## The Weiss Ratings **Endangered List** weiss ratings

## The Weiss Ratings Endangered Lists: Thousands of Stocks, ETFs and Mutual Funds to Avoid

When it comes to investing, there are seemingly infinite choices of where to put your hard-earned money.

And when decision time comes, there's no end to the divergent opinions on what to do.

Throw emotion into the mix, and things can get even messier.

That's where an independent, objective, systematic approach can come in very handy. And that's precisely the goal of the Weiss Ratings: covering virtually all stocks, ETFs and mutual funds traded in the U.S.

No system can be perfect. Nor can it the be-all-end-all decision-making tool. Precisely what you invest in — plus how much or when — is up to you.

But the Weiss Ratings can go a long way toward helping you identify the weakest and strongest investments.

We calculate each rating using thousands of pieces of data, based on a sophisticated model that always seeks to achieve an optimal balance between higher gains with lower risk.

To avoid any conflicts of interest or bias, we never accept a penny in compensation from the rated companies for issuing their ratings. And we publish our ratings whether they like it or not.

The Weiss Ratings Endangered List includes all the stocks, ETFs and mutual funds with a rating of "D+" (weak) or lower. That does not guarantee that they will go down. In broad bull markets, even the weakest investments can rise. But it does mean we've identified them as among the most vulnerable to adverse events or financial storms.

## **What Our Ratings Mean**

To create our ratings, we start with reams of financial and market data — a total of 7 terabytes (and counting).

We crunch the data with a series of formulas.

We aggregate those results into proprietary indexes. (More on these below.)

And then we compile the indexes into a final letter grade from "A" to "E":

A = excellent (buy)

B = good (buy)

C = fair (hold or avoid)

D = weak (sell)

E = very weak (sell)

In addition, the plus sign (+) means the investment's in the upper third of the grade range, and the minus sign (-) means it's in the lower third.

On the pages that follow, you can find our endangered lists for stocks, ETFs and mutual funds.

Each list includes all stocks or funds meriting a Weiss Rating of "D+" or lower as of the date shown.

And each includes the

- Ticker symbol in Column 1
- Stock or fund name in Column 2
- Weiss Rating in Column 3
- Sector or type in Column 4 and
- Market cap in column 5.

Here's how we recommend using the lists:

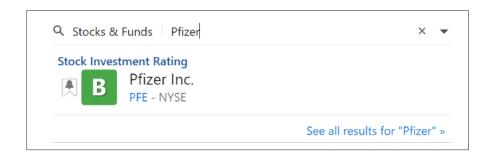
**Step 1.** Look up your company in alphabetic order. Better yet, since you're probably viewing an electronic version of this report on your screen, you can simply use the search function in your browser or app to find the ticker symbol or name.

**Step 2.** If the stock is on this list, it means that based on our research, it's probably more vulnerable other investments to adverse changes — whether already known (e.g., inflation and rising interest rates) or still unknown (e.g., black swan events).

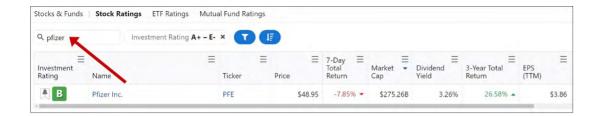
- **Step 3.** What to do from there is up to you. However, investors seeking risk reduction should seriously consider reducing their exposure.
- **Step 4.** Recognize that there may be some exceptions to the rule. For example, inverse ETFs (designed to profit from declining markets) sometimes merit a low rating due to poor performance in a bull market. But they may be among the best performers in a bear market. Similarly, some resource companies may get a low rating due to recent volatility but could excel as inflation heats up.
- **Step 5.** Always bear in mind that we update this report monthly, but our ratings are updated daily. So, before you make a final decision regarding any investment, be sure to take into consideration the most recent ratings. Here's how ...
  - 1. Go to WeissRatings.com.
  - 2. If you haven't signed in, be sure to do so using the same name and password you used to open your account as a Member. That will give you access to power tools and privileges that are not available to others.
  - 3. In the top menu, select "Stocks and Funds" (or just go straight to this page). This is what you will see at the top of your screen:



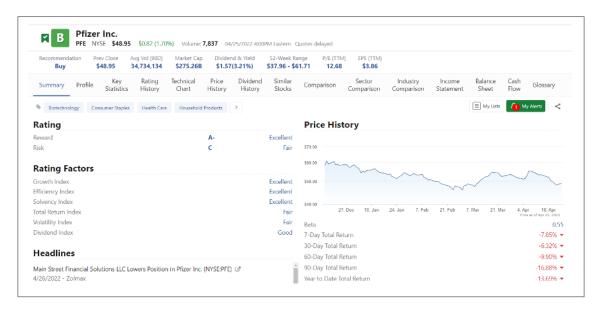
4. In the search bar at the top, type in the ticker symbol or name of your investment. For example, when you type PFE (or Pfizer), you should see a box pop up on your screen like the one below:



- 5. Would you like to receive an alert whenever the Weiss Rating for this investment is upgraded or downgraded? No problem! Just click on the bell icon to the left of the rating, and it will add the stock or fund to your watchlist.
- 6. Or, perhaps you would like more information on the stock and its Weiss Rating. In that case, use the search window shown in the image below, and type the stock name or ticker symbol:



7. Then, under the second column ("Name"), simply click on the company name, and you will see a full page of information. Here's an image of the top half of that page:



That's a lot of information to sink your teeth into. So let me just point out just a few of the highlights.

- 1. In the upper left of the screen, notice I have turned on the alerts for this stock. That's indicated by the green check mark to the left of the rating. And you can also see it was added to "My Alerts" in the upper right.
- 2. Under **Rating**, please note that we distinguish between two major aspects: "Reward" and "Risk," each with its own letter grade.

- 3. We also give you a summary of the **Ratings Factors**. These are our proprietary indexes that I mentioned earlier. For stocks, we have created a
  - a. Growth Index
  - b. Efficiency Index
  - c. Solvency Index
  - d. Total Return Index
  - e. Volatility Index and
  - f. Dividend Index.

It's the combination of all indexes, based on a complex algorithm, that generates our overall Weiss Rating for each investment.

Our website gives you many more tools that will always be available to you at your fingertips as long as you remain a Member. Be sure to take full advantage of them.

In the meantime, below are the endangered lists you can refer to now:

- Endangered List No. 1: Common Stocks
- Endangered List No. 2: Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs)
- Endangered List No. 3: Mutual Funds

## Independent | Unbiased | Accurate | Trusted

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