Morningstar Direct Samples

We have created a set of sample search criteria, chart templates, and data sets for use with common research tasks. After we have sent them to you, you will find them in Workspace, in the Search Criteria, Chart Templates, and Data Sets lists. To distinguish them from your other saved work, each template begins with the word "Sample."

These Samples were designed to help newer users get started, and offer a time saving foundation for our more experienced users.

We encourage you to launch each Sample, examine its components, settings and data, and adapt for your own use. If you need instructions on how to work with searches, charts and data sets, please refer to the Quickstart Guide. As always, we invite your feedback on these Samples and your suggestions for others. Please write to us using the "send us feedback" button on the very top navigation bar.

Sample Search Criteria

- Sample – Open End - Category Search
View the oldest share class of the US open-end funds currently in the Large Growth Morningstar Category. This search models the creation of a basic peer group.

- Sample – Open End - Manager Change
View the oldest share class of all US-domiciled funds whose manager has changed in the last three years. This search models a study on fund performance after a manager change.

- Sample – Open End - Strong Investor Returns
View US-domiciled equity funds with low expense ratios and top quartile Investor Returns. This search models the selection process for funds managed for the benefit of long-term investors.

- Sample – SA - Established Institutional Equity Composites
View equity-focused separate accounts with at least $1 billion in assets under management across all purchase vehicles. This search models the selection process for SAs whose managers have attracted significant assets.

- Sample – Stock - Healthy Cash Flows
View wide-moat, 4- or 5-star stocks with at least 5% of assets in cash, and free cash flow above 5% of assets for the past four years. This search models the selection process for companies with defensible market positions whose year-over-year operations generate earnings over ongoing expenses and investment needs.

- Sample – Prospective Category Change
Use custom ranks to examine how a fund would compare to its new peer group if Morningstar changed its category. Open this search, choose My Data Set from the View drop-down menu, and load the data set titled Sample – Category Change Total Returns Rank.

- Sample – Europe Hedge Fund – Fund of Funds Search
View hedge funds domiciled in Europe in the Morningstar Fund of Funds Category.

- Sample – UK Life and Pension – UK Equity ABI
View UK Pension funds with performance ready data.

- Sample – Open End - Luxembourg AFS Search
View all of the funds available for sale with a minimum initial investment requirement in a given country.

Sample Chart Templates

- Sample – HBSA: Lineup Study
Show the results of holdings-based style analysis for all of the equity funds in a portfolio or fund lineup. Use this chart to construct diverse portfolios and fund lineups and to identify style overlap.

- Sample – HBSA: Similarly Named Funds

Use holdings-based style analysis to show how two funds with similar names differ in investment style.

- Sample – HBSA: Similarly Named Funds INTL

This example compares funds domiciled in Europe.

- Sample – HBSA: Style Drift Study

Show the results of holdings-based style analysis for a series of portfolios over time. Use this chart to examine whether managers have drifted into different areas of the style box in search of investment opportunities. This study supports portfolio construction and performance evaluation and compliments Sample - RBSA: Style drift study.

- Sample – RBSA: Style Drift Study

Infer investment style by examining the results of a regression of investment returns on style benchmark returns; also see Sample - HBSA: Style drift study.

- Sample- HBSA: Style Drift Study INTL

Show the results of holdings-based style analysis for a series of portfolios over time. This example compares European domiciled funds in the Morningstar Large Cap Growth Category.

- Sample – Scatterplot: Excess Return/Tracking Error

Explore the relationship between excess return over a benchmark and the standard deviation of that excess return (tracking error). Which fund exhibits the most stable excess returns?

- Sample – Scatterplot: Risk vs. Return

Compare total return to standard deviation of total return. Which fund exhibits the best tradeoff between risk and return?

- Sample – Scatterplot: Upside/Downside Capture

Examine the ratio of a fund's positive or negative months to those of a benchmark.

- Sample – Time Series: Rolling Alpha

Examine the ability of managers to add value over time above the return predicted by their systematic risk (beta).

Sample Data Sets

- Sample – Portfolio Composition Summary

Review summary percentage breakdowns of asset allocation, equity sector, and equity region data.

- Sample – Daily Performance Summary

Monitor the most up-to-date trailing returns by using daily data.

- Sample – SA - Strategy Info

Review essential operational data for separately managed accounts.

- Sample – Stock - Summary

Review essential stock data, including stock sector, performance, Morningstar Fair Value, and ownership.

- Sample – 1-10 Yr. Trailing Returns (Mo-End)

View trailing total returns for one-year backward-extending windows between 1- and 10-years. Examine trailing returns with a greater degree of detail than a standard view.

- Sample – Category Change Total Returns Rank

Use custom ranks to examine how a fund would compare to its new peer group if Morningstar changed its category. Use this data set in conjunction with the sample search criteria named Sample – Prospective Category Change. Open the search, choose My Data Set from the View drop-down menu, and load the data set titled Sample - Category Change Total Returns Rank.