

# RELIABLE RESEARCH

03/10/2025 NAV as of 03/07/2025: \$17.81

# **SMDVX**

# **Very Unattractive Rating** Hartford Mutual Funds II, Inc: Hartford Schroders US MdCap Opp Fd

- · Predictive Ratings are based on the aggregation of our models for the fund's holdings, all of the fund's expenses, & the fund's overall rank.
- Stock-picking (Portfolio Management) and fund expenses (Total Annual Costs) drive fund performance.
- Get Connected & Get an Edge. Join our Live Webinars. Meet our team. Stay up-to-date with the latest research. Learn from experts & the community.

#### **Investment Recommendation**

- · We strongly recommend investors avoid SMDVX.
- We expect the fund to continue underperforming the market on a total return basis.
- SMDVX's Portfolio Management rating does not justify its high Total Annual Costs.

#### **Portfolio Management Rating Details**

- SMDVX receives our Unattractive Portfolio Management rating because its aggregate holdings are expected to underperform the aggregate holdings of IWR.
- IWR, SMDVX's benchmark, receives our Neutral rating.
- Our fund analytics are based on aggregating our models and ratings for each fund's holdings.
- Best Fundamental data in the world The Journal of Financial Economics
- Superior analytics to Bloomberg & Capital IQ, see appendix of this paper
- Superior stock ratings: our Robo-Analyst outperforms human analysts
- Best Investment Research Tech: Benzinga's Global Fintech Winner

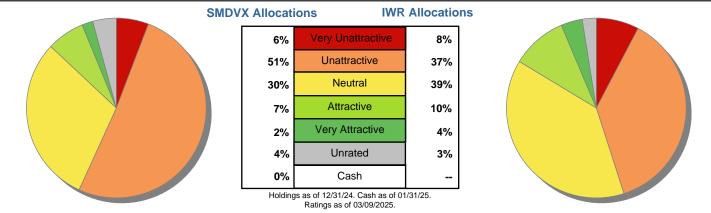
#### Fund Rankings

- 7th percentile of the 7000+ equity funds we cover.
- · 295 out of 306 Mid Cap Blend funds.
- All 44 ETFs in the same category rank better.
- See rankings for all US equity funds on our fund screener.

### Portfolio Management Rating Breakdown

Quality of Earnings Components: Ratings & Values					
Attractive	Economic vs Reported EPS	Positive EE			
Neutral	Return on Invested Capital (ROIC)	10%			
Valuation Components: Ratings & Values					
Neutral	2yr Avg FCF (excl cash) Yield	1%			
Very Unattractive	Price to Economic Book Value Ratio	5.9			
Very Unattractive	e Growth Appreciation Period	72 year(s)			
Fund Asset Allocation: Rating & Value					
Very Attractive	Cash Allocation	0% cash			

Stock and Cash Rating Allocations vs Benchmark - iShares Trust: iShares Russell Mid-Cap ETF (IWR)



#### **Active Management Commentary**

SMDVX allocates 57% of its value to Unattractive-or-worse-rated stocks while IWR allocates 45%.

SMDVX allocates 9% of its value to Attractive-or-better-rated stocks while IWR allocates 14%.

- Investors should expect funds with higher Total Annual Costs to allocate more value to Attractive and Very Attractive Stocks and less to Unattractive and Very Unattractive stocks than alternative funds with lower costs.
- Active portfolio management of SMDVX does not add value versus its ETF benchmark IWR.

Return - Anı	nual	Top 5 Holdings		5 Holdings Key Mutual Fund Statis		S	
Year to Date	-3.0%	Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.	AJG	Net Assets(mm)	\$1,019.90	Category	Mid Cap Blend
1 Year	3.6%	Aramark	ARMK	NAV	\$17.81	Mgmt Co	Hartford Funds
3 Year	7.1%	Dolby Laboratories Inc	DLB	Benchmark	IWR	Manager	Kaynor/Wald
5 Year	11.0%	Assurant Inc	AIZ	# of Holdings	66	Tenure	2013
Inception	8.7%	RENTOKIL INITIAL ADS ECH REP 5	RTO	Initial Min	\$2,000	Inception	03/31/2006
Data from Lipper, a Thomson Reuters Company, and New Constructs, LLC. Details on Total Annual Costs Rating are on page 2					Annual Costs Rating are on page 2.		



# **RELIABLE RESEARCH**

03/10/2025

#### Total Annual Costs Rating and Ranking

Rating	Total Annual Costs	Fund Universe % Rank	Category Rank
Unattractive	3.54%	7%	292 of 306

This rating reflects all expenses, loads, fees, and transaction costs in a single value that is comparable across all funds.

