

Highest and Lowest Average Annual Returns for Stocks and Bonds for Various Holding Periods — 1926 to 2007

This chart compares the highest and lowest annual returns achieved by stocks and bonds for 1-year, 3-year, 5-year, 10-year, 15-year, 20-year, and 30-year holding periods from January 1, 1926, to December 31, 2007.



Source: ChartSource, Standard & Poor's Financial Communications. Stocks are represented by the total returns of Standard & Poor's Composite Index of 500 Stocks, an unmanaged index that is generally considered representative of the U.S. stock market. Bonds are represented by long-term U.S. government bonds, based on a composite constructed from yields published by the Federal Reserve and the Lehman Brothers Long-Term Government Bond index. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. (CS000041)