FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RIA Benchmark expands the Operating Efficiency Index to more than 8,700 RIAs

The index shows independent advisory firms how efficiently they run compared with firms their own size.

BOSTON, Nov. 19, 2026 - RIA Benchmark today released an expanded edition of the Operating Efficiency Index (OEI), a research study that scores how efficiently independent registered investment advisers (RIAs) operate. The new edition covers more than 8,700 SEC-registered wealth management firms and is built directly from public SEC Form ADV filings.

Most RIA leaders feel operational strain as their firms grow, but few have a way to measure it. The OEI gives each firm an objective view of how its operations compare with peers of a similar size.

How the index works

- **Peer cohorts by size:** each firm is compared only with firms in its own asset band, so a $300 million firm is never measured against a $5 billion firm.
- **Three dimensions:** the index looks at productivity, the complexity a firm carries, and sustained growth adjusted for market returns.
- **Current and historical data:** each firm is scored on its most recent Form ADV filing, and its growth is measured over the past one, three and five years from its earlier filings, where they are available.
- **A clear result:** each firm's score shows the share of its peer cohort it operates more efficiently than, with a breakdown by dimension and what the result may mean for how the firm runs.

Individual firm scores are not published. Leaders of advisory firms can request their own firm's result at riabenchmark.com.

"Growth is the goal for almost every RIA, but growth that requires adding people at the same pace doesn't build enterprise value," said Adam Scully-Power, founder of RIA Benchmark. "The Operating Efficiency Index gives firm leaders a factual starting point for a conversation about how their operations will hold up as they grow. It uses their own filings, measured against firms their size."

"The value is in the breakdown," Scully-Power added. "It shows a leadership team whether its pressure point is productivity, the complexity it carries or the durability of its growth, and each of those leads to a very different conversation about people, technology and the operating model."

The OEI methodology is preliminary and will continue to be refined as more data and feedback come in. A summary of how the index is built is available at riabenchmark.com.

About RIA Benchmark

RIA Benchmark conducts independent research on the operations of registered investment advisers. Its mission: helping RIA leaders know where they stand, so they can build better firms to serve clients. The Operating Efficiency Index is its first published study. Learn more at riabenchmark.com.

Disclosure

The Operating Efficiency Index and any figures shared here are provided for general educational and informational purposes only. They are derived from public Form ADV filings, which may be outdated, incomplete or inaccurate, and from calculations that may contain errors. They are provided as is, without warranty of any kind, are not investment, legal, tax or business advice, and should not be relied upon for any decision.

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