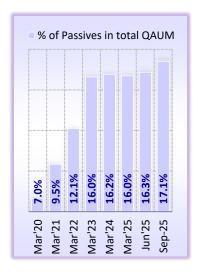


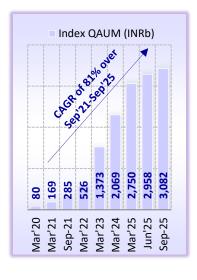
Mutual Funds

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EXTEL POLL 2025







Indian MF: Growing share of passives

HNIs and Corporates lapping up Index Funds, ETFs | share in retail still low

- India's mutual fund landscape is experiencing a structural shift towards passive investing, with QAAUM share rising to ~17.1% as of Sep'25 (vs. 7% in FY20). Over Sep'21–Sep'25, ETFs/Index Funds delivered AUM CAGRs of 28%/81% (vs. total equity at 28%).
- Passive investing has entered a structural growth phase, with FY25 emerging as a breakout year—net inflows more than doubling (~118% YoY) driven by a 278%/59% surge in Index/ETF flows.
- However, YTDFY26 (Apr–Oct'25) flows have moderated, with passives down 34% YoY and equity funds lower by 8%, due to base effects and rotation toward active categories like flexi-cap and mid-cap funds. Nonetheless, the long-term outlook for passives remains strong, supported by rising investor comfort with low-cost, benchmark-linked products, expanding offerings, and growing institutional adoption.
- This domestic momentum mirrors global trends, where passives have overtaken active funds in the US with over 51% share in AUM, expanding to ~USD16t as of Mar'25, reflecting a long-term investor shift toward transparency, cost efficiency, and consistent performance (https://tinyurl.com/5e27ww3w).
- India's passive penetration, at just ~17.1% of total QAUM (Sep'25), remains well below developed markets, highlighting a long runway for growth as investor awareness, digital adoption, and institutional participation expand.
- Institutional catalysts such as the EPFO, which allocated nearly 10% (Mar'24) of its corpus to ETFs (allowed 5-15%), alongside Corporate (~86%/~37% share in ETFs/Index AUM mix as of Sep'25) and HNIs' (~12%/~39%) institutionalizing passive allocations, are reinforcing the depth and sustainability of this trend.
- At the same time, retail participation remains the missing piece (~3%/~23% share in ETFs/Index AUM mix Sep'25), constrained by low distributor incentives and limited awareness, though digital platforms are beginning to narrow this gap.
- Wealth managers like 3600NE and Nuvama are well-placed to benefit, given their sophisticated client bases and direct investment platforms. With the transition towards an advisory model, their reduced product bias and focus on cost efficiency are expected to drive greater adoption and growth of passive funds.
- While the passive segment will see strong growth, active funds are also witnessing healthy growth. Resultantly, the share of passives will increase, leading to overall lower yield for AMCs and RTAs. However, the scale benefits (as passives have very limited costs against them) will aid in protecting the overall profitability.
- Our preferred picks in the RTAs, Wealth, and AMCs segments include CAMS, Nuvama Wealth, Nippon AMC, and ABSLAMC.

AUM growth in passives outpacing active funds

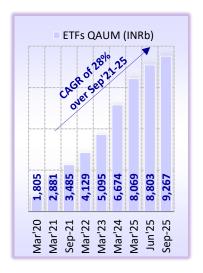
- Over Sep'21-Sep'25, ETFs and Index Funds in India registered AUM CAGR of 28% and 81%, respectively, vs 28% for total equity schemes, driven by strong and sustained net inflows.
- FY25 emerged as a turning point, with **passive fund inflows** more than doubling YoY (~118% vs. 64% for total equity), led by a 278% surge in Index Fund flows and 59% growth in ETFs. This surge was supported by rising investor interest and robust fund launches. This also marked the fourth consecutive year of positive monthly inflows into passive products.

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Investors are advised to refer through important disclosures made at the last page of the Research Report.





- Passive funds' share of total mutual fund QAUM rose to ~17.1% in Sep'25 from ~7% in Mar'20, supported by higher investor awareness, digital access, better liquidity, and lower costs.
- As of Sep'25, the **ETF AUM mix** remains dominated by corporates (~86%), followed by HNIs (~12%) and retail investors (~3%). The **Index Fund AUM mix** shows a more balanced mix—HNIs (~39%), corporates (~37%), and retail (~23%).
- Retail participation, however, remains subdued, with ~73% of retail assets (as of Sep'25) still routed through distributors. Limited commissions on ETFs vs active schemes continue to deter distributor push and slow retail adoption.
- In terms of **returns**, our analysis shows that the 1-year and 3-year returns for large-cap active equity schemes, Indexes, and ETFs are not materially different.
- FY25 also witnessed a record 150 new passive fund **launches** (vs. 77 in FY24 and 50 in FY21), reflecting a ~32% CAGR in new schemes over FY21–25 (~108 launched as of FY26YTD). The 150 schemes launched comprised 102 Index Funds, 3 Gold ETFs, and 45 other ETFs, raising INR150.6b (~11% of FY25 net inflows), compared to INR42.1b in FY24—signaling a significant uptick in both the volume and scale of new passive offerings. (https://tinyurl.com/56jvb7kv).

