# The State of Asset Management – The Agility Advantage





Coalition Greenwich
A division of CRISII



#### **Contents**



The state of the industry



What does it mean to be agile?



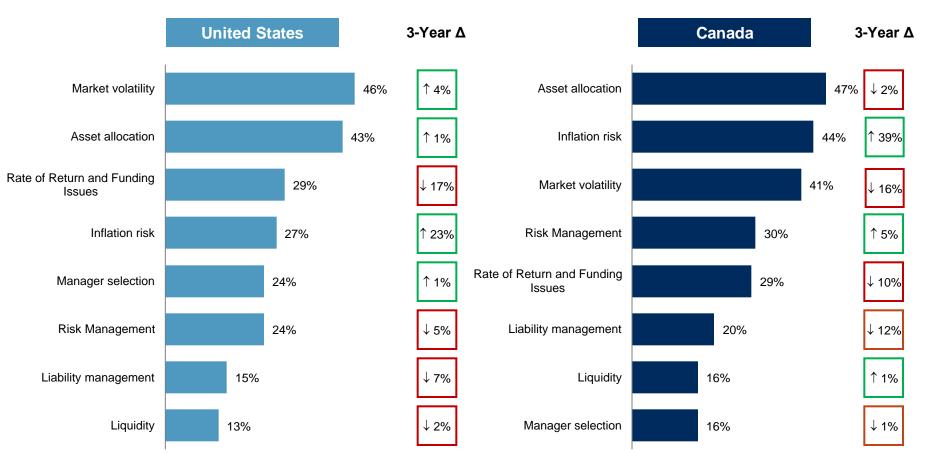
Agility as a competitive edge



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# **Key Issues Facing Investors – 2023**

Asset Allocation, Market Volatility and Inflation Risk are the top issues cited.



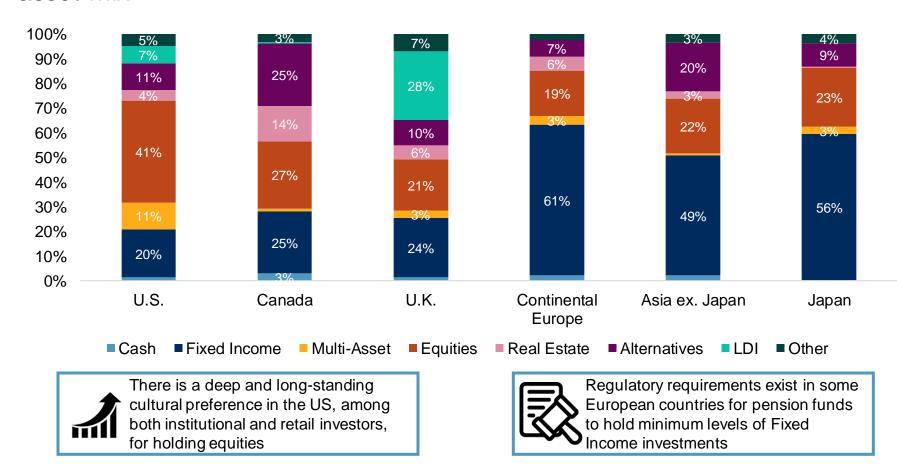
Source: Coalition Greenwich Voice of Client - 2023 and 2020 U.S. and Canadian Institutional Investors Study





# Institutional Asset Mix by Region

Significant variation exists across regions in Institutional Investors' current asset mix.



Source: Coalition Greenwich Voice of Client - 2022 Global Institutional Investors Study





# Asset Allocation Plans by Region: 3 Yr. Exp. Chg.

There is greater global uniformity in future asset allocation plans based on institutions' three-year outlook.

	US	Canada	Cont. Europe	UK	Asia ex Japan	Japan
Domestic Equities		•		•		
International Equities		•		•	1	
Fixed Income						•
Real Estate / Infrastructure						
Private Markets	1	1				
		1ncrease	No Sig. Change	Decrease		

Source: Coalition Greenwich Voice of Client – 2023 Global Institutional Investors Study

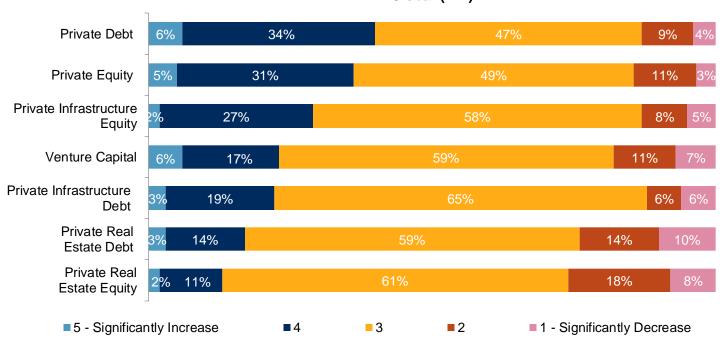




#### **Private Markets Outlook**

Private Debt and Equity are likely to see continued in-flows while there looks to be a retrenchment in investment in Real Estate.





