

ESG and Financial Resilience: Evidence from BRICS Stock Markets

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Abstract

We examine the relationship between Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) scores and financial resilience in BRICS stock markets, using the United States as a benchmark. Firm-level data from 2016 to 2024 are employed, and financial resilience is assessed ex ante using three risk-based measures: stock return volatility, Value-at-Risk (VaR), and Expected Shortfall (ES), the latter introduced as a novel proxy in this context. The results indicate that in BRICS economies, higher environmental and social scores, as well as stronger overall ESG performance, are associated with lower tail risk and volatility, reflecting greater financial resilience in weaker institutional settings. In contrast, environmental scores in the U.S. market are positively related to risk measures. Overall, the findings suggest that ESG practices mitigate financial vulnerability in emerging markets, while their risk implications in developed markets are more nuanced. This study extends the ESG–resilience literature and highlights Expected Shortfall as a valuable indicator of financial resilience.

Keywords: ESG, financial resilience, BRICS, emerging markets

JEL codes: G32, Q56

1. Introduction

The expression “to rise like a phoenix from the ashes”, inspired by a mythological bird, is often used as a metaphor to describe how contemporary organizations confront increasingly adverse and uncertain environments. Nowadays, companies face a wide range of pressures, including climate change, regulatory challenges, stakeholder pressures, and growing technological, economic, social, and environmental uncertainties. In response to this context, over the past decade, Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) practices have evolved from peripheral concerns to strategic imperatives for corporations, policymakers, and investors (Rahiet al., 2021; Biju et al., 2025). Firms are increasingly embedding ESG into their core operations not only to comply with regulations or meet societal expectations, but also to gain competitive advantages. The literature has documented a variety of benefits associated with the adoption of ESG practices, including a

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11 better brand reputation, increased customer loyalty, greater access to capital, innovation capacity, improved
12 operational efficiency (Arrive et al., 2019; Rahi et al., 2021; Alshehhi et al., 2018), and financial performance
13 gains (Velte, 2017; Bodhanwala and Bodhanwala, 2018; Albuquerque et al., 2019; Dalal and Thaker, 2019;
14 Yu et al., 2018; Xie et al., 2019; Bhaskaran et al., 2020; Ahmad et al., 2021; Yoo and Managi, 2022; Sinha Ray
15 and Goel, 2023).

16 High levels of ESG can enhance a company’s operational capabilities, reduce exposure to financial distress,
17 and strengthen its capacity to withstand adverse conditions, thereby contributing to corporate resilience.
18 According to Wang et al. (2024), ESG performance supports resilience through several mechanisms: i) En-
19 hanced operational capabilities: Good ESG performance strengthens management, encourages technological
20 innovation, and optimizes the allocation of human capital, enhancing operational capabilities; ii) Resources
21 and stakeholder support: Companies with stronger ESG performance tend to attract greater stakeholder
22 support, increasing the resources available to cope with adverse conditions; iii) Reputational resilience: ESG
23 responsibility brings moral and reputational capital, softening the impact of negative news, increasing in-
24 vestor confidence, and reducing the risk of bankruptcy. Given this, ESG performance emerges as a relevant
25 variable to promote corporate resilience (Walker et al., 2024; Liu et al., 2024; Wang et al., 2024).

26 The concept of resilience has interdisciplinary origins. In ecology, Holling et al. (1973) defined it as the
27 ability of a system to maintain its core functions when exposed to shocks. In corporate contexts, resilience is
28 increasingly viewed through a financial lens. For Ortiz-de Mandojana and Bansal (2016), resilience refers to
29 the ability to anticipate, withstand, and recover from disruptive events. While influential, such definitions
30 are typically grounded in event-based perspectives. Although there is a set of resilience drivers, some studies
31 indicate that the driving force of financial resilience lies in effective risk management (Dahms, 2010; Armeanu
32 et al., 2017). According to Ortiz-de Mandojana and Bansal (2016), risk and resilience are closely linked, as
33 resilient organizations not only adapt to unexpected challenges but also excel at managing risks effectively.
34 Based on this and studies such as Ortiz-de Mandojana and Bansal (2016), Soufi et al. (2023), and Xie et al.
35 (2025), our study operationalizes resilience through financial risk proxies (volatility and losses (Righi, 2019)).

36 Despite growing academic interest, existing literature on ESG and resilience exhibits some limitations.
37 Most studies focus on one or two ESG dimensions, neglecting the interplay among ESG factors. For instance,
38 Ortiz-de Mandojana and Bansal (2016) and DesJardine et al. (2019) analyze the role of social and environ-
39 mental practices (SEPs) in corporate resilience, while Huang et al. (2020) evaluates corporate social respon-
40 sibility. Furthermore, the majority of the research is concentrated in developed economies—particularly the
41 United States, where ESG integration is relatively mature and supported by well-established institutional
42 frameworks (Ortiz-de Mandojana and Bansal, 2016; DesJardine et al., 2019; Walker et al., 2024; Ameer and
43 Boussetta, 2025). Some studies have examined China as a unique case, but comprehensive multi-country

44 analyses in emerging markets remain rare (Huang et al., 2020; Liu et al., 2024; Xu et al., 2023).

45 Among emerging markets, the BRICS countries ¹ (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa), rep-
46 resent an important setting for studying ESG and financial resilience. These economies combine pronounced
47 environmental and social challenges with structurally higher financial risk, less efficient capital markets,
48 and institutional heterogeneity. In such contexts, adopting ESG practices becomes more difficult but offers
49 greater potential for impact (Alshehhi et al., 2018; Liu et al., 2023b). Yet, few studies explore the BRICS
50 bloc as a unified analytical framework, and almost none examine financial resilience as a direct function of
51 ESG in this group of economies.

52 To our knowledge, no studies have yet investigated the relationship between ESG performance and
53 resilience, with an explicit focus on resilience indicators associated with corporate risk characteristics (see
54 Section 2.1 for additional details). For example, Xu et al. (2023) examine the impact of ESG scores on the
55 resilience of stock returns, particularly using buy-and-hold returns (BAHR). Meanwhile, Wang et al. (2024)
56 assess corporate resilience in terms of production and orientation, utilizing the economic value added ratio
57 (rEVA) and bankruptcy risk coefficient as a measure. In contrast, Liu et al. (2024) associate resilience with
58 cumulative abnormal returns calculated using Fama-French three- and five-factor models.

