

## A Modern Value Approach

NFJ Investment Group, the Fund’s subadviser, seeks to harness the power of advanced data analytics and fundamental expertise to identify quality value businesses across emerging markets. NFJ derives investment conviction from a combination of quantitative parameters that strive to eliminate emotional bias, analysis of company fundamentals, and strict adherence to a disciplined investment process.

## Intersection of Valuation, Shareholder Yield, and Quality

NFJ believes valuation is paramount and uses statistically derived custom peers to uncover unique valuation insights. The investment team rigorously analyzes fundamentals to identify companies with attractive entry points and capital allocation policies, as well as consistent and above-average financial outputs.

## Integrated Risk Controls

The Fund seeks to temper the risk exposure of emerging markets by focusing on higher-quality stocks that offer favorable shareholder yield potential through dividend payments, share repurchases, and price appreciation — which can help stabilize total returns, especially in times of volatility — and constructing a diversified portfolio that seeks to avoid overexposure to any one sector or country.

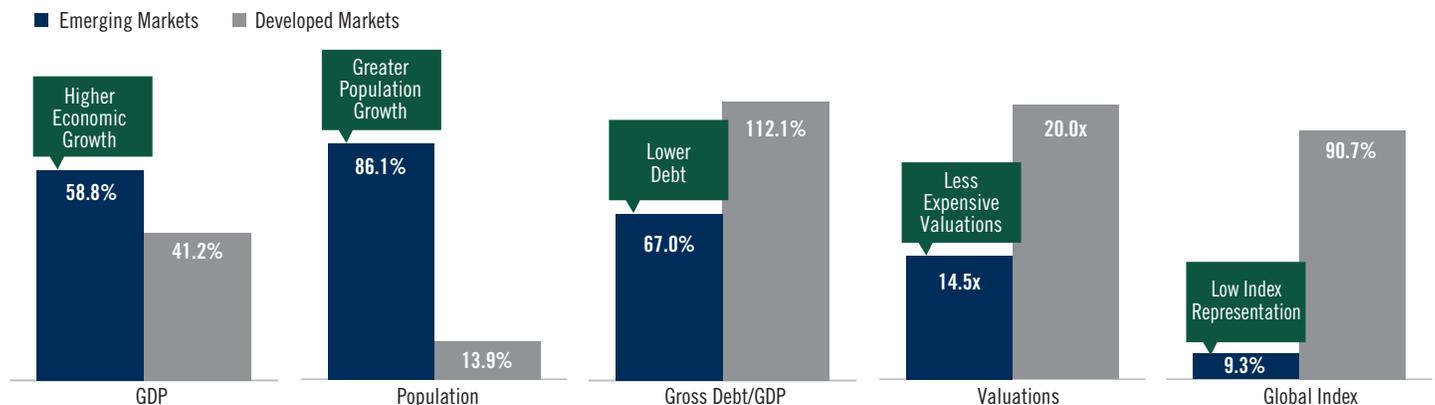


“Risk is not inherent to an asset class, but to the price investors pay. We aim to give investors access to the exciting growth potential of emerging markets while seeking to help insulate them from some of the risks and volatility of the segment.”

John R. Mowrey, CFA  
 Start Date as Fund Portfolio Manager: 2013

## The Vast Growth Potential of Emerging Markets

Investors without an allocation to emerging markets may be missing out on a strong — and growing — segment of the global economy. Collectively, these countries have offered more attractive growth dynamics and investment market attributes than developed markets.



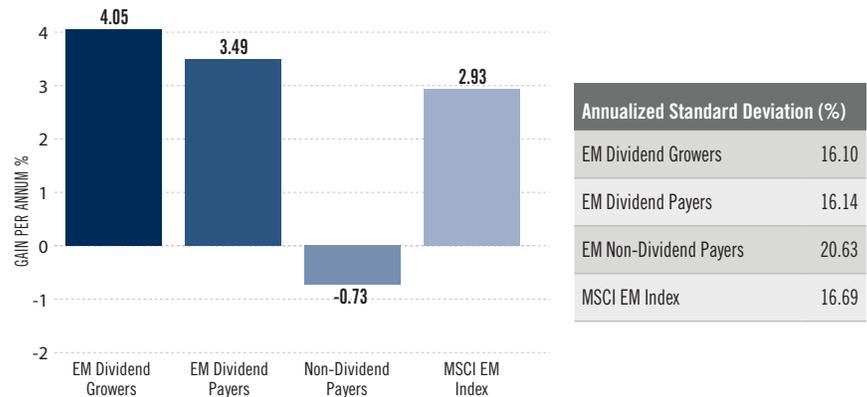
Data as of 12/31/23.

