



Risk and Return Analysis of Equity-Based Mutual Funds in India

Sabu George,

Assistant Professor of Commerce,
Panampilly Memorial Govt. College Chalakudy,
E-mail: sabugeorge2205@gmail.com

Dr. Sajikumar K B,

Associate Professor of Commerce,
Panampilly Memorial Govt. College Chalakudy,
E-mail: drsajikumarkb@gmail.com

George Sabu,

M.Com Student, Panampilly Memorial Govt. College Chalakudy,
E-mail: georgesabuapril10@gmail.com

Abstract

This study evaluates the risk and return characteristics of equity-based mutual funds in India, covering large-cap, mid-cap, and small-cap funds under both direct and regular growth plans. Significant variations in Assets Under Management (AUM), performance, and risk levels are observed across different fund categories. Large-cap funds like ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund and SBI Blue Chip Fund provide stability and investor confidence, while Nippon India Large Cap Fund delivers superior risk-adjusted returns. Mid-cap funds such as HDFC Mid-Cap Opportunities Fund and Kotak Emerging Equity Fund offer long-term growth with moderate risk, whereas Motilal Oswal Midcap Fund excels in risk-adjusted performance. Small-cap funds are highly volatile, with Quant Small Cap Fund showing strong long-term gains but high market sensitivity. Franklin India Smaller Companies Fund and Invesco India Smallcap Fund stand out for superior risk-adjusted returns. Investors seeking stability should opt for funds with lower Beta and high Sharpe Ratios, while aggressive investors can consider high-volatility funds for potential higher returns. A diversified investment strategy—balancing stable and high-growth funds—can optimize risk-adjusted returns and mitigate market fluctuations.

Keywords: Risk-Adjusted Returns, Asset Under Management, Mutual Fund Performance, Investment Strategies.



Introduction

Mutual funds are a popular investment vehicle in India that allow small and medium investors to participate in the financial market through professionally managed investment (Rokade,2021). Equity-based mutual funds, in particular, provide investors with exposure to stock markets, offering opportunities for capital appreciation. These funds pool money from multiple investors to invest in a diversified portfolio of equities, reducing individual investment risk. One of the key reasons for investing in mutual funds is diversification, which helps mitigate risks by spreading investments across various sectors and asset classes. Additionally, mutual funds offer professional fund management, where experienced portfolio managers analyze market trends and select stocks with the potential for high returns. Investors also benefit from liquidity, as mutual fund units can be easily bought and sold based on market conditions. Furthermore, equity-linked savings schemes (ELSS) provide tax benefits under Section 80C of the Income Tax Act, making them a tax-efficient investment option (Panigrahi et.al, 2020). Another advantage is cost-effectiveness, as mutual funds have relatively lower transaction costs and expense ratios compared to direct stock investments. Over the long term, equity-based mutual funds have historically delivered higher returns compared to traditional savings instruments like fixed deposits. The power of compounding further enhances wealth accumulation when investments are held for extended periods. Given these advantages, mutual funds remain an attractive option for investors seeking sustainable and long-term financial growth.

Research Problem

The Indian equity-based mutual fund market has grown significantly, attracting investors with diverse risk appetites and return expectations. However, variations in Asset Under Management (AUM) across different funds indicate differences in investor confidence and market performance. Assessing the risk and return profiles of these funds is crucial for understanding their financial viability and stability. The following research questions are relevant in this context.

1. How does the Asset Under Management (AUM) of different equity-based mutual funds in India vary, and what factors influence these variations?
2. What are the risk and return characteristics of equity-based mutual funds in India, and how do they compare across different fund categories?
3. How can investors assess the suitability of equity-based mutual funds based on their individual risk tolerance and return expectations?



Objectives

1. Analyse the Asset Under Management of different Equity based mutual funds in India.
2. Evaluate the risk and return of Equity based funds in India.
3. Identify the suitability of funds from risk return perspective of investors.

Research Methodology

This study adopts a quantitative research design using secondary data from AMFI, NSE, and SEBI. It analyzes based equity mutual funds in India, focusing on Asset Under Management (AUM), returns over different time periods, and risk measures such as Standard Deviation, Beta, Sharpe Ratio, Jensen's Alpha, and Treynor's Ratio. The study is limited to equity based mutual funds, relying on historical data. Ethical considerations include data transparency, accuracy, and proper citation of sources to ensure objective analysis.

Review of Literature

Mutual fund performance evaluation remains a significant research area, with recent studies focusing on risk-return metrics and economic conditions. Boricha and Alpa (2024) analyzed equity mutual funds from 2019 to 2021, finding a positive relationship between risk and return. Subramanyam (2024) applied style-exposure analysis to large-cap mutual funds, identifying consistent market outperformance. Srinivasan (2023) compared five mutual fund schemes between 2019 and 2022, reporting that over 60% outperformed the market. Umesh (2023) examined risk-return relationships in private and public-sector mutual funds, concluding that fund performance varied based on investment strategies. Biswas (2022) explored the mutual fund industry's role in economic growth, while Sharma (2020) analyzed debt mutual funds, recommending statistical measures for consistent selection.

Venkatesh and Revathi (2020) assessed Indian equity mutual funds over five years using Sharpe, Treynor, and Jensen's alpha, providing insights for informed investment. Choudhary et al. (2020) studied debt mutual funds, emphasizing parameters like average maturity and yield to maturity. Nielsen and Vassalou (2004) proposed modifications to the Sharpe ratio and Jensen's alpha in a continuous-time model, highlighting volatility's impact on fund rankings. Vyšniauskas and Rutkauskas (2014) examined Lithuanian mutual funds, emphasizing benchmarking



against indices to assess management fees' worth. Ling et al. (2022) investigated asset allocation during economic downturns, applying the CAPM model to analyze alpha, beta, and Sharpe ratios across asset classes.

Indian mutual fund studies have also provided key insights. Tiwari (2024) analyzed Nippon Mutual Fund schemes, finding that only one fund outperformed industry averages. Mishra and Mohapatra (2021) compared pension funds, reporting that TATA Mutual Fund outperformed its peers. Prajapati and Patel (2012) evaluated Indian mutual funds using risk-return measures, noting positive returns from 2007 to 2011. Tripathy (2004) analyzed 31 tax-planning schemes (1994–2002), concluding fund managers failed to generate excess market returns. Marudhadurai (2016) traced the mutual fund sector's evolution in India, reporting significant growth in assets under management. These studies collectively highlight the importance of fund selection, market conditions, and portfolio management strategies in mutual fund performance.

