

How to pick the best stocks to weather the bear market, without relying on tips

Educational Webinar

Is this for you?

1. Seasoned investors looking for a more empirical basis for positioning their portfolios for recovery.

2. Improving investors looking for a <u>disciplined</u>, <u>proven process</u> to replace buying on tips/rumour.

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We would like to draw your attention to the following important investment warnings:

- The value of shares and investments and the income derived from them can go down as well as up
- Investors may not get back the amount they invested
- Past performance is not a guide to future performance

Please note that all data in this document is historic and dated when this document went to print in December 2022.



Ed Page Croft, CFA

Founder & CEO, <u>Stockopedia.com</u> ex-GS Private Clients, Oxford Scholar



Agenda

One hour, invested in yourself...

Why you should watch this webinar

- 1. How we got here the story of the bear so far
- 2. Why pandemic "share tips" have led to some of the worst results
- 3. Revealed the framework to understand "what really works"
 - QVM <u>3 universal return drivers</u> of stocks
 - How to measure any stock against the 3 return drivers
- 4. Applying the principles, what to buy, when to sell
- 5. What's working <u>now</u> positioning your portfolio to survive the bear & recover quickly beyond
- 6. Q&A

My Goal for the webinar

- Help you understand that stock market results are driven by a set of return drivers, known as "factors"
- Show you which factors are driving stock returns through this bear market, and its eventual recovery

• Give you the simplest way to apply these principles to your portfolio, using the toolbox at stockopedia.com



How did we get here?

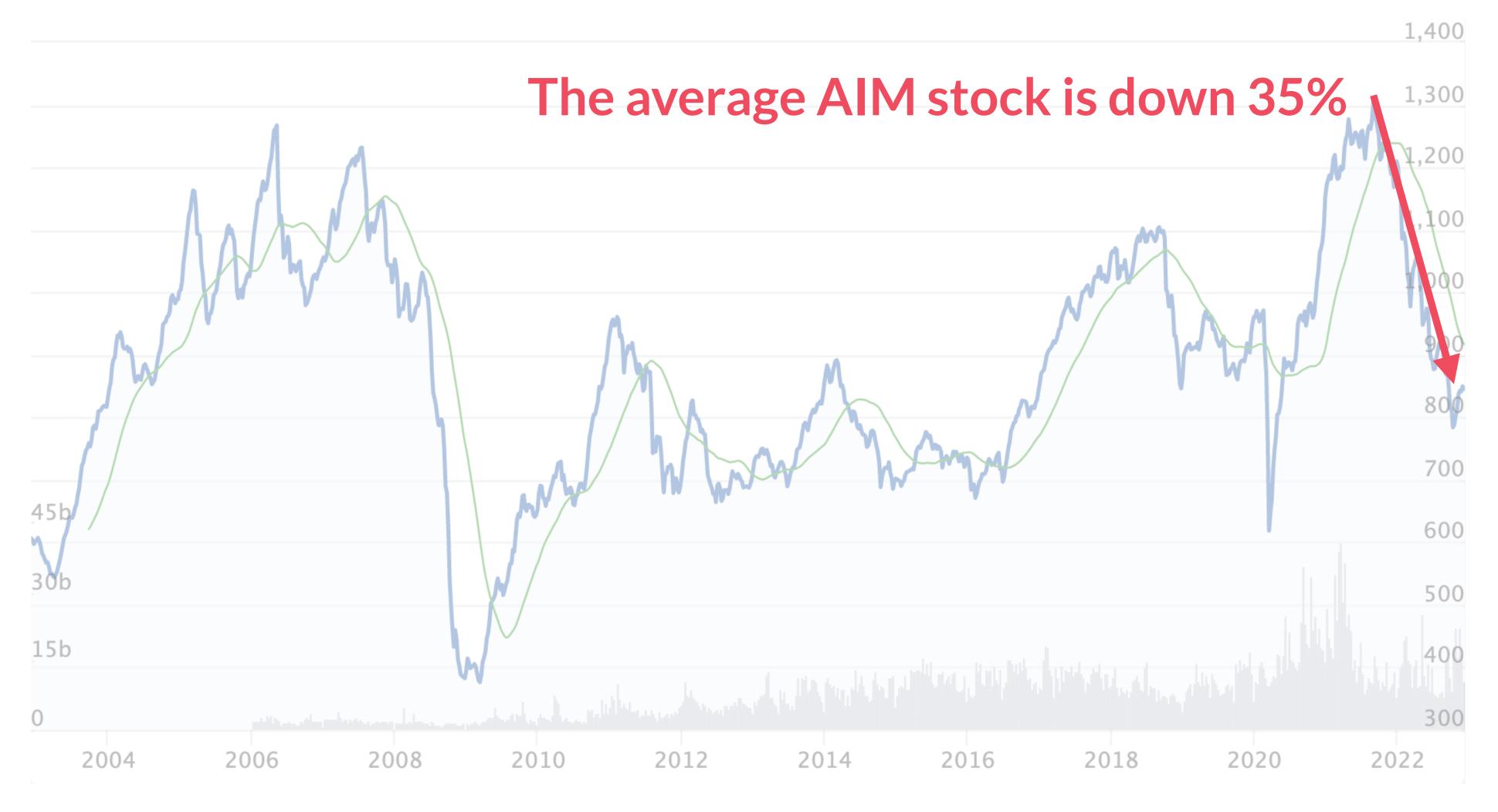
How far are we through the bear market?

There's been a brutal market correction



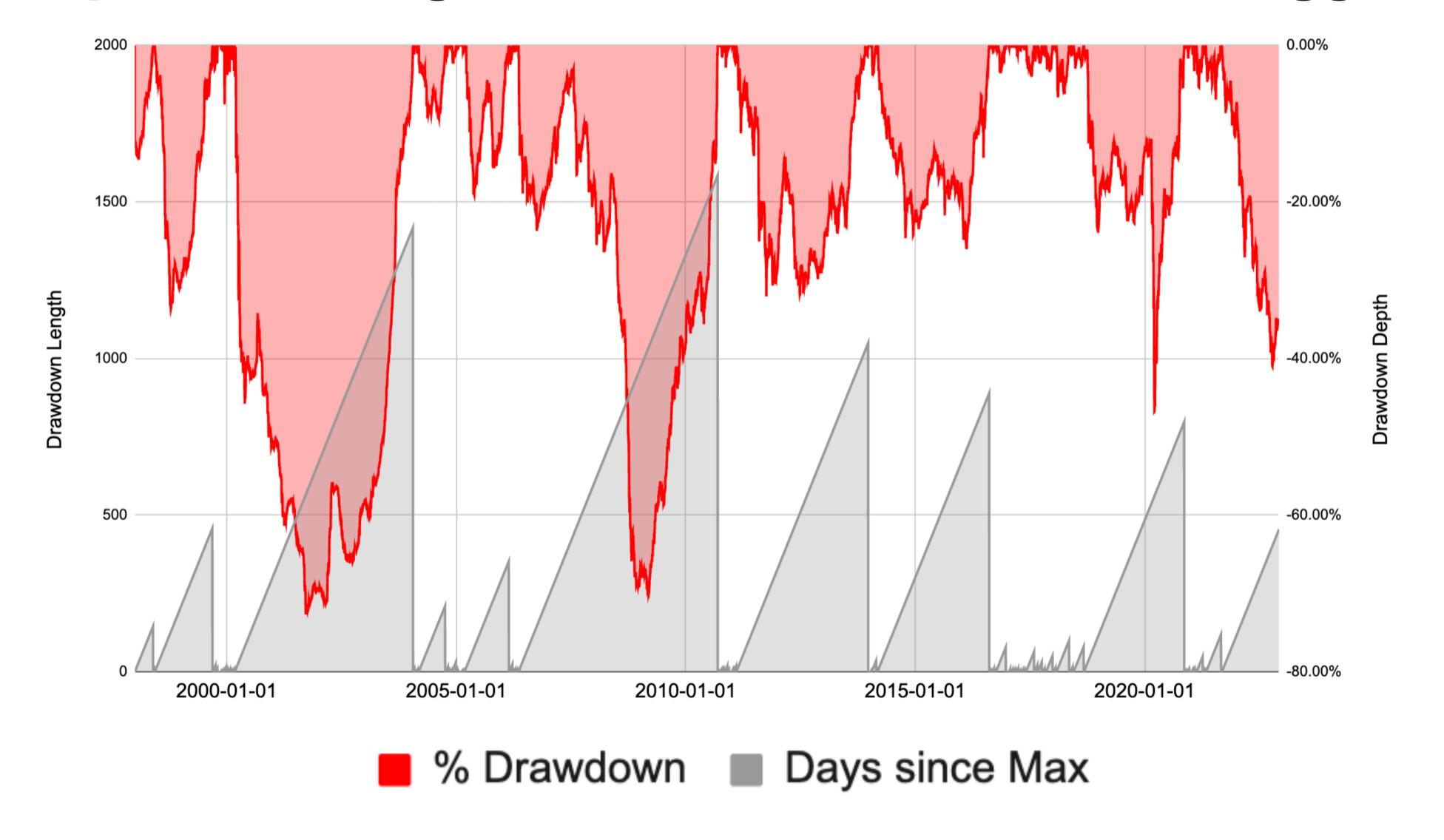
FTSE AIM All Share Index

There's been a brutal market correction



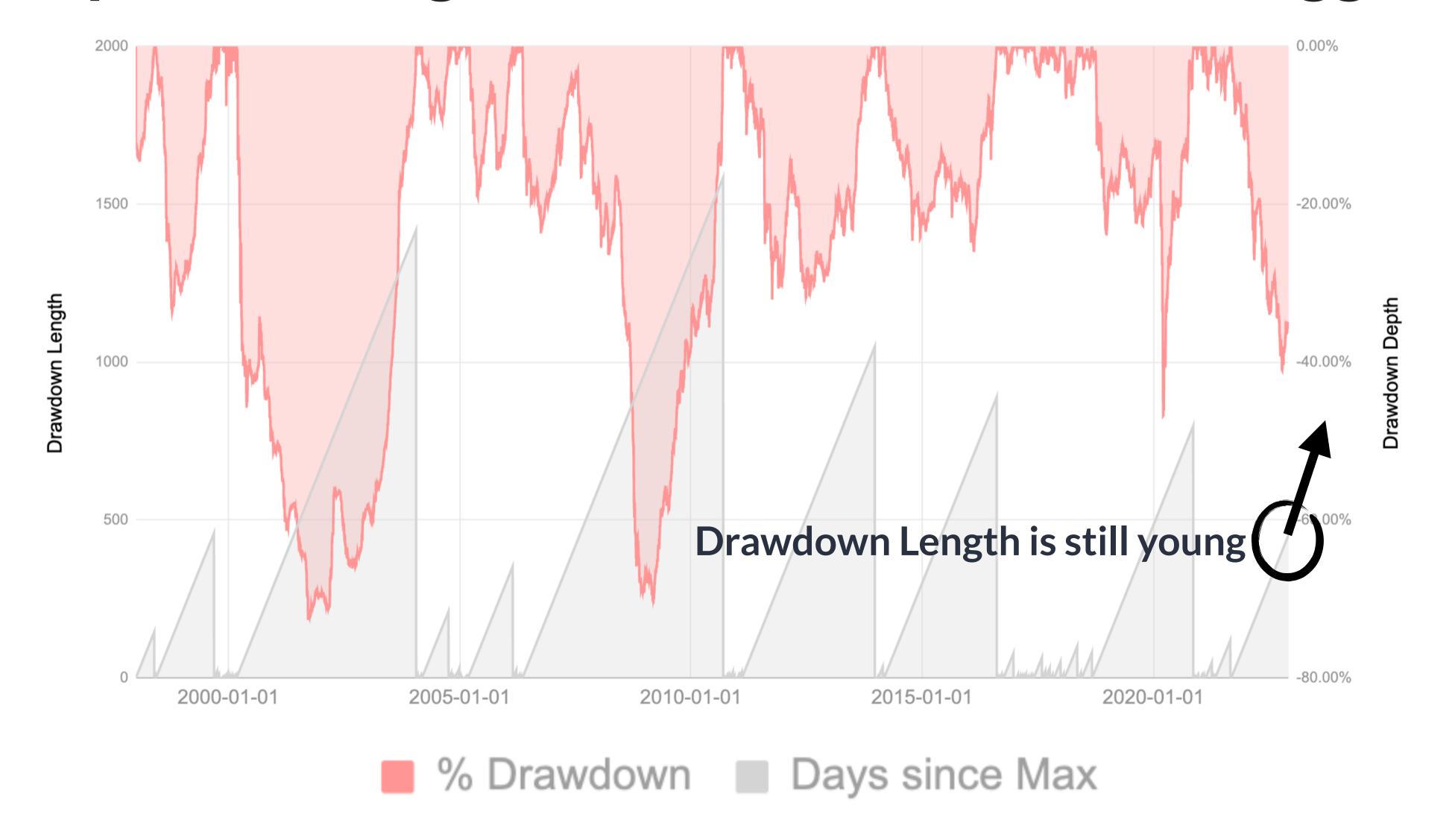
FTSE AIM All Share Index

The depth and length of historic drawdowns suggests...



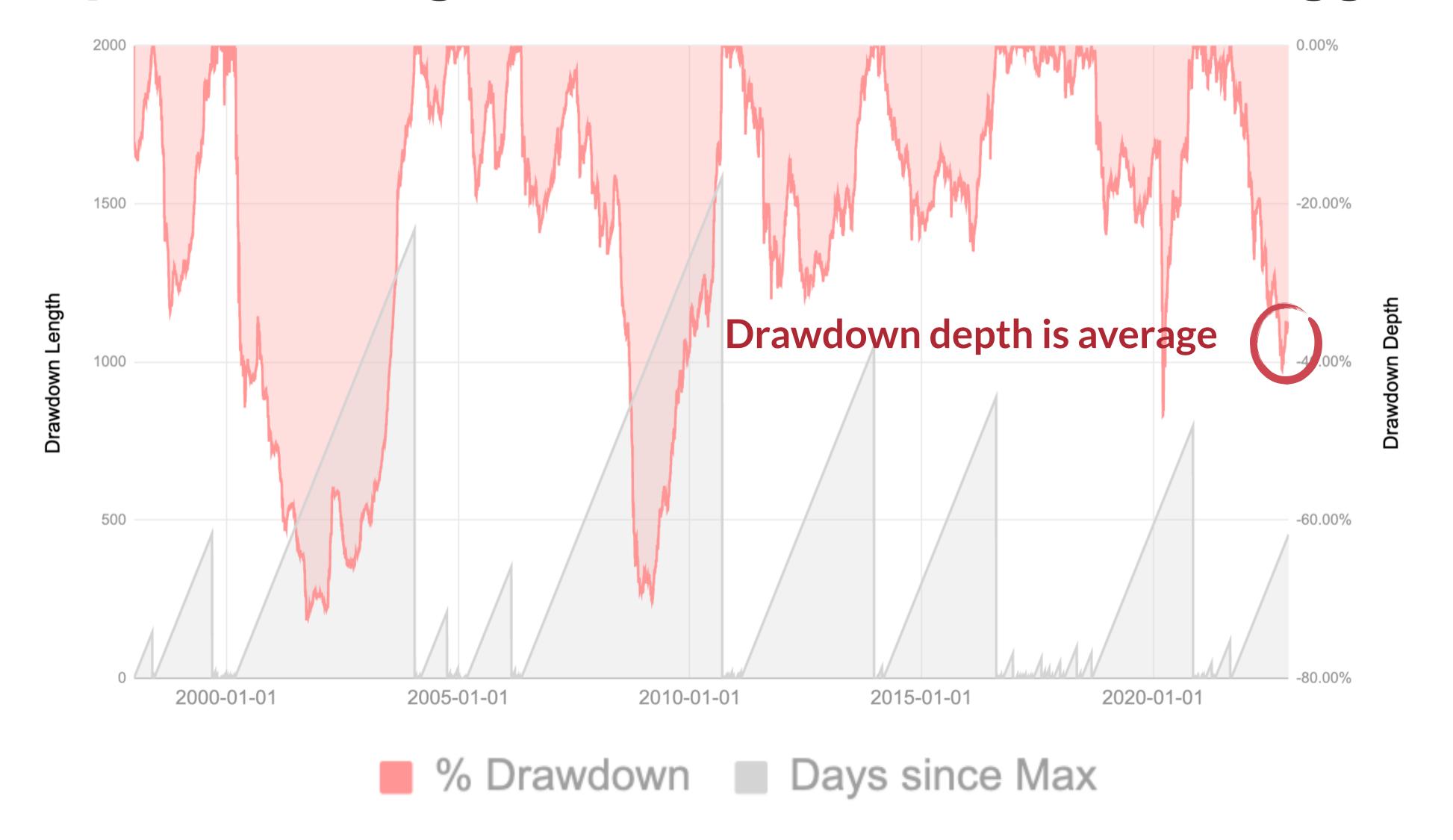


The depth and length of historic drawdowns suggests...



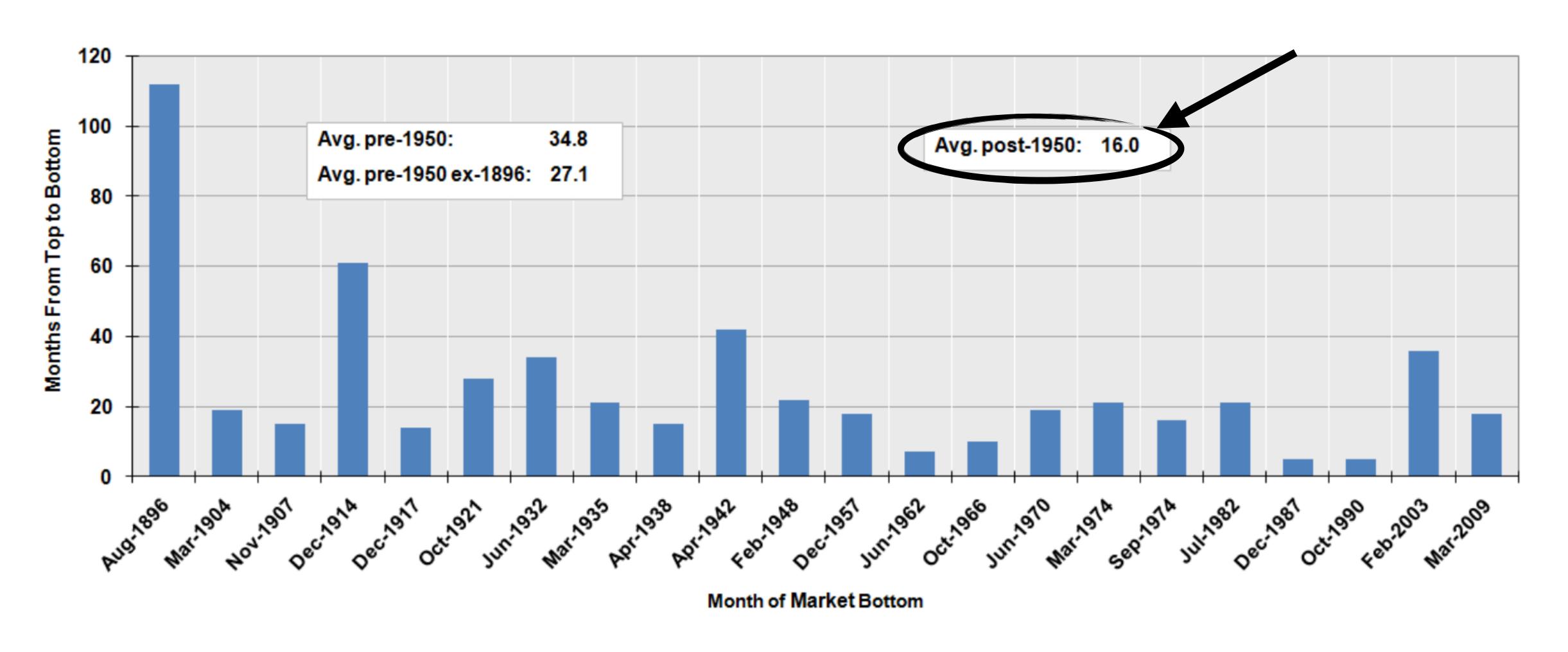


The depth and length of historic drawdowns suggests...





Bear markets post 1950 last 16 months on average



The Relative Valuation of US Equities at Bear Market Bottoms - Weigand & Irons, 2011.



Story stocks can cause a lot of pain

Bear markets can be brutal for glamour stocks popular with investors

Jan '19

Jul '19

Story stocks get you into trouble !