Equity QAAUM (INRb) Equity CAGR 28% over Sep'21-Sep'25 Passives CAGR 35% over Sep'21-Sep'25 38,350 30,053 10,819 12,348 16,516 11,761 1,885 3,050 6,467 Mar'20 Mar'21 Mar'22 Mar'23 Mar'24 Mar'25 Jun'25 Sep-21 Sep-25

Exhibit 1: CAGR growth in passive QAAUM outpacing equity QAAUM (INRb)

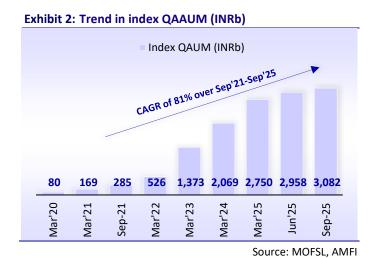
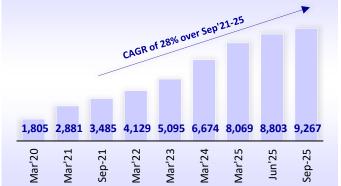


Exhibit 3: Trend in ETF QAAUM (INRb)



ETFs QAUM (INRb)

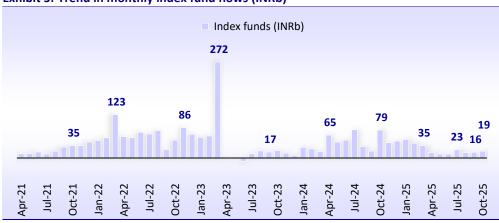
Source: MOFSL, AMFI



Exhibit 4: AUM mix in passives (%)

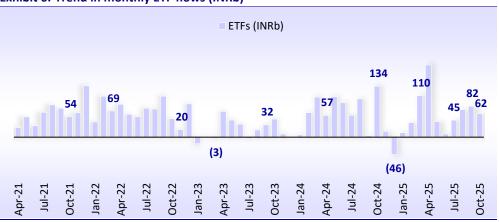
	Eq Inc	hers Juity orien come/Deb come/Deb Juity orien	ot Oriente ot Oriente	d oriented d Index Fu	d ETFs unds (Targ		•	- unds)	
10% 8% 12% 13%	10% 8% 11% 12%	10% 9% 11% 12%	10% 10% 11% 10%	10% 11% 10% 10%	10% 13% 9% 9%	11% 14% 9% 8%	12% 14% 9% 9% 57%	13% 14% 8% 8% 57%	14% 15% 8% 7% 57%
Jun-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25	Jun-25	Sep-25

Exhibit 5: Trend in monthly index fund flows (INRb)



Source: MOFSL, AMFI

Exhibit 6: Trend in monthly ETF flows (INRb)



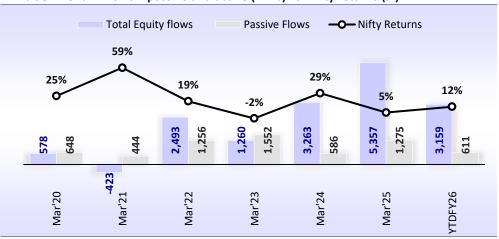
Source: MOFSL, AMFI



Exhibit 7: Bifurcation scheme (category-wise) in passive net inflows on a monthly basis in INRb

Other Schemes Net inflows in INRb	Oct'24	Nov'24	Dec'24	Jan'25	Feb'25	Mar'25	Apr'25	May'25	Jun'25	Jul'25	Aug'25	Sep'25	Oct'25
Equity-oriented Index Funds (Domestic Index Funds)	78.0	51.9	45.4	43.5	38.1	34.6	31.2	30.6	25.2	27.7	33.9	27.6	24.7
Equity-oriented Index Funds (International Index Funds)	0.0	0.2	0.0	-0.1	-0.3	-0.9	-0.7	-0.5	-0.5	2.6	1.2	-0.1	-0.3
Income/Debt-oriented Index Funds (Target Maturity Index Funds)	1.4	-8.1	4.5	10.5	5.2	-16.0	-18.1	-15.9	-11.1	-10.9	-18.9	-11.3	-12.8
Income/Debt-oriented Index Funds (Other than Target Maturity Index Funds)	-0.2	-0.7	-2.0	-1.5	-1.3	16.9	3.3	-3.2	-3.1	4.1	-1.2	-0.4	8.0
Other Index Funds	0.1	0.1	-0.0	0.2	0.1	0.4	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.3
Gold ETF	19.6	12.6	6.4	37.5	19.8	-0.8	-0.1	2.9	20.8	12.6	21.9	83.6	77.4
Equity-oriented ETFs (Domestic ETFs)	138.0	20.5	-24.7	7.7	19.4	118.1	92.2	42.3	-6.2	30.0	56.9	44.5	25.7
Equity-oriented ETFs (International ETFs)	0.5	0.7	-0.4	-	-	-0.9	1.0	-	-0.4	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3
Income/Debt-oriented ETFs	-10.6	-15.2	-25.3	1.8	14.6	-11.2	86.8	-9.9	-5.0	-4.6	-2.1	-16.6	1.7
Silver ETF	6.4	9.3	4.8	2.2	4.4	3.6	10.7	8.5	20.0	19.0	17.6	53.4	34.1
Fund of funds investing overseas in Active Funds	1.6	-0.3	0.2	1.6	3.2	-0.6	-1.7	1.3	0.9	2.6	5.4	10.1	9.1
Fund of funds investing overseas in Passive Funds	-0.7	-0.4	-1.0	-0.8	-0.8	-1.7	-2.1	-0.8	-0.6	-0.6	-0.3	-0.5	-0.9
Total	234.3	70.6	7.8	102.6	102.5	141.5	202.3	55.3	40.0	82.6	114.4	190.6	166.7

Exhibit 8: Trend in flows – passive and active (INRb) vs. Nifty returns (%)



Source: MOFSL, AMFI

Exhibit 9: ETF AUM mix (%)

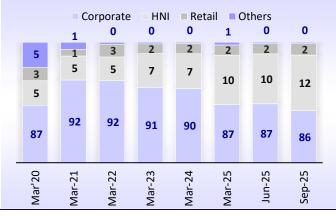


Exhibit 10: Index AUM mix (%)

