

ETFSector.com

# Research Study: Intermediate-term Momentum Real Estate Sector

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# Momentum Indicator Study Details



## ETFSector.com Intermediate-term Momentum Indicator

### **Construction:**

- Indicator Value =  $(1M \text{ (Trailing) Excess Total Returns} * 0.2) + (3M \text{ Excess Total Returns} * 0.5) + 6M \text{ Excess Total Returns} * 0.3$
- Binning Values by groups of 5
- Averaging coincident 1, 3, 6 and 12-month coincident excess total return vs. reference security by bin

### **Study Securities:**

- Sector Proxy: XLRE
- Reference Security: SPY

### **Look Back Period:**

- 20 years (Chart)

### **Objective:**

- Insight into the behavior of sector level momentum using a momentum calculation that emphasizes 3-month excess returns
- Identifying historical levels that coincided with positive excess returns

# Momentum Indicator Study: Notable Results



## Key Takeaways:

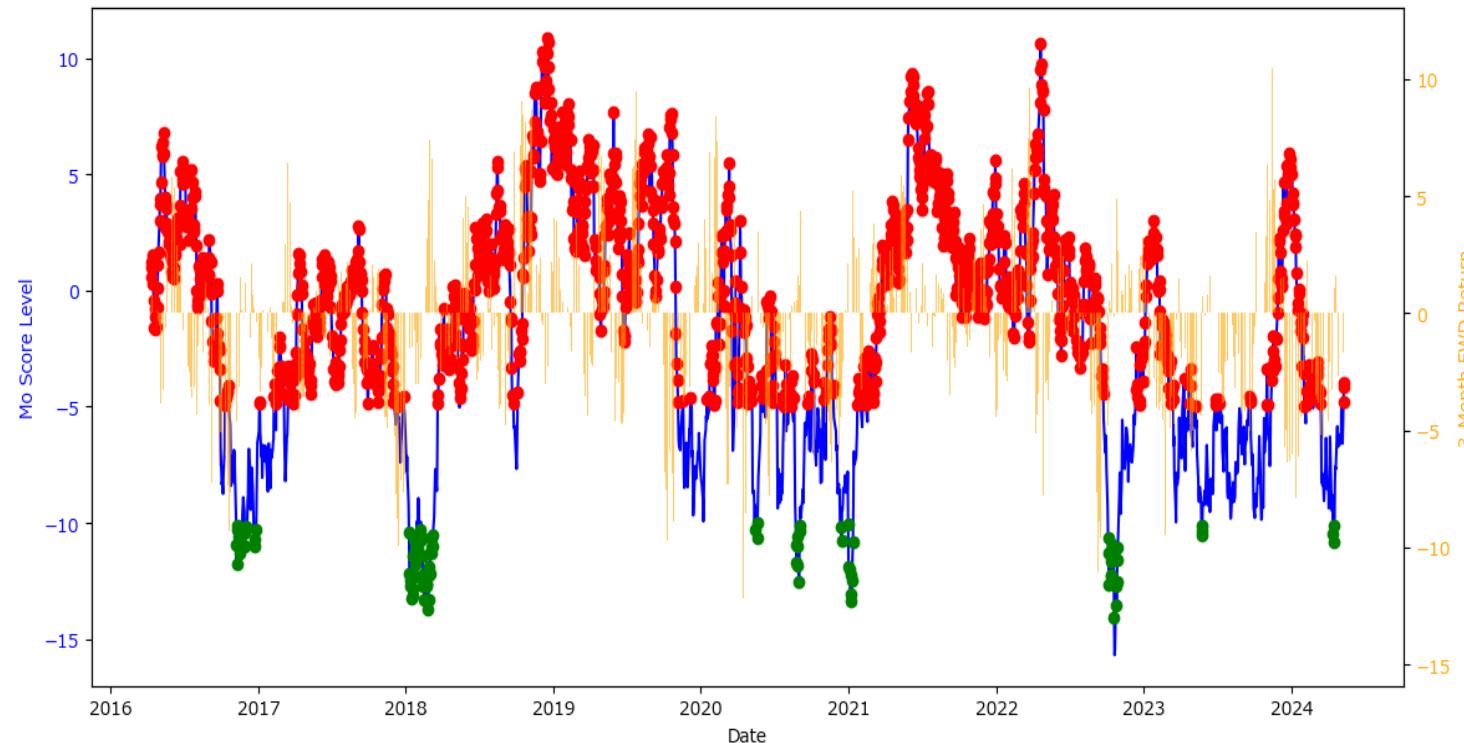
- The Real Estate Sector has been in a structural underperformance trend since its inception as a stand-alone sector in late 2015
- Prior to that REITs were part of the Financial Sector
- Alpha potential is muted, but positive forward returns have been associated with the -10 to -15 level over 1, 3, 6 and 12-month timeframes based on 100 observations in the data
- Interestingly the 2 extreme readings had very positive 3-month returns, but sharply negative 12-month returns
- Investors haven't been paid to hold onto the sector over periods longer than 3-months
- Any positive intermediate-term momentum (1-6 months duration) has been a sell signal over the 10yr period of study

**Based on this research the Real Estate Sector registered a strong sell signal on April 2, 2025 while hitting a reading above >10**

**The current reading is 1.14 which has coincided with positive 1-month excess returns and negative fwd returns over longer periods**

# Momentum Indicator Study: Insights & Strategy Tips

Real Estate Sector Mo Score and 3-Month Forward Returns with Bin Markers



## Insights on the Research:

- **Values > 5** coincided with negative forward returns (charts, right)
- **Values < -10** coincided with the biggest historical alpha opportunities, but the magnitude and duration of those positive forward returns is underwhelming to say the least
- If we built an indicator off this research we'd be looking to hold the XLRE for 1-3 months when readings went below the -10 level...that would have given us exposure in the sector about 10% of the time.