

# Richard Bernstein Advisors Global Conservative ETF Strategy

#### **Richard Bernstein Advisors**

Richard Bernstein Advisors LLC ("RBA") is an investment manager focusing on long-only, global equity and asset allocation investment strategies. The Firm manages \$10.5 billion (as of 9/30/2020) and is unique in its "top-down" research approach versus the traditional "bottom up" style of most asset management firms.

## **Global Conservative ETF Strategy Investment Process**

Richard Bernstein Advisors employs a macro-driven, top-down style to construct a global tactical asset allocation portfolio. The investment team uses quantitative indicators and the firm's macro-economic analysis to recommend global equity and fixed income asset classes and several sub-asset classes and sectors using only US listed ETFs. Typical factors and indicators include: global valuations; global yield curves; asset class, regional, and country correlations; profit cycle analyses, and style and sector rotation; earnings analysis; investor sentiment and other factors.

### **Asset Allocation Guidelines**

- → Asset allocation and implementation recommendations are made by the investment committee led by Richard Bernstein. Exposure recommendations among asset classes will be based on the team's assessment of proprietary and non-proprietary quantitative indicators, and the firm's macro-economic analysis. After assessing numerous models and indicators, the final allocation recommendations are made by the team.
- → Structural asset correlations are an integral part of RBA's diversification strategy. These tend to be longer term in nature, and thus less affected by short-term market volatility and fluctuations. RBA also seeks to balance portfolio risk with investment themes and opportunities potentially not yet fully recognized by the market.
- → Shorter-term tactical strategies, 12 18 months, are formulated within the framework of the firm's core concepts of long-term asset allocation. The team makes tactical allocations based on market mispricings relative to changes in the global economy, geopolitics and corporate profits. The strategic allocation is based on a long-term neutral policy of 20% equity, 75% fixed-income and 5% cash.
- → Asset allocation recommendation guidelines: Equity allocation: 10% to 30%; Fixed-income allocation: 65% to 85%; Alternatives, commodities-related, currencies, cash: 0% to 15%. Benchmark is: 20% MSCI ACWI Index, 75% Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index, 5% Bloomberg Barclays1-3 month US T-Bill.

## **Portfolio Selection**

- → The strategy has the ability to recommend any global asset class essentially a "go anywhere" strategy and can invest in any sector, market cap, duration, credit, style or country/region. Individual ETF recommendations to implement the asset allocation strategy will be based on quantitative screening, risk-analysis and qualitative review.
- → Annual turnover is typically expected to be less than 50%, except in cases of unusual economic or market volatility, which could increase turnover.

For investment minimums, please contact your financial advisor.

Model performance information included in this Profile is as of current quarter-end and subject to change. Prior period returns may have been restated to conform to this presentation. All other information is as of the most recent quarter end. See disclosure at the end of the Profile for further information.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Q3-2020



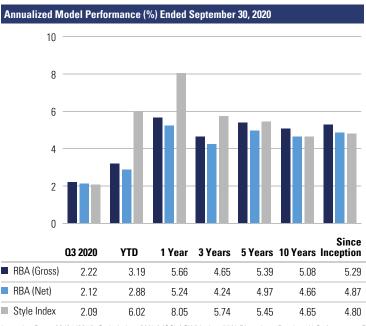
Top 10 ETF Holdings (%)	
First Trust Low Duration Opportunities ETF	15.8
Invesco National AMT-Free Municipal Bond ETF	15.6
iShares 1-5 Year Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF	13.3
iShares 5-10 Year Investment Grade Corporate Bond ETF	12.6
iShares 3-7 Year Treasury Bond ETF	9.0
iShares 1-3 Year Treasury Bond ETF	9.0
iShares MSCI USA Quality Factor ETF	4.7
Schwab US Large-Cap ETF	3.8
iShares MSCI International Quality Factor ETF	3.1
SPDR Gold MiniShares Trust	2.6

Equity Sector Weights (9)

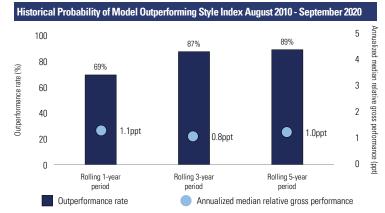
Equity Sector Weights (%)		
Sector	Portfolio Weight	Equity Portion of Benchmark
Communication Services	5.4	9.3
Consumer Discretionary	7.1	12.9
Consumer Staples	14.4	8.1
Energy	4.9	2.8
Financials	6.9	12.5
Health Care	17.2	12.6
Industrials	12.3	9.6
Information Technology	13.3	21.6
Materials	14.7	4.8
Real Estate	2.0	2.8
Utilities	1.8	3.1

Hypothetical/Model Performance Calendar Year Return (%)			
Year	Mgr(Gross)	Mgr(Net)	Style Index
2020 (YTD)	3.19	2.88	6.02
2019	9.69	9.26	11.86
2018	-0.88	-1.28	-1.72
2017	7.68	7.26	7.24
2016	5.73	5.31	3.71
2015	0.01	-0.39	0.10
2014	5.96	5.53	5.38
2013	5.80	5.38	2.70
2012	6.96	6.54	6.45
2011	8.48	8.05	4.67

Style Index: 20% MSCI ACWI Index, 75% Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index, 5% Bloomberg Barclays 1-3 month US T-Bill.