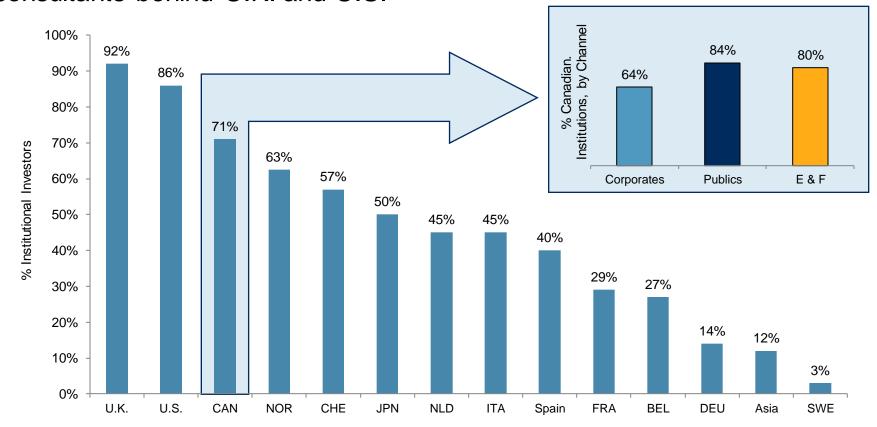
Source: Coalition Greenwich; 'Private Markets: Opportunities and Challenges in a Changing Market', 2023





#### **Global Institutional Consultant Intermediation**

Among developed economies, Canada is third highest in usage of consultants behind U.K. and U.S.



Source: Coalition Greenwich Voice of Client - 2022 Canadian. Institutional Investors Study

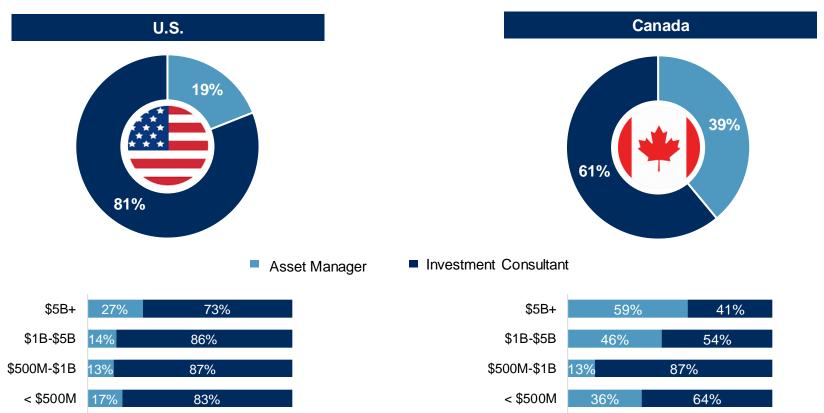




# **Consultants As Primary Source of Advice**

Trend continues of investors seeking investment advice from consultants more often than from managers.

#### Institutional Investors' Primary Source of Investment Counseling and Advice



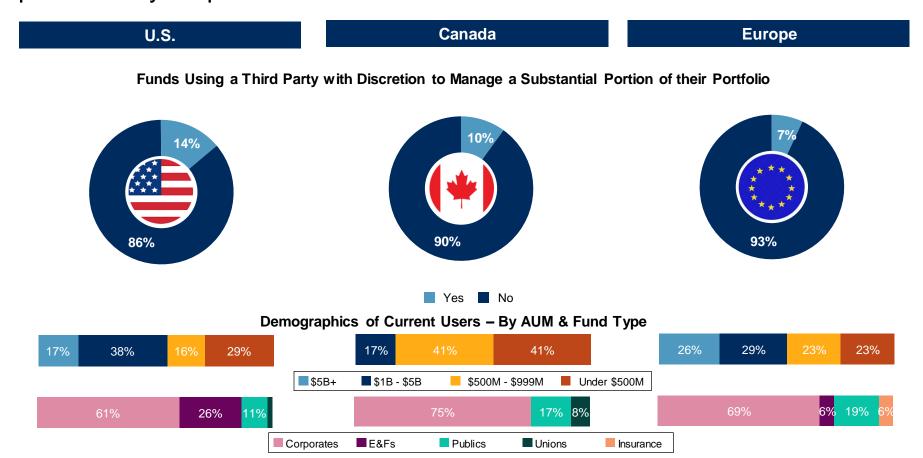
Source: Coalition Greenwich Voice of Client - 2022 Global Institutional Investors Study





