

Equity Risk Management Strategy (ERMS)



Fact Sheet

As of 3/31/2026

Highlights

Seeks to avoid large market losses

- When incorporated into a diversified portfolio, the tactically allocated strategy seeks to help mitigate exposure to equity markets during a downturn. During favorable market conditions, the tactical allocation would be fully invested in equities. When conditions are deemed unfavorable, the tactical allocation can be shifted to cash, cash equivalents, money market funds, and/or short-term fixed income exchange-traded funds (ETFs).
- Large losses make investors vulnerable to ill-timed investment decisions that can, in turn, undermine the pursuit of financial goals.
- ERMS seeks to reduce portfolio volatility and mitigate downside risk during extended market declines, helping investors to stay invested during periods of market turbulence.

Addresses the shortfalls of traditional risk mitigation techniques

- ERMS has the flexibility to assess multiple risk factors including, but not limited to:
 - Fundamental** – Evaluate trends in earnings expectations
 - Technical** – Identify fast-developing anomalous equity activity, implied volatility, and credit spreads
 - Economic** – Analyze the level and direction of high-frequency economic data
 - Valuation** – Compare risk-adjusted returns across multiple asset classes

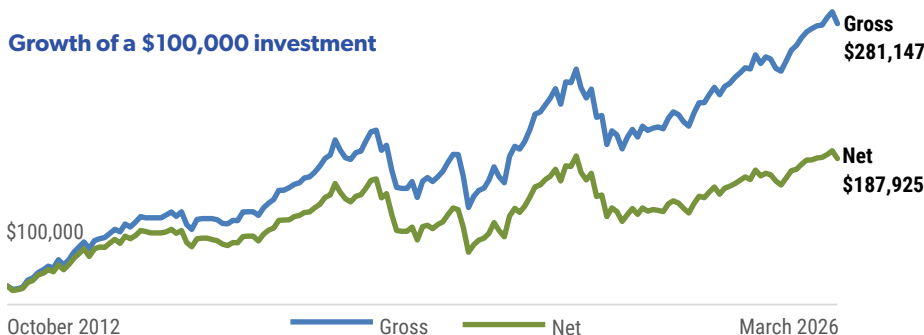
Quantitatively-Guided Allocation

- Changes to our tactical allocation are heavily guided by empirical studies, historical analysis, and validation. We employ proprietary models to evaluate security and market characteristics with continuous study and research on alternative approaches to address risk and opportunity.

Performance Overview

September 30, 2012 – March 31, 2026 | Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Growth of a \$100,000 investment



The growth of \$100,000 chart presented herein is for illustrative purposes only. The chart illustrates the growth of \$100,000 had it been invested at the time of inception and includes reinvestment of dividends. It does not assume withdrawals or contributions. Any results shown above may not represent the actual experience of individual investors. Individual account performance may differ due to, e.g., account size, cash flows, investment restrictions, economic factors and fees.

Objective

Tactical allocation strategy that seeks to adjust a portfolio's equity exposure to potentially provide downside risk mitigation and volatility control

Current Allocation

The **Equity Risk Management Strategy (ERMS)** remained unchanged in the first quarter with 62.5% allocated to equities and 37.5% to short-term U.S. Treasuries. Earnings expectations remain favorable and appear to be broadening, resulting in more attractive equity valuations. Technical conditions are stable, with volatility ending the quarter significantly lower than the second quarter of last year. Credit spreads edged slightly higher, but remained relatively tight. Economic data continues to be mixed, but points to slower growth with stabilization, not recession. The fallout from the war with Iran could be the major factor influencing both the market and the economy in the near-term with the length and aftermath of the conflict difficult to forecast. Against this backdrop of reasonably stable fundamental and technical factors, but with increased uncertainty of a prolonged war, ERMS maintains a slightly higher weighting to equities and exposure to 1-3 month U.S. Treasuries yielding approximately 3.6% to seek a measure of protection.

