

Investment Style Ratings For ETFs & Mutual

At the beginning of the third quarter of 2017, no styles earn an Attractive-or-better rating. Our style ratings are based on the aggregation of our fund ratings for every ETF and mutual fund in each style. See last quarter's Style Ratings [here](#).

The Large Cap Blend and Large Cap Value styles house the most Attractive-or-better rated funds. Figures 4 through 7 provide more details. The primary driver behind an Attractive fund rating is good [portfolio management](#), or good stock picking, with low [total annual costs](#).

Attractive-or-better ratings do not always correlate with Attractive-or-better total annual costs. This fact underscores that (1) [cheap funds can dupe investors](#) and (2) investors should invest only in funds with good stocks and low fees.

Our [Robo-Analyst technology](#) empowers our unique [ETF and mutual fund rating methodology](#), which leverages our rigorous analysis of each fund's holdings.

See Figures 4 through 13 for a detailed breakdown of ratings distributions by investment style. See our [ETF & mutual fund screener](#) for rankings, ratings and reports on 7000+ mutual funds and 400+ ETFs. Our fund rating methodology is detailed [here](#).

All of our reports on the best & worst ETFs and mutual funds in every investment style are available [here](#).

Figure 1: Ratings For All Investment Styles

Style	Overall Rating
Small Cap Value	Dangerous
Small Cap Growth	Dangerous
Mid Cap Growth	Dangerous
Small Cap Blend	Dangerous
Mid Cap Value	Neutral
Mid Cap Blend	Neutral
All Cap Growth	Neutral
Large Cap Growth	Neutral
All Cap Value	Neutral
Large Cap Value	Neutral
All Cap Blend	Neutral
Large Cap Blend	Neutral

Source: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

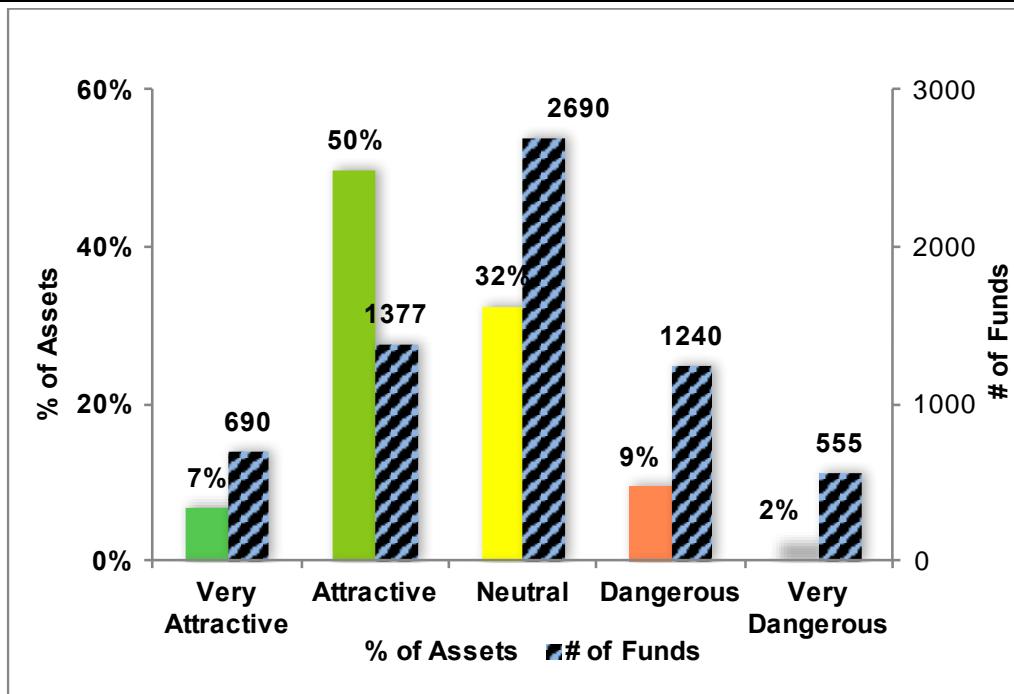
To earn an Attractive-or-better Predictive Rating, an ETF or mutual fund must have high-quality holdings and low costs. Only the top 30% of all ETFs and mutual funds earn our Attractive or better rating.