	■ Co 0	rporate 1	HNI 0	■ Reta	ail O	thers 0	0	
3		_						
25	27	17	11	16	21	22	23	
37	43	35	38	40	39	40	39	
35	30	47	51	44	40	38	37	
Mar'20	Mar-21	Mar-22	Mar-23	Mar-24	Mar-25	Jun-25	Sep-25	

Source: MOFSL, AMFI Source: MOFSL, AMFI

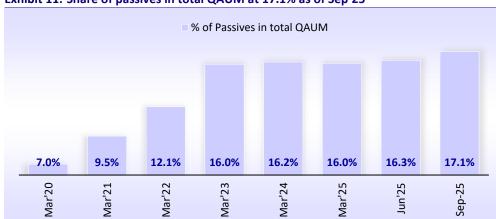


Exhibit 11: Share of passives in total QAUM at 17.1% as of Sep'25

Source: MOFSL, AMFI

Exhibit 12: Comparison of returns among large-cap funds across three segments showed no material difference in performance

	0 0 1			
Returns Basis		Oct'25	Retu	rns (%)
Equity Large Cap Funds (Direct)		AUM Size (INRb)	1-year	3-year
SBI Large Cap Fund		528.3	6	16
Nippon India Large Cap Fund		464.6	9	21
HDFC Large Cap Fund		382.5	5	17
Mirae Asset Large Cap Fund		396.2	8	15

Index Funds	AUM Size (INRb)	1-year	3-year
UTI Nifty 50 Index Fund	243.4	7	14
HDFC Nifty 50 Index Fund	209.3	7	14
SBI Nifty 50 Index Fund	103.5	7	14
HDFC Index Fund - BSE Sensex Plan	85.1	7	13

ETFs (Exchange-Traded Funds)	AUM Size (INRb)	1-year	3-year
SBI Nifty 50 ETF	2,024.6	8	15
UTI Nifty 50 ETF	638.3	8	14
Nippon India ETF Nifty 50 BeES	507.4	8	15

Source: MOFSL, Company

Exhibit 13: Folios mix in passives ('000)

	(/												
Other Scheme Folios ('000)	Oct'24	Nov'24	Dec'24	Jan'25	Feb'25	Mar'25	Apr'25	May'25	Jun'25	Jul'25	Aug'25	Sep'25	Oct'25
Equity-oriented Index Funds (Domestic)	11,377	11,693	12,011	12,228	12,433	12,551	12,610	12,702	12,974	13,160	13,396	13,525	13,626
Equity-oriented Index Funds (International)	255	255	255	251	248	244	241	237	234	244	255	252	249
Income/Debt-oriented Index Funds (Target Maturity)	166	170	170	169	171	172	183	186	180	182	181	179	177
Income/Debt-oriented Index Funds (Other than Target Maturity)	18	18	18	19	19	21	9	9	10	11	19	31	25
Other Index Funds	88	90	92	95	96	98	99	99	100	101	101	102	102
Gold ETF	5,913	6,253	6,405	6,497	6,833	6,970	7,145	7,369	7,654	7,870	8,034	8,664	9,575
Equity-oriented ETFs (Domestic)	14,276	14,784	14,948	15,509	15,911	16,066	16,160	16,264	16,309	16,343	16,646	16,739	16,753
Equity-oriented ETFs (International)	609	646	686	735	782	849	919	927	940	948	968	995	1,045
Income/Debt-oriented ETFs	2,292	2,335	2,341	2,368	2,404	2,430	2,403	2,465	2,455	2,504	2,508	2,520	2,532
Other Domestic ETFs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Silver ETF	447	583	622	620	639	685	748	838	910	1,016	1,131	1,487	2,529
FoF investing overseas in Active Funds	725	730	732	741	764	771	774	776	780	803	846	921	1,002
FoF investing overseas in Passive Funds	659	650	639	630	622	615	608	601	595	588	569	563	557
Total	36,823	38,206	38,919	39,862	40,923	41,472	41,898	42,474	43,142	43,770	44,655	45,977	48,174

Source: MOFSL, AMFI



Exhibit 14: Number of schemes under the passive segment

Total number of Schemes	Oct'24	Nov'24	Dec'24	Jan'25	Feb'25	Mar'25	Apr'25	May'25	Jun'25	Jul'25	Aug'25	Sep'25	Oct'25
Equity-oriented Index Funds (Domestic Index Funds)	160	167	177	180	190	196	198	204	212	217	227	228	231
Equity-oriented Index Funds (International Index Funds)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Income/Debt-oriented Index Funds (Target Maturity Index Funds)	83	86	88	89	91	92	96	97	96	97	97	97	96
Income/Debt-oriented Index Funds (Other than Target Maturity)	8	8	8	8	8	12	6	6	7	7	8	10	9
Other Index Funds	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Gold ETF	18	18	18	18	19	20	20	20	20	21	21	22	22
Equity-oriented ETFs (Domestic ETFs)	164	163	165	166	171	177	179	185	191	196	199	201	208
Equity-oriented ETFs (International ETFs)	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Income/Debt-oriented ETFs	32	33	33	33	33	35	34	34	34	35	37	37	38
Other Domestic ETFs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	-	-
Silver ETF	12	12	12	12	12	14	14	15	15	15	16	16	16
Fund of funds investing overseas in Active Funds	41	41	41	41	41	40	40	40	39	39	40	40	40
Fund of funds investing overseas in Passive Funds	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	12	12	12
Total	546	556	570	575	593	614	615	629	642	655	672	678	687

