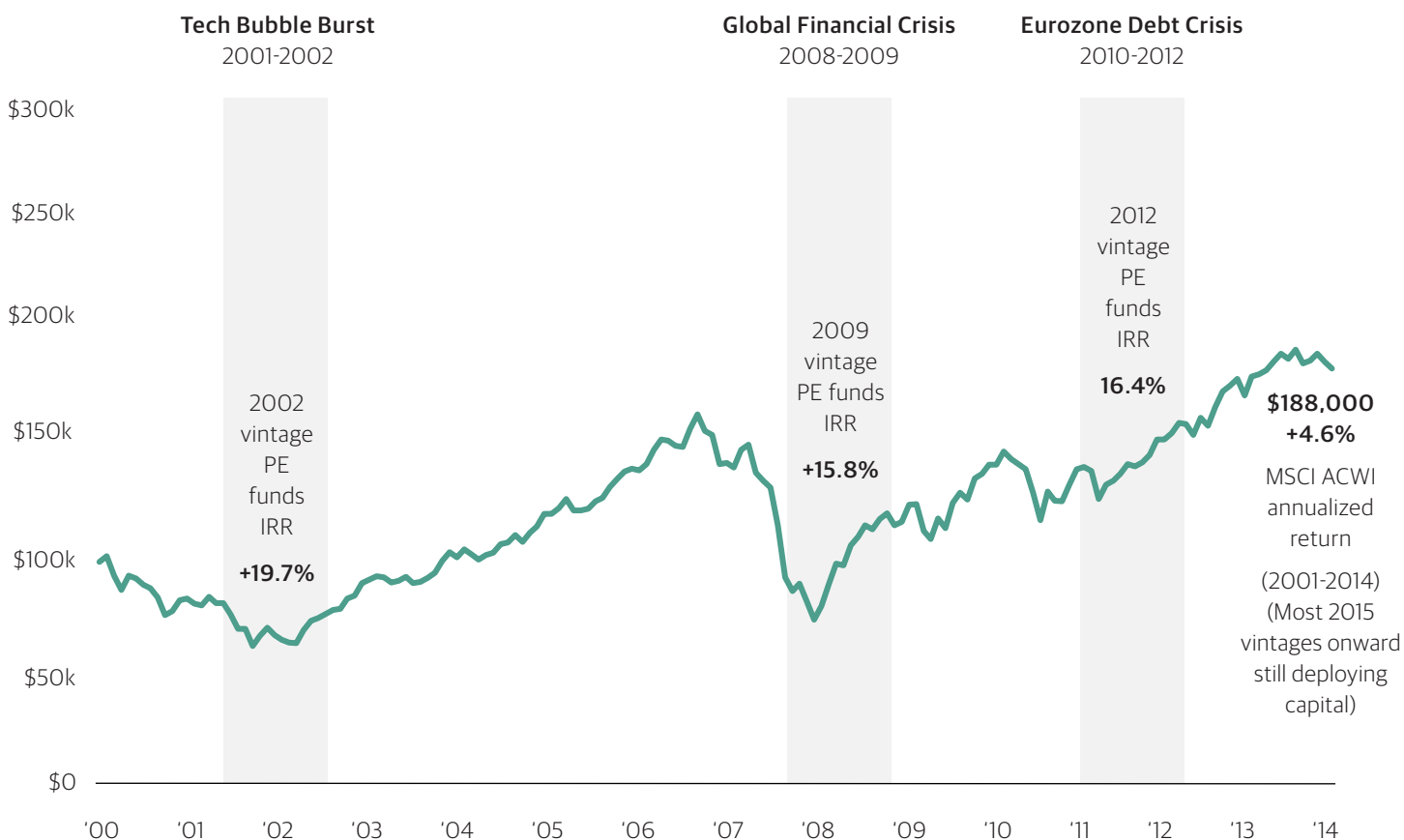


PRIVATE WEALTH SOLUTIONS

# Private Equity: Well-positioned through downturns

The ongoing strength of the U.S. consumer, strong household balance sheets, and low unemployment are a few of the reasons Blackstone's investment strategy team believes there continues to be near-term economic momentum. Despite this, risks to the expansion are rising, and many investors are thinking through their portfolios in the event of recession. In this context, it is worth noting that, historically, downturn-era PE vintages have delivered some of the strongest returns, as managers seek to capitalize on dislocations in the market.

**Figure 1: Past Downturns Have Provided Attractive Entry Points**



Note: The Y-axis of the chart above is formatted as a logarithmic scale with a base of 100. Public Equities are represented by the MSCI ACWI index and Private Equity IRR's are calculated using the Cambridge Private Equity Index, comprised of global buyout funds, secondary funds, and growth equity funds. The Cambridge Private Equity Index is not representative of all BXPE's underlying strategies, some of which may have different return and volatility profiles historically than those presented above. Growth of \$100,000 based on cumulative returns over the 14-year period ending December 31, 2014. Represents Blackstone's view of the market environment as of the date appearing in this material only. There can be no assurance of return or that any expected returns will be met or that returns will be commensurate with the risks of investing in the type of transactions described here. There can be no assurance that any Blackstone fund or investment will achieve its objectives or avoid significant losses. There can be no assurance that historical trends will continue.

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