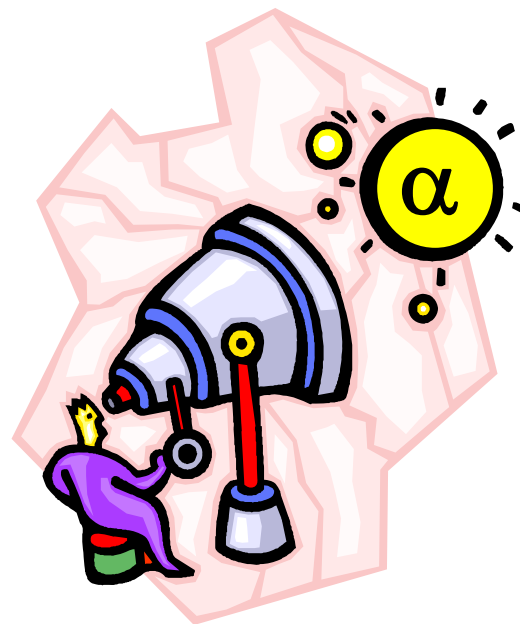


## Desperately Searching for Alpha

February 4, 2009



**Hillsdale Investment Management**

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# Top 10 Signs U.S. Banks Are In Trouble

10. Ask to withdraw \$100 and they Xerox five twenties
9. Once a week, bank president is led away in handcuffs
8. Your bank teller is O.J. Simpson
7. Was a Savings and Loan; now a savings and loan and Chicken Shack
6. Bank is now Called “Obama Trust”
5. When you check account balance, ATM screen reads, “What Money?”
4. Sign on Vault Door says Out of Money But Will Work for Food
3. They tried to borrow money from you
2. When you ask where your money is, they start off quoting Alan Greenspan that “we are in a state of shocked disbelief”
1. Offers you a home in Vegas instead of your savings account



# Agenda

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- Why Are We Desperately Searching for Alpha
- The Magic Formula For Active Management
- The New Efficient Frontier

## 2008: One of the “Worst” Years on Record

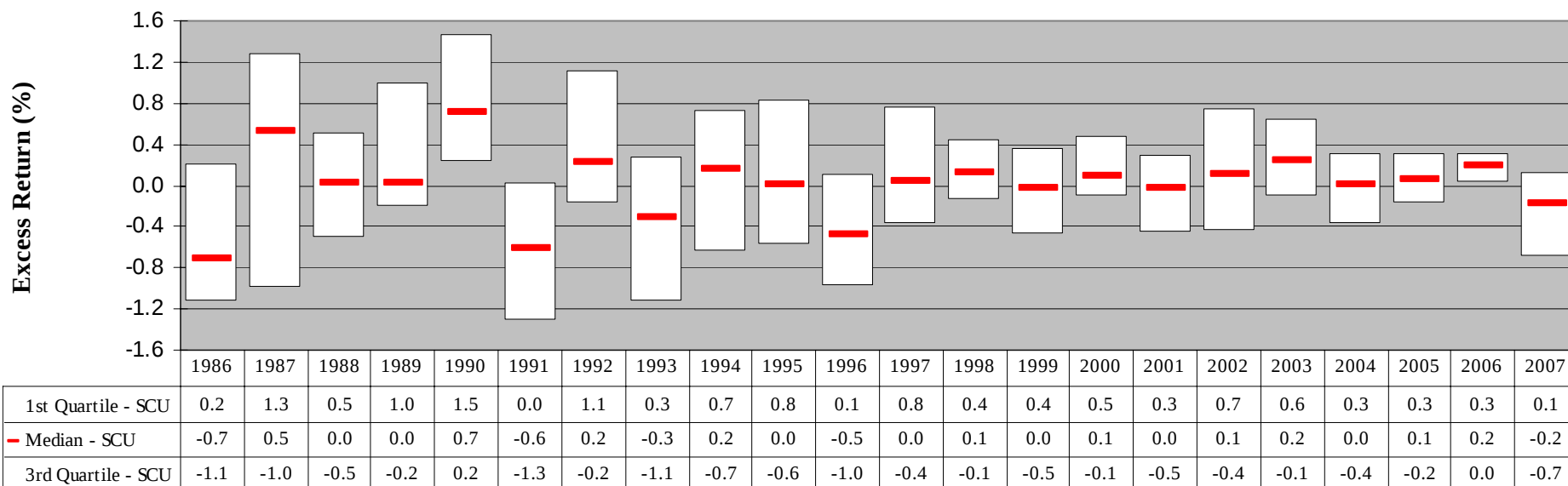
## 60/40 Rolling 1 Year Returns 1924 – Dec 31, 2008

| Statistics |        |
|------------|--------|
| Mean       | 9.2%   |
| Median     | 10.2%  |
| Stdev      | 11.6%  |
| High       | 33.9%  |
| Low        | -21.8% |

