

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>4Q19 Style Ratings for ETFs</u> and <u>Mutual Funds</u> report. Last quarter, the All Cap Blend style ranked second. It gets our Attractive rating, which is based on an aggregation of ratings of 155 ETFs and 844 mutual funds in the All Cap Blend style as of October 18, 2019. See a recap of our <u>3Q19 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 four to 8125). This variation creates drastically different investment implications and, therefore, ratings.

Get the best fundamental research

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 Robo-Analyst technology₁ empowers our unique ETF and mutual fund rating methodology, which leverages our rigorous analysis of each fund's holdings.² Only our research utilizes the superior data and earnings adjustments featured by the HBS & MIT Sloan paper, "Core Earnings: New Data and Evidence." 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

		Allocation of ETF Holdings				
	Ticker	Attractive- or-better Stocks	Neutral Stocks	Unattractive- or-worse Stocks	Predictive Rating	
	Best ETFs					
	VSMV	52%	36%	7%	Very Attractive	
	PKW	56%	33%	10%	Very Attractive	
	FLQL	43%	45%	12%	Very Attractive	
	ADRE	33%	11%	26%	Very Attractive	
	UDOW	28%	32%	11%	Very Attractive	
	UYM	14%	30%	41%	Unattractive	
	URE	5%	23%	48%	Unattractive	
	UWM	12%	25%	35%	Unattractive	
	CLIX	4%	17%	56%	Unattractive	
	PLCY	12%	22%	52%	Unattractive	
* Best ETFs exclude ETFs with TNAs less than \$100 million for inadequate liquidity.						

Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

17 ETFs 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</u> Fundamental Analysis with Robo-Analysts.

2 This paper compares our analytics on a mega cap company to other major providers. The Appendix details exactly how we stack up.



	Allocation	of Mutual F					
Ticker	Attractive- or-better Stocks	Neutral Stocks	Unattractive- or-worse Stocks	Predictive Rating			
Best Mutual Funds							
SVFYX	56%	34%	7%	Very Attractive			
SVFFX	56%	34%	7%	Very Attractive			
HILGX	64%	28%	5%	Very Attractive			
SMVLX	56%	34%	7%	Very Attractive			
HFLGX	64%	28%	5%	Very Attractive			
Worst Mutual Funds							
TFAFX	0%	0%	1%	Very Unattractive			
TFAEX	0%	0%	1%	Very Unattractive			
UPAAX	16%	8%	19%	Very Unattractive			
DVALX	0%	14%	57%	Very Unattractive			
OIPAX	8%	12%	51%	Very Unattractive			

* Best mutual funds exclude funds with TNAs less than \$100 million for inadequate liquidity Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

ProFunds Banks UltraSector ProFund (BKPIX) is excluded from Figure 2 because its total net assets (TNA) are below \$100 million and do not meet our liquidity minimums.

VictoryShares U.S. Multi Factor Minimum Volatility ETF (VSMV) is the top-rated All Cap Blend ETF and Smead Value Fund (SVFYX) is the top-rated All Cap Blend mutual fund. Both earn a Very Attractive rating.

EventShares U.S. Legislative Opportunities ETF (PLCY) is the worst rated All Cap Blend ETF and Catalyst IPOx Allocation Fund (OIPAX) is the worst rated All Cap Blend mutual fund. PLCY earns an Unattractive rating and OIPAX 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, <u>see what Barron's says</u> on this matter.

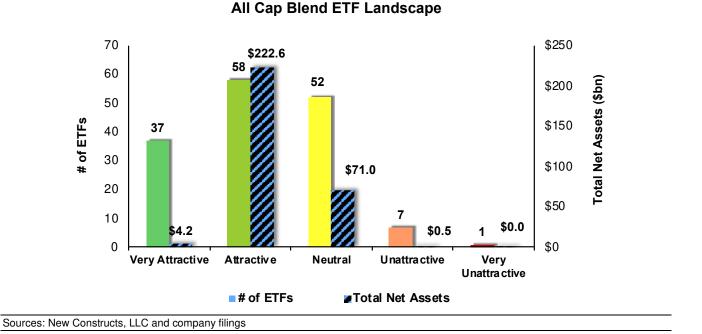
PERFORMANCE OF HOLDINGs = PERFORMANCE OF FUND

Analyzing each holding within funds is no small task. Our <u>Robo-Analyst technology</u> enables us to perform this diligence with scale and provide the <u>research needed</u> to fulfill the fiduciary duty of care. More of the biggest names in the financial industry (see <u>At BlackRock</u>, <u>Machines Are Rising Over Managers to Pick Stocks</u>) 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.

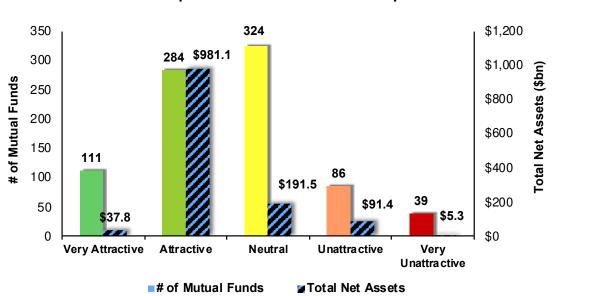


Figures 3 and 4 show the rating landscape of all All Cap Blend ETFs and mutual funds.









All Cap Blend Mutual Fund Landscape

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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Footnotes adjustments matter. We are the ONLY source.

We provide ratings, models, reports & screeners on U.S. 3,000 stocks, 700 ETFs and 7,000 mutual funds.

HBS & MIT Sloan research reveals that:

• Markets are inefficiently assessing earnings because no one reads the footnotes.

• Our technology brings the material footnotes data to market for the first time ever.

Combining human expertise with NLP/ML/AI technologies (<u>featured by Harvard Business School</u>), we shine a light in the dark corners (e.g. footnotes) of hundreds of thousands of financial filings to unearth critical details.

The HBS & MIT Sloan paper, <u>Core Earnings: New Data and Evidence</u>, shows how our superior data drives uniquely comprehensive and independent debt and equity research.

This <u>paper</u> compares our analytics on a mega cap company to other major providers. The Appendix details exactly how we stack up.

Quotes from HBS & MIT Sloan professors on our research:

Get better research:

"...the NC dataset provides a novel opportunity to study the properties of non-operating items disclosed in 10-Ks, and to examine the extent to which the market impounds their implications." – page 19 **Pick better stocks:**

"Trading strategies that exploit cross-sectional differences in firms' transitory earnings produce abnormal returns of 7-to-10% per year." – Abstract

Avoid losses from using other firms' data:

"...many of the income-statement-relevant quantitative disclosures collected by NC do not appear to be easily identifiable in Compustat..." – page 13

Build better models:

"Core Earnings [calculated using New Constructs' novel dataset] provides predictive power for various measures of one-year-ahead performance...that is incremental to their current-period counterparts." – page 3-4

Exploit market inefficiencies:

"These results suggest that the adjustments made by analysts to better capture core earnings are incomplete, and that the non-core items identified by NC produce a measure of core earnings that is incremental to alternative measures of operating performance in predicting an array of future income measures." – page 26

Fulfill fiduciary duties:

"An appropriate measure of accounting performance for purposes of forecasting future performance requires detailed analysis of all quantitative performance disclosures detailed in the annual report, including those reported only in the footnotes and in the MD&A." – page 31



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