Jan '21

Jul '21

Jan '22

Jul '22

Jul '20

Jan '20

































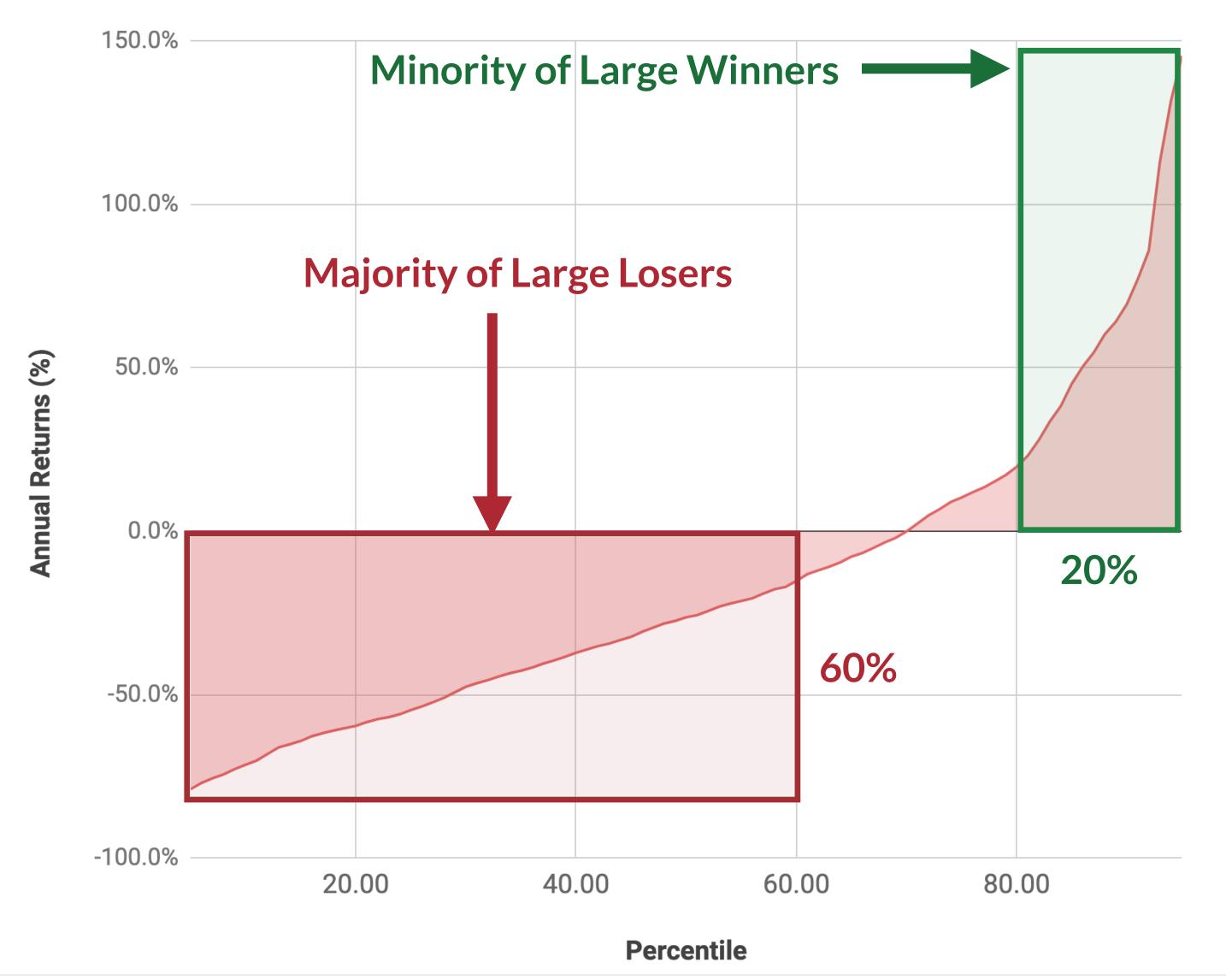




Story stocks do not rank highly for proven factors



Annual returns to Speculative Story Stocks



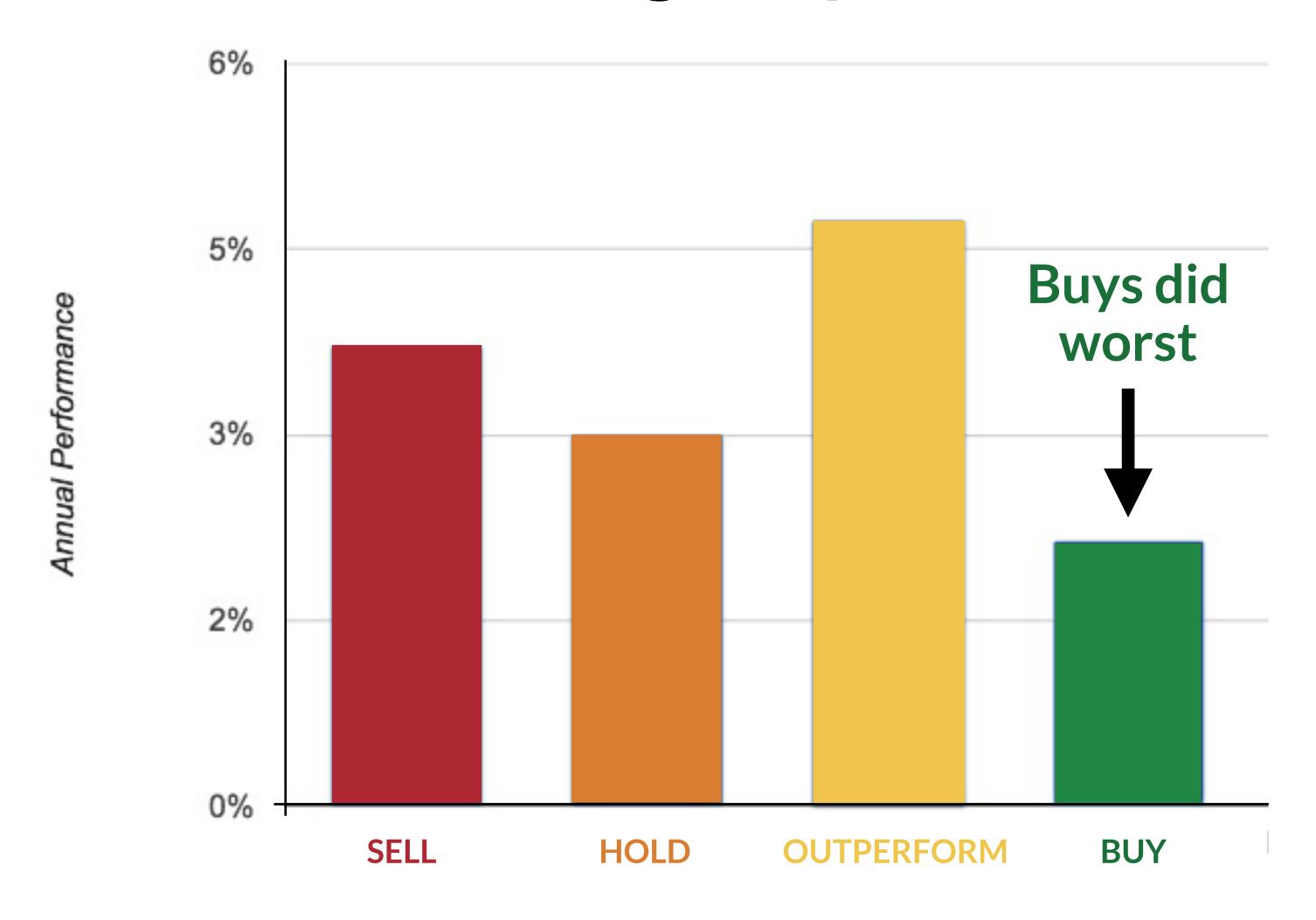


^{*} Based on the average annual returns to shares with StockRank 0-10 since 2013

Why are we so attracted to story stocks?

- The mission behind a company aligns with some major macro trend
- The stock offers a highly compelling narrative that leads to a Hollywood ending
- The stock has a huge following and you have a fear of missing out
- The stock aligns with personal beliefs about how the world should be in the future
- The stocks is associated with a charismatic individual who wants to change the world
- The stock is endorsed by someone authoritative (e.g. broker buy)
- ... and on and on...

Don't trust "Strong Buy" recommendations



^{*} Stockopedia Research between 2015 and 2018 of Broker Recommendations from the Reuters Estimates Database of UK Stocks.

Choosing individual stocks without any idea of what you're looking for is like running through a dynamite factory with a burning match. You may live, but you're still an idiot.





Joel Greenblatt

Hedge Fund Manager and Author of "The Little Book that Beats the Market"



What <u>really</u> drives stock returns?

Understanding the three most powerful return drivers of stocks



In the short run, the stock market is a voting machine, but in the long run, it is a weighing machine





Benjamin Graham

Economist, Professor, Investor. Author of Security Analysis & The Intelligent Investor

Stock market history - a trail of clues...

1920

1950

1980







Quality beats Junk

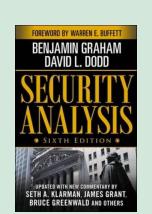




Novy Marx





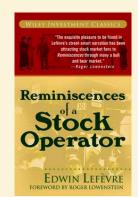


Ben Graham



Momentum Leaders beat Laggards





Jesse Livermore

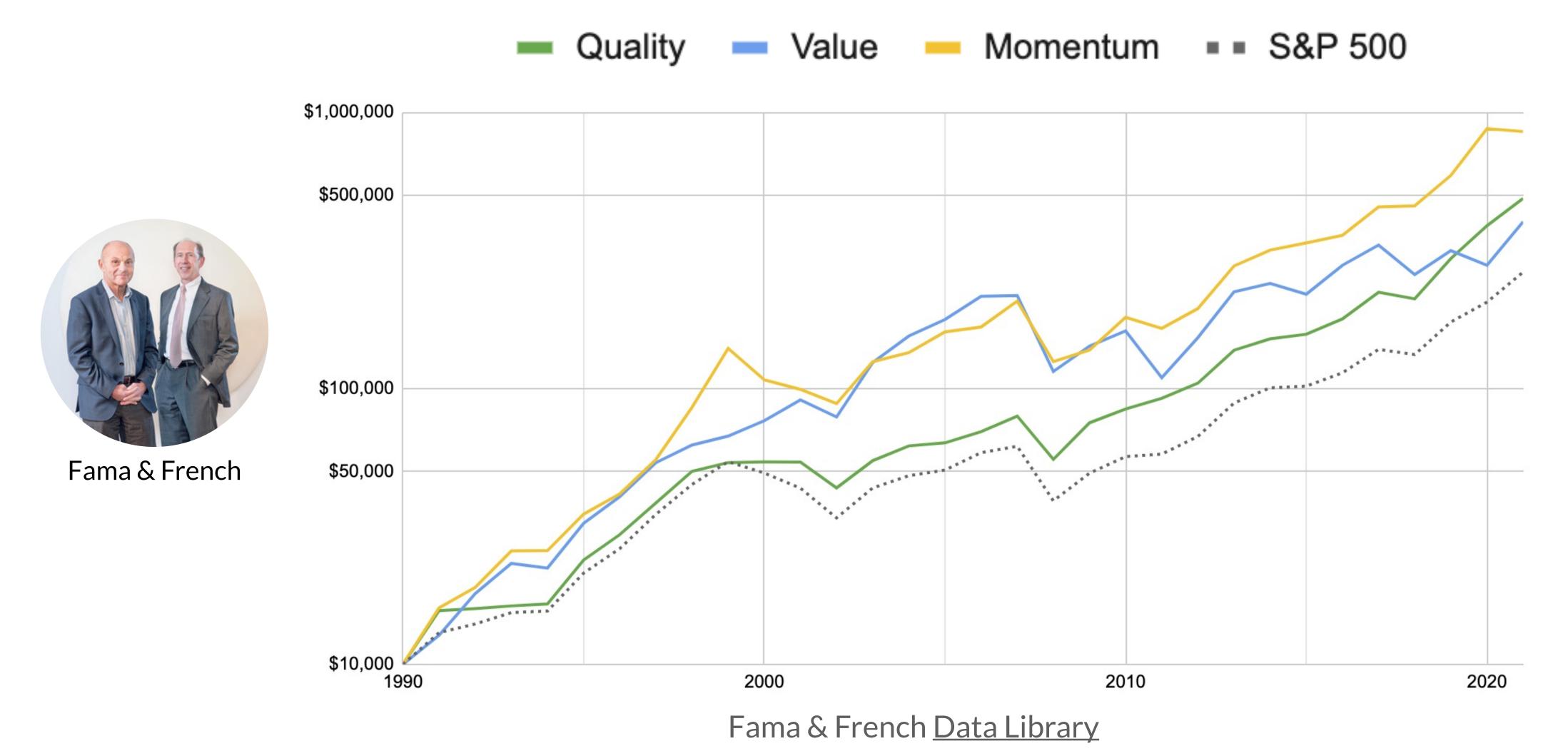


Jegadeesh & Titman

The 3 primary "factors" that drive stock returns



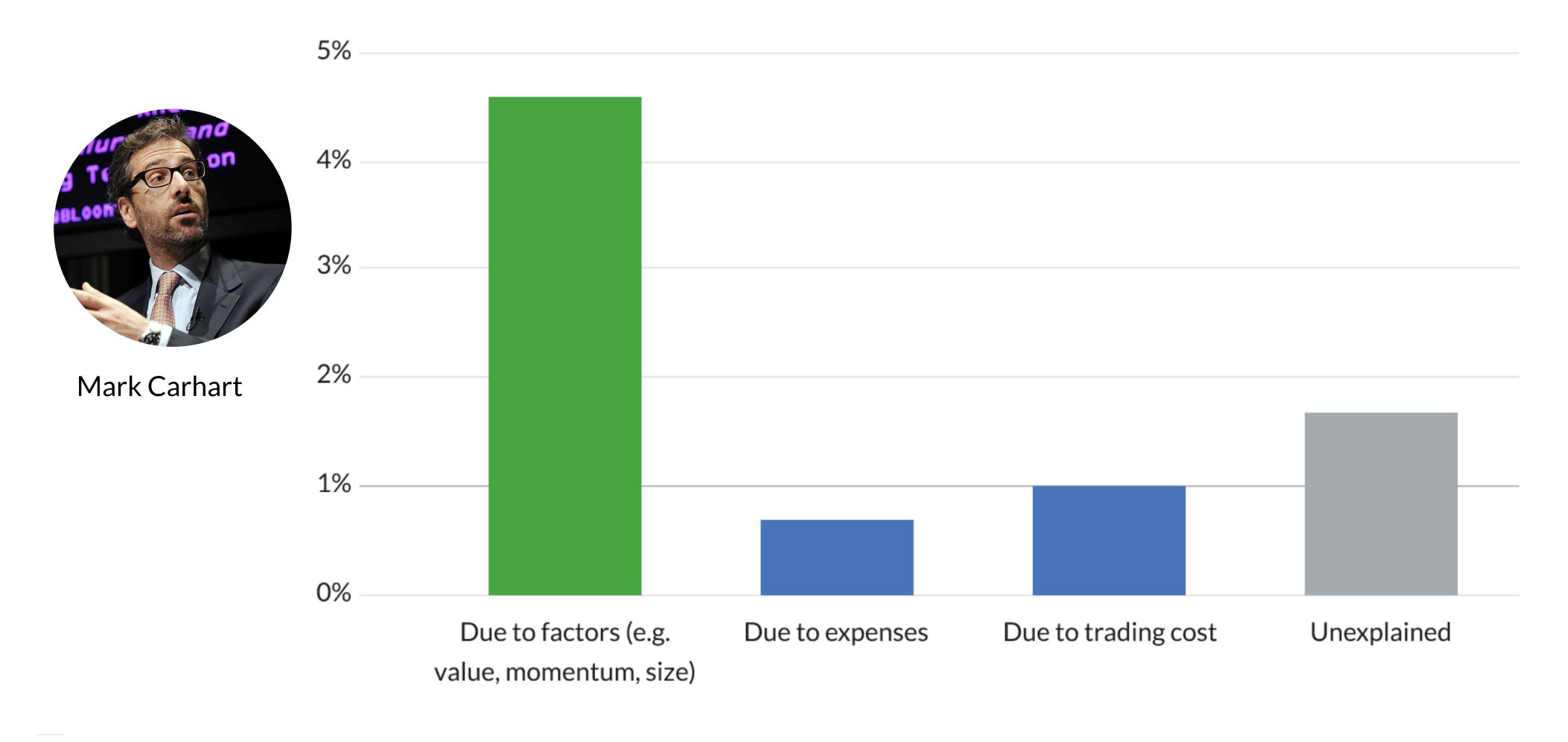
\$10,000 invested in "factor" portfolios (1990-2000)





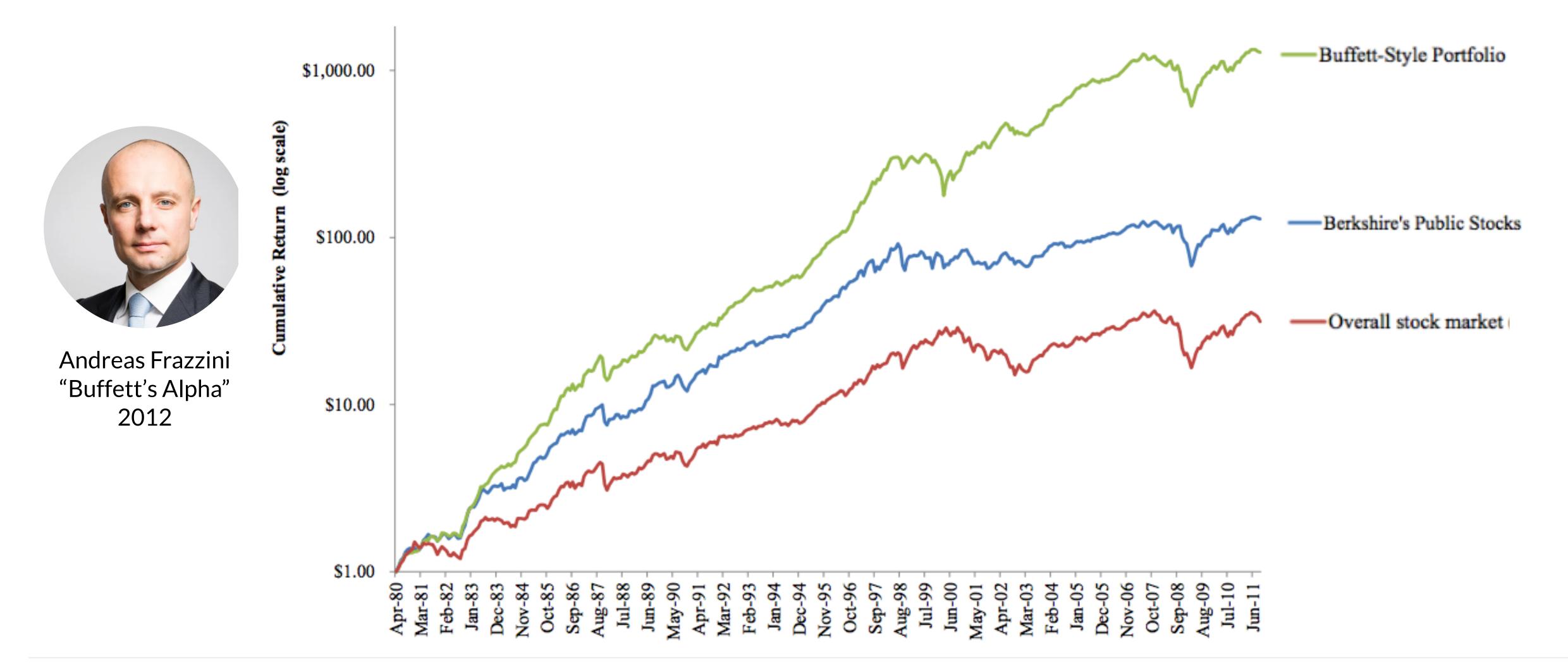
Are the best fund managers just factor investors?

Reasons for the performance of the best vs worst fund managers



Proving Warren Buffett's "Style" is replicable

"The secret to Buffett's success is his preference for cheap, safe, high quality stocks"





How can you <u>measure</u> Quality, Value and Momentum?



