Informed Investor: Money Monitor

A look back at European ETF market flows last month

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May 2019 Lyxor ETF Research



Marlene Hassine Konqui Head of ETF Research



Kristo Durbaku ETF Research Analyst

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By Marlene Hassine Konqui, Head of ETF Research and Kristo Durbaku, ETF Research Analyst

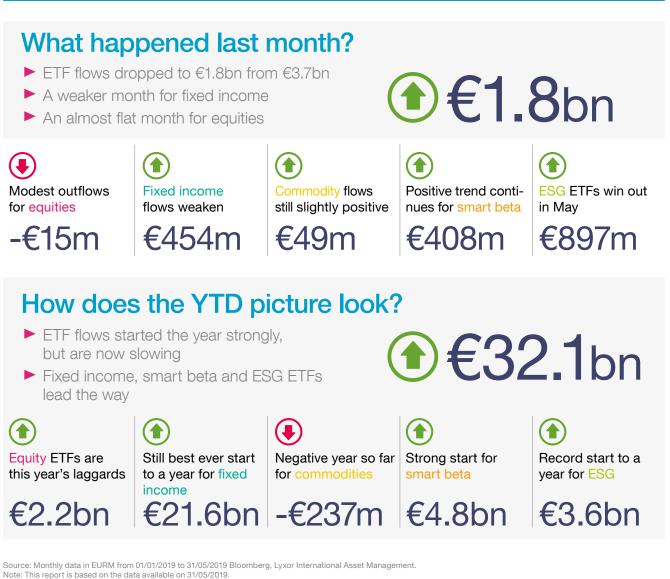
European ETF flows still slowing

Net new assets in the European ETF market slowed again in May to €1.8bn from the €3.7bn we saw in April.

This was largely due to a significant decrease in fixed income ETF inflows (€0.5bn from €4.1bn). Equity ETFs experienced some very modest outflows (€-15m).

Meanwhile, flows into commodity ETFs were very slightly positive and very similar to those we saw in April (€46m). Smart beta ETFs collected €0.4bn.

The biggest winners for May were ESG ETFs. They collected €0.9bn inflows, driven by broad strategies.



LYXC

Asset and flow data may be slightly adjusted as additional data becomes available All categories are exclusive and sum up to the total market flows.

Contact us

info@LyxorETF.ch | +41 58 272 33 44

Special focus

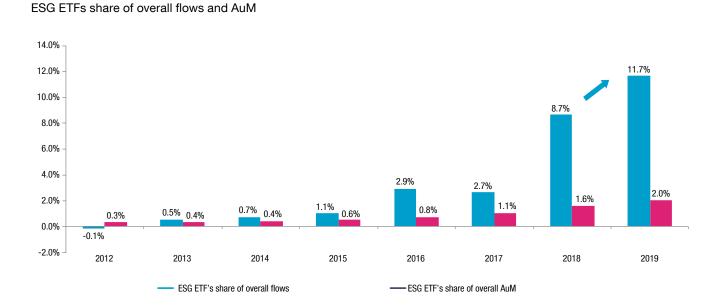
ESG investing is having an impact

€3.6bn

More than €897m flowed into ESG ETFs in May 2019, helping them achieve their second best month ever. They also made up just under 50% of the market's total net inflows for May. YTD flows are already approaching the total inflows for the category we saw in 2018 (€3.6bn vs. €4.0bn). Broad ESG products gathered almost all of the inflows and, at the end of the month, accounted for around 12% of all European market flows YTD – despite only representing 2% of all assets under management (see graph below).

In our view, investors are more deeply integrating environmental, social, and governance into their investment processes and are seeking to make a measurable, sustainable impact alongside generating a financial return. For an increasing number of investors, the two are inextricably interlinked.

For now, that integration is voluntary but it may become more systematic in time. We believe ESG ETFs will benefit from the greater general awareness of the environmental challenges we all face and the regulations that will increasingly be used to address them. Small steps have already been taken. For example, the EU's action plan for "Financing Sustainable Growth" (released in May 2018) encourages shareholders to integrate sustainability considerations into their investment decision-making processes.





Source: Lyxor ETF, Bloomberg data from 01/01/2012 to 31/05/2019.