59 Against this backdrop, this research investigates the relationship between ESG performance and corporate
60 financial resilience across BRICS firms between 2016 and 2024. We focus on three risk-based measures of
61 resilience – volatility (Standard Deviation (σ)), Value-at-Risk (VaR), and, notably, Expected Shortfall (ES) –
62 as they capture firms’ ex ante vulnerability to adverse market conditions and extreme downside realizations.
63 Volatility expresses stability and the ability to withstand daily market fluctuations, while tail measures reflect
64 firms’ exposure to severe downside risk and their structural capacity to absorb adverse price movements.
65 Thus, in this study, we consider financially resilient firms to be those with less volatile and less exposed to
66 critical losses. To the best of our knowledge, we are the first to propose ES as a resilience indicator, bridging
67 risk management theory with corporate sustainability debates. Additionally, we benchmark our results by
68 comparing them with a sample of USA firms.

69 This study makes three main contributions to the literature. First, we contribute to the growing debate
70 on ESG and financial resilience (Wang et al., 2024) by conceptualizing financial resilience from an *ex ante*,
71 risk-based perspective. While most existing studies assess resilience using event-driven or recovery-based
72 indicators, we operationalize resilience through firms’ exposure to volatility and tail risk. Our approach
73 complements the dominant post-shock literature (Xia et al., 2022; Gittell et al., 2006) by adopting an ex ante,

¹This study focuses on the five original BRICS members rather than the current eleven, as only these countries constituted the BRICS group throughout the 2016 - 2024 period, ensuring consistency in the longitudinal analysis. The expansion of the group, incorporating six new members, became effective only in 2024.

74 risk-based perspective on financial resilience, consistent with the foundations of financial risk management.
75 Second, this study advances the measurement of financial resilience by introducing Expected Shortfall as a
76 novel proxy within the ESG–resilience literature. Although ES is widely employed in risk management to
77 quantify tail risk, it has not previously been used as an indicator of financial resilience. Third, we extend the
78 empirical analysis of ESG and financial resilience to emerging markets by focusing on the BRICS economies.
79 Prior evidence is largely concentrated in developed markets (Walker et al., 2024; Ameur and Boussetta, 2025),
80 the BRICS countries combine higher structural financial risk, institutional heterogeneity, and pronounced
81 environmental and social challenges, and have undergone decades of rapid, environmentally costly economic
82 growth (Lai and Zhang, 2026). In such contexts, ESG adoption is more demanding but potentially more
83 impactful (Alshehhi et al., 2018; Liu et al., 2023b). Our findings indicate that environmental and social ESG
84 dimensions are associated with lower *ex ante* risk exposure in BRICS firms. In contrast, a markedly different
85 pattern emerges for U.S. firms, highlighting that ESG–resilience relationships are strongly context-dependent.

86 In addition to this introduction, the article is organized into the following sections: Section 2 describes
87 the resilience measures and introduces the new indicator proposed in this study. It also presents the research
88 hypotheses. Section 3 outlines the dataset and details the empirical procedures used to test the proposed
89 hypotheses. In Section 4, we present the results, followed by the conclusion.

90 **2. Resilience measures and research hypotheses**

91 This section is divided into two parts. The first presents the risk-based measures that are the subject of
92 this study. The second part describes the research hypothesis.

93 *2.1. Resilience measures*

94 Consider $X \in \mathcal{X} := \mathcal{X}(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ a random financial position defined on a probability space, where $X \geq 0$
95 represents a gain and $X < 0$ a loss. We determine the expected value, the cumulative distribution function,
96 and the left quantile of $X \in \mathcal{X}$ as $E[X]$, $F_X(x)$, and $F_X^{-1}(\alpha)$, respectively.

97 In this study, financial resilience is conceptualized as an *ex ante* and latent firm-level attribute that
98 reflects the structural capacity of firms to absorb severe adverse shocks. This perspective departs from
99 event-driven approaches to resilience, which typically assess firms’ responses to defined crises, and instead
100 focuses on firms’ exposure to downside risk (also referred to here as tail risk) and volatility. Accordingly,
101 lower volatility and reduced tail risk indicate a greater capacity to withstand adverse market conditions,
102 even in the absence of an adverse event.

103 As described in the introduction, the concept of resilience has interdisciplinary origins, particularly in
104 ecology and organizational studies (Folke, 2006). Despite differences in the conceptualization of resilience

105 across disciplines, a common element is the ability to withstand adverse disturbances (Folke, 2006). In
 106 organizational research, resilience is broadly understood as the ability of systems or organizations to adapt
 107 to and recover from disruptions (DesJardine et al., 2019). Over the past years, studies on organizational
 108 resilience have emerged as a response to the ongoing and increasingly severe economic crises over the past
 109 few years (Ortiz-de Mandojana and Bansal, 2016; Armeanu et al., 2017; Xia et al., 2022; Uddin et al., 2022;
 110 Yu et al., 2023). This literature provides important conceptual insights into how organizations adapt to
 111 disruptions; however, the present study focuses specifically on the financial dimension of resilience.

112 From a financial perspective, resilience refers to firms' capacity to absorb unfavorable shocks that affect
 113 their financial position (Barbera et al., 2017). In event-based studies, financial resilience is often treated as
 114 observable recovery-related metrics, such as severity of loss and time to recovery following a shock (DesJardine
 115 et al., 2019; Xia et al., 2022; Gittell et al., 2006). By contrast, this study adopts an ex ante perspective and
 116 operationalizes financial resilience through firms' exposure to downside risk and volatility using risk-based
 117 measures that capture firms' exposure to adverse market conditions.

118 Effective risk management is a potential driver of financial resilience, as it enhances firms' ability to
 119 withstand adverse financial conditions and limit downside exposure (Armeanu et al., 2017). From this
 120 perspective, Dahms (2010) argues that resilience emerges from effective risk management practices. In this
 121 sense, resilience has also been interpreted as lower risk-taking behavior (Chan et al., 2016; Ferreira et al.,
 122 2021). According to Righi (2019), financial risk can be decomposed into two core components: variability
 123 around expected outcomes and the possibility of extreme losses.

124 Focusing on the variability component, Ortiz-de Mandojana and Bansal (2016) assessed resilience as
 125 stock return volatility, among others, a variable often used to quantify risk (see, for example, Foguesatto
 126 et al. (2024)). The stock return volatility is defined in the following way:

$$\sigma_R(X) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{t=1}^n (x_t - \bar{X})^2}, \quad (1)$$

127 where x_t is the return in period t , \bar{X} is the average return, and n is the total number of periods. Lower
 128 stock return volatility reflects greater financial resilience. Firms with lower volatility are better positioned
 129 to withstand adverse market conditions, as it indicates stability during market fluctuations. As such, risk
 130 and resilience are closely linked, as resilient organizations not only adapt to unexpected challenges but also
 131 excel in managing risks effectively (Ortiz-de Mandojana and Bansal, 2016). Following Ortiz-de Mandojana
 132 and Bansal (2016), Xie et al. (2025) also use stock return volatility to proxy for financial volatility as a
 133 resilience variable to examine the impact of government customers on resilience. According to De Moura

134 and Tomei (2021)’s literature review, risk management is an example of financial resilience, hence no wonder
135 why resilience might manifest through risk.

