BEST & WORST FUNDS

7/19/18

ETF & Mutual Fund Rankings: All Cap Blend Style

The All Cap Blend style ranks third out of the twelve fund styles as detailed in our <u>3Q18 Style Ratings for ETFs</u> and Mutual Funds report. <u>Last quarter</u>, the All Cap Blend style ranked second. It gets our Attractive rating, which is based on an aggregation of ratings of 123 ETFs and 771 mutual funds in the All Cap Blend style as of July 18, 2018. See a recap of our <u>2Q18 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 4639). 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>¹ empowers our unique <u>ETF and mutual fund rating methodology</u>, which leverages our rigorous analysis of each fund's holdings.² 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

	Alloca					
Ticker	Attractive- or-better Stocks	Neutral Stocks	Unattractive- or-worse Stocks	Predictive Rating		
Best ETFs						
UDOW	30%	42%	7%	Very Attractive		
ADRE	22%	25%	24%	Very Attractive		
DDM	28%	39%	7%	Very Attractive		
SHE	40%	30%	27%	Very Attractive		
LRGF	38%	46%	15%	Very Attractive		
Worst ETFs						
DIG	7%	3%	64%	Unattractive		
BUYN	7%	21%	58%	Unattractive		
URE	5%	15%	61%	Unattractive		
UYM	12%	32%	35%	Unattractive		
MRGR	6%	19%	49%	Unattractive		

^{*} Best ETFs exclude ETFs with TNAs less than \$100 million for inadequate liquidity.

Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Eleven ETFs (FLAG, VSMV, QSY, EXT, ADRA, QLC, TTAC, CWS, USD, UGE, WBIE) are excluded from Figure 1 because their total net assets (TNA) are below \$100 million and do not meet our liquidity minimums.

¹ Harvard Business School features the powerful impact of our research automation technology in the case <u>New Constructs: Disrupting Fundamental Analysis with Robo-Analysts</u>.

² 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						
HILGX	49%	44%	4%	Very Attractive		
HFLGX	49%	44%	4%	Very Attractive		
NOLCX	36%	47%	17%	Very Attractive		
TLATX	34%	46%	17%	Very Attractive		
PFPRX	25%	48%	20%	Very Attractive		
Worst Mutual Funds						
UEPSX	12%	40%	33%	Very Unattractive		
OEPSX	0%	4%	92%	Very Unattractive		
UPUPX	2%	34%	62%	Very Unattractive		
MFCAX	11%	24%	50%	Very Unattractive		
SLVYX	14%	20%	57%	Very Unattractive		

^{*} Best mutual funds exclude funds with TNAs less than \$100 million for inadequate liquidity.

Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Eight mutual funds (AQCIX, AQCYX, AQCPX, GWILX, LSLTX, JNVIX, JNVSX, OFAIX) are excluded from Figure 2 because their total net assets (TNA) are below \$100 million and do not meet our liquidity minimums.

ProShares Ultra Pro Dow30 (UDOW) is the top-rated All Cap Blend ETF and Hennessy Cornerstone Large Growth Fund (HILGX) is the top-rated All Cap Blend mutual fund. Both earn a Very Attractive rating.

ProShares Merger ETF (MRGR) is the worst rated All Cap Blend ETF and Saratoga Advantage Large Capitalization Value Portfolio (SLVYX) is the worst rated All Cap Blend mutual fund. MRGR earns an Unattractive rating and SLVYX earns 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.

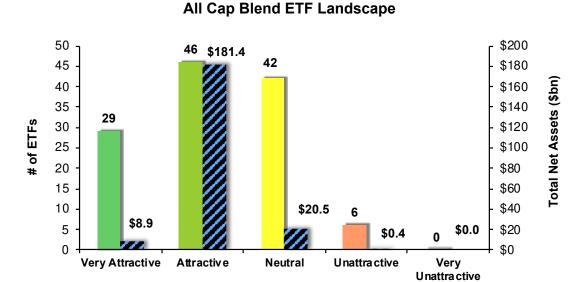
PERFORMANCE OF HOLDINGs = PERFORMANCE OF FUND

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

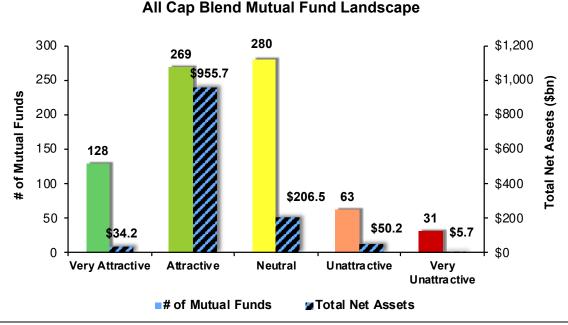


▼Total Net Assets

Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

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

of ETFs



Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

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

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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 <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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