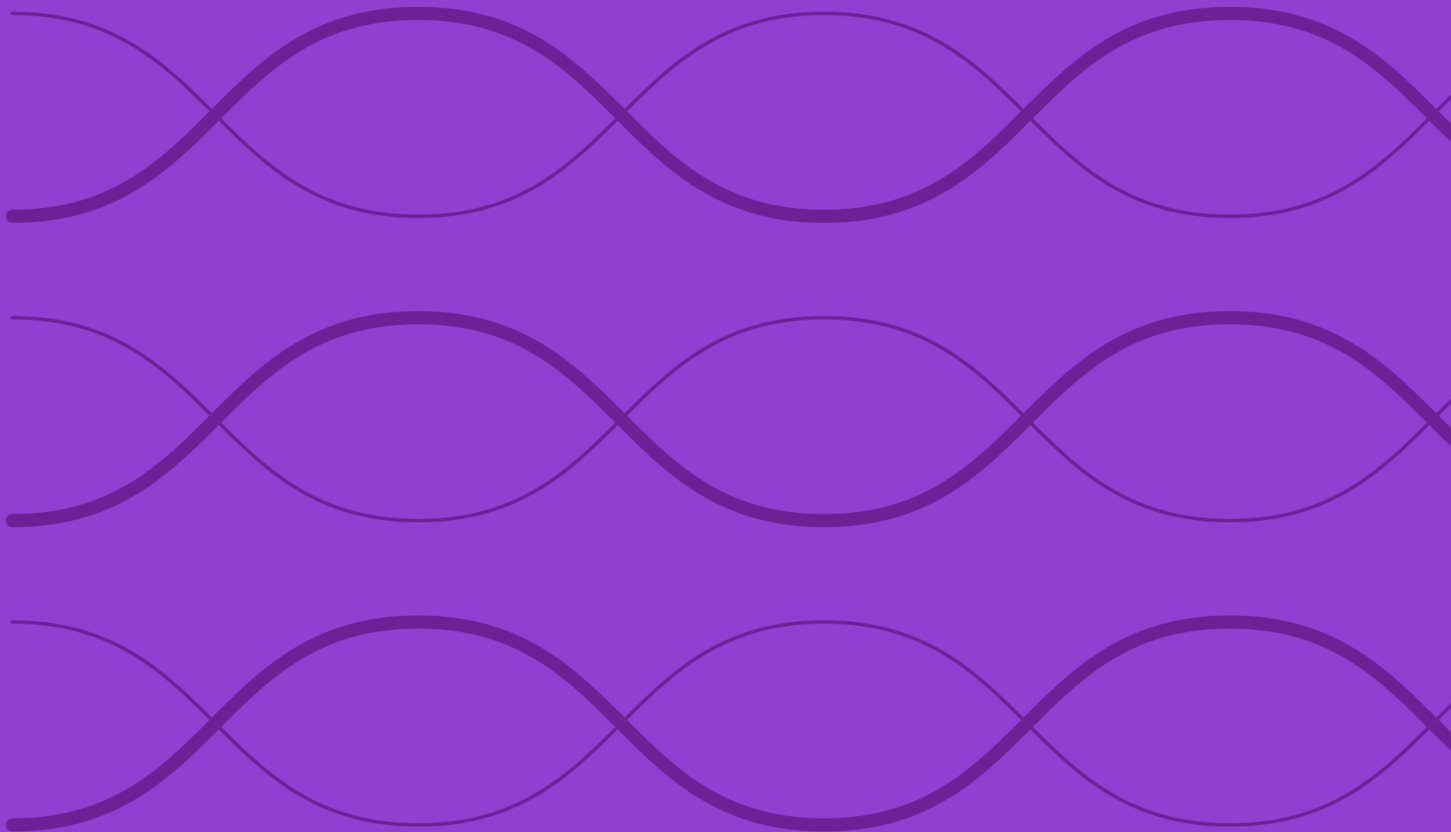


# Construction Rules for the Morningstar<sup>®</sup> Broad Style Indexes



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## Overview

The Morningstar Broad Style Indexes are designed to accurately represent size and style segments of the US equity market using a transparent, rules-based methodology. Size index assignments are determined targeting a fixed percentage of market capitalization, which maintains consistency over time. Style index assignments are underpinned by a 10-factor model that paint a holistic picture of style and align with the Morningstar Style Box. Blend stocks can be members of both the growth and value indexes.

The Morningstar Broad Style Indexes carve up the U.S. equity market by market capitalization and investment style. The style scores are separately calculated across each of the following market capitalization size segments:

- Large-cap: Top 70% of the investable market by market capitalization
- Mid-cap: 70%-90% of the investable market by market capitalization
- Small-cap extended: 90%-99.5% of the investable market by market capitalization

These indexes do not incorporate Environmental, Social, or Governance (ESG) criteria.