136 From the perspective of extreme losses, Soufi et al. (2023) propose measuring resilience through Value-
137 at-Risk (VaR). VaR corresponds to the quantile of the distribution for a significance level α , is defined
138 by:

$$\text{VaR}_R^\alpha(X) = -Q_\alpha(X) := -\inf\{x : F_X(x) \geq \alpha\} = -F_X^{-1}(\alpha), \quad (2)$$

139 where $\alpha \in (0, 1)$. VaR represents the maximum loss for a given period and α . Since this value represents
140 a loss threshold, exceeding it can be understood as a critical period in terms of financial value. Thus,
141 companies exposed to lower losses can be considered more financially resilient.

142 Although VaR is a widely used measure of risk, it has notable limitations, such as ignoring losses beyond
143 the α -quantile. For a comprehensive review of VaR, we recommend Duffie and Pan (1997) and Jorion (2007).
144 From a theoretical standpoint, VaR does not satisfy the subadditivity axiom; in other words, contrary to
145 the principle of diversification, the VaR of a portfolio is not necessarily less than the sum of the VaR of the
146 individual assets composing the portfolio (see Artzner et al. (1999)).

147 To address this limitation of VaR, Acerbi and Tasche (2002) proposed the ES (Expected Shortfall). This
148 measure quantifies the expected value of losses beyond the α -quantile of X , i.e., VaR^α . Furthermore, ES
149 respects the principle of diversification. It can be defined as:

$$\text{ES}_R^\alpha(X) = -\frac{1}{\alpha} \int_0^\alpha F_X^{-1}(s) ds. \quad (3)$$

150 For the same significance level, ES is higher than VaR. By explicitly capturing tail risk, ES provides a more
151 comprehensive representation of firms’ exposure to extreme downside realizations.

152 In this study, the Expected Shortfall is also employed as a risk-based proxy for financial resilience.
153 Although it has been proven that ESG enhances resilience, which in turn reduces tail-risk exposure (in this
154 case, crash risk) (Thompson, 2026), resilience has not yet been accessed by a tail-risk measure. From an ex
155 ante perspective, ES captures firms’ exposure to extreme downside risk by measuring the expected magnitude
156 of losses in the tail of the return distribution. Consequently, higher ES values indicate greater vulnerability
157 to adverse market conditions and a lower structural capacity to absorb severe negative realizations.

158 *2.2. Research hypothesis*

159 ESG practices have gained increasing prominence as global climate change becomes an ever more urgent
160 concern (Mu et al., 2023). For stakeholders—including investors, customers, suppliers, and other inter-

161 ested parties—analyzing ESG scores provides insight into a company’s investments and its approach to
162 business operations (Atan et al., 2018; Tahmid et al., 2022). The environmental score encompasses efforts
163 in environmental conservation, climate change mitigation, and the environmental impact of the company’s
164 activities. The social score focuses on human rights, equality, board diversity, and social contributions. The
165 governance score evaluates ownership structure, board independence, equitable treatment of shareholders,
166 minority shareholder rights, transparency, and corporate information disclosure (Atan et al., 2018; Tahmid
167 et al., 2022).

168 The growing relevance of ESG practices has sparked debate about their potential financial benefits (Jah-
169 mane and Gaies, 2020). Companies with stronger ESG performance have demonstrated higher profitability
170 and more accurate share pricing (Aydoğmuş et al., 2022; Bofinger et al., 2022). Studies indicate that the
171 disclosure of ESG scores is positively and significantly associated with return on assets (ROA), return on
172 equity (ROE), earnings per share, company value (measured by Tobin’s Q), average share price, and other
173 variables representing corporate financial performance (Bodhanwala and Bodhanwala, 2018; Albuquerque
174 et al., 2019; Yu et al., 2018; Xie et al., 2019; Ahmad et al., 2021; Yoo and Managi, 2022; Sinha Ray and
175 Goel, 2023). Further evidence of a positive relationship between ESG performance and financial outcomes is
176 found in Velte (2017), Dalal and Thaker (2019), Bhaskaran et al. (2020), and Ahmad et al. (2021). Support-
177 ing this, Chen and Xie (2022) note that the act of disclosing ESG scores generates a positive and significant
178 impact on corporate performance. Albuquerque et al. (2019) propose a model where firms invest in ESG
179 policies as a product differentiation strategy (for example, Apple is transitioning to 100% renewable energy).
180 The advantage of this approach is a more loyal customer base and a lower price elasticity of demand for their
181 products, enabling them to charge higher prices and achieve higher profit margins.

182 Initially, scholars focused on the financial benefits of these business practices (Atan et al., 2018; Tahmid
183 et al., 2022), but attention is increasingly shifting toward the resilience-related advantages of ESG perfor-
184 mance (DesJardine et al., 2019). Wu et al. (2024) demonstrate that the higher a company’s ESG score, the
185 more resilient it is in terms of both the magnitude and duration of stock price declines. Moreover, Saona
186 and Martín (2026) found that ESG initiatives and default risk have a negative relationship, thus concluding
187 that ESG enhances access to capital and fosters financial stability. ESG performance also appears to reduce
188 stock idiosyncratic volatility (Liu et al., 2023a), which, in this study, is considered a measure of resilience.

189 Related to the fact that risk-based resilience measures with lower values indicate that the institution is
190 more resilient, we formulated the following research hypothesis:

191 *H₁. Companies with stronger ESG performance exhibit greater financial resilience, reflected in lower ex*
192 *ante exposure to tail risk and volatility, as measured by stock return volatility, Value-at-Risk, and Expected*

193 *Shortfall.*

194 **3. Data and methodological procedures**

195 This section presents a description of the data used and empirical procedures.

196 *3.1. Data*

197 In this study, we used data from Refinitiv Eikon on companies, for the period 2017 to 2023, listed on the
198 stock exchanges of the main countries comprising the BRICS bloc: Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South
199 Africa. The sample period from 2017 to 2023 was selected based on the availability of data and contextual
200 relevance. ESG indicators have become increasingly standardized and consistently reported by firms only in
201 recent years. Furthermore, this period encompasses important regulatory, market, and societal shifts related
202 to sustainability and corporate responsibility, including global initiatives such as the Paris Agreement, the
203 growing influence of ESG-oriented investors, and the acceleration of ESG disclosures following the COVID-19
204 pandemic (Narula et al., 2024).