Astounding growth in passives in the US; momentum picking up in India

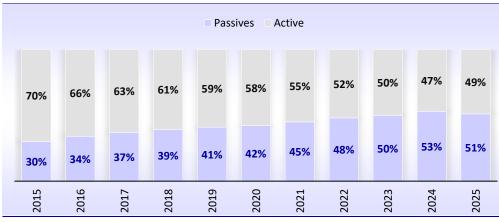
- Over the past decade, the US passive funds have seen sustained inflows, reflecting a long-term investor shift toward low-cost and transparent strategies. Passive AUM reached ~USD16t (51% of MF industry AUM) vs. active AUM of USD15.4t as of Mar'25 (https://tinyurl.com/5e27ww3w).
- ETFs have become the preferred vehicle, with their share of total fund assets rising to ~35.4% in Jul'25 from ~14% in 2013. This has underscored a strong structural momentum.
- While passive flows have remained consistent over the last ten years, the active fund flows have faced persistent outflows. In Mar'25 alone, US active funds saw net outflows of USD61.3b, whereas index funds witnessed net inflows of USD49.8b, highlighting declining confidence in active performance. (https://tinyurl.com/568wmcyn).
- Post-Covid, the **Indian MF industry** has seen accelerating passive adoption, with the segment's share in total MF AUM rising to double digits (~17.1% in Sep'25) from ~9% in Mar'21. Despite this, India's penetration remains well below that of developed markets, indicating significant headroom for expansion.
- Between Sep'21 and Sep'25, **ETF AUM** clocked a 28% CAGR, fueled by corporate/ HNI/Retail segment growth of 25%/56%/49%. Net ETF inflows reached INR682b in FY25 (INR439b YTD FY26) vs INR429b in FY24, up 59% YoY.
- Index Funds expanded even faster, with AUM recording an 81% CAGR over Sep'21–Sep'25. Segment-wise, corporates grew 79%, while HNIs and retail grew 71% each. Net inflows surged 278% YoY to INR593b in FY25 (INR91b in FY26 YTD) from INR157b in FY24.

Passives AUM (USDt) Active AUM (USDt) 16.2 16.0 15.3 13.6 14.4 15.4 11.8 13.3 13.1 12.2 11.4 10.3 9.9 10.0 9.6 8.4 6.6 6.5 5.0 4.2 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2023 2022

Exhibit 15: US AUM trends in passive and active segments in USDt

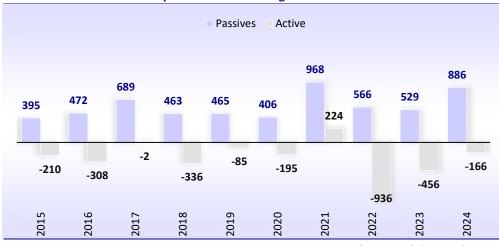
Source: MOFSL, PWLCAPITAL

Exhibit 16: AUM mix in % in the US



Source: MOFSL, PWLCAPITAL

Exhibit 17: US flow trends in passive and active segments in USDb



Source: MOFSL, PWLCAPITAL

EPFO deepens its footprint

According to the media article (https://tinyurl.com/4vy8nrn2), the Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO), as of Mar'24, managed an investible corpus of ~INR 24.8t, of which INR2.4t (~9.5%) was invested via ETF tracking major indices (such as the NSE Nifty50 / BSE Sensex).

17 November 2025



- In the Apr-Oct'24 period alone, EPFO invested ~INR342.1b into ETFs, pointing to active incremental flows into passive equity vehicles within its portfolio.

 (https://tinyurl.com/y2y9xkxk)
- The major boost to the ETF market came in 2015, when EPFO started investing in stock markets via the ETF route. Initially, it was 5% of incremental flows, and the same was subsequently hiked to 15% in 2017. The current ETF exposure of ~9—10% of the corpus leaves scope to grow within the upper bound of the mandate.
- EPFO's Board has approved a policy to reinvest about 50% of ETF redemption proceeds back into equity-linked avenues and extend the holding period of its ETF investments from four years to seven years, signaling a strategic tilt towards longer-tenure passive equity exposure (https://tinyurl.com/3nkmxb9t).

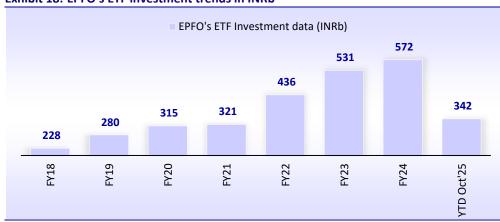


Exhibit 18: EPFO's ETF investment trends in INRb

Source: MOFSL, PIB.GOV

Corporate segment continues to dominate the ETF segment

- The **corporate AUM** across all MF categories has expanded significantly Equity (27% CAGR) to ~INR3.1t, Index (79% CAGR) to INR1.2t, and ETFs (25% CAGR) to ~INR8.2t, over Sep'21-Sep'25, underscoring greater adoption of passive products in the corporate segment.
- The **ETF AUM mix** was dominated by the corporate segment at ~85.8%, followed by HNI at ~11.5% and Retail at ~2.5% as of Sep'25.
- Regarding the folios, under the Equity segment, it showed a smooth, upward trajectory, growing ~1.8x over Sep'21-Sep'25. However, the AUM per folio fluctuated between INR1.4m and INR3.7m and even declined during FY20-21. This reflected the COVID correction and profit-booking, followed by a steady recovery as equity AUM rose in line with market appreciation.
- Regarding the **folios**, under the **Index segment**, folio counts rose almost linearly with visible inflection points in FY22 and FY24, coinciding with the surge in passive investing. The **AUM per folio** rose steadily to INR22–31m between FY22–25 from INR7–8m in FY19–21; however, some decline in AUM per folio count was seen in YTDFY26. This dual increase over FY22-25 (more folios and higher AUM per folio) indicated that corporates are institutionalizing index exposure as a long-term core holding.
- Regarding the folio count, the ETF segment showed a more volatile but exponential trajectory, with spikes in FY22 and FY24, likely driven by EPFO and corporate treasury inflows. AUM per folio trend dipped sharply during 2020–22



(as new investors entered with smaller ticket sizes), stabilized through FY23–24, and remained relatively flat thereafter, reflecting broadening participation but smaller individual allocations.