OXY - Occidental Petroleum

\$71.25 ↓ -3.58 -4.78%

Last trade – 16:02 Full quote

Energy · Adventurous · Large Cap · Super Stock

Market Cap £60

Enterprise Value £86

Revenue £29

Position in Market 160th / 10





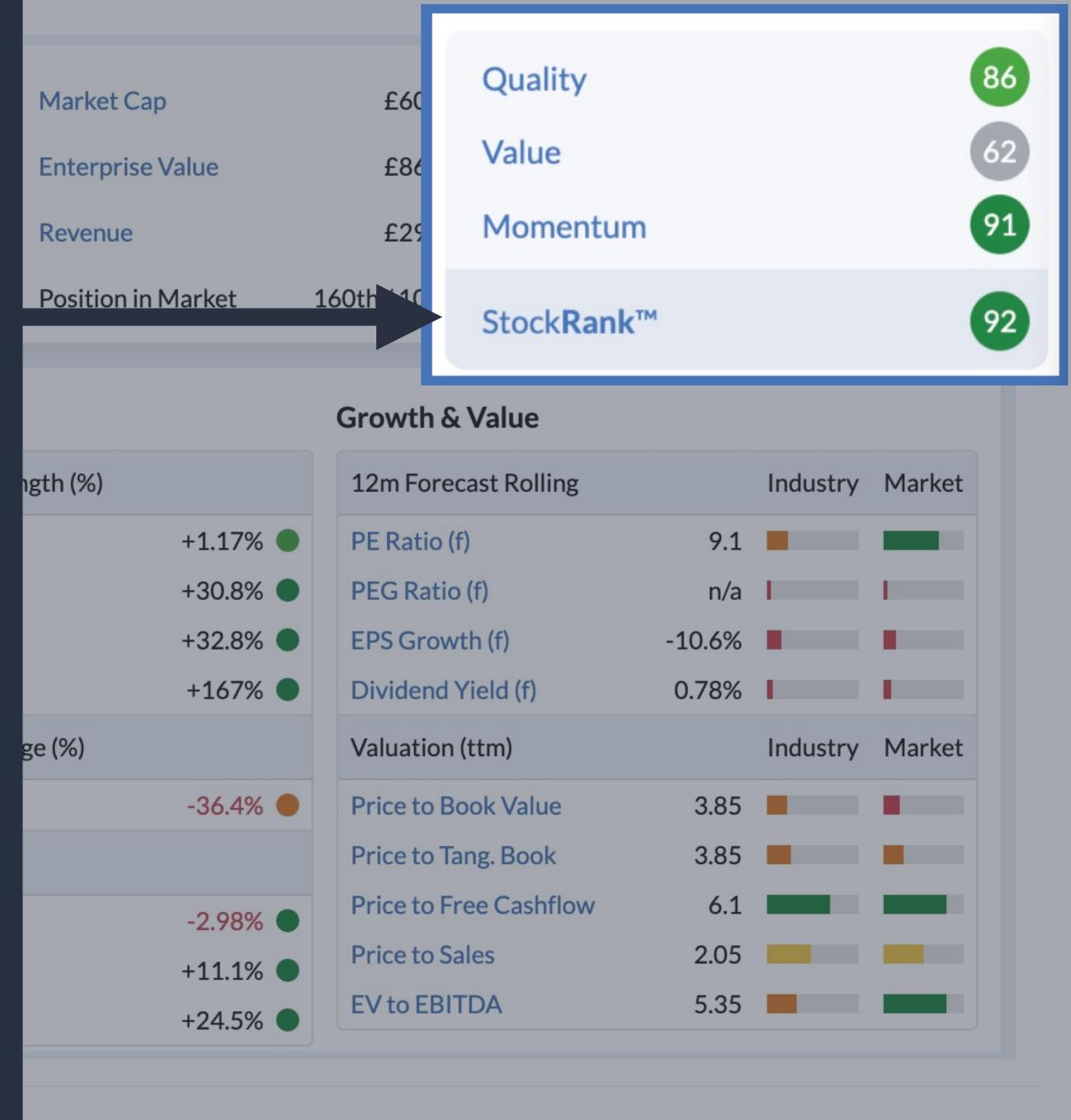
Momentum

Relative Strength (%)			
1m	+1.17%		
3m	+30.8%		
6m	+32.8%		
1y	+167%		
Volume Change (%)			
10d/3m	-36.4%		
Price vs (%)			
52w High	-2.98%		
50d MA	+11.1%		
200d MA	+24.5%		

Growth & Value

12m Forecast Rolling		Industry	Market
PE Ratio (f)	9.1		
PEG Ratio (f)	n/a		
EPS Growth (f)	-10.6%		
Dividend Yield (f)	0.78%		
Valuation (ttm)		Industry	Market
Price to Book Value	3.85		
Price to Tang. Book	3.85		
Price to Free Cashflow	6.1		
Price to Sales	2.05		
EV to EBITDA	5.35		

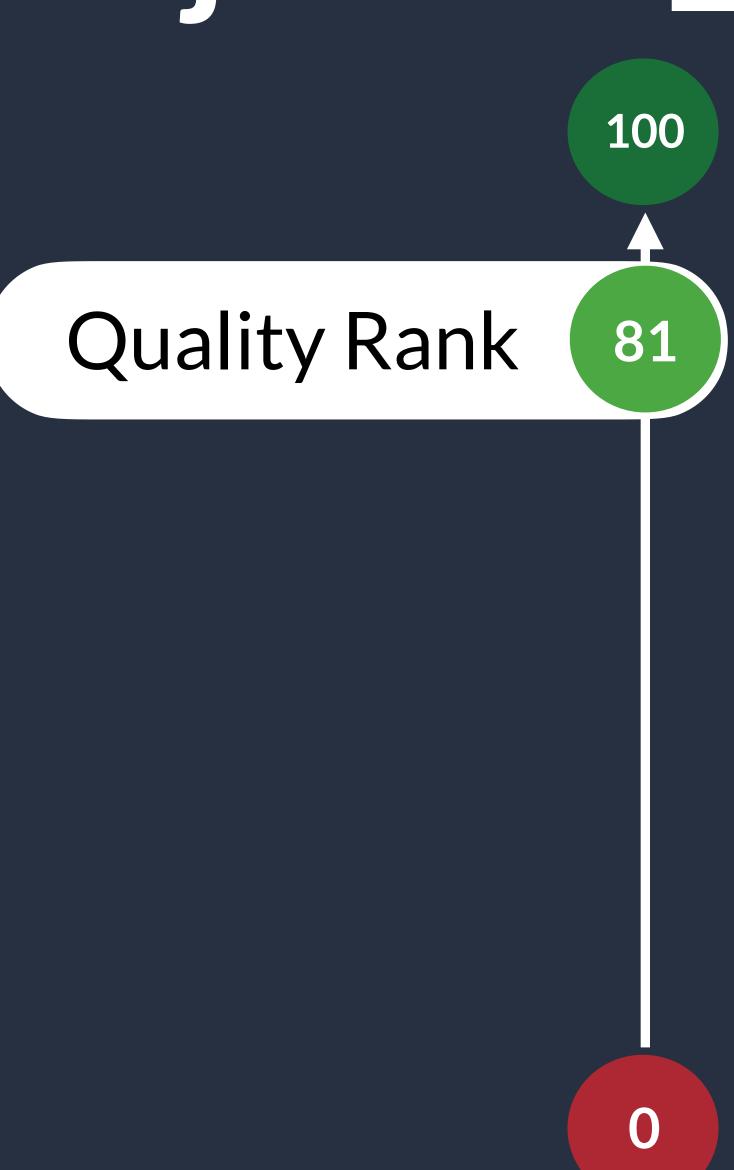




True objective <u>measurement</u>



True objective <u>measurement</u>



Better "quality" than 81% of the market



Value - cheap beats expensive

Measuring relative valuation against earnings, sales, book value and more

Try to buy groups of stocks that meet some simple criterion for being undervalued - regardless of the industry and with very little attention to the individual company.



Benjamin Graham

Economist, Professor, Investor. Author of Security Analysis & The Intelligent Investor

Compare the **price** of a company's shares:

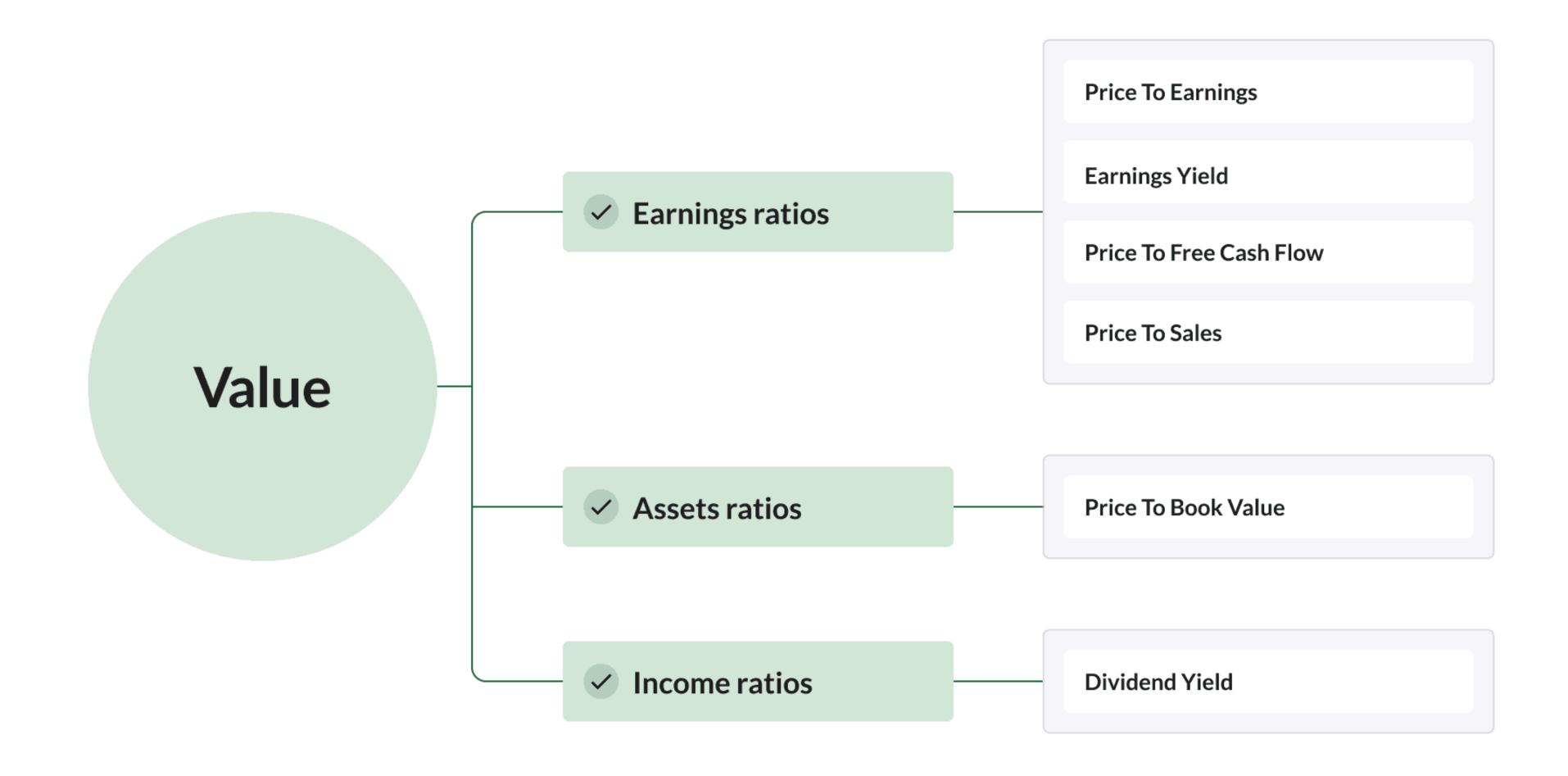
1. vs what it <u>earns</u> Price / Earnings, Earnings Yield

Price / Free Cashflow, Price / Sales

2. vs what it owns Price / Book Value

3. vs what it <u>pays out</u> Dividend Yield

The Value Rank - bringing the factors together



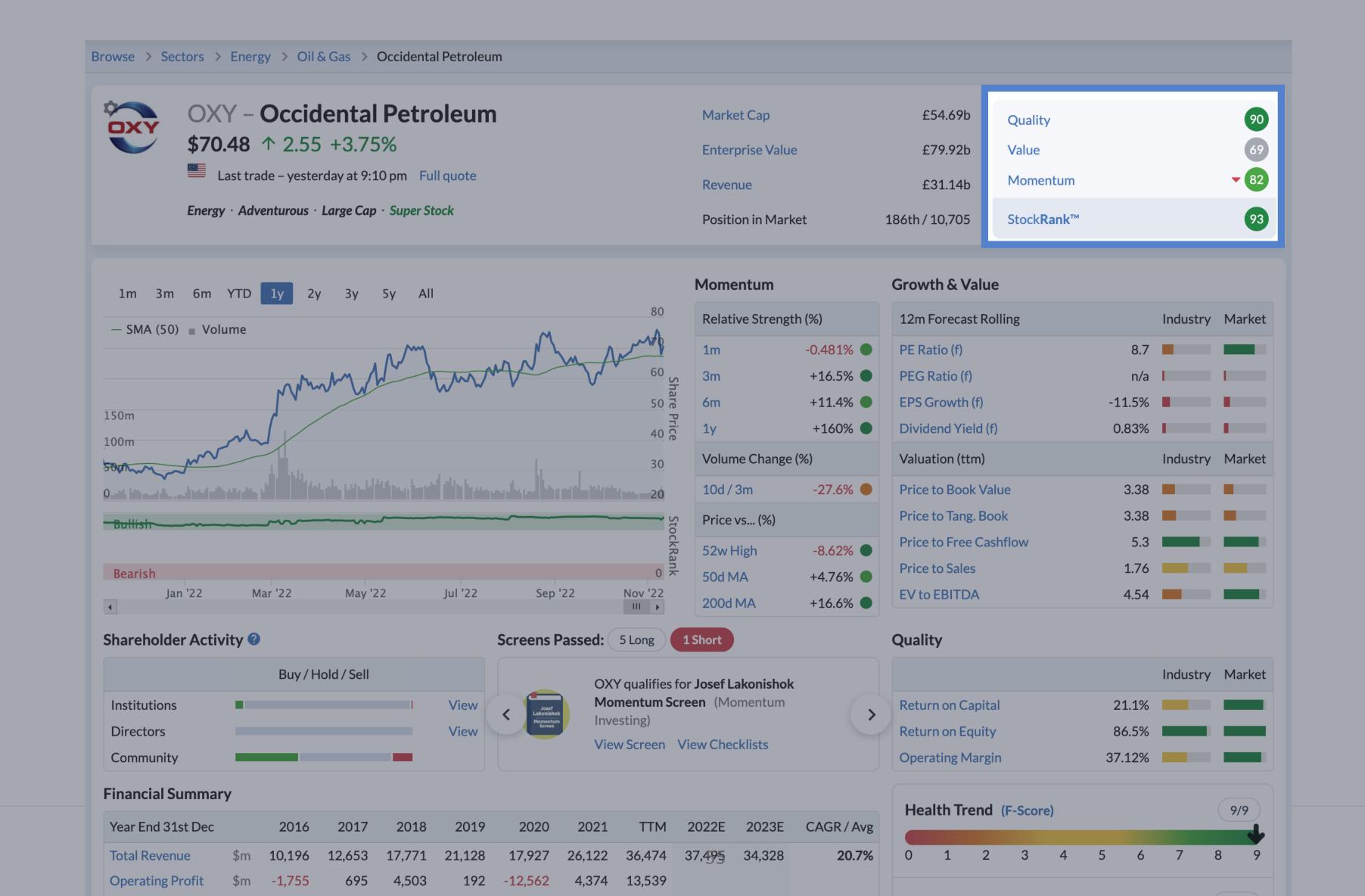
What Works?

Ticker	Name	↓ P/E	Yield	P/S	P/B	P / FCF	EBIT / EV
TECH	Techfinancials Inc	0.3	0.0	0.6	0.4		40.5
CGEO	Georgia Capital	0.9	0.0		0.7		127.1
BWNG	N Brown	0.9	0.0	1.1	0.5		93.2
TSL	Thinksmart	1.2	0.0	0.3	0.4	2.8	8.5
BMV	Bluebird Merchant Ventures	1.5	0.8	24.6	0.8	52.3	-0.6
PDL	Petra Diamonds	1.7	3.3	1.5	0.6	71.4	32.3
PERE	Pembridge Resources	1.8	0.0	1.8	0.9	74.7	54.3
FXPO	Ferrexpo	1.8	0.0	1.9	0.6		53.0
KIE	Kier	1.8	0.0	1.5	0.6		65.6
RMM	Rambler Metals And Mining	1.8	7.6	1.7	0.7		55.7
MTL	Metals Exploration	1.8	0.0	1.7	0.5	71.1	58.6
LDG	Logistics Development	1.9	0.0	0.5	0.5	1.9	55.0
OPTI	Optibiotix Health	1.9	3.1	1.9	0.9		54.1
СРІ	Capita	2.0	0.0	1.5	0.9	5.7	68.0
KDNC	Cadence Minerals	2.0	12.1	26.6	0.8	1.2	0.2
TEK	Tekcapital	2.1	0.0	-238.6	5.6		53.3
RR.	Rolls-royce Holdings	2.1	2.1	7.4	3.7		12.9

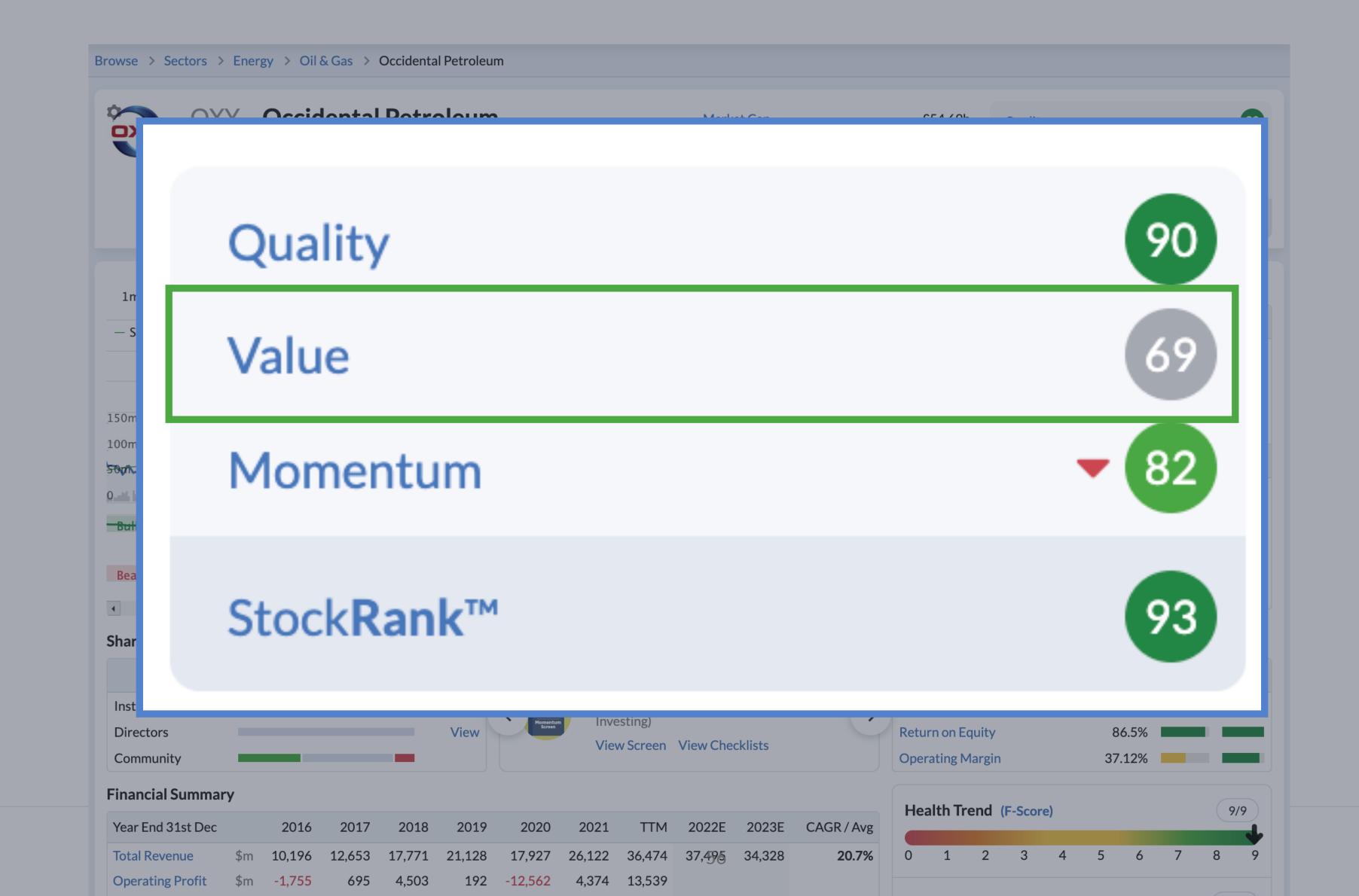
cials Inc Capital Int Merchant Ventures	100% 100% 100%	100% 100% 100%	86% 100%	99% 93% 96%	P / FCF	93% 98%
Capital	100%	100%	100%	93%		98%
ırt	100%	100%				
			76%	96%		98%
	100%	100%				JU /0
Merchant Ventures		. 00 /0	96%	98%	95%	62%
	100%	59%	4%	87%	15%	7%
monds	99%	26%	66%	95%	10%	90%
e Resources	99%	100%	61%	83%	10%	95%
	99%	100%	60%	95%		95%
	99%	100%	65%	94%		97%
Metals And Mining	99%	3%	62%	91%		96%
ploration	99%	100%	63%	96%	10%	96%
Development	99%	100%	88%	98%	97%	96%
Health	99%	28%	59%	81%		95%
					85%	97%
Minerals						9%
					30 70	95%
1	98%	41%	100%	1770		95%
	oloration Development	99% Metals And Mining 99% Poloration 99% Development 99% Health 99%	99% 100% Metals And Mining 99% 3% Coloration 99% 100% Development 99% 100% Health 99% 28% Minerals 98% 1%	99% 100% 65% Metals And Mining 99% 3% 62% Poloration 99% 100% 63% Development 99% 100% 88% Health 99% 28% 59% Minerals 98% 1% 3%	99% 100% 65% 94% Metals And Mining 99% 3% 62% 91% ploration 99% 100% 63% 96% Development 99% 100% 88% 98% Health 99% 28% 59% 81% Minerals 98% 1% 3% 84%	99% 100% 65% 94% Metals And Mining 99% 3% 62% 91% Poloration 99% 100% 63% 96% 10% Development 99% 100% 88% 98% 97% Health 99% 28% 59% 81% Minerals 98% 1% 3% 84% 98%

