Putting a value on your value: Quantifying Vanguard Advisor’s Alpha™
What is your value to clients?
“About 3%” defined

- Net potential returns over time (not a specific time frame)
- Return value does not show up on a quarterly statement—but it is very real!
- Increase the amount of return that clients keep

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Framework</th>
<th>Clients’ gross earnings</th>
<th>Fees/taxes</th>
<th>Net returns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Without advisor’s alpha</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With advisor’s alpha</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Hypothetical example of annualized returns over an unspecified period of time.

Added value an advisor provides by helping clients keep more
The added value of an advisor is about 3%

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<th>Vanguard Advisor’s Alpha strategy</th>
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<td>Asset location</td>
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<td>Total-return versus income investing</td>
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<td></td>
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Source: *Putting a value on your value: Quantifying Vanguard Advisor’s Alpha* (Kinniry, Jaconetti, DiJoseph, Zilbering and Bennyhoff, 2016).

* Return value-add was deemed significant but too unique for each investor to quantify. Also, for “Potential value added,” we did not sum the values because there can be interactions between the strategies. Bps = basis points.

Note: “About 3%” means 3 percentage points of additional net return over an unspecified period of time.
Portfolio construction

- Asset allocation
  - >0*

- Cost-effective implementation (expense ratios)
  - 40 bps annually

- Asset location
  - 0–75 bps

- Total-return versus income investing
  - >0*

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* Return value-add was deemed significant but too unique for each investor to quantify.
Potential value added:
This value is deemed significant, but too unique to each investor to quantify, based on each investor’s varying time horizon, risk tolerance, and financial goals.

- Asset allocation and diversification are two powerful risk management tools.
- One of the first things you do with clients is ascertain their risk tolerance, time horizon, and goals.
- The initial plan assists with future behavioral coaching—sticking to the plan can add value.
Asset allocation: Simplicity has been very competitive

NACUBO-Commonfund Study: 60% stock/40% bond portfolio has performed well against professionally managed endowments

Sources: Vanguard and NACUBO-Commonfund Study of Endowments, 2016.
Note: Data are as of June 30 for each year. Data through June 30, 2015. 60% stock/40% bond portfolio: Domestic equity (42%) is Dow Jones Wilshire 5000 Index through April 22, 2005, and the MSCI US Broad Market Index thereafter. Non-U.S. equity (18%) is MSCI All Country World Index ex USA. Bonds (40%) are Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index. Past performance is no guarantee of future returns. The performance of an index is not an exact representation of any particular investment, as you cannot invest directly in an index.
Cost-effective implementation

Potential value added:
This value-add is the difference between the average investor experience, measured by the asset-weighted expense ratio of the entire mutual fund and ETF industry, and the lowest-cost funds within the universe*


* This value could be larger if using higher-cost funds than the asset-weighted averages.

** Costs Matter: Are Fund Investors Voting With Their Feet? (Kinniry, Bennyhoff, and Zilbering, 2013).

• Simple math: Gross returns – Costs (expense ratio, trading, taxes) = Net returns

• Lower costs are associated with better performance**, so consider costs during investment selection

• In a low-return environment, costs have a greater impact

40 bps annually
## Cost-effective implementation (expense ratios)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stocks/bonds</th>
<th>100%/0%</th>
<th>60%/40%</th>
<th>0%/100%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asset-weighted expense ratio</td>
<td>0.54%</td>
<td>0.47%</td>
<td>0.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Lowest of the low”</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>0.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost-effective implementation (expense ratio bps)</td>
<td>0.39</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>0.28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Note: “Lowest of the low” category is the funds whose expense ratios ranked in approximately the lowest 7% of funds in our universe by fund count.
Asset location

What is asset location? Allocation of assets between taxable and tax-advantaged accounts to maximize after-tax return

May offer additional return in first year without additional risk

Adds value each year—benefits compound over time

Potential value added:
This value depends on the investor’s asset allocation and “bucket” size (the breakdown of assets between taxable and tax-advantaged accounts)

