

IEMG

iShares Core MSCI Emerging Markets ETF

Analyst Report

The iShares Core MSCI Emerging Markets ETF (IEMG) is the younger, cheaper variation on BlackRock's flagship iShares MSCI Emerging Markets ETF (EEM). IEMG debuted in 2012 as part of the new ultra-low-cost iShares Core series, which was designed to attract buy-and-hold investors.

IEMG delivers broad exposure to emerging markets equities included the popular MSCI emerging market benchmarks, and does it for a fraction of the price charged by the legacy iShares fund. IEMG also includes smaller-cap names ignored by its older sibling, making it a staple holding of long-term investors who want exposure to emerging markets.

IEMG's massive size makes it easy for institutional investors to buy and sell large blocks. But its pricier sibling is still favored by active traders, who prefer EEM for its deep liquidity, tight tracking and massive options market.

While IEMG beats EEM on fees, it is still not as cheap as rivals like the Vanguard Emerging Markets ETF (VWO) or Charles Schwab's Emerging Markets Equity ETF (SCHE). But investors should note a critical difference: Both VWO and SCHE track an indexes that exclude South Korea, which is instead classified with developed markets, whereas the iShares funds follow MSCI benchmarks that lump South Korea in with emerging markets.

Unsuspecting investors who mix and match funds from different firms may find themselves either unintentionally overweight South Korea, or missing out on the country entirely.

ESG Themes and Scores

5.77/10

ESG Rate

31.61%

Global Percentile

15.14%

Peer Percentile

Performance Data

	IEMG	ETF Database Category Average	Factset Segment Average
1 Month	6.38%	4.76%	4.31%
3 Month	4.76%	3.40%	2.97%
YTD Return	6.70%	5.05%	4.71%
1 Year Return	13.58%	10.78%	8.22%
3 Year Return	0.67%	1.24%	0.71%
5 Year Return	3.78%	3.24%	1.89%

Top 5 Holdings

Symbol	Holding	% Assets
2330	Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., Ltd.	8.67%
700	Tencent Holdings Ltd.	4.44%
9988	Alibaba Group Holding Limited	2.74%
005930	Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.	2.00%
500180	HDFC Bank Limited	1.18%

Vitals

Issuer	BlackRock, Inc.
Brand	iShares
Structure	ETF
Expense Ratio	0.09%
Inception	Oct 18, 2012
Index Tracked	MSCI Emerging Markets Investable Market Index

ETF Database Themes

Category	Emerging Markets Equities
Asset Class	Equity
Asset Class Size	Large-Cap
Asset Class Style	Blend
Region (General)	Broad Asia
Region (Specific)	Pacific ex-Japan

FactSet Classifications

Segment	Equity: Emerging Markets - Total Market
Category	Size and Style
Focus	Total Market
Niche	Broad-based
Strategy	Vanilla
Weighting	Market Cap

