Factor Focus – May 2026

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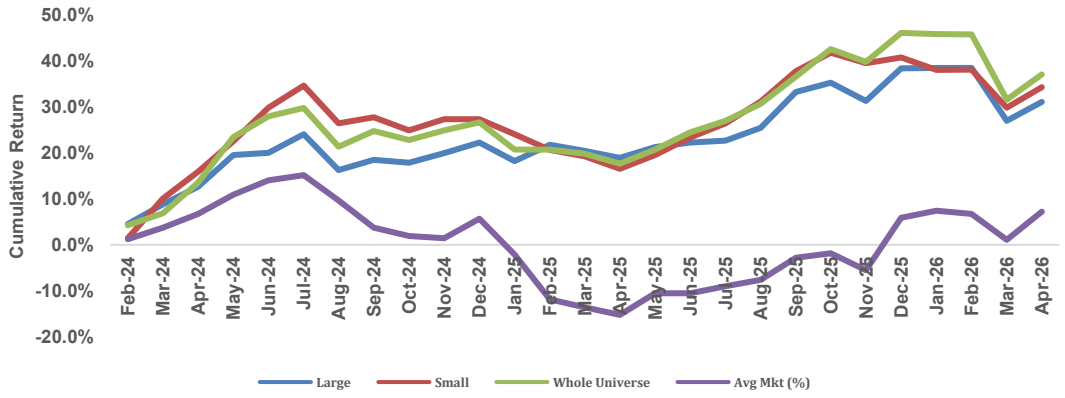
Summary

As markets began pricing in the ongoing Middle East war, coupled with AI-driven productivity in the US and commodity-led resilience in Malaysia, our quantitative picks rebounded in April 2026, recording gains of 4.1%/4.4%/5.4% for the respective Large, Small, and Combined universes. Cumulatively, the portfolios recorded 31.0%/34.2%/37.0% in returns since inception.

Factor strategy and performance

Our strategy integrates quality and momentum factors. The momentum score is derived from the price change over 6 and 12 months, while the quality scores result from a combination of financial ratios. Since the inception, most of the picks were able to deliver better results as compared to the average benchmark returns.

Table 1: Factor Focus Picks Performance (February 2024 –April 2026)



Source: M+ Research, Bloomberg

Table 2: April 2026 Factor Focus Picks Performance

Big Cap Picks		Small Cap Picks		Whole Universe Picks	
AAX	8.11%	MSC	-1.60%	AAX	8.11%
99SMART	1.17%	DKSH	-2.40%	99SMART	1.17%
PMETAL	7.88%	ELRIDGE	6.47%	PMETAL	7.88%
MRDIY	9.15%	LAGENDA	2.11%	MRDIY	9.15%
SUNCON	7.54%	VSTECS	10.07%	SUNCON	7.54%
HUMEIND	-1.56%	MNRB	11.16%	HUMEIND	-1.56%
MCEMENT	14.88%	PHARMA	0.00%	MCEMENT	14.88%
DRBHCOM	8.26%	DPHARMA	0.79%	DRBHCOM	8.26%
LHI	4.23%	CBHB	20.41%	MSC	-1.60%
SUNREIT	6.49%	SPRITZER	8.02%	DKSH	-2.40%
MAXIS	-3.06%	KIPREIT	1.78%	ELRIDGE	6.47%
HLIND	3.46%	SWKPLNT	-0.54%	LAGENDA	2.11%
UTDPLT	-6.65%	INNO	3.55%	VSTECS	10.07%
WPRTS	-3.88%	CHINTEK	-1.28%	MNRB	11.16%
FFB	5.39%	BAUTO	7.39%	PHARMA	0.00%
Average return	**4.09%**	**Average return**	**4.39%**	**Average return**	**5.41%**

Source: M+ Research

Table 3: May 2026 Factor Focus Picks

Large Cap Picks					Small Cap Picks					Combined Picks				
Ticker	Q	M	S	Rating	Ticker	Q	M	S	Rating	Ticker	Q	M	S	Rating
PMETAL	7.4	9.8	7.3	SP	WASCO	7.7	9.4	7.2	SP	PMETAL	7.4	9.8	7.3	SP
99SMART	7.8	9.1	7.1	SP	MSC	7.1	9.8	7.0	SP	99SMART	7.8	9.1	7.1	SP
SUNCON	7.2	9.4	6.7	SP	BAT	9.1	7.7	7.0	SP	SUNCON	7.2	9.4	6.7	SP
GASMSIA	6.6	9.8	6.5	SP	TMK	7.7	8.5	6.5	SP	GASMSIA	6.6	9.8	6.5	SP
KPJ	7.3	8.9	6.4	SP	THMY	7.2	8.6	6.2	SP	KPJ	7.3	8.9	6.4	SP
WPRTS	6.9	9.4	6.4	SP	VSTECS	6.4	9.5	6.1	SP	WPRTS	6.9	9.4	6.4	SP
AMBANK	6.8	9.2	6.3	SP	IAB	6.0	9.8	5.9	SP	AMBANK	6.8	9.2	6.3	SP
UTDPLT	6.4	9.8	6.3	SP	LAGENDA	6.8	8.6	5.8	SP	UTDPLT	6.4	9.8	6.3	SP
SUNREIT	7.0	8.9	6.2	SP	INNO	6.9	8.4	5.8	SP	WASCO	7.7	9.4	7.2	SP
HLIND	6.5	9.5	6.1	SP	PETRONM	6.1	9.4	5.7	SP	MSC	7.1	9.8	7.0	SP
MAYBANK	6.9	8.8	6.1	SP	PHARMA	6.9	8.3	5.7	SP	BAT	9.1	7.7	7.0	SP
LHI	7.4	8.1	6.0	SP	MEGAFB	5.5	9.8	5.4	SP	TMK	7.7	8.5	6.5	SP
IOIPG	6.1	9.8	6.0	SP	PECCA	7.0	7.6	5.3	SP	THMY	7.2	8.6	6.2	SP
IGBB	6.0	9.7	5.8	SP	BAUTO	7.4	7.0	5.2	SP	VSTECS	6.4	9.5	6.1	SP
TIMECOM	6.3	9.2	5.8	SP	MNRB	6.0	8.5	5.2	SP	IAB	6.0	9.8	5.9	SP