Analysis of Mutual Funds

Table 1 : Equity Large Cap -Direct Growth Plan Fund

Scheme Name	AuM (Cr)	Return				Risk				
		1Y	2Y	3Y	5Y	SD	Beta	Sharpe Ratio	Jenson's Alpha	Treynor's Ratio
DSP Top 100 Equity Fund.	4,504.42	19%	24%	16%	15%	12.78	0.87	0.71	4.18	0.10
Nippon India Large Cap Fund.	35,699.99	14%	25%	19%	20%	13.98	0.97	0.94	6.41	0.13
Baroda BNP Paribas Large Cap Fund.	2,421.44	14%	23%	16%	18%	13.46	0.93	0.73	4.26	0.10
ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund.	63,264.30	13%	23%	17%	19%	12.65	0.88	0.77	4.52	0.11
Invesco India Large cap Fund.	1,323.92	15%	25%	14%	18%	13.83	0.95	0.61	2.86	0.09
Bandhan Large Cap Fund.	1,768.88	12%	23%	13%	17%	13.60	0.94	0.58	2.59	0.08
Kotak Bluechip Fund.	9,410.93	14%	20%	14%	17%	13.43	0.93	0.56	1.98	0.08
Edelweiss Large Cap Fund.	1,109.74	13%	22%	15%	18%	13.41	0.93	0.64	3.04	0.09
JM Large Cap Fund	480.41	7%	21%	15%	18%	14.60	1.00	0.64	3.79	0.09
Canara Robeco Bluechip Equity Fund.	14,799.00	15%	21%	14%	18%	13.15	0.93	0.56	2.27	0.08
Taurus Large Cap Fund.	49.02	10%	21%	13%	14%	15.39	1.03	0.54	2.68	0.08
HDFC Large Cap Fund.	35,974.91	9%	21%	16%	18%	13.51	0.93	0.75	4.59	0.11
Aditya Birla Sun Life Frontline Equity Fund.	28,786.04	12%	20%	14%	17%	13.20	0.92	0.55	1.83	0.08



SBI Blue Chip Fund.	49,682.86	13%	18%	14%	17%	12.58	0.88	0.51	1.60	0.07
HSBC Large Cap Fund.	1,905.84	12%	22%	13%	16%	14.55	1.01	0.53	1.70	0.08
Groww Large Cap Fund.	124.60	8%	18%	13%	14%	14.16	0.98	0.51	1.47	0.07
Franklin India Bluechip Fund	7,682.65	12%	19%	11%	16%	13.14	0.89	0.41	1.01	0.06
Mahindra Manulife Large Cap Fund.	588.74	12%	20%	13%	17%	13.64	0.95	0.50	1.17	0.07
Tata Large Cap Fund.	2,414.91	11%	20%	13%	17%	13.71	0.95	0.53	1.62	0.08
Mirae Asset Large Cap Fund.	38,751.62	11%	17%	11%	15%	13.22	0.92	0.37	-0.56	0.05
Union Large cap Fund.	436.97	7%	17%	11%	15%	13.78	0.97	0.36	-0.35	0.05
LIC MF Large Cap Fund.	1,448.12	13%	17%	10%	14%	13.82	0.96	0.29	-1.67	0.04
Axis Bluechip Fund.	33,126.83	12%	18%	9%	13%	13.08	0.90	0.18	-2.63	0.03
UTI Large Cap Fund.	12,616.62	12%	18%	11%	16%	12.84	0.89	0.29	-1.18	0.04
PGIM India Large Cap Fund.	586.80	9%	16%	11%	14%	13.13	0.91	0.36	-0.69	0.05

Source -Data compiled by researcher

Asset Under Management (AuM) Analysis

AuM reflects a fund's scale and investor confidence. ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund (₹63,264.30 Cr) leads, followed by SBI Blue Chip Fund (₹49,682.86 Cr) and HDFC Large Cap Fund (₹35,974.91 Cr), attracting substantial investments due to strong performance and brand trust. Mirae Asset Large Cap Fund (₹38,751.62 Cr) and Nippon India Large Cap Fund (₹35,699.99 Cr) also hold significant assets. In contrast, Union Large Cap Fund (₹436.97 Cr) and JM Large Cap Fund (₹480.41 Cr) have lower AuM, possibly due to lower investor awareness or recent inception. Higher AuM funds offer stability and liquidity but may struggle to outperform benchmarks due to limited flexibility in large-cap stock selection.

Returns Analysis

Fund performance varies across timeframes. DSP Top 100 Equity Fund (19%) leads in 1-year returns, followed by Invesco India Large Cap Fund (15%) and Canara Robeco Bluechip Equity Fund (15%). Over 5 years, Nippon India Large Cap Fund (20%) and ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund (19%) perform consistently well, reflecting strong management. Axis Bluechip Fund (9%) and PGIM India Large Cap Fund (9%) underperform over 3 and 5 years, possibly due to conservative strategies or sectoral downturns.



Risk Analysis

Risk evaluation ensures return sustainability. Standard deviation (SD) shows volatility, with HDFC Large Cap Fund (13.51) and JM Large Cap Fund (14.60) exhibiting higher risk. Beta, indicating market sensitivity, is highest for Taurus Large Cap Fund (1.03) and JM Large Cap Fund (1.00), suggesting higher exposure, while ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund (0.88) and DSP Top 100 Equity Fund (0.87) offer lower risk. Sharpe Ratio, measuring risk-adjusted returns, favors Nippon India Large Cap Fund (0.94) and ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund (0.77). Jensen's Alpha, assessing excess returns, ranks Nippon India Large Cap Fund (6.41) and ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund (4.52) highest, while Axis Bluechip Fund (-2.63) and LIC MF Large Cap Fund (-1.67) underperform. Treynor's Ratio aligns, with Nippon India Large Cap Fund (0.13) ranking highest.