Portfolio Management Team



Christopher M. Mutascio
Senior Managing Director



Timothy M. McCann
Senior Portfolio Manager

	Total Returns			Annualized Returns					Calendar-Year Returns									
	3-Mos	6-Mos	YTD	1-year	3-year	5-year	10-year	Incp.	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Gross %	0.33	2.07	0.33	12.37	10.42	6.23	7.00	7.96	7.32	21.24	-5.45	5.97	2.91	27.15	-18.75	11.60	12.04	10.50
Benchmark %	-0.47	2.43	-0.47	18.18	12.25	6.38	8.22	7.15	5.47	13.29	-7.14	13.71	17.89	11.67	-10.13	11.37	11.87	16.91
Net %	-0.41	0.56	-0.41	9.06	7.16	3.10	3.85	4.78	4.15	17.70	-8.25	2.82	-0.10	23.50	-21.19	8.33	8.71	7.25

As of 3/31/2026; Inception – October 1, 2012; Benchmark = HFRI Equity Hedge Index

ERMS performance represents the standalone Separately Managed Account (SMA) strategy on Stifel's Custom Advisory Portfolio platform.

Net returns reflect the deduction of the potential maximum managed account fee of 3.00% which includes the wrap sponsor fee and EquityCompass investment management fees. Actual fees may vary.

EQUITY RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (09/01/2016 - 12/31/2024)

Year-End	Gross-of-Fees Return*	Net-of-Fees Return**	Benchmark Return	Composite 3 Yr. Ex Post Std. Deviation	Benchmark 3 Yr. Ex Post Std. Deviation	Composite Number of Portfolios	Internal Dispersion	Composite Assets (USD Mil.)	Strategy Assets (USD Mil.)†	Firm AUM (USD Mil.)	Firm & Advisory Assets (USD Mil.)‡
2016 §	3.7%	4.3%	0.7%	N/A	N/A	9	N/A	\$4	\$236	\$676	\$2,714
2017	19.0%	18.0%	6.4%	N/A	N/A	16	0.06%	\$12	\$344	\$242	\$3,785
2018	-7.5%	-13.7%	-6.2%	N/A	N/A	18	0.05%	\$13	\$341	\$167	\$3,831
2019	13.9%	8.7%	5.0%	11.2%	6.9%	17	0.04%	\$14	\$343	\$146	\$4,294
2020	1.4%	-0.7%	-14.5%	17.6%	8.4%	18	0.10%	\$12	\$276	\$153	\$4,012
2021	24.6%	15.4%	12.6%	17.1%	8.0%	13	0.04%	\$11	\$327	\$221	\$5,038
2022	-16.0%	-10.9%	-5.1%	18.2%	8.4%	6	0.02%	\$4	\$235	\$184	\$4,469
2023	11.8%	4.6%	0.5%	12.4%	6.5%	5	N/A	\$4	\$218	\$179	\$4,707
2024	12.0%	3.1%	-6.3%	11.2%	6.1%	3	N/A	\$2	\$202	\$225	\$5,184

* Supplemental information. Please see Fees section for details. ** Net returns are calculated by subtracting the highest applicable wrap fee (3.00% on an annual basis) from the gross composite return. † Supplemental Information. ‡ Returns are for the period 08/01/2016 through 12/31/2016.

EquityCompass Investment Management, LLC ("EquityCompass") claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards ("GIPS®") and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. EquityCompass has been independently verified for the periods 06/01/2014-12/31/2024. The verification report is available upon request. A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. Verification does not provide assurance on the accuracy of any specific performance report.

Definition of the Firm

EquityCompass is registered as an investment adviser with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The firm provides a broad range of investment strategies to individuals, financial intermediaries, and institutions in the United States. EquityCompass, a wholly owned subsidiary of Stifel Financial Corp., was organized as an entity in 2007, and has been registered with the SEC since May 5, 2008. SEC Registration does not imply a certain level of skill or training. Please refer to the firm's ADV Part 2 for additional disclosures regarding the firm and its practices. To obtain a GIPS Report or a list of our composite descriptions and/or policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS reports, please call (443) 224-1231 or send an e-mail to info@equitycompass.com.

