



1Q21 Sector Ratings Recap

At the beginning of each quarter, we rank each sector from best to worst with our [Sector Ratings Report](#). These rankings are forward looking and are indicative of how each sector should perform going forward.

[Learn more about the best fundamental research](#)

We also highlight the top ETFs or mutual funds, along with the worst, or ones to avoid. This analysis is available to our Platinum and higher members. This information allows you to make better decisions when allocating your portfolio, which funds to avoid, or which funds to buy. Only our research utilizes the superior data and earnings adjustments featured by the HBS & MIT Sloan paper, "[Core Earnings: New Data and Evidence](#)," accepted for publication by The Journal of Financial Economics. Some of the best include KXI, FSRBX, TDIV, and FGKMX. Some of the worst include PYZ, RYESX, XAR, and PWREX.

Last quarter's [Sector Ratings can be found here](#). Last quarter's [Sector Recap is available here](#).

The following is our analysis of each sector for the first quarter of 2021.

- [Basic Materials](#)
- [Consumer Cyclical](#)
- [Consumer Non-cyclical](#)
- [Energy](#)
- [Financials](#)
- [Healthcare](#)
- [Industrials](#)
- [Real Estate](#)
- [Technology](#)
- [Telecom Services](#)
- [Utilities](#)

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Disclosure: David Trainer, Kyle Guske II, and Matt Shuler receive no compensation to write about any specific stock, sector, 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.

The Journal of Financial Economics reveals that:

- **Markets are inefficiently assessing earnings because no one reads the footnotes.**
- **Corporate managers hide gains/losses in footnotes to manage earnings.**
- **Our technology brings the material footnotes data to market for the first time ever.**

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

Forthcoming in The Journal of Financial Economics, the HBS & MIT Sloan paper, [Core Earnings: New Data and Evidence](#), proves our superior data drives uniquely comprehensive and independent debt and equity research.

This [paper](#) compares our analytics on a mega cap company to other major providers. The Appendix details exactly how we stack up against Bloomberg & Capital IQ.

Learn [more](#).

Quotes from HBS & MIT Sloan professors on our research:

Superior data:

"[New Constructs'] Total Adjustments differs significantly from the items identified and excluded from Compustat's adjusted earnings measures. For example... 50% to 70% of the variation in Total Adjustments is not explained by IBSPI Adjustments, OIADP Adjustments, or OPE Adjustments individually." – pp. 14, 1st para.

Pick better stocks:

"Trading strategies that exploit non-core earnings produce abnormal returns of 8% per year." – Abstract, 5th sentence

Risks of using legacy data providers:

"we identified cases where Compustat did not collect information relating to firms' income that is useful in assessing core earnings." – pp. 16, 2nd para.

Build better models:

"... the machine [NC's Robo-Analyst technology] learned and replicated human analysts' judgements based on their prior decisions. It did so with greater speed and scale to produce a database covering a broad cross-section of firms." – pp. 9, 2nd para.

Exploit market inefficiencies:

"...analysts and other market participants are slow to impound the implications of the distinction between core and non-core earnings, especially those disclosed from the footnotes section of the 10-K" – pp. 35, 1st para.

Fulfill fiduciary duties:

"These costs [of analyzing footnotes] point to the potential for increasing inequities in the usefulness of financial statements for sophisticated versus unsophisticated investors who differ in their technological capabilities for processing 10-K information" – pp. 35, 2nd para.



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