## Index Inception and Performance Start Date

The inception, performance start date (when the first back-tested index value was calculated), and target market coverage threshold for each index are listed in Appendix 7.

## Index Construction

### Methodology Summary

#### Starting Universe

Select constituents from the appropriate size parent, derived from the US Market Extended index (which is, in turn, a member of the Morningstar Global Markets index family):

- US Large Cap
- US Large-Mid Cap
- US Mid Cap
- US Small Cap Extended
- US Small-Mid Cap

#### Eligibility

- Style score must be available

#### Portfolio Construction

- Stocks are ranked in ascending order (pure value to pure growth) according to style score

Stocks in the pure value and pure growth regions have their entire float-adjusted market capitalization allocated to the broad value and broad growth index, respectively.

Stocks in the blend region have their float-adjusted market capitalization allocated between the broad value and broad growth index based on a tilt inclusion factor.

### Morningstar Broad Style Indexes

### Starting Universe

At each reconstitution, securities for Morningstar Broad Style Indexes are derived from the Morningstar US Market Extended Index (benchmark), which covers the top 99.5% of the investable market. For further details on benchmark construction, refer to the [Construction Rules for the Morningstar US Market Extended Index](#).

#### Assigning Stocks to a Size Segment

Stocks from the Morningstar US Market Extended Index are categorized into one of three market-capitalization bands - large, mid, or small – as follows:

#### Large-Cap Band

- The stocks in the investable universe that meet eligibility criteria are ordered by market-cap size in descending order.
- Selecting by size in descending order, the stocks that, in aggregate, account for 69% of the total market capitalization of the investable universe are assigned to the large-cap band.
- Among the stocks that fall between 69% and 70% of the capitalization of the investable universe (the upper end of the large-cap/mid-cap buffer zone), those that were classified as mid-cap or small cap and ranked below 70% of the capitalization of the investable universe at the previous reconstitution date are assigned to the mid-cap band. The rest are assigned to the large-cap band.

*Mid-Cap Band*

- Among the stocks that fall between 70% and 71% of the investable universe (the lower end of the large-cap/mid-cap buffer zone), those that were classified as large cap and ranked within the top 70% of the capitalization of the U.S. equity market at the previous reconstitution date are reassigned to the large-cap band. The rest are assigned to the mid-cap band.
- Among the stocks that fall between 90% and 90.5% of the investable universe (the lower end of the mid-cap/small-cap buffer zone), those that were classified as mid-cap or large cap and were ranked within the top 90% of the capitalization of the U.S. equity market at the previous reconstitution date are assigned to the mid-cap band. The rest are assigned to the small-cap extended band.
- Among the stocks that fall between 89.5% and 90% of the capitalization of the investable universe (the upper end of the mid-cap/small-cap buffer zone), those that were classified as small cap and ranked below 90% of the capitalization of the investable universe at the previous reconstitution date are reassigned to the small-cap band. The rest are assigned to the mid-cap band.

*Small-Cap Band*

- Among the stocks that fall between 90% and 90.5% of the investable universe (the lower end of the mid-cap/small-cap buffer zone), those that were classified as mid-cap or large cap and were ranked within the top 90% of the capitalization of the U.S. equity market at the previous reconstitution date are assigned to the mid-cap band. The rest are assigned to the small-cap extended band.
- Selecting from the remaining stocks by size in descending order, the stocks that fall between 90.5% and 99.45% of the capitalization of the investable universe are assigned to the small-cap extended band.
- Among the stocks that fall between 99.45% and 99.5% of the capitalization of the investable universe (the lower end of the small-cap extended buffer zone), those that were excluded from the Total US Market Extended Index and ranked lower than 99.5% of the capitalization of the investable universe at the previous reconstitution date, are excluded from the small-cap extended band. The rest are assigned to the small-cap extended band.

**Eligibility**

Each index constituent within its respective market-capitalization segment index (the parent index) is assigned a style weight such that every security in the parent index is a member of either the growth index or the value index, or both indexes. In cases where a company is a member of both the growth and value index, its float market capitalization in the growth index and the value index sums to its float market capitalization in the parent index. That is, a company's growth style weight + value style weight = 1.0.

The value index targets all stocks that have a nonzero value style weight.

The growth index targets stocks that have a nonzero growth style weight.

*Determining a Stock's Style Orientation Score*

Each stock is assigned a value orientation score and a growth orientation score between zero and 100 (see the "Measuring Stock Value Orientation" and "Measuring Stock Growth Orientation" sections for how stock style scores are calculated). The style score is calculated for each stock by subtracting the stock's value orientation score from its growth orientation score.

