

# ONE YEAR LATER: RECAPPING QUALITY GROWTH IN 2023

Matt Wagner – Associate Director, Research  
01/05/2024

It’s been just over a year since the launch of the [WisdomTree U.S. Quality Growth Fund \(QGRW\)](#) in December 2022.

This year’s performance provided compelling evidence that looking under the hood at the nuances of index construction matters.

## 2023 Performance

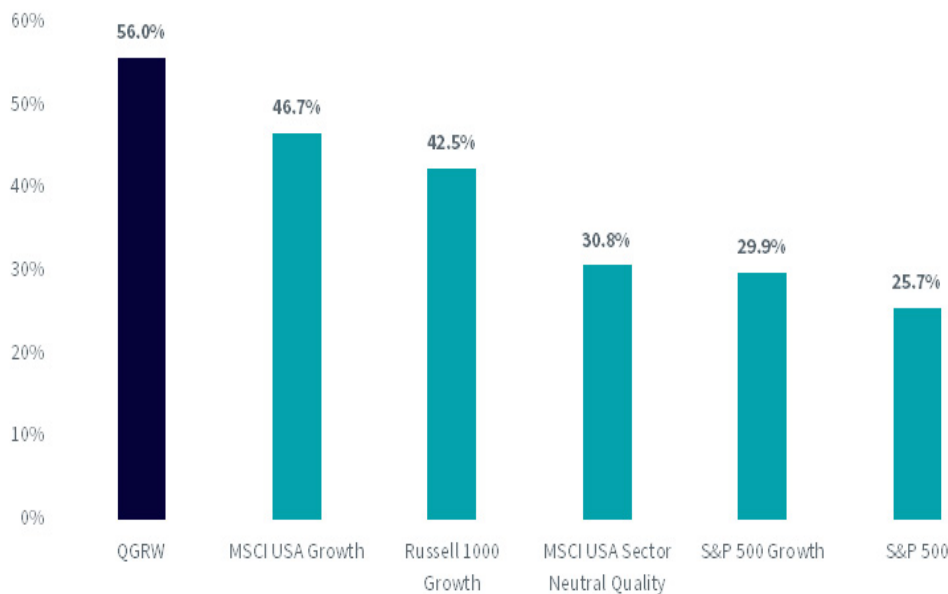
The [WisdomTree U.S. Quality Growth Fund](#) seeks to track the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the [WisdomTree U.S. Quality Growth Index \(WTOGRW\)](#).

The Index was designed to identify stocks that have characteristics of both high profitability and high growth.

Our research into historical returns suggested that investing simply in *high-growth stocks* can be a losing game over the long run. We believe investors should instead consider investing in *high-quality growth stocks*.

The U.S. equity market in 2023 was led by these high-quality growth stocks, as evidenced by the outperformance of [QGRW](#) relative to other measures of growth and quality.

## 2023 Total Returns



Sources: WisdomTree, MSCI, Russell, S&P, for the period 1/1/23-12/13/23. You cannot invest directly in an Index. Past index performance is not indicative of future returns. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance, and any investments may go down in value. The performance data quoted represents past performance and is no guarantee of future results. Investment returns and the principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's 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.**

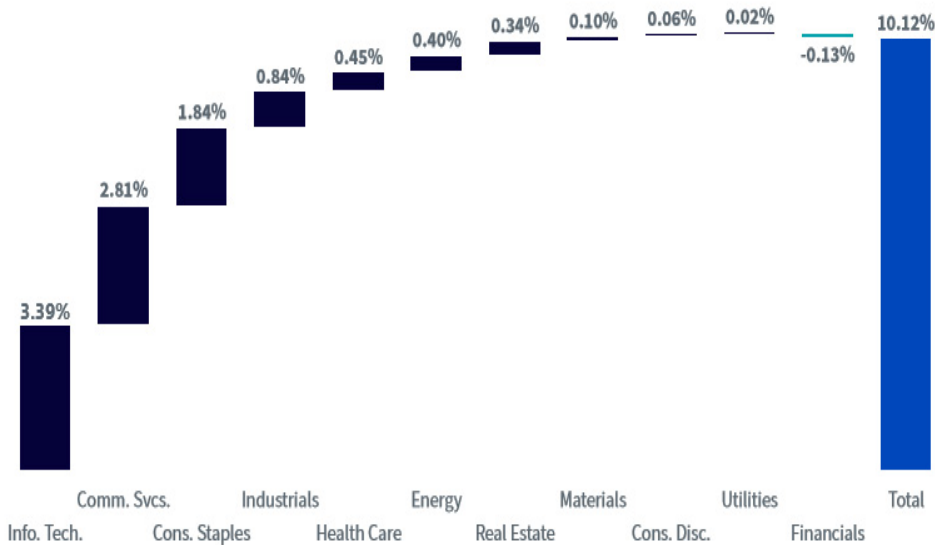
For the most recent month-end and standardized performance and to download the respective Fund prospectuses, click [here](#).