Oppenheimer Main Street Fund (MIGYX) is the top rated Large Cap Blend fund. It gets our Very Attractive rating by allocating over 32% of its value to Attractive-or-better-rated stocks.

Wells Fargo Small Company Value Fund (SCVFX) is the worst rated Small Cap Value fund. It gets our Very Dangerous rating by allocating over 32% of its value to Dangerous-or-worse-rated stocks. Making matters worse, it charges investors total annual costs of 2.72%.

Figure 2 shows the distribution of our Predictive Ratings for all investment style ETFs and mutual funds.

Figure 2: Distribution of ETFs & Mutual Funds (Assets and Count) by Predictive Rating



Source: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Figure 3 offers additional details on the quality of the investment style funds. Note that the average total annual cost of Very Dangerous funds is over three times that of Very Attractive funds.

Figure 3: Predictive Rating Distribution Stats

	Very Attractive	Attractive	Neutral	Dangerous	Very Dangerous
# of ETFs & Funds	690	1377	2690	1240	555
% of ETFs & Funds	11%	21%	41%	19%	8%
% of TNA	7%	50%	32%	9%	2%
Avg TAC	0.70%	0.33%	1.12%	1.74%	2.35%

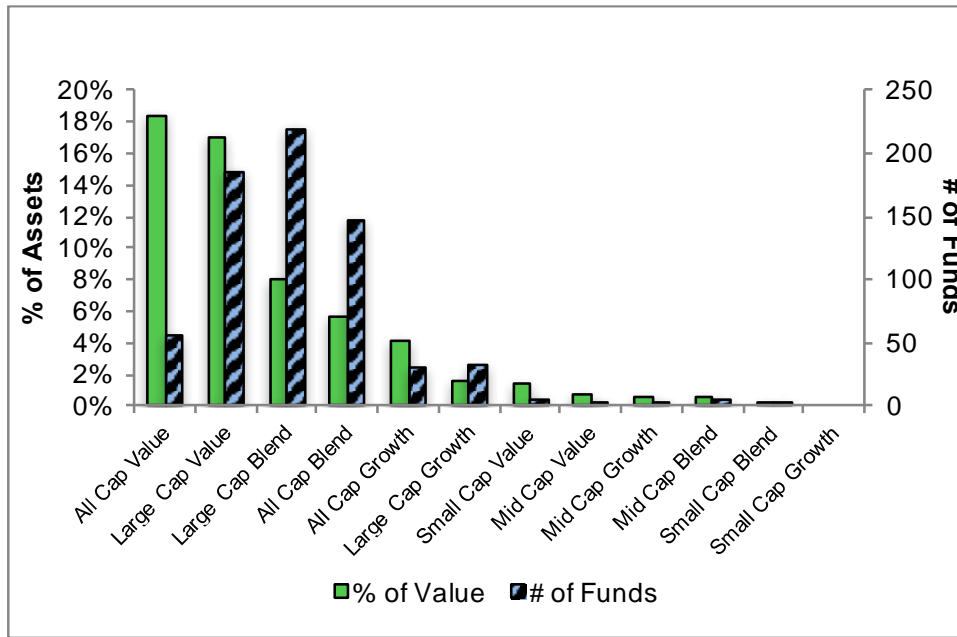
* Avg TAC = Weighted Average Total Annual Costs

Source: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

This table shows that only the best of the best funds get our Very Attractive Rating: they must hold good stocks AND have low costs. Investors deserve to have the best of both and we are here to give it to them.

Ratings by Investment Style

Figure 4 presents a mapping of Very Attractive funds by investment style. The chart shows the number of Very Attractive funds in each investment style and the percentage of assets in each style allocated to funds that are rated Very Attractive.

