BMO Quality ETFs Making Sense of Quality Investing

- BMO MSCI All Country World High Quality Index ETF (ZGQ)
- BMO MSCI USA High Quality Index ETF (ZUQ, ZUQ.F, ZUQ.U)

Why Quality Matters

One of the most intuitive smart beta factors is quality investing Quality based investing is built to identify market leading companies with sustainable competitive advantages. Research has shown that equity investing with a high quality focus has earned a premium while reducing risk over longer periods of time relative to the market. Part of the value is in the meaningful difference from traditional market capitalization indices where quality provides effective exposure throughout the entire market cycle. Quality screening avoids inexpensive stocks masquerading as bargains.



10 year annualized return vs. the 10 year standard deviation. All returns in CAD (Net). Source: MSCI June 2020.

What is Quality?

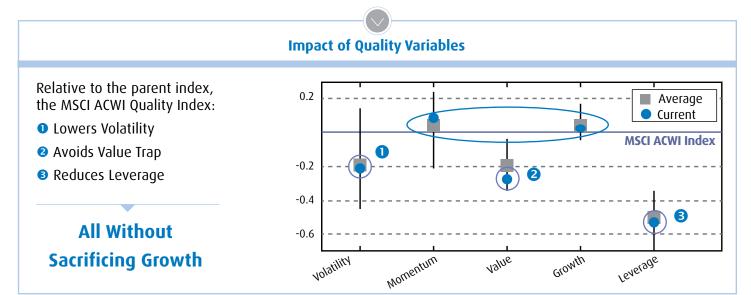
High quality companies are defined as market leaders that have durable business models and sustainable competitive advantages. BMO's suite of quality ETFs are based on MSCI's quality index methodology. Quality growth companies typically have high return on equity (ROE), stable earnings and strong balance sheets with low financial leverage. These quality leaders are positioned to respond to positive market conditions, as well as provide support in market contractions.

• BMO MSCI Europe High Quality Hedged to CAD Index ETF (ZEQ)

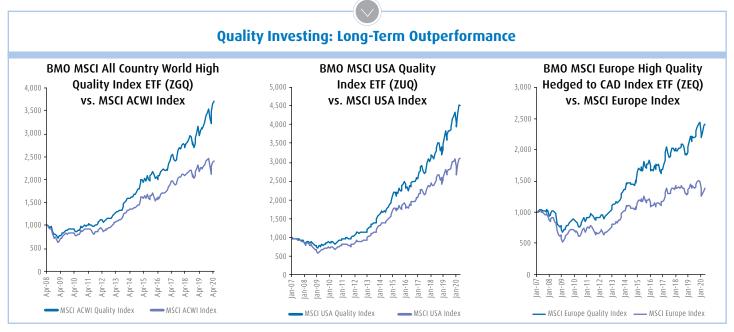
Each variable on its own is not necessarily an indicator of a quality company. For example, high ROE could be an abnormal spike at one point in time or a result of high leverage. The 3 variables in combination provide a more accurate assessment.



The portfolio is built on the quality scores and the process is repeated at reweight to ensure the portfolio remains constructed with true market leaders. The methodology aims to not only capture the performance of high quality companies, but to ensure reasonably high trading liquidity and to moderate security turnover while staying cost effective. BMO Quality ETFs are designed to be core equity options.



For illustrative purposes only



Source: MSCI June 2020. Hypothetical Growth of \$10,000 chart reflects a hypothetical \$10,000 investment and assumes reinvestment of dividends and capital gains. Fund expenses, including management fees and other expenses were deducted. BMO MSCI All Country World High Quality Index ETF (ZGQ) vs. MSCI ACWI Index and BMO MSCI USA Quality Index ETF (ZUQ) vs. MSCI USA Index chart returns are Gross and in the local currency. BMO MSCI Europe High Quality Hedged to CAD Index ETF (ZEQ) vs. MSCI Europe Index chart returns are Net and in CAD.



ETF Name	Ticker	Management Fee (%)
BMO MSCI All Country World High Quality Index ETF	ZGQ	0.45
BMO MSCI USA High Quality Index ETF	ZUQ / ZUQ.F / ZUQ.U	0.30
BMO MSCI Europe High Quality Hedged to CAD Index ETF	ZEQ	0.40

Key Metrics as of June 30, 2020.

High Quality Index ETFs	BMO MSCI All Country World High Quality Index ETF		BMO MSCI USA High Quality Index ETF		BMO MSCI Europe High Quality Hedged to CAD Index ETF		
	MSCI ACWI Index	MSCI ACWI Quality Index	MSCI USA Index	MSCI USA Quality Index	MSCI Europe Index	MSCI Europe Quality Index	
Sharpe Ratio1	1.13	1.49	1.45	1.62	0.66	1.01	
Tracking Error (%)	0.00	3.97	0.00	3.88	0.00	5.70	
Historical Beta	1.00	0.87	1.00	0.95	1.00	0.79	
Turnover (%) ²	3.82	23.77	3.12	28.21	2.70	25.30	
Price to Book ³	2.34	6.74	3.69	7.71	1.80	4.10	
Price to Earnings ³	19.92	22.41	24.33	22.70	15.50	15.70	
Dividend Yield³	2.21	1.70	1.80	1.61	3.30	3.00	
Performance (%) ⁴							
YTD	-1.54	6.87	2.46	6.62	-8.40	-4.19	
1 Year	6.43	20.35	12.34	20.62	-2.84	5.22	
3 Year	7.83	14.59	12.16	17.55	1.60	7.67	
5 Year	8.33	13.38	12.03	15.81	3.24	8.95	
10 Year	11.90	15.64	16.25	18.64	8.31	10.99	
Since Inception*	4.59	6.90	9.29	11.72	2.78	6.74	

Risk is defined as the standard deviation of monthly net returns.