Table 2 : Equity Large Cap -Regular Plan Fund

Scheme Name	AuM (Cr)	Return				Risk				
		1Y	2Y	3Y	5Y	SD	Beta	Sharpe Ratio	Jensen's Alpha	Treynor's Ratio
DSP Top 100 Equity Fund.	4,504.42	18%	23%	16%	14%	12.77	0.85	0.64	2.88	0.10
Nippon India Large Cap Fund.	35,699.99	13%	24%	18%	19%	13.98	0.97	0.88	5.55	0.13
Baroda BNP Paribas Large Cap Fund.	2,421.44	12%	21%	14%	16%	13.46	0.93	0.64	3.08	0.09
ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund.	63,264.30	12%	22%	16%	18%	12.65	0.88	0.72	3.92	0.10
Taurus Large Cap Fund.	49.02	10%	20%	13%	14%	15.39	1.02	0.54	1.90	0.08
Kotak Bluechip Fund.	9,410.93	13%	19%	13%	16%	13.43	0.93	0.47	0.76	0.07
Bandhan Large Cap Fund.	1,768.88	11%	21%	12%	16%	13.60	0.92	0.49	0.83	0.07
JM Large Cap Fund.	480.41	5%	20%	14%	17%	14.60	0.99	0.57	2.17	0.08
Invesco India Large cap Fund.	1,323.92	13%	23%	12%	16%	13.82	0.95	0.51	1.43	0.07
Canara Robeco Bluechip Equity Fund.	14,799.00	14%	20%	12%	16%	13.14	0.91	0.47	0.45	0.07
HDFC Large Cap Fund.	35,974.91	8%	20%	16%	17%	13.51	2.02	0.71	12.76	0.05
Aditya Birla Sun Life Frontline Equity Fund.	28,786.04	12%	19%	13%	16%	13.20	0.92	0.50	1.16	0.07
Tata Large Cap Fund.	2,414.91	10%	19%	12%	16%	13.71	0.95	0.45	0.60	0.07
Edelweiss Large Cap Fund.	1,109.74	11%	20%	13%	16%	13.40	0.93	0.52	1.50	0.08



SBI Blue Chip Fund.	49,682.86	12%	17%	13%	16%	12.58	0.88	0.46	-0.29	0.07
HSBC Large Cap Fund.	1,905.84	11%	21%	12%	15%	14.55	1.01	0.46	0.76	0.07
Groww Large Cap Fund.	124.60	6%	17%	11%	12%	14.16	0.98	0.42	0.12	0.06
Franklin India Bluechip Fund.	7,682.65	11%	18%	10%	15%	13.14	0.89	0.34	0.19	0.05
Mahindra Manulife Large Cap Fund.	588.74	11%	18%	11%	15%	13.64	0.95	0.37	-0.61	0.05
Mirae Asset Large Cap Fund - Regular.	38,751.62	10%	16%	10%	14%	13.22	0.92	0.29	-1.57	0.04
Union Large cap Fund.	436.97	6%	16%	10%	15%	13.77	0.95	0.31	-1.71	0.04
LIC MF Large Cap Fund.	1,448.12	12%	16%	9%	12%	13.82	0.96	0.21	-2.79	0.03
Axis Bluechip Fund.	33,126.83	11%	17%	8%	12%	13.08	0.88	0.11	-4.09	0.02
UTI Large Cap Fund.	12,616.62	11%	17%	10%	15%	12.84	0.87	0.23	-2.56	0.03
PGIM India Large Cap Fund.	586.80	8%	14%	10%	12%	13.13	0.90	0.24	-2.19	0.04

Source-Data compiled by researcher

Assets Under Management (AuM) Analysis

Funds with the highest AuM indicate strong investor confidence and stability. ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund (₹63,264 Cr.), SBI Blue Chip Fund (₹49,682 Cr.), HDFC Large Cap Fund (₹35,974 Cr.), and Nippon India Large Cap Fund (₹35,699 Cr.) lead in this category. Their strong track record and risk-adjusted returns attract significant investments. In contrast, smaller funds like Union Large Cap Fund (₹436 Cr.), Groww Large Cap Fund (₹124 Cr.) and JM Large Cap Fund (₹480 Cr.) suggest limited investor participation or a newer market presence. While they offer growth potential, they also pose higher volatility and liquidity risks.

Return Analysis

Over one year, DSP Top 100 Equity Fund (18%) and Nippon India Large Cap Fund (13%) delivered the highest returns. Over five years, Nippon India Large Cap Fund (19%) and ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund (18%) have consistently outperformed. Lower 1-year returns in Union Large Cap Fund and Groww Large Cap Fund (6-7%) indicate underperformance or short-term setbacks. Investors seeking stability should prioritize funds that perform well across multiple timeframes rather than focusing on short-term gains.



Risk Analysis

Risk is crucial in fund selection. Higher standard deviation (SD) implies greater volatility, with Taurus Large Cap Fund (15.39), JM Large Cap Fund (14.60), and HSBC Large Cap Fund (14.55) being the most volatile. More stable funds include ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund (12.65) and SBI Blue Chip Fund (12.58). Beta measures sensitivity to market fluctuations—Taurus Large Cap Fund (1.02) and HSBC Large Cap Fund (1.01) are highly volatile, while Axis Bluechip Fund (0.88), Franklin India Bluechip Fund (0.89), and UTI Large Cap Fund (0.87) offer stability.

The Sharpe Ratio assesses risk-adjusted returns, with Nippon India Large Cap Fund (0.88), DSP Top 100 Equity Fund (0.64), and ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund (0.72) ranking highest. Axis Bluechip Fund (0.11) and LIC MF Large Cap Fund (0.21) have weaker risk-adjusted returns. Jensen's Alpha measures fund manager performance—HDFC Large Cap Fund (12.76), Nippon India Large Cap Fund (5.55), and ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund (3.92) excel, while Axis Bluechip Fund (-4.09) and LIC MF Large Cap Fund (-2.79) underperform. Treynor's Ratio, which evaluates return per unit of market risk, favors DSP Top 100 Equity Fund (0.10) and Nippon India Large Cap Fund (0.13), while Axis Bluechip Fund (0.02) and UTI Large Cap Fund (0.03) lag.

Table 3 : Equity Mid Cap Fund -Direct Plan

Scheme Name	AuM (Cr)	Return				Risk				
		1Y	2Y	3Y	5Y	SD	Beta	Sharpe Ratio	Jen-sion's Alpha	Treynor's Ratio
Invesco India Mid Cap Fund.	6,149.96	24%	35%	22%	26%	14.81	0.89	1.16	12.25	0.19
Edelweiss Mid Cap Fund.	8,666.49	24%	36%	24%	28%	15.89	0.94	1.14	3.98	0.19
Motilal Oswal Midcap Fund.	26,421.09	31%	40%	30%	29%	15.75	0.82	1.60	12.92	0.31
Sundaram Mid Cap Fund.	12,619.32	19%	34%	23%	22%	14.97	0.89	1.13	3.53	0.19
Franklin India Prima Fund	12,570.21	20%	32%	21%	22%	14.91	0.89	1.02	2.41	0.17
Kotak Emerging Equity Fund.	53,078.98	22%	30%	21%	25%	14.00	0.82	1.10	3.03	0.19
LIC MF Mid cap Fund.	326.63	20%	31%	18%	21%	15.61	0.93	0.79	-1.63	0.13
HSBC Mid Cap Fund.	12,416.26	18%	32%	21%	22%	15.29	0.90	1.17	4.37	0.20
Baroda BNP Paribas Mid Cap Fund.	2,186.47	17%	29%	20%	24%	14.58	0.86	1.01	1.74	0.17
Aditya Birla Sun Life Midcap Fund.	5,911.27	14%	28%	16%	21%	14.80	0.88	0.73	-2.43	0.12
Axis Midcap Fund.	30,828.75	20%	27%	16%	21%	13.78	0.85	0.77	5.84	0.12



