



CLIENT RESOURCE KIT

WARS, GEOPOLITICAL SHOCKS

& THE STOCK MARKET

War Times & The Stock Market

S&P 500 Index

First Trust

Wars and conflicts have been a constant throughout history, however recent events might cause us to look at how the stock market has performed during past times of war. The chart below shows the S&P 500 Index level since 1928 and several of the major wars and conflicts since then. Though uncertainty may temporarily shape the market, we believe seeing the market's overall resiliency can help maintain a long-term perspective.



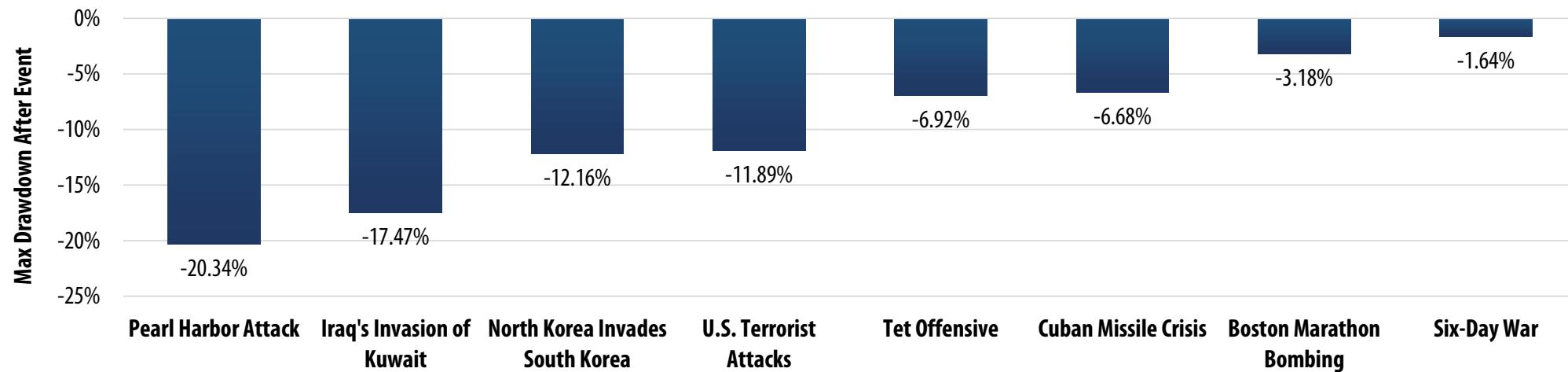
Source: First Trust, S&P CapIQ, Bloomberg. Monthly index levels from 1928 - 2025. **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.** This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of 500 companies used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. Investors cannot invest directly in an index.

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U.S. Stock Market Returns After Major Geopolitical Shocks