Q: Quality, M: Momentum, S: Score, SP: Strong Positive
Source: M+ Research

Added stocks: GASMSIA, KPJ, AMBANK, MAYBANK, IOIPG, IGBB, TIMECOM, WASCO, BAT, TMK, THMY, IAB, PETRONM, MEGAFB, PECCA

Removed stocks: AAX, MRDIY, HUMEIND, MCEMENT, DRBHCOM, MAXIS, FFB, DKSH, ELRIDGE, DPHARMA, CBHB, SPRITZER, KIPREIT, SWKPLNT, CHINTEK

Table 4: Performance Statistics

Period	Large	Small	Whole Universe	Avg Mkt (%)	FBMKLCI	FBM70	FBMSCAP	FBMACE
Jul-24	4.0%	4.8%	1.8%	1.1%	2.2%	3.6%	0.6%	-1.9%
Aug-24	-7.8%	-8.2%	-8.4%	-5.5%	3.3%	-5.6%	-10.1%	-9.6%
Sep-24	5.7%	3.2%	5.8%	-0.4%	-1.8%	-0.3%	-0.6%	1.2%
Oct-24	-0.6%	-2.7%	-1.7%	-1.8%	-2.9%	1.2%	-2.3%	-3.3%
Nov-24	2.1%	2.5%	2.1%	1.4%	-0.5%	1.5%	2.0%	2.5%
Dec-24	2.3%	0.0%	1.8%	4.3%	3.0%	5.5%	3.9%	4.8%
Jan-25	-7.5%	-5.3%	-8.6%	-5.1%	-5.2%	-6.7%	-5.1%	-3.4%
Feb-25	3.5%	-3.4%	0.0%	-4.8%	1.1%	-5.4%	-6.6%	-8.4%
Mar-25	-1.3%	-1.4%	-0.9%	-1.8%	-3.9%	-2.2%	-2.1%	1.1%
Apr-25	-1.8%	-3.1%	-2.1%	-1.4%	1.8%	-2.0%	-1.6%	-3.7%
May-25	2.5%	3.2%	3.0%	-0.4%	-2.1%	1.6%	0.7%	-1.7%
Jun-25	1.0%	3.8%	3.7%	0.0%	1.6%	1.2%	-0.9%	-1.8%
Jul-25	0.4%	3.1%	2.5%	1.5%	-1.3%	1.3%	2.8%	3.3%
Aug-25	2.8%	4.7%	3.7%	1.4%	4.1%	-0.8%	0.1%	2.2%
Sep-25	7.8%	6.6%	5.9%	4.8%	2.3%	1.6%	5.8%	9.5%
Oct-25	2.2%	4.0%	6.3%	0.7%	-0.2%	1.8%	0.1%	1.0%
Nov-25	-4.0%	-2.3%	-2.8%	-3.7%	-0.3%	-1.2%	-5.7%	-7.6%
Dec-25	6.4%	0.9%	5.4%	1.4%	4.7%	-0.3%	0.4%	1.0%
Jan-26	0.6%	-2.2%	0.3%	1.6%	3.6%	4.2%	1.5%	-3.1%
Feb-26	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.7%	-1.4%	0.2%	-1.5%	-0.1%
Mar-26	-11.5%	-8.2%	-14.2%	-5.6%	-1.5%	-3.9%	-7.1%	-10.0%
Apr-26	4.1%	4.4%	5.4%	6.1%	1.9%	7.2%	6.6%	8.7%
Average	1.1%	1.3%	1.4%	0.3%	0.5%	0.7%	-0.2%	0.0%
Cumulative	31.0%	34.2%	37.0%	7.2%	13.8%	19.1%	-4.7%	0.6%

Source: M+ Research

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Stock recommendation guide	
BUY	The share price is expected to appreciate more than 10% over the next 12 months
HOLD	The stock price is expected to range between -10% and +10% over the next 12 months
SELL	The share price is expected to fall more than 10% over the next 12 months
TRADING BUY	The share price is projected to rise more than 10% over the next three (3) months due to an ongoing or impending corporate development. The stock price is also expected to be volatile over the next three months
TRADING SELL	The stock price is expected to fall more than 10% over the next three months due to an ongoing or impending corporate developments. The stock price is also expected to be volatile over the next three months
NOT RATED	No recommendation is assigned