#### **Use of OCIO**

OCIO use is greatest among U.S. investors with outsourcing predominantly practiced by corporate funds.



Source: Coalition Greenwich Voice of Client - 2022 Global Institutional Investors Study





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### **Drivers of OCIO Usage Decisions**

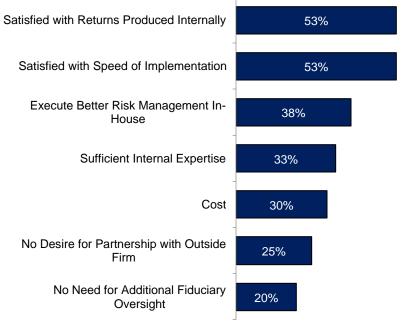
OCIO users seek to augment internal resources and risk mgmt. Satisfaction with returns, risk mgmt. and internal expertise keep others from outsourcing.

#### **Key Drivers of Investors' Decision to Outsource**



% Rated As 'Critically Important'

#### **Key Drivers of Investors' Decision Not to Outsource**



% Rated As 'Critically Important'

Source: Coalition Greenwich, Al-CIO 2023 U.S. Outsourced-Chief Investment Officer Survey



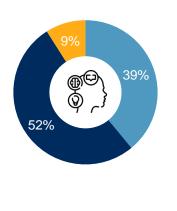


# The Role of Thought Leadership

There is continued growth in Thought Leadership consumption, with investors generally following the managers where they invest their assets.

#### **Role of Thought Leadership**

Thought leadership consumption is up and managers need to understand the keys to cutting through the clutter.

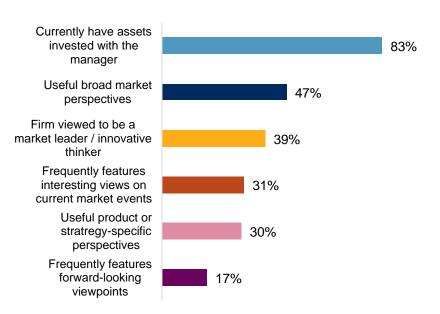


- More frequent consumption
- No change in consumption
- Less frequent consumption

Frequency of Thought Leadership Consumption Relative to Pre-Pandemic

#### **Reasons for Following Managers**

Investors tend to follow specific managers' thought leadership where they already have assets invested.



Reason for Signing Up for Content From Specific Managers

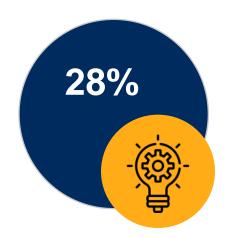
Source: Coalition Greenwich Voice of Client - 2023 Global Institutional Investors Study



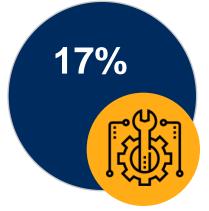


# **Al Adoption Among Asset Managers**

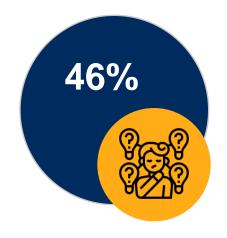
Forty-five percent of managers have already implemented or are actively developing AI applications; a similar percentage is considering AI.







Are actively developing Al applications in some areas of their business



Are considering investing in AI, but have yet to commit meaningful resources



Have not seriously considered the use of Al

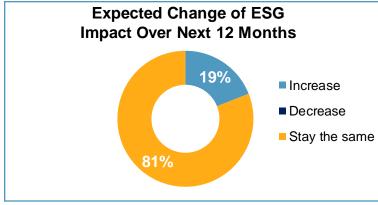
Source: Coalition Greenwich; 'State of Al Adoption in Asset Management', 2023



# Impact of ESG in the North America – Divergence

U.S. and Canada increasingly diverge in their adoption of ESG and its impact on manager selection.