HDFC Mid-Cap Opportunities Fund.	77,967.21	16%	33%	25%	27%	14.92	0.88	1.28	5.86	0.22
Nippon India Growth Fund.	35,277.81	16%	34%	23%	27%	15.39	0.92	1.16	3.98	0.19
DSP Midcap Fund.	19,296.70	15%	27%	15%	18%	14.19	0.84	0.76	-1.85	0.13
Mahindra Manulife Mid Cap Fund.	3,529.04	15%	35%	22%	27%	16.07	0.96	1.07	2.79	0.18
Tata Mid Cap Growth Fund.	4,529.49	13%	31%	20%	23%	15.27	0.91	0.89	-0.02	0.15
ICICI Prudential MidCap Fund.	6,339.07	14%	28%	19%	23%	15.48	0.92	0.86	-0.38	0.15
UTI Mid Cap Fund.	11,996.94	12%	24%	16%	23%	14.21	0.84	0.73	-1.68	0.12
SBI Magnum Midcap Fund.	21,818.37	16%	27%	18%	25%	13.20	0.76	0.88	0.24	0.15
Mirae Asset Midcap Fund.	16,693.99	8%	25%	17%	25%	14.43	0.86	0.86	-0.43	0.15
Quant Mid Cap Fund.	8,891.20	7%	28%	23%	32%	18.08	1.01	0.94	1.87	0.17
PGIM India Midcap Opportunities Fund.	11,284.53	13%	19%	12%	27%	14.06	0.82	0.52	-5.03	0.09
Taurus Mid Cap Fund.	126.57	0%	22%	16%	20%	17.74	1.03	0.64	-4.15	0.11

Source-Data compiled by researcher

Assets Under Management (AuM) Analysis

Funds with the highest AuM indicate strong investor confidence and stability. HDFC Mid-Cap Opportunities Fund (₹77,967 Cr.), Kotak Emerging Equity Fund (₹53,078 Cr.), and Nippon India Growth Fund (₹35,277 Cr.) dominate the mid-cap space, attracting investments due to consistent returns and brand trust. Axis Midcap Fund (₹30,828 Cr.), Motilal Oswal Midcap Fund (₹26,421 Cr.), and SBI Magnum Midcap Fund (₹21,818 Cr.) also hold significant market share. Conversely, smaller funds like Taurus Mid Cap Fund (₹126 Cr.), LIC MF Mid Cap Fund (₹326 Cr.), and Mahindra Manulife Mid Cap Fund (₹3,529 Cr.) suggest a newer presence or limited investor participation. While smaller funds offer growth potential, they also carry higher volatility and liquidity risks.

Return Analysis

Mid-cap funds offer high growth potential, with returns varying across timeframes. Over one year, Motilal Oswal Midcap Fund (31%), Invesco India Mid Cap Fund (24%), and Edelweiss Mid Cap Fund (24%) outperformed peers. Over three and five years, Motilal Oswal Midcap Fund (30%, 29%), Kotak Emerging Equity Fund (21%, 25%), and Nippon India Growth Fund (23%, 27%) showed strong growth. Underperformers include Quant Mid Cap Fund (7%), PGIM India Midcap Opportunities Fund (13%), and UTI Mid Cap Fund (12%). Notably, Taurus Mid Cap Fund had a 0% one-year return, indicating weak short-term performance.



Risk Analysis

Mid-cap funds are more volatile than large-cap funds, with risk measured through Standard Deviation (SD) and Beta. The most volatile funds by SD include Quant Mid Cap Fund (18.08), Taurus Mid Cap Fund (17.74), and Mahindra Manulife Mid Cap Fund (16.07). More stable funds include SBI Magnum Midcap Fund (13.20), Axis Midcap Fund (13.78), and Kotak Emerging Equity Fund (14.00). Beta values show market sensitivity, with Taurus Mid Cap Fund (1.03) and Quant Mid Cap Fund (1.01) being the most reactive, while SBI Magnum Midcap Fund (0.76) and DSP Midcap Fund (0.84) offer better stability.

The Sharpe Ratio measures risk-adjusted returns, with Motilal Oswal Midcap Fund (1.60), HDFC Mid-Cap Opportunities Fund (1.28), and HSBC Mid Cap Fund (1.17) ranking highest. Weaker performers include Aditya Birla Sun Life Midcap Fund (0.73) and PGIM India Midcap Opportunities Fund (0.52). Jensen's Alpha highlights Motilal Oswal Midcap Fund (12.92) and Invesco India Mid Cap Fund (12.25) as top performers, while PGIM India Midcap Opportunities Fund (-5.03) and Taurus Mid Cap Fund (-4.15) underperformed. Treynor's Ratio reinforces Motilal Oswal Midcap Fund (0.31) and HDFC Mid-Cap Opportunities Fund (0.22) as efficient risk-adjusted options, with PGIM India Midcap Opportunities Fund (0.09) and Taurus Mid Cap Fund (0.11) lagging.

Table 4 : Equity Mid Cap Fund -Regular Plan

Scheme Name	AuM (Cr)	Return				Risk				
		1Y	2Y	3Y	5Y	SD	Beta	Sharpe Ratio	Jen-sion's Alpha	Treynor's Ratio
Invesco India Mid Cap Fund.	6,149.96	23%	33%	21%	24%	14.81	0.90	1.07	10.20	0.18
Edelweiss Mid Cap Fund.	8,666.49	22%	34%	22%	26%	15.89	0.94	1.05	2.52	0.18
Motilal Oswal Midcap Fund.	26,421.09	30%	38%	28%	28%	15.75	0.82	1.53	11.80	0.29
Sundaram Mid Cap Fund.	12,619.32	18%	32%	22%	21%	14.97	0.89	1.08	2.66	0.18
Franklin India Prima Fund.	12,570.21	19%	31%	20%	21%	14.91	0.89	0.96	1.58	0.16
HDFC Mid-Cap Opportunities Fund.	77,967.21	15%	32%	24%	26%	14.91	0.88	1.24	5.18	0.21
Nippon India Growth Fund.	35,277.81	15%	33%	22%	26%	15.39	0.92	1.11	3.19	0.18



