

BlackRock®

Think sustainable



Invest through a sustainable lens

Sustainability-related issues are increasingly becoming top of mind for many investors, policymakers and society in general. As governments around the world debate how to address issues such as the transition to a low-carbon economy, many companies are taking action to adapt to a more sustainable future. This presents investors with additional risks and opportunities to consider for their portfolios.

In practice, sustainable investing means **strategies with environmental, social, and/or governance (ESG) objectives, themes, and related considerations as a principal means for selecting investments.**

Many investors large and small are adopting a sustainable approach. This guide answers four key questions to help get started investing through a sustainable lens:

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Why now?

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Why BlackRock for sustainable investing?

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Why now?

Sustainable investing is on the rise, evidenced by the growth of sustainable assets under management. Key factors driving this growth include:

Evolving views on risk and return

There is growing recognition that ESG research and analysis can help identify investment risks and opportunities and potentially deliver better long-term returns.

Better data leading to better insights

Companies are increasingly disclosing more ESG information to help measure and communicate their efforts at managing risk and creating value through sustainability in a manner that makes it more readily comparable for investors.

Sustainable choices for every portfolio

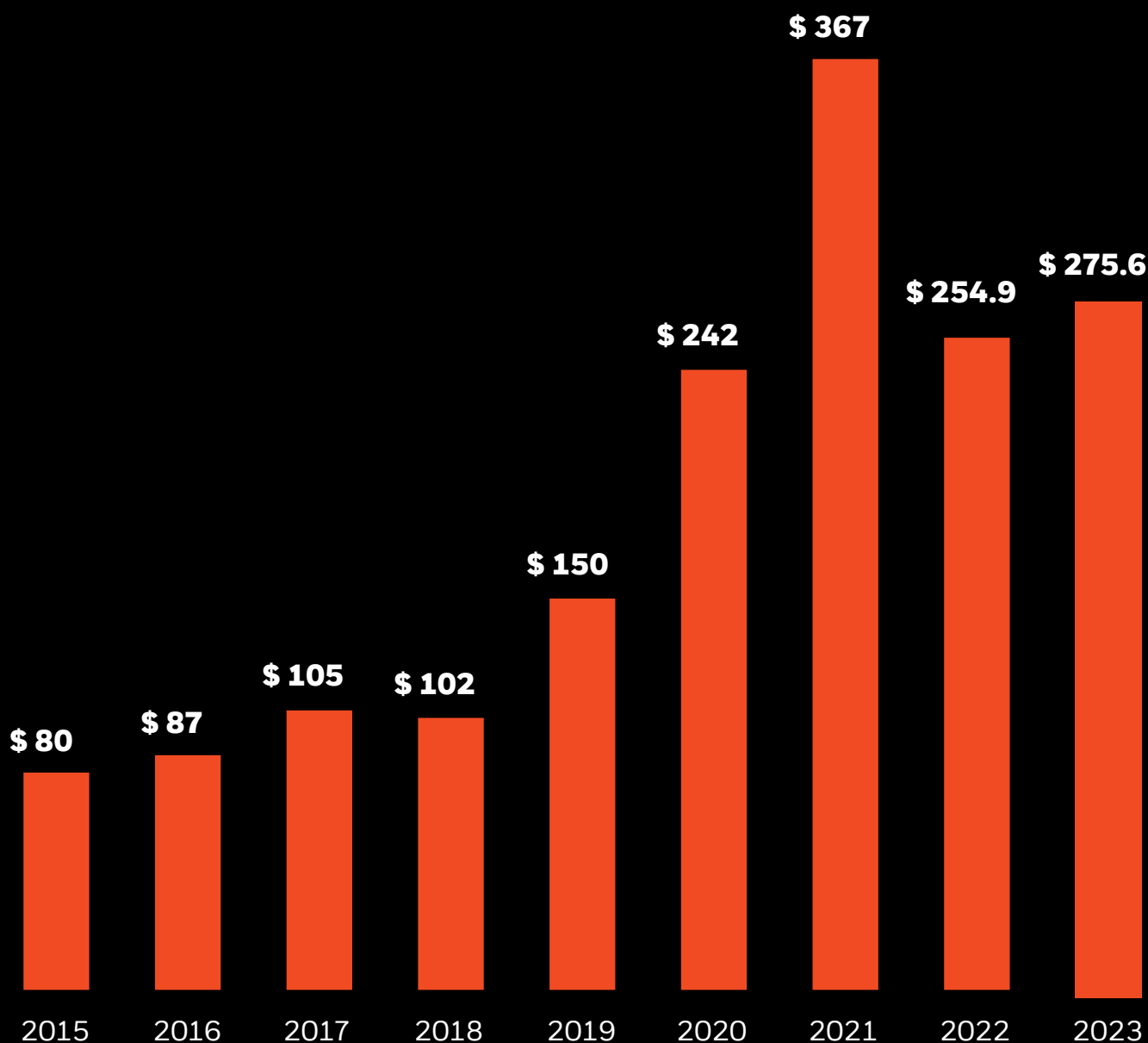
There are more sustainable investment strategies available today, providing investors with more options to build sustainability into their portfolio based on their goals.