Sources: IMF datasets: GDP (based on PPP valuation), Population, and Gross Debt (based on General Government Gross Debt). MSCI: Valuations (trailing 12-month price-to-earnings ratio for the MSCI EM Index and MSCI World Index) and Global Index (based on Market Cap of MSCI EM Index as a % of MSCI ACWI IMI Index). “Emerging Markets” relates to IMF category “Emerging and Developing Economies.” Charts do not reflect future performance and are provided for illustrative purposes only.

### EM Dividend Growth: A Strategic Advantage

The Fund’s managers seek opportunities to invest in higher-quality companies that are currently undervalued by the markets. These companies often have a proven track record of returning capital to shareholders through consistent — and potentially growing — dividends. Historically, dividend-growing and dividend-paying emerging markets stocks have significantly outperformed non-dividend-paying emerging markets stocks and the Index, with less risk, as measured by standard deviation.

#### DIVIDEND GROWERS AND PAYERS OUTPERFORMED



Source: Ned Davis Research. MSCI Emerging Markets Index, 12/31/13-12/31/23. There is no assurance or guarantee that companies that issue dividends will declare or continue to pay or increase dividends. **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.**

### Strong Performance, High Sharpe Ratio

NFJ believes a diversified portfolio of attractively valued stocks that return value to shareholders and exhibit higher-quality fundamental characteristics should outperform with lower relative risk over time, as measured by the Sharpe ratio.

Though the last decade has been challenging for EM stocks in general, the benefits of NFJ’s higher-quality approach is evident over the longer term. Since inception, the Fund outperformed its benchmark in **seven out of ten years**.

\*Morningstar Category: Diversified Emerging Markets  
**Past performance is no guarantee of future results.**  
 Source: Morningstar Direct. As of 12/31/23.

#### MORNINGSTAR PERCENTILE RANKINGS

Institutional Class (AZMIX)



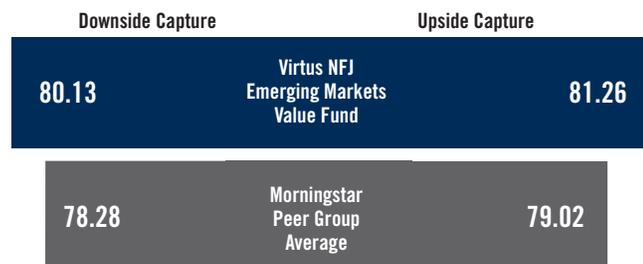
### A Smoother Investment Path

A historically strong upside/downside capture ratio has helped the Fund outperform over the long term. Its emphasis on dividend-paying stocks has created a natural volatility buffer during down markets while also boosting return compounding opportunities in up markets. Disciplined portfolio construction and sell criteria seek to lower risk exposure and expand outperformance potential over time.

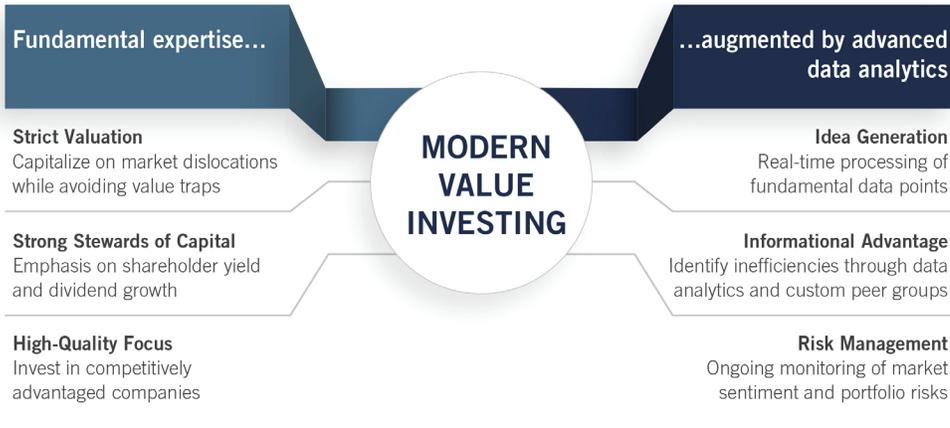
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 Source: Morningstar Direct. As of 12/31/23.  
 Morningstar Category: Diversified Emerging Markets