Ticker	Name	Value Rank
TECH	Techfinancials Inc	100%
CGEO	Georgia Capital	100%
BWNG	N Brown	100%
TSL	Thinksmart	99%
BMV	Bluebird Merchant Ventures	39%
PDL	Petra Diamonds	79%
PERE	Pembridge Resources	90%
FXPO	Ferrexpo	99%
KIE	Kier	99%
RMM	Rambler Metals And Mining	86%
MTL	Metals Exploration	92%
LDG	Logistics Development	100%
OPTI	Optibiotix Health	88%
СРІ	Capita	98%
KDNC	Cadence Minerals	48%
TEK	Tekcapital	95%
RR.	Rolls-royce Holdings	52%

Value Rank for every stock in the market

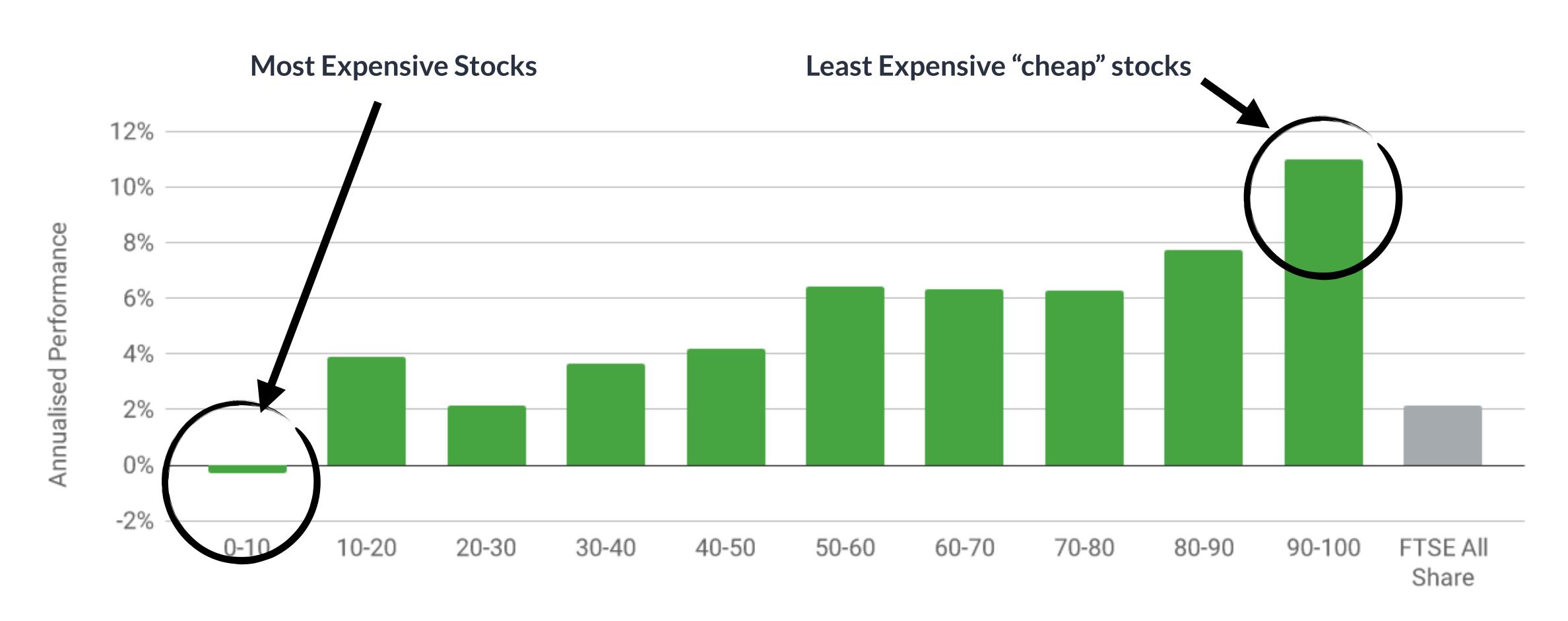


Value Rank for every stock in the market





The Value Rank - performance over time



Value Rank Decile

What Works?



Quality - "good" beats junk

Measuring profitability, margins, stability, cash generation and risk

How to measure Quality

1. Franchise - is this a profitable, cash generative, stable business?

- Long term Return on Capital Employed
- Gross Profits to Assets
- Long term Free Cash-flow to Assets
- Long term Operating Margin Stability
- Long term Sales Growth Consistency



2. <u>Direction</u> - are the company's fundamentals improving?

A 9 Point checklist measuring the year on year changes in:

- Profitability and cashflow
- leverage, liquidity, funding and operating efficiency



3. Safety - is it free from financial and earnings risks?

Additional checks on:

- Bankruptcy Risk
- Earnings Manipulation Risk



✓ Stockopedia

The Quality Rank - bringing the factors together



What Works OI

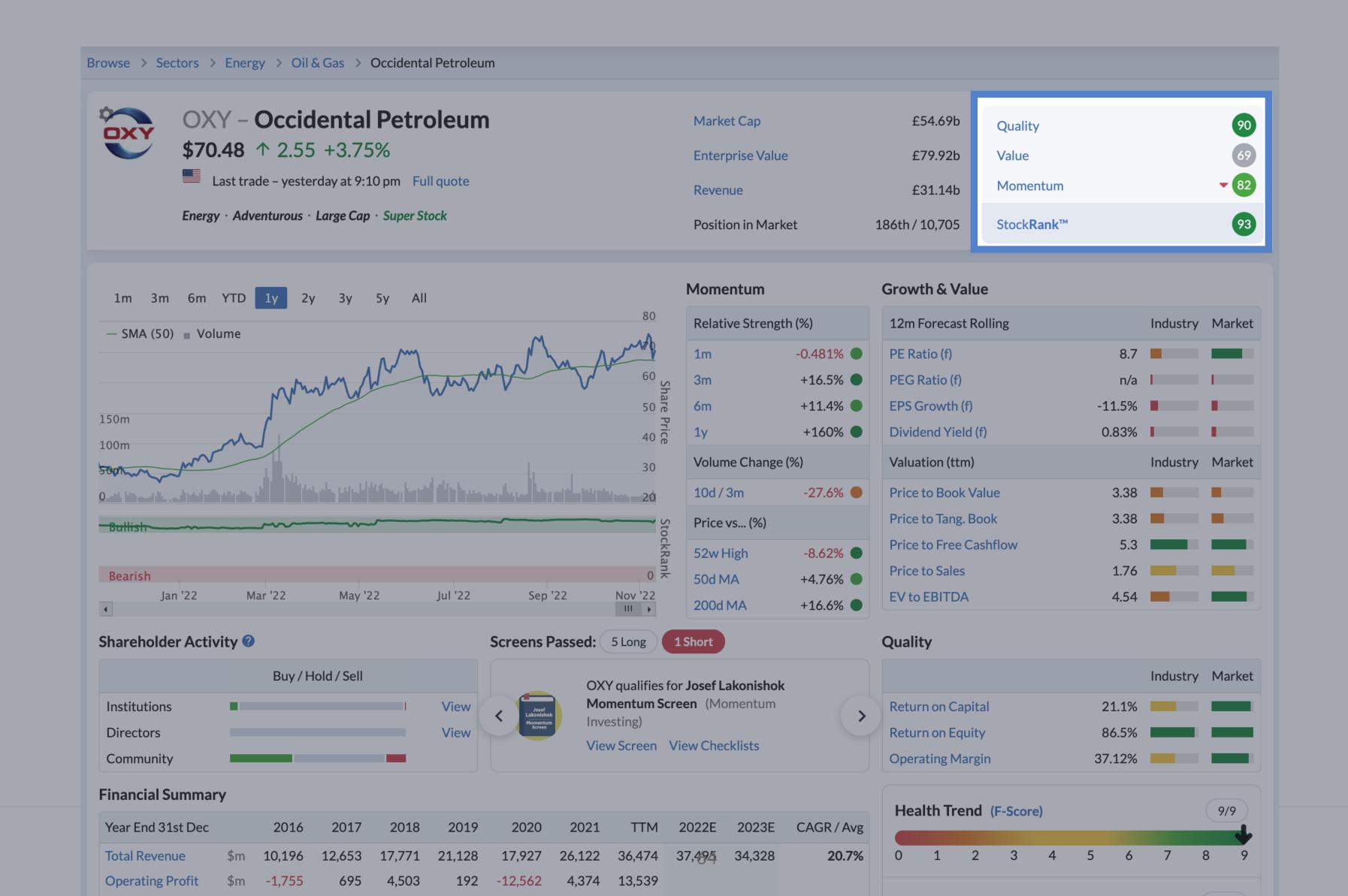
The Quality Rank - bringing the factors together

Ticker	Name	Return on Capital	Gross Profitability	Free Cashflow to Assets	Margin Stability	Sales Growth Persistence	Fundamental Trend	Bankruptcy Risk	Earnings Manipulation Risk
TECH	Techfinancials Inc	100%	3%	59%	44%	61%	66%	100%	3%
CGEO	Georgia Capital	12%	97%	96%	97%	70%	96%	33%	7%
BWNG	N Brown	54%	97%	87%	49%	51%	85%	98%	7%
TSL	Thinksmart	71%	13%	65%	97%	44%	66%	73%	60%
BMV	Bluebird Merchant Ventures	87%	60%	83%	34%	97%	96%	24%	98%
PDL	Petra Diamonds	87%	97%	72%	80%	49%	85%	11%	7%
PERE	Pembridge Resources	42%	36%	86%	89%	82%	66%	15%	6%
FXPO	Ferrexpo	48%	44%	74%	4%	78%	66%	72%	93%
KIE	Kier	100%	97%	99%	95%	88%	96%	24%	7%
RMM	Rambler Metals And Mining	33%	49%	70%	75%	78%	66%	98%	7%
MTL	Metals Exploration	69%	97%	89%	87%	67%	85%	4%	7%
LDG	Logistics Development	97%	97%	77%	42%	79%	66%	3%	7%
ОРТІ	Optibiotix Health	45%	23%	82%	48%	97%	42%	3%	3%
СРІ	Capita	89%	61%	78%	100%	21%	66%	24%	94%
KDNC	Cadence Minerals	88%	70%	88%	70%	23%	42%	91%	4%
TEK	Tekcapital	54%	51%	78%	89%	95%	66%	5%	7%
RR.	Rolls-royce Holdings	34%	67%	89%	77%	75%	19%	8%	2%
PNS	Panther Securities P L C	80%	79%	62 4%	59%	36%	66%	98%	92%

The Quality Rank - bringing the factors together

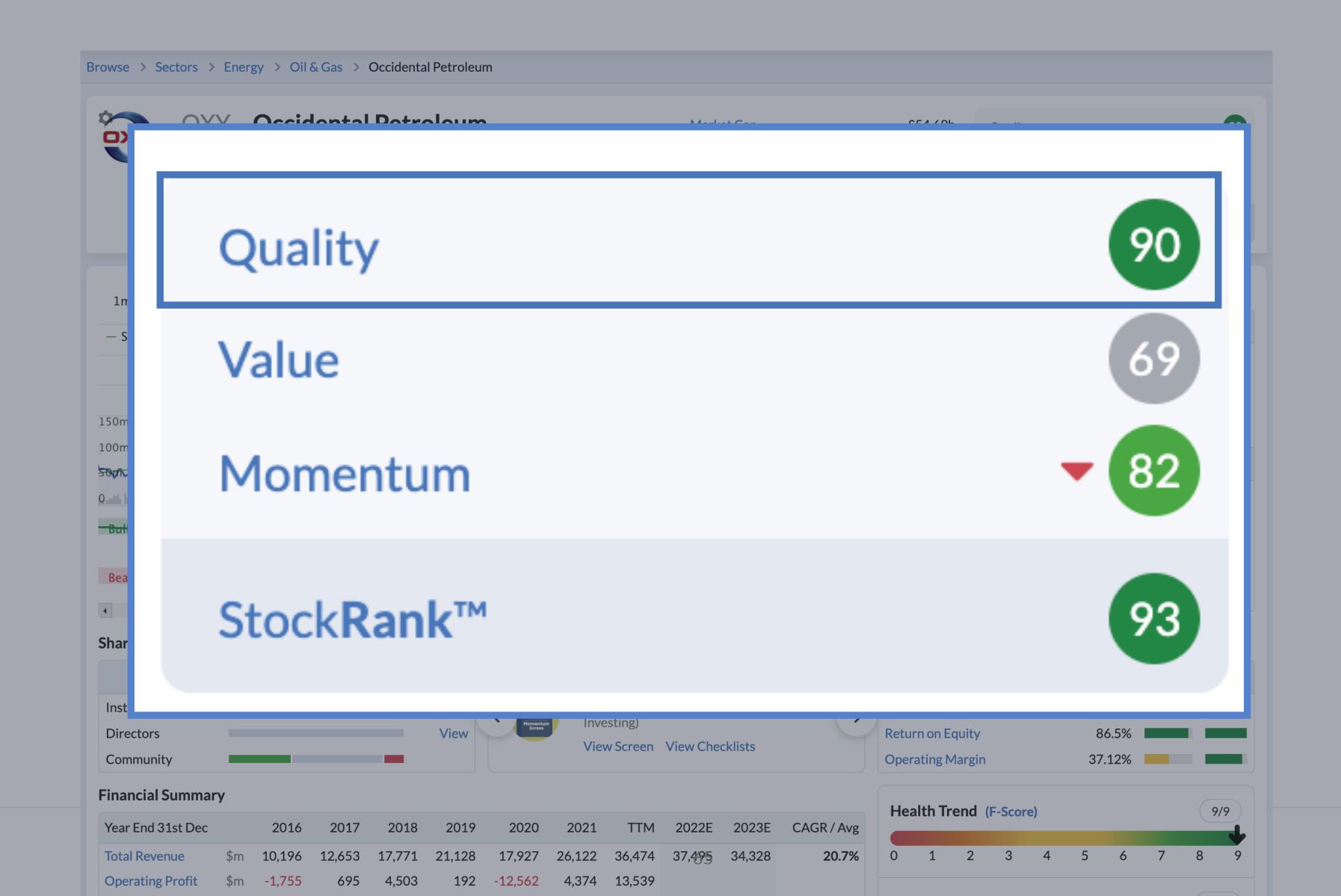
Tiokov	Nama	Quality Rank
Ticker	Name	Quality Natik
TECH	Techfinancials Inc	36%
CGEO	Georgia Capital	23%
BWNG	N Brown	32%
TSL	Thinksmart	75%
BMV	Bluebird Merchant Ventures	57%
PDL	Petra Diamonds	43%
PERE	Pembridge Resources	39%
FXPO	Ferrexpo	71%
KIE	Kier	15%
RMM	Rambler Metals And Mining	52%
MTL	Metals Exploration	41%
LDG	Logistics Development	57%
OPTI	Optibiotix Health	74%
CPI	Capita	67%
KDNC	Cadence Minerals	42%
TEK	Tekcapital	84%
RR.	Rolls-royce Holdings	81%
PNS	Panther Securities P L C	51%

Quality Rank - for every stock in the market



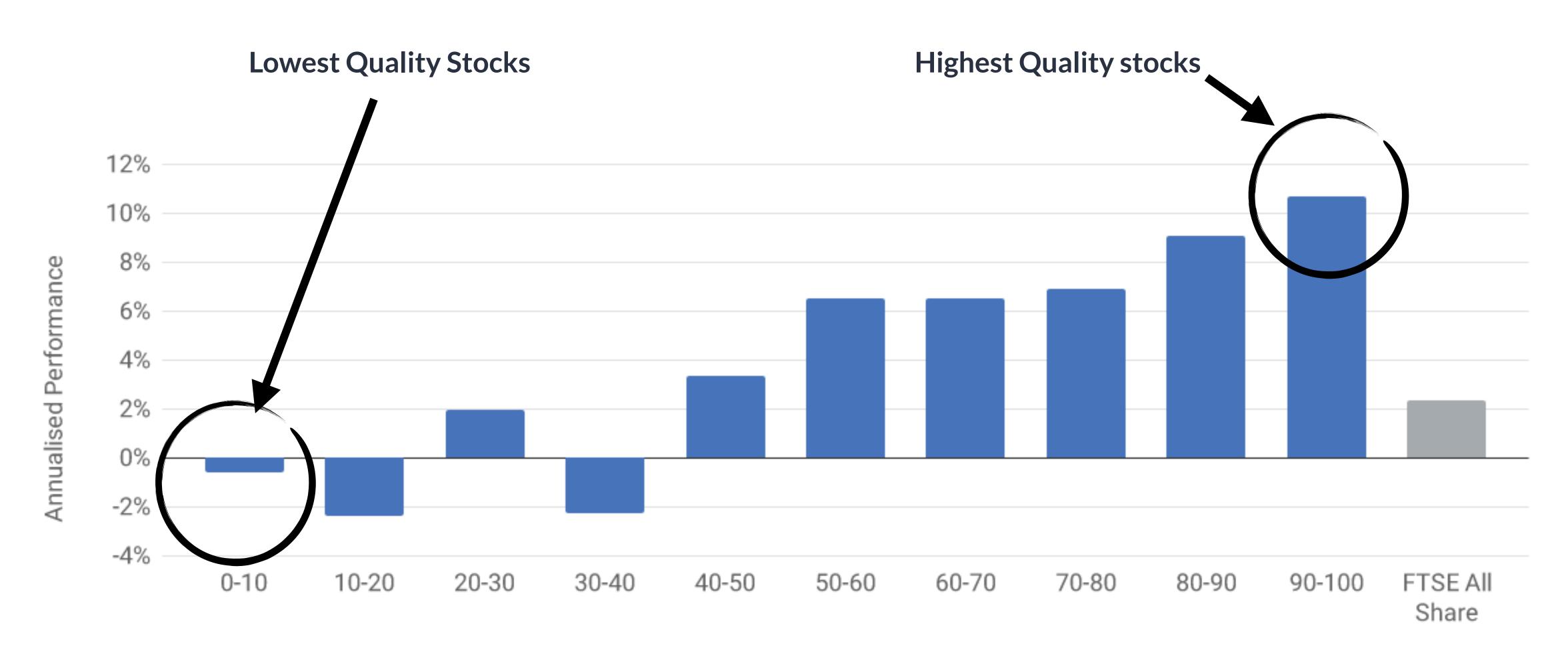


Quality Rank - for every stock in the market





The Quality Rank - performance over time



Quality Rank Decile

67

What Works



Momentum - strong beats weak

Measuring the power of trends in share prices and analyst expectations



Prices are never too high to begin buying, nor too low to begin selling.





Jesse Livermore

The Great Bear of Wall Street. Subject of "Reminiscences of a Stock Operator"

Momentum is the general tendency for...

• Stocks that have performed well in the recent past to continue to perform well in future.

• Stocks that have performed poorly in the recent past to continue to perform poorly in future.