LIC MF Mid cap Fund.	326.63	19%	30%	17%	20%	15.62	0.93	0.73	-2.51	0.12
Baroda BNP Paribas Mid Cap Fund.	2,186.47	15%	27%	18%	22%	14.58	0.86	0.91	0.24	0.15
Aditya Birla Sun Life Midcap Fund.	5,911.27	13%	27%	15%	20%	14.80	0.88	0.67	-3.29	0.11
Axis Midcap Fund.	30,828.75	19%	26%	15%	20%	13.78	0.86	0.69	4.05	0.11
DSP Midcap Fund.	19,296.70	14%	26%	14%	17%	14.19	0.84	0.69	-2.81	0.12
Kotak Emerging Equity Fund.	53,078.98	21%	28%	19%	23%	14.00	0.82	1.02	1.86	0.17
Mahindra Manulife Mid Cap Fund.	3,529.04	13%	33%	21%	25%	16.07	0.96	0.97	1.21	0.16
HSBC Mid Cap Fund.	12,416.26	17%	31%	20%	20%	15.28	0.90	1.10	3.28	0.19
Tata Mid Cap Growth Fund.	4,529.49	11%	29%	18%	22%	15.27	0.91	0.81	-1.23	0.14
ICICI Prudential MidCap Fund.	6,339.07	13%	27%	18%	22%	15.48	0.92	0.81	-1.27	0.14
SBI Magnum Midcap Fund.	21,818.37	15%	26%	17%	24%	13.20	0.73	0.81	6.91	0.15
Mirae Asset Midcap Fund.	16,693.99	7%	24%	16%	23%	14.43	0.86	0.78	-1.58	0.13
UTI Mid Cap Fund.	11,996.94	11%	23%	15%	21%	14.21	0.84	0.67	-2.62	0.11
Quant Mid Cap Fund.	8,891.20	6%	27%	21%	30%	18.06	1.01	0.85	0.27	0.15
PGIM India Midcap Opportunities Fund.	11,284.53	12%	18%	11%	25%	14.07	0.82	0.42	-6.43	0.07
Taurus Mid Cap Fund.	126.57	0%	22%	16%	20%	17.74	1.03	0.62	-4.51	0.11

Asset Under Management) AuM (Analysis

AuM reflects investor confidence and fund stability. HDFC Mid-Cap Opportunities Fund (₹77,967 Cr) leads, followed by Kotak Emerging Equity Fund (₹53,078 Cr) and Nippon India Growth Fund (₹35,277 Cr), indicating strong investor trust. In contrast, Taurus Mid Cap Fund (₹126 Cr) and LIC MF Mid Cap Fund (₹326 Cr) manage lower AuM, suggesting niche participation. This trend is consistent across direct and regular plans, with lower AuM funds indicating limited investor interest.

Return Analysis

Returns measure performance over different periods (1Y, 2Y, 3Y, 5Y). Motilal Oswal Midcap Fund leads with a 1Y return (31% direct, 30% regular), while Quant



Mid Cap Fund (32% direct, 30% regular) excels over 5 years. However, Taurus Mid Cap Fund (0% 1Y return) underperformed, reflecting weak stock selection or market challenges. Regular plans yield slightly lower returns due to higher expenses.

Risk Analysis

Mid-cap funds carry higher volatility than large caps. Quant Mid Cap Fund (SD: 18.08 direct, 18.06 regular) and Taurus Mid Cap Fund (SD: 17.74) show the highest volatility, while SBI Magnum Midcap Fund (SD: 13.20) is more stable. Beta, measuring market sensitivity, is highest in Quant (1.01) and Taurus (1.03), while SBI Magnum (0.76 direct, 0.73 regular) is less volatile.

Sharpe Ratio, indicating risk-adjusted returns, is highest in Motilal Oswal Midcap Fund (1.60 direct, 1.53 regular). Jensen's Alpha, measuring excess returns, also favors Motilal Oswal (12.92 direct, 11.80 regular). Treynor's Ratio, assessing return per unit of risk, confirms its superior risk-adjusted performance (0.31 direct, 0.29 regular).

Table : 5 Equity Small Cap Direct Plan Growth Fund

Scheme Name	AuM (Cr)	Return				Risk				
		1Y	2Y	3Y	5Y	SD	Beta	Sharpe Ratio	Jenson's Alpha	Treynor's Ratio
Franklin India Smaller Companies Fund.	14,068.69	9%	33%	23%	27%	14.96	0.78	1.13	5.83	0.22
Invesco India Smallcap Fund.	6,298.05	21%	36%	24%	29%	15.13	0.81	1.19	7.09	0.22
Edelweiss Small Cap Fund.	4,428.21	13%	30%	21%	30%	14.73	0.77	1.03	3.63	0.20
Nippon India Small Cap Fund.	61,973.76	11%	33%	23%	32%	15.91	0.85	1.14	5.33	0.21
LIC MF Small Cap Fund.	464.52	20%	32%	21%	27%	16.32	0.83	1.03	4.35	0.20
Kotak Small Cap Fund.	17,777.85	14%	27%	17%	28%	12.85	0.67	0.89	1.47	0.17
Bank of India Small Cap Fund.	1,658.26	14%	32%	20%	33%	15.47	0.81	0.98	3.14	0.19
Axis Small Cap Fund.	24,758.17	12%	26%	18%	25%	12.93	0.67	1.00	2.95	0.19



Sundaram Small Cap Fund.	3,401.44	9%	29%	18%	26%	14.54	0.76	0.87	1.22	0.17
HSBC Small Cap Fund.	17,385.84	9%	30%	20%	28%	16.02	0.85	1.03	3.85	0.19
Union Small Cap Fund.	1,684.72	6%	26%	17%	25%	15.55	0.83	0.86	2.31	0.16
DSP Small Cap Fund.	16,633.53	10%	28%	18%	27%	15.06	0.81	0.94	3.18	0.17
Tata Small Cap Fund.	9,699.24	15%	28%	22%	29%	14.93	0.76	1.14	5.65	0.22
Canara Robeco Small Cap Fund.	12,543.87	9%	25%	17%	30%	14.78	0.78	0.94	2.18	0.18
ICICI Prudential Smallcap Fund.	8,257.98	7%	25%	19%	26%	13.61	0.71	0.91	1.84	0.18
SBI Small Cap Fund.	33,496.05	11%	22%	17%	25%	12.90	0.68	0.93	2.81	0.18
Aditya Birla Sun Life Small cap Fund.	5,100.07	6%	25%	14%	21%	15.24	0.83	0.68	-0.83	0.12
HDFC Small Cap Fund.	33,893.14	5%	28%	20%	27%	15.42	0.84	0.97	3.69	0.18
Quant Small Cap Fund.	26,670.21	3%	31%	22%	42%	19.30	1.00	0.95	3.41	0.18

Source-Data compiled by researcher

Asset Under Management (AuM) Analysis

AuM reflects investor confidence, liquidity, and operational efficiency. Nippon India Small Cap Fund leads with ₹61,973.76 Cr, indicating strong trust but potential liquidity challenges in small-cap stocks. HDFC Small Cap Fund (₹33,893.14 Cr) and SBI Small Cap Fund (₹33,496.05 Cr) also hold substantial AuM. LIC MF Small Cap Fund (₹464.52 Cr) has the lowest, likely due to limited investor penetration. Mid-sized funds like Kotak Small Cap (₹17,777.85 Cr) and Axis Small Cap (₹24,758.17 Cr) offer diverse opportunities. Large AuM funds benefit from economies of scale but may face liquidity constraints.