Figure 4: Very Attractive ETFs & Mutual Funds by Investment Style


Source: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Figure 5 presents the data charted in Figure 4

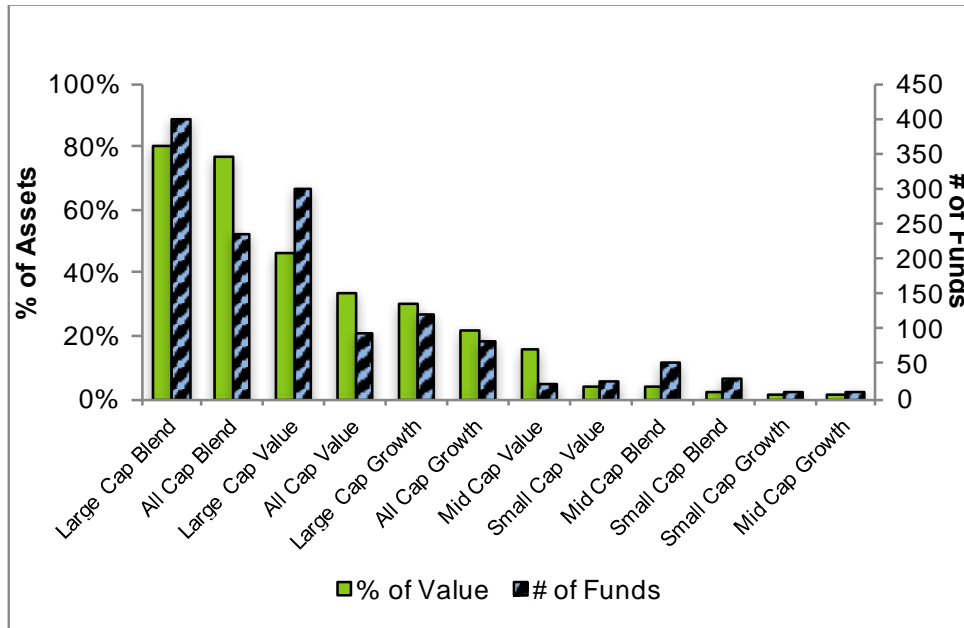
Figure 5: Very Attractive ETFs & Mutual Funds by Investment Style

Style	% of Style Assets	# of Very Attractive Funds	% of Very Attractive Funds in Style
All Cap Value	18%	56	16%
Large Cap Value	17%	186	19%
Large Cap Blend	8%	218	25%
All Cap Blend	6%	148	19%
All Cap Growth	4%	31	6%
Large Cap Growth	2%	32	5%
Small Cap Value	1%	6	2%
Mid Cap Value	1%	2	1%
Mid Cap Growth	1%	2	1%
Mid Cap Blend	0%	5	1%
Small Cap Blend	0%	4	0%
Small Cap Growth	0%	0	0%

Source: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Figure 6 presents a mapping of Attractive funds by investment style. The chart shows the number of Attractive funds in each style and the percentage of assets allocated to Attractive-rated funds in each style.

Figure 6: Attractive ETFs & Mutual Funds by Investment Style



Source: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Figure 7 presents the data charted in Figure 6.

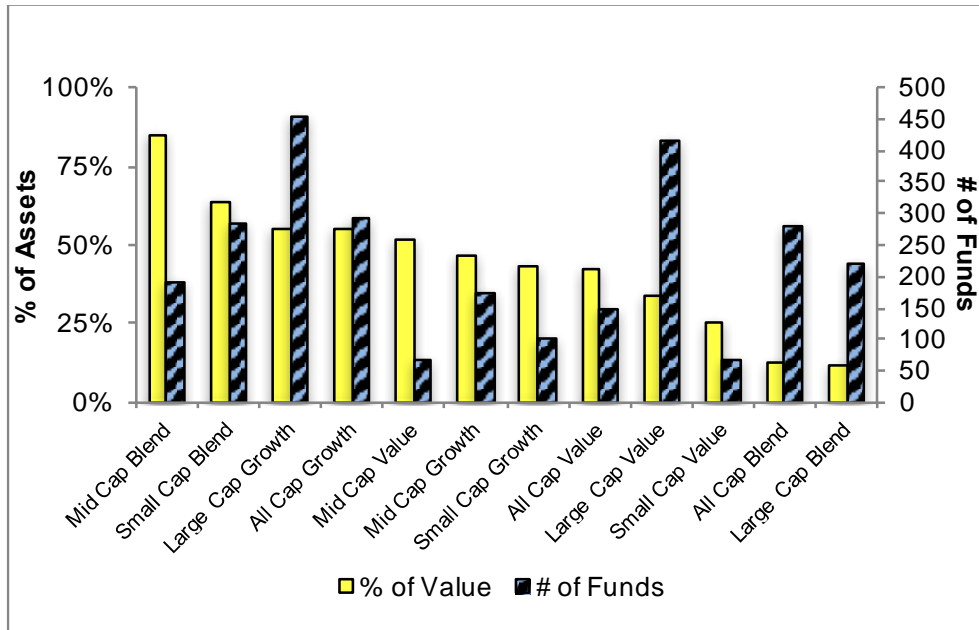
Figure 7: Attractive ETFs & Mutual Funds by Investment Style