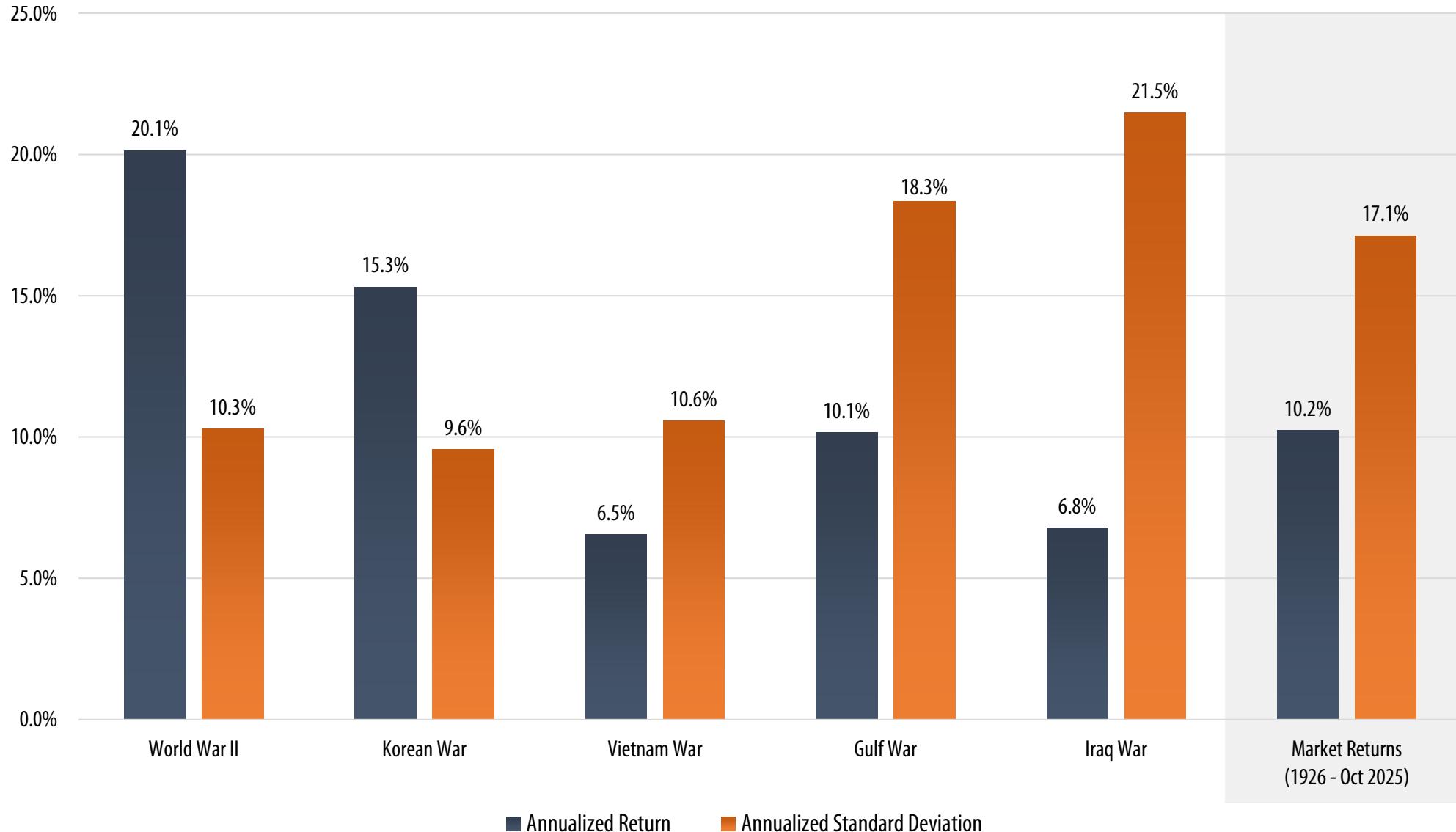
Geopolitical Shock	Event Date	1-Day Return	1-Year Return	Max Drawdown	Days Until Bottom	Days Until Recovery
Israel-Hamas War	10/7/2023*	0.60%	34.88%	No Initial Dip	No Initial Dip	No Initial Dip
Russia Invades Ukraine	2/24/2022	1.89%	-5.13%	No Initial Dip	No Initial Dip	No Initial Dip
Boston Marathon Bombing	4/15/2013	-2.48%	19.49%	-3.18%	4	14
U.S. Terrorist Attacks	9/11/2001	-5.01%	-13.75%	-11.89%	11	30
Iraq's Invasion of Kuwait	8/2/1990	-1.19%	13.66%	-17.47%	71	187
Tet Offensive	1/30/1968	-0.54%	15.43%	-6.92%	36	69
Six-Day War	6/5/1967	-1.64%	19.36%	-1.64%	1	1
Cuban Missile Crisis	10/16/1962	-0.31%	30.91%	-6.68%	8	17
North Korea Invades South Korea	6/25/1950	-5.27%	20.03%	-12.16%	19	59
Pearl Harbor Attack	12/7/1941	-4.15%	3.70%	-20.34%	142	304



Source: First Trust, Ken French Data Library. Ken French data library uses the CRSP database. **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.** *Since the market was closed on 10/7/2023, 10/6/2023 was used for the event date returns. Universe includes all New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), American Stock Exchange (AMEX) & NASDAQ stocks. Returns are market-cap weighted. An investor cannot invest directly in an index. The information presented is not intended to constitute an investment recommendation for, or advice to, any specific person. By providing this information, First Trust is not undertaking to give advice in any fiduciary capacity within the meaning of ERISA, the Internal Revenue Code or any other regulatory framework. Financial professionals are responsible for evaluating investment risks independently and for exercising independent judgment in determining whether investments are appropriate for their clients.

U.S. Stock Market Returns During Major Wars

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Source: First Trust, Ken French Data Library. **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.** Total market returns use data from 7/1/1926–10/31/2025 (latest data available). Ken French data library uses the CRSP database. Universe includes all New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), American Stock Exchange (AMEX) & NASDAQ stocks. Returns are market-cap weighted. Dates used for each war are as follows: World War II: 12/8/1941–9/2/1945; Korean War: 6/27/1950–7/27/1953; Vietnam War: 3/8/1965–3/29/1973; Gulf War: 8/2/1990–2/28/1991; Iraq War: 3/20/2003–12/15/2011. Standard deviation is the measure of dispersion of historical returns around a mean rate of return, and a lower standard deviation indicates less volatility. An investor cannot invest directly in an index.