Composite Description

The performance results displayed herein represent the investment performance record for the Equity Risk Management Strategy Wrap Composite. The composite includes wrap and non-wrap accounts that are invested in the composite strategy and managed on a discretionary basis by EquityCompass. Equity Risk Management Strategy is a tactical asset allocation strategy that seeks to adjust a portfolio's exposure to potentially provide downside risk mitigation and volatility control. It is available in wrap fee programs through third-party intermediaries (each, a "Sponsor") that have engaged EquityCompass to manage client accounts on a discretionary basis or to provide non-discretionary investment recommendations in the form of model portfolios. The Composite was created in January 2017 and the inception date is August 1, 2016.

Benchmark Description

The benchmark is HFRI Equity Hedge Index. The **HFRI Equity Hedge Index** is a fund-weighted index of strategies that maintain positions both long and short in primarily equity and equity derivative securities. All benchmark returns are shown on a total return basis and assume that all cash distributions, such as dividends, are reinvested. The volatility of the indices identified in this report may be materially different from the volatility of the model portfolios presented by EquityCompass. Indices are unmanaged, do not reflect fees and expenses, and are not available for direct investment.

Fees

Gross-of-fees returns, are gross of portfolio management and custody fees and net of all actual transaction costs in the case of non-wrap accounts and those wrap accounts traded by EquityCompass. If the wrap account trades are executed by the Sponsor, transaction costs are bundled with the wrap fee and therefore not deducted from gross-of-fee return calculation. Net returns are calculated by subtracting the highest applicable wrap fee (3.00% on an annual basis, or 0.75% quarterly) from the gross composite return. The EquityCompass management fee schedule per annum is 0.30% on up to 1,000,000, 0.28% on 1,000,000-2,500,000 million, 0.26% on 2,500,000-5,000,000, 0.24% on 5,000,000-10,000,000, and negotiable over 10,000,000. Clients are typically charged a wrap fee which includes, in addition to the manager fee, trading expenses, as well as custody and administrative fees. The wrap fee schedule varies by Sponsor and is available upon request.

Reporting Currency

Valuations are computed and performance reported in U.S. dollars (USD).

Annualized Standard Deviation

The three-year annualized ex post standard deviation measures the variability of the monthly returns of the composite (gross-of-fee) and the benchmark over the preceding 36-month period; it is not presented for periods of less than three years.

Internal Dispersion

Internal dispersion is calculated using the asset-weighted standard deviation of annual gross returns of all accounts that were in the composite for the entire year; it is not presented for periods less than one year or when there were fewer than five accounts in the composite for the entire year.

Assets

Strategy Assets include all discretionary and non-discretionary accounts invested in the Equity Risk Management Strategy. Accounts that are excluded from the composite because of significant cash flows or for other reasons are also included in Strategy Assets. This is presented as supplemental information.

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EquityCompass is a Baltimore-based SEC registered investment adviser offering a broad range of portfolio strategies and custom plans for individuals, financial intermediaries, and institutional clients in the U.S. Formally organized in 2008, EquityCompass provides portfolio strategies with respect to total assets of approximately \$5.9 billion as of March 31, 2026. The EquityCompass team of professionals represents deep industry experience in security analysis, capital markets, and portfolio management. We are committed to a consistent investment process that relies on enduring principles, sound empirical reasoning, and the recognition of a dynamic investment environment with a global reach.*

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Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) represent a share of all stocks in a respective index. ETFs trade like stocks and are subject to market risk, including the potential for loss of principal, and may trade for less than their net asset value. The value of ETFs will fluctuate with the value of the underlying securities. Investors should review the prospectus and consider the ETF's investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses carefully before investing. Prospectuses are available through your Financial Advisor and include this and other important information.

The **HFRI Equity Hedge Index** is a fund-weighted index of strategies that maintain positions both long and short in primarily equity and equity derivative securities. Indices are unmanaged, do not reflect fees and expenses, and it is not possible to invest directly in an index. Diversification (or asset allocation) does not ensure a profit or protect against loss. All index returns are shown on a total return basis and assume that all cash distributions, such as dividends, are reinvested.

*Total assets combines both Assets Under Management and Assets Under Advisement as of March 31, 2026. Assets Under Management represents the aggregate fair value of all discretionary and non-discretionary assets, including fee paying and non-fee paying portfolios. Assets Under Advisement represent advisory-only assets where the firm provides a model portfolio and does not have trading authority over the assets.

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