Sustainable investing is on the rise

With this growth has come an expanding menu of choices for investors looking to adopt sustainable investment strategies. BlackRock offers a robust suite of sustainable mutual funds and ETFs and can help you find strategies to potentially meet your investment and sustainability objectives.

Sustainable assets have more than tripled since 2015.¹

Growth of U.S. sustainable assets under management (\$ billions)



1. Source: Morningstar as of 12/29/2023. Based on 287 sustainable ETFs and 426 sustainable open-end funds as defined by Morningstar to have a sustainability focus. This includes funds classified as ESG integration, impact, and sector funds.



What are ESG insights?

ESG insights help reveal risks and opportunities that aren't typically captured in traditional financial analysis. These insights can help provide a more informed view of a company.

Example of an ESG risk: A company with weak data security protocols may be vulnerable to a data breach, resulting in potential negative long-term performance.

Example of an ESG opportunity: A company investing in clean technologies to make supply chains more energy efficient and reduce energy costs, resulting in potential positive long-term performance.

Examples of environmental, social, and governance considerations



Environmental

- Water use
- Land use
- Waste management
- Climate risk



Social

- Human capital
- Product liability
- Data privacy
- Health and safety



Governance

- Accounting practices
- Ownership & control
- Board independence
- Ethics

For illustrative purposes only. This is not an exhaustive list of ESG considerations.

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How do I get started?

Incorporating sustainable investments in your portfolio can be simple. BlackRock offers solutions designed for investors who are interested in sustainable investing.

Consider the following methods

Add to the core

“Core” investments are long term holdings that typically provide the foundation of investment portfolios and occupy the largest allocation. Replacing portions or all of your core investments with sustainable funds may offer similar broad market exposure while improving your portfolio’s sustainability profile.

Examples of funds to consider adding to the core

ESGU

iShares ESG Aware MSCI USA ETF is part of the iShares Sustainable ETF platform. The ETF provides exposure to the broad U.S. stock market while tilting towards companies with favorable ESG characteristics.

BIRIX

BlackRock Sustainable Advantage Large Cap Core Fund is part of BlackRock’s active sustainable suite. The fund invests across the broad U.S. stock market, seeking outperformance alongside sustainable insights.

BlackRock offers core sustainable funds across equity and fixed income asset classes.

The strategies discussed are strictly for illustrative and educational purposes and are not a recommendation, offer or solicitation to buy or sell any securities or to adopt any investment strategy. There is no guarantee that any strategies discussed will be effective.

Complement your core

Core complements can be used to pursue high growth opportunities or invest in specific themes you care about. For example, if you are interested in investing in innovative climate change solutions, thematic funds offer targeted exposure to themes such as clean energy.

Examples of core complements

ICLN

iShares Global Clean Energy ETF provides exposure to companies around the world that produce energy from solar, wind, and other renewable sources.

SDG

iShares MSCI Global Sustainable Development Goals ETF provides exposure to global stocks that advance themes related to the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals, such as education or climate change.

Model Portfolios

Do you want to invest sustainably across your entire portfolio? More sustainable and ESG models are being made available for investors, which include sustainable funds.

BlackRock ESG Target Allocation model portfolios provide access to investment portfolios built using sustainable funds as building blocks. Consult with your financial advisor on how they can help you implement a ready-to-go sustainable model built by BlackRock.

Please visit [BlackRock.com](https://www.blackrock.com) to explore more sustainable investment solutions offered at BlackRock.

