

**American Association of Individual Investors  
presents  
Financial Planning Workshop**

# **Building a Diversified Portfolio**

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# Financial Planning Workshops

- Fundamentals of Investing
- >>> **Building a Diversified Portfolio**
- Active versus Passive Investing Strategies
- Retirement Planning
- Managing your Cash Flow in Retirement
- Safe Withdrawal Rates from your Retirement Portfolio
- Claiming Social Security Benefits
- Estate Planning

# Last Month

- **Fundamentals of Investing**
  - Your Personal Investor Profile, PIP
  - Risk and return measurements
  - Techniques to control risk
  - Investment vehicles
- Slides available at [www.siliconvalleyaaii.org](http://www.siliconvalleyaaii.org)

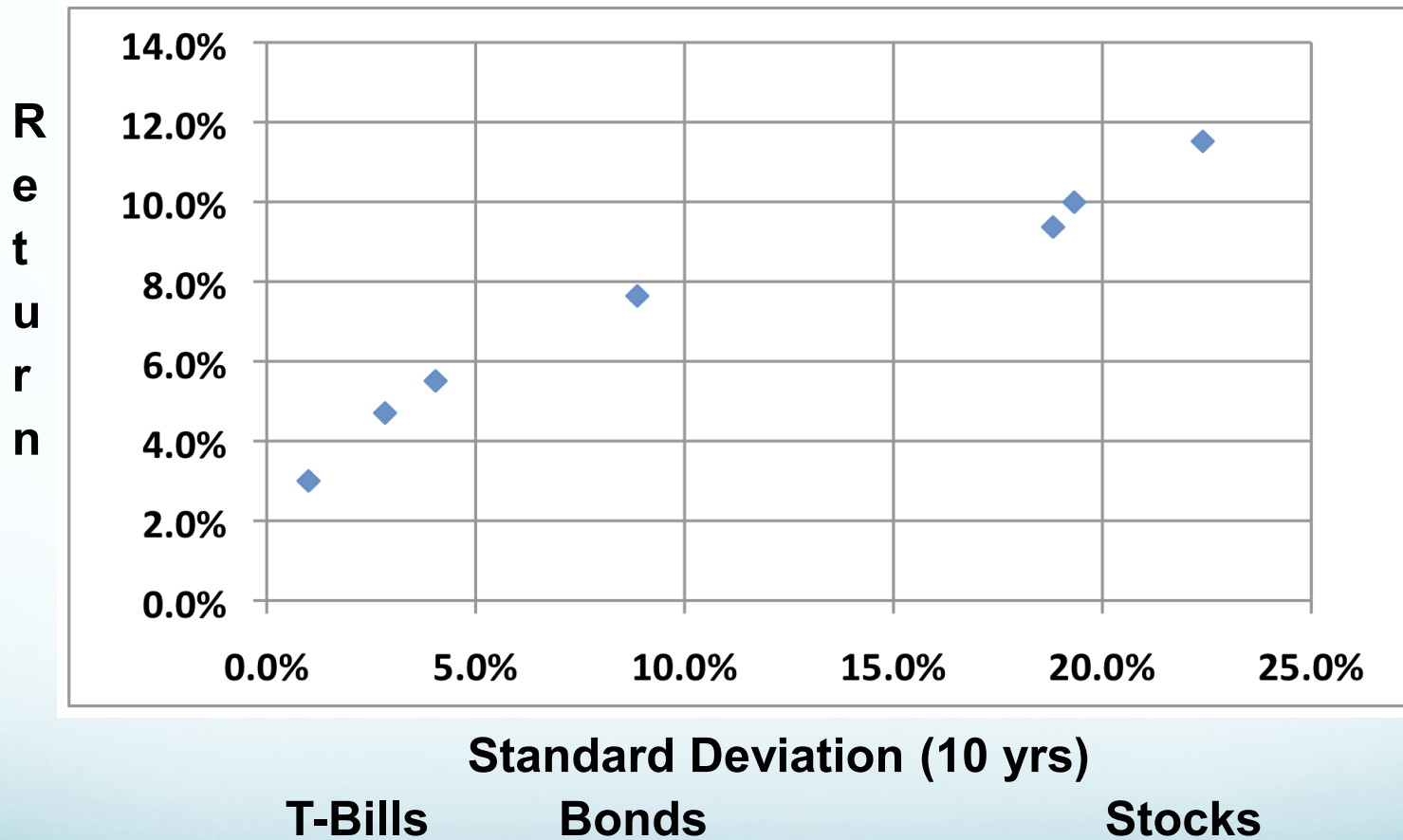
# Topics Covered Today

- **Modern Portfolio Theory**
- **Characteristics of asset classes**
- **Building and rebalancing your portfolio**
- **Your Investment Policy Statement**

# Modern Portfolio Theory

- Theory on how risk-averse investors can construct a portfolio to maximize the expected return for a given level of market risk
- First formulated by Harry Markowitz in 1952
- Further developed by Bill Sharpe et al over the next two decades

# Risk and Return are Correlated



# The Third Dimension

- Total return, R
- Standard deviation, S
- Correlation, C

Measures how well two assets track each other

$C = 1$  for perfect tracking, i.e. zig and zag together

$C = 0$  for no correlation

$C = -1$  for perfect negative correlation

i.e. one asset zigs every time the other zags

# Basic MPT Equations

- For a portfolio, P, with 2 risky assets, A and B with expected total returns  $R_A$  and  $R_B$ , and standard deviations  $S_A$  and  $S_B$  and correlation  $C_{AB}$  and weights  $W_A$  and  $W_B$  in the portfolio

$$R_P = W_A \times R_A + W_B \times R_B$$

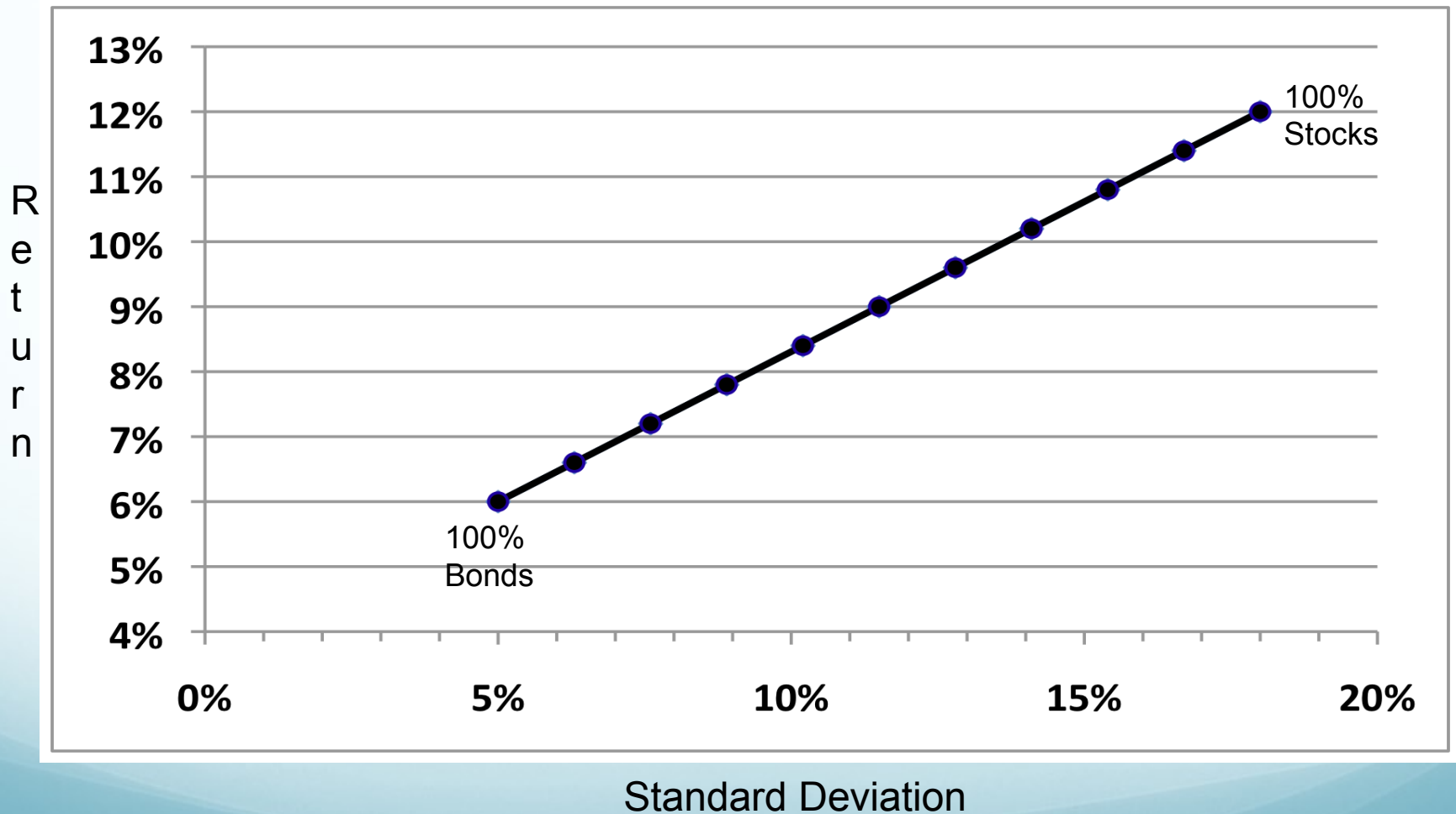
$$S_P = \text{SqRt}\{(W_A \times S_A)^2 + (W_B \times S_B)^2 + 2 \times W_A \times S_A \times W_B \times S_B \times C_{AB}\}$$