Style	% of Style Assets	# of Attractive Funds	% of Attractive Funds in Style
Large Cap Blend	80%	401	46%
All Cap Blend	77%	234	29%
Large Cap Value	46%	299	31%
All Cap Value	34%	93	27%
Large Cap Growth	30%	122	18%
All Cap Growth	21%	81	16%
Mid Cap Value	16%	21	13%
Small Cap Value	4%	24	9%
Mid Cap Blend	3%	53	14%
Small Cap Blend	2%	27	3%
Small Cap Growth	2%	11	3%
Mid Cap Growth	2%	11	3%

Source: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Figure 8 presents a mapping of Neutral funds by investment style. The chart shows the number of Neutral funds in each investment style and the percentage of assets allocated to Neutral-rated funds in each style.

Figure 8: Neutral ETFs & Mutual Funds by Investment Style



Source: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Figure 9 presents the data charted in Figure 8.

Figure 9: Neutral ETFs & Mutual Funds by Investment Style

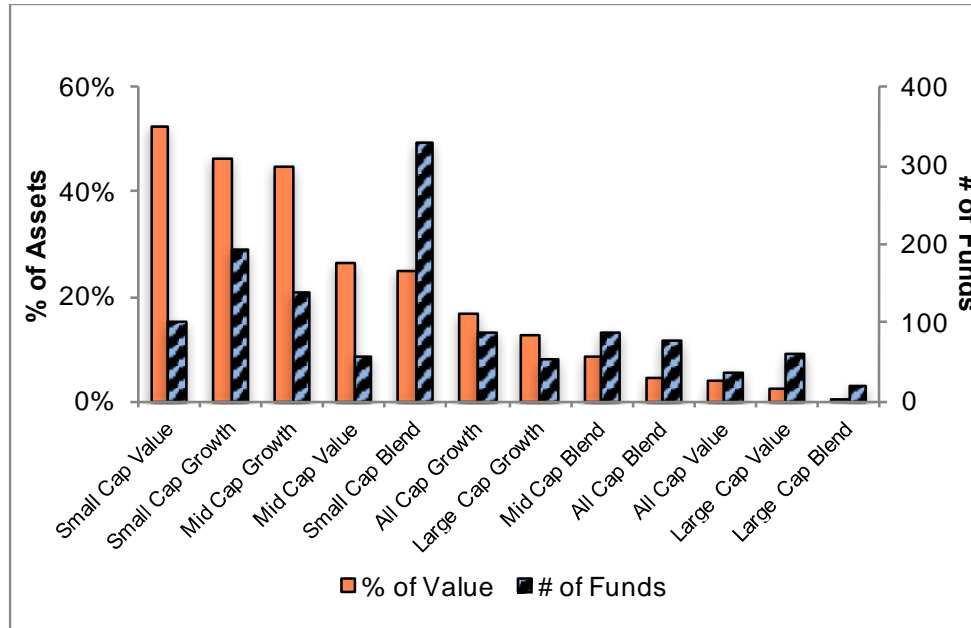
Style	% of Style Assets	# of Neutral Funds	% of Neutral Funds in Style
Mid Cap Blend	85%	191	51%
Small Cap Blend	63%	283	34%
Large Cap Growth	55%	452	68%
All Cap Growth	55%	292	57%
Mid Cap Value	52%	67	42%
Mid Cap Growth	47%	173	47%
Small Cap Growth	44%	102	26%
All Cap Value	42%	146	43%
Large Cap Value	34%	417	43%
Small Cap Value	25%	66	25%
All Cap Blend	12%	280	35%
Large Cap Blend	11%	221	26%

Source: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Figure 10 presents a mapping of Dangerous funds by fund style. The chart shows the number of Dangerous funds in each investment style and the percentage of assets allocated to Dangerous-rated funds in each style.