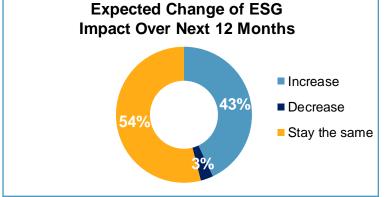




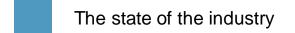
Source: Coalition Greenwich Voice of Client - 2023 U.S. and Canada Institutional Investors Study

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Agility as a competitive edge



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### Agility is a "Must Have" Industry Skill-Set

"Best of Breed" Managers respond with increased velocity to industry trends and elevated customer expectations.

# INVESTMENT"

# To deliver for clients asset managers need to be agile

#### PRIVATE EQUITY WIRE

Responsiveness and agility key to success

#### HEDGEWEEK

Managers and investors demanding more flexibility

top1500funds....

CIOs' confidence wanes as agility becomes the focus



### **Investors Demand Flexibility**

Asset owners have varying needs and are seeking managers who can offer flexibility, knowledge transfer, and responsiveness

"Understand, and be responsive, to the extent possible, to client's needs. We strive to be the best client to all of our managers, and we expect our managers to treat us like their best client."

"Be proactive with where the money is going. Meaning, new strategies or asset classes (CLOs, private credit, etc.). Flows are going there for a reason, tell me early and tell me why."

"Continue to communicate and display the ways they are preparing to continue being around and improve and deliver on what we are asking them to do in the next 5, 10, 15 years."

"The ability to adapt to changing needs as the macro environment evolves and our advisors come to us with different needs. They need to collaborate with us and provide resources and support our changing initiatives. They need to be nimble and to be able to be flexible in working with us."

"Let me know **innovation**, anything new that they see is coming so I can get a heads up. "Rapid responses to changes with the firm, particularly for smaller investors like us."

Source: Coalition Greenwich; 'Enhancing the Client Experience', 2023



Agile asset managers understand the importance of embracing change as an opportunity for growth and innovation and elevated strategic engagement.



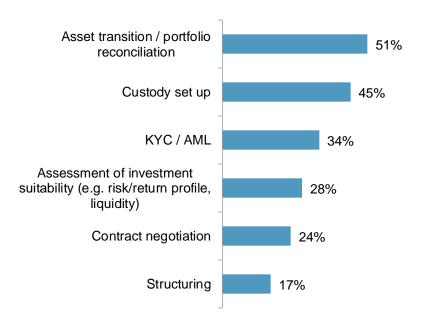
"What if we don't change at all ... and something magical just happens?"

# **Leverage Data and Technology**

Technology, particularly digital technology, is reshaping our industry and agile, effective usage can deliver a competitive edge.

#### **Digitization of Onboarding**

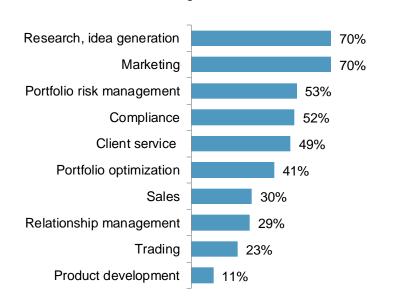
The onboarding process is ripe for digitization, most notably in areas related to asset transition, custody, and KYC/AML.



Aspects of the onboarding process which would benefit most from digitization or re-engineering

#### Impact of Al

All is likely to have a wide-ranging impact across many areas of asset managers' businesses

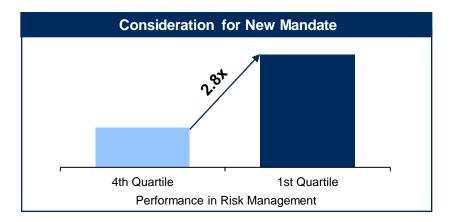


Area of an asset management business where AI will have the most significant impact

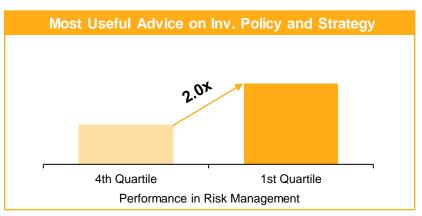
Source: Coalition Greenwich; Enhancing the Client Experience', 2023; 'State of Al Adoption in Asset Management', 2023

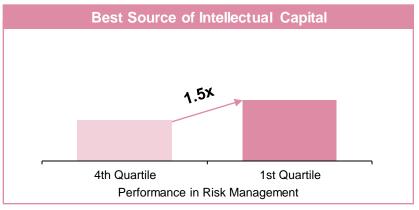
# Risk Management – An Essential Core Competency

Risk management is critical. Proactively managing risk optimizes investment performance and ensures successful long-term client engagement.