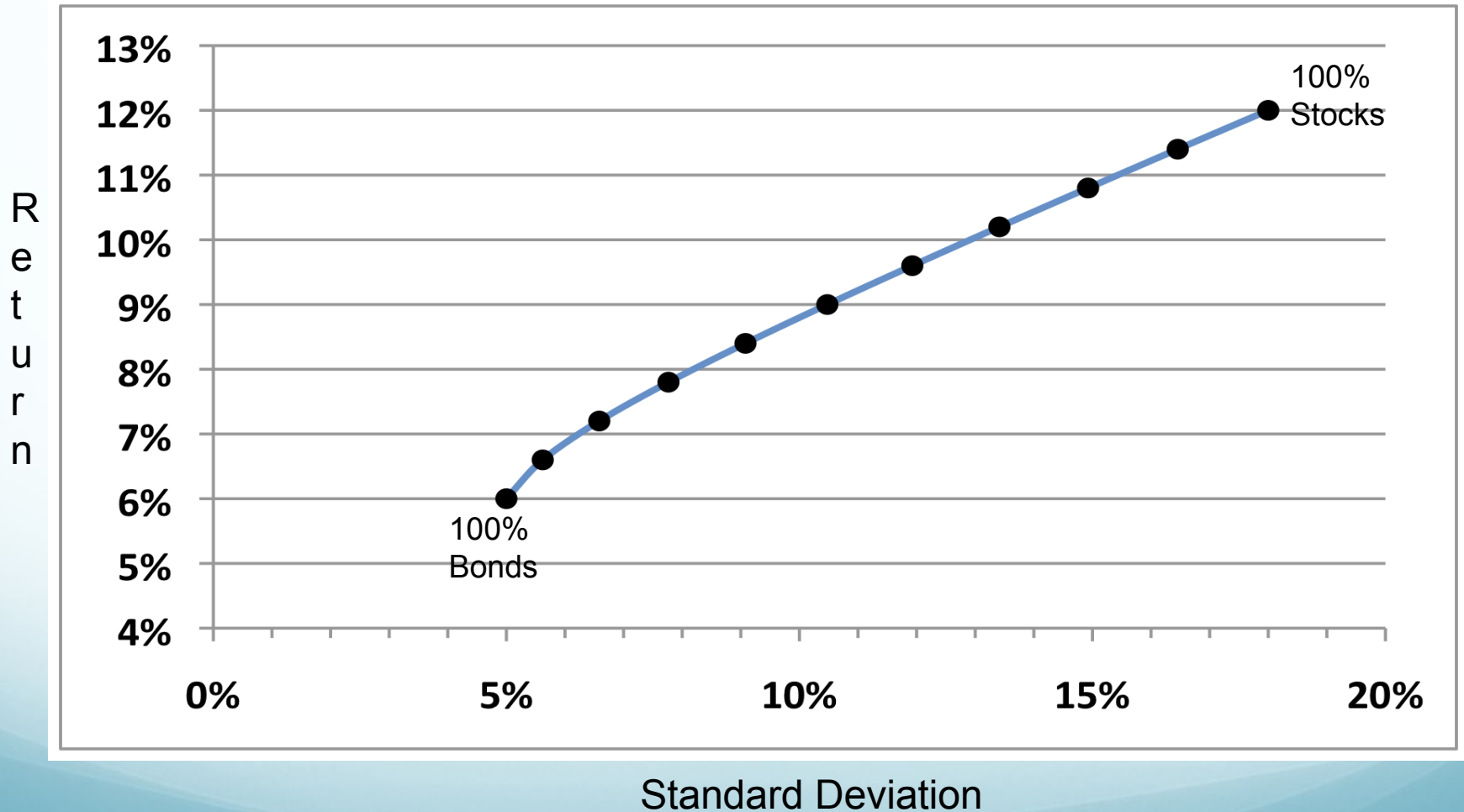
# Simple Portfolio with 2 Risky Assets

- **First asset (e.g. a bond fund)**
  - **Return = 6%**
  - **Standard deviation = 5%**
- **Second asset (e.g. a stock fund)**
  - **Return = 12%**
  - **Standard deviation = 18%**
- **Weights: Vary from 0, 10%, 20% ... 100%**
- **Correlation: Vary from +1.0, +0.5, 0, -0.5, -1.0**

