

ETF & Mutual Fund Rankings: Mid Cap Value Style

The Mid Cap Value style ranks seventh out of the twelve fund styles, as detailed in our <u>2Q22 Style Ratings for</u> <u>ETFs and Mutual Funds</u> report. <u>Last quarter</u>, the Mid Cap Value style ranked seventh as well. The category receives our Neutral rating, which is based on an aggregation of ratings of 12 ETFs and 185 mutual funds in the Mid Cap Value style as of April 20, 2022. See a recap of our <u>1Q22 Style Ratings here.</u>

Figures 1 and 2 show the best and worst rated ETFs and mutual funds in the style. Not all Mid Cap Value style ETFs and mutual funds are created the same. The number of holdings varies widely (from 27 to 702). This variation creates drastically different investment implications and, therefore, ratings.

Learn more about the best fundamental research

The best fundamental data in the world, proven in <u>The Journal of Financial Economics</u> and shown to provide a <u>new source of alpha</u>, drives our research. Our <u>Robo-Analyst technology</u>¹ empowers our unique <u>ETF and mutual</u> <u>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

	Allocat					
Ticker	Attractive- or-better Stocks	Neutral Stocks	Unattractive- or-worse Stocks	Predictive Rating		
Best ETFs						
ONEY	57%	27%	14%	Very Attractive		
VUSE	62%	25%	8%	Attractive		
FAB	49%	32%	15%	Attractive		
IMCV	42%	30%	25%	Neutral		
VOE	39%	28%	31%	Neutral		
Worst ETFs (only 3)						
IWS	36%	29%	32%	Neutral		
NUMV	46%	28%	26%	Neutral		
VNMC	24%	31%	30%	Unattractive		

* Best ETFs exclude ETFs with TNAs less than \$100 million for inadequat Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Four ETFs (FOVL, DVLU, USVT, and MGMT) 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> <u>Fundamental Analysis with Robo-Analysts</u>.

² See how our models and financial ratios are superior to Bloomberg and Capital IQ's (SPGI) analytics in the detailed appendix of this paper.



	Allocation	of Mutual F					
Ticker	Attractive- or-better Stocks	Neutral Stocks	Unattractive- or-worse Stocks	Predictive Rating			
Best Mutual Funds							
HNMVX	64%	20%	13%	Very Attractive			
HAMVX	64%	20%	13%	Very Attractive			
HRMVX	64%	20%	13%	Very Attractive			
HIMVX	64%	20%	13%	Very Attractive			
GOODX	50%	20%	9%	Very Attractive			
Worst Mutual Funds							
NBRCX	18%	33%	43%	Very Unattractive			
TCVAX	37%	27%	33%	Very Unattractive			
HMVAX	33%	27%	35%	Very Unattractive			
NBRAX	18%	33%	43%	Very Unattractive			
RSVAX	37%	22%	32%	Very Unattractive			

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

SPDR Russell 1000 Yield Focus ETF (ONEY) is the top-rated Mid Cap Value ETF and Harbor Mid Cap Value Fund (HNMVX) is the top-rated Mid Cap Value mutual fund. Bother earn a Very Attractive rating.

Natixis Vaughan Nelson Mid Cap ETF (VNMC) is the worst rated Mid Cap Value ETF and Victory RS Value Fund (RSVAX) is the worst rated Mid Cap Value mutual fund. VNMC earns an Unattractive rating, and RSVAX 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.

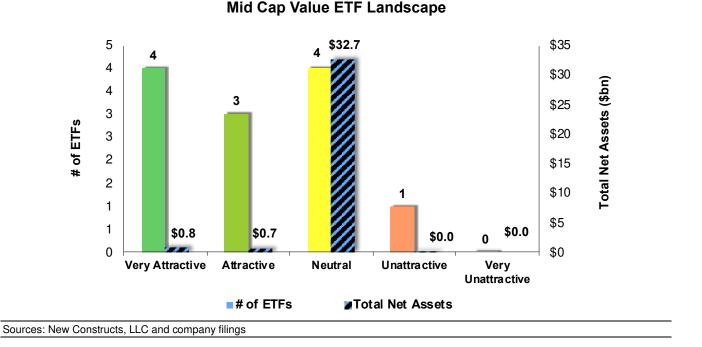
PERFORMANCE OF HOLDINGs = PERFORMANCE OF FUND