The result can range from 100 (for low-yield, extremely growth-oriented stocks) to negative 100 (high-yield, low-growth stocks).

## Portfolio Construction

Stocks in each parent index are divided into three groups that represent their style characteristics along the growth/value spectrum: pure growth, blend, and pure value. Each range is targeted to account for roughly one third of the float market capitalization of the parent index<sup>1</sup>. The breakpoints, or thresholds, that separate these ranges are determined as follows:

- Rank stocks within the parent index by their style score in ascending order.
- Calculate the cumulative free-float market cap for stocks in the parent index.
- The current value threshold, or CVT, is equal to the style score for the stock corresponding to the cumulative free-float market cap equal to or just greater than the target weight for the pure value range.
- The current growth threshold, or CGT, is equal to the style score for the stock corresponding to the cumulative free-float market cap equal to or just greater than the target weight for the pure value range plus the target weight for the blend range.

### *Style Assignment and Buffering*

- Stocks whose style score is less than CVT-5% of the cumulative free-float market capitalization of the parent index are assigned to the value index.
- Stocks whose style score falls between CVT-5% and CVT are classified as either pure value or blend. Among these, stocks that were classified as blend or pure growth at the previous reconstitution date are assigned to the blend range. The rest are assigned to the pure value range.
- Stocks that fall between CVT and CVT+5% are classified as either pure value or blend. Among these, stocks that were classified as pure value at the previous reconstitution date are assigned to the pure value range. The rest are assigned to the blend range.
- Stocks that fall between CVT+5% and CGT-5% are assigned to the blend range.
- Stocks whose style score falls between CGT-5% and CGT are classified as either blend or pure growth. Among these, stocks that were classified as pure growth at the previous reconstitution date are assigned to the pure growth range. The rest are assigned to the blend range.
- Stocks whose style score falls between CGT and CGT+5% are classified as either blend or pure growth. Among these, stocks that were classified as blend or pure value at the previous reconstitution date are assigned to the blend range. The rest are assigned to the pure growth range.
- Stocks whose style score falls beyond the CGT+5% are assigned to the pure growth range.

### *Splitting the Blend Range Between Value and Growth*

Weights of constituents assigned to the blend range are allocated to the value and growth indexes based on a tilt factor calculated from the cumulative standard normal function. This process is detailed below.

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<sup>1</sup> Pure value stocks represent the most value-oriented 33.5% of the size segment, by float market capitalization, core/blend stocks represent those between 33.5% and 66.5%, while pure growth stocks are those in the most growth-oriented 33.5%.

- Rank stocks within the parent index by their style score in ascending order.
- Calculate a standardized z-score for all constituents of the parent index using the formula below:

$$z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma}$$

Where:

$X$  = stock's style score

$\mu$  = style score corresponding to the dollar-weighted median based on cumulative float market cap

$\sigma$  = standard deviation of style score across the parent index

- For all stocks in the blend range, the calculated z-scores are transformed to a growth index tilt factor using the cumulative standard normal distribution function described in the formula below. This transformation converts the standardized style score of each stock to a tilt factor value between 0 and 1.

$$\text{Growth Index Tilt Factor} = F(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^z e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} dx$$

- To avoid including stocks with small style weights in either index, stocks whose growth index tilt factor is less than 5% or more than 95% have their growth style tilt factor set to 0% and 100%, respectively.
- The growth index tilt factor for pure growth stocks is 1.0, and the growth index tilt factor for pure value stocks is 0.0.
- The float market capitalization weight of stocks in the parent index are multiplied with the growth index tilt factor to derive their style weights in the value and growth index, respectively.
- Style weight in the growth index = growth index tilt factor \* float market cap weight
- Style weight in the value index = (1-growth index tilt factor) \* float market cap weight
- The growth index is derived as the union of the pure growth range and all stocks with nonzero growth style weights in the blend range. The value index is derived as the union of all stocks in the pure value range and all stocks with nonzero value style weights in the blend range.
- This process results in a growth and value index for each parent index that each represents approximately 50% of the parent index. This symmetry may not always hold; when the distribution of style scores is not normally distributed, the proportion of the parent index allocated to the growth/value index may be different than 50%.
- The large-mid growth and value indexes are derived by aggregating the respective growth and value indexes determined for the large-cap and mid-cap parent indexes:
  - Large-mid growth index = large-cap growth index + mid-cap growth index
  - Large-mid value index = large-cap value index + mid-cap value index

### *Number of Stocks*

The number of stocks in the index is variable, subject to the selection and eligibility criteria at the time of reconstitution.