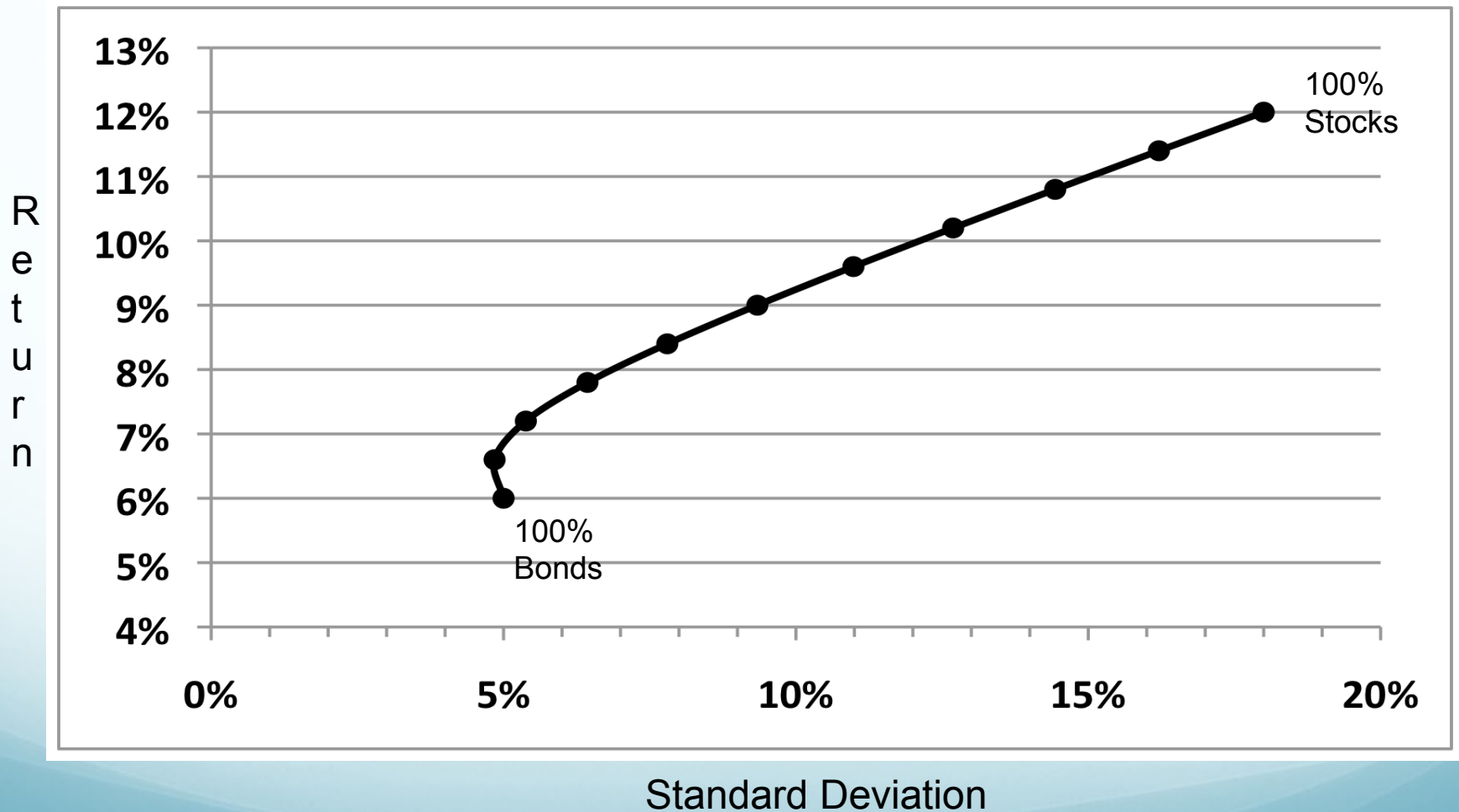
# 2 Assets: Correlation = +1.0



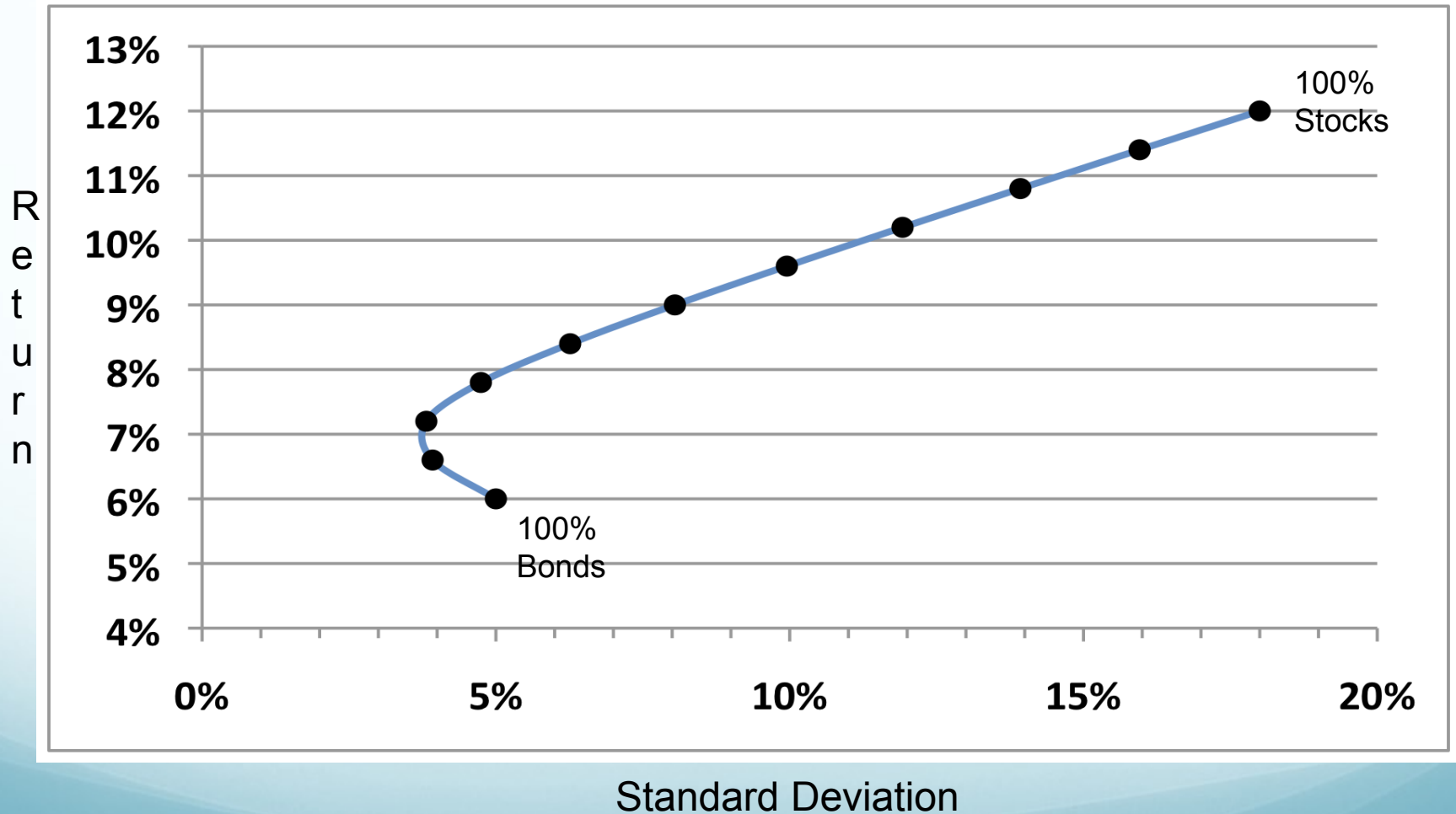
# 2 Assets contd: Correlation = +0.5



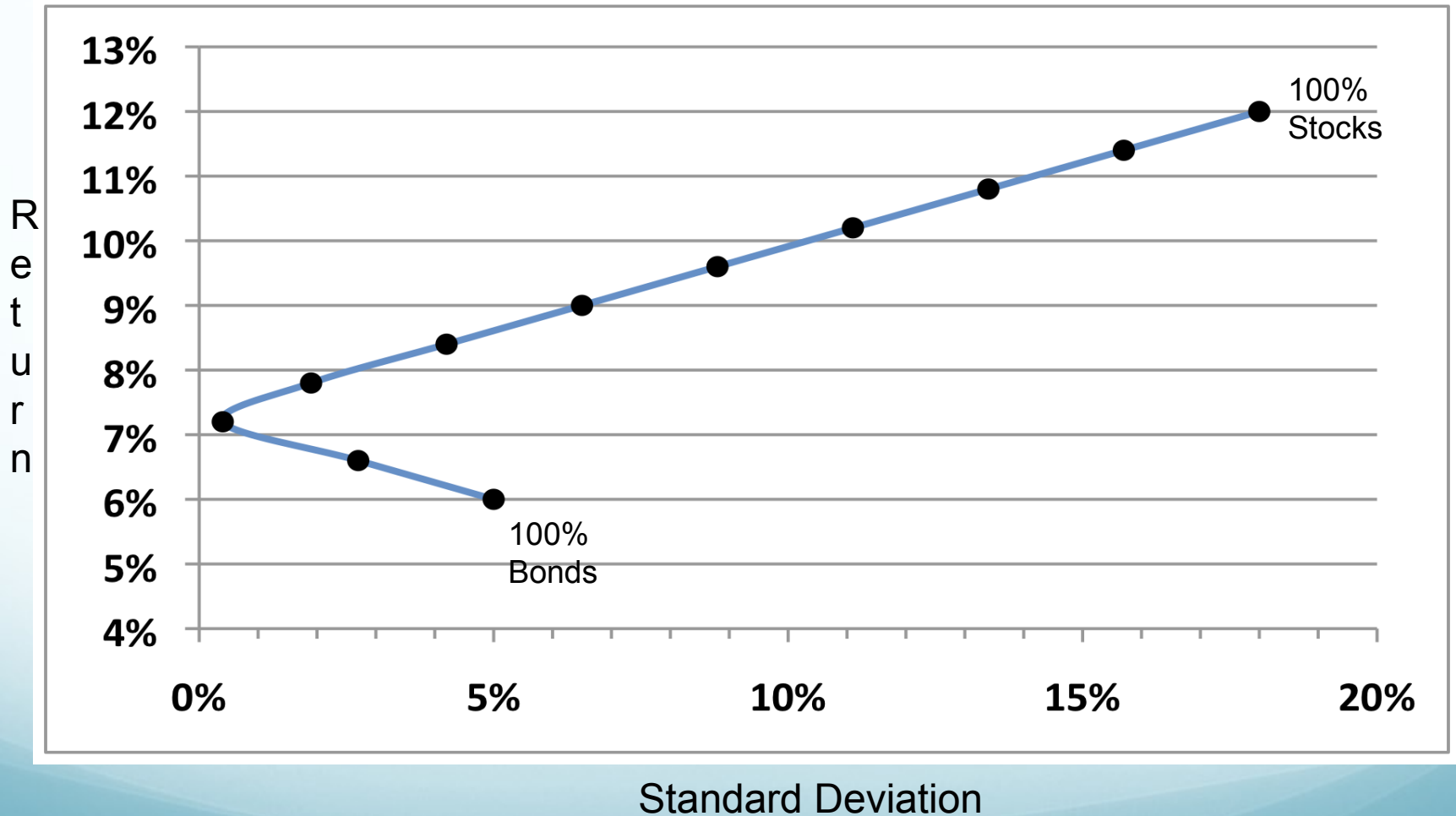
# 2-Assets contd: Correlation = 0



# 2 Assets contd: Correlation = -0.5



# 2 Assets contd: Correlation = -1.0



# Topics Covered Today

- Modern Portfolio Theory
- >>> **Characteristics of asset classes**
- Building and rebalancing your portfolio
- Your Investment Policy Statement

# The Brinson Study

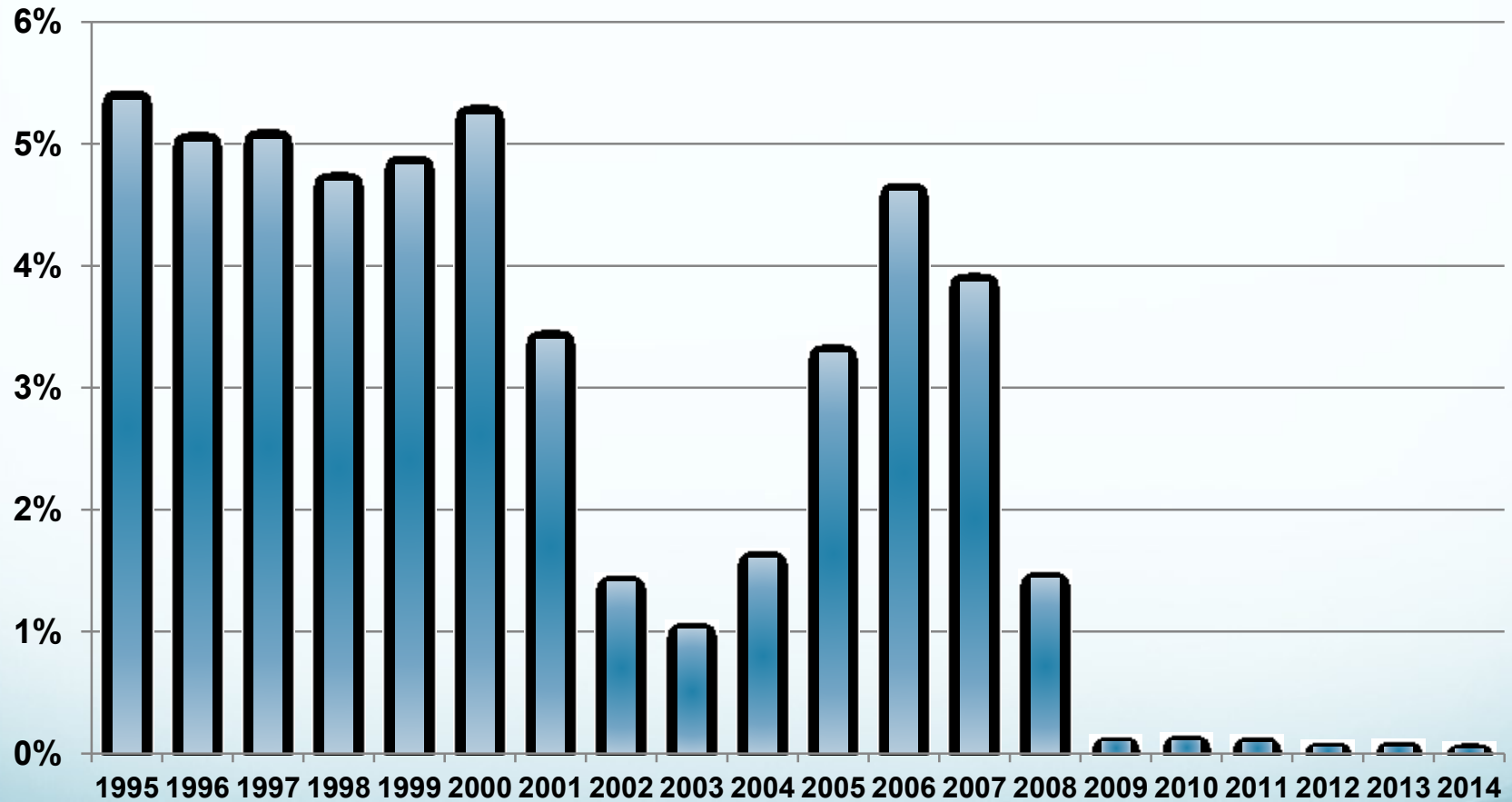
- **1986 Study by Gary Brinson et al., Updated 1991  
Survey of 82 major pension funds**
- **Contributions to variance in portfolio performance**
  - >91% Investment policy decisions**
    - i.e. deciding on asset classes and weights**
  - <5% Security selection within asset class**
    - i.e. stock picking**
  - <2% Market timing**



# The Major Asset Classes

- **Fixed Income**
  - **Cash and Cash Equivalents**
  - **Bonds**
- **Equities**
  - **Stocks**