A classic Momentum example

FINANCIAL TIMES

ADVENTUROUS INVESTOR

February 22, 2013 6:28 pm

Stock screens to net the ones that got away



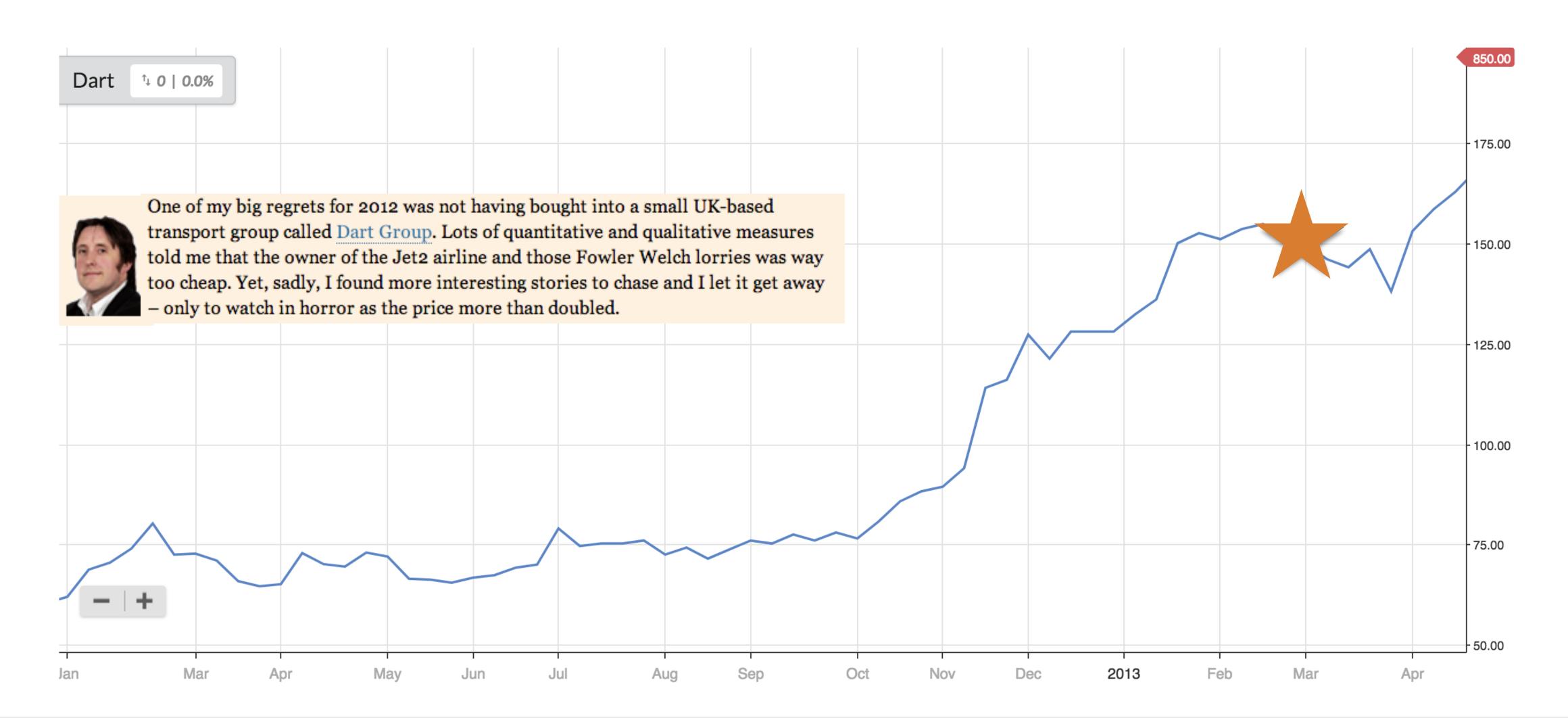
By David Stevenson

How to take some of the emotion out of investing

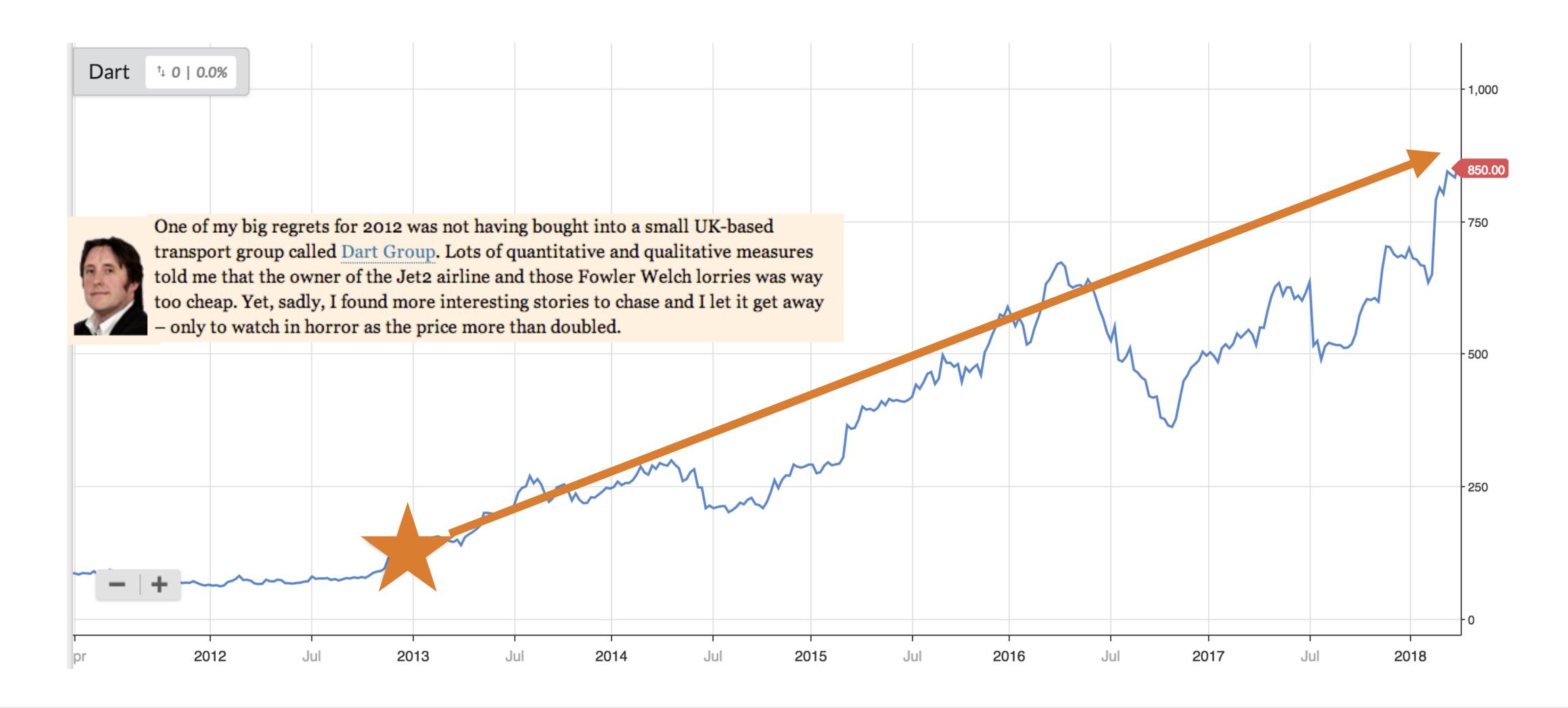
A large part of investing is an exercise in regret, with most anguish focused on the "ones that got away".

One of my big regrets for 2012 was not having bought into a small UK-based transport group called <u>Dart Group</u>. Lots of quantitative and qualitative measures told me that the owner of the Jet2 airline and those Fowler Welch lorries was way too cheap. Yet, sadly, I found more interesting stories to chase and I let it get away – only to watch in horror as the price more than doubled.

A classic Momentum example



A classic Momentum example



How to measure Momentum?

Momentum in Share Prices

Recent 6m-1y share price strength.

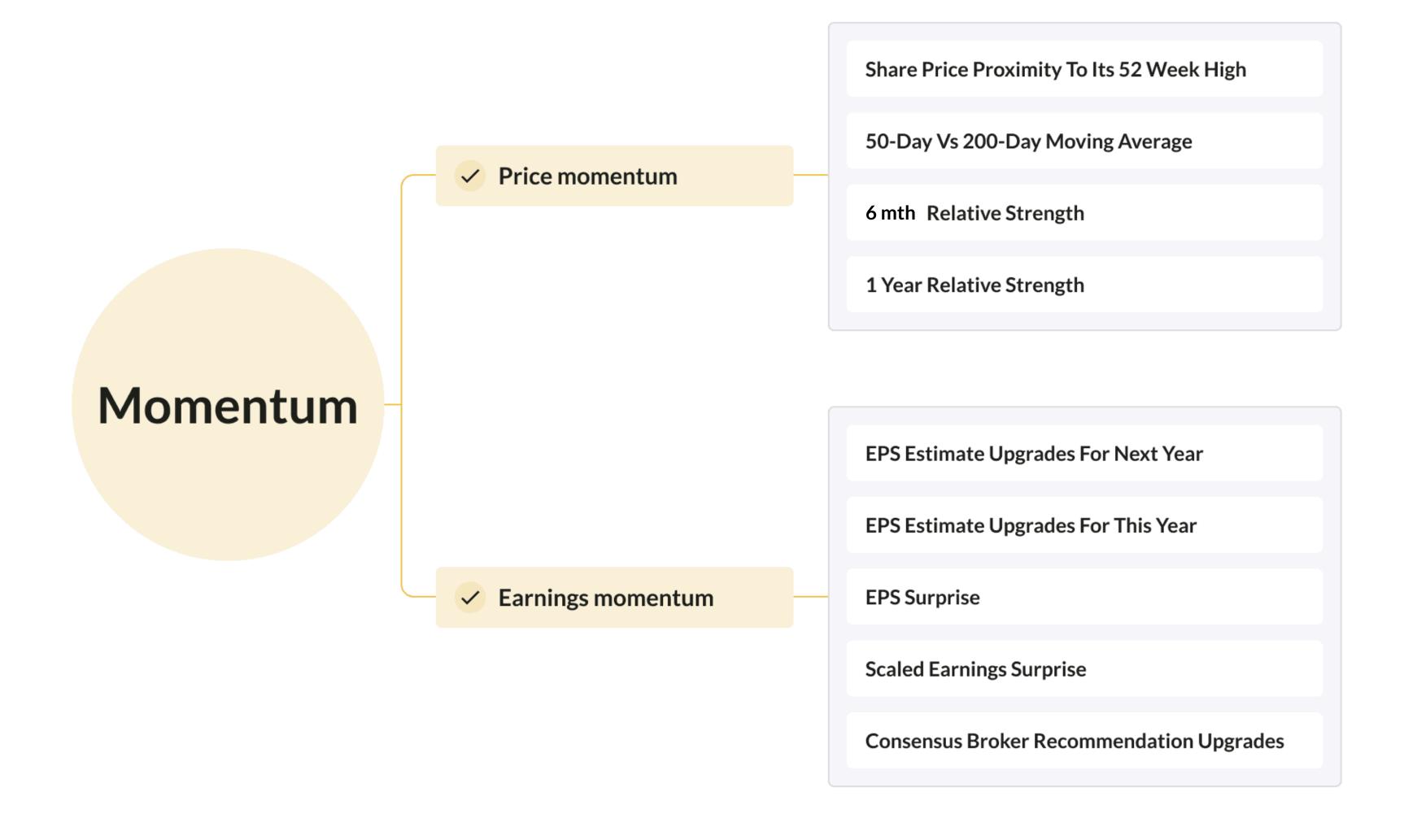
52 week highs. Price above Moving Averages.

Momentum in Analyst forecasts

Earnings forecast upgrades. Recommendation upgrades.

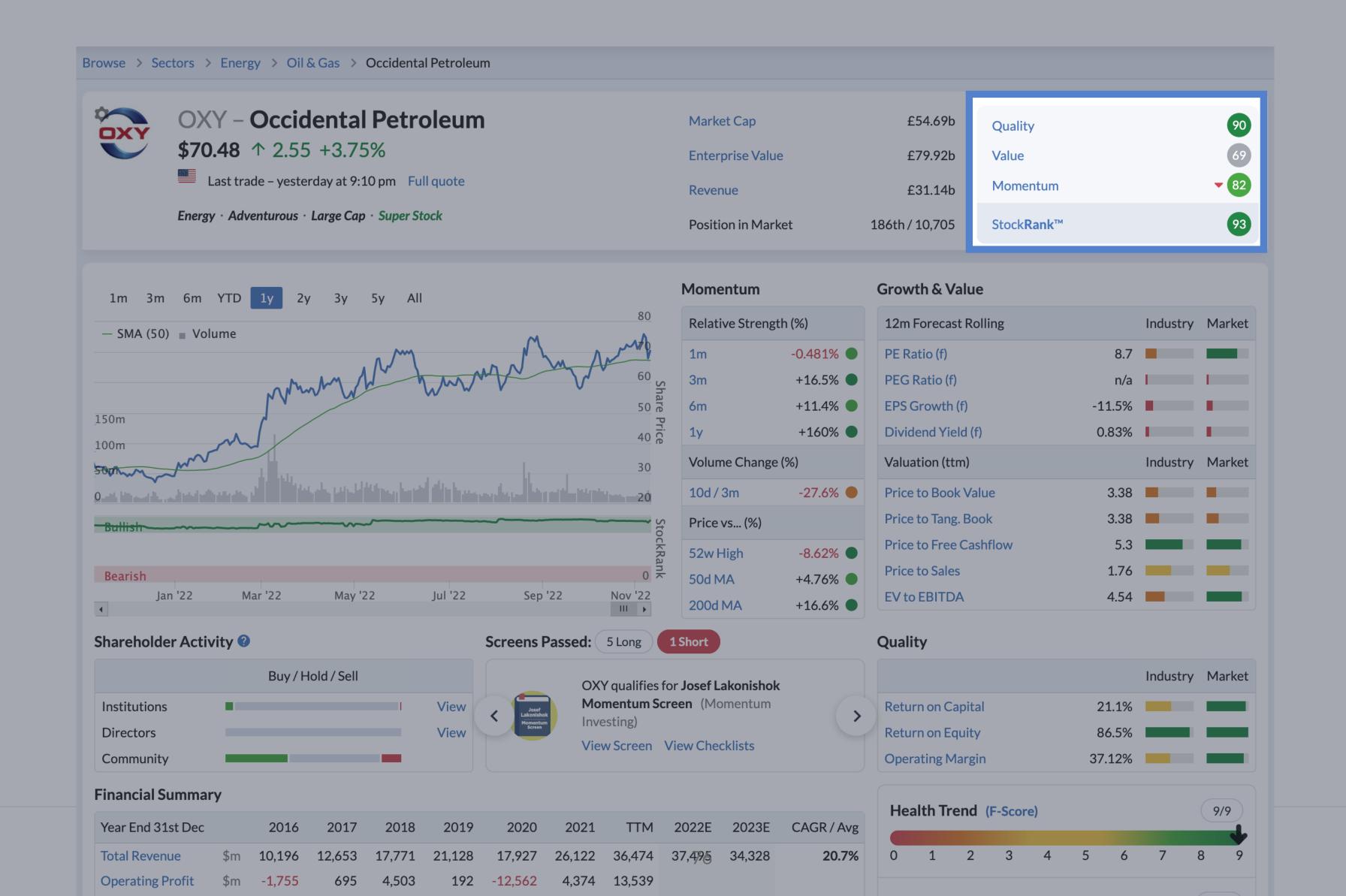
Earnings beating forecasts (surprise).

