## Using the Historical Asset Allocation Report with Clients

This document explains the data available in the Historical Asset Allocation report, and how **Overview** to use it with clients.

The Historical Asset Allocation report reviews the past performance of a portfolio over the trailin 15 year-period, as well as how it would have performed in both short-term and long-term bear markets.

First, let's look at the Growth asset allocation mix in question:



This asset allocation calls for 85% of its assets allocated to stocks, and just 15% for fixed income holdings. This is a high-risk, high-reward approach to investing.

The graphic above was taken from the Target Asset Allocation report for the client.

The first graph on this report shows the performance of the proposed asset allocation, the S&P 500 index and Lehman Brothers' Aggregate Bond index.

## Long Term Performance



For the Growth asset allocation model (above), you can see that this mix is likely to track, but slightly trail, the S&P 500 index. Also, over the past 15 years, this asset allocation has seen more peaks and valleys than that experienced by the fixed-income index.

The table to the right of the graph shows that \$100,000 invested in this asset allocaiton mix 15 years ago would have returned 9.89% annually, for a total value of \$411,727. That's the good news. For the other side of the coin, see the section below on the asset allocation model's Bear Market Performance.

This section contains two graphs illustrating how this asset allocation mix would have performed during a bear market.

Bear Market Performance - Long Term

The first graph shows the bear market period from October 2000-September 2002. This period immediately followed the bursting of the Internet tech bubble.



Here you can see that during this period, the asset allocation mix again closely tracks the S&P 500 index. This time, though, both the asset mix and the index lose money over this two-year period, while the fixed-income index grows in value over these two years.

Also, in the table to the right, you can see that although the Standard Deviation for these two years is similar to the Long-Term Performance, during this period, the portfolio loses over a third of its value.

The second graph in this section shows the reaction of the asset allocation mix over short-term periods. In this case, we can see the performance over the three-month period from July-September 1998.

## Bear Market Performance - Short Term



This period marks a precipitous drop over a single quarter. Here, the asset allocation mix lost almost 9% of its value, and played out over an entire year, it would have lost over a quarter of its value.

While the clients will likely be thrilled to see the rise in value demonstrated in the Long-Term performance, be sure to point out the many valleys along the way.

## Assessing the report

In both Bear Market scenarios, the clients needs to honestly assess how they would feel about experiencing these downswings in their portfolio's value. Are they comfortable with sustaining losses over a potentially protracted period?