

DODGX: genuine value exposure, genuine active bets—but an unproven fee advantage

Produced by FFP One (<https://ffp.one>), an AI research tool for professional investors, built on SEC filings. A research agent wrote this report end to end. It draws mainly on the filings and market data, marks outside sources, and ends with a table showing where its figures came from.

QUESTION I own DODGX. Is it actually a value fund, is it different enough from an S&P 500 index fund to justify the active fee, and what do I really own underneath?

MODEL GPT-6.1 Sol (OpenAI)

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Premise verdict: confirmed on “value” and “different”; reframed on “worth the fee.” DODGX is not an S&P 500 portfolio with an active-management label. Its latest disclosed holdings show substantially lower portfolio valuations, a large healthcare overweight, much less technology, and approximately **82.2% active share versus IVV**, the covered S&P 500 index-fund proxy.

But **being different is necessary—not sufficient—to justify an active fee.** The evidence supports owning DODGX as a deliberate value-oriented complement to an index fund. It does not establish that it is the better default core holding or that its managers will outperform after costs.

Data dates: Analysis as of **October 9, 2026**. The latest disclosed holdings for DODGX, IVV, and the passive-value comparator IWD are **June 30, 2026**. Available market prices extend through **October 8**. I verified that FY2026 fundamentals are available; I did not assume FY2025 was the latest year.

1. Is it actually a value fund?

Yes, relative to the broad index—and not merely because a fund database calls it “Large Value.”

These are the published portfolio aggregates, not averages of individual companies’ valuation ratios:

Latest published look-through measure	DODGX	IVV: S&P 500	IWD: Russell 1000 Value
Annual-earnings-based P/E	22.80×	30.98×	23.99×
Price/book	2.61×	5.79×	3.32×
Price/sales	1.40×	3.79×	2.31×
Valuation-covered fund weight	90.16%	96.82%	99.04%

Source: DODGX, IVV, and IWD N-PORT filings (portfolio holdings schedules); all three holdings snapshots dated June 30, 2026.

DODGX’s P/E is approximately **26% below IVV’s**, with larger discounts on book value and sales. Against a passive **value** portfolio, however, its P/E discount is much smaller. That distinction matters: some of what you receive is value-style exposure that does not inherently require active management.

The discount comes with a different earnings profile

Look-through fundamental	DODGX	IVV
Net margin	6.17%	12.13%
Return on equity	11.43%	18.70%
Revenue growth	5.61%	7.26%
Fund weight in loss-making companies	6.33%	2.76%

Source: DODGX and IVV N-PORT filings (portfolio holdings schedules).

Thus, “lower-priced” should not be translated into “the same businesses at a bargain.” DODGX owns a mix with lower aggregate profitability and growth, and more exposure to companies reporting losses. Sector composition also affects these comparisons.

Not every holding is conventionally cheap

A check of three important holdings illustrates why portfolio style and individual-stock cheapness are different questions:

Holding	P/E on Oct. 8, 2026	Own 2021–2025 median P/E	Current sector median P/E
Schwab	20.83x	27.82x	15.36x
RTX	37.16x	37.48x	28.85x
CVS	63.17x	16.79x	29.36x

Sources: company FY2025 10-K financial statements and daily market price data; sector comparisons computed from FY2025 10-K financial statements and daily market price data. Company multiples use their latest available FY2025 annual results. Historical medians use positive daily P/Es.

Schwab is below its own historical multiple but above its sector median. RTX is near its historical median. CVS’s annual earnings are affected by the impairment discussed below.

Conclusion: DODGX has a genuine relative-value tilt, but it is neither uniformly low-P/E nor demonstrably “historically cheap” as a whole. The available fund disclosures do not publish a historical DODGX portfolio-multiple series, so that latter claim cannot be tested here.

2. Is it different enough from an S&P 500 fund?

Clearly yes.

Matching the complete disclosed equity holdings by CUSIP, ticker, and an audited issuer-name fallback produces:

- **17.64% equity weight overlap** with IVV.
- **82.19% estimated active share**, including a common residual non-equity bucket.

- **61 shared securities**, representing **79.64% of DODGX's net assets**.
- **19.15% of DODGX's net assets in equity securities absent from IVV**.

Calculated from DODGX and IVV N-PORT filings (portfolio holdings schedules).

Those results are not contradictory. DODGX owns many familiar index constituents, but at very different weights. **Shared names do not mean shared exposure.**

The principal sector bets

Warehouse sector classification	DODGX	IVV	DODGX difference
Healthcare	23.69%	8.76%	+14.93 pp
Technology	9.67%	37.54%	-27.87 pp
Financial Services	11.87%	8.53%	+3.34 pp
Insurance	5.78%	2.58%	+3.20 pp
Communication Services	10.54%	8.76%	+1.78 pp

Source: DODGX and IVV N-PORT filings (portfolio holdings schedules). These are our classifications, not GICS; Insurance is separate from Financial Services. Sector weights omit unclassified equity holdings: 4.58% of DODGX's net assets and 2.83% of IVV's. DODGX's unclassified sleeve includes its 3.54% Taiwan Semiconductor position, so the 9.67% Technology row does not capture all of its technology exposure.