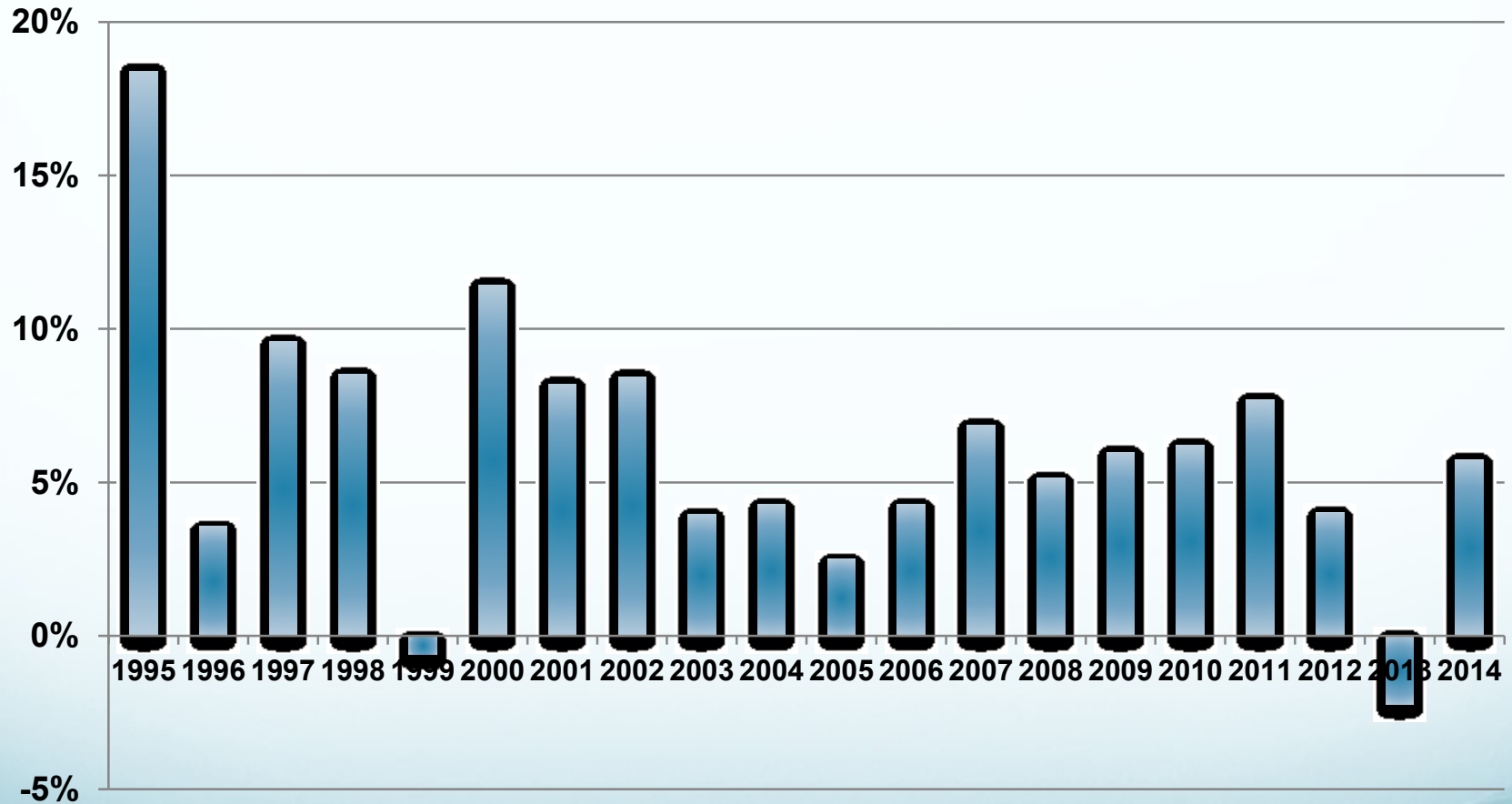
# Total Return for 3-Month T-Bills



# Characteristics for Cash and Cash Equivalents

- **Low return**  
Mean value of total return = 2.6%, CAGR = 2.5%
- **Low risk**  
Standard deviation = 2.1%
- **Sharpe ratio = 0**
- **Best year: 5.36% (1995)**
- **Worst year: 0.04% (2014)**
- **Number of down years: 0/20**

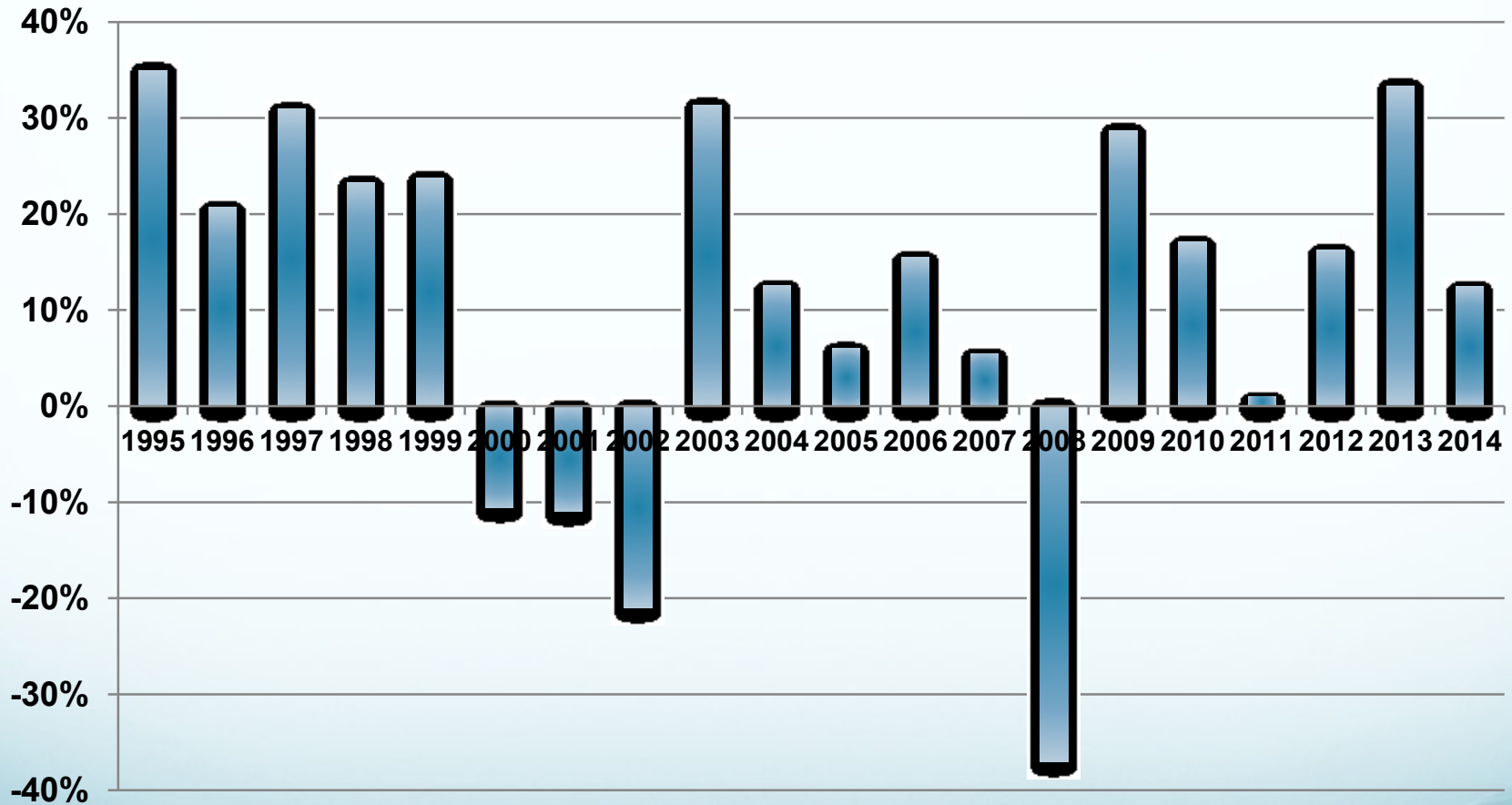
# Total Bond Market Fund, VBMFX



# Characteristics for Total Bond Market Fund, VBMTX

- Higher return than cash  
Mean value of total return = 6.1%, CAGR = 6.0%
- Higher risk  
Standard deviation = 4.4%
- Sharpe ratio = 0.81
- Best year: 18.4% (1995)
- Worst year: -2.2% (2013)
- Number of down years:  $2/20 = 10\%$