The Momentum Rank - bringing the factors together



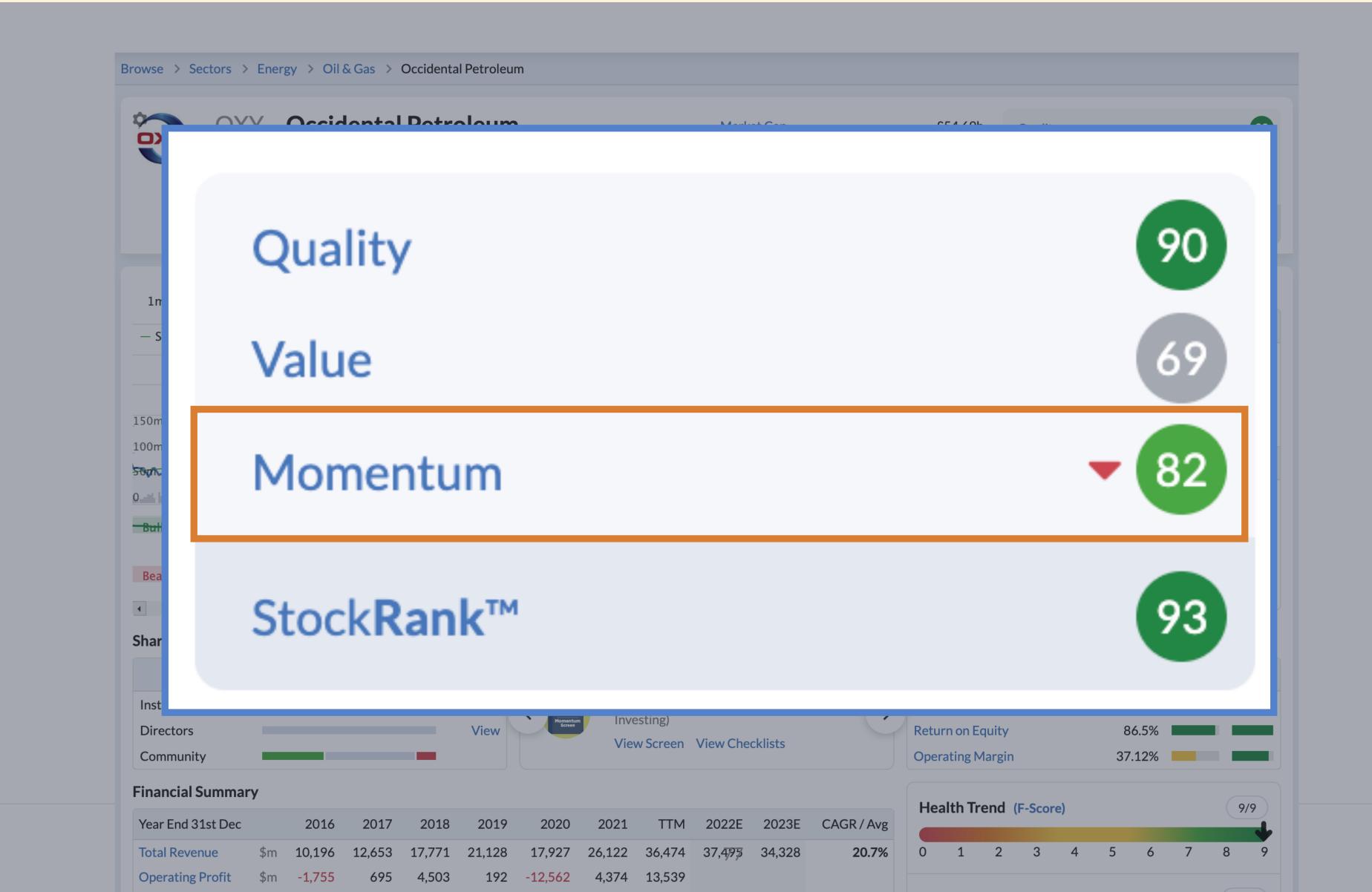
What Works 75

Momentum Rank - for every stock in the market



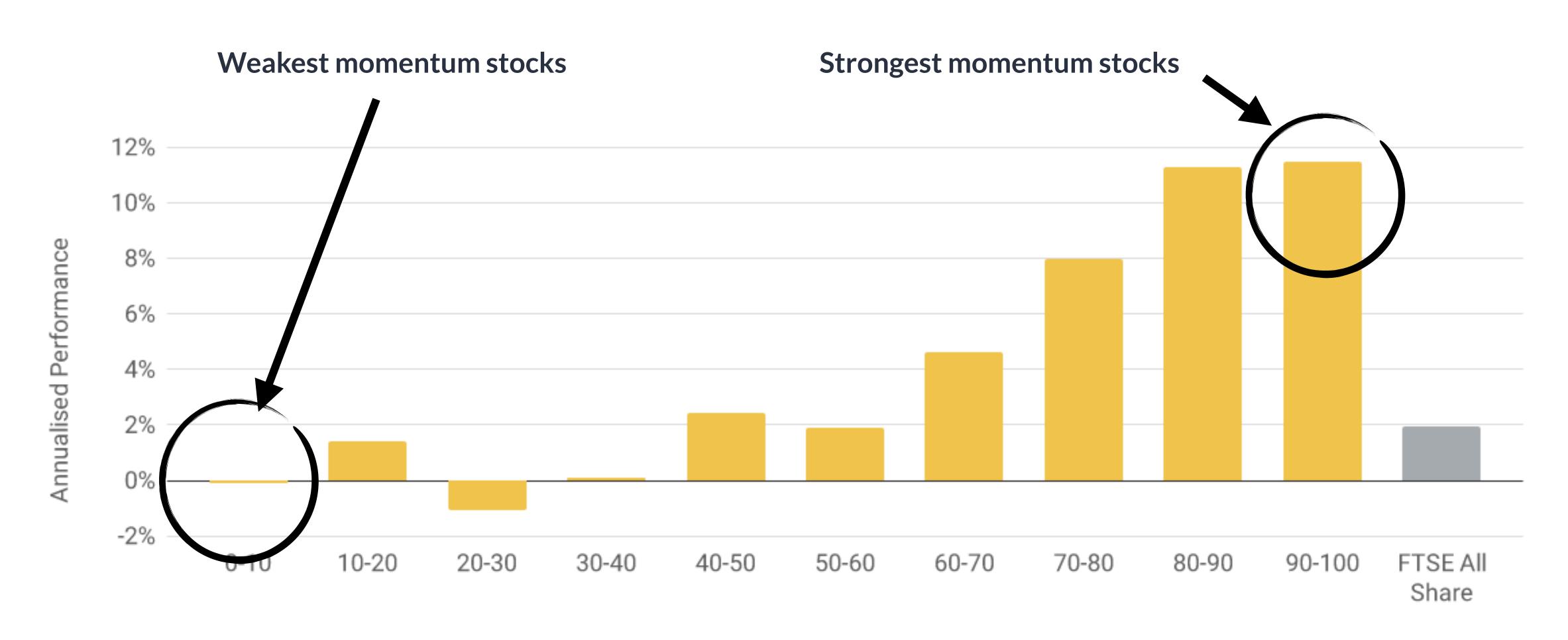


Momentum Rank - for every stock in the market





The Momentum Rank - performance over time



Momentum Rank Decile

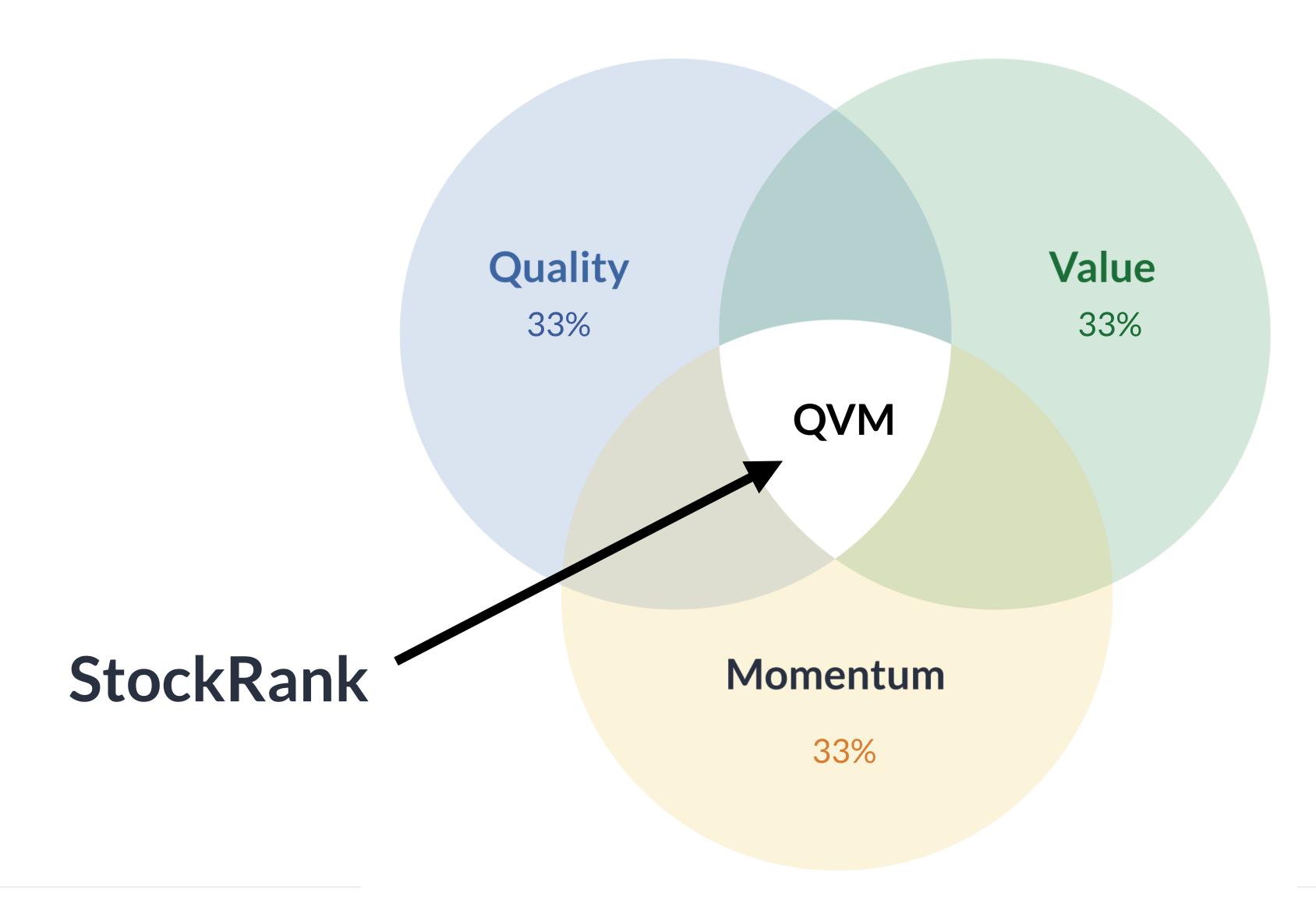
What Works 79



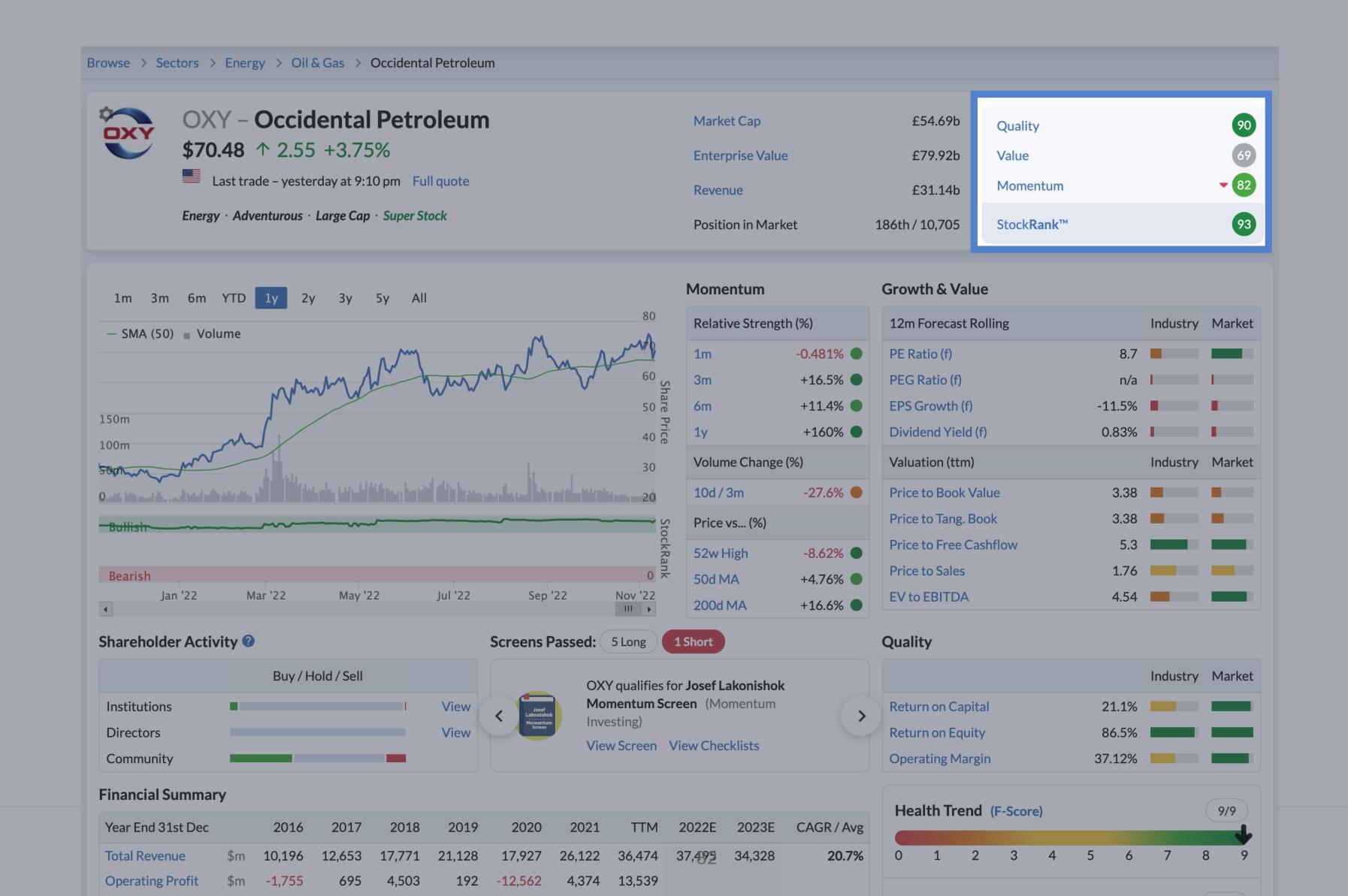
Quality, Value and Momentum

These return drivers are more powerful together, than they are individually

StockRank - quality, value and momentum

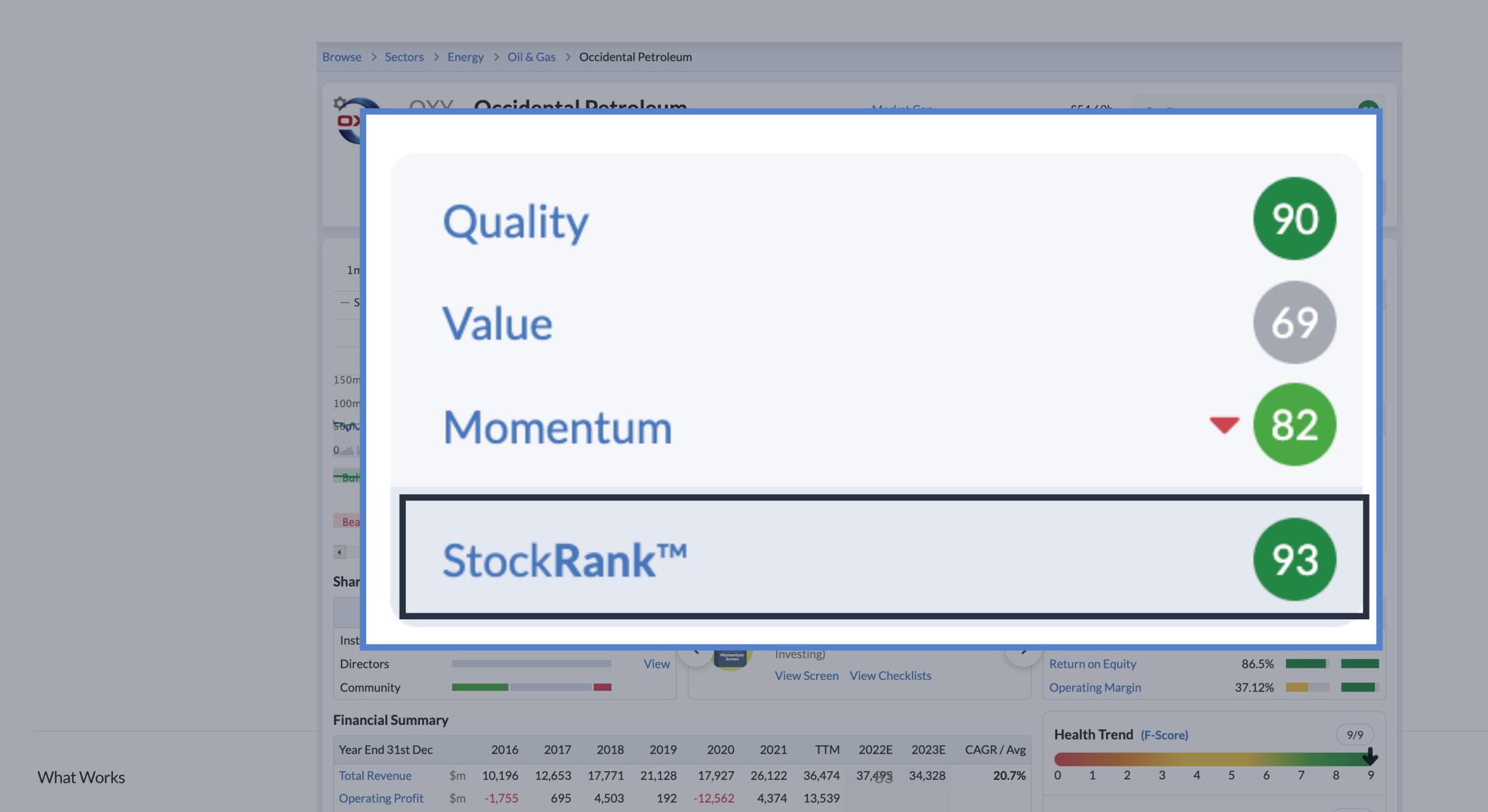


StockRank - quality, value and momentum





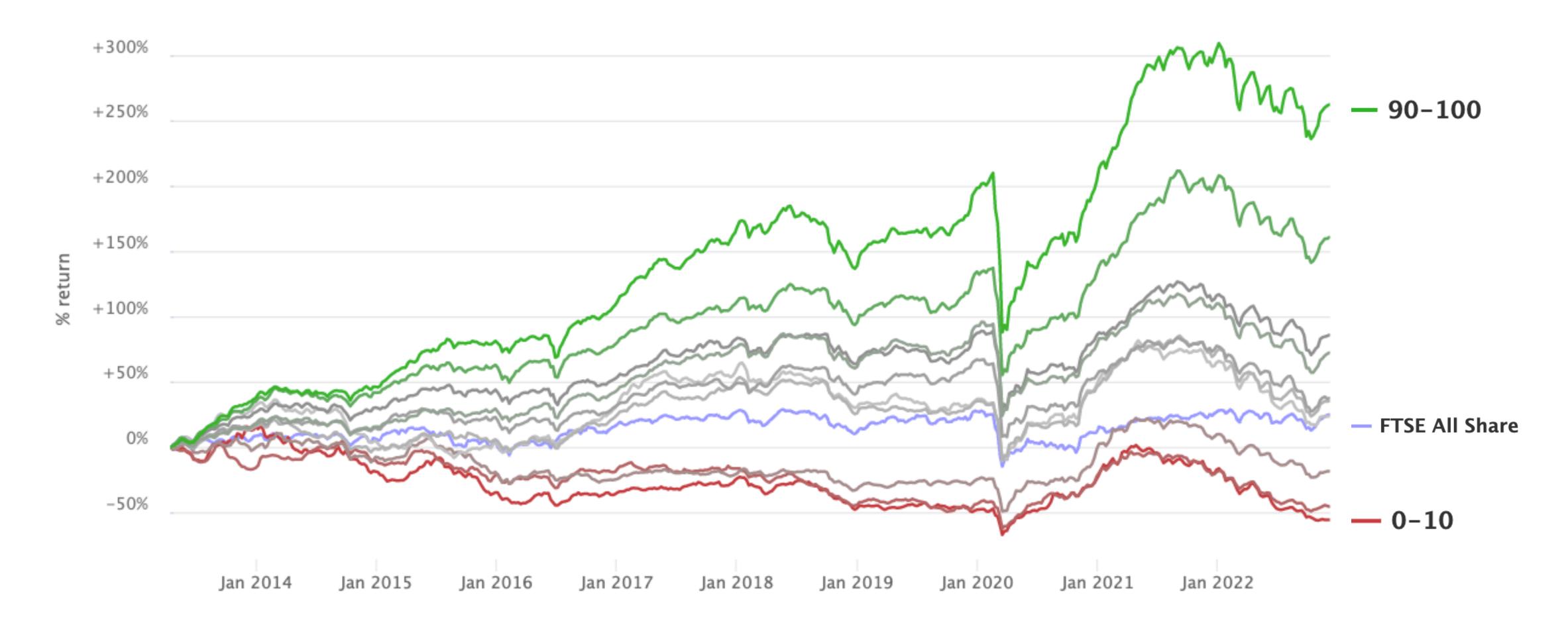
StockRank - quality, value and momentum





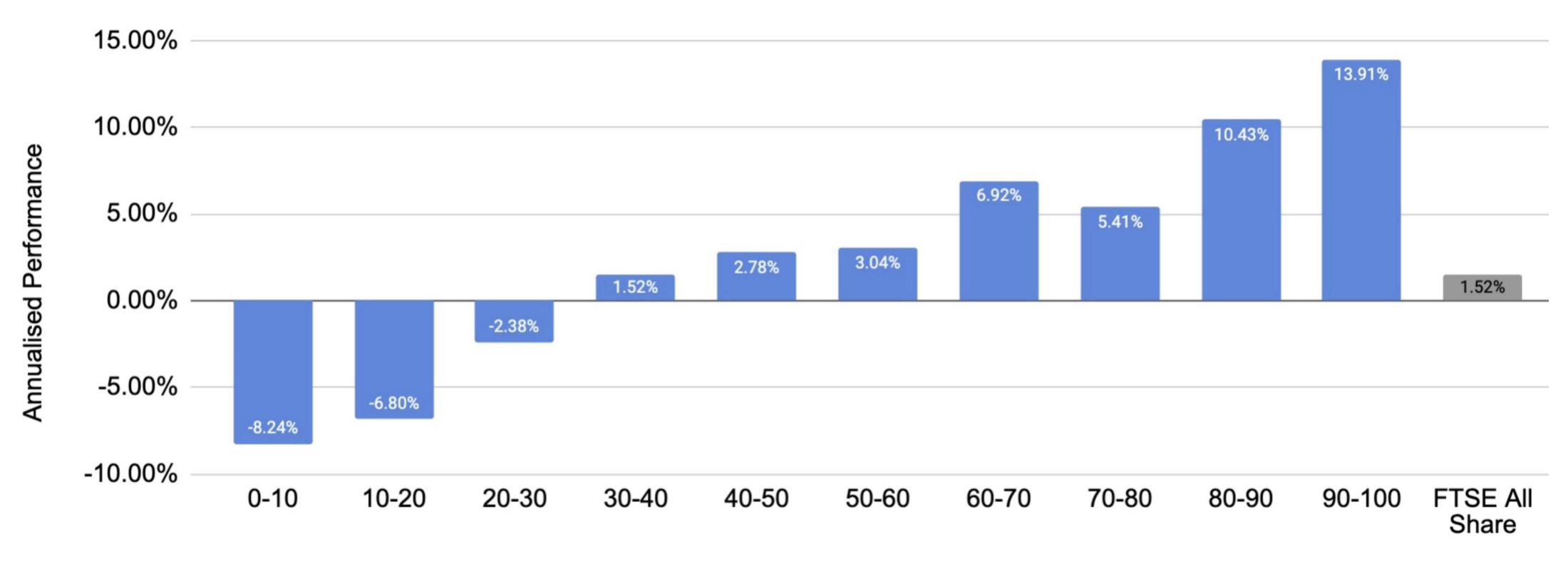
StockRank Performance History

* Based on equal weighted portfolios of UK stocks, > £10m market cap, segmented by StockRank decile, rebalanced quarterly



StockRank Performance History

* Based on equal weighted portfolios of UK stocks, > £10m market cap, segmented by StockRank decile, rebalanced quarterly



Hit Rate of Picking "winners"

Based on the average annual number of winners and losers in each StockRank bucket



Why are high ranked shares so often underpriced?

- Investors avoid value stocks as they often have problems
- Investors avoid quality stocks as they are often boring z^z
- Investors avoid momentum stocks due to their "high" prices



Investing <u>rationally</u> is contrary to human nature!





Real impact and results for thousands of private investors

Before - unstructured process



James Subscriber



I used to take a very unstructured approach when picking investments. I would use tips from financial publications to give me pointers and simplified financials to screen.



John Subscriber



My previous approach was haphazard. I used a mix of sources - magazines, internet etc - that were often contradictory and combined this with very limited research.



Nick Subscriber



To be honest it was fairly difficult, it was probably looking at the press, internet, tips - not particularly structured, never felt fully confident about what I was investing in.

After - discipline, confidence & results



James Subscriber



I now make decisions that are far more grounded in data. My results have improved significantly. I feel more confident in my decisions and results beat market indexes.



John Subscriber



I screen potential purchases using the StockRanks, Styles and RiskRatings. The overall result has been market outperformance. This is pretty impressive given how hard it is to beat a total return index.



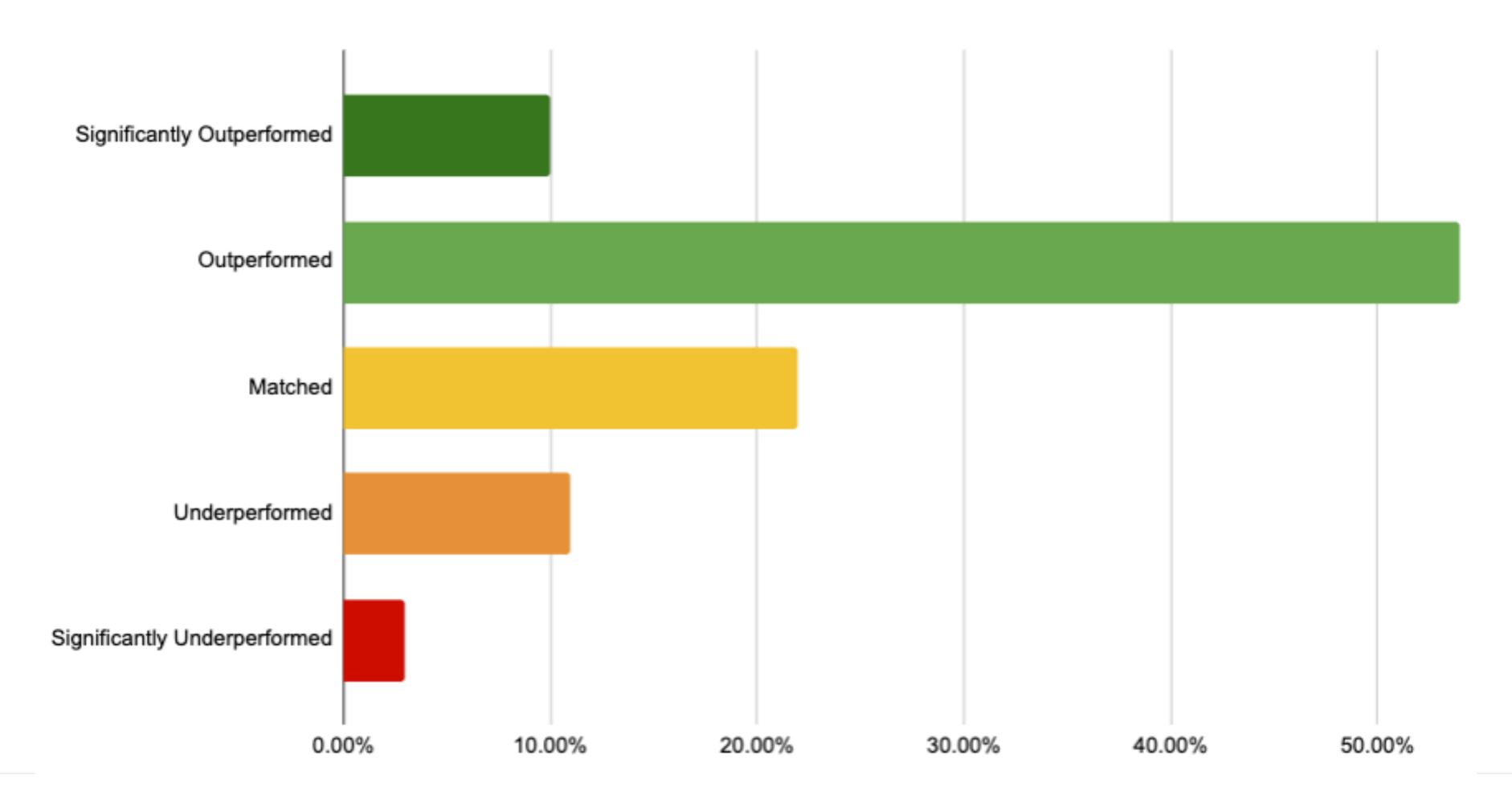
Nick Subscriber



It's had a very positive impact in terms of being able to do research. My financial results have been far better as a result of having that information and being able to make the best choices.