205 We clean the data following previous research in finance: (i) We include only common stocks, excluding
206 depository receipts, real estate investment trusts (REITs), preferred shares, investment funds, and other
207 securities with special characteristics (Fracasso et al., 2023); (ii) We exclude stocks for which the ratio of
208 nonzero return days to the total number of trading days is less than 90% (Guedes et al., 2023); (iii) We
209 exclude stocks that do not have ESG scores for the period under analysis (Walker et al., 2024); and (iv)
210 We exclude firms from the finance and insurance industry (Yuan et al., 2022). Moreover, we excluded
211 observations with missing ESG data and winsorized our dependent and control variables at the 5th and 95th
212 percentiles. For Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, our final sample consists of 461 companies
213 (1,287 observations), distributed as follows: Brazil: 59 companies (192 observations); China: 12 companies
214 (33 observations); India: 313 companies (775 observations); Russia: 22 companies (98 observations); South
215 Africa: 55 companies (189 observations).

216 To quantify risk-based measures of financial resilience, we worked with the daily log-returns of the closing
217 prices of the stocks included in our sample. For each stock, the resilience estimates were obtained via σ_R ,
218 VaR_R^α , and ES_R^α , which are defined in Equations 1 to 3. For VaR, a significance level of 1% was used, and
219 for ES, 2.5%. These levels are commonly adopted in risk management practice and are consistent with
220 Basel Committee recommendations. We estimated the resilience measures using a non-parametric method
221 known as Historical Simulation (HS). This method does not rely on distributional assumptions and is the
222 most commonly employed technique by financial institutions and in the academic literature. For resilience

223 quantification, we adopted a rolling-window scheme of 250 daily observations. Thus, approximately one year
224 of past data – 250 observations – is required to obtain the first resilience estimate. Accordingly, our final
225 dataset comprises daily resilience estimates spanning from 2017 to 2024. After estimating the resilience, we
226 aggregated the information to obtain annual values. Following Atilgan et al. (2020) and Foguesatto et al.
227 (2024), we consider the last risk estimate in each year to be representative of annual resilience. Daily risk
228 forecasts were transformed into annual ones because the ESG indicators are reported on an annual basis.
229 As robustness checks, alternative aggregation approaches were also considered, such as computing the mean
230 and median values of each risk measure for each market index in each year. The results are qualitatively the
231 same.

232 To represent environmental, social, and governance dimensions, we construct an ESG matrix for each
233 stock. Specifically, for each firm $i = 1, \dots, N$, we define $\mathbf{ESG}^{(i)} \in \mathbb{R}^{T \times 4}$ as the matrix of ESG indicators,
234 where each row corresponds to a time-series observation $t = 1, \dots, T$, and the four columns represent: The
235 Environmental Score — a measure of the firm’s environmental impact and sustainability practices; The
236 Social Score — capturing social responsibility, labor practices, and stakeholder relations; The Governance
237 Score — evaluating corporate governance, board structure, and transparency; The Pillar ESG Score — an
238 overall composite indicator summarizing the three previous dimensions.

239 To examine whether a set of firm-specific attributes affects the relationship between financial resilience
240 and ESG indicators, we include these attributes as control variables. The control variables used are displayed
241 in Table 1. Including these control variables enables us to determine whether the observed results stem from
242 the relationship between the variables of interest or are influenced by the firms’ underlying financial health.
243 Total assets (Wang et al., 2024; Walker et al., 2024; Liu et al., 2024), for example, account for a firm’s
244 size, which can imply greater (or less) stability considering its substantial (or limited) resources. Gearing
245 (Wang et al., 2024; Wu et al., 2024), on the other hand, captures the extent to which a firm relies on
246 debt financing, which may reflect greater or smaller risk exposure. Market capitalization (Wu et al., 2024;
247 Ameur and Boussetta, 2025) and total equity (Ameur and Boussetta, 2025) account for the market value
248 and investors’ stake in a firm, both of which affect the access to capital and firm valuation. Moreover, we
249 account for Return on Assets (Wu et al., 2024; Ameur and Boussetta, 2025; Liu et al., 2024) and profitability
250 (DesJardine et al., 2019) as they measure how efficiently a company uses its assets to generate profits and
251 earnings, respectively.

252 3.2. Analysis

253 To test the research hypothesis formulated in this study, we organized the data using panel data regression
254 models. Initially, we conducted diagnostic tests to assess the appropriate model specification. The Chow test

255 (Chow, 1960) was applied to compare the pooled OLS model with the fixed effects model (p -value < 0.001).
 256 To choose between random effects and pooled OLS, we performed the Breusch-Pagan test (p -value < 0.001),
 257 and finally, to choose between the fixed and random effects, the Hausman test (p -value < 0.001) (Hausman,
 258 1978) was employed. Moreover, we conducted a series of diagnostic tests to confirm the robustness of
 259 our analysis. First, the Shapiro-Wilk normality test was applied to the residuals (p -value < 0.001),
 260 indicating that the residuals significantly deviate from a normal distribution. However, as our sample is
 261 large, the Central Limit Theorem suggests that the sampling distribution of the estimated coefficients tends
 262 to be approximately normal; hence, lack of normality in residuals is not a big concern. Next, the Breusch-
 263 Pagan test revealed evidence of heteroskedasticity (p -value < 0.001), suggesting that the variance of the
 264 errors is not constant. Regarding autocorrelation, Wooldridge’s test for serial correlation in panel data
 265 (Wooldridge, 2002) ($p = 0.5065$) indicated no first-order autocorrelation in the model. Finally, we assessed
 266 multicollinearity through the Variance Inflation Factor (VIF), and all variables had VIF values below the
 267 conventional threshold of 10, suggesting that multicollinearity is not a concern in our model.

268 Based on the diagnostic tests, the panel data models were estimated using the fixed effects estimator with
 269 robust standard errors to account for heteroskedasticity. The fixed effects structure controls for unobserved
 270 heterogeneity across firms, ensuring that time-invariant characteristics specific to each company (ticker) do
 271 not bias the estimation results. We estimated the models using heteroskedasticity-consistent robust standard
 272 errors clustered at the firm level, which account for arbitrary heteroskedasticity and within-firm correlation
 273 in panel data settings.

