Pyramid Distribution of US Equity Returns: 1825 - 2010

Positive years: 131 (70%) Negative years: 55 (30%)

					,					
				2007						
				2005						
				1994						
				1993						
				1992						
				1987						
				1984						
				1978						
				1970	2010					
				1960	2006					
				1956	2004					
				1948	1988					
				1947	1986					
				1923	1979					
				1916	1972					
				1912	1971					
			2000	1911	1968					
			1990	1906	1965					
			1981	1902	1964					
			1977	1899	1959					
			1969	1896	1952					
			1962	1895	1949	2009				
			1953	1894	1944	2003				
			1946	1891	1926	1999				
			1940	1889	1921	1998				
			1939	1887	1919	1996				
			1934	1881	1918	1983				
			1932	1877	1905	1982				
		2001	1929	1875	1904	1976				
		1973	1914	1874	1898	1967				
		1966	1913	1872	1897	1963	1997			
		1957	1903	1871	1892	1961	1995			
		1941	1890	1870	1886	1951	1991			
		1920	1887	1869	1878	1943	1989			
		1917	1883	1868	1864	1942	1985			
		1910	1882	1867	1858	1925	1980			
		1893	1876	1866	1855	1924	1975			
		1884	1861	1865	1850	1922	1955			
	2002	1873	1860	1859	1849	1915	1950			
	1974	1854	1853	1856	1848	1909	1945	1050	1054	
	1974	1841 1837	1851 1845	1844 1842	1847 1838	1901 1900	1938 1936	1958 1935	1954 1933	
	1930	1837	1835	1842	1834	1880	1936	1935	1933	
08	1857	1828	1833	1840	1834	1852	1927	1863	1885	
108 137	1837	1828	1833	1836	1832	1852	1830	1863	1862	
5/	1029	1023	102/	1020	1029	1040	1000	1043	1002	_

-50 to -40 -40 to -30 -30 to -20 -20 to -10 -10 to 0 0 to 10 10 to 20 20 to 30 30 to 40 40 to 50 50 to 60

Percentage Total Return

This is a graph that shows the distribution of returns from 1825 to 2008 for the US stock market.

Note that different indices were used (and index data collection methodologies) depending on the time period.

The S&P 500 Index was used from 1957 onwards and its predecessor S&P Index for the period from 1923 to 1957.

The data prior to that was computed by William Goetzmann, Roger Ibbotson et al., Source: "A new historical

database for the NYSE 1815 to 1925: Performance and predictability", Journal of Financial Markets, Volume 4, Issue 1, January 2001, Pages 1-32. Source: Markets Tools, Value Square Asset Management, Yale University