### *Index Weighting*

The Morningstar Broad Style Indexes are weighted by modified float market capitalization. Stocks in the pure value and pure growth range are weighted according to their full float-adjusted market capitalization in their respective style indexes. Stocks in the blend region have their float-adjusted market capitalization allocated between the broad value and broad growth index based on a tilt inclusion factor as described in Appendix 7. For more details, refer to the [Morningstar Indexes Calculation Methodology rulebook](#).

The Morningstar US Large-Mid Broad Growth 4/20/20 Index applies 4-20-20 capping rules to individual holdings to limit concentration. On the portfolio rebalancing and reconstitution dates, individual company weightings cannot exceed 20%, and constituents whose weightings exceed 4% cannot combine to over 20% of the portfolio.

The Morningstar US Large-Mid Cap Broad Growth 5% Capped Index and Morningstar US Large-Mid Broad Value 5% Capped Index apply a 5% company-level weighting cap.

## Index Maintenance and Calculation

### Scheduled Maintenance

The indexes are reconstituted, where the membership is reset, semi-annually on the third Friday of June and December. Adjustments are implemented after Friday's market close and reflected the following Monday. If Monday is an index holiday, reconstitution is reflected the next business day. The market data used for reconstitution is as of the last trading day of April and October.

The index is rebalanced quarterly on the third Friday of March, June, September, and December. Adjustments are implemented after Friday's market close and reflected the following Monday. If Monday is an index holiday, the rebalance is reflected the next business day. The market data used for rebalancing is as of the last trading day of January, April, July, and October.

Refer to Appendix 2 for details on reconstitution and rebalancing.

Index files are published according to the global calendar schedule. For more information, please refer to the [Morningstar Indexes Holiday Calendar](#).

### Corporate Actions

The treatment of corporate actions will be as per the float-adjusted market capitalization-weighted indexes corporate action methodology. For more details, please refer to the [Morningstar Indexes Corporate Actions Methodology rulebook](#).

### Index Calculation and Price Data

Details about index calculations and price data can be found in their respective rulebooks: [Morningstar Indexes Calculation Methodology](#) and [Equity Closing Prices Used for Index Calculation](#).

## Methodology Review and Index Cessation Policy

The index methodology is continually reviewed to ensure it achieves all stated objectives. These reviews consider corporate action treatment, eligibility requirements, and maintenance procedures. Subscribers to the index will be notified before any methodology changes are made. For more details, refer to the [Morningstar Index Methodology Change Policy](#).

Morningstar Indexes notifies all subscribers and stakeholders of the index that circumstances might arise that require a material change to, or a possible cessation of, the index. These circumstances are generally not within Morningstar's control and may include significant changes to the underlying market structure, inadequate access to necessary data, geo-political events, and regulatory changes. In addition, factors such as low usage or methodology convergence may result in the cessation of an index.

Because the cessation of the index or benchmark index could disrupt subscriber products that reference this index, all subscribers are encouraged to have robust fallback procedures if an index is terminated. For more details, refer to the [Morningstar Index Cessation Process](#).

## Data Correction and Precision

### Intraday Index Data Corrections

Commercially reasonable efforts are made to ensure the accuracy of data used in real-time index calculations. If incorrect price or corporate action data affects index calculations, corrections are applied prospectively.

### Index-Related Data and Divisor Corrections

Incorrect pricing and corporate action data for individual issues in the database will be corrected upon detection. In addition, an incorrect divisor of an index, if discovered within two days of its occurrence, will always be fixed retroactively on the day it is discovered to prevent an error from being carried forward. Commercially reasonable efforts are made to correct an older error subject to its significance and feasibility.

For more details, refer to the [Recalculation Guidelines](#).

### Exceptions

While Morningstar will seek to apply the method described above, the market environment, supervisory, legal, financial, or tax reasons may require an alternative approach to be adopted. A decision to take an alternative approach will be made by the relevant Morningstar Index Methodology Committee, and in all instances, the application of a nonstandard process will be reported to the Morningstar Index Oversight Committee.

## Appendixes

### Appendix 1: Modifications to the Rulebook

Section	Description of Change	Update Date
Entire rulebook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moved to new template</li> </ul>	March 2023
Data Correction and Precision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Computational and Reporting Precision section removed</li> </ul>	September 2024

