## **BEST & WORST FUNDS**

10/18/17

# ETF & Mutual Fund Rankings: All Cap Blend Style

The All Cap Blend style ranks second out of the twelve fund styles as detailed in our <u>4Q17 Style Ratings for ETFs and Mutual Funds</u> report. <u>Last quarter</u>, the All Cap Blend style ranked second as well. It gets our Neutral rating, which is based on an aggregation of ratings of 59 ETFs and 746 mutual funds in the All Cap Blend style as of October 17, 2017. See a recap of our <u>3Q17 Style Ratings here.</u>

Figures 1 and 2 show the five best and worst rated ETFs and mutual funds in the style. Not all All Cap Blend style ETFs and mutual funds are created the same. The number of holdings varies widely (from 3 to 4618). This variation creates drastically different investment implications and, therefore, ratings.

Investors seeking exposure to the All Cap Blend style should buy one of the Attractive-or-better rated ETFs or mutual funds from Figures 1 and 2.

Our <u>Robo-Analyst technology</u> empowers our unique <u>ETF and mutual fund rating methodology</u>, which leverages our rigorous analysis of each fund's holdings.<sup>1</sup> We think advisors and investors focused on prudent investment decisions should include analysis of fund holdings in their research process for ETFs and mutual funds.

Figure 1: ETFs with the Best & Worst Ratings - Top 5

	Allocat	tion of ETF				
Ticker	Attractive- or-better Stocks	Neutral Stocks	Unattractive- or-worse Stocks	Predictive Rating		
Best ETFs						
ROM	22%	37%	12%	Very Attractive		
TTFS	42%	39%	19%	Very Attractive		
GSLC	32%	43%	24%	Very Attractive		
USMV	29%	47%	21%	Very Attractive		
SPLV	33%	47%	19%	Very Attractive		
Worst ETFs						
WBIE	13%	52%	33%	Neutral		
SPHB	10%	36%	51%	Neutral		
LTL	9%	17%	48%	Unattractive		
DIG	2%	1%	88%	Very Unattractive		
ERX	2%	0%	95%	Very Unattractive		

<sup>\*</sup> Best ETFs exclude ETFs with TNAs less than \$100 million for inadequate liquidity.

Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Five ETFs (EXT, SPYB, CNTR, SYG, LGLV) are excluded from Figure 1 because their total net assets (TNA) are below \$100 million and do not meet our liquidity minimums.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Ernst & Young's recent white paper "Getting ROIC Right" proves the superiority of our holdings research and analytics.



Figure 2: Mutual Funds with the Best & Worst Ratings - Top 5

	Allocation	of Mutual F				
Ticker	Attractive- or-better Stocks	Neutral Stocks	Unattractive- or-worse Stocks	Predictive Rating		
Best Mutual Funds						
MLVEX	45%	44%	8%	Very Attractive		
SVFYX	47%	35%	12%	Very Attractive		
SMYIX	30%	31%	9%	Very Attractive		
WSBFX	25%	36%	10%	Very Attractive		
SVFFX	47%	35%	12%	Very Attractive		
Worst Mutual Funds						
OEPIX	0%	4%	91%	Very Unattractive		
COREX	0%	2%	1%	Very Unattractive		
JFUAX	9%	30%	36%	Very Unattractive		
OEPSX	0%	4%	91%	Very Unattractive		
WCPSX	0%	0%	100%	Very Unattractive		

<sup>\*</sup> Best mutual funds exclude funds with TNAs less than \$100 million for inadequate liquidity.

Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Five mutual funds (JNVIX, JNVSX, CLTIX, CLTCX, BHGIX) are excluded from Figure 2 because their total net assets (TNA) are below \$100 million and do not meet our liquidity minimums.

ProShares Ultra Technology (ROM) is the top-rated All Cap Blend ETF and BMO Low Volatility Equity Fund (MLVEX) is the top-rated All Cap Blend mutual fund. Both earn a Very Attractive rating.

Direxion Daily Energy Bull 3x Shares (ERX) is the worst rated All Cap Blend ETF and ProFunds Mobile Telecommunications Ultra Sector Pro Fund (WCPSX) is the worst rated All Cap Blend mutual fund. Both earn a Very Unattractive rating.

### The Danger Within

Buying a fund without analyzing its holdings is like buying a stock without analyzing its business and finances. Put another way, research on fund holdings is necessary due diligence because a fund's performance is only as good as its holdings' performance. Don't just take our word for it, see what Barron's says on this matter.

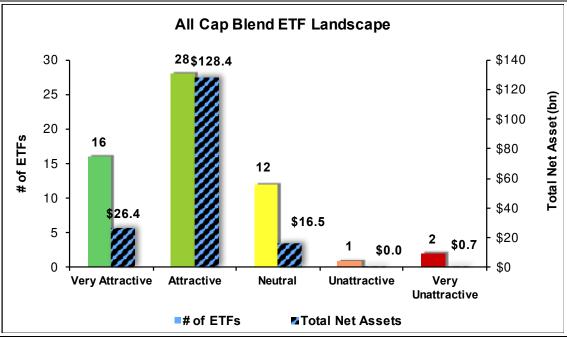
#### PERFORMANCE OF HOLDINGs = PERFORMANCE OF FUND

Analyzing each holding within funds is no small task. Our Robo-Analyst technology enables us to perform this diligence with scale and provide the research needed to fulfill the fiduciary duty of care. More of the biggest names in the financial industry (see At BlackRock, Machines Are Rising Over Managers to Pick Stocks) are now embracing technology to leverage machines in the investment research process. Technology may be the only solution to the dual mandate for research: cut costs and fulfill the fiduciary duty of care. Investors, clients, advisors and analysts deserve the latest in technology to get the diligence required to make prudent investment decisions.



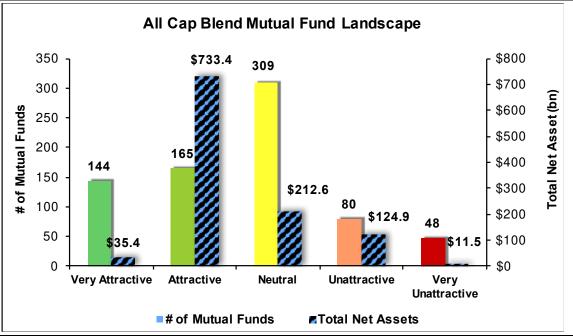
Figures 3 and 4 show the rating landscape of all All Cap Blend ETFs and mutual funds.

Figure 3: Separating the Best ETFs from the Worst Funds



Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Figure 4: Separating the Best Mutual Funds from the Worst Funds



Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

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

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### 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 <u>tangible</u>, <u>quantifiable correlation</u> 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 <u>robo-analyst technology</u> empowers us to perform for thousands of stocks, ETFs and mutual funds.





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