Numbers shown are the ratio of average "Strategic Advisor" or "Would Consider Using (# among clients)" scores between 1st Quartile managers vs. 4th Quartile managers on each metric. For example, the 1st Quartile Managers of "Managing Portfolio Risk" receive 2.8x as many citations for "Would Consider" as the 4th Quartile. Source: Coalition Greenwich Voice of Client – 2022 U.S. Institutional Investors Study

Coalition Greenwich



### **Emphasis on Sustainability**

ESG continues to be a dominating theme across the IM industry, however fresh areas of focus are rapidly emerging and evolving.

#### **Specialized Themes**

- Investors becoming more familiar and sophisticated in relation to ESG investing
- Looking to develop policies relating to specialized sub-themes including net zero, natural capital, a just transition and DE&I

#### **Regulatory Oversight**

- Regulators in Europe and North America increasingly looking into alignment between managers' statements and policies on ESG
- Scrutiny over how policies are reflected in fund composition and investment decisions.

#### Greenwashing

- Greater understanding and awareness of the risk of greenwashing
- Red flags range from a lack of policies or case studies, to over-reliance on offsetting schemes, to fund classification downgrades.

#### **Evolving Reporting**

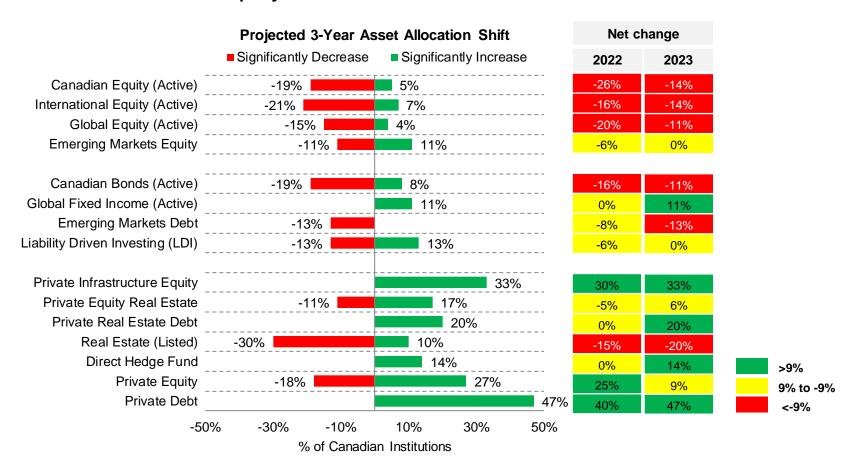
- Investors increasingly looking to report against ESG benchmarks
- Seeking data from third party or customized for performance and attribution purposes

Source: Coalition Greenwich Voice of Client – 2023 Global Institutional Investors Study



### **Diversify and Innovate**

Investors continue to diversify their portfolios with strong gains expected in allocations to Private Equity, Infrastructure, and Private Debt.



Source: Coalition Greenwich Voice of Client - 2023 Canadian Institutional Investors Study



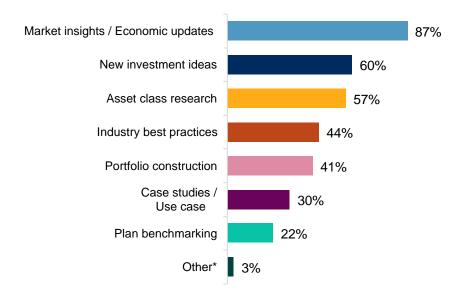


### **Continuous Learning**

The Asset Management landscape is dynamic, so to thrive, managers must foster a culture of continuous improvement, learning and skill enhancement.

#### **Thought Leadership Topics**

Market Insights, Investment Ideas, and Industry Best Practices capture broad interest, followed by Case Studies and Benchmarking Metrics.



#### **Manager Best Practice**

Investors are looking for managers themselves to prove they are continuously learning and improving their Capabilities.