For definitions of indices in the chart above, please visit the [glossary](#).

The WisdomTree U.S. Quality Growth Index outperformed the [Russell 1000 Growth Index](#) by more than 1,000 [basis points](#).

Though more than half of the outperformance was attributed to the tech-focused Information Technology and Communication Services sectors, the Index had positive attribution from 10 of 11 sectors.

**2023 Index Attribution: WisdomTree U.S. Quality Growth vs. Russell 1000 Growth**



Sources: WisdomTree, Russell. You cannot invest directly in an index. Past performance is not indicative of future returns.

**Semi-Annual Index Rebalance**

The Index rebalances each June and December. The universe of eligible securities is ranked on quality and growth factors separately, with the 100 highest-scoring securities selected.

At this December’s rebalance, the only changes to the top 10 holdings were the addition of Broadcom at a roughly 3% weight, offset by the drop of UnitedHealth Group, which had held a 3.3% weight.

The remaining nine holdings were unchanged from the rebalance.

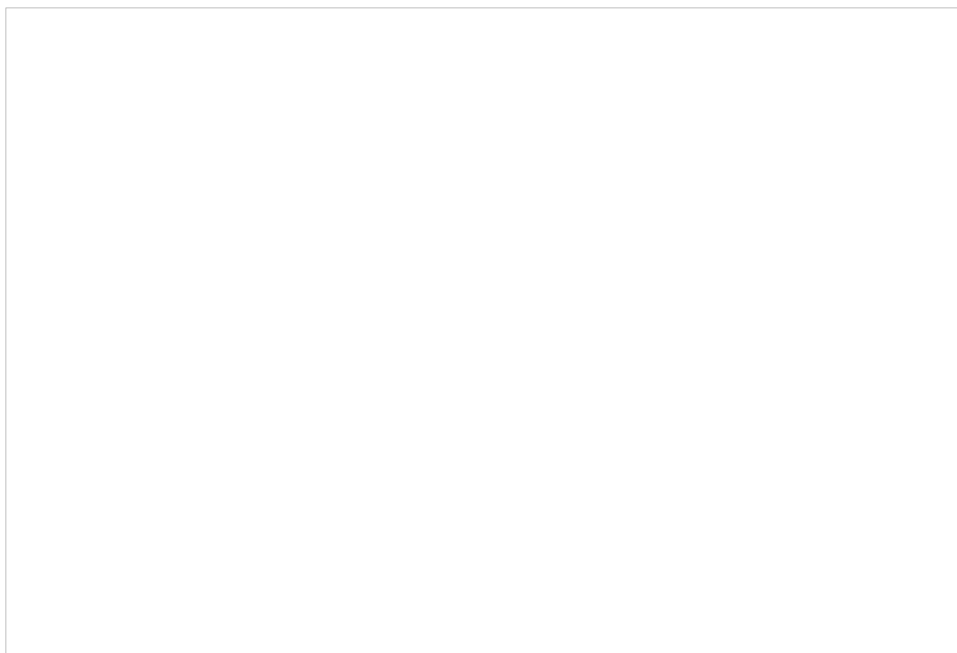
**WisdomTree U.S. Quality Growth Index Top 10 Holdings**

Top Holdings	Weight	Add?
Apple	11.99%	-
Microsoft	11.26%	-
Alphabet	5.84%	-
Nvidia	5.63%	-
Amazon	5.25%	-
Meta Platforms	4.79%	-
Tesla Inc	4.18%	-
Visa Inc	3.04%	-
Broadcom	2.98%	Add
Mastercard	2.35%	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>57.31%</b>	<b>57.31%</b>

Source: WisdomTree, as of 12/13/23. You cannot invest directly in an index.

