **MARKET INSIGHTS**

from Ziegler Capital Management



# A Reminder: When it Comes to Stocks, History is on Your Side

When it comes to investing, stocks are recognized as the great equalizer. While other asset classes operate to reverse the eroding effects of inflation, stocks serve to fill the tank for so many positive outcomes. This extra reward naturally comes with the risk of ownership. Unlike owners of single businesses, stock investors have the advantage of realizing meaningful risk control through portfolio diversification. The remaining obstacle is the volatility of pricing. For this, we turn to historical data.

The record over the past 60-plus years is pretty impressive. As the chart below illustrates from left to right, the investor's best friend is their time horizon. Even during the shorter time periods of 1- or 5-year increments, the prevalence for achieving positive absolute and above inflation returns has been highly significant. This should serve as a reminder for investors to develop a plan and stay the course.

## S&P 500 Returns Analysis: 1950s till Present

Period: 1/1/1950 - 3/31/2019

	_	Return Period			
		1-Year	5-Year*	10-Year*	20-Year*
How often returns were positive		79%	92%	97%	100%
How often the gain beat inflation		73%	76%	83%	100%
Average Return	13.0% ¬ 12.5% ¬ 12.0% ¬ 11.5% ¬ 11.0% ¬ 10.5% ¬	12.5%	12.2%	10.9%	10.6%

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19-02002 Printed Internally

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