This information should not be relied upon as investment advice, research, or a recommendation by BlackRock regarding (i) the funds, (ii) the use or suitability of the model portfolios or (iii) any security in particular. Only an investor and their financial professional know enough about their circumstances to make an investment decision.

Seeking both a financial and sustainable goal

Comparison of select traditional indexes and BlackRock sustainable equity solutions by region.
Please visit [BlackRock.com](https://www.BlackRock.com) to explore more sustainable investment solutions offered at BlackRock.

	Name	5-Year Average Annual Total Return (%) ¹	5-Year Volatility (%) ¹	MSCI ESG Quality Score ²	MSCI ESG % Coverage ²	MSCI ESG Quality Score - Peer Percentile ²	Fund Lipper Global Class (# of funds) ²	MSCI Weighted Average Carbon Intensity ²	MSCI Weighted Average Carbon Intensity % Coverage ²
U.S.	iShares ESG Aware MSCI USA ETF (ESGU)	15.54	18.96	7.3	99.86%	94.13	Equity US (3,593)	75.07	99.28%
	MSCI USA Index	15.74	18.86	6.57	99.62%	—	—	109.04	99.63%
International developed	iShares ESG Aware MSCI EAFE ETF (ESGD)	8.49	18.61	8.56	100%	99.43	Equity Global ex US (882)	84.31	99.22%
	MSCI EAFE Index	8.16	18.08	7.71	97.40%	—	—	98.26	97.40%
Emerging markets	iShares ESG Aware MSCI EM ETF (ESGE)	3.24	19.65	7.22	99.80%	98.35	Equity Emerging Mkts Global (1,334)	132.60	97.43%
	MSCI EM Index	3.69	19.16	5.61	99.04%	—	—	316.35	99.09%

Index performance is for illustrative purposes only. Index performance does not reflect any management fees, transaction costs or expenses. Indexes are unmanaged and one cannot invest directly in an index. The performance quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when sold or redeemed, may be worth more or less than the original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. Performance data current to the most recent month end may be obtained by visiting www.iShares.com or www.BlackRock.com. For standardized fund performance, please see the end of this document.

The indexes shown are the parent indexes of the indexes that the funds seek to track. There may be material differences between the fund's index and the indexes shown including without limitation holdings, methodology and performance.

1 Source: Morningstar as of 12/31/2023. Volatility is measured by Standard Deviation, which is a measure of the dispersion of a set of data from its mean. It is calculated as the square root of variance by determining the variation between each data point relative to the mean.

2 Source for the ETFs: MSCI ESG Fund Ratings as of 10/2/2023, using holdings as of 8/31/2023. Source for the indexes: MSCI ESG Research as of 10/2/2023, using holdings as of 8/31/2023. To be included in MSCI ESG Fund Ratings, 65% (or 50% for bond funds and money market funds) of the fund's gross weight must come from securities with ESG coverage by MSCI ESG Research (certain cash positions and other asset types deemed not relevant for ESG analysis by MSCI are removed prior to calculating a fund's gross weight; the absolute values of short positions are included but treated as uncovered), the fund's holdings date must be less than one year old, and the fund must have at least ten securities. BlackRock provides compensation in connection with obtaining or using third-party ratings, rankings, or data.

MSCI ESG Quality Score (0 - 10) is calculated using the weighted average of the ESG scores of portfolio holdings. MSCI rates underlying holdings according to their exposure to industry specific ESG risks and their ability to manage those risks relative to peers. These issuer-level ESG ratings correspond to an issuer-level ESG Score. **MSCI ESG % Coverage** is the percentage of the portfolio's holdings for which the MSCI ESG ratings data is available. **MSCI ESG Quality Score Percentile** measures how a fund's ESG Quality Score ranks relative to other funds in the same peer group. The peer group is based on the Lipper Global Classification and reflects the funds that are in the MSCI ESG Fund Ratings coverage universe. **MSCI Weighted Average Carbon Intensity** measures a portfolio's exposure to carbon intensive companies. This figure represents the estimated greenhouse gas emissions per \$1 million in sales across the portfolio's holdings. This allows for comparisons between portfolios of different sizes. **MSCI Weighted Average Carbon Intensity % Coverage** is the percentage of the portfolio's holdings for which MSCI Carbon Intensity data is available. The MSCI Weighted Average Carbon Intensity metric is displayed for funds with any coverage. Funds with low ESG or carbon coverage may not fully represent the fund's ESG or carbon characteristics given the lack of coverage.