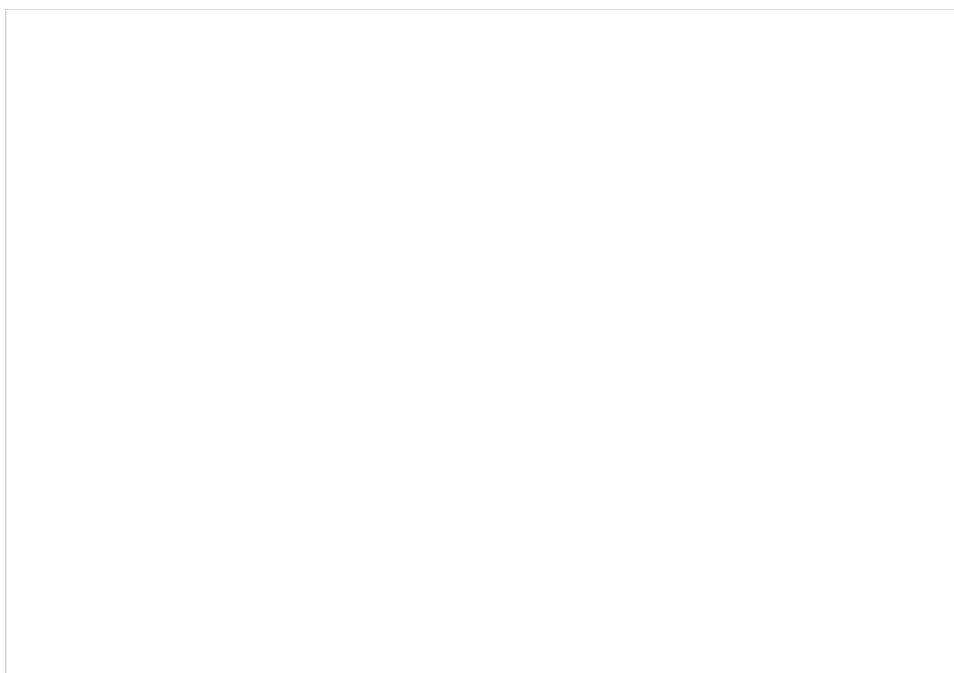
Of the 100 securities held in the pre-rebalance Index, 79 were maintained, and 21 were dropped/added. The cumulative impact on one-way Index turnover was 16%.

**Holdings Overlap and Turnover for the WisdomTree U.S. Quality Growth Index**



Sector changes were modest. The impact of the drop of UnitedHealth can be seen in a lower weight in Health Care, offset by an increase in Information Technology driven by the addition of Broadcom.

**Sector Changes: WisdomTree U.S. Quality Growth Index**



At each semi-annual rebalance, the Index systematically refreshes exposure to these high-quality and growth characteristics. This can be seen by the significant improvements in profitability and growth characteristics compared to the S&P 500.

For example, the [return on assets \(ROA\)](#) for the Index is more than twice that of the S&P 500 while also having a trailing five-year sales growth of almost 7 percentage points higher.

**Index Characteristics**

Characteristics	WisdomTree U.S. Quality Growth	Russell 1000 Growth	S&P 500
<b>Profitability</b>			
Return on Equity (ROE)	22.3%	22.8%	15.2%
Return on Assets (ROA)	13.6%	10.7%	4.5%
Leverage (Assets/Equity)	1.64x	2.13x	3.40x
<b>Growth</b>			
Trailing Five-Year Sales Growth	17.7%	14.9%	10.9%
Trailing Five-Year Earnings Growth	23.1%	21.4%	14.1%
Forward Earnings Growth Estimates	19.1%	18.5%	14.9%

Sources: WisdomTree, FactSet, Russell, S&P, as of 12/13/23. Return on Equity, Return on Assets and Leverage are adjusted for investments in intangible assets. You cannot invest directly in an Index.

For definitions of terms in the table above, please visit the [glossary](#).

**Building a Quality Portfolio**

The [WisdomTree U.S. Quality Dividend Growth Fund \(DGRW\)](#) was WisdomTree’s first quality fund launched in 2013.