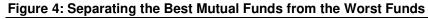
Analyzing each holding within funds is no small task. Our <u>Robo-Analyst technology</u> enables us to perform this diligence with scale and provide the <u>research needed</u> to fulfill the fiduciary duty of care. More of the biggest names in the financial industry (see <u>At BlackRock</u>, <u>Machines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

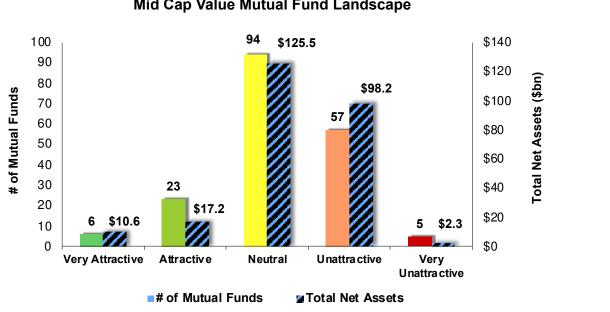


Figures 3 and 4 show the rating landscape of all Mid Cap Value ETFs and mutual funds.









Mid Cap Value Mutual Fund Landscape

Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

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

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It's Official: We Offer the Best Fundamental Data in the World

Many firms claim their research is superior, but none of them can prove it with independent studies from highlyrespected institutions as we can. Three different papers from both the public and private sectors show:

- 1. Legacy fundamental datasets suffer from significant inaccuracies, omissions and biases.
- 2. Only our "novel database" enables investors to overcome these flaws and apply <u>reliable</u> fundamental data in their research.
- 3. Our proprietary measures of <u>Core Earnings</u> and <u>Earnings Distortion</u> materially improve stock picking and forecasting of profits.

Best Fundamental Data in the World

Forthcoming in <u>The Journal of Financial Economics</u>, a top peer-reviewed journal, <u>Core Earnings: New Data &</u> <u>Evidence</u> proves our Robo-Analyst technology overcomes material shortcomings in legacy firms' data collection processes to provide superior <u>fundamental data</u>, <u>earnings</u> models, and <u>research</u>. More <u>details</u>.

Key quotes from the paper:

- "[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 S&P Global's (SPGI) Adjustments individually." – pp. 14, 1st para.
- "A final source of differences [between New Constructs' and S&P Global's data] is due to data collection oversights...we identified cases where Compustat did not collect information relating to firms' income that is useful in assessing core earnings." – pp. 16, 2nd para.

Superior Models

A top accounting firm features the superiority of our ROIC, NOPAT and Invested Capital research to Capital IQ & Bloomberg's in <u>Getting ROIC Right</u>. See the <u>Appendix</u> for direct comparison details.

Key quotes from the paper:

- "...an accurate calculation of ROIC requires more diligence than often occurs in some of the common, off-the-shelf ROIC calculations. Only by scouring the footnotes and the MD&A [as New Constructs does] can investors get an accurate calculation of ROIC." – pp. 8, 5th para.
- "The majority of the difference...comes from New Constructs' machine learning approach, which leverages technology to calculate ROIC by applying accounting adjustments that may be buried deeply in the footnotes across thousands of companies." – pp. 4, 2nd para.

Superior Stock Ratings

Robo-Analysts' stock ratings outperform those from human analysts as shown in this <u>paper</u> from Indiana's Kelley School of Business. Bloomberg features the paper <u>here</u>.

Key quotes from the paper:

- "the portfolios formed following the buy recommendations of Robo-Analysts earn abnormal returns that are statistically and economically significant." pp. 6, 3rd para.
- "Our results ultimately suggest that Robo-Analysts are a valuable, alternative information intermediary to traditional sell-side analysts." pp. 20, 3rd para.

Our mission is to provide the best fundamental analysis of public and private businesses in the world and make it affordable for all investors, not just Wall Street insiders.

We believe every investor deserves to know the whole truth about the profitability and valuation of any company they consider for investment. More details on our cutting-edge technology and how we use it are <u>here</u>.



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