274 Our dependent variables are risk-based proxies for financial resilience. Let $\mathbf{Z}_R := (\sigma_R, \text{VaR}_R^\alpha, \text{ES}_R^\alpha) \in$
 275 $\mathbb{R}^{N \times T \times 3}$ be the panel tensor of resilience measures, where N denotes the number of stocks, T the number
 276 of time-series observations per stock, and the third dimension corresponds to the three resilience indicators:
 277 volatility (σ_R), Value at Risk (VaR_R^α), and Expected Shortfall (ES_R^α). Each resilience indicator is analyzed
 278 separately through panel regressions. Let $\mathbf{Z}_R^{(k)} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times T}$ denote the slice of \mathbf{Z}_R corresponding to the k -th
 279 resilience measure, with $k \in \{1, 2, 3\}$. For each k , we estimate the following model:

$$\left[\mathbf{Z}_R^{(k)} \right]_{it} = \alpha + \beta_1 \text{ESG}_{it}^{(j)} + \beta_2^\top \mathbf{X}_{it} + \mu_i + \varepsilon_{it}, \tag{4}$$

280 where $\left[\mathbf{Z}_R^{(k)} \right]_{it}$ is the k -th resilience indicator for stock i at time t ; $\text{ESG}_{it}^{(j)}$ is the j -th ESG dimension for
 281 firm i in period t , with $j \in \{1 : \text{Environmental}, 2 : \text{Social}, 3 : \text{Governance}, 4 : \text{Pillar ESG}\}$; $\mathbf{X}_{it} \in \mathbb{R}^p$ is a
 282 vector of p control variables for stock i at time t ; $\beta_2 \in \mathbb{R}^p$ is the associated coefficient vector; μ_i captures
 283 stock-specific unobserved heterogeneity; ε_{it} is the idiosyncratic error term.

284 Equation 4 assumes that the j -th ESG dimension is contemporaneous with the k -th resilience indicator

285 (data from 2017 to 2023). We re-estimate the equation by lagging the j -th ESG dimension by one period.
 286 ESG-related actions tend not to generate immediate effects. Thus, the use of a lagged j -th ESG dimension
 287 allows us to capture these effects with greater economic realism. Moreover, this specification is consistent
 288 with previous literature (Yuan et al., 2022). Accordingly, for each k , we estimate the following model:

$$\left[\mathbf{Z}_R^{(k)} \right]_{it} = \alpha + \beta_1 ESG_{it-1}^{(j)} + \beta_2^\top \mathbf{X}_{it} + \mu_i + \varepsilon_{it}. \quad (5)$$

289 The empirical analysis consists of twelve panel regression models. For each of our three dependent
 290 variables we have models with the ESG pillar as the main independent variable and the individual ESG
 291 dimensions -Environmental, Social, and Governance- scores. We estimate these variations (three dependent
 292 variables x two groups of independent variables) using contemporaneous data and lagged data both with
 293 robust standard errors.

294 As a robustness check, the entire set of models was re-estimated using only the subsample of firms
 295 headquartered in the United States². This additional analysis aimed to verify whether the relationships
 296 identified in the full sample remained consistent when focusing on a single, large, and relatively homogeneous
 297 capital market. The results for the U.S. subsample confirmed the overall findings, supporting the stability
 298 and generalizability of the main conclusions.

299 4. Results and Discussion

300 Table 2 reports the descriptive statistics for the resilience measures. The descriptive statistics of the
 301 resilience measures (VaR, ES, and σ) reveal significant differences among the BRICS countries. China and
 302 Brazil stand out as the least resilient. China shows the highest mean values across all three resilience
 303 measures (VaR: 128.69; ES: 124.43; σ : 33.93), indicating strong vulnerability to financial shocks. India
 304 and Russia present lower means, close to those of the BRICS aggregate. Both countries exhibit skewness
 305 greater than 2.5 and kurtosis above 7, indicating a frequent occurrence of resilience fluctuations. Compared
 306 with the BRICS group, the USA displays lower mean values for all metrics (VaR: 45.59; ES: 49.91; σ :
 307 15.84), which demonstrates greater stability and financial resilience. Although the USA also shows heavy-
 308 tailed distributions, American firms are, on average, better prepared to absorb adverse shocks and maintain
 309 stability during periods of crisis. In this regard, according to Muguto and Muzindutsi (2022), the volatility
 310 of the stock return is structurally higher in the BRICS markets compared to developed markets such as the
 311 United States, due to factors including lower market liquidity, increased exposure to macroeconomic shocks

²For the United States, the final sample comprises 1,053 companies, totaling 3,703 observations.

312 and asymmetric responses to negative events. The analyzes of the study show that the BRICS markets
313 exhibit stronger persistence of volatility and greater sensitivity to adverse shocks. In contrast, developed
314 markets tend to benefit from deeper liquidity and stronger institutional settings, contributing to more stable
315 return dynamics. This evidence is consistent with our descriptive results showing that, on average, USA-
316 listed firms exhibit lower volatility—hence lower values of our risk-based resilience proxy—than those listed
317 in BRICS exchanges.

318 Table 3 reports the panel regression estimates based on the ESG pillar and its individual components for
319 BRICS. The results provide relevant insights into the relationship between ESG performance and financial
320 resilience in this context. The evidence indicates that higher environmental and social scores are negatively
321 associated with our risk-based measures of resilience, namely VaR, ES, and volatility (σ). This negative
322 association implies that firms with stronger environmental and social engagement tend to be more resilient,
323 displaying lower exposure to extreme losses and reduced return volatility. These findings are consistent with
324 prior evidence that stronger environmental and social engagement is associated with lower downside exposure
325 and greater financial robustness, including evidence documented for Brazilian firms during the COVID-19
326 period (Garcia, 2022). Alshehhi et al. (2018) and Liu et al. (2023b) point out that social and environmental
327 challenges are greater in emerging countries, suggesting that ESG practices can lead to more substantial
328 results in these territories. By supporting social and environmental causes, a company can build trust with
329 the community and enhance its reputation. In times of crisis, engaging in corporate social responsibility
330 activities allows corporations to mitigate the risk they are exposed to and improve their post-crisis value
331 (Chintrakarn et al., 2021). As companies meet and exceed the expectations of different stakeholders, the
332 market is likely to reward them. An indication of this can be seen in the empirical evidence that has
333 identified a positive relationship between ESG performance and corporate financial performance (Aydoğmuş
334 et al., 2022).