- "Continuous education and communication. The investment world changes so quickly, and proactive communication is essential." Public DB
- "Ask questions so that they can improve their approach or practice." – Union / Multi-Employer
- "A balance of consistent communication, offering information and education without being pushy." – Religious Institution
- "Interest in and willingness to learn about our specific organization and goals." – Insurance

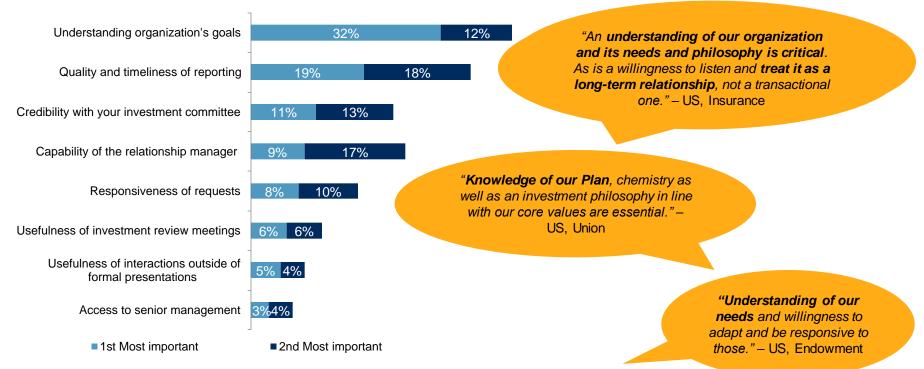


<sup>\*</sup> Other includes ESG, cross asset research, geopolitics, government regulations, middle-office topics, etc. Source: Coalition Greenwich Voice of Client – 2023 Global Institutional Investors Study; 'Enhancing the Client Experience', 2023

# **Client-Centricity is "Table Stakes"**

Understanding clients deeply is a strategic imperative. Agile asset managers elevate trust by adeptly managing client needs/expectations.





Source: Coalition Greenwich; 'Enhancing the Client Experience', 2023

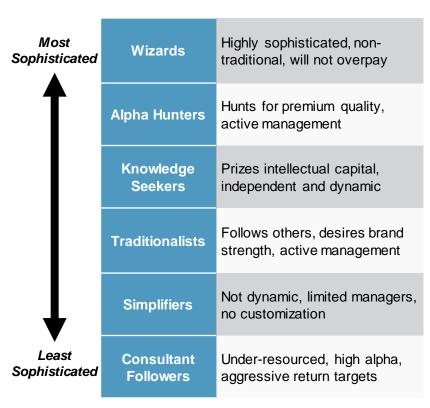


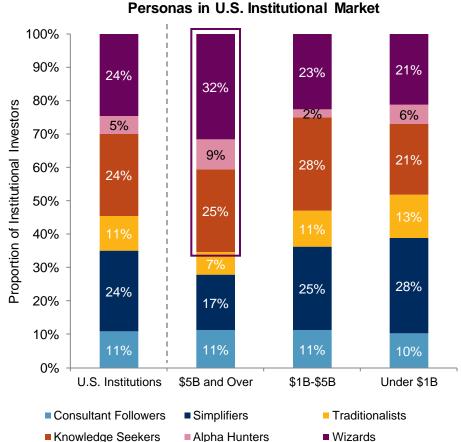


#### **Institutional Personas Guide Resource Allocations**

Larger institutions typically take a more sophisticated approach to their investments, demanding a higher level of direct engagement from managers.

#### Coalition Greenwich Institutional Personas

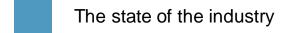


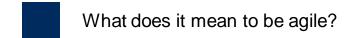


Source: Coalition Greenwich Voice of Client – 2022 U.S. Institutional Investors Study



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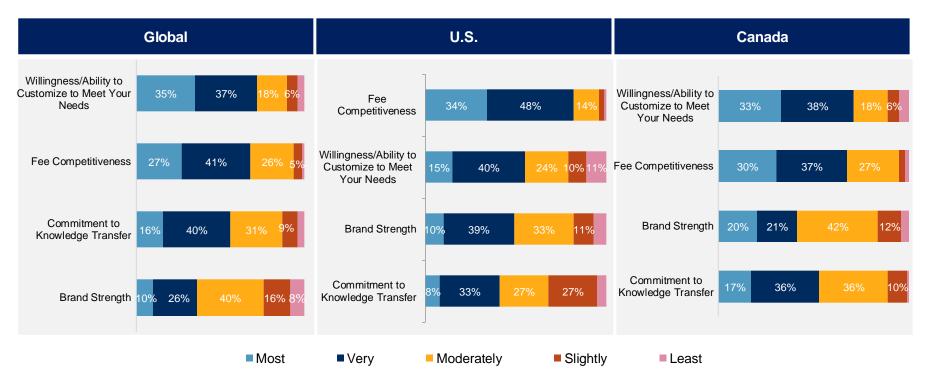


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### Adaptability – The Key to Manager Selection

Adaptability coupled with innovation and knowledge transfer are key factors for asset owners when selecting managers.