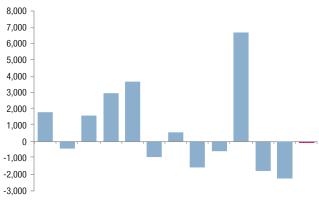
Modest outflows for equities



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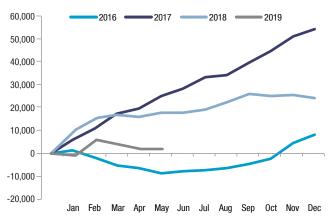
Little interest in equity ETFs

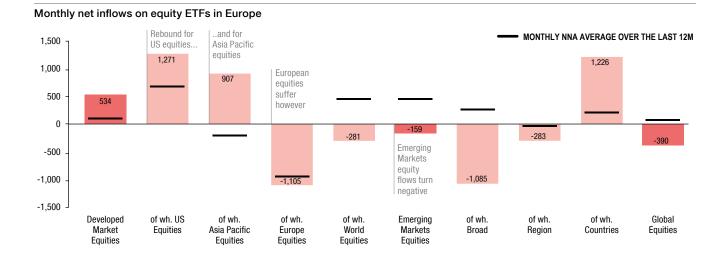


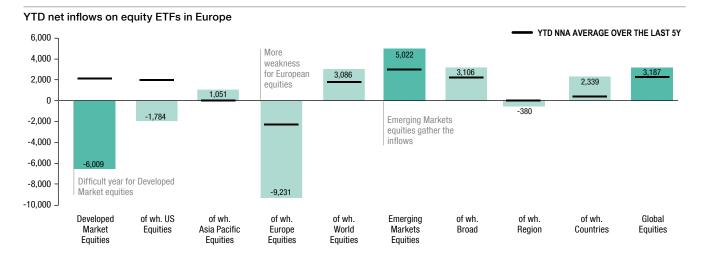


Equity ETFs still lagging behind

Cumulated monthly NNA on equity ETFs







Source: Monthly data from 01/01/2014 to 31/05/2019, Bloomberg, Lyxor International Asset Management.

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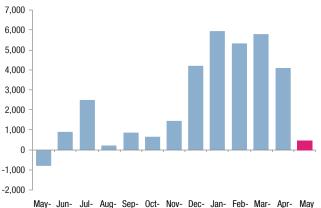
Fixed income flows weaken



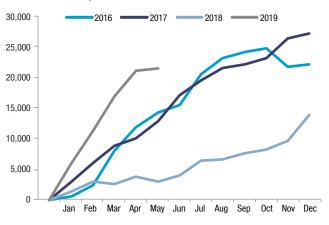
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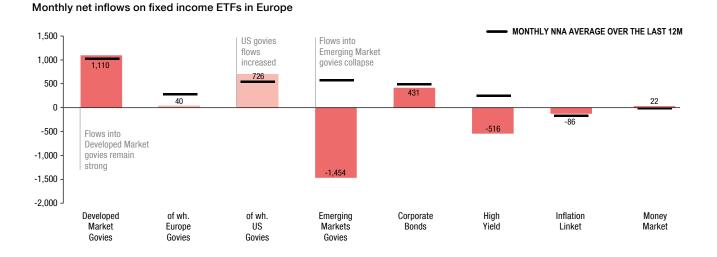
Fixed income flows collapse

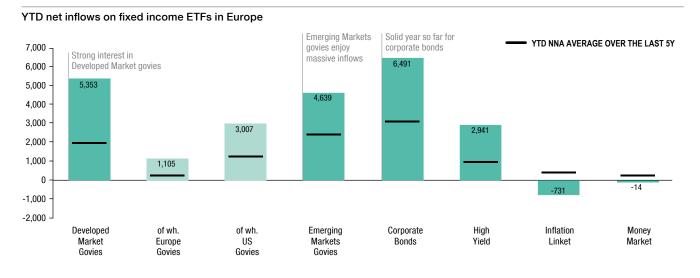
Monthly NNA on fixed income ETFs



Still the best start to a year ever for fixed income Cumulated monthly NNA on fixed income ETFs









Source: Monthly data from 01/01/2014 to 31/05/2019, Bloomberg, Lyxor International Asset Management.

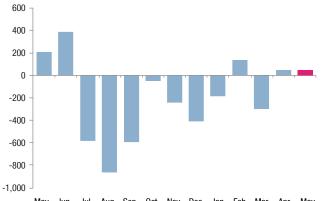
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Commodity flows still slightly positive

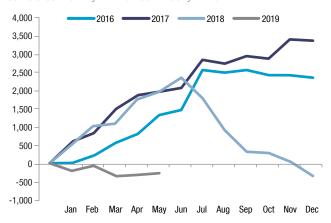
€49m

A second slightly positive month for commodities

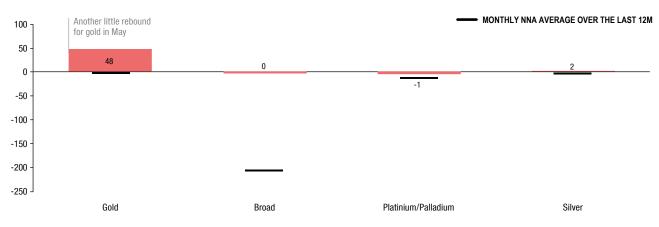
Monthly NNA on commodity ETFs



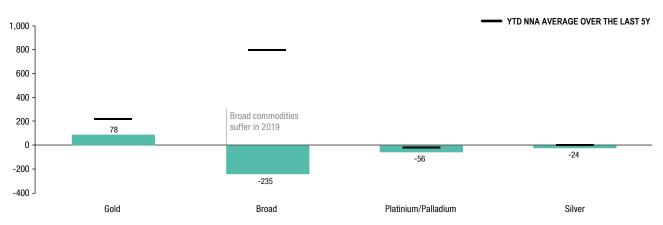
Still a negative start to a year for commodities Cumulated monthly NNA on commodity ETFs