The June portfolio contained **no disclosed Apple, Nvidia, Broadcom, or Tesla positions**. But it did own Microsoft, Amazon, Alphabet, and Meta. This is **not an exclusionary “no growth stocks” strategy**; it is a selective portfolio that sharply reduces several dominant index exposures.

3. What do you really own underneath?

DODGX was **98.79% invested in equities**, across **84 equity security lines**. It is predominantly a stock portfolio, not a defensive stock-and-bond allocation.

Combining Alphabet's two share classes, the ten largest underlying issuers were:

Underlying company	DODGX weight
Alphabet, combined share classes	4.14%
Charles Schwab	4.00%
RTX	3.75%
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing	3.54%
Johnson Controls	3.27%
CVS Health	2.77%
Microsoft	2.52%
MetLife	2.48%
Humana	2.47%
Amazon	2.17%
Total	31.11%

Source: DODGX N-PORT filing (portfolio holdings schedule); weights are percentages of net assets, combining security lines by issuer.

The economic picture is therefore more specific than “diversified value”:

- A substantial **healthcare bet**, including CVS, Humana, UnitedHealth, Cigna, and pharmaceutical holdings.
- Meaningful **financial-services and insurance exposure**.
- Selected industrial holdings and large technology/platform businesses.
- A material position in Taiwan Semiconductor despite its absence from the S&P 500 proxy.

Non-U.S.-incorporated holdings represented 17.14% of net assets, versus 2.94% for IVV. That is an incorporation measure—not the fraction of revenue earned abroad or a comprehensive geopolitical-risk measure.

There is also a coverage limitation: the Taiwan Semiconductor local-share position is not ticker-resolved in this fund snapshot. Its **3.54% ownership weight is visible**, but it is not included in the covered financial aggregates.

4. The key risk is whether weaker earnings recover—not just whether multiples rise

The filing-derived exposures identify a disproportionate healthcare underwriting/regulatory bet:

Disclosed risk concept	DODGX weight	IVV weight
Medical Cost Estimation	6.74%	1.08%
Healthcare Regulation And Reform	6.49%	1.47%
Medicare Drug Price Negotiation	3.64%	2.57%

Source: the 10-K's segment & revenue-disaggregation disclosures and Item 1 (Business) / Item 1A (Risk Factors) / Item 7 (MD&A), explicitly filtered to risk disclosures.

These percentages measure holdings whose filings disclose the topic. **They are not estimates of losses, and they overlap—do not add them.**

CVS shows both the risk and the recovery case

CVS's latest annual filing states:

"During 2025, the Health Care Delivery reporting unit continued to experience challenges, including the impact of persistent elevated utilization levels."

The same section records a **\$5.7 billion goodwill impairment** during the third quarter of 2025.

First-party filing: CVS FY2025 10-K, Item 7, "Recoverability of Goodwill."

However, the newer evidence improves that picture. In its **August 5, 2026 earnings 8-K**, CVS reported:

- A second-quarter medical benefit ratio of **87.4%**, versus **89.9%** a year earlier. CVS attributed the improvement both to better underlying Government-business performance and to the absence of a **\$471 million** premium deficiency reserve recorded in the prior-year Group Medicare Advantage product line; it is not solely an underlying trend improvement.
- Increased full-year adjusted EPS guidance to **\$7.90–\$8.10**, from **\$7.30–\$7.50**.
- Continued caution about "**continued elevated cost trends and the potential for macro headwinds.**"

I also read CVS's newer **August 17 board-change 8-K**. It does not supersede that earnings update or establish a deterioration in operating performance.

Interpretation: You own exposure to an earnings-recovery thesis, not simply statistically cheap assets. The latest CVS filing provides support for recovery, but not certainty—and it cannot establish the outlook for the entire healthcare sleeve.

5. [WEB] Fees, manager disclosures, and actual fund returns

This section uses external web sources, kept separate from the warehouse and filing evidence above.

What the active fee costs

Current issuer disclosures report:

Fund	Annual expense ratio	Approximate annual cost per \$100,000
DODGX, Class I	0.51%	\$510
IVV	0.03%	\$30
IWD, passive value	0.18%	\$180

DODGX therefore has an approximate **48-basis-point annual expense hurdle versus IVV**, or **33 basis points versus IWD**, before differences in trading costs and taxes.

Sources: [Dodge & Cox disclosures](#), [IVV issuer page](#), and [IWD issuer page](#).

Does the performance record support paying it?