335 In contrast, the governance ESG score, although not statistically significant, is positively related to
336 our risk-based proxy for financial resilience, which contrasts with the common expectation that stronger
337 governance is associated with lower risk exposure (and thus greater resilience). Mohammad et al. (2023)
338 show that governance scores are positively associated with firms' cost of capital, both in emerging market data
339 and in developing countries. These findings indicate that companies with stronger governance face higher
340 financing costs, which suggests greater higher risk exposure (lower resilience in our risk-based framework).
341 According to Mohammad et al. (2023), in many countries, governance disclosures are made only in compliance
342 with regulatory requirements. Emerging countries, in many situations, tend to have their decisions driven by
343 personal/family ties rather than institutional criteria. Furthermore, following the findings of (Miranda et al.,
344 2021), for Brazil, companies listed on the Novo Mercado, a higher-level corporate governance segment of the

345 stock market, do not present lower risk. On the contrary, the evidence suggests that these companies may
346 carry greater systematic risk and lower risk compensation, indicating lower resilience. This phenomenon can
347 be explained by the logic of legitimacy, in which riskier companies seek the governance seal as a way to gain
348 credibility with the market. In these cases, governance functions less as a driver of resilience and more as a
349 corrective or legitimizing mechanism for preexisting vulnerabilities.

350 For the ESG pillar, the results are not significant. However, the coefficient remains negative, suggesting
351 that overall ESG performance may still be associated with lower risk exposure (i.e., greater resilience in our
352 framework) (Xu et al., 2023). It is important to emphasize that, since resilience in this study is defined in
353 terms of risk, a negative relationship implies that higher ESG performance is associated with lower financial
354 risk and, consequently, greater resilience. Taken together, these findings provide support for our initially
355 formulated hypothesis for BRICS countries.

356 Table 3 also presents the results for the control variables. The findings indicate that the total market
357 value of the company (log Market Cap.) is statistically significant across all resilience measures. Specifically,
358 lower market values are associated with higher risk and, therefore, with lower resilience. This result can be
359 summarized by the adapted expression: “*small stocks, small resilience*,” inspired by the phrase from the
360 recent report by Financial Times (2024), “*Small stocks, big problems*”. Smaller companies tend to exhibit
361 higher volatility and a greater likelihood of extreme losses due to lower liquidity, less diversified operations,
362 and higher sensitivity to adverse market conditions. Consequently, the market value is negatively associated
363 with VaR, ES, and σ , reflecting the well-documented size effect in financial markets (Peterburgsky, 2024).

364 Considering that ESG might not have immediate effects on firm resilience, we perform further analyses
365 with lagged data. Table 4 reports the results of the panel regression using the lagged values of the ESG pillar
366 and its individual components for BRICS. Our results indicate no statistically significant effects for the ESG
367 pillar or its individual components. Nevertheless, the ESG pillar consistently exhibited a negative coefficient
368 across all dependent variables (VaR, ES, and σ), suggesting that higher ESG scores are associated with
369 greater resilience. Interestingly, the direction of the relationships changed for social and governance factors.
370 Although the immediate impact of the social factor is negative, in the aftermath, it is positive, jeopardizing
371 a firm’s financial resilience. The opposite can be said for governance: while its immediate effect is positive,
372 eventually its effect becomes negative, thus fostering resilience. However, these results are not statistically
373 significant in any model. The ratio of net income to revenue was the only variable to exhibit consistent
374 statistical significance across all specifications. The positive and significant coefficients indicate that firms
375 with higher profitability tend to display higher values of VaR, ES, and σ . This finding suggests that, within
376 our sample, more profitable firms were also those assuming greater levels of market risk, possibly reflecting
377 the risk–return trade-off inherent in financial markets.

378 For comparison purposes, we estimate our model for the USA - consolidated and developed market.
379 Table 5 reports the panel regression estimates based on the ESG pillar and its individual components.
380 The environmental factor is positively related to VaR ($p - value < 0.01$), σ ($p - value < 0.01$), and ES
381 ($p - value < 0.05$), and so is the social factor (not statistically significant) and the ESG pillar (statistically
382 significant at the 10% level only for VaR). The governance factor, on the other hand, is negatively related to
383 our dependent variables (not statistically significant). The results are contrary to those found for BRICS,
384 where the environmental and social factors, along with the ESG pillar, were negatively related to VaR, σ ,
385 and ES. In contrast, the governance factor was positively associated with them.

386 Table 6 reports the results of the panel regression using the lagged values of the ESG pillar and its
387 individual components for the United States. This time, all ESG components, as well as the pillar itself, are
388 positively related to our dependent variables. This result suggests that, for firms listed in the United States,
389 higher ESG scores are associated with greater exposure to downside risk and return volatility, as captured by
390 the risk-based resilience measures adopted in this study. The results were statistically significant, with two
391 exceptions: the governance factor is not significant for σ and ES. This finding reinforces the results found
392 for non-lagged data and the differences between developed and developing markets.

393 At least three factors can explain this contrast between the BRICS and the USA. First, because of macroe-
394 conomic volatility, regulatory instability, and governance risks, BRICS countries generally have weaker in-
395 stitutions that are more sensitive to underlying risks (Muguto and Muzindutsi, 2022). In this context,
396 companies that adopt ESG practices signal stronger management, greater transparency, enhanced account-
397 ability, and improved reputational standing. By contrast, in more efficient markets such as the USA, ESG
398 is commonly already regarded as a baseline requirement rather than a source of competitive advantage or
399 financial protection (Zhang et al., 2024; Santos Jhunior et al., 2025). Second, emerging markets benefit
400 from ESG adoption through reduced capital costs, as international investors tend to view firms with robust
401 ESG practices more favorably (Fandella et al., 2023). In contrast, investors in financially stable markets
402 such as the USA may be more focused on margins, weighing the trade-offs between the costs and benefits
403 of risk-adjusted returns associated with ESG adoption, including expenses related to disclosure, auditing,
404 and compliance (Christensen et al., 2021). Third, emerging markets are particularly vulnerable to risks
405 associated with deforestation, pollution, and loss of biodiversity (Ren et al., 2024). Accordingly, companies
406 that engage in environmental practices are better positioned to mitigate environmental and regulatory risks,
407 thereby enhancing financial resilience. In contrast, in the USA, where anti-ESG movements have gained
408 traction in some states (for example, see Rajgopal (2025)), investments in ESG practices may have increased
409 volatility rather than reduced it, ultimately undermining firms' financial resilience. This aligns with the
410 idea that during crises and adverse periods (such as the anti-ESG movement), ESG may be perceived as

411 a resource drain and viewed less positively by the market (Mita et al., 2024). Furthermore, firms under
412 financial distress tend to avoid ESG investments that require financial resources, particularly in the presence
413 of uncertainties that may affect future cash flows (Lohmann et al., 2025). Finally, it is important to note
414 that corporate social responsibility and environmental management practices are shaped by local issues and
415 national cultural traditions (Welford, 2005). In this regard, the BRICS countries exhibit several institutional,
416 social, and cultural characteristics that differ substantially from those of the USA.