[illegible]

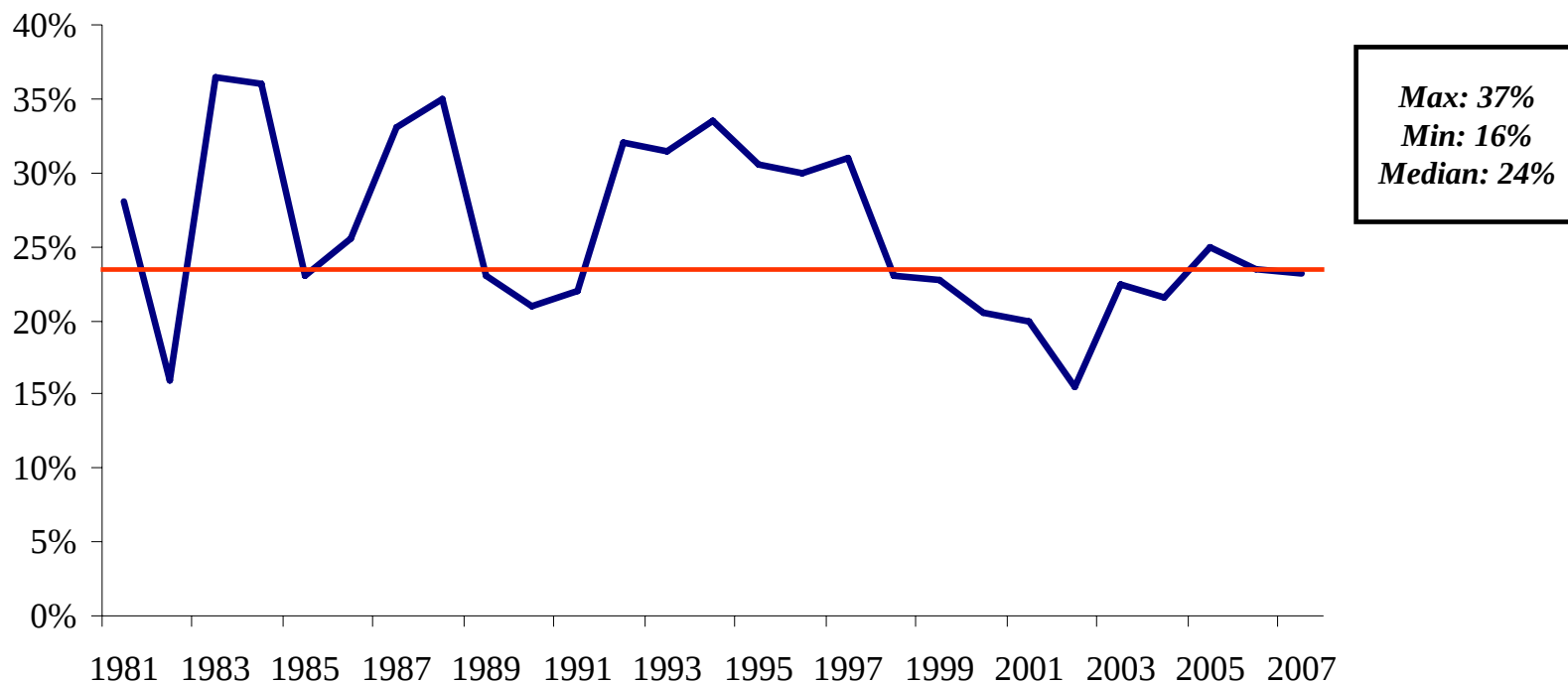
# How Have Active Canadian Bond Managers Faired?

**Annual Excess Returns (%) of 1st Quartile, Median and 3rd Quartile Managers vs. Scotia Capital Universe**



# Enormous Breadth in U.S. Small Cap

Percentage of Firms in US Growing > 20% Annually



# Desperately Searching for Alpha

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- Most “Traditional” Strategies Still Work
- Index or LDI Canadian Bonds and “Port Alpha on Top” or Accept Less
- “Extension” Strategies Increase the Odds of Success
- Small Cap Can be Big
- Always Consider the Fundamental Law of Active Management