

“While target portfolios continue to face a number of criticisms, in many respects they remain one of the best solutions to the retirement savings conundrum—a population that must increasingly rely on self-generated retirement assets, but has limited knowledge and discipline to achieve sufficient results without guidance.”

SERIES OVERVIEW

DC Product Usage Trends is a new series of five reports offered through a partnership between FUSE Research Network and BrightScope. This report series is designed to serve as a resource for industry participants to do the following:

1. Identify asset class trends in the defined contribution (DC) plan marketplace
2. Assess where opportunities lie in terms of investment vehicles, record keeper types, and plan size

Utilizing BrightScope's comprehensive database of retirement plans, each report takes an in-depth look at how the asset class is positioned in the DC market.

REPORT # 1, TARGET PORTFOLIO ASSETS OVERVIEW

This inaugural issue, which focuses on target portfolio assets (target-date and target-risk), addresses the following:

- Size (assets and plans) of target portfolios in the defined contribution plan marketplace
- Growth trends by type of target portfolio
- Target-date and target-risk assets by plan size and market shares by type of recordkeeping platform
- Growth of target-date and target-risk portfolios through various investment vehicles—mutual funds, collective trusts, and separate accounts
- Top recordkeepers and investment managers of target-date and target-risk portfolios by investment vehicle
- Use of third-party asset managers by type of recordkeeping platform
- Top third-party managers of target-date and target-risk portfolios by record-keeper type

This report will help readers evaluate and identify long-term strategic opportunities in the DC Target Portfolio Market.

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The four forthcoming reports examine the following asset classes/product types:

1. Domestic Equity
2. International Equity
3. Specialty (alternative investments, commodities, sectors, etc.)
4. Fixed Income

Each report will include pertinent data and address:

1. Asset growth and outlook
2. Active/passive trends with assets class/segment
3. Vehicle usage trends
4. Proprietary vs. non-proprietary management
5. Analysis by plan type/size

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FUSE Research Network is a leading edge decision support firm that employs a highly refined market intelligence capability to deliver informed, decisive, and forward-looking guidance to firms in the asset management industry.



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