Exhibit 19: Share of Corporates in Index AUM mix (%)

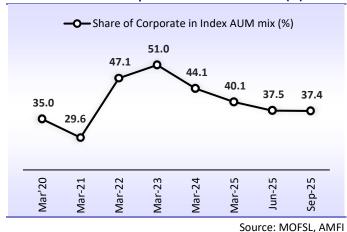
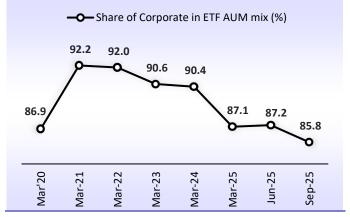


Exhibit 20: Share of Corporates in ETF AUM mix (%)



Source: MOFSL, AMFI

Exhibit 21: Corporate mix in the Equity, Index, and ETF categories

Sep-21	Dec-21	Mar-22	Jun-22	Sep-22	Dec-22	Mar-23	Jun-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25	Jun-25	Sep-25
1,174	1,208	1,233	1,189	1,324	1,358	1,382	1,567	1,696	1,925	2,047	2,681	2,674	2,622	2,970	3,081
482	507	542	563	577	586	602	605	625	646	676	752	792	819	833	861
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	4	4
112	181	323	428	531	650	854	865	889	916	941	1,071	1,087	1,136	1,160	1,157
9	11	14	16	18	21	25	26	27	28	30	42	48	51	52	54
13	17	24	27	29	31	34	34	33	33	31	26	22	22	22	21
3,361	3,542	3,785	3,642	4,151	4,560	4,389	4,875	5,101	5,660	6,003	7,434	7,076	7,302	8,060	8,202
39	37	44	47	49	51	55	56	61	65	69	98	114	124	135	149
86	95	86	77	84	89	80	87	83	87	87	76	62	59	60	55
	1,174 482 2 112 9 13 3,361 39	1,174 1,208 482 507 2 2 112 181 9 11 13 17 3,361 3,542 39 37	1,174 1,208 1,233 482 507 542 2 2 2 112 181 323 9 11 14 13 17 24 3,361 3,542 3,785 39 37 44	1,174 1,208 1,233 1,189 482 507 542 563 2 2 2 2 112 181 323 428 9 11 14 16 13 17 24 27 3,361 3,542 3,785 3,642 39 37 44 47	1,174 1,208 1,233 1,189 1,324 482 507 542 563 577 2 2 2 2 2 2 112 181 323 428 531 9 11 14 16 18 13 17 24 27 29 3,361 3,542 3,785 3,642 4,151 39 37 44 47 49	1,174 1,208 1,233 1,189 1,324 1,358 482 507 542 563 577 586 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 1112 181 323 428 531 650 9 11 14 16 18 21 13 17 24 27 29 31 3,361 3,542 3,785 3,642 4,151 4,560 39 37 44 47 49 51	1,174 1,208 1,233 1,189 1,324 1,358 1,382 482 507 542 563 577 586 602 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 112 181 323 428 531 650 854 9 11 14 16 18 21 25 13 17 24 27 29 31 34 3,361 3,542 3,785 3,642 4,151 4,560 4,389 39 37 44 47 49 51 55	482 507 542 563 577 586 602 605 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 3 112 181 323 428 531 650 854 865 9 11 14 16 18 21 25 26 13 17 24 27 29 31 34 34 3,361 3,542 3,785 3,642 4,151 4,560 4,389 4,875 39 37 44 47 49 51 55 56	1,174 1,208 1,233 1,189 1,324 1,358 1,382 1,567 1,696 482 507 542 563 577 586 602 605 625 2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 112 181 323 428 531 650 854 865 889 9 11 14 16 18 21 25 26 27 13 17 24 27 29 31 34 34 33 3,361 3,542 3,785 3,642 4,151 4,560 4,389 4,875 5,101 39 37 44 47 49 51 55 56 61	1,174 1,208 1,233 1,189 1,324 1,358 1,382 1,567 1,696 1,925 482 507 542 563 577 586 602 605 625 646 2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 112 181 323 428 531 650 854 865 889 916 9 11 14 16 18 21 25 26 27 28 13 17 24 27 29 31 34 34 33 33 3,361 3,542 3,785 3,642 4,151 4,560 4,389 4,875 5,101 5,660 39 37 44 47 49 51 55 56 61 65	1,174 1,208 1,233 1,189 1,324 1,358 1,382 1,567 1,696 1,925 2,047 482 507 542 563 577 586 602 605 625 646 676 2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 112 181 323 428 531 650 854 865 889 916 941 9 11 14 16 18 21 25 26 27 28 30 13 17 24 27 29 31 34 34 33 33 31 3,361 3,542 3,785 3,642 4,151 4,560 4,389 4,875 5,101 5,660 6,003 39 37 44 47 49 51 55 56 61 65 69	1,174 1,208 1,233 1,189 1,324 1,358 1,382 1,567 1,696 1,925 2,047 2,681 482 507 542 563 577 586 602 605 625 646 676 752 2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 3 4 112 181 323 428 531 650 854 865 889 916 941 1,071 9 11 14 16 18 21 25 26 27 28 30 42 13 17 24 27 29 31 34 34 33 33 31 26 3,361 3,542 3,785 3,642 4,151 4,560 4,389 4,875 5,101 5,660 6,003 7,434 39 37 44 47 49 51 55 56 61 65 69 98	1,174 1,208 1,233 1,189 1,324 1,358 1,382 1,567 1,696 1,925 2,047 2,681 2,674 482 507 542 563 577 586 602 605 625 646 676 752 792 2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 3 4 3 112 181 323 428 531 650 854 865 889 916 941 1,071 1,087 9 11 14 16 18 21 25 26 27 28 30 42 48 13 17 24 27 29 31 34 34 33 33 31 26 22 3,361 3,542 3,785 3,642 4,151 4,560 4,389 4,875 5,101 5,660 6,003 7,434 7,076 39 37 44 47 49 51 55 56 61 65 69 98 114	1,174 1,208 1,233 1,189 1,324 1,358 1,382 1,567 1,696 1,925 2,047 2,681 2,674 2,622 482 507 542 563 577 586 602 605 625 646 676 752 792 819 2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 4 3 3 112 181 323 428 531 650 854 865 889 916 941 1,071 1,087 1,136 9 11 14 16 18 21 25 26 27 28 30 42 48 51 13 17 24 27 29 31 34 34 33 33 31 26 22 22 3,361 3,542 3,785 3,642 4,151 4,560 4,389 4,875 5,101 5,660 6,003 7,434 7,076 7,302 39 37 44 47 49 51 55 56 61 65 69 98 114 124	1,174 1,208 1,233 1,189 1,324 1,358 1,382 1,567 1,696 1,925 2,047 2,681 2,674 2,622 2,970 482 507 542 563 577 586 602 605 625 646 676 752 792 819 833 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 4 3 3 4 112 181 323 428 531 650 854 865 889 916 941 1,071 1,087 1,136 1,160 9 11 14 16 18 21 25 26 27 28 30 42 48 51 52 13 17 24 27 29 31 34 34 33 33 31 26 22 22 22 3,361 3,542 3,785 3,642 4,151 4,560 4,389 4,875 5,101 5,660 6,003 7,434 7,076 7,302 8,060 39 37 44 47 49 51 55 56 61 65<