0–75 bps
Hypothetical 60% stock and 40% bond portfolio split evenly between taxable and tax-advantaged accounts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Taxable accounts</th>
<th>Tax-deferred accounts</th>
<th>Pre-tax return</th>
<th>After-tax return</th>
<th>Relative to optimal (Index equity)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Index equity (50%)</td>
<td>Taxable bonds (40%) and equity (10%)</td>
<td>6.60%</td>
<td>6.38%</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxable bonds (40%) and index equity (10%)</td>
<td>Equity (50%)</td>
<td>6.60</td>
<td>6.08</td>
<td>−0.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal bonds (40%) and index equity (10%)</td>
<td>Equity (50%)</td>
<td>6.24</td>
<td>6.19</td>
<td>−0.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active equity (50%)</td>
<td>Taxable bonds (40%) and equity (10%)</td>
<td>6.60</td>
<td>5.61</td>
<td>−0.77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Vanguard.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Note: Pre-tax and after-tax returns are based on the following assumptions: Taxable bond return, 3.00%; municipal bond return, 2.10%; index equity, 9.00% (1.80% for dividends, 0.45% for long-term capital gains, and 6.75% for unrealized gains); active equity, 9.00% (1.80% for dividends, 1.80% for short-term capital gains, 4.50% for long-term capital gains, and 0.90% for unrealized gains). This analysis uses a marginal U.S. income tax rate of 39.6% for income and short-term capital gains and 20% for long-term capital gains. These values do not assume liquidation. See Asset Location for Taxable Investors (Jaconetti, 2007) for details.
Total-return versus income investing

Potential value added:
This value is deemed significant, but too unique to each investor to quantify, based on each investor’s desired level of spending and the composition of his or her current portfolio

- Better diversification, and less risk
- Potentially better tax efficiency
- Potentially longer preservation of retirement portfolio
The advantages of a total-return approach

### Total-return approach

**Pros:**
- Maintains asset allocation
- Provides broader diversification
- No factor, duration, or credit overweights
- Potentially increases tax efficiency
- Potentially increases the longevity of the portfolio
- Lowers rebalancing events

**Con:**
- More complicated to implement

### Income-only approach

**Pro:**
- May be less complicated to implement

**Cons:**
- May shift asset allocation and sub-asset allocation
- Increases factor, duration, and credit risks
- Increases concentration risks
- Potentially reduces tax efficiency
- Potentially reduces longevity and future income generation
- Higher rebalancing events
Wealth management

- Up to 35 bps
  - Rebalancing

- Up to 110 bps
  - Spending strategy (withdrawal order)

Source: Putting a value on your value: Quantifying Vanguard Advisor's Alpha (Kinniry, Jaconetti, DiJoseph, and Zilbering, 2016).

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Rebalancing

Potential value added:
The value is based on the annual rebalancing of a 60% stock/40% bond portfolio versus the same portfolio that is not rebalanced (and thus drifts, taking on more risk)

- Maintaining asset allocation over time is critical
- Goal of rebalancing: maintain risk of the portfolio, rather than maximize return
- Client commitment to allocation strategy increases the probability of achieving long-term goals

Up to 35 bps
## Rebalancing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1960–2015</th>
<th>60% stocks/40% bonds</th>
<th>60% stocks/40% bonds (drift)</th>
<th>80% stocks/20% bonds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average annualized return</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average standard deviation</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>14.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Vanguard calculations using data from Thomson Reuters Datastream.
Spending strategy: Withdrawal order

Potential value added:
Depends on the “bucket” size (breakdown of assets between taxable and tax-advantaged accounts) and marginal tax bracket

- Wealth management is critical during the drawdown phase
- Spending strategies can:
  - Potentially minimize total taxes paid
  - Potentially increase clients’ wealth and portfolio longevity

Up to 110 bps
Spending strategy: Withdrawal order

Average internal rate of return (IRR) of different withdrawal-order strategies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy Description</th>
<th>IRR</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spend taxable assets prior to tax-advantaged</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spend from tax-deferred assets prior to taxable</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spend from tax-free assets prior to taxable</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This hypothetical assumes a 60% stock and 40% bond portfolio, over a 30-year time horizon.

Source: Vanguard.

Note: These hypothetical data do not represent the returns on any particular investment. Each IRR is calculated by running the same 10,000 VCMM simulations through three separate models, each designed to replicate the stated withdrawal order strategy listed. Assumes 60% stock and 40% bond portfolio, 30-year time horizon, 39.6% marginal tax bracket, 20% long-term capital gains rate, 4% initial withdrawal rate.