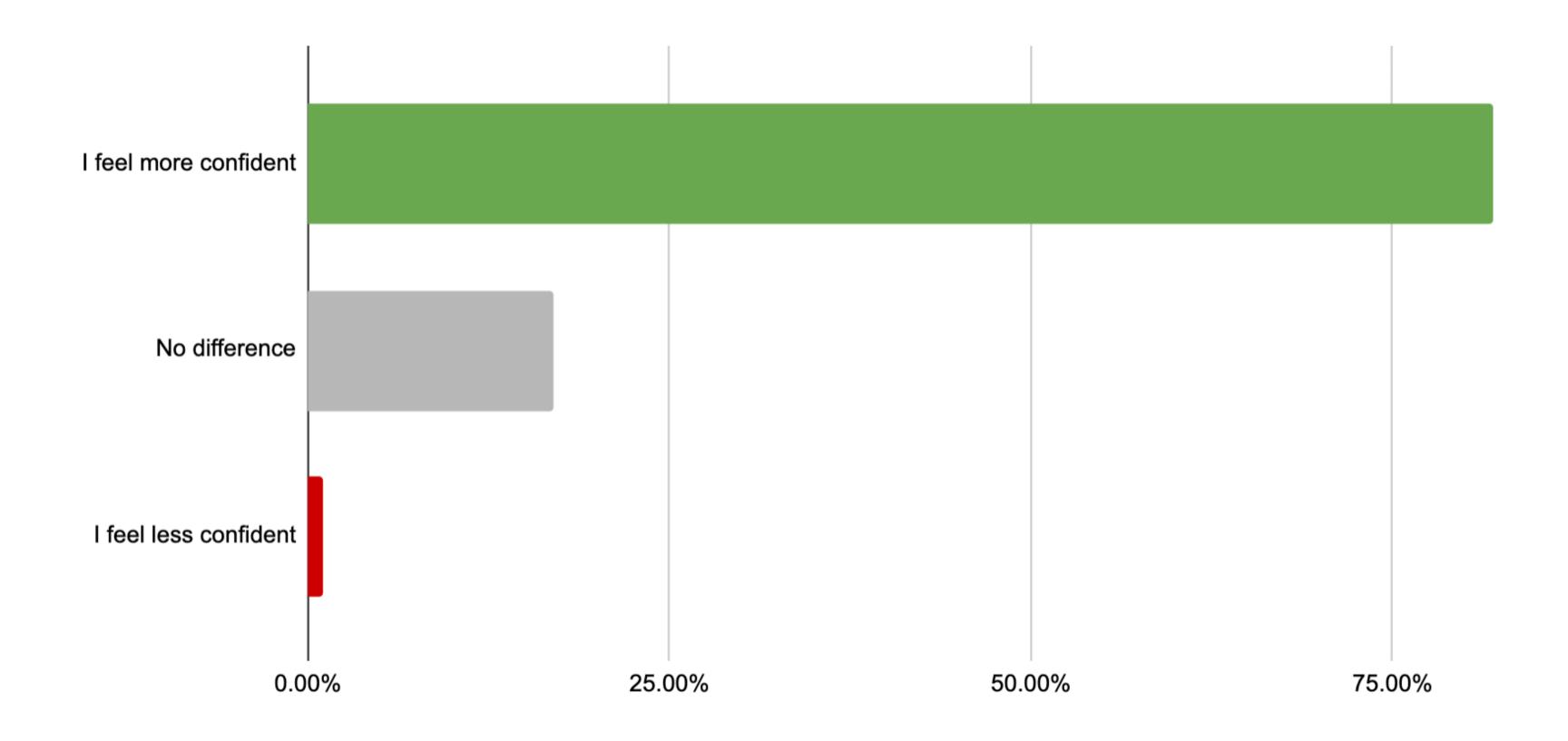
Subscriber Survey

Since subscribing to Stockopedia has your performance outperformed or underperformed the market?



Subscriber Survey

Do you feel more or less confident in your understanding of the market since using Stockopedia?

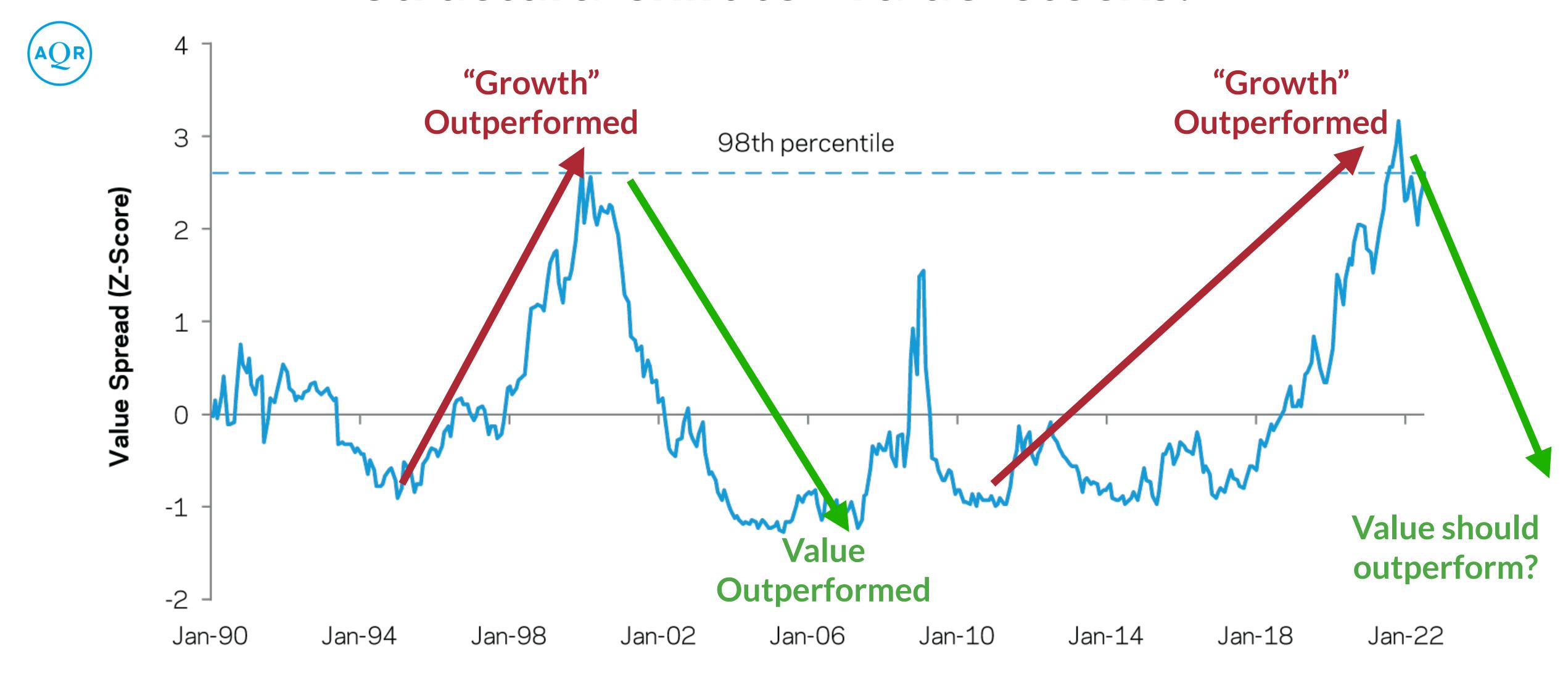




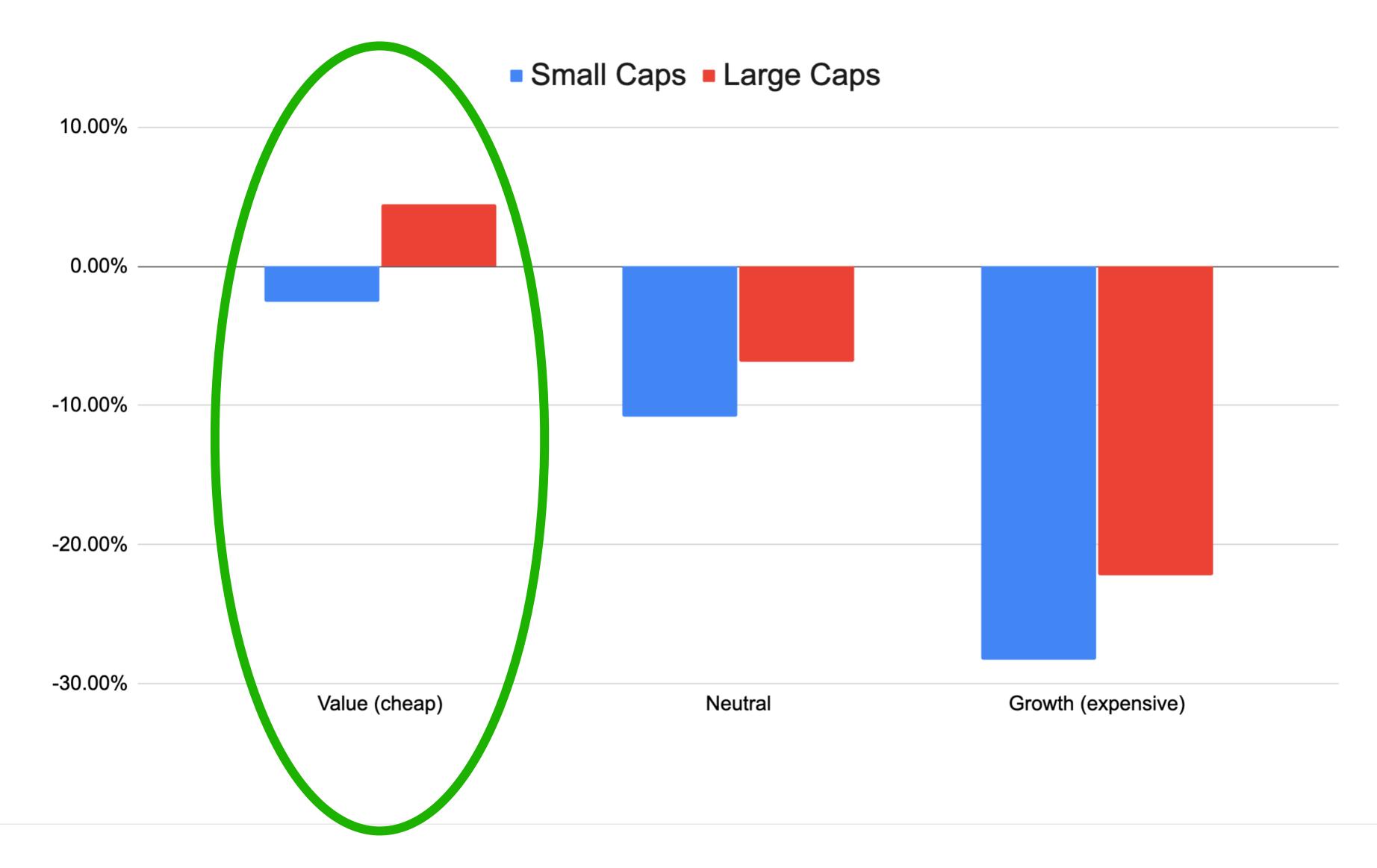
Which factors are working <u>now?</u>

And what are likely to be the best strategies for the next 10 years?

Structural shift to "Value" stocks?



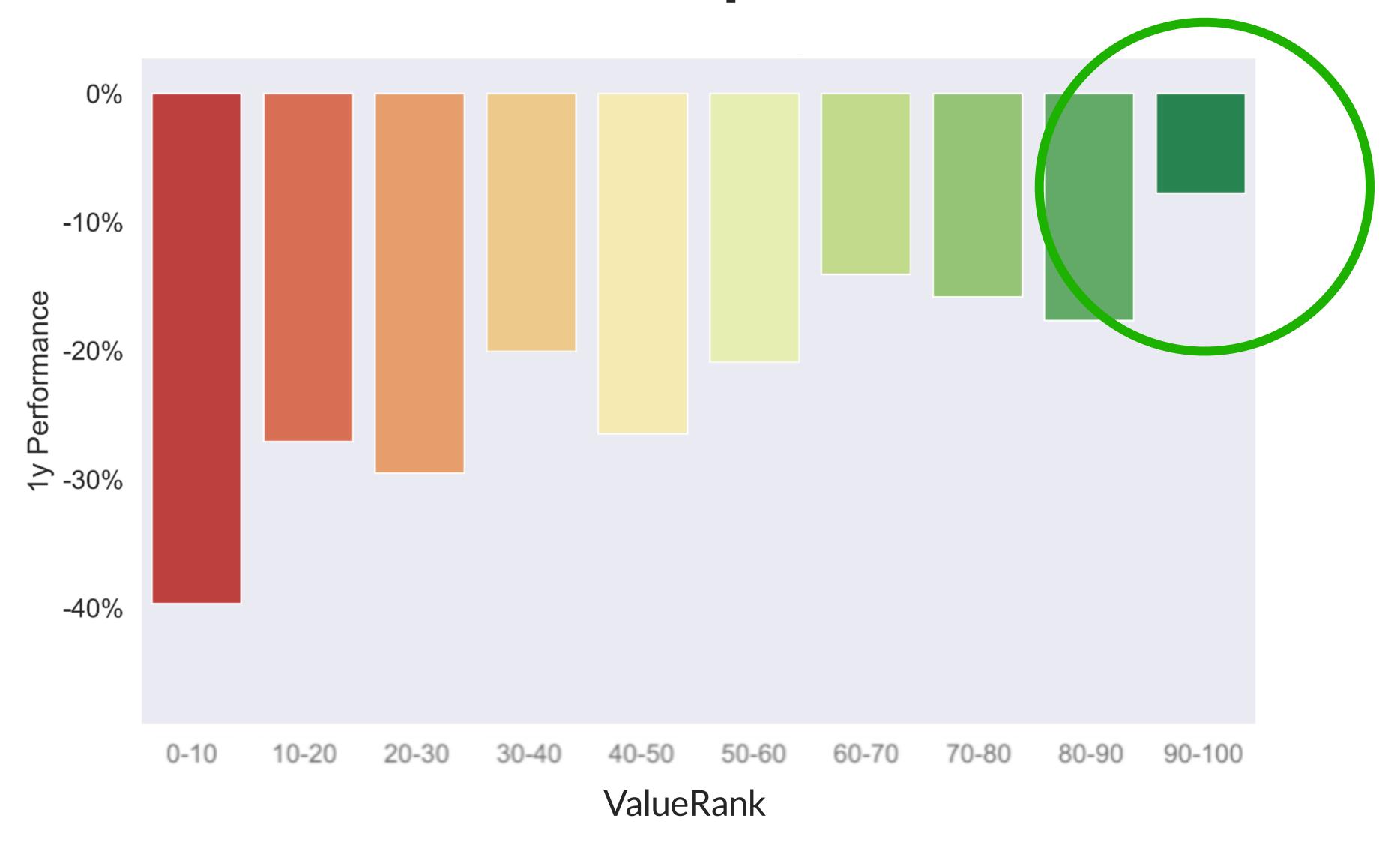
Fama & French - 12 month value resilience



US Value Stocks - dramatic outperformance



UK Value Outperformance







Finding a stock market strategy that fits your own psychology



"I like buying quality merchandise when it's been marked down."

Warren Buffet

Quality Rank

Good

Value Rank

Cheap



"Buy stocks that have had good price moves, making new highs."

Richard Driehaus



"Trending value is the most successful strategy since 1963."

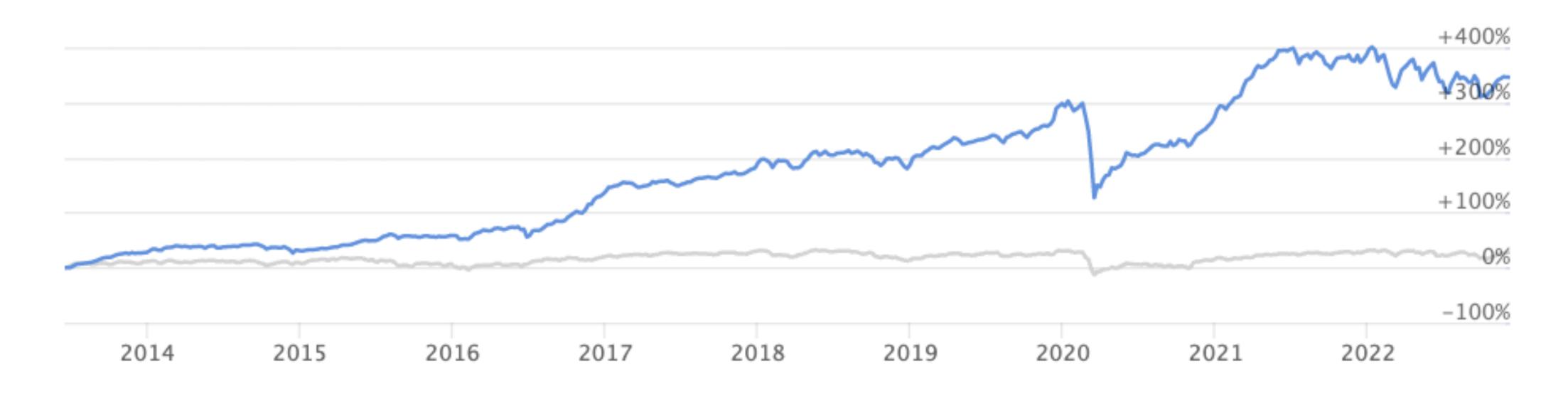
James O'Shaughnessy

Momentum Rank

Improving

Top Strategy in last 1 year AND 10 years

Top 20 stocks by VM Rank - Value and Momentum



17% annualised over 9.5 years. -6% in last 12 months.

Currently heavily weighted towards mid-large cap Financials & Energy stocks.



Which stocks will rally from lows?

Lessons from historic bear market bottoms

Rules from Bear Market Bottoms

Table #1: 8 Bear Markets Going Back to June 1926

Fama-French Plus Momentum Factors, Average Monthly Returns (%)

	Market premium (Mkt-RF)	Small size (SMB)	Value (HML)	Momentum (MOM)	Profitability (RMW)	Conservative investments (CMA)
All Months	0.67	0.19	0.35	0.66	0.26	0.27
Bull Markets	1.27	0.27	0.29	0.52	0.14	0.12
Bear Markets	-3.70	-0.34	0.76	1.64	1.10	1.32
12M Pre Bear Mkt	1.76	0.14	-0.03	1.44	-0.24	0.21
12M After Bear Mkt	3.25	1.02	1.16	-2.06	-0.24	0.26

^{*}Average returns through January 2020. Mkt-RF, SMB, and HML data starts in July 1926. Momentum data starts in January 1927, and profitability and investment factors data start in July 1963

Source: Ken French Data Library and Bridgeway calculations

Rules from Bear Market Bottoms

When a bear market bottoms.

- Pure Momentum stocks become "those that have fallen the least"... not those with the best likelihood of future outperformance. Thus the 'highest momentum' stocks tend to lag in the recovery.
- Quality Stock valuations can have significantly compressed, but often lag in the early recovery as their valuations remain comparatively higher.
- Value stocks become so cheap it becomes hard to buy them due to fear. But hold <u>a strong chance for rapid, and multi-year gains.</u>
- Small Stocks are often hardest hit in bear markets. They often lead the recovery.



Finding winning stocks

Using the site to find great strategies and stocks

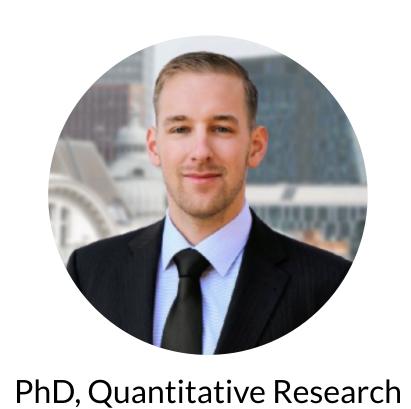


When to sell?

