THE BUSINESS CYCLE IS DIFFERENT THAN THE ECONOMIC CYCLE

- Of the 69 years since 1950, every year except 2009 experienced positive nominal growth in the economy (i.e., including inflation).
- Since 1950, eight years (12%) had declines in real economic growth (excluding inflation); essentially recession years.
- 23 of the years (33%) experienced declines in earnings from the S&P 500 companies.