### Appendix 2: Glossary

Terms	Description
<b>Reconstitution</b>	<p>Each reconstitution involves the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updating the global market investable equity universe.</li> <li>Reviewing the economic segment- and country-level size segment breakpoints.</li> <li>Assigning companies to capitalization bands taking into account the buffer zones.</li> <li>Changes in index shares (free float, total shares outstanding, index-specific adjustment factor) of each constituent.</li> </ul>
<b>Rebalance</b>	<p>During each rebalancing, the following activities are undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changes in index shares (free float, total shares outstanding, index-specific adjustment factor) of each constituent.</li> <li>Addition of U.S. spin-offs/IPOs to the global markets index.</li> </ul>
<b>Free Float</b>	<p>The free float is defined as a security's outstanding shares adjusted by block ownership to reflect only truly tradable and investable shares. A security's outstanding shares are adjusted if an entity owns 5% or more of the security through one of the following types of block ownership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cross-ownership—shares that are owned by other companies (including banks and life insurance companies).</li> <li>Government ownership—shares that are owned by governments (central or municipal) or their agencies.</li> <li>Private ownership—shares that are owned by individuals or families.</li> <li>Restricted shares—shares that cannot be traded during a certain time period.</li> </ul> <p>However, a security's outstanding shares are not adjusted for institutional investors' holdings, which include, but are not limited to, the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Custodian nominees</li> <li>Trustee companies</li> <li>Mutual funds</li> <li>Investment companies</li> <li>Pension fund holdings</li> </ul>

### Appendix 3: Determining the Value-Core-Growth Assignment for Common Stocks

A stock's value orientation and growth orientation are separate measures, each of interest to investors. As such, they are estimated using related but separate variables. Once estimated, depending on the purpose, they may be used individually or combined into a single value-core-growth, or VCG, orientation measure. For instance, style-based index construction requires the use of a single VCG measure for each stock.

VCG orientation is calculated within capitalization classes, or cap bands. That is, a stock is assigned to a cap band before its VCG orientation is determined. Two stocks that have similar financial ratios and growth prospects but are in different cap bands may be given different VCG assignments.

A high value orientation score (as defined below) indicates that a stock's price is relatively low, given the anticipated per share earnings, book value, revenue, and so forth that the stock provides to investors. A high price relative to these measures indicates that a stock's value orientation is weak but does not necessarily mean that the stock is growth-oriented.

A high growth orientation score (as defined below) indicates that a stock's per share earnings, book value, revenue, and so on are expected to grow faster than those of other stocks in the same cap band. A weak growth orientation does not necessarily mean that a stock has a strong value orientation.

It follows that an individual stock may have any combination of strong or weak growth and value characteristics. Where one set of characteristics is dominant, the stock can be classified accordingly. Where the stock's growth and value characteristics are similar in strength, the stock will be assigned a blend VCG orientation.

### *Terminology and Notation*

The following short forms relate to the 10 factors used to determine a stock's VCG score:

e1/p	=	prospective earnings yield (forecast earnings per share for the current fiscal year, divided by current price per share)
r1/p	=	prospective revenue yield
c1/p	=	prospective cash flow yield
d1/p	=	prospective dividend yield
b1/p	=	prospective book value yield
g'(e)	=	forecast growth rate of earnings per share
g'(c)	=	forecast growth rate of cash flow per share
g'(r)	=	forecast growth rate of revenue per share
g'(b)	=	forecast growth rate of book value per share
g'(e5)	=	median long-term earnings growth forecast

The following short forms relate to a company's fundamental data (earnings per share, for example):

e1	=	forecast earnings per share for the current fiscal year (the basis for the yield variable defined above).
e0	=	EPS for most recent fiscal year
e-1	=	EPS for the fiscal year prior to e0
e-2	=	EPS for the fiscal year prior to e-1
e-3	=	EPS for the fiscal year prior to e-2
e-4	=	EPS for the fiscal year prior to e-3

As needed to determine the stock's VCG score, the same notations are used for cash flow per share, revenue per share, book value per share, and dividends per share except that "c," "r," "b," or "d," respectively, are substituted for "e" in the example above.

## Appendix 4: Measuring Stock Value Orientation

A stock's value orientation reflects the price investors are willing to pay for a share of some combination of the stock's prospective earnings, dividends, sales, cash flow, and book value.

Value orientation is determined using the following three steps:

- Calculate up to five prospective yields ( $e_1/p$ ,  $d_1/p$ ,  $c_1/p$ ,  $r_1/p$ , and  $b_1/p$ ) for each stock. These values are determined using the process described in the next section.
- Calculate a float market cap-weighted percentile score for each available yield factor, for each stock, within each cap band (large, mid, and small).
- Calculate a weighted average of the individual percentile scores for each stock, using the weighting scheme detailed in "Calculating Overall Value Orientation Scores" below. The weighted average score represents the strength of the stock's value orientation.

Details of each of these steps are provided below.

### *Calculating Prospective Yields*

As many as possible of  $e_1/p$ ,  $d_1/p$ ,  $c_1/p$ ,  $r_1/p$ , and  $b_1/p$  are calculated for each stock. Because  $p$  is known, the method used to forecast  $e_1$ ,  $d_1$ , and so on, is key.