Inception Date: 08/01/2010. Style Index: 20% MSCI ACWI Index, 75% Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index, 5% Bloomberg Barclays 1-3 month US T-Bill.

### IMPORTANT DISCLOSURE

The performance was calculated by Richard Bernstein Advisors LLC (the "Adviser") for the Richard Bernstein Advisors Global Conservative ETF Strategy ("model") as described below. The Adviser provides the model or a substantially similar model to various platform sponsors which, as of September 30, 2020, have over 260 accounts and approximately \$82.2 million invested based on the model. The performance shown above is based on the specific recommendations provided by the Adviser and not on the performance of any individual advisory account. The model's asset allocation recommendations are subject to guideline allocation limitations at the major asset class level (i.e., equity, fixed income and cash) that may change over time. The Adviser believes that the sponsors generally implement its recommendations as provided, but sponsors have discretion to implement the model differently.

The Adviser has calculated model portfolio performance from August 1, 2010. During the period from August 1, 2010 through March 31, 2013, the Adviser provided asset allocation recommendations for each sub-asset class to a platform sponsor, which then selected exchange-traded funds ("ETFs") with the assistance of the Adviser by mapping each sub-asset class recommendation to a specific ETF. For the period after March 31, 2013, the model portfolio performance reflects the Adviser's asset allocation recommendations for each sub-asset class and its actual ETF recommendations in real time. As the portfolio is a model, it does not reflect any investor's actual experience and investors may have achieved greater or lesser performance than the model portfolio. The model performance shown does not reflect any material market or economic factors that may have affected the actual performance of the model portfolio if the Adviser had actually been managing the portfolio during the relevant time periods. Investors should not rely on the model performance since it does not reflect the actual management of assets.

Results are shown on a "gross" and "net" basis. Gross hypothetical/model portfolio performance is before deduction of any investment management or other fees. Net hypothetical/model portfolio performance is shown net of annual advisory fee of 0.40%, the highest fee charged by the Adviser. Neither the gross nor net model portfolio performance reflects the deduction of brokerage or custodial fees. Returns reflect implementation of asset allocation changes and the market price of ETFs as of the market close, and the reinvestment of dividends and interest on cash balances. Taxes have not been deducted. Actual performance of client portfolios may differ materially due to a variety of reasons, including but not limited to, the timing of cash deposits and withdrawals, reinvestment of dividends, length of time positions are held, discretionary trading in the account, and client restrictions. The investment advisory fee schedule of the Adviser is described in its Part 2 of the Form ADV.

The benchmark has been constructed using the indexes identified above. The indexes were chosen because they represent the broad based markets in the international equity, U.S. Fixed Income and Money Market asset classes. The index weightings percentages are based on a long-term "neutral" allocation to each index determined by the Adviser. Benchmark index results shown are not reduced by fees as an index is unmanaged. Further, securities contained in an index will vary from those in the model portfolio and actual managed accounts. Indices are shown for convenience purposes only and are not available for direct investment.

Any investment is subject to risk. ETFs are subject to risks similar to those of stocks, such as market risk, and investors who have their funds invested in accordance with the model portfolio may experience losses. Additionally, fixed income (bond) ETFs are subject to interest rate risk, which is the risk that debt securities in a portfolio will decline in value because of increases in market interest rates. Foreign investments may be subject to greater risk than domestic investments.

Index and portfolio data herein have been supplied by outside sources, including, Richard Bernstein Advisors LLC, and are believed to be reliable as of the date indicated. The source for ETF returns is Bloomberg

About Risk: Any investment is subject to risk. ETFs are subject to risks similar to those of stocks, such as market risk, and investors who have their funds invested in accordance with the model portfolio may experience losses. Additionally, fixed income (bond) ETFs are subject to interest rate risk, which is the risk that debt securities in a portfolio will decline in value because of increases in market interest rates. Foreign investments may be subject to greater risk and volatility than U.S. investments because of adverse market, economic, political, regulatory, geopolitical or other conditions. In emerging countries, these risks may be more significant. The value of commodities investments will generally be affected by overall market movements and factors specific to a particular industry or commodity, including weather, embargoes, tariffs, or health, political, international and regulatory developments. An imbalance in supply and demand in the income market may result in valuation uncertainties and greater volatility, less liquidity, widening credit spreads and a lack of price transparency in the market. As interest rates rise, the value of income investments is likely to decline. Investments in income securities may be affected by changes in the creditworthiness of the issuer and are subject to the risk of non-payment of principal and interest. The value of income securities also may decline because of real or perceived concerns about the issuer's ability to make principal and interest payments. Smaller companies are generally subject to greater price fluctuations, limited liquidity, higher transaction costs and higher investment risk than larger, established companies. Derivatives instruments can be used to take both long and short positions, be highly volatile, result in economic leverage (which can magnify losses), and involve risks in addition to the risks of the underlying instrument on which the derivative is based, such as counterparty, correlation and liquidity risk. If a counterparty is unable t

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