417 **5. Conclusion**

418 This study aimed to examine the relationship between ESG performance and financial resilience—conceptualized
419 as an ex ante, risk-based firm attribute—among BRICS firms from 2016 to 2024. Using panel data regressions,
420 we found that ESG performance, along with its individual components, is associated with lower downside
421 risk and volatility, indicating greater financial resilience from an ex ante perspective, with effects that are
422 not only immediate but also persistent over time. Although not statistically significant across all models, the
423 economic implications of such results remain meaningful, particularly when compared to our findings from a
424 developed economy such as the United States of America. In contrast to the developing markets (BRICS),
425 the U.S. capital market exhibits a different pattern, in which higher ESG scores are associated with greater
426 exposure to risk-based resilience measures.

427 Our contributions are threefold. First, we add to existing literature by examining the relevance of ESG
428 in enhancing financial resilience, as measured by risk-related proxies. As far as we are concerned, we are
429 the first to investigate such a relationship, focusing on risk characteristics. Second, given the importance of
430 financial resilience, we contribute to the literature by demonstrating that ESG performance and its individual
431 components foster a healthier corporate environment in emerging markets. Notably, while ESG practices
432 are associated with lower risk exposure and greater financial resilience in emerging economies, a different
433 relationship emerges in developed markets, where ESG engagement is linked to higher risk exposure from an
434 ex ante perspective. Therefore, applying findings from developed economies to inform decisions in developing
435 markets may be inappropriate and potentially misleading. Finally, the practical implications of our findings
436 extend beyond the theoretical contributions discussed above. Managers, investors, and policymakers should
437 recognize that ESG plays a critical role in strengthening financial resilience. In the context of heightened
438 uncertainty and recurrent shocks, this reinforces ESG as a strategy that may strengthen firms' capacity to
439 withstand adverse financial conditions.

440 Nonetheless, this study is not free of limitations. First, our time span encompasses a significant global
441 crisis—namely, the COVID-19 pandemic. While this can be valuable in our estimations, we did not explicitly

442 assess the role of ESG performance during the crisis itself, when financial resilience was *de facto* tested. Al-
443 though such analysis was beyond the scope of our primary research objective, future studies could investigate
444 whether our findings hold before, during, and after a crisis, using alternative estimation techniques, such
445 as event study methodologies. Moreover, the disaggregation of BRICS could also bring interesting insights,
446 allowing for a country-level analysis. This can be achieved in several ways, including estimating the panel
447 regression with country fixed effects instead of firm fixed effects, as we did in this investigation.

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Table 1: Control variable definitions and measurement

Variable	Description	How is Measured	Source
Total Assets	Total assets of a company	Natural logarithm of a company's total assets	Wang et al. (2024); Walker et al. (2024); Liu et al. (2024)
Gearing	Ratio of the company's total liabilities to total assets	Total Liabilities / Total Assets	Wang et al. (2024); Wu et al. (2024)
Market Capitalization	Total market value of the company	Natural logarithm of a company's market capitalization	Wu et al. (2024); Ameer and Boussetta (2025)
Return on Assets (ROA)	Net income to total assets ratio	Net Income / Total Assets	Wu et al. (2024); Ameer and Boussetta (2025); Liu et al. (2024)
Total Equity	Equity value of preferred shareholders, general and limited partners, and common shareholders	Total Assets – Total Liabilities	Ameer and Boussetta (2025)
Profitability	Firm's ability to generate operating earnings from its asset base	Ratio of EBITDA to total book assets	DesJardine et al. (2019)

Table 2: Descriptive Statistics of Resilience Indicators: Aggregated BRICS, Individual Countries, and the United States (USA)

Region	Resilience	Mean	Median	SD	Min	Max	Kurtosis	Skewness
BRICS	VaR	58.88	25.55	81.34	2.25	612.53	11.36	3.02
BRICS	ES	61.01	27.61	76.68	2.26	547.58	8.40	2.55
BRICS	σ	18.69	9.70	21.32	1.03	138.13	5.49	2.21
Brazil	VaR	96.81	78.69	73.67	8.79	504.55	5.21	1.85
Brazil	ES	94.41	75.00	69.48	10.53	485.75	4.75	1.73
Brazil	σ	26.12	20.58	18.89	3.18	118.35	3.15	1.54
Russia	VaR	44.25	20.68	77.76	4.53	505.80	20.48	4.35
Russia	ES	50.11	21.87	75.72	5.06	452.75	13.04	3.39
Russia	σ	16.51	7.63	21.20	2.11	113.08	7.05	2.57
India	VaR	42.60	17.14	74.70	2.25	612.53	20.02	4.10
India	ES	46.49	18.78	71.66	2.26	547.58	13.49	3.30
India	σ	15.09	6.96	20.41	1.03	128.94	8.21	2.73
China	VaR	128.69	97.81	117.11	17.62	577.10	3.84	1.98
China	ES	124.43	100.27	107.76	19.04	543.59	3.95	1.94
China	σ	33.93	26.87	29.05	4.95	138.13	2.82	1.76
South Africa	VaR	58.62	26.00	81.96	2.85	481.53	7.52	2.69
South Africa	ES	60.22	27.15	75.38	2.96	441.51	4.63	2.13
South Africa	σ	19.62	10.31	21.81	1.23	116.14	2.91	1.84
USA	VaR	45.59	18.26	83.75	1.21	638.92	16.46	3.91
USA	ES	49.91	19.88	80.36	1.32	601.59	11.74	3.24
USA	σ	15.84	6.93	22.54	0.48	157.66	7.48	2.72

Note: SD, Min, and Max denote the standard deviation, minimum, and maximum values of the resilience measures (VaR, ES, and σ), respectively.