# Total Stock Market Fund, VTSMX



# Characteristics for Total Stock Market Fund, VTSMX

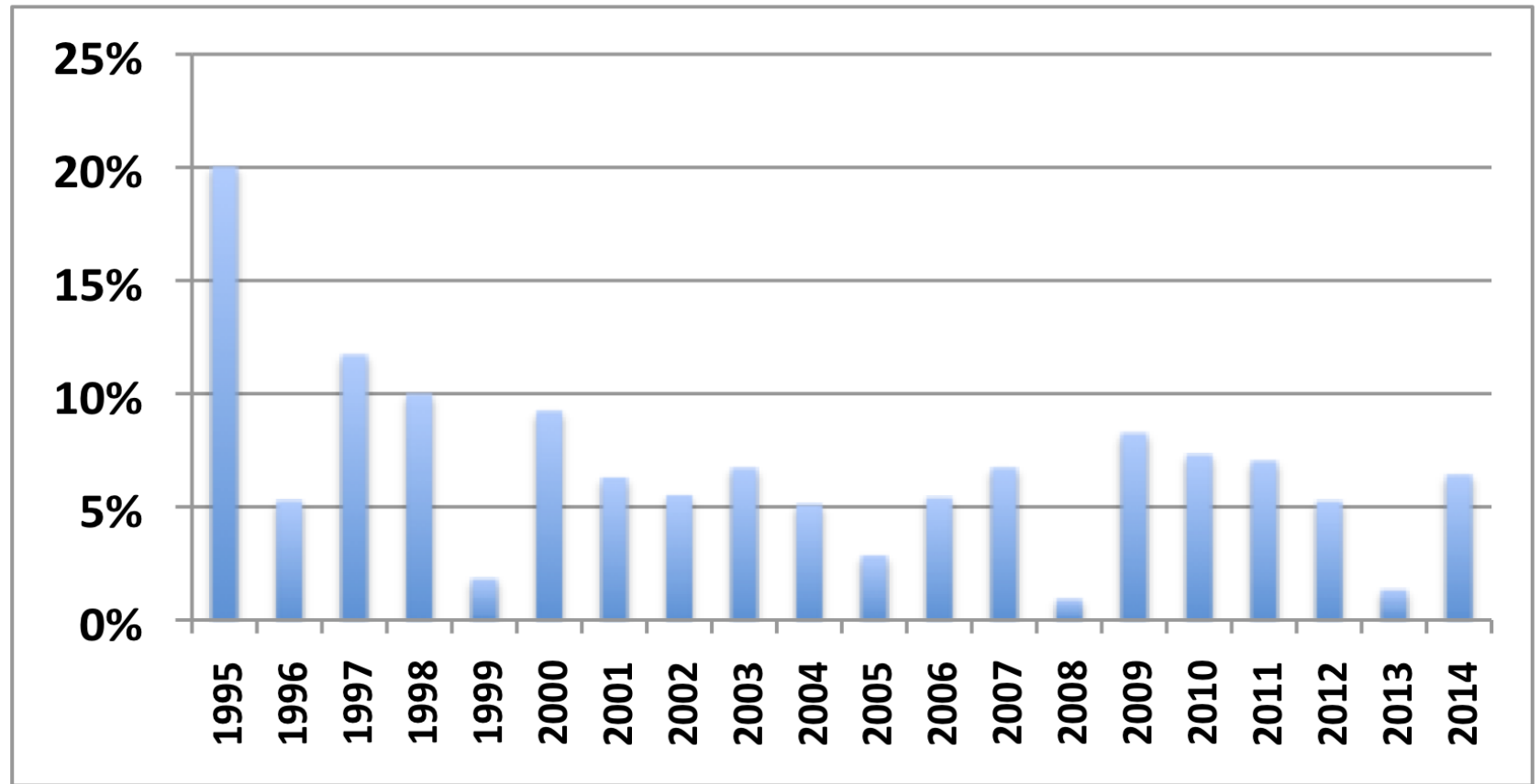
- Higher return than cash or bonds  
Mean value of total return = 11.7%, CAGR = 9.8%
- Significantly higher risk  
Standard deviation = 19.4%
- Sharpe ratio = 0.47
- Best year: 35.0% (1995)
- Worst year: -37.0% (2008)
- Number of down years: 4/20 = 20%

# An Experiment: Does The Theory Hold?

- Lets see if we can beat the risk-adjusted performance of the bond fund by blending in a little stock
- Vanguard Total Bond Market Index, VBIMX 90%
- Vanguard Total Stock Fund, VTSMX 10%



# Simple 2-Asset Portfolio 90% Bond Fund + 10% Stock Fund



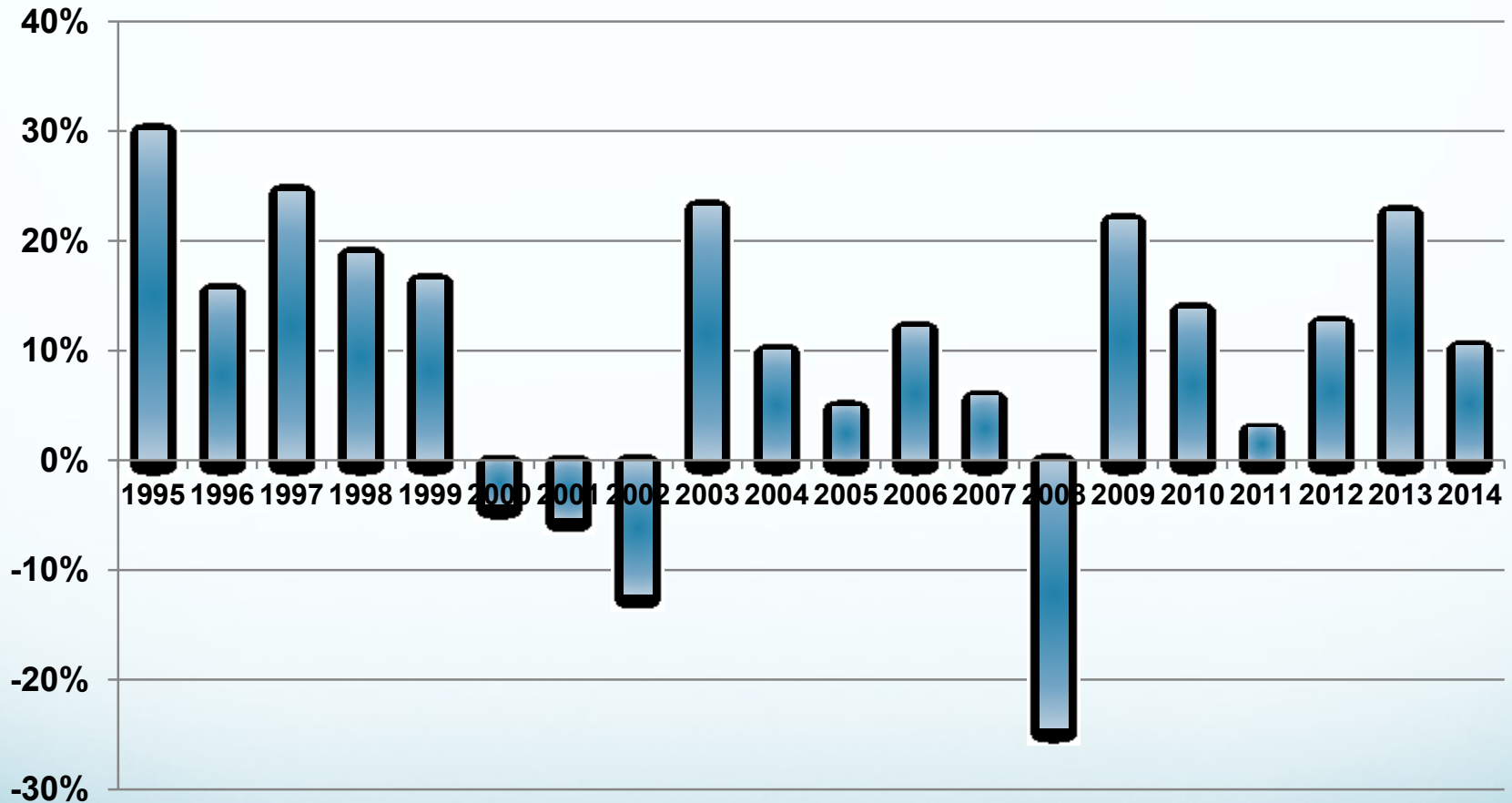
# Characteristics for Simple 2-Asset 90%B/10%S Portfolio

	<u>Bond Fund</u>	<u>Stock Fund</u>	<u>Portfolio</u>
Weight	90%	10%	100%
20yr CAGR	6.0%	9.8%	<b>6.6%</b>
Std Deviation	4.4%	19.4%	<b>4.2%</b>
Sharpe Ratio	0.81	0.47	<b>0.98</b>
Best year	18.4%	35.0%	20.0%
Worst year	-2.2%	-37.0%	1.3%
# Down years	2	4	<b>0</b>

# Need a higher return?

- What happens if we move farther up the risk curve to a portfolio with 30% fixed income and 70% equities?
- Vanguard Total Bond Market Index, VBIMX 30%
- Vanguard Total Stock Fund, VTSAX 70%

# Simple 2-Asset Portfolio 30% Bond Fund + 70% Stock Fund



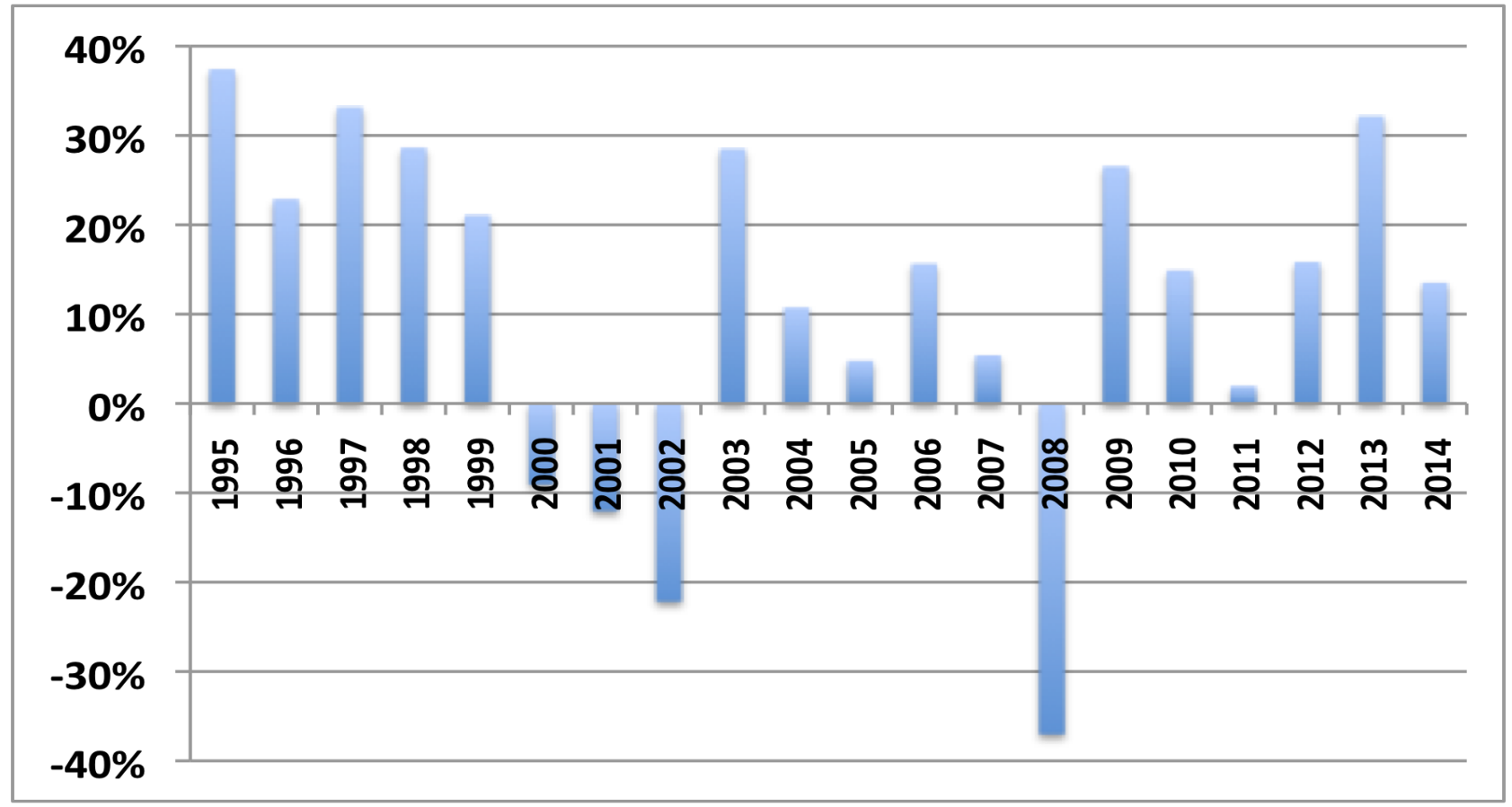
# Characteristics for Simple 2-Asset 30%B/70%S Portfolio