IMPORTANT: The projections or other information generated by the VCMM regarding the likelihood of various investment outcomes are hypothetical in nature, do not reflect actual investment results, and are not guarantees of future results. Distribution of return outcomes from VCMM, derived from 10,000 simulations for U.S. equity returns and fixed income returns. Simulations as of June 30, 2015. Results from the model may vary with each use and over time. For more information, please see the important information slide.
Spending strategy: Withdrawal order

Taxes can be minimized by following this recommended spending order:

1. RMDs (if applicable)
2. Taxable flows
3. Taxable portfolio

For a higher expected marginal tax bracket in the future:
- Tax-deferred
- Tax-free

For a lower expected marginal tax bracket in the future:
- Tax-free
- Tax-deferred
Behavioral coaching

Source: *Putting a value on your value: Quantifying Vanguard Advisor’s Alpha* (Kinniry, Jaconetti, DiJoseph, Zilbering, and Bennyhoff, 2016).
Behavioral coaching

Potential value added:
Vanguard research and other academic studies have concluded that behavioral coaching can add 1% to 2% in net return

- Help your clients maintain a long-term perspective and disciplined approach
- Market-timing and chasing performance or “hot investments” can be costly
- Add value by acting as the “emotional circuit breaker” in a bull or bear market
Behavioral coaching: Rebalancing, a proven strategy during market declines

A balanced, diversified investor has fared relatively well

Sources: Vanguard calculations based on data from FactSet.
Notes: Each balanced portfolio represented by the mixture of equity and fixed income from the following indices: S&P 500 Total Return Index for equities and Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index for fixed income. Each portfolio is constructed using historical daily data implemented with a monthly rebalancing scheme. Data as of June 30, 2016. Past performance is no guarantee of future returns.
Behavioral coaching: Helping clients follow their best interests

Rolling 12-month excess returns*

Please reference the appendix for index performance data.
* Excess return is the difference between the return of broadly diversified world stocks and U.S. bonds.
** World stocks consist of the MSCI All Country World Index and U.S. bonds consist of the Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index.
Date label as of December 31 for each year.
Sources: Vanguard Investment Strategy Group, MSCI, and Barclays.
Best practices to avoid money-losing behavior:

- Set expectations below market indexes
- Control exposure to risk
- Monitor risk tolerance
- Present forecast in terms of probabilities

“The future success in investment business will belong to those who manage prudently and relieve investors of the burden of learning the business themselves.”
“The average investor cannot be above average”

S&P 500 versus average equity fund investor (20-year annualized returns*)

Successful practice is to explicitly set reasonable expectations, and not infer from historical records, market indexes, investors’ own experience, or media coverage.

Past performance does not guarantee future results.
* The original analysis began in 1984. Between 1998 and 2002, the periods covered were less than 20 years. Since 2003, however, the long-term analyses have covered 20-year time frames.
Behavioral coaching: Market-timing and performance chasing can reduce investor returns

Cash flows are associated with performance ratings

High ratings have not led to future outperformance

Source: Vanguard calculations using data provided by Morningstar, Inc., as of December 31, 2013.

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## Quantification of Vanguard Advisor’s Alpha

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Advisor’s alpha win-win
Advisor’s alpha: A win for your clients

- Potential increased net returns
- Potential protection against undue and unintentional risk
- Peace of mind and guidance

Source: *Putting a value on your value: Quantifying Vanguard Advisor’s Alpha* (Kinniry, Jaconetti, DiJoseph, Zilbering, and Bennyhoff, 2016).
Advisor’s alpha: A win for your business

Time management
- Less time spent trying to outsmart the market
- More time spent with your clients and prospects

Client retention
- You define your value proposition to your clients
- Keep clients by earning their trust
- “Best practices” to build your business

Practice growth
- Higher client balances
- Increased revenue
- Greater profitability
- More client referrals
Annuitizing your practice

Advisor’s alpha “J” curve

Source: Vanguard.
Action plan

Control what you can control:

- Have you reviewed your current practice?
- What aspects of the advisor’s alpha framework can you implement in order to add more value?
- What pieces of this research might you incorporate to help tell your value proposition story?

Consult with your Vanguard sales executive to discuss tactical solutions to implement this framework
IMPORTANT: The projections or other information generated by the Vanguard Capital Markets Model™ regarding the likelihood of various investment outcomes are hypothetical in nature, do not reflect actual investment results, and are not guarantees of future results. VCMM results will vary with each use and over time.

The VCMM projections are based on a statistical analysis of historical data. Future returns may behave differently from the historical patterns captured in the VCMM. More important, the VCMM may be underestimating extreme negative scenarios unobserved in the historical period on which the model estimation is based.