#### **Influence on Manager Selection Decision**



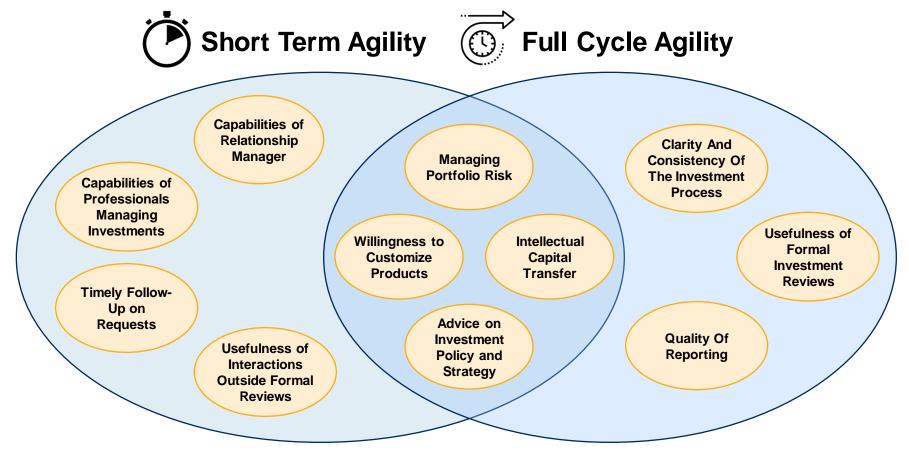
Source: Coalition Greenwich Voice of Client – 2022 Global Institutional Investors Study





# **Short Term and Full Cycle Agility**

Through our long-standing customer research, we have identified 'agility' factors that denote a manager's short term and full cycle agility capabilities.



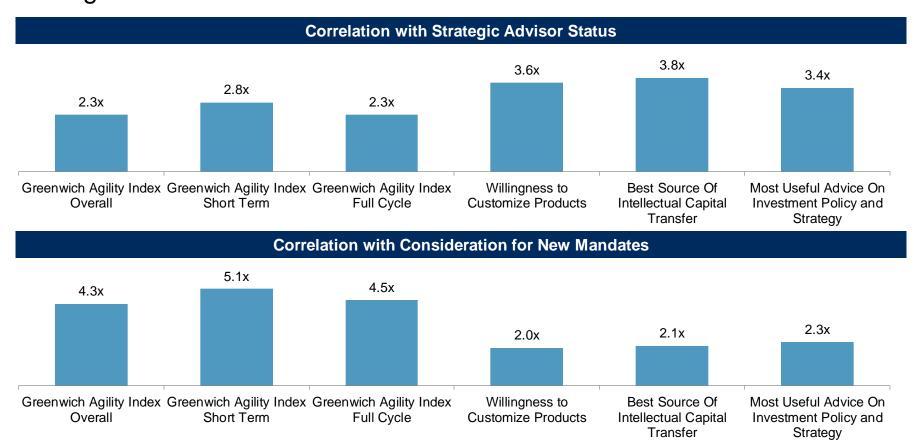
Source: Coalition Greenwich Voice of Client – U.S. Institutional Investors Study





# **Correlation Between Agility and Success**

Managers who exhibit agile characteristics are most likely to be seen as a Strategic Advisor and be Considered for New Mandates.



Numbers shown are the ratio of average "Strategic Advisor" or "Would Consider Using (# among clients)" scores between 1st Quartile managers vs. 4th Quartile managers on each metric. For example, the 1st Quartile Managers of "GQI Agility – Short Term" receive 4.3x as many citations for "Would Consider" as the 4th Quartile. Source: Coalition Greenwich Voice of Client – 2022 U.S. Institutional Investors Study