	<u>Bond Fund</u>	<u>Stock Fund</u>	<u>Portfolio</u>
Weight	30%	70%	100%
20yr CAGR	6.0%	9.8%	<b>9.2%</b>
Std Deviation	4.4%	19.4%	<b>13.5%</b>
Sharpe Ratio	0.81	0.47	<b>0.55</b>
Best year	18.4%	35.0%	30.0%
Worst year	-2.2%	-37.0%	-24.4%
# Down years	2	4	4

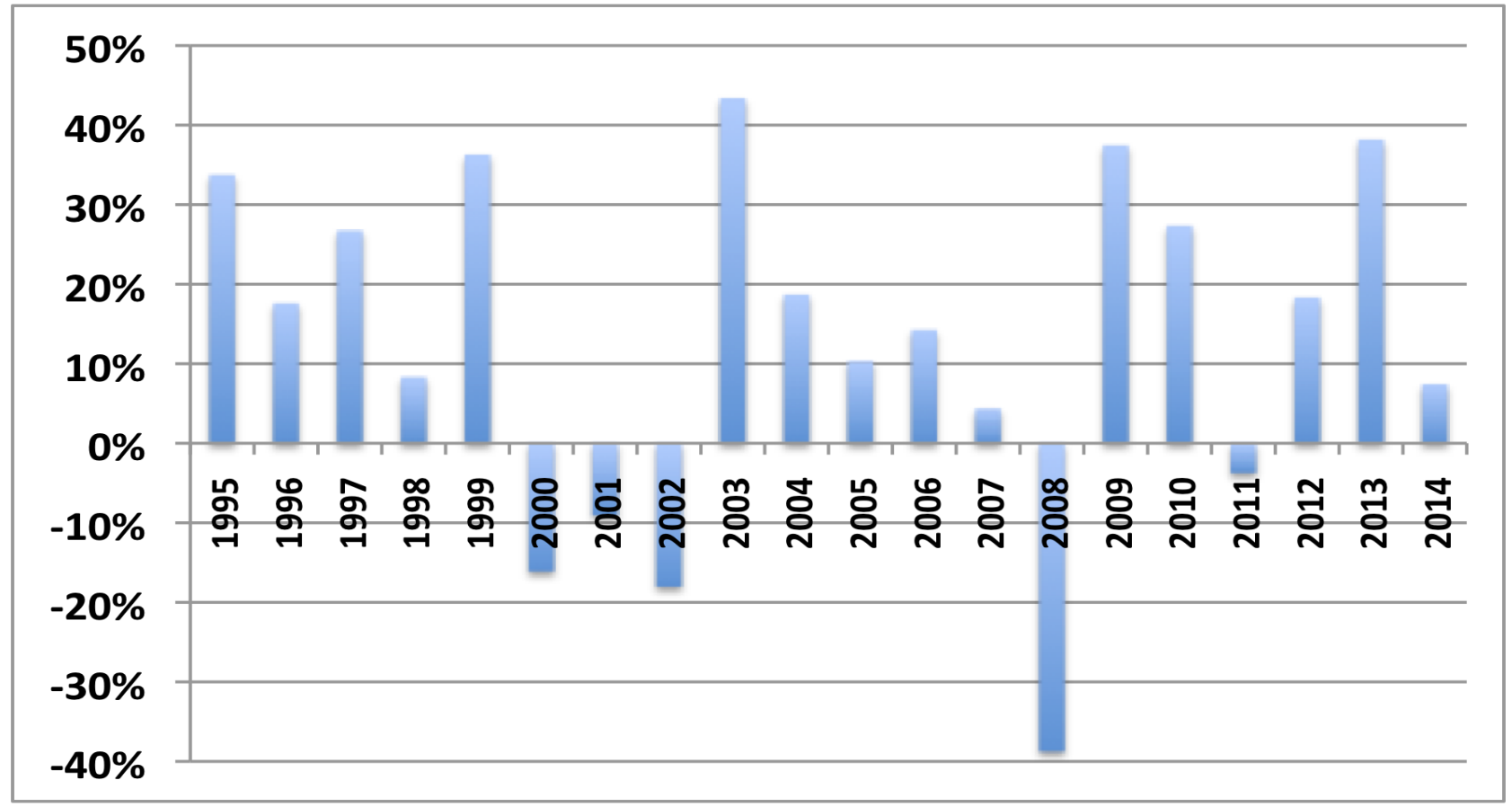
# How Can We Diversify Further?

- **Replace Total Stock Market Fund, VTSMX** **70%**
- **with large cap index**
  - Vanguard 500 Index, VFINX** **30%**
- **plus mid and small cap index**
  - Vanguard Extended Market Index, VEXMX** **30%**
- **plus real estate index**
  - Vanguard REIT Index Fund, VGSIX** **10%**