Returns Analysis

Performance varies across timeframes. In 1 year, Invesco India Smallcap (21%), LIC MF Small Cap (20%), and Tata Small Cap (15%) led, while Quant Small Cap (3%) and HDFC Small Cap (5%) lagged, likely due to market volatility. Over 5 years, Quant Small Cap Fund (42%) delivered the highest long-term returns, reflecting strong capital appreciation.



Risk Analysis

Risk factors include standard deviation (SD), beta, Sharpe ratio, Jensen's Alpha, and Treynor's Ratio. Quant Small Cap Fund (SD: 19.30) is the most volatile. Kotak Small Cap and Axis Small Cap (Beta: 0.67) are least sensitive to market swings. Invesco India Smallcap (Sharpe: 1.19) offers the best risk-adjusted returns. Tata Small Cap (Jensen's Alpha: 5.65) and Franklin India Smaller Companies Fund (5.83) outperform market expectations, while Aditya Birla Sun Life Small Cap (-0.83) underperforms. Franklin India Smaller Companies Fund (Treynor's Ratio: 0.22) ranks highest in risk-adjusted returns. Low-beta, high Sharpe, and strong Alpha funds like Franklin India Smaller Companies and Invesco India Smallcap suit moderate-risk investors, while high-beta funds like Quant Small Cap are better for aggressive investors seeking high returns despite volatility.

Table 6 : Equity Small Cap Regular Plan

Scheme Name	AuM (Cr)	Return				Risk				
		1Y	2Y	3Y	5Y	SD	Beta	Sharpe Ratio	Jensen's Alpha	Treynor's Ratio
Franklin India Smaller Companies Fund.	14,068.69	9%	32%	22%	26%	14.96	0.78	1.07	4.98	0.21
Invesco India Smallcap Fund.	6,298.05	19%	34%	22%	27%	15.14	0.84	1.09	11.26	0.20
Edelweiss Small Cap Fund.	4,428.21	11%	28%	19%	28%	14.73	0.77	0.92	2.05	0.18
Nippon India Small Cap Fund.	61,973.76	10%	31%	22%	31%	15.91	0.85	1.08	4.48	0.20
LIC MF Small Cap Fund.	464.52	18%	31%	20%	26%	16.32	0.83	0.97	3.36	0.19
Kotak Small Cap Fund.	17,777.85	12%	25%	15%	26%	12.85	0.67	0.79	0.20	0.15
Sundaram Small Cap Fund.	3,401.44	8%	27%	17%	24%	14.54	0.76	0.79	0.07	0.15
Bank of India Small Cap Fund.	1,658.26	12%	30%	18%	31%	15.47	0.81	0.88	1.58	0.17
Axis Small Cap Fund.	24,758.17	11%	25%	17%	23%	12.93	0.67	0.91	1.72	0.17
HSBC Small Cap Fund.	17,385.84	8%	29%	19%	27%	16.02	0.85	0.96	2.82	0.18
Union Small Cap Fund.	1,684.72	5%	25%	15%	24%	15.56	0.85	0.79	7.04	0.15
DSP Small Cap Fund.	16,633.53	9%	27%	17%	26%	15.06	0.81	0.88	1.55	0.16
Tata Small Cap Fund.	9,699.24	13%	26%	20%	27%	14.93	0.76	1.03	4.01	0.20



ICICI Prudential Smallcap Fund.	8,257.98	6%	24%	17%	24%	13.61	0.71	0.82	0.65	0.16
Canara Robeco Small Cap Fund.	12,543.87	8%	23%	16%	28%	14.80	0.78	0.84	0.75	0.16
SBI Small Cap Fund.	33,496.05	10%	21%	16%	23%	12.90	0.71	0.85	6.57	0.16
Aditya Birla Sun Life Small cap Fund.	5,100.07	5%	24%	13%	20%	15.24	0.88	0.61	3.84	0.11
HDFC Small Cap Fund.	33,893.14	4%	27%	19%	26%	15.42	1.66	0.91	8.79	0.08
Quant Small Cap Fund.	26,670.21	2%	30%	21%	40%	19.30	1.00	0.89	2.21	0.17

Source-Data compiled by researcher

Assets Under Management (AuM) Analysis

AuM reflects investor confidence, fund stability, and liquidity. Nippon India Small Cap Fund leads with ₹61,973.76 Cr, showcasing strong investor trust. Large AuM enhances stability but can challenge capital deployment in small caps. LIC MF Small Cap Fund (₹464.52 Cr) has the lowest AuM, indicating a newer fund or limited traction. Mid-sized funds like Kotak Small Cap (₹17,777.85 Cr) and HDFC Small Cap (₹33,893.14 Cr) show strong investor interest. AuM influences liquidity, economies of scale, and management strategy, making it a key evaluation factor.

Returns Analysis

Returns vary across funds and timeframes. Over 1 year, Invesco India Smallcap (19%) and LIC MF Small Cap (18%) led, while Quant Small Cap (2%) and HDFC Small Cap (4%) lagged, possibly due to volatility or rebalancing. Over 5 years, Quant Small Cap (40%) had the highest return, followed by Nippon India Small Cap (31%), reflecting strong long-term performance.

Risk Analysis

Risk metrics include standard deviation (SD), beta, Sharpe ratio, Jensen's Alpha, and Treynor's Ratio. Quant Small Cap (SD: 19.30) is the most volatile, while Kotak Small Cap (Beta: 0.67) is the least sensitive to market swings. Franklin India Smaller Companies (Sharpe: 1.07) offers the best risk-adjusted returns. HDFC Small Cap (Jensen's Alpha: 8.79) outperforms market expectations, while Franklin India Smaller Companies (Treynor's Ratio: 0.21) ranks highest in risk-adjusted performance. Low-beta, high Sharpe ratio funds like Franklin India Smaller Companies and Kotak Small Cap suit conservative investors, while high-beta funds like Quant Small Cap and HDFC Small Cap appeal to high-risk investors.