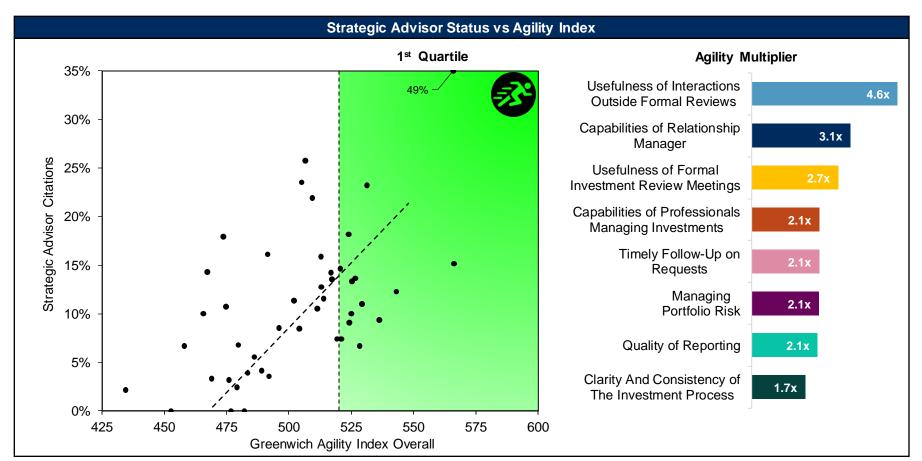




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# **Agility Impact on Strategic Advisor Status**

Top quartile managers for agility are more likely to be considered strategic advisors, particularly those with robust relationship/service teams.



Numbers shown are the ratio of average "Strategic Advisor" scores between 1st Quartile managers vs. 4th Quartile managers on each metric. For example, the 1st Quartile Managers of "Managing Portfolio Risk" receive 2.1x as many citations for "Strategic Advisor" as the 4th Quartile.

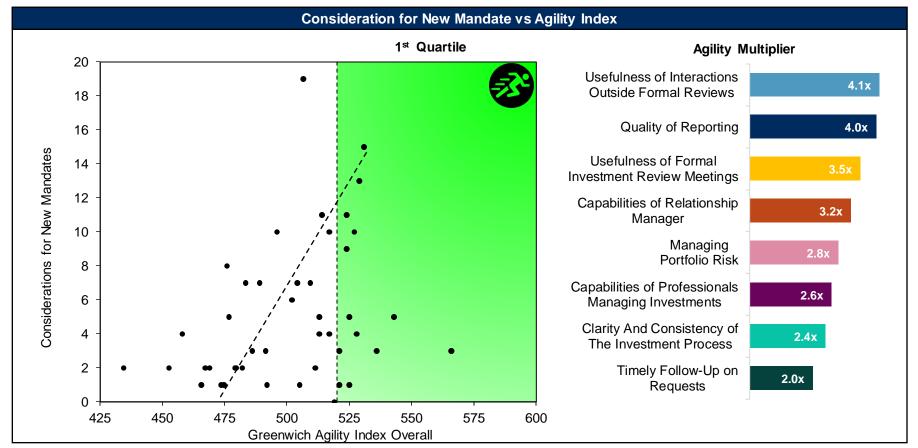
Source: Coalition Greenwich Voice of Client – 2022 U.S. Institutional Investors Study





# **Agility Impact on Consideration for New Mandates**

Top quartile managers for agility are more likely to be considered for new mandates, particularly those with robust service and reporting functions.



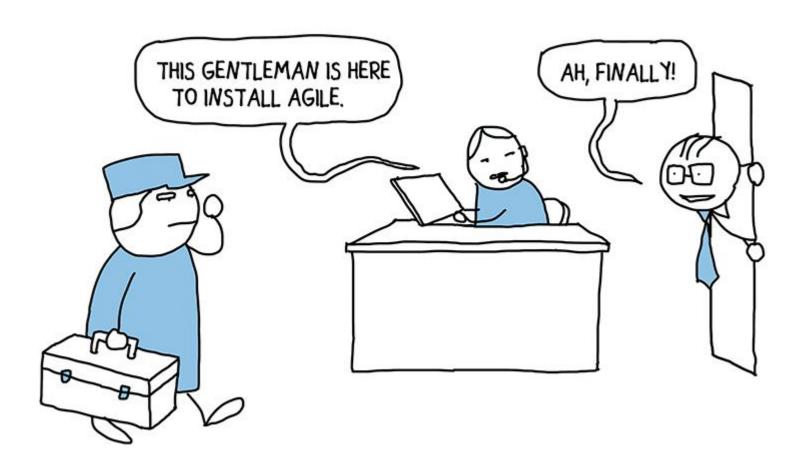
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Source: Coalition Greenwich Voice of Client – 2022 U.S. Institutional Investors Study





#### **Conclusion**



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# Thank you / Contact us

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