# Vanguard 500 Index, VFINX

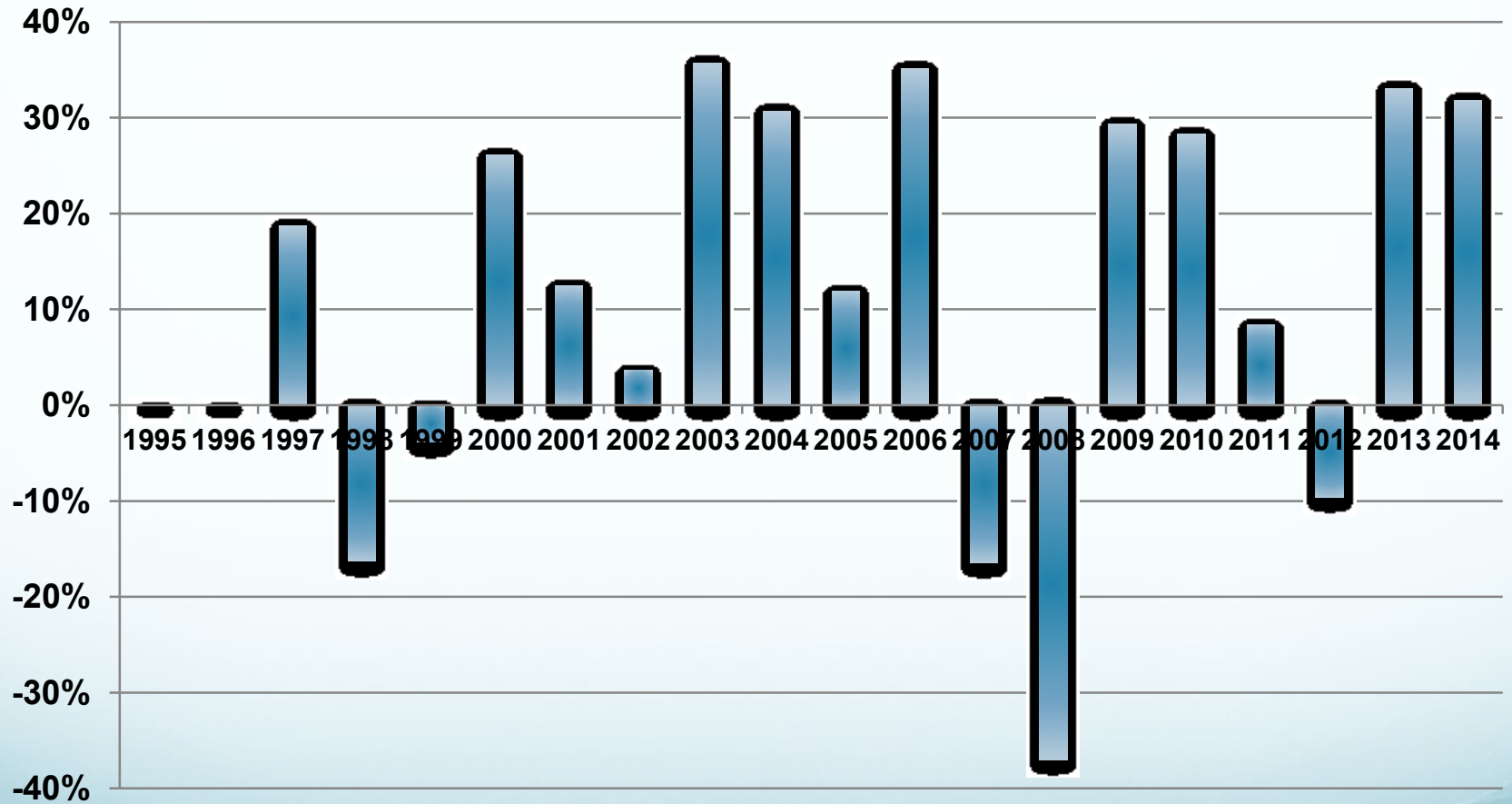


# Extended Market Index, VEXMX

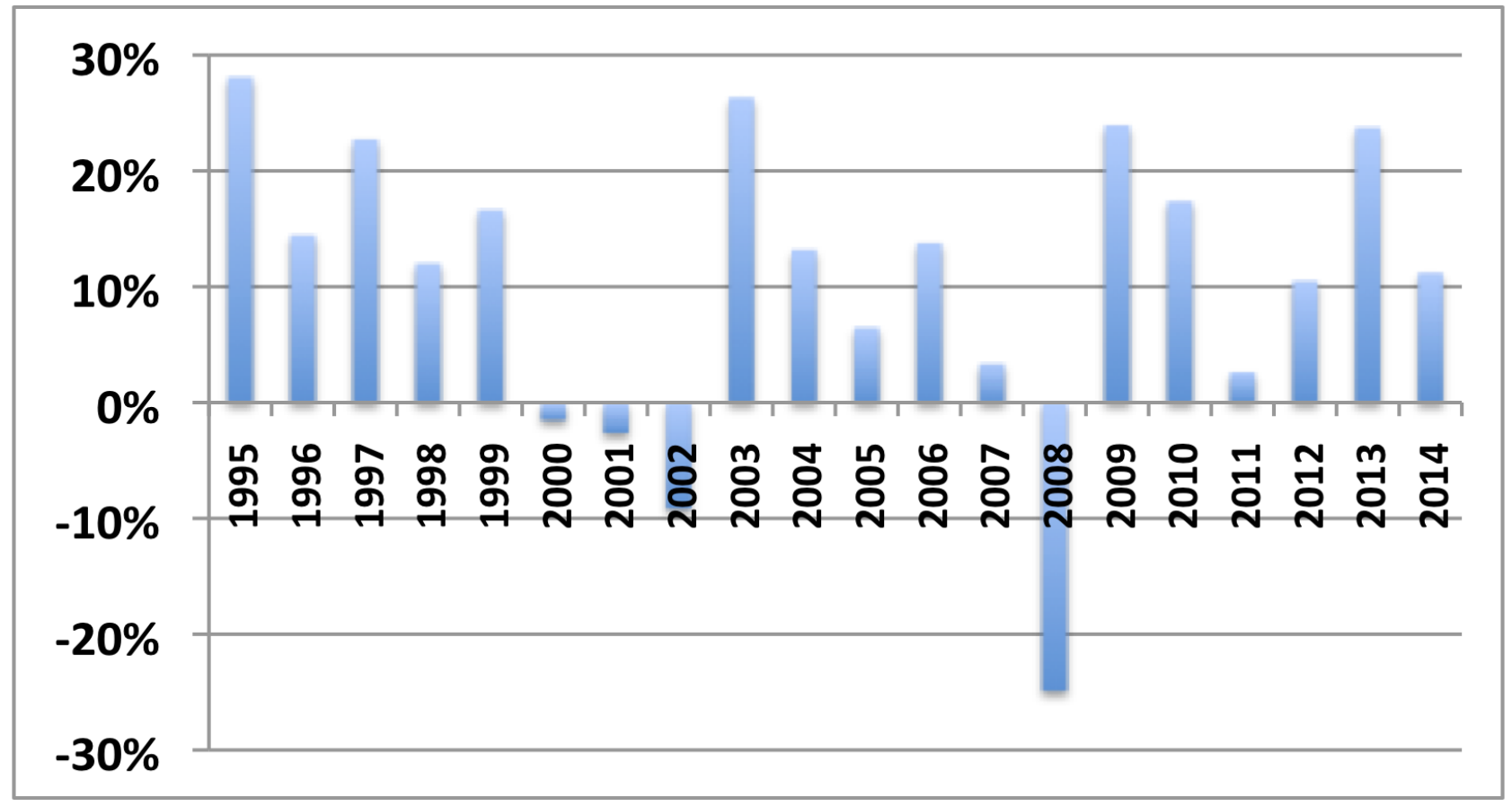




# REIT Index Fund, VGSIX



# Four Asset 30%B/70%S Portfolio



# Characteristics of 4-Asset 30%B/70%S Portfolio

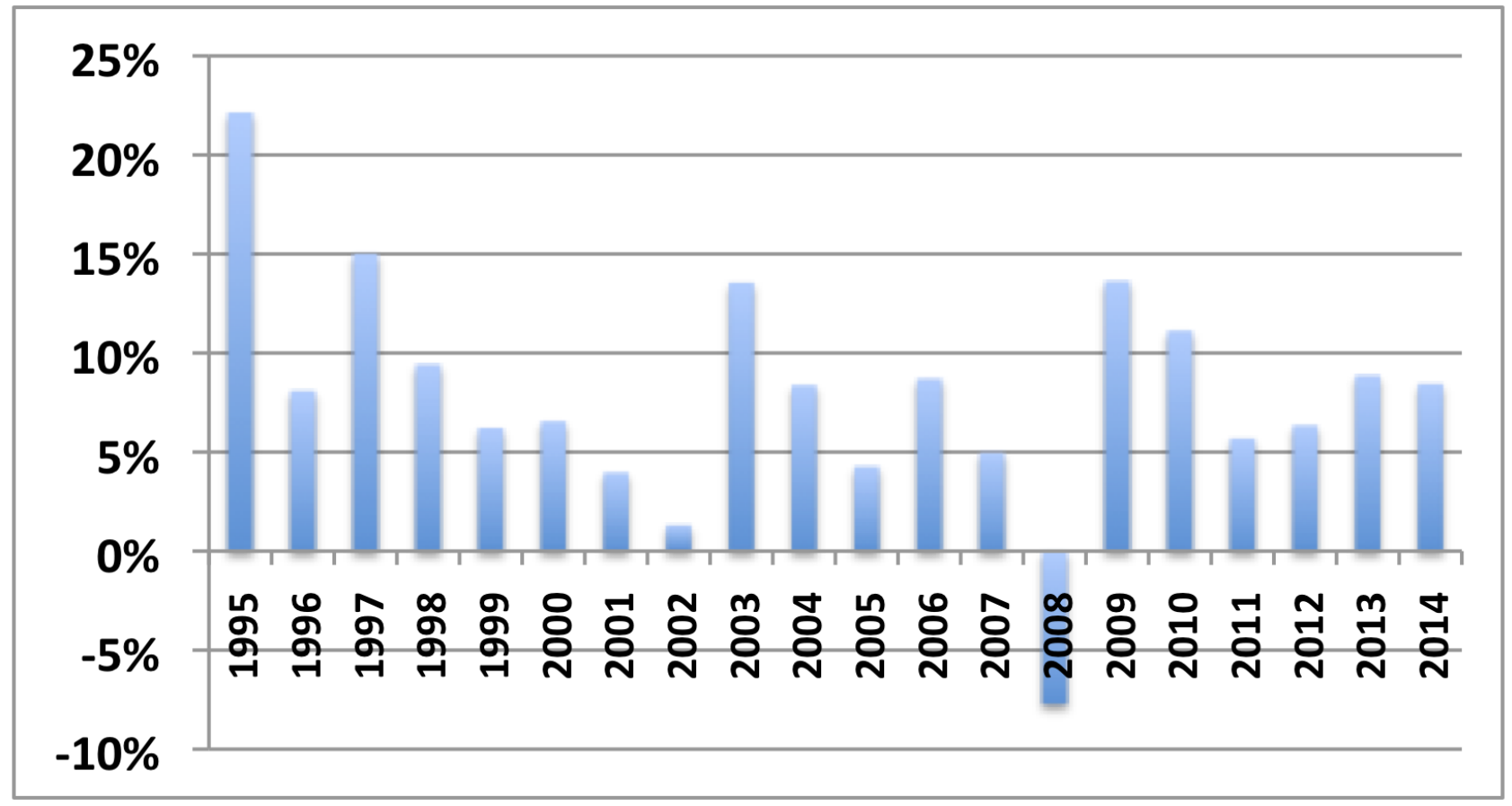
	<b>VBMFX</b>	<b>VFINX</b>	<b>VEXMX</b>	<b>VGSIX</b>	<b>Portfolio</b>
<b>Weight</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>CAGR</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>10.3%</b>	<b>9.6%</b>
<b>Std. Dev.</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>19.6%</b>	<b>21.8%</b>	<b>20.4%</b>	<b>13.1%</b>
<b>Sharpe</b>	<b>0.81</b>	<b>0.46</b>	<b>0.47</b>	<b>0.48</b>	<b>0.60</b>
<b>Best year</b>	<b>18.4%</b>	<b>37.4%</b>	<b>43.4%</b>	<b>35.7%</b>	<b>28.1%</b>
<b>Worst year</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>	<b>-37.0%</b>	<b>-38.7%</b>	<b>-37.0%</b>	<b>-24.9%</b>
<b># Down yrs</b>	<b>2/20</b>	<b>4/20</b>	<b>5/20</b>	<b>5/20</b>	<b>4/20</b>

# For Those With a Lower Risk Tolerance

- What if we switch to a 70%B/30%S portfolio?  
i.e. 70% fixed income and 30% equities

Vanguard Total Bond Market Index, VBMX	70%
Vanguard 500 Index, VFINX	12%
Vanguard Extended Market Index, VEXMX	12%
Vanguard REIT Index, VGSIX	6%

# Four Asset 70%B/30%S Portfolio



# Characteristics of 4-Asset 70%B/30%S Portfolio

	<b>VBMFX</b>	<b>VFINX</b>	<b>VEXMX</b>	<b>VGSIX</b>	<b>Portfolio</b>
<b>Weight</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>CAGR</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>10.3%</b>	<b>7.8%</b>
<b>Std. Dev.</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>19.6%</b>	<b>21.8%</b>	<b>20.4%</b>	<b>5.9%</b>
<b>Sharpe</b>	<b>0.81</b>	<b>0.46</b>	<b>0.47</b>	<b>0.48</b>	<b>0.91</b>
<b>Best year</b>	<b>18.4%</b>	<b>37.4%</b>	<b>43.4%</b>	<b>35.7%</b>	<b>22.1%</b>
<b>Worst year</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>	<b>-37.0%</b>	<b>-38.7%</b>	<b>-37.0%</b>	<b>-7.7%</b>
<b># Down years</b>	<b>2/20</b>	<b>4/20</b>	<b>5/20</b>	<b>5/20</b>	<b>1/20</b>