If  $e_1$ ,  $c_1$ ,  $r_1$ , or  $b_1$  is forecast to be negative, prospective yield on that factor is excluded for that stock. If no third-party forecast is available and  $e_0$ ,  $c_0$ ,  $r_0$ , or  $b_0$  is positive, then forecast values are calculated as described below (using EPS as an example).

The relationship between prospective and current EPS is straightforward:

$$[1] \quad e_1 = e_0 * (1 + g(e_1))$$

Because  $e_0$  is known, only  $g(e_1)$  must be calculated to provide a forecast of  $e_1$ . Also,  $g(e_1)$  is calculated from historical earnings information.

First calculate as many as possible of four periodic growth rates:

$$[2] \quad g(e)_{-4} = \left( \frac{e_0}{e_{-4}} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} - 1$$

$$[3] \quad g(e)_{-3} = \left( \frac{e_0}{e_{-3}} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} - 1$$

$$[4] \quad g(e)_{-2} = \left( \frac{e_0}{e_{-2}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} - 1$$

$$[5] \quad g(e)_{-1} = \left( \frac{e_0}{e_{-1}} \right)^1 - 1$$

Where e-1, e-2, e-3, or e-4 is negative, no growth rate is calculated using that data point. Availability for restated cash flow is limited to three years.

When as many as possible of the growth rates defined above have been calculated, average the results:

$$[6] \quad g(e)_1 = \text{Average}[g(e)_{-4}, g(e)_{-3}, g(e)_{-2}, g(e)_{-1}]$$

Thus:

- Estimated earnings growth  $g(e)_1$  and forecast earnings (e1) are calculated only for stocks where  $e_0$  is a positive number.
- In calculating  $g(e)_1$ , recent growth rates are included in more of the averaged terms than are older growth rates; recent growth rates are therefore weighted more heavily than are older growth rates.
- If third-party forecasts are unavailable,  $e_1/p$ ,  $c_1/p$ ,  $r_1/p$ , and  $b_1/p$  are calculated in the same way.

The prospective dividend is determined based on the stock's most recent dividend and published frequency:

$$d_1 = d_0 * f_0$$

If  $d_1/p$  is the only available forecast yield figure, the stock is not given a VCG assignment.

#### *Calculating Percentile Scores for Each Value Factor*

When one or more of  $e_1/p$ ,  $d_1/p$ ,  $c_1/p$ ,  $r_1/p$ , and  $b_1/p$  values have been calculated, with or without  $d_1/p$ , each stock is assigned a float market-cap-weighted percentile score for each relevant factor. The percentile scores are calculated within the stock's cap classification.

Prospective earnings yield scores for large-capitalization stocks are used in the following example.

To calculate an earnings yield score for each stock in the large cap:

- Order all stocks in the large cap by their  $e_1/p$  scores.
- Calculate the float-weighted trimmed mean  $e_1/p$  for all stocks in the large cap band – where the upper and lower 5% of the float is trimmed before the average is calculated. When a stock straddles the 5<sup>th</sup> percentile point or 95<sup>th</sup> percentile point, remove it from the investable universe.
- Calculate the ratio of each stock's  $e_1/p$  to the trimmed mean  $e_1/p$  for the large cap.
- Assign each stock to an e/p bucket as follows:
  - If the stock's  $e_1/p$  is equal to or less than 0.75 times the trimmed mean  $e_1/p$  (the lower value cutoff), the stock is assigned to the low e/p bucket; or
  - If the stock's  $e_1/p$  is equal to or less than the trimmed mean  $e_1/p$ , the stock is assigned to the mid-minus e/p bucket; or
  - If the stock's  $e_1/p$  is equal to or less than 1.25 (the upper value cutoff) times the trimmed mean  $e_1/p$ , the stock is assigned to the mid-plus  $e_1/p$  bucket; or

- The stock is assigned to the high e/p bucket.

When each stock has been assigned to an e/p bucket, it is then scaled relative to other stocks in the same bucket. The low e/p bucket is used as an example here:

- Order the stocks within the low e/p bucket by their raw e1/p scores, from lowest to highest.
- Within the low e/p bucket, assign each stock a value equal to the cumulative float represented by that stock and all stocks with a lower e1/p. Thus, the stocks in the low e/p bucket have values ranging from 0.00+ (the stock with the lowest e1/p in the low e/p bucket) to 100 (the stock with the highest e1/p in the low e/p bucket).
- Where two or more stocks have the same e1/p, they are assigned a value that represents the cumulative float of all stocks with a lower e1/p plus one half of the total float of the stocks that share the same e1/p.
- Rescale the scores in the low e/p bucket to final values between 0.00+ and 33.33. Note: In the case of dividends, zero is considered a valid data point. If d0 is zero, then d1 is set to zero.