The landscape of style ETFs and mutual funds is littered with Dangerous funds. Investors in Small Cap Value have put over 53% of their assets in Dangerous-rated funds.

Figure 10: Dangerous ETFs & Mutual Funds by Investment Style



Source: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Figure 11 presents the data charted in Figure 10.

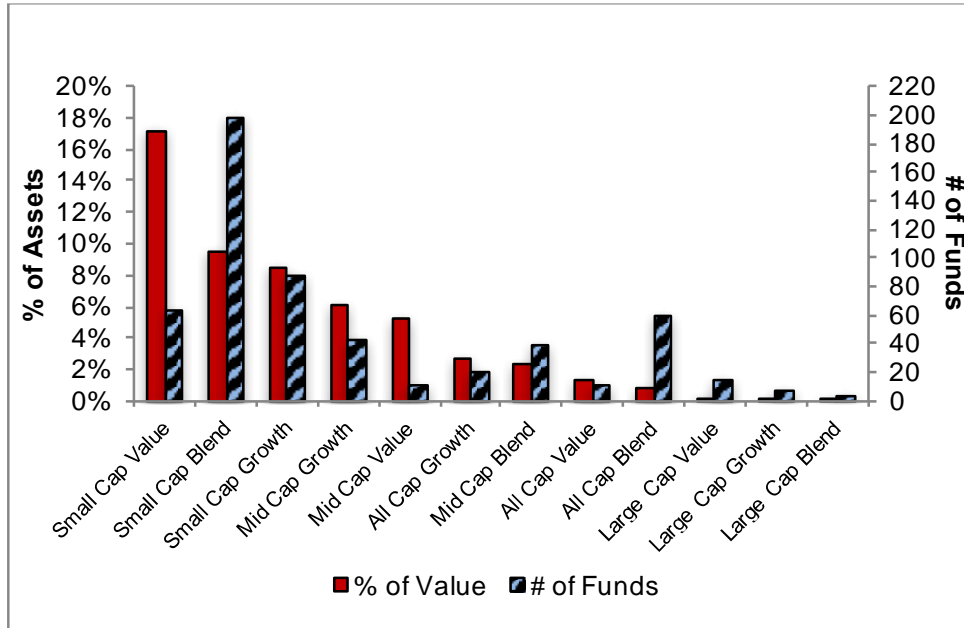
Figure 11: Dangerous ETFs & Mutual Funds by Investment Style

Style	% of Style Assets	# of Dangerous Funds	% of Dangerous Funds in Style
Small Cap Value	53%	102	39%
Small Cap Growth	46%	193	49%
Mid Cap Growth	45%	140	38%
Mid Cap Value	26%	58	36%
Small Cap Blend	25%	328	39%
All Cap Growth	17%	88	17%
Large Cap Growth	13%	54	8%
Mid Cap Blend	9%	87	23%
All Cap Blend	4%	76	10%
All Cap Value	4%	35	10%
Large Cap Value	2%	59	6%
Large Cap Blend	0%	20	2%

Source: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Figure 12 presents a mapping of Very Dangerous funds by fund style. The chart shows the number of Very Dangerous funds in each investment style and the percentage of assets in each style allocated to funds that are rated Very Dangerous.

Figure 12: Very Dangerous ETFs & Mutual Funds by Investment Style



Source: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Figure 13 presents the data charted in Figure 12.

Figure 13: Very Dangerous ETFs & Mutual Funds by Investment Style

Style	% of Style Assets	# of Very Dangerous Funds	% of Very Dangerous Funds in Style
Small Cap Value	17%	64	24%
Small Cap Blend	10%	197	23%
Small Cap Growth	9%	88	22%
Mid Cap Growth	6%	42	11%
Mid Cap Value	5%	11	7%
All Cap Growth	3%	20	4%
Mid Cap Blend	2%	38	10%
All Cap Value	1%	10	3%
All Cap Blend	1%	59	7%
Large Cap Value	0%	15	2%
Large Cap Growth	0%	7	1%
Large Cap Blend	0%	4	0%

Source: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

This article originally published here on [July 19, 2017](#).