#### ATTRACTIVE UPSIDE/DOWNSIDE CAPTURE OVER ITS LIFETIME

Fund Average vs. Peers Since Inception (12/18/12)



## NFJ's Differentiated Investment Approach



### NFJ INVESTMENT GROUP

NFJ Investment Group is a global value equity manager with a rich heritage and deep roots in Dallas, Texas, dating to 1989. NFJ is unwavering in its commitment to investing at the intersection of valuation, shareholder yield, and quality, seeking to identify companies with low market expectations and the strongest prospects for returning capital to shareholders.

## Solid Long-Term Track Record

**AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS (%)** as of 12/31/23

	QTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	Since Inception 12/18/12
<b>Institutional Class</b>	1.83	7.14	7.14	-7.41	3.48	2.76	2.97
<b>MSCI Emerging Markets Index (net)</b>	7.86	9.83	9.83	-5.08	3.69	2.66	2.25

Performance data quoted represents past performance. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Please visit [virtus.com](http://virtus.com) for performance data current to the most recent month end. This share class has no sales charges and is not available to all investors. Other share classes have sales charges. See [virtus.com](http://virtus.com) for details.

The fund class gross expense ratio is 1.40%. The net expense ratio is 0.89%, which reflects a contractual expense reimbursement in effect through 02/01/25.

Average annual total return is the annual compound return for the indicated period and reflects the change in share price and the reinvestment of all dividends and capital gains. Returns for periods of one year or less are cumulative returns.

### ANNUAL PERFORMANCE (%)

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
<b>Fund</b>	7.14	-27.75	2.53	22.61	21.90	-19.63	37.87	13.13	-9.52	-2.39
<b>Index</b>	9.83	-20.09	-2.54	18.31	18.44	-14.58	37.28	11.19	-14.92	-2.19

<sup>1</sup>30-day SEC Yield is a standardized yield calculated according to a formula set by the SEC, and is subject to change.

<sup>2</sup>30-day SEC Yield (unsubsidized) is the 30-day SEC yield without the effect of applicable expense waivers.

### CHARACTERISTICS

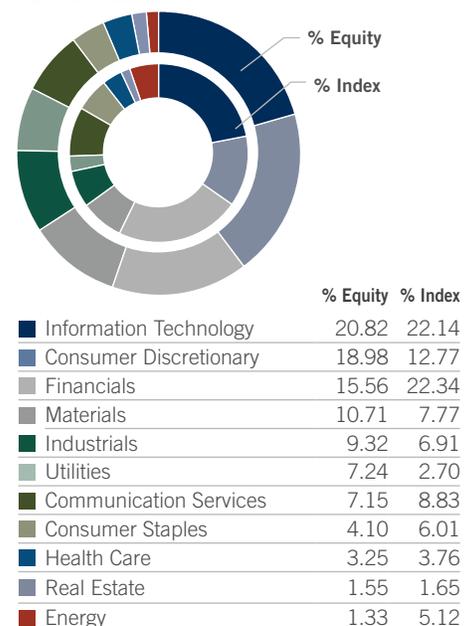
	Fund	Index
Avg. Weighted Market Cap (bn)	72.12	72.07
Median Market Cap (bn)	6.09	1.88
Trailing P/E Ex-Negative Earnings	15.42	15.84
3-Year Earnings Growth Rate	20.62	20.08
5-Year Earnings Growth Rate	21.05	13.70
3-Year Dividend Growth Rate	22.61	15.13
Active Share	75.64	n/a
30-day SEC Yield <sup>1</sup>	1.18	
30-day SEC Yield (unsubsidized) <sup>2</sup>	0.70	

### RISK STATISTICS (3 YEAR)

	Fund	Index
Alpha	-0.47	n/a
Beta	1.20	1.00
R <sup>2</sup>	0.90	1.00
Sharpe Ratio	-0.45	-0.43
Standard Deviation	21.68	17.14

See Glossary on last page for definitions of these metrics.

### SECTOR ALLOCATIONS



Index: MSCI Emerging Markets Index (net)  
Sector weightings are subject to change.