Repeat the above four steps for each of the mid-minus, mid-plus, and high e/p buckets; rescale the values as follows:

Bucket	Minimum Score	Maximum Score
Low e/p	0.00+	33.33
Mid-minus e/p	33.34	50.00
Mid-plus e/p	50.01	66.66
High e/p	66.67	100.00

All of the steps in this section are then repeated for each of c1/p, r1/p, and b1/p, and d1/p.

### *Calculating Overall Value Orientation Scores*

When the steps above are complete for each of the five value factors, a weighted average is calculated for each stock. In calculating the weighted average, e/p scores, if available, are assigned a weight of 50%; each of the other value factors is assigned an equal share of the remaining weight (either 50% or, if e/p is unavailable, 100%). The weighted average result is the stock's overall value orientation score.

## **Appendix 5: Measuring Stock Growth Orientation**

A stock's growth orientation reflects the rates at which its earnings, sales, cash flow, and book value are expected to grow. Forecast dividend growth rates are not used to determine stock growth orientation.

Determining a stock's growth orientation consists of three steps:

- For each stock, calculate as many as possible of the four average growth rates  $g'(e)$ ,  $g'(c)$ ,  $g'(r)$ , and  $g'(b)$  using the process described in the next section.
- Calculate a float-weighted percentile score for each calculated growth rate, for each stock, within each cap band (large and mid), and a float-weighted percentile score for  $g(e5)$ , if this is available from a third party.

- Calculate a weighted average of the individual growth rate percentile scores for each stock, using the weighting scheme detailed in the “Calculating Overall Growth Orientation Scores” section below.

The weighted average score calculated in Step 3 above represents the strength of the stock's growth orientation.

### *Calculating Stock Growth Scores*

As many as possible of  $g'(e)$ ,  $g'(c)$ ,  $g'(r)$ , and  $g'(b)$  are calculated for each stock. In addition, if  $g(e5)$  is available from a third party, it is used as a fifth growth rate indicator. The example growth rate calculation below uses  $g'(e)$ , but the process is identical for  $g'(c)$ ,  $g'(r)$ , and  $g'(b)$ .

If  $e_0$  and  $e_{-1}$  are negative, then  $g'(e)$  is not calculated. If  $e_0$  or  $e_{-1}$  is positive, then  $g'(e)$  is calculated as follows:

First calculate as many as possible of five periodic growth rates:

$$[1] \quad g'(e)_{-4} = \left( \frac{e_n}{e_{-4}} \right)^{\frac{1}{n+4}} - 1$$

$$[2] \quad g'(e)_{-3} = \left( \frac{e_n}{e_{-3}} \right)^{\frac{1}{n+3}} - 1$$

$$[3] \quad g'(e)_{-2} = \left( \frac{e_n}{e_{-2}} \right)^{\frac{1}{n+2}} - 1$$

$$[4] \quad g'(e)_{-1} = \left( \frac{e_n}{e_{-1}} \right)^{\frac{1}{n+1}} - 1$$

$$[5] \quad g'(e)_0 = \left( \frac{e_n}{e_0} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1$$

Where:

$n$  = Latest period (0 or -1) in which EPS is positive

If  $e_0$ ,  $e_{-1}$ ,  $e_{-2}$ ,  $e_{-3}$ , or  $e_{-4}$  is negative, no growth rate is calculated using that data point. If  $n=0$ , up to four rates are calculated and if  $n=-1$ , up to three growth rates are calculated.

When all available growth rates defined above have been calculated, average the results:

$$[6] \quad g'(e) = \text{Average}[g'(e)_{-4}, g'(e)_{-3}, g'(e)_{-2}, g'(e)_{-1}]$$

Revenue, cash flow, and book value growth rates are calculated in the same way.

If growth information for at least one factor, spanning at least two separate growth periods, is unavailable for a given stock, the stock is not given a VCG assignment.

### Calculating Percentile Scores for Each Growth Factor

As with value orientation factors, the growth orientation factor scores for each stock are next translated into rescaled percentile scores. The percentile scores are calculated within the stock's cap band.

Prospective earnings growth rate scores for stocks within each cap are used in the following example.