# Further Diversification

- **Fixed Income**
  - Short-term, Intermediate term, long-term bonds
  - Municipal bonds, High-yield (junk) bonds
  - International bonds
- **Domestic Equities**
  - Large cap, mid-cap, small cap stocks
  - Growth, blend, value stocks
- **International Equities**
  - Developed countries
  - Emerging markets

# Correlations of Major Asset Classes 1970-2012 (Craig Israelsen)

	Large US Equity	Small US Equity	Non-US Equity	US Bonds	Cash	REIT
Small US Equity	0.78					
Non-US Equity	0.66	0.55				
US Bonds	0.25	0.11	-0.01			
Cash	0.09	0.05	-0.01	0.26		
REIT	0.51	0.75	0.37	0.05	0.06	
Commodities	-0.06	-0.14	0.04	-0.13	0.13	-0.04



# The Vanguard “Lazy Portfolios”

	<b>Total Bond Mkt</b>	<b>Total Stk Mkt</b>	<b>Intl Stk Mkt</b>	<b>REIT</b>
<b>Rick Ferri</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Rick Ferri</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Bill Schulteis</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Scott Burns</b>	<b>0 + 33%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Rick Ferri</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>Bill Schulteis</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>10+10+10+10%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>William Bernstein</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>15+10+5+10%</b>	<b>5+5+5%</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>Frank Armstrong</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>7+9+6+9%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>David Swensen</b>	<b>15 + 15%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>15 + 10%</b>	<b>15%</b>

# A Really Cheap 6-Asset Portfolio: Matt Hougan's 8-bp ETF Portfolio

	<u>Exp. Ratio</u>
● 40% Schwab U.S. Broad Equity, SCHB	0.04%
● 30% Schwab International Equity, SCHF	0.08%
● 5% Schwab Emerg. Markets Equity, SCHE	0.14%
● 15% Schwab U.S. Aggregate Bond, SCHZ	0.06%
● 5% Schwab U.S. REIT, SCHH	0.07%
● 5% UBS ... Commodity ETN, DJCI	0.50%

# Craig Israelsen's 7Twelve Portfolio

- Equal 8.3% weighting of 12 assets in 7 classes
  - US Stock: Large cap, Mid cap, Small cap
  - Non-US Stock: Developed stock, Emerging stock
  - Real Estate
  - Resources: Natural resources, Commodities
  - US Bonds, Inflation protected bonds
  - Non-US Bonds
  - Cash

# Sample of Index Funds Available

	<u>Mutual Funds</u>	<u>ETFs</u>
<b>Total Bond Funds</b>	VBMFX	BND SCHZ IUSB
<b>Total US Stock Funds</b>	VTSMX	VTI ITOT SCHB
<b>Total Intl. Stock Funds</b>	VGTSX	VXUS EFA SCHF
<b>REIT Index Funds</b>	VGSIX	VNQ SCHH
<b>Commodities</b>	PRNEX	DJCI IGE GCC

# To Keep It Really Simple! One-Fund Portfolios

- **Balanced Funds**

- **Vanguard STAR Fund, VGSTX**

**37% Bonds, 44% US Stocks, 19% Intl. Stocks**

<b>CAGR (20 yrs)</b>	<b>9.3%</b>
<b>Std.Deviation</b>	<b>12.2%</b>
<b>Sharpe Ratio</b>	<b>0.61</b>
<b>Best year</b>	<b>28.7%</b>
<b>Worst year</b>	<b>-25.0%</b>
<b># Down years</b>	<b>2/20 = 10%</b>

# Another One-Fund Solution Target Date Funds

Allocation automatically becomes more conservative as you approach retirement age

Average % allocations of 10 largest funds:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2030</u>	<u>2035</u>	<u>2040</u>	<u>2045</u>	<u>2050</u>
Stocks	47	57	66	74	80	84	85	85
Bond	45	36	27	20	13	10	9	9
Cash	8	7	7	6	6	6	6	6

Vanguard Target Retirement Funds

Fidelity Freedom K Funds

T Rowe Price Target Retirement Funds

plus Alliance, PIMCO, Schwab, ING, etc., etc.

# Rebalancing Your Portfolio

- **Rebalancing is necessary to reduce risk**
- **Most helpful when it is most difficult**
  - Opposite of “Feed the winners and starve the losers”
- **Periodic or calendar driven: Rebalance annually**
  - Rebalancing more often is not useful
- **Threshold or data driven: Rebalance as necessary**
  - Check monthly or quarterly, but only rebalance when an actual asset allocation deviates from its strategic value by more than a predetermined amount, say 10% of the strategic value.

# Practical Aspects of Rebalancing

- **Use cash flows into or out of portfolio to rebalance**  
e.g. monthly contributions, RMDs, etc.
- **Do not reinvest dividend distributions**  
**Let dividends accumulate in money market account; then use this to make rebalancing purchases**
- **Many retirement plans offer automatic rebalancing**



# Topics Covered Today

- Modern Portfolio Theory
- Characteristics of asset classes
- Building and rebalancing your portfolio
- >>> **Your Investment Policy Statement**

# The Investment Policy Statement

- **Written agreement between the portfolio manager and client**
- **Outlines the general philosophy and objectives for managing the portfolio**
- **Summarizes who you are from your PIP**
  - Example: Long-term investor with moderately conservative risk tolerance**
- **Sets the rules and limitations.**

# Your IPS: Asset Allocation Policy

- Document your broad strategic asset allocation

Example:

Cash and cash equivalents	5%
Fixed income	25%
U.S. Equities	60%
International stocks	10%

- Diversify within asset classes
- Range for tactical allocation, if allowed  
Example: May deviate +/- 30% from strategic values as market conditions dictate
- Should not call out specific securities.

# Your IPS: Rebalancing Strategy

- **Rebalancing strategy:**
  - **Example: Monitor asset allocation quarterly**

**Rebalance if any allocation  
deviates from its target value  
by >10%**

# Your IPS: Prohibitions

- **Prohibition examples:**
  - **No single security >5% of total portfolio**
  - **No buying securities on margin**
  - **No short sales**
  - **No derivatives**
  - **No securities from French West Africa**
  - **No alcohol/tobacco stocks**

# Can you summarize your IPS in 10 words?

## Short Investing Philosophies

- **“If everyone wants it, I don’t. Avoid crowds”** Gus Sauter, The Vanguard Group
- **“Control what you can: your savings rate, costs, and taxes”** Don Phillips, Morningstar
- **“Other people are smarter than you think they are. Index”** Lawrence Siegel, CFA Institute
- **“Are you smarter than the average professional investor? Probably not”** William Sharpe, Nobel Laureate
- **“Build a diversified portfolio of cheap index funds; rebalance diligently”** FS

# Rick Ferri's

## 6 Rules for Disciplined Investing

1. Have a long-term investment philosophy.
2. Form a prudent asset allocation based on this philosophy.
3. Select low-cost funds to represent asset classes in the allocation.
4. Maintain this portfolio through all market conditions.
5. Don't change the asset allocation due to recent market activity.
6. Don't hold back on new investments while waiting for market clarity.

# In Summary

- **Today we covered**
  - **Modern Portfolio Theory**
  - **Characteristics of asset classes**
  - **Building and rebalancing your portfolio**
  - **Your Investment Policy Statement**



## Next Month We Will Cover ...

### Active versus Passive Investment Strategies

- **Passive Investor**  
Seeks to replicate the market at minimum cost
- **Active Investor**  
Everyone who is not a passive investor  
Seeks to beat the market
- **How to decide where you stand**

# Before Next Month's Workshop ...

- **Review your PIP from last month and revise it if necessary**
- **Write your Investment Policy Statement, IPS, and add it to your “All About Me” folder**
- **Consider your position on the active versus passive strategy debate. Keep an open mind!**

# To Probe Further

- **The Importance of Diversification in Retirement Portfolios, Craig Israelsen, AAll Journal, April 2015**
- **The Benefits of Diversification, Jeremy Stempien, Morningstar magazine, April/May 2015**
- **The Advantages of Simple Allocation Strategies, Wesley Gray, AAll Journal, November 2015**
- **Choosing the Right Portfolio Allocation Approach for You, Charles Rotblut, AAll Journal, October 2014**
- **Portfolio Selection, Harry Markowitz, Journal of Finance, 1952**
- **Determinants of Portfolio Performance, Gary Brinson, Randolph Hood and Gilbert Beewater, Financial Analysts Journal, July/August 1986 and May/June 1991**
- **Best Practices for Portfolio Rebalancing, Colleen Jaconetti, Francis Kinniry, and Yan Zilbering, AAll Journal, May 2011**
- **Should you rebalance your portfolio? Consumer Reports Money Adviser, March 2015**
- **Defining Your Investment Philosophy, Ben Carlson, AAll Journal, Nov. 2015**

# Useful Websites

- [www.aaii.com](http://www.aaii.com) Broad selection of investing material
- [www.santaclaracountylib.org/Adults/Business & Money](http://www.santaclaracountylib.org/Adults/Business%20&%20Money)  
Morningstar Investment Research Center  
Standard & Poors NetAdvantage  
Value Line
- [www.vanguard.com](http://www.vanguard.com) [www.fidelity.com](http://www.fidelity.com)
- [www.schwab.com](http://www.schwab.com) [www.tdameritrade.com](http://www.tdameritrade.com)
- [www.bogleheads.com](http://www.bogleheads.com) Lazy Portfolio data
- [www.7TwelvePortfolio.com](http://www.7TwelvePortfolio.com) Craig Israelsen's portfolio
- [www.rickferri.com](http://www.rickferri.com) Rick Ferri blog
- [www.obvliviousinvestor.com](http://www.obvliviousinvestor.com) Mike Piper blog

# Lighthearted Food for Thought .....

## The Motley Fool's Financial Rules

- **Imagine all the stuff you'd have to make up if you were forced to talk 24/7. Remember this when watching financial news on TV.**
- **Don't let Washington sway your investment decisions. Congress has been a dysfunctional swamp of disappointment since 1789, and stocks have done well ever since.**
- **The role of stock forecasters is to make fortune tellers look good. Warren Buffet**
- **The correlation between confidence and future regret is incredibly high.**

# Don't Listen to the Talking Heads!

**DILBERT** | Scott Adams