Source: MOFSL, AMFI

HNIs dominate the Index segment

- Under the **HNI** category, the **passive AUM** has seen a robust growth of 63% CAGR (71%/56% for Index/ETFs) over Sep'21-Sep'25 to INR2.3t vs. equity AUM rising at 29% over the same period to INR13.2t. This indicates that while active equity remains dominant, passive strategies are fast emerging as meaningful allocations within HNI portfolios.
- The **Index AUM mix** is dominated by the HNI category at ~39.2%, followed by HNI at ~37.4% and Retail at ~23.1% as of Sep'25.
- Regarding the **folios**, **Equity folios** rose 1.8x over Sep'21-Sep'25, indicating both new investor entry and existing clients diversifying across schemes. While growth was relatively steady, with notable acceleration from FY22 onward, driven by strong market performance and digital distribution penetration.
- The Index fund folios surged 13x, and ETF folios jumped 6.2x over Sep'21-Sep'25— highlighting broader adoption of passives among affluent investors who earlier preferred only actively managed funds. The spike in ETF folios, especially from FY23–25, shows that HNIs are now using ETFs as tactical and liquidity tools.



Exhibit 22: Share of HNI in Index AUM mix (%)

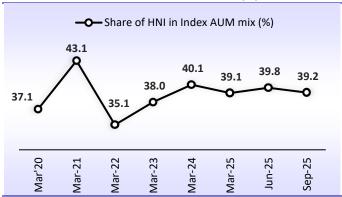
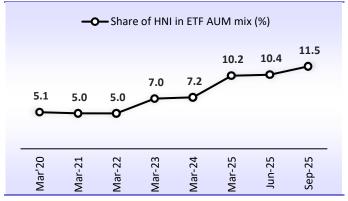


Exhibit 23: Share of HNI in ETF AUM mix (%)



Source: MOFSL, AMFI

Exhibit 24: HNI mix in the Equity, Index, and ETF categories

HNI	Sep-21	Dec-21	Mar-22	Jun-22	Sep-22	Dec-22	Mar-23	Jun-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25	Jun-25	Sep-25
Equity																
AUM (INR b)	4,718	4,939	5,079	4,807	5,484	5,705	5,666	6,507	7,180	8,270	9,015	12,259	12,060	11,562	13,103	13,216
Folios (m)	4.8	5.1	5.6	5.9	6.1	6.3	6.5	6.7	7.1	7.5	8.1	10.0	10.8	11.2	11.5	12.0
AUM/Folio (INR'000)	989	962	913	819	901	911	869	973	1,011	1,100	1,106	1,221	1,119	1,033	1,140	1,098
Index Fund																
AUM (INR b)	142	174	241	279	370	472	636	678	714	790	858	1,100	1,104	1,108	1,229	1,210
Folios (m)	0.11	0.13	0.17	0.19	0.21	0.23	0.27	0.29	0.30	0.32	0.37	0.53	0.60	0.63	0.66	0.68
AUM/Folio (INR'000)	1,326	1,316	1,450	1,473	1,768	2,018	2,317	2,371	2,376	2,480	2,339	2,087	1,841	1,756	1,875	1,781
ETFs																
AUM (INR b)	189	175	204	257	294	315	340	360	356	416	479	789	729	859	958	1,104
Folios (m)	0.09	0.09	0.12	0.13	0.14	0.15	0.17	0.20	0.21	0.25	0.29	0.50	0.56	0.52	1.44	1.63
AUM/Folio (INR'000)	1,990	1,852	1,746	1,952	2,113	2,048	1,960	1,839	1,671	1,680	1,637	1,575	1,303	1,644	667	677

Source: MOFSL, AMFI

Retail passive industry has a long way to go!