The Vanguard Capital Markets Model is a proprietary financial simulation tool developed and maintained by Vanguard’s primary investment research and advice teams. The model forecasts distributions of future returns for a wide array of broad asset classes. Those asset classes include U.S. and international equity markets, several maturities of the U.S. Treasury and corporate fixed income markets, international fixed income markets, U.S. money markets, commodities, and certain alternative investment strategies. The theoretical and empirical foundation for the Vanguard Capital Markets Model is that the returns of various asset classes reflect the compensation investors require for bearing different types of systematic risk (beta). At the core of the model are estimates of the dynamic statistical relationship between risk factors and asset returns, obtained from statistical analysis based on available monthly financial and economic data from as early as 1960. Using a system of estimated equations, the model then applies a Monte Carlo simulation method to project the estimated interrelationships among risk factors and asset classes as well as uncertainty and randomness over time. The model generates a large set of simulated outcomes for each asset class over several time horizons. Forecasts are obtained by computing measures of central tendency in these simulations. Results produced by the tool will vary with each use and over time.
Important information

For more information about Vanguard funds or ETF Shares, contact your financial advisor to obtain a prospectus or, if available, a summary prospectus. Investment objectives, risks, charges, expenses, and other important information are contained in the prospectus; read and consider it carefully before investing.

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Vanguard provides its services to the Vanguard funds and ETFs at cost.

Mutual funds and all investments are subject to risk, which may result in loss of principal. Prices of mid- and small-cap stocks often fluctuate more than those of large-company stocks. Investments in stocks or bonds issued by non-U.S. companies are subject to risks including country/regional risk and currency risk. These risks are especially high in emerging markets. Funds that concentrate on a relatively narrow sector face the risk of higher share-price volatility. It is possible that tax-managed funds will not meet their objective of being tax-efficient. Because company stock funds concentrate on a single stock they are considered riskier than diversified stock funds.

Investments in bond funds are subject to the risk that an issuer will fail to make payments on time, and that bond prices will decline because of rising interest rates or negative perceptions of an issuer's ability to make payments. High-yield bonds generally have medium- and lower-range credit quality ratings and are therefore subject to a higher level of credit risk than bonds with higher credit quality ratings. Although the income from a municipal bond fund is exempt from federal tax, you may owe taxes on any capital gains realized through the fund's trading or through your own redemption of shares. For some investors, a portion of the fund's income may be subject to state and local taxes, as well as to the federal Alternative Minimum Tax. Diversification does not ensure a profit or protect against a loss.

Investments in Target Retirement Funds are subject to the risks of their underlying funds. The year in the Fund name refers to the approximate year (the target date) when an investor in the Fund would retire and leave the work force. The Fund will gradually shift its emphasis from more aggressive investments to more conservative ones based on its target date. An investment in the Target Retirement Fund is not guaranteed at any time, including on or after the target date.

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Appendix
Behavioral coaching: Market-timing and performance chasing can reduce investor returns

- A recent Vanguard study analyzed the personal performance of more than 58,000 portfolios over five years ended December 31, 2012 (a tumultuous period in the market)
- The majority of investor returns trailed the target-date benchmark slightly
- Investors who made exchanges themselves fared considerably worse

Investors who made investment changes did not perform as well as those who did not

The teal illustrates the degree of underperformance of accounts with exchanges relative to those with no exchanges

Past performance does not guarantee future results.
Notes: Average value with exchange, -1.50; average value without exchange, 0.19.
Customizable online “builders” let you create more compelling client communications

Produce highly personalized documents that explain your services and investment approach, and prepare clients for important meetings

- Predesigned formats provide a professional look and feel, and save you time
- Use the text we provide or write your own
- Choose colors to match your firm’s look and style
- Include your firm’s logo
Choose from four customizable builders

**Value Statement Builder**
Share your mission, portfolio management approach, biography, and more

**Client Expectations Builder**
Create tip sheets that help your clients take full advantage of their time and relationship with you

**Onboarding Discussion Guide**
Create personalized agendas that prepare clients for their first meeting

**Ongoing Review Builder**
Create personalized agendas and discussion guides to prepare clients for regular investment review meetings
Manage difficult client conversations

Practical coaching tips, talking points, and client-ready illustrations help you tackle tough client conversations and keep clients on track to reach their investment goals by being a trusted voice of reason.

Anticipate and respond to difficult client questions with our simple three-part strategy:

1. Prevent
2. Ask
3. Coach

Appeal to a client’s individual learning style with our practical coaching aids:

- Stories
- Data
- Visuals
Enhance your client acquisition and retention efforts

Market research and best practices help you identify and attract new clients, and anticipate the evolving needs of existing clients.

- Build relationships with women, the owners of more than half of America’s personal wealth*

- Cultivate relationships with your clients’ heirs, the expected beneficiaries of nearly $6 trillion** in transferred wealth over the next 10 years†

- Use social media to build rapport and demonstrate your thought leadership with clients in unique, personal ways

** Figure derived by taking the amount of wealth expected to transfer to heirs, excluding taxes, fees and charitable bequests ($36 trillion), and dividing by the number of years projected (54), to arrive at an approximate transfer estimate of $.66 trillion per year.