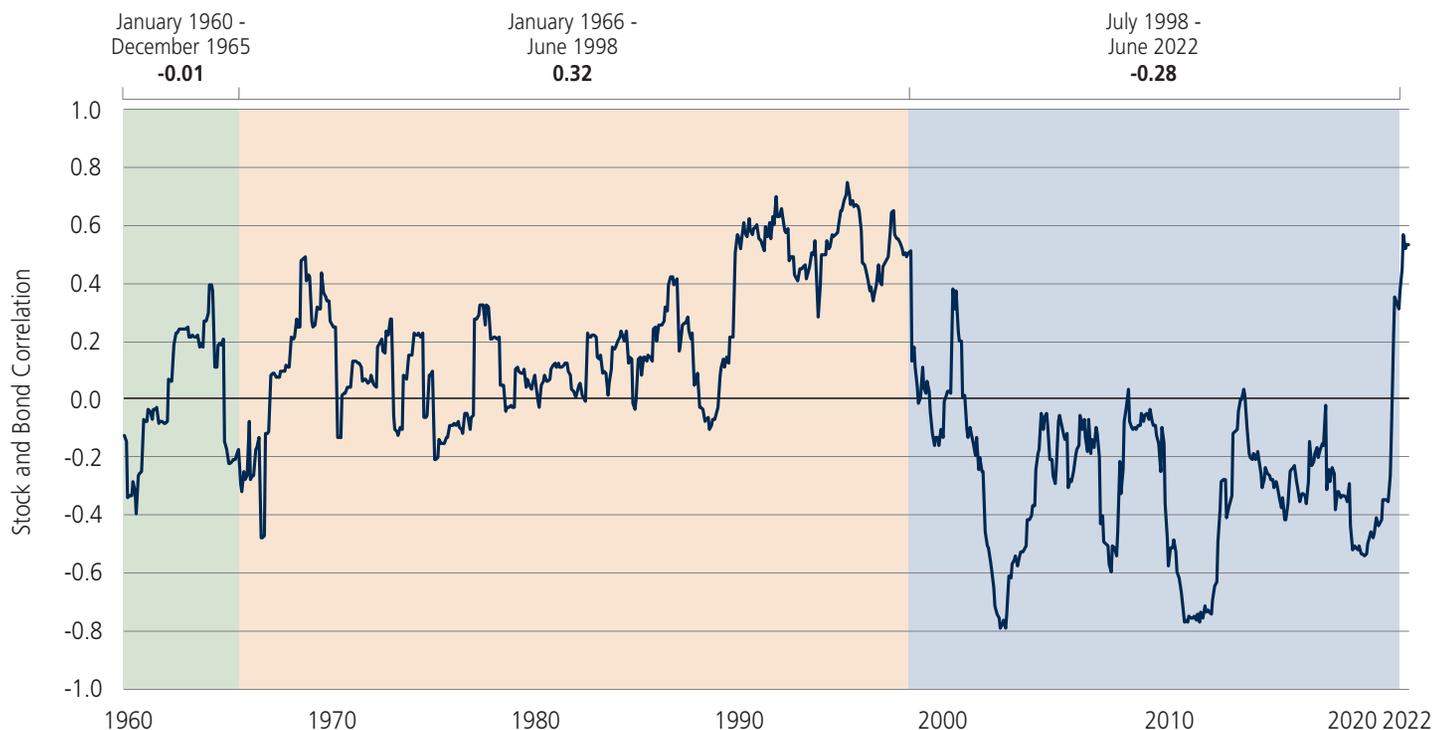


# Stock and Bond Correlation: Back to the Future?

The correlation between stocks and bonds plays a critical role in portfolio construction. A negative correlation allows stocks and bonds to function as a hedge to one another because they move in opposite directions. Whereas a positive correlation means stocks and bonds will move in harmony with one another.

For the last 20 years, as shown below, stocks and bonds have been negatively correlated. However, during the previous 30 years, including the '70s, '80s and '90s, they were positively correlated. This time period was characterized by high inflation, high interest rates and shocks to the supply chain.

