

Excerpt from ETF Database, December 2009

<http://etfdb.com/2009/best-performing-etfs-of-2009/>

Best Performing ETFs Of 2009

Following a year that saw some of the worst performances in recent memory, many asset classes have bounced back in 2009. But some have performed better than others, and as the year draws to a close we take a look at some of the best-performing ETFs. The year's top gainers include a few of the largest and most-heavily traded funds, but the majority of those that made the list are lesser known ETFs likely off the radar of many ETF investors.

Each of the 900-plus ETFs currently included in the [ETF Screener](#) has been allocated to a single "best fit" ETFdb Category (see a complete list of ETFdb Categories [here](#)). While ETFs in the same ETFdb Category generally share similar objectives and risk/return profiles, they aren't necessarily perfect substitutes for each other. The following list shows the fund from each ETFdb Category with this highest year-to-date return as of December 18, 2009.

ETFs that were launched in 2009 (there are more than 100 of them) weren't considered for the "best performing" title — only those that have been trading for all of 2009 are eligible for inclusion. ETFdb Pro members can see how we utilize several of the funds on this list in the [all-ETF Model Portfolios](#) (if you're not a Pro member yet, sign up for a free trial or read more [here](#)).

Sector Equity ETFs

For investors looking to tilt their portfolios towards (or away from) certain industries, sector ETFs are extremely popular. U.S. investors looking to overweight a certain part of the economy often have a number of ways to do so, with numerous ETFs targeting specific sectors. But, as shown below, some of these ETFs have performed much better than others in 2009:

....

[Transportation](#): The **PowerShares Global Progressive Transportation Portfolio (PTRP)** has only about \$4 million in assets, but it may not fly under the radar for much longer: the ETF has gained 45% so far in 2009, making it the top-performing transportation ETF.

....