

TREYNOR RATIOS



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We sometimes hear of an intriguing ratio called Treynor Ratio. What is it?



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Let me explain...

The Treynor Ratio is also known as the “reward-to-volatility ratio”.



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It measures the returns a funds gives with respect to its volatility (riskiness).



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A higher Treynor ratio means that the fund not only performs well but is less risky than the general market.



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The following example should help you understand the concept of “Treydor Ratio”.

1. There are two batsmen ‘A’ and ‘B’.
2. In a recent match, ‘A’ scored 50 while the average score of his team was 25.
3. In another match, ‘B’ scored 100 while the average score of his team was 60.



Which of them is a better batsman in comparison to their respective team's performance?



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Applying the “Treynor ratio” principle, lets divide the batsman’s score by the team’s average score, we get the ratios as follows:-

$$\text{Ratio for A} = 50/25 = 2$$

$$\text{Ratio for B} = 100/60 = 1.67$$



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- Although 'B' scores a century, his performance as compared to the overall team's performance was better by 1.67 times whereas 'A' who only scored 50 performed twice as good as the rest of his team.
- Hence from this perspective, the performance of the batsman scoring 50 was better than the performance of the batsman scoring a 100 runs.



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- Thus if two funds A & B have similar returns but A has been more volatile as compared to the market whereas B has been less volatile as compared to the market, the relative performance of B would be better than A, even though otherwise their returns are similar.
- A higher Treynor Ratio indicates that the fund has performed well not only in terms of returns but also in terms of volatility (i.e. it has displayed less riskiness)



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Hope this lesson has succeeded in further clarifying the concept of 'Treyner Ratio'.

Thinking of Investment

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