MAY 2025

PRIVATE EQUITY

Diversifying Investor Portfolios

Private equity has been a cornerstone of institutional investor portfolios for decades, historically providing enhanced returns with lower volatility, diversification, and downside mitigation. With nearly 90% of companies privately held,⁽¹⁾ private equity offers access to a vast opportunity set. Private equity emphasizes long-term value creation through operational improvements and strategic growth initiatives, which can make it a powerful tool for all environments, including when navigating uncertainty. With recent structural innovations making private equity more accessible to individual investors, it can now serve as a core building block in portfolios.

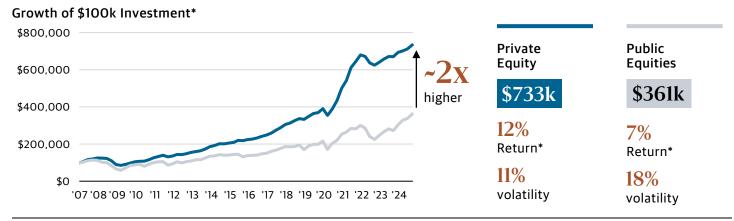
Historically, private equity has offered:



In today's volatile market environment, investors may wish to consider private equity for their own portfolios.

Outperformance

Historically, private equity has delivered higher returns with lower volatility than public equities.



Any product is subject to the risk of capital loss. Diversification does not ensure a profit or protect against losses. There is no guarantee that any product will achieve its aims or objectives or avoid substantial losses. There is no assurance that any product will effectively hedge inflation.

* Cambridge Associates, as of September 31, 2024. Growth of \$100,000 based on cumulative returns from January 1, 2004, to September 30, 2024, based on earliest common inception date. **Past performance does not predict future returns.** "Private Equity" is represented by the pooled returns of the Cambridge US Private Equity Index, which is comprised of 2042 PE funds, including fully liquidated partnerships, formed between 2004 and 2024. "Public Equities" are represented by the Cambridge Modified Public Market Equivalent ("PME") analysis of the MSCI ACWI Index. Comparisons of private equity performance to public equity performance is therefore based on the difference in performance between Cambridge US Private Equity Index IRR and the hypothetical PME return of the MSCI ACWI Index. Hypothetical PME index performance may differ materially from the performance of such index during the same time period on account of the adjustments made for the timing of cash flows as per the PME analysis. Returns shown above have been compounded quarter over quarter to show comparison over time and may not be representative of actual historical returns experienced by investors in either private equity or public equities. See Endnote 3 on page 3 for additional information on the PME calculation methodology. Private equity assets are expected to face risks different than those faced by public equities, including significantly less liquidity, as private equity assets generally do not have liquid markets and greater risk of default and related risk of loss of principal. Additionally, investments in private equity are speculative and often include a higher degree of risk. Indices are provided for illustrative purposes only, and there are significant risks and limitations." These indices have been selected as generally well-known and widely recognized indices and not as a benchmark for any specific fund. Additionally, investments in private infrastructure are specific fund. Additionally, investments in private infrastructure are specific

Portfolio Diversification

Private equity can potentially provide diversification⁽¹⁾ from public equities, with the potential for outperformance. It has also shown resilience and downside mitigation during market downturns, such as 2018 and 2022.

Public vs. Private Equity: Annual Returns of Key Indices Ranked in Order of Performance⁽⁴⁾

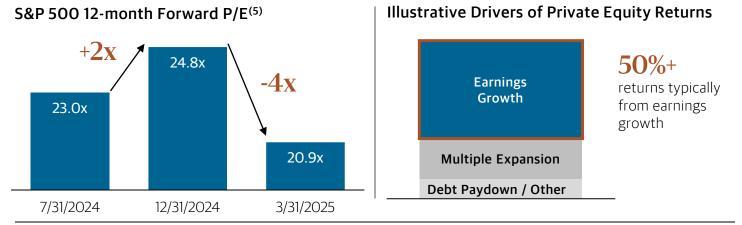
10 Years (2014-2023)