The Fund invests in high-quality dividend-paying companies, creating a more value-tilted core allocation. As a byproduct of its dividend requirement, the Fund is under-weight in many of the non-dividend-paying [mega-cap](#) companies that are top holdings in [QGRW](#).

For investors utilizing an allocation to [DGRW](#) or a similar value-tilted core allocation under-weight in some of the non-dividend-paying mega-caps, a blend of [DGRW](#) with [QGRW](#) may mitigate some of the under-weights in the portfolio.

## S&amp;P 500 Top 10 Holdings

Name	S&P 500	DGRW	QGRW	50% DGRW/50% QGRW
Apple	7.1%	5.0%	11.5%	8.3%
Microsoft	7.0%	7.5%	11.1%	9.3%
Alphabet	3.9%	-	6.1%	3.1%
Amazon	3.5%	-	5.3%	2.7%
NVIDIA	3.0%	1.9%	5.6%	3.8%
Meta Platforms	2.0%	-	5.0%	2.5%
Tesla	1.7%	-	4.3%	2.2%
Berkshire Hathaway	1.6%	-	-	-
Broadcom	1.2%	3.6%	3.0%	3.3%
JPMorgan Chase	1.2%	-	-	-

Sources: WisdomTree, FactSet, S&P, as of 12/22/23. You cannot invest directly in an Index. Holdings subject to change. Red font indicates an under-weight in the S&P 500. Green font indicates an over-weight in the S&P 500.

## Important Risks Related to this Article

**QGRW:** There are risks associated with investing, including the possible loss of principal. Growth stocks, as a group, may be out of favor with the market and underperform value stocks or the overall equity market. Growth stocks are generally more sensitive to market movements than other types of stocks. The Fund is non-diversified; as a result, changes in the market value of a single security could cause greater fluctuations in the value of Fund shares than would occur in a diversified fund. The Fund invests in the securities included in, or representative of, its Index regardless of their investment merit. The Fund does not attempt to outperform its Index or take defensive positions in declining markets, and the Index may not perform as intended. Please read the Fund's prospectus for specific details regarding the Fund's risk profile.

**DGRW:** There are risks associated with investing, including the possible loss of principal. Funds focusing their investments on certain sectors increase their vulnerability to any single economic or regulatory development. This may result in greater share price volatility. Dividends are not guaranteed, and a company currently paying dividends may cease paying dividends at any time. Please read the Fund's prospectus for specific details regarding the Fund's risk profile.

For the top 10 holdings of QGRW please visit the Fund's fund detail page at <https://www.wisdomtree.com/investments/etfs/equity/qgrw>

For the top 10 holdings of DGRW please visit the Fund's fund detail page at <https://www.wisdomtree.com/investments/etfs/equity/dgrw>

For standardized performance and the most recent month-end performance click [here](#) NOTE, this material is intended for electronic use only. Individuals who intend to print and physically deliver to an investor must print the monthly performance report to accompany this blog.

## Related Funds

- + [WisdomTree U.S. Quality Growth Fund](#)
- + [WisdomTree U.S. Quality Dividend Growth Fund](#)

For more investing insights, check out our [Economic & Market Outlook](#)

view the online version of this article [here](#).

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**U.S. investors only:** Click [here](#) to obtain a WisdomTree ETF prospectus which contains investment objectives, risks, charges, expenses, and other information; read and consider carefully before investing.

There are risks involved with investing, including possible loss of principal. Foreign investing involves currency, political and economic risk. Funds focusing on a single country, sector and/or funds that emphasize investments in smaller companies may experience greater price volatility. Investments in emerging markets, currency, fixed income and alternative investments include additional risks. Please see prospectus for discussion of risks.

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## DEFINITIONS

**Quality**: Characterized by higher efficiency and profitability. Typical measures include earnings, return on equity, return on assets, operating profitability as well as others. This term is also related to the Quality Factor, which associates these stock characteristics with excess returns vs the market over time.

**Russell 1000 Growth Index**: A measure of the large-cap growth segment of the U.S. equity universe, selecting from the Russell 1000 Index.

**Basis point**: 1/100th of 1 percent.

**Return on assets (ROA)**: Firm profits (after accounting for all expenses) divided by the firm's total assets. Higher numbers indicate greater profits relative to the level of assets utilized to generate them.

**Mega Cap**: Market Capitalization over \$100 Billion.