Disclosure: David Trainer, Kyle Guske II, and Kenneth James receive no compensation to write about any specific stock, sector or theme.

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Appendix: Predictive Fund Rating System

New Constructs' [Predictive fund Ratings](#) enable smarter investing by assessing the key drivers of future fund performance. We start by analyzing every funds' holdings based on New Constructs' stock ratings, which are regularly featured as among the [best by Barron's](#). Next, we measure and rank the all-in fund expenses. Finally, we rank the fund compared to all other funds to identify the best and worst funds in the market.

Intuitively, there are two drivers for future fund performance.

1. Stock-picking ([Portfolio Management Rating](#)) and
2. Fund expenses ([Total Annual Costs Rating](#))

Our Predictive Fund Rating is based on these drivers and the fund's ranking:

1. Top 10% = Very Attractive Rating
2. Next 20% = Attractive Rating
3. Next 40% = Neutral Rating
4. Next 20% = Dangerous Rating
5. Bottom 10% = Very Dangerous Rating

The figure below details the criteria that drive our Predictive Rating system for funds. The two drivers of our predictive ratings system are Portfolio Management and Total Annual Costs. The Portfolio Management ratings (detail [here](#)) is the same as our Stock Rating (detail [here](#)) except that we incorporate Asset Allocation (details [here](#)). The Total Annual Costs Ratings (details [here](#)) captures the all-in costs of being in a fund over a 3-year holding period, the average period for all mutual funds.

Predictive Rating	Portfolio Management Rating					Cash Allocation	Total Annual Costs
	Business Strength		Valuation				
	Quality of Earnings	Return on Invested Capital	FCF Yield	Price to Economic Book Value	Market-Implied Duration of Growth		
Very Dangerous	Misleading Trend	Bottom Quintile	< -5%	>3.5 or -1<0	> 50	> 20%	> 4 %
Dangerous	False Positive	4th Quintile	-5% < -1%	2.4<3.5 or <-1	20 < 50	8% < 20%	2% < 4%
Neutral	Neutral EE	3rd Quintile	-1% < 3%	1.6 < 2.4	10 < 20	2.5% < 8%	1% < 2%
Attractive	Positive EE	2nd Quintile	3% < 10%	1.1 < 1.6	3 < 10	1% < 2.5%	0.5% < 1%
Very Attractive	Rising EE	Top Quintile	> 10%	0 < 1.1	0 < 3	<1%	< 0.5%

New Constructs® - Research to Fulfill the Fiduciary Duty of Care

Ratings & screeners on 3000 stocks, 450 ETFs and 7000 mutual funds help you make prudent investment decisions.

New Constructs leverages the latest in machine learning to analyze structured and unstructured financial data with unrivaled speed and accuracy. The firm's forensic accounting experts work alongside engineers to develop proprietary NLP libraries and financial models. Our investment ratings are based on the best fundamental data in the business for stocks, ETFs and mutual funds. Clients include many of the top hedge funds, mutual funds and wealth management firms. David Trainer, the firm's CEO, is regularly featured in the media as a thought leader on the fiduciary duty of care, earnings quality, valuation and investment strategy.

To fulfill the Duty of Care, research should be:

1. **Comprehensive** - All relevant publicly-available (e.g. 10-Ks and 10-Qs) information has been diligently reviewed, including footnotes and the management discussion & analysis (MD&A).
2. **Un-conflicted** - Clients deserve unbiased research.
3. **Transparent** - Advisors should be able to show how the analysis was performed and the data behind it.
4. **Relevant** - Empirical evidence must provide [tangible, quantifiable correlation](#) to stock, ETF or mutual fund performance.

Value Investing 2.0: Diligence Matters: Technology is Key to Value Investing With Scale

Accounting data is only the beginning of fundamental research. It must be translated into economic earnings to truly understand profitability and valuation. This translation requires deep analysis of footnotes and the MD&A, a process that our [robo-analyst technology](#) empowers us to perform for thousands of stocks, ETFs and mutual funds.

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