## Stock and Bond Correlation – Negative and Positive Regimes | January 1, 1960 - December 31, 2022



Source: LoCorr Fund Management. Data as of December 31, 2022. Correlation: S&P 500 Index with 10-Year Treasury Constant Maturity Bond Index.

### Key Takeaways

- Stock and bond correlation is not always negative.
- In the current macroeconomic environment of higher inflation and rising interest rates, it's possible the correlation between these two asset classes will reverse and stocks and bonds will become positively correlated.
- Fixed income shouldn't be counted on as the only long-term solution for hedging equity market risk.

**S&P 500 Index** is a capitalization weighted unmanaged benchmark index that includes the stocks of 500 large capitalization companies in major industries. This total return index includes net dividends and is calculated by adding an indexed dividend return to the index price change for a given period. **10-Year Treasury Constant Maturity Bond Index** is an index published by the Federal Reserve Board based on the average yield of a range of Treasury securities, all adjusted to the equivalent of a 10-year maturity. **Correlation** measures how much the returns of two investments move together over time.

*The Funds' investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses must be considered carefully before investing. The prospectus contains this and other important information about the investment company, and it may be obtained by calling 1.855.LCFUNDS, or visiting [www.LoCorrFunds.com](http://www.LoCorrFunds.com). Read it carefully before investing.*

Mutual fund investing involves risk. Principal loss is possible. Non-diversified investments may concentrate assets in fewer individual holdings than diversified investments. Therefore, the investments are more exposed to individual stock volatility than diversified funds. The Funds invest in foreign investments and foreign currencies which involve greater volatility and political, economic and currency risks and differences in accounting methods. These risks are greater for emerging markets. The Funds may make short sales of securities, which involves the risk that losses may exceed the original amount invested. Investing in commodities may subject the Funds to greater risks and volatility as commodity prices may be influenced by a variety of factors including unfavorable weather, environmental factors, and changes in government regulations. The Funds may invest in derivative securities, which derive their performance from the performance of an underlying asset, index, interest rate or currency exchange rate. Derivatives can be volatile and involve various types and degrees of risks, and, depending upon the characteristics of a

particular derivative, suddenly can become illiquid. Investments in debt securities typically decrease in value when interest rates rise. This risk is usually greater for longer-term debt securities. Investments in Asset-Backed, Mortgage-Backed, and Collateralized Mortgage-Backed Securities include additional risks that investors should be aware of such as credit risk, prepayment risk, possible illiquidity and default, as well as increased susceptibility to adverse economic developments. Investments in small- and medium-capitalization companies involve additional risks such as limited liquidity and greater volatility. Investments in lower-rated and non-rated securities present a greater risk of loss to principal and interest than higher-rated securities. ETF investments are subject to investment advisory and other expenses, which will be indirectly paid by the Funds. As a result, the cost of investing in the Funds will be higher than the cost of investing directly in ETFs and may be higher than other mutual funds that invest directly in stocks and bonds. ETFs are subject to specific risks, depending on the nature of the ETF. A Fund's real estate portfolio may be significantly impacted by the performance of the real estate market generally, and the Fund may be exposed to greater risk and experience higher volatility than would a more economically diversified portfolio. Property values may fall due to increasing vacancies or declining rents resulting from economic, legal, cultural, or technological developments. Investments in Limited Partnerships (including master limited partnerships) involve risks different from those of investing in common stock including risks related to limited control and limited rights to vote on matters affecting the Limited Partnership, risks related to potential conflicts of interest between the Limited Partnership and the Limited Partnership's general partner, cash flow risks, tax risk, dilution risks and risks related to the general partner's limited call right. Underlying Funds are subject to management and other expenses, which will be indirectly paid by the Fund. Investments in Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) involve additional risks such as declines in the value of real estate and increased susceptibility to adverse economic or regulatory developments. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Diversification does not assure a profit nor protect against loss in a declining market.

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