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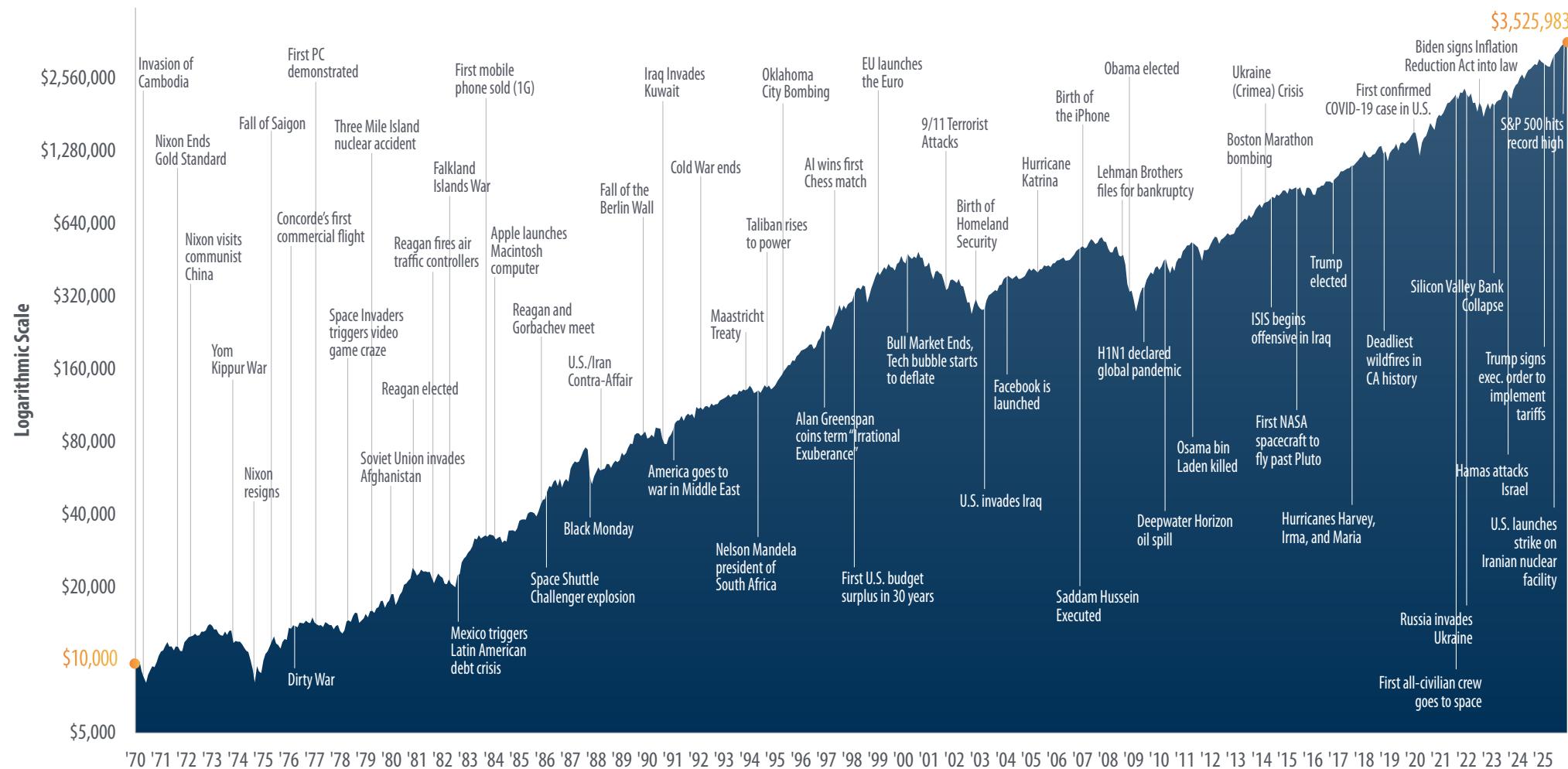
Crises and Events

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S&P 500 Index: Since 1970

This chart shows the growth of \$10,000 based on S&P 500 Index performance over the last several decades. We believe looking at the market's overall resiliency through major crises and events helps to gain a fresh perspective on the benefits of investing for the long-term.

The average annual total return of the S&P 500 Index for the period shown below was 11.04%.



Source: First Trust, Bloomberg. Data from 12/31/1969 - 12/31/2025. **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.** This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of 500 companies used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. Investors cannot invest directly in an index. Index returns do not reflect any fees, expenses, or sales charges. Stocks are not guaranteed and have been more volatile than the other asset classes. These returns were the result of certain market factors and events which may not be repeated in the future.