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2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Return*
13.8% US Private Equity	10.3% US Private Equity	21.3% US Small Cap Equities	24.6% Global Equities	12.3% US Private Equity	31.5% US Large Cap Equities	29.1% US Private Equity	41.8% US Private Equity	-4.2% US Private Equity	26.3% US Large Cap Equities	15.8% US Private Equity
13.7% US Large Cap Equities	1.4% US Large Cap Equities	12.3% US Private Equity	21.8% US Large Cap Equities	- 4.4% US Large Cap Equities	27.3% Global Equities	20.0% US Small Cap Equities	28.7% US Large Cap Equities	-18.0% Global Equities	22.8% Global Equities	12.0% US Large Cap Equities
4.9% US Small Cap Equities	-1.8% Global Equities	12.0% US Large Cap Equities	20.5% US Private Equity	- 8.9% Global Equities	25.5% US Small Cap Equities	18.4% US Large Cap Equities	19.0% Global Equities	-18.1% US Large Cap Equities	16.9% US Small Cap Equities	8.5% Global Equiti
4.7% Global Equities	- 4.4% US Small Cap Equities	8.5% Global Equities	14.6% US Small Cap Equities	-11.0% US Small Cap Equities	18.5% US Private Equity	16.8% Global Equities	14.8% US Small Cap Equities	-20.4% US Small Cap Equities	9.3% US Private Equity	7.2% US Small Cap Equities

Past performance does not predict future returns. There can be no assurance any alternative asset classes will achieve their objectives or avoid significant losses. The volatility and risk profile of the indices is likely materially different from that of a fund. The indices employ different investment guidelines/criteria than a fund and do not employ leverage; a fund's holdings and the liquidity of such holdings may differ significantly from securities comprising the indices. The indices aren't subject to fees / expenses, and it may not be possible to invest in the indices. The indices' performance has not been selected to represent an appropriate benchmark to compare to a fund's performance, but rather is disclosed to allow for comparison to that of well-known and widely recognized indices.* Total return is calculated over the period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2023. Morningstar computes total return using the trailing quarterly returns for the appropriate time period. See Endnotes and "Important Disclosure Information" including "Index Comparisons," "Opinions," and "Trends."

Long-Term Value Creation

- Public equities can experience heightened volatility driven by rapid expansions and contractions in price-to-earnings (P/E) multiples
- In contrast, the private equity model focuses on driving earnings growth through strategic transformations, such as growing revenue by introducing new products or services, expanding into new markets, or managing costs through improving operational efficiency and optimizing supply chains
- We believe earnings growth can offer a more reliable and consistent source of returns than multiple expansion, underpinning private equity's outperformance over time



Diversification does not ensure a profit or protect against losses. The information herein is provided for educational purposes only and should not be construed as financial or investment advice, nor should any information in this document be relied on when making an investment decision. Recipients should consult their own financial advisers regarding the information herein.

* Total return is calculated over the period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2023. Morningstar computes total return using the trailing quarterly returns for the appropriate time period. See Endnotes and "Important Disclosure Information" including "Index Comparisons," "Opinions," and "Trends."

Total

Considerations Before Allocating

Ultimately, private market investing means active ownership of less liquid assets, as value creation takes time. Liquidity needs at the total portfolio level are one important consideration before allocating to private equity. In addition, manager selection may be of particular importance given the wider dispersion of returns compared to public markets. Key manager attributes include scale, staying power and a long track record.

Endnotes

- (1) Capital IQ, November 2023. Represents the share of companies based on the total number of public and private companies in North America, Europe, and Asia that have reported revenues 2023, 2022, or 2021 fiscal year revenues greater than \$250M per Capital IQ's company database.
- (2) PME data contained herein was generated by Cambridge Associates' PME tool as of September, 2024, and was not calculated by Blackstone. PME methodology replicates the date and amount of cash flows from Cambridge Private Equity Index capital calls or distributions in a public market index (i.e., MSCI ACWI). There are multiple PME calculation methodologies that can be used to compare private and public markets, and the use of a different PME calculation methodology may result in a different outcome than the one shown here. Cambridge Associates' Private Investments Database is a collection of private fund performance including the performance of buyout, growth equity, private equity energy and subordinated capital funds. The private fund and investment-level performance information is drawn from the quarterly and audited annual financial statements of the fund managers and each manager's reported performance numbers are independently recreated from the financial statements and verified by Cambridge Associates.
- (3) Source: Morningstar, Cambridge Associates. Represents the annual returns for the respective calendar year, ranked in order of performance as of 2023. The asset classes presented are based on the following indices: Cambridge Associates US Private Equity Index for US Private Equity. MSCI ACWI Index for Global Equities. S&P 500 Index for US Large Cap Equities. Russell 2000 Index for US Small Cap Equities. A summary of the investment guidelines for the indices are available upon request. In the case of equity indices, performance of the indices reflects the reinvestment of dividends. The indices are not necessarily the top performing indices in the given asset class and recipients should consider this when comparing the performance of any fund or investment to that of the indices. See "Important Disclaimer Information," including "Index Comparison."
- (4) Source: Bloomberg. Represents S&P 500 12-month forward PE returns as of March 31, 2025.

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MSCI ACWI Index: MSCI ACWI Index represents all global public equity markets. The MSCI ACWI ex US Index excludes the US equity market. "ACWI" is an acronym for All Country World Index.

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