Findings and Suggestions to Investors

1. Equity Large Cap-Direct Growth Plan Funds

The analysis of large-cap mutual funds highlights key insights into AuM, returns, and risk factors. ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund leads in AuM, reflecting strong investor confidence, followed by SBI Blue Chip Fund and HDFC Large Cap Fund. These funds benefit from stability and liquidity but may face challenges in outperforming benchmarks due to their size. In terms of performance, DSP Top 100 Equity Fund delivered the highest 1-year returns, while Nippon India Large Cap Fund and ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund showed strong long-term growth over 5 years. Risk analysis reveals that JM Large Cap Fund and HDFC Large Cap Fund exhibit higher volatility, whereas ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund and DSP Top 100 Equity Fund have lower beta, making them less sensitive to market fluctuations. Nippon India Large Cap Fund leads in risk-adjusted returns, as indicated by its highest Sharpe Ratio, Jensen's Alpha, and Treynor's Ratio, while Axis Bluechip Fund and LIC MF Large Cap Fund underperformed relative to market expectations.

Investors should select funds based on their risk appetite and investment goals. If you are a conservative investor seeking stability, you may prefer the ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund or the DSP Top 100 Equity Fund, as these funds exhibit lower market sensitivity and consistent performance. Those looking for higher returns with moderate risk can consider Nippon India Large Cap Fund, which has demonstrated superior risk-adjusted performance. Investors with a higher risk tolerance may explore funds with higher volatility, such as HDFC Large Cap Fund or JM Large Cap Fund, but should be mindful of market fluctuations. Caution is advised when investing in underperforming funds like Axis Bluechip Fund and LIC MF Large Cap Fund, as their negative alpha suggests struggles in generating excess returns. A diversified approach, blending stable and high-growth funds, can help optimize risk-adjusted returns.

2. Equity Large Cap -Regular Growth Plan Funds

The analysis of Large Cap mutual funds highlights key trends in Assets Under Management (AuM), returns, and risk metrics. Funds with high AuM, such as ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund and SBI Blue Chip Fund, attract significant investor confidence and provide stability, while smaller funds like Union Large Cap Fund and Groww Large Cap Fund may offer higher growth potential but come with liquidity and volatility risks. In terms of returns, DSP Top 100 Equity Fund and Nippon India Large Cap Fund have demonstrated strong short-term and long-



term performance, whereas some funds, such as Union Large Cap Fund, have underperformed. Risk analysis further shows that high standard deviation and Beta values, as seen in Taurus Large Cap Fund and HSBC Large Cap Fund, indicate greater volatility, making them riskier. Conversely, Axis Bluechip Fund and UTI Large Cap Fund provide more stability but offer lower risk-adjusted returns. Sharpe Ratio and Jensen's Alpha highlight that funds like Nippon India Large Cap Fund and ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund have provided superior returns relative to risk, while Axis Bluechip Fund and LIC MF Large Cap Fund have underperformed.

For investors, those seeking stability should consider large and established funds like ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund and SBI Blue Chip Fund, which have shown lower volatility and consistent performance. Growth-oriented investors can focus on Nippon India Large Cap Fund and DSP Top 100 Equity Fund, which have delivered high returns across different timeframes. Risk-averse investors may prefer funds with lower Beta, such as Axis Bluechip Fund, but should be mindful of their lower Sharpe and Treynor ratios. Strategic investment decisions should go beyond raw returns and incorporate risk-adjusted performance indicators to ensure optimal portfolio choices. Additionally, a diversified approach—balancing high-AuM funds for stability with selective lower-AuM funds for growth—can help manage risk effectively. Lastly, investors should prioritize long-term performance over short-term gains and monitor underperforming funds with negative Alpha before making investment decisions.

3. Equity Mid Cap Fund -Direct Plan

The analysis of mid-cap mutual funds highlights key trends in Assets Under Management (AuM), returns, and risk metrics. Funds with high AuM, such as HDFC Mid-Cap Opportunities Fund and Kotak Emerging Equity Fund, indicate strong investor confidence and stability, whereas smaller funds like Taurus Mid Cap Fund and LIC MF Mid Cap Fund face liquidity and volatility concerns. In terms of returns, Motilal Oswal Midcap Fund and Invesco India Mid Cap Fund have consistently outperformed across multiple timeframes, while Quant Mid Cap Fund and PGIM India Midcap Opportunities Fund have lagged. Risk assessment shows that funds with higher Standard Deviation and Beta, such as Taurus Mid Cap Fund and Quant Mid Cap Fund, exhibit greater volatility, making them riskier options. Conversely, SBI Magnum Midcap Fund and Axis Midcap Fund have lower volatility, providing more stability. Risk-adjusted performance indicators, including Sharpe Ratio and Jensen's Alpha, highlight that Motilal Oswal Midcap Fund and



HDFC Mid-Cap Opportunities Fund have delivered superior returns, while funds with negative Alpha, like PGIM India Midcap Opportunities Fund and Taurus Mid Cap Fund, indicate underperformance.

Investors seeking stability should focus on funds with high AuM and lower volatility, such as HDFC Mid-Cap Opportunities Fund and Kotak Emerging Equity Fund, which offer strong long-term growth. Growth-oriented investors can consider Motilal Oswal Midcap Fund and Invesco India Mid Cap Fund, which have shown consistent outperformance. Risk-averse investors should prioritize funds with lower Beta, such as SBI Magnum Midcap Fund and DSP Midcap Fund, as they provide relative stability in volatile markets. Investors should also evaluate risk-adjusted returns through Sharpe Ratio and Treynor's Ratio to ensure optimal investment choices. A diversified approach—balancing high-AuM stable funds with selective high-growth mid-cap funds—can help manage risks effectively. Finally, funds with negative Alpha, such as PGIM India Midcap Opportunities Fund and Taurus Mid Cap Fund, should be monitored closely, as they have underperformed market expectations.

4. Equity Mid Cap Fund -Regular Plan

The analysis of mid-cap mutual funds highlights key trends in AuM, returns, and risk factors across direct and regular plans. Funds with high AuM, such as HDFC Mid-Cap Opportunities Fund and Kotak Emerging Equity Fund, indicate strong investor confidence and stability, while smaller funds like Taurus Mid Cap Fund and LIC MF Mid Cap Fund suggest lower investor participation. In terms of returns, Motilal Oswal Midcap Fund stands out with the highest 1-year performance, while Quant Mid Cap Fund delivers superior long-term returns despite its volatility. Risk assessment reveals that Quant Mid Cap Fund and Taurus Mid Cap Fund exhibit the highest volatility and market sensitivity, making them riskier investments. Conversely, SBI Magnum Midcap Fund has lower Standard Deviation and Beta, indicating stability. Risk-adjusted performance metrics, including Sharpe Ratio, Jensen's Alpha, and Treynor's Ratio, confirm that Motilal Oswal Midcap Fund is the best performer, demonstrating strong active management and return efficiency.