#### Total Annual Costs Breakdown

	Annı	alized Values
All Cost Types	SMDVX	Benchmark: IWR
Front-End Load	2.09%	
Expense Ratio	1.34%	0.21%
Back-End Load	0.00%	
Redemption Fee	0.00%	
Transaction Costs	0.10%	
Total Annual Costs	3.54%	0.21%

 To justify its higher Total Annual Costs, SMDVX must outperform its ETF benchmark before all costs by 3.32% annually over 3 years or 1.83% annually over 10 years.

- This analysis assumes a 3-year holding period, the average for all funds.
- Transaction costs are estimated using the fund's annual portfolio turnover ratio of 48%.

Data from Lipper, a Thomson Reuters Company, and New Constructs, LLC.

#### **Overview of Our Predictive Mutual Fund Rating System**

New Constructs' <u>Predictive Fund Ratings</u> enable smarter investing by assessing the key drivers of future fund performance. We start by analyzing every fund holding based on New Constructs' stock ratings, which are regularly featured as among the <u>best by Barron's</u>. Next, we measure and rank the all-in costs of investing in a fund. Finally, we rank the fund compared to all other funds to identify the best and worst funds in the market.

- Intuitively, there are two drivers of future fund performance.
  - 1) New stock-picking (Portfolio Management Rating) and
  - 2) Fund expenses (Total Annual Costs Rating) drive investment performance

The figure below details the criteria that drive our Predictive Rating system for funds. The drivers of our predictive rating system are Portfolio Management and Total Annual Costs. The Portfolio Management Rating is the same as our Stock Rating except that we incorporate Asset Allocation in the Portfolio Management Rating. The Total Annual Costs Rating captures the all-in cost of being in a fund over a 3-year holding period, the average period for all mutual fund investors.

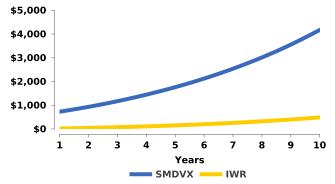
	Portfolio Management Rating						
Predictive Rating	Quality of Earnings		Valuation			Asset Allocation	Total Annual Costs Rating
	Economic vs Reported EPS	Return on Invested Capital (ROIC)	2yr Avg FCF (excl cash) Yield	Price-to-EBV Ratio	Growth Appreciation Period (yrs)	Cash %	
Very Unattractive	Misleading Trend	Bottom Quintile	< -5%	> 3.5 or -1 < 0	> 50	> 20%	> 4%
Unattractive	False Positive	4th Quintile	-5% < -1%	2.4 < 3.5 or < -1	20 < 50	8% < 20%	2% < 4%
Neutral	Neutral EE	3rd Quintile	-1% < 3%	1.6 < 2.4	10 < 20	2.5% < 8%	1% < 2%
Attractive	Positive EE	2nd Quintile	3% < 10%	1.1 < 1.6	3 < 10	1% < 2.5%	0.5% < 1%
Very Attractive	Rising EE	Top Quintile	> 10%	0 < 1.1	0 < 3	< 1%	< 0.5%

### Reported Costs vs Benchmark: as of 03/01/2024

	SMDVX	Benchmark: IWR
Front-End Load	5.50%	
Expense Ratio	1.18%	0.19%
Back-End Load	0.00%	
Redemption Fee	0.00%	

#### Accumulated Total Costs vs Benchmark

Accumulated Total Costs represent the dollar value of costs investors incur during a 10-yr holding period. Assumes a \$10,000 investment and a 10% annual return for the fund and its benchmark.



3-year Accumulated Total Costs are \$1,172.08 for SMDVX and \$75.72 for IWR. 10-year Accumulated Total Costs are \$4,169.99 for SMDVX and \$488.62 for IWR.



## It's Official: We Deliver 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 highly-respected institutions as we can. Three different papers from both the public and private sectors show:

- 1. The stock market is missing footnotes and only we have that critical data.
- 2. Legacy fundamental datasets suffer from significant inaccuracies, omissions, and biases.
- 3. Our proprietary data drives novel alpha. Our 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

In <u>The Journal of Financial Economics</u>, a top peer-reviewed journal, <u>Core Earnings: New Data & 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, 1<sup>st</sup> 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> para.

#### Superior Models

Ernst & Young 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, 5<sup>th</sup> 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> para.

### Superior Stock Ratings

Robo-Analysts' stock ratings outperform those from human analysts as shown in this paper from Harvard Business School. Bloomberg features the paper here.

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, 3<sup>rd</sup> para.
- "Our results ultimately suggest that Robo-Analysts are a valuable, alternative information intermediary to traditional sell-side analysts." -pp. 20, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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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