- Under the retail segment, the Equity/Index/ETFs AUMs clocked a CAGR of 25%/71%/49% to INR17.4t/INR715b/INR235b over Sep'21-Sep'25. The strong growth in passives was driven by a thrust from online distributors such as ET Wealth, Groww, and other platforms.
- However, the share of ETFs in retail total AUM is a meager 2.5% as of Sep'25, as the Indian retail MF industry is highly dependent on the push model, wherein MFDs play an integral part in distribution. With commissions to distributors on Equity schemes being much higher, the preference for distributing ETFs is much lower.
- The AUM per folio in the Index segment was 6.5x that of AUM per folio in ETFs, and the number of folios in the ETF/Index was 18%/8% of the total equity fund folios.
- Nippon, being an early entrant in the ETF segment, remains the category leader with ~50% share in industry folios and 49% share on the NSE and BSE ADTO ETF volumes.



Exhibit 25: Share of Retail in Index AUM mix (%)

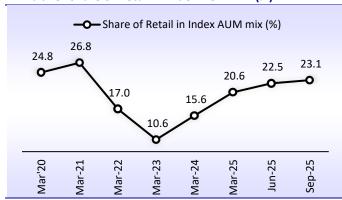


Exhibit 26: Share of Retail in ETF AUM mix (%)

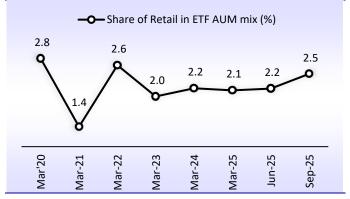


Exhibit 27: Retail mix in the Equity, Index, and ETF categories

Retail	Sen-21	Dec-21	Mar-22	lun-22	Sen-22	Dec-22	Mar-23	lun-23	Sen-23	Dec-23	Mar-24	Sen-24	Dec-24	Mar-25	lun-25	Sen-25
	JCP ZI	DCC 21	IVIGI ZZ	Juli 22	3CP 22	DCC 22	14101 23	Juli 23	3CP 23	DCC 23	IVIUI 24	3CP 24	DCC 24	IVIUI 23	Juli 23	3cp 23
Equity																
AUM (INR b)	7,026	7,276	7,389	6,892	7,863	8,220	8,154	9,368	10,208	11,608	12,433	16,144	15,829	15,260	17,397	17,383
Folios (m)	70.5	75.1	80.3	83.5	86.1	88.5	91.5	93.9	99.5	105.1	114.3	136.7	146.2	152.1	156.1	162.0
AUM/Folio (INR'000)	100	97	92	83	91	93	89	100	103	110	109	118	108	100	111	107
Index Fund																
AUM (INR b)	83	99	117	120	143	162	177	206	233	287	334	521	551	583	694	715
Folios (m)	1.5	1.9	2.3	2.5	2.7	3.0	3.6	4.2	5.1	5.9	7.2	10.7	11.9	12.4	12.8	13.4
AUM/Folio (INR'000)	55	52	51	48	53	55	50	49	46	48	47	49	46	47	54	54
ETFs																
AUM (INR b)	48	87	108	71	82	85	97	104	115	125	144	245	249	178	200	235
Folios (m)	6.8	8.4	10.4	11.3	11.4	11.5	11.8	11.9	12.2	12.5	13.4	21.8	24.3	26.4	26.7	28.6
AUM/Folio (INR'000)	7	10	10	6	7	7	8	9	9	10	11	11	10	7	7	8

Source: MOFSL, AMFI

Source: MOFSL, AMFI

A higher share of passives will reduce yields for CAMS

- Passive funds (ETF & index funds) account for ~14% share in the total AAUM mix for CAMS, whereas they account for ~17% share in the total AUM mix for KFINTECH.
- Of the total passive AAUM, CAMS accounts for ~58% share as of Jun'25.
- Yields generated on passive funds are much lower than active funds, and thus, the growth of passives would have an impact on profitability for RTAs.

Clientele base of 360ONE and Nuvama Wealth attracts passive investments

- **360ONE** manages the wealth of over 8,500 as of Jun'25, classified as institutional players, family offices, and corporates, while **Nuvama Wealth** manages ~4,400+ UHNIs, ~1.3m affluent and HNIs, and 1,000+ corporates as of Jun'25. These clients are well-informed about the advantages of passive investing.
- Also, these wealth managers have built a facility to allow clients to use the direct route for a certain category of MF investments, simplifying the process of passive investing for clients.
- Importantly, if they can transition the AUM from the distribution or transaction line to the advisory segment, it would result in better realizations, leading to improved profitability.



Growth in passives brings in scale benefits

- To assess the potential revenue contribution from passive assets for the AMC industry, we conducted a sensitivity analysis factoring in both AUM growth and yield assumptions.
- As of Mar'25, the industry's passive AUM stands at INR10.8t. Given the increasing investor preference for low-cost passive products, the segment is expected to continue expanding robustly. However, yields in passive funds tend to be lower.
- We assume a current average yield of ~10 bp (averaged based on the yields reported by NAM and ABSL AMC) and test sensitivity across six yield scenarios (5bp-15bp) combined with five AUM growth scenarios (0% to 35%) through FY26E. The output represents the potential annual AMC revenue pool from passives under each case.
- Under the current scenario, passive revenue for the industry stands at ~INR11b (assuming 10bp yields). In an upside scenario, revenue is likely to rise to IRN21.1b (30% AUM growth, 15 bp yield). Conversely, a lower-yield and slower-growth environment (15% growth, 5bp yield) would lead to revenue of ~INR6.2b for FY26.
- This sensitivity framework highlights that even small improvements in yield (e.g., from 12bp to 15bp) can meaningfully enhance revenue potential, especially in a growing AUM environment. As the industry shifts more assets into passive strategies, these incremental revenue pools could become a significant driver of AMC topline growth over the medium term.
- Importantly, the costs against these revenues are minuscule, and hence incremental revenue flows down to PBT.