To calculate an earnings growth score for each stock in the large-cap band:

- Order all stocks in the large-cap band by their growth rate  $g'(e)$  scores.
- Calculate the float-weighted trimmed mean growth rate  $g'(e)$  for all stocks in the large-cap band— where the upper and lower 5% of float is trimmed, before the average is calculated.
- Calculate the ratio of each stock's  $g'(e)$  to the trimmed mean  $g'(e)$  for the large-cap band.
- Assign each stock to a  $g'(e)$  bucket as follows:
  - If the stock's  $g'(e)$  is equal to or less than 0.75 times the trimmed mean  $g'(e)$  (the lower growth cutoff), the stock is assigned to the low  $g'(e)$  bucket; or
  - If the stock's  $g'(e)$  is equal to or less than the trimmed mean  $g'(e)$ , the stock is assigned to the mid-minus  $g'(e)$  bucket; or
  - If the stock's  $g'(e)$  is equal to or less than 1.25 times the trimmed mean  $g'(e)$  (the upper growth cutoff), the stock is assigned to the mid-plus bucket; or
  - The stock is assigned to the high  $g'(e)$  bucket.

When each stock has been assigned to a  $g'(e)$  bucket, it is then scaled relative to other stocks in the same bucket. The low  $g'(e)$  bucket is used as an example here:

- Order the stocks within each bucket by raw  $g'(e)$  score, from lowest to highest.
- Within the low  $g'(e)$  bucket, assign each stock a value equal to the cumulative float represented by that stock and all stocks with a lower  $g'(e)$ . Thus, the stocks in the low  $g'(e)$  bucket have values ranging from 0.00+ (the stock with the lowest  $g'(e)$  in the low  $g'(e)$  bucket) to 100 (the stock with the highest  $g'(e)$  in the low  $g'(e)$  bucket).
- Where two or more stocks have the same  $g'(e)$ , they are assigned a value that represents the cumulative float of all stocks with a lower  $g'(e)$ , plus one half of the total float of the stocks that share the same  $g'(e)$ .
- Rescale the scores in the low  $g'(e)$  bucket to final values between 0.00+ and 33.33.

Repeat the four steps immediately above for each of the mid-minus, mid-plus, and high  $g'(e)$  buckets, but

rescale the values as follows: Bucket	Minimum Score	Maximum Score
Low $g'(e)$	0.00+	33.33
Mid-minus $g'(e)$	33.34	50.00
Mid-plus $g'(e)$	50.01	66.66
High $g'(e)$	66.67	100.00

All of the steps in this section are then repeated for each of the other four growth orientation factors, including  $g(e5)$ .

### Calculating Overall Growth Orientation Scores

When the above steps are completed for each of the five growth orientation factors, a weighted average is calculated for each stock. In calculating the weighted average,  $g(e5)$  scores, if available, are assigned a weight of 50%; each of the other growth

factors is assigned an equal share of the remaining weight (either 50% or, if g(e5) is unavailable, 100%). The weighted average result is the stock's overall growth orientation score.

## Appendix 7: Individual Indexes

Index Name	Target Exposure %	Inception Date	Performance Start Date
Morningstar US Large Cap Broad Growth	Top 70	21-Jan-28	97-Jun-30
Morningstar US Large Cap Broad Value	Top 70	22-Aug-18	97-Jun-30
Morningstar US Mid Cap Broad Growth	70-90	20-Dec-21	97-Jun-30
Morningstar US Mid Cap Broad Value	70-90	20-Dec-21	97-Jun-30
Morningstar US Large-Mid Cap Broad Growth	Top 90	20-Dec-21	97-Jun-30
Morningstar US Large-Mid Cap Broad Value	Top 90	20-Dec-21	97-Jun-30
Morningstar US Small Cap Broad Growth Extended	90-99.5	20-Dec-21	97-Jun-30
Morningstar US Small Cap Broad Value Extended	90-99.5	20-Dec-21	97-Jun-30
Morningstar US Small-Mid Cap Broad Growth Extended	70-99.5	21-Jan-21	97-Jun-30
Morningstar US Small-Mid Cap Broad Value Extended	70-99.5	20-Dec-21	97-Jun-30
Morningstar US Market Broad Growth Extended	Top 99.5	21-Jan-21	97-Jun-30
Morningstar US Market Broad Value Extended	Top 99.5	21-Jan-21	97-Jun-30
Morningstar US Large-Mid Cap Broad Growth 4/20/20	Top 90	20-Dec-21	97-Jun-30
Morningstar US Large-Mid Cap Broad Growth 5% Capped	Top 90	25-Jan-13	08-Jun-20
Morningstar US Large-Mid Cap Broad Value 5% Capped	Top 90	25-Jan-13	08-Jun-20

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Morningstar Indexes was built to keep up with the evolving needs of investors—and to be a leading-edge advocate for them. Our rich heritage as a transparent, investor-focused leader in data and research uniquely equips us to support individuals, institutions, wealth managers, and advisors in navigating investment opportunities across major asset classes, styles, and strategies. From traditional benchmarks and unique IP-driven indexes to index design, calculation, and distribution services, our solutions span an investment landscape as diverse as investors themselves.

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