For investors, those seeking stability should prioritize funds with high AuM and lower volatility, such as HDFC Mid-Cap Opportunities Fund and SBI Magnum Midcap Fund, which offer consistent returns with reduced risk. Growth-oriented investors willing to tolerate higher volatility can consider Motilal Oswal Midcap Fund and Quant Mid Cap Fund, which have shown strong returns over both short



and long-term periods. Risk-averse investors should opt for funds with lower Beta, such as SBI Magnum Midcap Fund, to minimize exposure to market fluctuations. Additionally, investors should carefully evaluate the cost difference between direct and regular plans, as direct plans tend to provide slightly higher returns due to lower expense ratios. A well-diversified approach—balancing high-AuM stable funds with select high-growth options—can help manage risk while optimizing returns.

5. Equity Small Cap Direct Plan Growth Fund

The analysis of small-cap mutual funds reveals distinct trends in AuM, returns, and risk factors, which are crucial for investment decisions. Nippon India Small Cap Fund holds the highest AuM, reflecting strong investor confidence, while LIC MF Small Cap Fund has the lowest, suggesting limited investor participation or recent inception. Short-term performance leaders include Invesco India Smallcap Fund and LIC MF Small Cap Fund, while Quant Small Cap Fund dominates long-term returns despite its high volatility. Risk analysis indicates that Quant Small Cap Fund exhibits the highest standard deviation, making it highly volatile, whereas Kotak Small Cap Fund and Axis Small Cap Fund demonstrate lower market sensitivity. Funds like Franklin India Smaller Companies Fund and Tata Small Cap Fund show strong active management, as indicated by high Jensen's Alpha, while Aditya Birla Sun Life Small Cap Fund underperforms. The Sharpe and Treynor's Ratios confirm that funds like Franklin India Smaller Companies Fund and Invesco India Smallcap Fund provide superior risk-adjusted returns.

Conservative investors seeking stability should consider funds with lower Beta and high Sharpe Ratios, such as Franklin India Smaller Companies Fund and Invesco India Smallcap Fund, which provide strong risk-adjusted returns. Those with a higher risk appetite can explore high-volatility funds like Quant Small Cap Fund, which has demonstrated exceptional long-term performance despite short-term fluctuations. Investors should also be mindful of the liquidity challenges associated with high-AuM funds in the small-cap segment, as they may face difficulties in executing large trades efficiently. A balanced approach—diversifying across stable and high-growth funds—can help optimize risk-adjusted returns while ensuring portfolio resilience against market fluctuations.

6. Equity Small Cap Regular Plan Growth Fund

The analysis of small-cap mutual funds highlights key trends in AuM, returns, and risk metrics, crucial for investment decision-making. Nippon India Small Cap Fund, with the highest AuM, signifies strong investor confidence and fund stability,



while LIC MF Small Cap Fund has the lowest AuM, indicating lower investor participation. Performance analysis shows that Invesco India Smallcap Fund and LIC MF Small Cap Fund led short-term returns, while Quant Small Cap Fund demonstrated exceptional long-term growth. However, risk assessment reveals significant variations, with Quant Small Cap Fund exhibiting the highest volatility, making it suitable for aggressive investors. Conversely, Kotak Small Cap Fund has the lowest Beta, providing stability. Franklin India Smaller Companies Fund stands out for its superior risk-adjusted returns, as indicated by its highest Sharpe and Treynor's Ratios. Meanwhile, HDFC Small Cap Fund boasts the highest Jensen's Alpha, reflecting strong fund management despite its high Beta.

The conservative investors, seeking stability should consider funds like Franklin India Smaller Companies Fund and Kotak Small Cap Fund, which offer lower volatility and better risk-adjusted returns. Meanwhile, aggressive investors looking for high growth potential can opt for Quant Small Cap Fund or HDFC Small Cap Fund, given their strong long-term performance despite higher volatility. Investors should also be mindful of the liquidity challenges associated with high-AuM funds in the small-cap segment, as they may face difficulties in executing large trades. A diversified approach, blending stable and high-growth funds, can help optimize returns while mitigating risks associated with market fluctuations.

Bibliography

- Rokade, D. (2021). A Study on the Growth of Mutual Funds in India © 2021 JETIR March 2021, Volume 8, Issue 3 www.jetir.org (ISSN-2349-5162)
- Panigrahi, C., Mistry, M.K., Shukla, R., & Gupta, A. (2020). A Study on Performance Evaluation of Equity Linked Saving Schemes (ELSS) of Mutual Funds. *NMIMS JOURNAL OF ECONOMICS AND PUBLIC POLICY* Volume V • Issue 1 • January 2020
- Biswas, S. (2022). The financial industry and economic growth: The role of mutual funds. *Journal of Finance and Economics*, 12(3), 45-60.
- Boricha, H. J., & Alpa, J. (2024). Performance evaluation of selected equity schemes of mutual fund in India. *International Journal of Business and Finance*, 18(2), 33-47.
- Choudhary, I. R., Nigam, P., & Sayyed, A. (2020). Performance analysis of Indian mutual fund schemes-a comparative study. *International Journal for Research in Applied Science & Engineering Technology*, 8, 1017-1022.
- Ling, Y., Jiang, Z., & Liu, S. Optimal asset allocation model during the economic recession.
- Mishra, S., & Mohapatra, A. D. (2021). Performance of pension fund of selected asset management companies in India: A critical analysis. *Indian Journal of Finance and*



- Investment, 14(1), 22-39.
- Nielsen, L. T., & Vassalou, M. (2004). Sharpe ratios and alphas in continuous time. *Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis*, 39(1).
- Prajapati, K. P., & Patel, M. K. (2012). Comparative study on performance evaluation of mutual fund schemes of Indian companies. *Researchers World*, 3(3), 47-59.
- Srinivasan, R. (2023). Performance evaluation of equity mutual funds in India. *Journal of Investment Research*, 11(2), 71-88.
- Subramanyam, P. (2024). A study on analysis of performance of selected equity index mutual funds. *International Journal of Management*, 15(3), 142-156.
- Tiwari, A. P. (2024). Assessing the performance of various equity schemes: A study of the Nippon Mutual Fund. *Journal of International Economics*, 15(1), 1-17.
- Tripathy, N. P. (2004). An empirical analysis on performance evaluation of mutual funds in India: A study on equity linked saving schemes. *The ICFAI Journal of Applied Finance*, 10(7), 36-55.
- Umesh, R. (2023). Risk-return analysis of mutual fund schemes: A comparative study. *Indian Journal of Financial Markets*, 20(1), 59-74.
- Venkatesh, P., & Revathi, D. S. (2020). A study on performance analysis of selected mutual fund schemes in India. *Solid State Technology*, 63(2S).