Table 3: Regression Estimates with Robust Std. Errors (ESG Components vs. ESG Pillar)

	VaR			σ			ES		
Environmental	-0.315. (0.164)						-0.318. (0.174)		
Social	-0.223 (0.159)			-0.071 (0.046)				-0.251 (0.161)	
Governance		0.093 (0.146)			0.023 (0.044)				0.091 (0.149)
ESG			-0.268 (0.216)			-0.088 (0.064)			-0.286 (0.221)
log Total Assets	0.252 (11.128)	-0.924 (11.178)	-0.921 (11.141)	-0.086 (3.154)	-1.300 (2.986)	0.272 (3.134)	0.260 (11.021)	-0.542 (11.097)	-4.902 (10.567)
ratio Liabilities	-27.764 (27.839)	-20.652 (26.998)	-23.081 (27.554)	-2.620 (7.915)	-1.065 (7.892)	-4.844 (8.187)	-22.782 (28.038)	-16.042 (27.090)	-10.388 (26.947)
log Market Cap.	-11.874** (4.009)	-12.670** (3.980)	-12.750** (3.986)	-4.177** (1.197)	-4.332** (1.181)	-3.929** (1.197)	-12.551** (4.118)	-13.283** (4.103)	-13.815** (4.105)
ratio Net Income	-17.631 (35.119)	-8.819 (34.100)	-10.129 (34.214)	-1.736 (10.174)	-0.844 (10.152)	-4.497 (10.575)	-17.980 (36.320)	-9.456 (35.050)	-6.333 (35.058)
R2	0.029	0.024	0.024	0.027	0.024	0.032	0.029	0.025	0.022
Num. obs.	1248	1248	1248	1248	1248	1248	1248	1248	1248

***p < 0.001; **p < 0.01; *p < 0.05; †p < 0.1

All models were estimated using fixed effects with robust standard errors. R² are 0.002, 0.003 and 0.003 for Standard Deviation, Expected Shortfall, and Value at Risk, respectively.

Table 4: Regression Estimates with Lagged Data and Robust Std. Errors (ESG Components vs. ESG Pillar)

	VaR			σ	ES					
Environmental	-0.111 (0.298)						-0.100 (0.296)			
Social		0.231 (0.294)		0.075 (0.081)				0.222 (0.300)		
Governance			-0.149 (0.187)						-0.153 (0.207)	
ESG										
log Total Assets	-22.115 (15.624)	-26.293 (15.857)	-23.454 (15.606)	-7.103 (4.603)	-6.201 (4.500)	-0.003 (0.102)	-19.579 (16.216)	-23.482 (16.298)	-20.719 (16.078)	-0.036 (0.383)
ratio Liabilities	-55.439 (34.033)	-48.191 (30.643)	-54.488 (31.201)	-14.113 (9.414)	-16.005 (9.724)	-6.313 (4.577)	-62.897 (36.167)	-56.184 (32.966)	-62.450 (33.978)	-20.897 (16.159)
log Market Cap.	-7.595 (5.931)	-8.527 (5.870)	-8.234 (5.664)	-3.356 (1.754)	-3.243 (1.717)	-3.155 (1.736)	-10.062 (6.210)	-10.938 (6.164)	-10.677 (5.992)	-10.317 (6.091)
ratio Net Income	159.769** (57.492)	164.206** (55.666)	161.896** (55.910)	52.007** (16.085)	51.315** (16.058)	51.608** (16.204)	177.803** (58.779)	181.865** (57.358)	179.563** (57.382)	180.316** (57.814)
R2	0.063	0.065	0.063	0.068	0.065	0.064	0.066	0.068	0.067	0.065
Num. obs.	659	659	659	659	659	659	659	659	659	659

***p < 0.001; **p < 0.01; *p < 0.05; ·p < 0.1

All models were estimated using fixed effects with robust standard errors. R² are 0.002, 0.003 and 0.003 for Standard Deviation, Expected Shortfall, and Value at Risk, respectively.

Table 5: Regression Estimates with Robust Std. Errors (ESG Components vs. ESG Pillar) for the USA

	VaR		σ		ES	
Environmental	0.209** (0.077)	0.063** (0.024)	0.198* (0.080)			
Social	0.128 (0.103)	0.045 (0.032)	0.127 (0.108)			
Governance	-0.032 (0.079)	-0.016 (0.026)	-0.062 (0.085)			
ESG						
log Total Assets	-14.229** (4.630)	0.195 (0.118)	0.058 (0.037)	0.168 (0.124)		
ratio Liabilities	49.187** (17.248)	-12.424** (4.702)	-4.105** (1.412)	-15.311*** (4.647)		
log Market Cap.	6.751* (2.667)	6.765* (2.670)	1.375 (0.830)	5.643* (2.751)		
ratio Net Income	68.033 (36.862)	67.314 (36.945)	20.476 (10.926)	70.666 (36.845)		
R2	0.012	0.010	0.009	0.010	0.010	0.010
Num. obs.	3703	3703	3703	3703	3703	3703

***p < 0.001; **p < 0.01; *p < 0.05; ·p < 0.1

All models were estimated using fixed effects with robust standard errors. R² are 0.002, 0.003 and 0.003 for Standard Deviation, Expected Shortfall, and Value at Risk, respectively.

Table 6: Regression Estimates with Lagged Data and Robust Std. Errors (ESG Components vs. ESG Pillar) for the USA

	VaR		σ		ES		
Environmental	0.371*** (0.104)		0.115*** (0.032)		0.380*** (0.109)		
Social	0.418*** (0.120)		0.105** (0.040)		0.379** (0.132)		
Governance		0.220 (0.124)		0.046 (0.036)		0.181 (0.126)	
ESG						0.600*** (0.175)	
log Total Assets	-19.470** (7.144)	-17.053* (7.063)	-12.133 (6.654)	-4.649* (2.095)	-23.330** (7.675)	-20.080** (7.568)	-15.463* (7.180)
ratio Liabilities	53.714* (27.145)	52.929 (27.353)	44.610 (27.289)	6.103 (8.866)	40.698 (29.226)	38.868 (29.547)	31.269 (29.323)
log Market Cap.	-1.184 (4.074)	-1.183 (4.023)	-0.703 (4.017)	-0.670 (1.242)	-2.762 (4.284)	-2.725 (4.214)	-2.304 (4.205)
ratio Net Income	248.254*** (56.357)	241.776*** (56.368)	250.754*** (56.298)	69.177*** (16.958)	254.334*** (58.212)	248.802*** (58.012)	256.987*** (58.001)
R2	0.035	0.033	0.028	0.026	0.036	0.033	0.037
Num. obs.	2128	2128	2128	2128	2128	2128	2128

***p < 0.001; **p < 0.01; *p < 0.05; p < 0.1
 All models were estimated using fixed effects with robust standard errors. R² are 0.002, 0.003 and 0.003 for Standard Deviation, Expected Shortfall, and Value at Risk, respectively.