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Why BlackRock for sustainable investing?

Choice and performance

We offer more than 400 sustainable investment products and solutions across index and active platforms, and we seek the best risk-adjusted returns within the mandates client give us.

Data and insights

We provide investors with resources such as sustainable data and insights to help them build portfolios to pursue their financial and sustainable objectives.

Company engagement

We engage with companies on behalf of our clients to help inform shareholder voting and help drive long-term, sustainable value creation.

Standardized performance as of Dec 29, 2023

Fund name	Fund inception date	Expense ratio	1-year returns		5-year returns		10-year returns		Since inception	
			NAV	Mkt price	NAV	Mkt price	NAV	Mkt price	NAV	Mkt price
iShares ESG Aware MSCI USA ETF (ESGU)	12/1/2016	0.15%	25.72%	25.81%	15.54%	15.53%	--	--	13.47%	13.48%
iShares ESG Aware MSCI EAFE ETF (ESGD)	6/28/2016	0.20%	18.08%	18.57%	8.49%	8.51%	--	--	7.99%	8.00%
iShares ESG Aware MSCI EM ETF (ESGE)	6/28/2016	0.25%	9.41%	9.54%	3.24%	3.27%	--	--	5.57%	5.54%

Fees as of Current Prospectus. The performance quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results.

Investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when sold or redeemed, may be worth more or less than the original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. Performance data current to the most recent month end may be obtained by visiting www.iShares.com or www.BlackRock.com.

Shares of ETFs are bought and sold at market price (not NAV) and are not individually redeemed from the fund. Any applicable brokerage commissions will reduce returns. Beginning August 10, 2020, market price returns for BlackRock and iShares ETFs are calculated using the closing price and account for distributions from the fund. Prior to August 10, 2020, market price returns for BlackRock and iShares ETFs were calculated using the midpoint price and accounted for distributions from the fund. The midpoint is the average of the bid/ask prices at 4:00 PM ET (when NAV is normally determined for most ETFs). The returns shown do not represent the returns you would receive if you traded shares at other times.

Carefully consider the Funds' investment objectives, risk factors, and charges and expenses before investing. This and other information can be found in the Funds' prospectuses or, if available, the summary prospectuses, which may be obtained by visiting www.iShares.com or www.blackrock.com. Read the prospectus carefully before investing.

Investing involves risk, including possible loss of principal.

This material represents an assessment of the market environment as at a specific time; is subject to change; and is not intended to be a forecast of future events or a guarantee of future results. This information should not be relied upon by the reader as research or investment advice regarding the funds or any issuer or security in particular.

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BlackRock intends to allocate all or a significant percentage of the BlackRock model portfolios to funds for which it and/or its affiliates serve as investment manager and/or are compensated for services provided to the funds ("BlackRock Affiliated Funds"). Clients will indirectly bear fund expenses relating to assets allocated to funds, including BlackRock Affiliated Funds. BlackRock has an incentive to (a) select BlackRock Affiliated Funds and (b) select BlackRock Affiliated Funds with higher fees over BlackRock Affiliated Funds with lower fees.

A fund's environmental, social and governance ("ESG") investment strategy limits the types and number of investment opportunities available to the fund and, as a result, the fund may underperform other funds that do not have an ESG focus. A fund's ESG investment strategy may result in the fund investing in securities or industry sectors that underperform the market as a whole or underperform other funds screened for ESG standards. In addition, companies selected by the index provider may not exhibit positive or favorable ESG characteristics. Buying and selling shares of ETFs may result in brokerage commissions.

Fixed income risks include interest-rate and credit risk. Typically, when interest rates rise, there is a corresponding decline in bond

values. Credit risk refers to the possibility that the bond issuer will not be able to make principal and interest payments.

International investing involves risks, including risks related to foreign currency, limited liquidity, less government regulation and the possibility of substantial volatility due to adverse political, economic or other developments. These risks often are heightened for investments in emerging/developing markets and in concentrations of single countries.

Funds that concentrate investments in specific industries, sectors, markets or asset classes may underperform or be more volatile than other industries, sectors, markets or asset classes and the general securities market.

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