Dividend yield is the most recent regular distribution (excluding year end distributions for these investments that distribute more frequently) annualized for frequency divided by current NAV.

Please note this data changes month to month based on market conditions.

Source: MSCI, Index data as of June 30, 2020.



^{*} Since Inception Dates - MSCI ACWI Quality Index December 18 2012, MSCI USA Quality Index December 18, 2012, MSCI Europe Quality Hedged to CAD Index was launched on January 24 2014, MSCI USA June 30 1994, MSCI ACWI December 29 2000, MSCI Europe December 31 2003.

10 year Sharpe Ratio.

² Annualized one way index turnover for the 12/29/2000 to 06/30/2020 period.

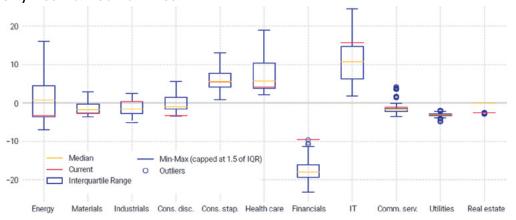
³ Monthly averages for the 12/29/2000 to 06/30/2020 period.

⁴Net returns in CAD (\$) and for periods longer than one year, returns are annualized.

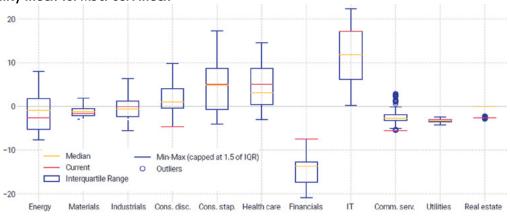


Sector Allocations vs. Parent Indices for the Period 06/01/1999 to 10/31/2017

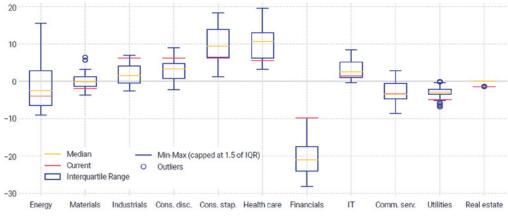
BMO MSCI All Country World High Quality Index ETF MSCI ACWI Quality Index vs. MSCI ACWI Index



BMO MSCI USA High Quality Index ETF MSCI USA Quality Index vs. MSCI USA Index



BMO MSCI Europe High Quality Hedged to CAD Index ETF MSCI Europe Quality Index vs. MSCI Europe Index



Source: MSCI, June 2020



Quality Portfolio Construction Methodology

BMO Quality ETFs track the performance of MSCI quality indices which are a subset of the broad market parent indices. Security selection relies on the determination of the 3 quality variables.

Weighting is based on a combination of the security's quality scores and market capitalization. Quality indices are rebalanced semiannually.

Parameter	Methodology	Comments		
Security Universe	• Parent Index	 BMO Asset Management Inc. has an agreement with MSCI, a leading provider of traditional market capitalization and smart beta indices 		
		 Broad indices that are recognized and used as benchmarks by many investors Parent index provide an opportunity set with sufficient liquidity and capacity 		
		 Applicable universe includes all securities encompassed in parent indices 		
Quality Variables	• ROE	 3 variables are determined for all securities and ranked 		
	Earnings StabilityDebt to Equity	 Once ranked, impact of extreme data outliers is removed for all 3 variables 		
		 3 variables are standardized – equal weights are used to calculate a composite score 		
		 Composite scores are averaged into a quality score 		
Portfolio Selection and Weighting	 Fixed Number of Securities 	• Fixed number targets 30-40% coverage of parent index universe		
	 Quality Score X Market Capitalization 	 Allows for high quality exposure while maintaining sufficient index market capitalization and diversification 		
	• 5% Cap	 493 names for MSCI ACWI Quality Index 		
		 125 names for MSCI USA Quality Index 		
		 124 names for MSCI Europe Quality Index 		
		 Quality score is multiplied by the market capitalization weight the parent index and normalized to 100% 		
		 Quality tilted market capitalization results in high capacity and liquidity 		
		 Cap reduces concentration and security specific risk 		
Review	Semi-Annual RebalancingBuffer Zones	 Semi-annual rebalancing in May and November to coincide with semi-annual review of parent indices 		
		• Quality variable data as of the end of April and October are used		
		 Goal is to capture timely updates to quality characteristics and is timed with the rebalancing frequency of MSCI parent indices 		
		Buffers historically reduce turnover and improve replicability		
		 A 20% buffer rule is applied on the fixed number of securities in the index 		

For more detailed methodology information regarding the quality variables, security composite scoring, security selection, weighting and index maintenance, visit the MSCI quality indices website: https://www.msci.com/index-solutions







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