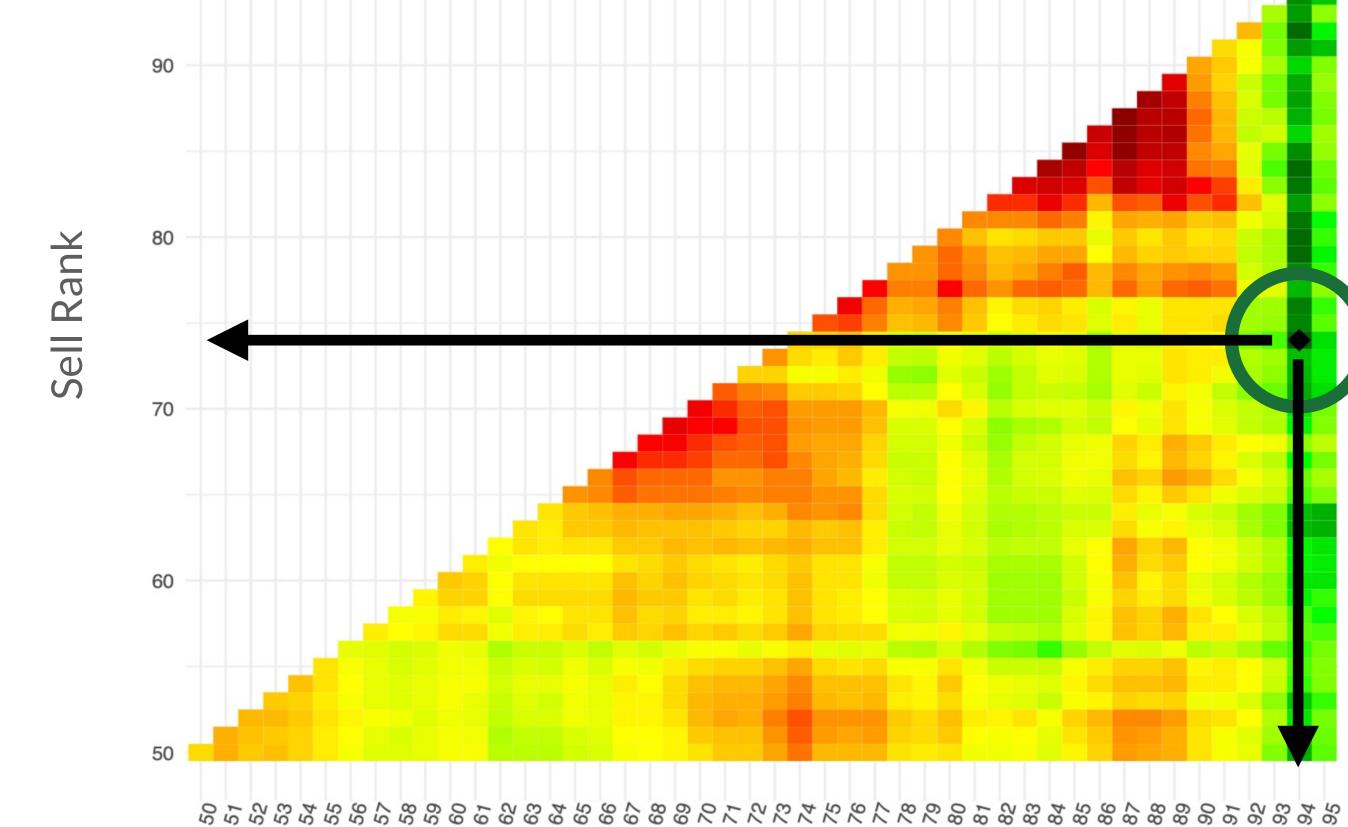
Simplifying the hardest question that investors face

When to sell? the 90/70 Rank Rule

The paper "Combining Factors" by Christoph Reschenhofer shows that simple buy and sell rules can maximise returns



Vienna University



Optimal Buy/Sell Point

Buy Rank

When to sell? the 90/70 Rank Rule

Case study using Reach Plc through the pandemic

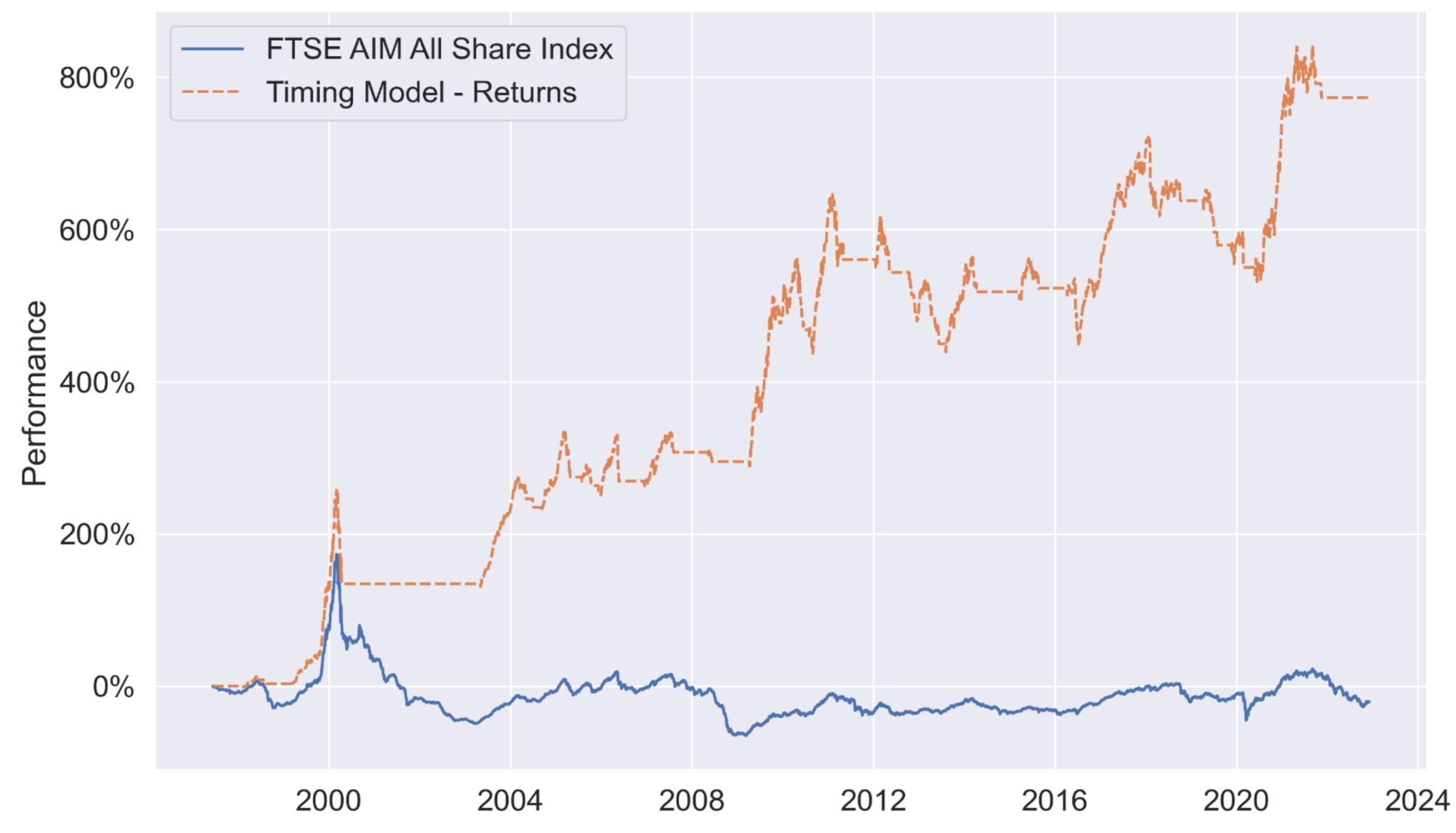




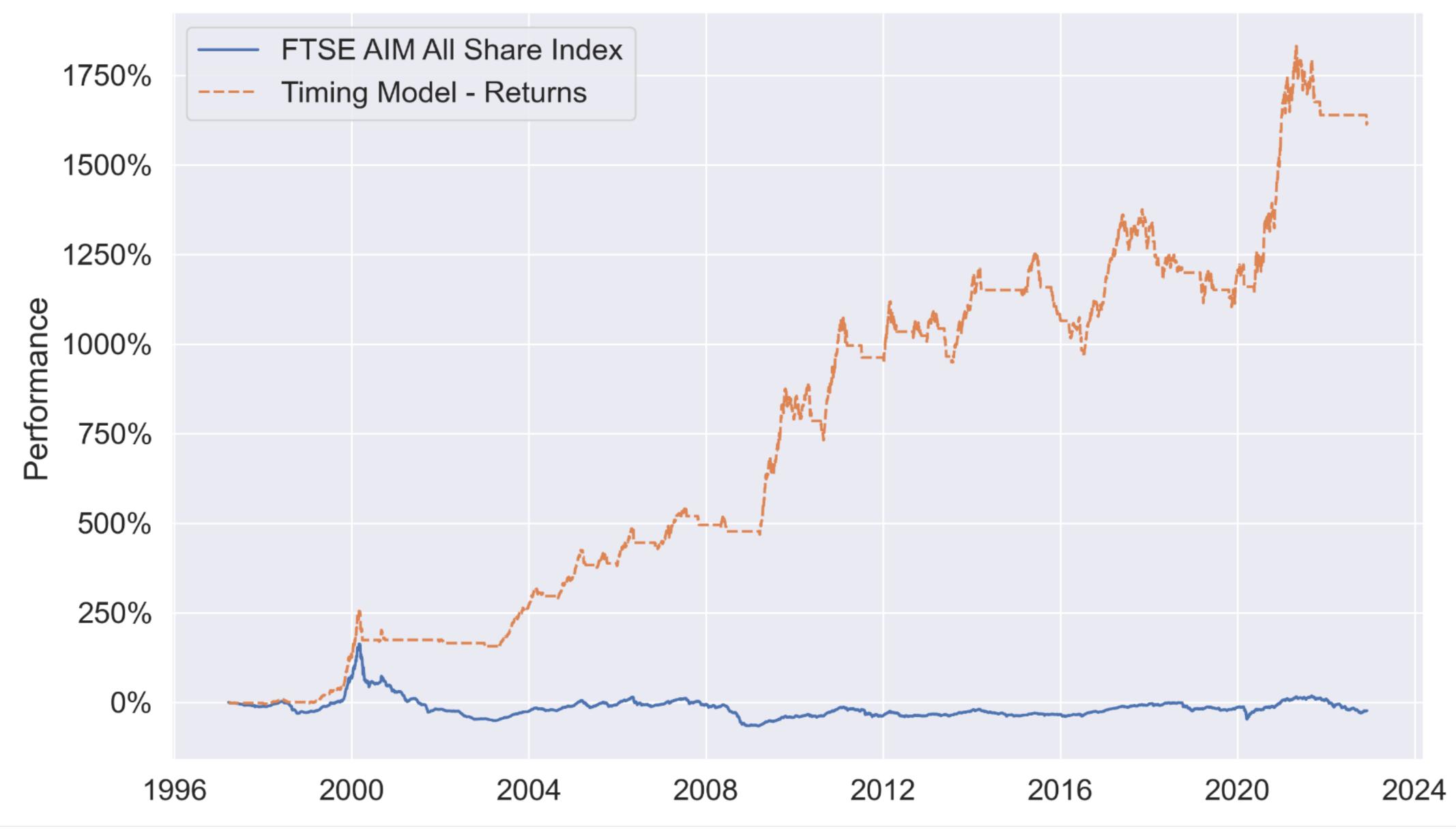


There's far more information and resources on the website

FTSE AIM All Share Index - 200d MA Trend Model



FTSE AIM All Share Index - 120d MA Trend Model



The Data Process

1. Our primary data sources (including Refinitiv), employ **thousands of analysts** who scan, audit & standardise financial data entry into their databases before uploading to their financial cloud.



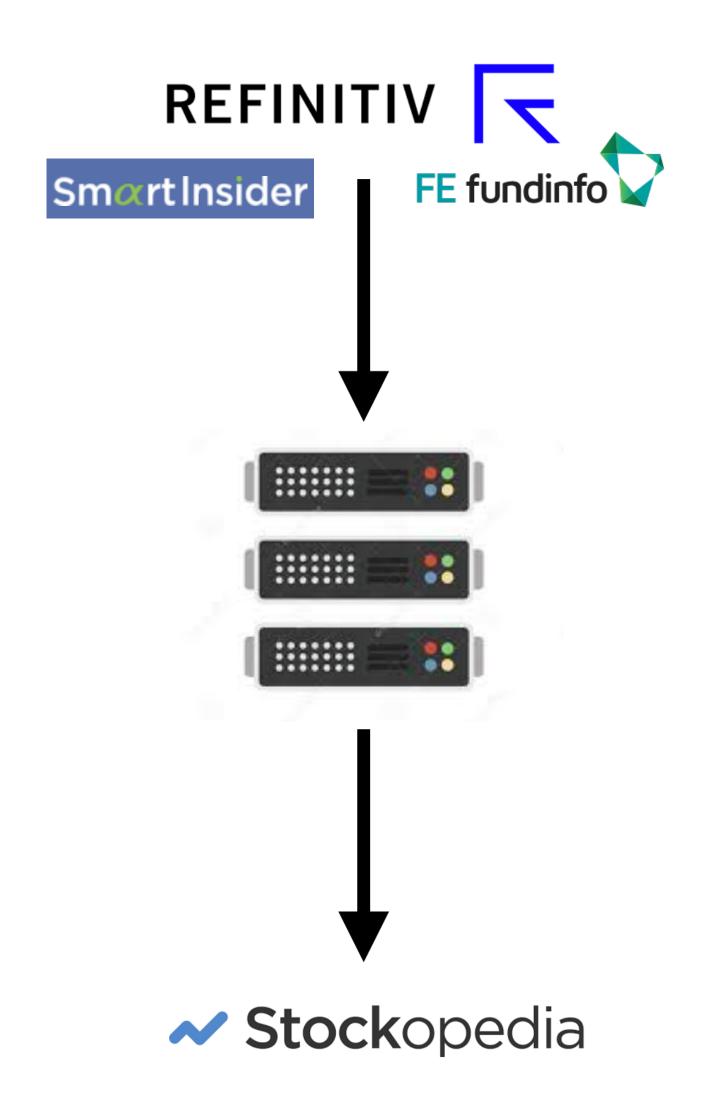
2. Throughout the day and night we download **financial statements**, **analyst estimate data**, **price quotes & histories and other company information** to our databases.



3. Our analyst & developer team organise it and clean it all up, and our servers **crunch over 60 million computations daily** to build up a **library of more than 2000 essential, accurate statistics** on every stock. From simple PE Ratios to Piotroski F-Scores.

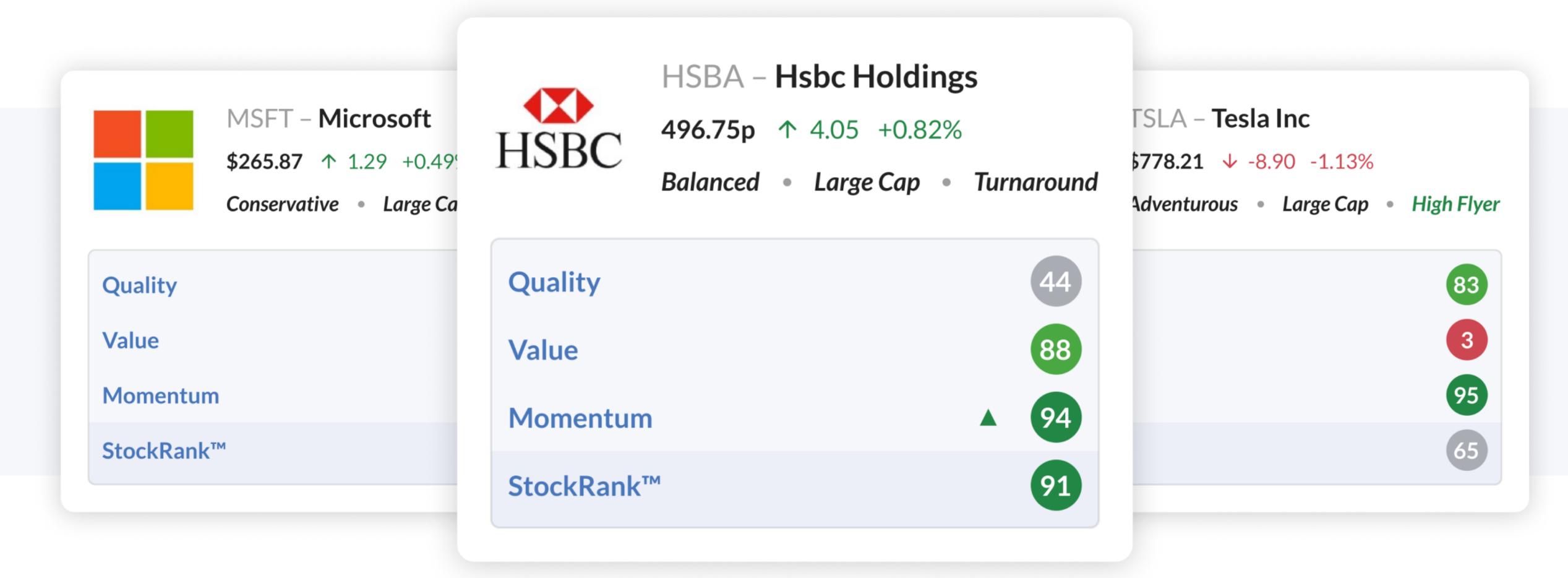


4. We then rank and screen the market to filter the wheat from the chaff and publish the data on our **StockReports** and in our **Screening Database**.

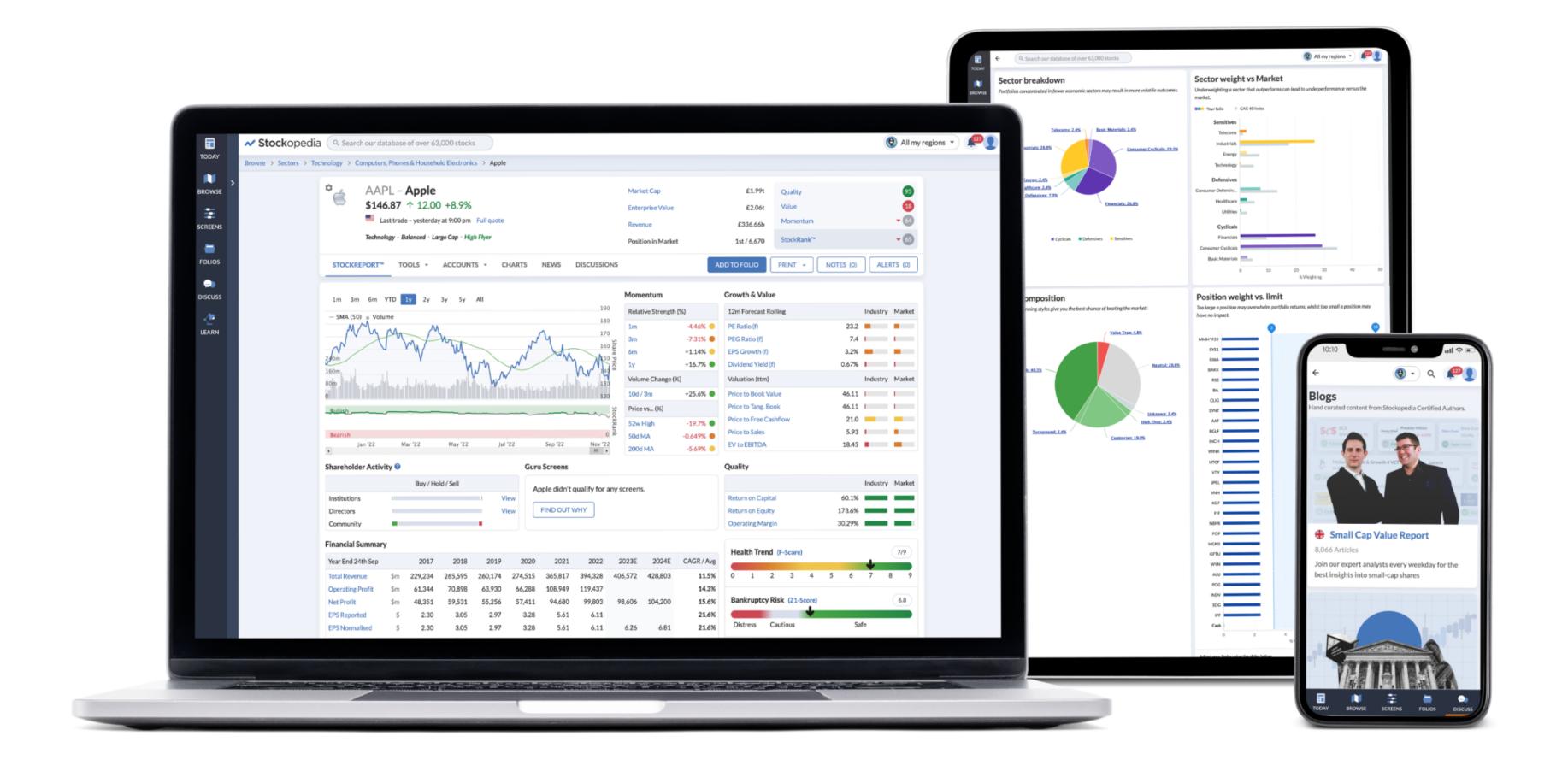


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