

VANGUARD PORTFOLIO ANALYTICS & CONSULTING

In this competitive, complex world, can you be sure you've got the right investment proposition? We would like to help, sharing the tools and expertise that can help to ensure the quality of your offer.

Research has shown that the critical opportunity for advisers is in building strong, lasting relationships with their clients¹. Vanguard's Portfolio Analytics & Consulting service is designed to help advisers improve the quality of their investment proposition – freeing their time and resource to devote to the thing that really matters, working with clients.



Why Vanguard

Vanguard has been developing its expertise in portfolio construction ever since it was founded in 1975. The Portfolio Analytics & Consulting team was first established in the US in 2008. Since then it has built up a wealth of knowledge on the investment needs of advisers and refined its expertise in portfolio solutions. You may be facing a specific challenge or you may just appreciate the reassurance of a general check-up – the team is here to help, from standard analyses that you can access free through your Vanguard representative to tailored consulting for more pressing or complex issues.

Share in Vanguard's global resource

30+ Investment professionals reviewing and analysing client portfolios²



#1 multi-asset solution among UK advisers since 2015 – LifeStrategy Funds³

1 Putting a value on your value: Quantifying Vanguard's Adviser's Alpha (March 2020)

2 Source: Vanguard. Data as of October 2020

3 Fundscape Distribution Reports as at 30 April 2020

Meet the team



How we can help

An ideal investment portfolio is simple, transparent and low cost – but the ideal is rarely easy. A portfolio that is simple on the outside can harbour hidden biases, gaps and concentrations that may only become apparent when it fails to behave as expected. This has the potential to lead to some very uncomfortable conversations with clients. We'd like to help you to avoid those situations.

What are the signs that a portfolio may not be optimally constructed?



Persistent underperformance -

Does the portfolio underperform consistently and over time?



Not behaving as expected –

Does the portfolio react as intended?



O[▶] High relative cost –

Is the portfolio more expensive than it needs to be?

A portfolio's behaviours are of course a product of how it is invested. Its exposures, whether in equities or bonds, and how those exposures behave relative to each other, will determine how the fund performs in varying conditions. Cost will also have an impact. High costs will drag down actual client returns and may impel an active manager to take on additional risk.



A fund may be underperforming due to biases, gaps or concentrations that are not showing through. Or it may be outperforming for the wrong reasons, such as taking too much risk, or because it is not being compared to the right benchmark.

Past performance is not an indicator of future returns.

Source: Morningstar data, Vanguard calculations; 31 July 2015 to 31 July 2020. For illustrative purposes only.

Exposures



Where you invest will impact what you invest in and how the fund will behave in different market conditions. The UK equity market tends to be skewed toward financials and energy, the US towards technology. How will those allocations overlap with Europe and Japan?

Source: Morningstar data, Vanguard calculations as at 31 July 2020. For Illustrative purposes only.

Correlations



Source: Morningstar data, Vanguard calculations; 31 July 2015 to 31 July 2020. Correlations shown are for funds within an illustrative client portfolio.

We need to understand how an exposure will behave in different market conditions, but we also need to understand how it will behave relative to other exposures. A correlation matrix will help to show if the portfolio is adequately diversified.

Costs



Is your portfolio costefficient? High costs will reduce long-term client returns. In our example, assume a starting balance of £1,000,000 and a yearly return of 4%, reinvested. Over 30 years, the difference between 0.2% and 1.5% is £963,836 – a substantial amount.

Note: Charts shown are for illustrative purposes only. The portfolio balances shown are hypothetical and do not reflect any particular investment. The final account balances do not reflect any taxes or penalties that might be due upon distribution.

Draw on the power of Vanguard's global expertise

Vanguard's Portfolio Analytics & Consulting service leverages our global expertise and considerable original research in portfolio construction. We look at portfolios from several different angles, including examination of risk and return parameters, geographic spread, credit quality and style biases. We will suggest alternative options that may help to simplify your portfolio, improve its diversification or reduce costs.

For many advisers, a quick, standard health-check will be sufficient. Others may like a more in-depth consultation. Whatever your questions or concerns, we'd love to hear from you.

Choose the level of service best for your needs

	Practical guidance	Portfolio analysis	Portfolio consultation
Type of service	Trends and case studies	Portfolio comparisons	In-depth analysis and consultation
How you benefit	Understanding of common challenges professional investors encounter and what can be done about them	Insight into sub-allocation, tilts/ biases at the portfolio level	Deeper insights at the portfolio and fund levels
		Comparison to an investable alternative that simplifies the proposition	Product agnostic review and enhanced due diligence
			Access to experts to discuss how to improve portfolios and process
What we deliver	Standard report	Annotated report	Detailed report and discussion with a specialist
Cost	Free	Free	Paid

About Vanguard

Vanguard has been helping to bring value to investors since 1975, growing into one of the world's largest fund managers along the way. What sets us apart?

Client focus – The Vanguard Group in the US is ultimately owned by its investors. This unique mutual structure aligns our interests with those of our clients. 2 Low-cost investing – Providing low-cost investments isn't a pricing strategy for us. It's how we do business. **3** Stability and experience – Our clients benefit from the expertise we've gained over the past 45 years.

Investment risk information

The value of investments, and the income from them, may fall or rise and investors may get back less than they invested. Past performance is not an indicator of future results.

Important information

This document is directed at professional investors and should not be distributed to, or relied upon by retail investors.

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Contact our specialist UK intermediary team to find out more: 0800 917 5508 enquiries@vanguard.co.uk

