

A 10-Year Snapshot Of Sector Mutual Fund Flows From Retail Investors

ICI Sector Mutual Fund Annual Net Inflows (2009-2018)

In Millions \$	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Consumer	82	101	262	544	794	47	2,235	-913	-1,481	-429
Financial	-457	-626	-885	56	859	-256	978	49	208	-1,311
Health	-3,163	-2,407	478	1,385	8,582	7,645	11,007	-17,602	-8,496	-4,247
Natural Resources	1,764	1,493	1,152	460	5,451	5,776	-688	3,053	-2,489	-2,972
Precious Metals	2,253	2,330	-1,359	112	-1,433	-166	-37	325	-108	-505
Real Estate	492	1,746	1,018	4,490	315	5,279	-4,552	-771	-6,603	-11,438
Tech/Telcomm	1,768	-1,391	-2,346	-1,515	1,972	85	288	-3,953	-932	-3,210
Utilities	250	-848	701	-1,994	-1,409	3,783	-2,585	-1,155	-5,234	-4,324

Source: Investment Company Institute (ICI)

View from the Observation Deck

1. As indicated in the chart, the ICI tracks capital flows to eight sectors. It also provides an "Other Sectors" category that we omitted for this post.
2. Keep in mind, from 2009-2018, the only down year for the S&P 500 Index on a total return basis was 2018. The index declined by 4.38%, according to Bloomberg.
3. The average annual total return for the S&P 500 Index over that 10-year period was 13.11%. That is considerably better than the 9.99% average annual total return for the index from 1926 through 2018, according to Ibbotson Associates/Morningstar.
4. Despite the strong showing by the S&P 500 Index, only 41 of the 80 fund flow figures in the table, or 51%, reflected net inflows to a sector category.
5. The categories that experienced the highest number of calendar-year net inflows were Consumer and Natural Resources, both with seven. Utilities had the least with three.

This chart is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any actual investment. The S&P 500 Index is a capitalization-weighted index comprised of 500 stocks (currently 505) used to measure large-cap U.S. stock market performance. Investors cannot invest directly in an index.

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