Exhibit 28: Sensitivity analysis of passive revenue for FY26E (INRm), using FY25 passive AUM as the base

AUM (INRm) 1,08,19,124	Pa	ssives AUM Grow	th (%) and Revenu	e Sensitivity Out	look for FY26E	
Yields (%)	0%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%
0.05%	5,410	6,221	6,491	6,762	7,032	7,303
0.07%	7,573	8,709	9,088	9,467	9,845	10,224
0.10%	10,819	12,442	12,983	13,524	14,065	14,606
0.12%	12,983	14,930	15,580	16,229	16,878	17,527
0.15%	16,229	18,663	19,474	20,286	21,097	21,909

Source: MOFSL, Company

Exhibit 29: Lists of regulations affecting the passive segment

Regulation /	Key Provision /	Effective	Intended
Circular	Description	Date	Impact
MF Lite Framework for Passive Mutual Funds	Introduces a simplified regulatory framework for entities dealing exclusively in passively managed products such as ETFs, index funds, and FoFs. Eases sponsor eligibility norms, governance requirements, and reporting obligations.	Dec'24	Lower entry barriers for new AMC entrants focused on passive strategies; reduce compliance overheads to encourage passive fund growth.
Relaxation of Group Company Exposure Limits	Permits Equity-oriented ETFs & Index funds to invest in listed securities of sponsor/group companies beyond the earlier 25% limit, up to a maximum of 35% of net assets, aligned with index weights.	Mar'24	Enables true replication of benchmark indices that are heavily weighted toward group entities; improves tracking accuracy.
*Mandatory Rebalancing	Standardizes rebalancing timelines for all "passive breaches" (portfolio deviations due to market movements or corporate actions). Mandates correction within 30 business days.	Apr'25	Failure to do so results in penalties like a freeze on new scheme launches and waiving of exit loads.

Source: MOFSL, Company



Valuation & view: Prefer ABSL AMC, Nippon AMC, CAMS, and Nuvama

- The outlook for passives in India remains structurally strong, underpinned by expanding institutional adoption, digital distribution, and evolving product innovation.
- Over the medium term, the segment is expected to see broader diversification beyond plain vanilla index products, with rising traction in factor-based, thematic, and global indices aiding differentiation for AMCs.
- The newly introduced *MF Lite framework* is likely to attract fintechs, brokers, and global passive specialists, further intensifying competition while broadening investor access.
- Although yield compression will persist as the passive mix rises, scale benefits and operational efficiency will offset some of the margin impact for larger AMCs.
- Retail participation, currently underpenetrated, should accelerate with growing investor awareness and direct-plan preferences through digital channels. As ETF volumes deepen, tracking efficiency and liquidity management will emerge as critical differentiators.
- Over the next 4–5 years, India's passive share could converge toward 25–30% of total MF AUM, mirroring the global trend toward low-cost, transparent investment products.
- We continue to remain constructive on the entire MF ecosystem. Our top picks in this space include ABSL AMC, Nippon AMC, CAMS, and Nuvama.



Exhibit 30: Though the share of passives in overall AUM is expected to grow to 21% in FY30 from 16% in FY25, we expect the industry revenue to clock a 15% CAGR.

AUM in INRt as of Mar'25	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E	FY29E	FY30E
Equity	38.3	46.0	55.2	66.3	79.5	95.4
Debt	7.2	8.1	9.1	10.2	11.4	12.7
Liquid	9.8	11.0	12.3	13.7	15.4	17.2
Passives	10.8	13.5	16.9	21.1	26.4	33.0
Others	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.7	2.0	2.2
Total AUM (INRt)	67.4	80.0	95.0	113.0	134.7	160.6
Growth in AUM (%)						
Equity		20	20	20	20	20
Debt		12	12	12	12	12
Liquid		12	12	12	12	12
Passives		25	25	25	25	25
Others		12	12	12	12	12
Total		19	19	19	19	19
AUM Mix (%)						
Equity	57	58	58	59	59	59
Debt	11	10	10	9	8	8
Liquid	15	14	13	12	11	11
Passives	16	17	18	19	20	21
Others	2	2	2	2	1	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Yields in bps						
Equity	55	53	51	49	47	45
Debt	27	27	27	27	27	27
Liquid	15	15	15	15	15	15
Passives	10	10	10	10	10	10
Others	15	15	15	15	15	15
Total	38	37	36	35	34	33
Revenue (INR b)						
Equity	211	243	280	322	371	428
Debt	20	22	24	27	31	34
Liquid	15	16	18	21	23	26
Passives	11	14	17	21	26	33
Others	2	2	2	3	3	3
Total	258	297	342	394	455	525
YoY Growth (%)		15	15	15	15	15

Notes: Yields are based on our assumptions

Source: MOFSL, Company

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Explanation of Investment Rating	
Investment Rating	Expected return (over 12-month)
BUY	>=15%
SELL	< - 10%
NEUTRAL	< - 10 % to 15%
UNDER REVIEW	Rating may undergo a change
NOT RATED	We have forward looking estimates for the stock but we refrain from assigning recommendation

^{*}In case the recommendation given by the Research Analyst is inconsistent with the investment rating legend for a continuous period of 30 days, the Research Analyst shall be within following 30 days take appropriate measures to make the recommendation consistent with the investment rating legend.

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