The latest accessible common month-end figures are **September 30, 2026**:

NAV total return	DODGX	IVV	IWD
Year to date	5.2%	12.72%	19.11%
One year	7.8%	15.71%	23.59%
Three years, annualized	14.6%	22.85%	19.86%
Five years, annualized	9.6%	13.76%	11.72%
Ten years, annualized	12.3%	15.30%	11.24%

Sources: [AAIL/Morningstar data for DODGX](#); the IVV and IWD issuer pages above. DODGX figures are rounded to one decimal. These are total returns, not the warehouse's holdings-based price-return estimates.

The record is **mixed**:

- DODGX trails the S&P 500 proxy over every displayed period.
- It also trails the passive-value comparator over the shorter periods.
- It **outperformed IWD over ten years**, after fund expenses.

That ten-year result supports a possible manager-value case. It does **not** isolate risk-adjusted stock-picking skill from differences in sectors, foreign holdings, or portfolio construction. In its [June 30, 2026 investment commentary](#), the manager attributed recent relative weakness mainly to its Information Technology underweight and weak performance from Fidelity National Information Services, Fiserv, and Charter Communications. This is the manager's first-half attribution, not an explanation of every period in the September return table, and identifies stock-specific active bets beyond the healthcare recovery example.

The manager's latest linked [fact sheet](#) remains dated **June 30, 2026** and reports **82.2% active share**, closely corroborating our calculation. Its latest linked [holdings document](#) is also June-dated.

Tax consideration: Dodge & Cox states that capital gains, if any, are distributed in December and March. In a taxable account, evaluate distributions and the tax cost of selling your existing position; the expense ratio alone is not your all-in cost.

End [WEB] section.

6. Honest synthesis: how I would frame your ownership decision

DODGX passes the “am I paying for something genuinely different?” test. It does not conclusively pass the “has active management justified its cost?” test.

- **As a complement to an S&P 500 fund:** defensible if you deliberately want less technology concentration, more healthcare/value exposure, and manager-selected positions outside the index.

- **As your only core equity fund:** you should recognize that you are making substantial sector and manager bets, not buying a neutral substitute for the market.
- **If your objective is simply a value tilt:** compare it with passive value alternatives. The lower valuation versus IVV is not, by itself, evidence that active management is necessary.
- **If retaining it:** judge it against a value benchmark as well as the S&P 500, and accept that its distinctiveness can produce prolonged relative underperformance.

Bottom line: You really own an almost fully invested, selective equity portfolio with a pronounced healthcare/ value tilt—not a closet index fund. Keeping it is most defensible as an intentional allocation to that strategy, rather than because “value” guarantees a bargain or an active fee guarantees superior returns.

Methodology and provenance

- **Fund identity and latest snapshots:** DODGX, IVV, and IWD N-PORT filings (portfolio holdings schedules). Portfolio multiples, margins, growth, coverage, equity allocation, and sector weights come directly from published columns.
- **Holdings, concentration, geography, and overlap:** DODGX and IVV N-PORT filings (portfolio holdings schedules). Active share calculated as half the absolute weight differences, with one residual non-equity bucket. Matching used CUSIP/ticker and a verified case-insensitive name fallback for missing identifiers.
- **Latest-fiscal-year verification:** FY2026 financial statements, with periods through August 30, 2026. Latest-per-company checks found **10 DODGX security lines with FY2026 results** and no populated DODGX holding fundamentals lagging newer annual rows. The published IVV and IWD snapshot joins lag newer annual rows on **2.80%** and **2.23%** of net assets, respectively. Their portfolio aggregates remain the latest published figures; they were not silently rebuilt.
- **Valuation context:** Company multiples use FY2025 10-K financial statements and daily market price data; annual and pooled 2021–2025 medians were queried. Sector medians are computed from FY2025 10-K financial statements and daily market price data. No fund valuation-history series is available for DODGX or IVV in that company series.
- **Risk exposures:** The 10-K’s segment & revenue-disaggregation disclosures and Item 1 (Business) / Item 1A (Risk Factors) / Item 7 (MD&A), filtered by series and risk disclosure; concept weights reported separately because they overlap.
- **Filing bodies:** CVS FY2025 10-K, Item 7, “Recoverability of Goodwill”; August 5, 2026 8-K, Exhibit 99.1; August 17, 2026 8-K, Items 5.02/7.01. Quotes were retrieved from full filing text, not summaries.
- **Freshness limitations:** A review identified **zero material 8-K events** for DODGX, and searches of company SEC filings returned no DODGX filing bodies, including 8-Ks. That is a coverage limitation—not proof of no developments. Fund recency was therefore supplemented with clearly labeled web disclosures.
- **Returns:** Daily market price data were checked through October 8, but fixed-holdings, dividend-blind price estimates were not presented as actual fund total returns. Fees and actual NAV total returns are exclusively identified in the [WEB] section.