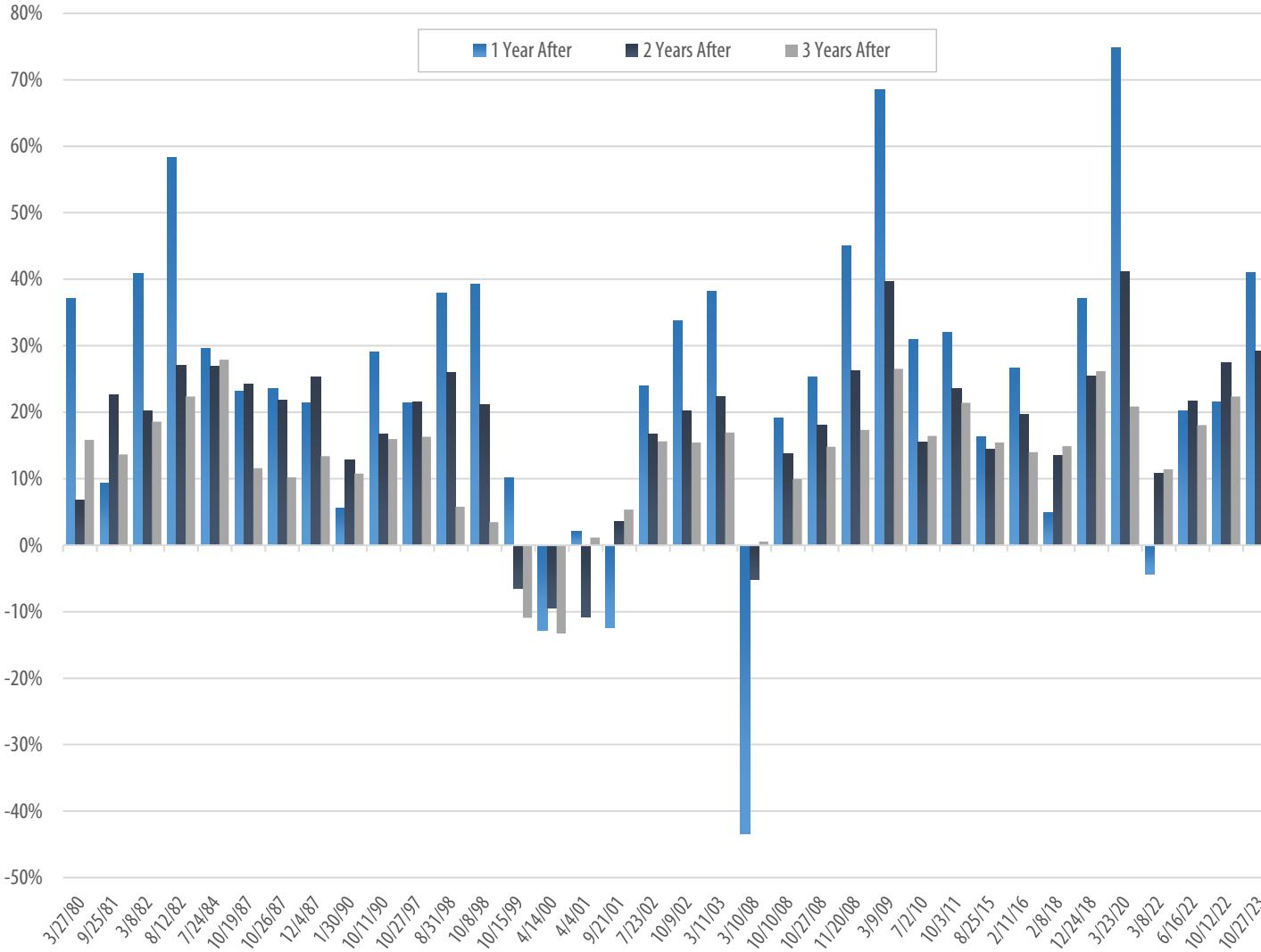
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Stock Market Corrections & Subsequent Year Returns

S&P 500 Index

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S&P 500 INDEX PRICE RETURNS 1, 2 & 3 YEARS AFTER A MARKET CORRECTION



Source: First Trust, Bloomberg. As of 12/31/2025. Performance is price return only (no dividends). **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.** For illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. Market correction: When the market fell at least 10% from its recent peak. Index returns do not reflect any fees, expenses, or sales charges. These returns were the result of certain market factors and events which may not be repeated in the future. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of 500 companies used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. Investors cannot invest directly in an index. The information presented is not intended to constitute an investment recommendation for, or advice to, any specific person. By providing this information, First Trust is not undertaking to give advice in any fiduciary capacity within the meaning of ERISA, the Internal Revenue Code or any other regulatory framework. Financial professionals are responsible for evaluating investment risks independently and for exercising independent judgment in determining whether investments are appropriate for their clients.