Monthly net inflows on commodity ETFs in Europe



YTD net inflows on commodity ETFs in Europe



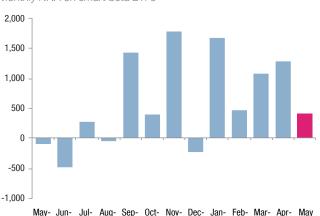


Source: Monthly data from 01/01/2014 to 31/05/2019, Bloomberg, Lyxor International Asset Management.

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Positive trend continues for smart beta

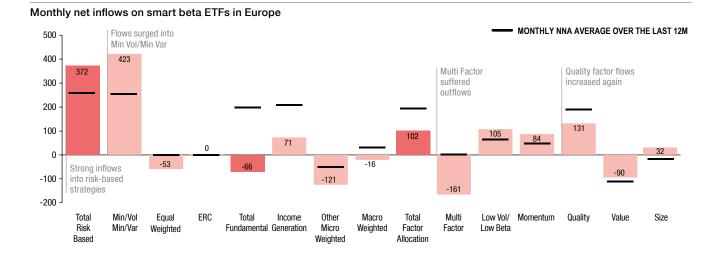
Flows into smart beta ETFs are still positive Monthly NNA on smart beta ETFs

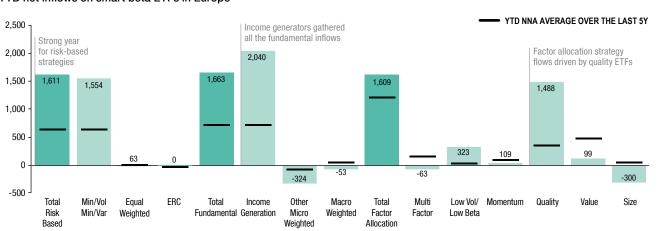


Best start to a year for smart beta

Cumulated monthly NNA on smart beta ETFs







Source: Monthly data from 01/01/2014 to 31/05/2019, Bloomberg, Lyxor International Asset Management.

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YTD net inflows on smart beta ETFs in Europe

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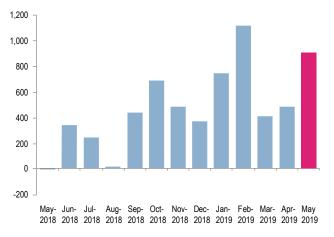
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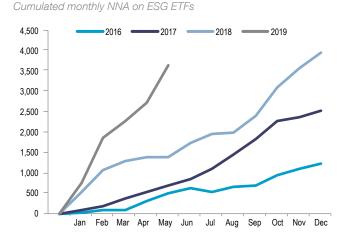
ESG ETFs win out in May



Another strong month for ESG ETFs

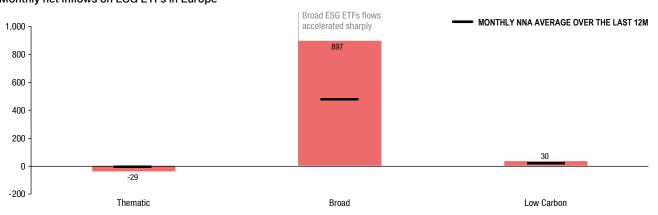


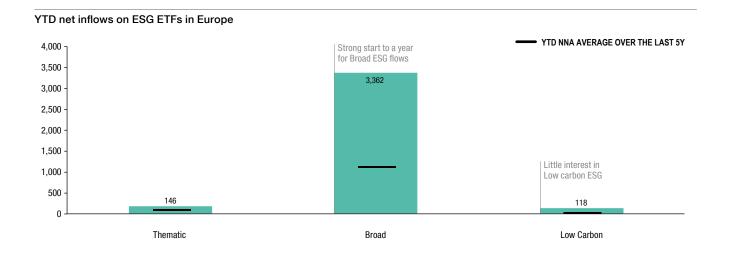




Best start to a year ever for ESG ETFs

Monthly net inflows on ESG ETFs in Europe





Source: Monthly data from 01/01/2014 to 31/05/2019, Bloomberg, Lyxor International Asset Management.

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Check out our quarterly and annual reports, they dive deeper into the numbers that matter, and help to tell the story of what might have driven these results.

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Read more

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Read more

Get the equity alpha/beta allocation perspective-Q1 2019

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