**PORTFOLIO MANAGERS**



**R. Burns McKinney, CFA**  
Industry start date: 1996  
Start date as Fund Portfolio Manager: 2012



**John R. Mowrey, CFA**  
Industry start date: 2007  
Start date as Fund Portfolio Manager: 2013



**Thomas Oliver, CFA, CPA**  
Industry start date: 1995  
Start date as Fund Portfolio Manager: 2012



**J. Garth Reilly**  
Industry start date: 2005  
Start date as Fund Portfolio Manager: 2018

<b>AUM (\$ millions)</b>	39.1
<b>Number of Holdings</b>	88
<b>Dividends</b>	Quarterly
<b>Morningstar Category</b>	Diversified Emerging Markets
<b>Index</b>	MSCI Emerging Markets Index (net)

**TOP TEN HOLDINGS**

	<b>% Fund</b>
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co Ltd.	7.28
ENN Energy Holdings Ltd.	4.26
Li Ning Co Ltd.	4.20
ANTA Sports Products Ltd.	3.99
ASML Holding NV	3.71
Tencent Holdings Ltd.	3.45
HDFC Bank Ltd.	3.29
MonotaRO Co Ltd.	3.23
Nippon Paint Holdings Co Ltd.	3.11
Luxshare Precision Industry Co Ltd.	2.44

Holdings are subject to change.

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**Index:** The MSCI Emerging Markets Index (net) is a free float-adjusted market capitalization-weighted index designed to measure equity market performance in the global emerging markets. The index is calculated on a total return basis with net dividends reinvested. The index is unmanaged, its returns do not reflect any fees, expenses, or sales charges, and is not available for direct investment.

**IMPORTANT RISK CONSIDERATIONS**

**Market Volatility:** The value of the securities in the portfolio may go up or down in response to the prospects of individual companies and/or general economic conditions. Local, regional, or global events such as war or military conflict, terrorism, pandemic, or recession could impact the portfolio, including hampering the ability of the portfolio's manager(s) to invest its assets as intended. **Issuer Risk:** The portfolio will be affected by factors specific to the issuers of securities and other instruments in which the portfolio invests, including actual or perceived changes in the financial condition or business prospects of such issuers. **Equity Securities:** The market price of equity securities may be adversely affected by financial market, industry, or issuer-specific events. Focus on a particular style or on small, medium, or large-sized companies may enhance that risk. **Foreign & Emerging Markets:** Investing in foreign securities, especially in emerging markets, subjects the portfolio to additional risks such as increased volatility, currency fluctuations, less liquidity, and political, regulatory, economic, and market risk. **Prospectus:** For additional information on risks, please see the fund's prospectus.

**GLOSSARY**

**Avg. Weighted Market Cap (bn):** The sum of each security's weight within the fund (or index) multiplied by the security's market capitalization. **Trailing P/E With Negative Earnings:** Per share stock price divided by the latest 12-months earnings per share, including companies that have negative earnings per share over the past 12-months. **3-Year Earnings Growth Rate:** Average of earnings per share growth for latest 3-year period. **5-Year Earnings Growth Rate:** Average of earnings per share growth for latest 5-year period. **Active Share:** A measure of the percentage of stock holdings in a manager's portfolio that differ from the benchmark index. **3-Year Dividend Growth Rate:** Average of dividends per share growth for latest 3-year period. **Up/Down Capture Ratio:** A measure of how well a manager was able to replicate or improve on phases of positive benchmark returns and how badly the manager was impacted by phases of negative benchmark returns. **Alpha:** A risk-adjusted measure of an investment's excess return relative to a benchmark. **Beta:** A quantitative measure of the volatility, or systematic risk, of a security or a portfolio in comparison to the market as a whole. **R<sup>2</sup>:** A measure that represents the percentage of a fund or security's movements that can be explained by movements in a benchmark index. **Sharpe Ratio:** A risk-adjusted measure calculated using standard deviation and excess return to determine reward per unit of risk. **Standard Deviation:** Measures variability of returns around the average return for an investment portfolio. Higher standard deviation suggests greater risk.

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Please consider a Fund's investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses carefully before investing. For this and other information about any Virtus Fund, contact your financial professional, call 800-243-4361, or visit [virtus.com](http://virtus.com) for a prospectus or summary prospectus. Read it carefully before investing.

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