# ATHENA GLOBAL TACTICAL ETFS



SMA COMMENTARY | QUARTER I, 2021

### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Global Tactical returned 24.2% in Q1, nearly 5 times the Morningstar Global Markets benchmark of 4.9%.
- The portfolio was invested in the 2X Russell 2000 during the quarter.
- The Market Barometers continue to signal small cap stocks as the most attractive market going forward.

Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
All equity markets, particularly small caps, rallied strongly during the quarter.	None.
Increased 2x exposure to small cap stocks was rewarded.	

### ECONOMIC AND MARKET PERSPECTIVE

- Markets continued to rally in Q1 despite political and pandemic challenges, ending the quarter at an all-time high (S&P 500) or near all-time highs (NASDAQ and Russell 2000).
- The pandemic impacts are waning with the rate of vaccinations accelerating during the quarter and optimistic feelings permeating the market.
- The Q1 economy strengthened dramatically, as indicated by a March PMI Manufacturing index at a 40 year high of 65 and a PMI Services index at an all-time high, (by 3 points) of 64. The latter was most impacted by the pandemic, so it is reassuring to see the 8.4 jump from February to March.
- The job market, which tends to lag overall economic activity, also took a big step in March, with nearly one million jobs being added. The hospitality and travel industries were major beneficiaries. This rapid healing of the employment market has led to GDP growth rate forecasts as high as 10% for Q3 and Q4.
- Our market indicators strengthened during the quarter, with economic and technical measures very strong, behavioral measures normal to very strong, while valuation measures remain elevated.
- Disruption in the economy and markets has created unique opportunities and a favorable environment for skilled active management. Market volatility has been higher than usual and may continue.
- We continue to believe that taking a long-term perspective and following a disciplined investment approach will be essential to successfully navigating the next year.

The Global Tactical portfolio's long-term performance profile remains attractive with 11 out of 12 years positive and periodic outsized returns of 20% or greater in 6 of those years.

#### $\textbf{PERFORMANCE}^{\Delta}$

Annualized Since Inception (9/1/2010)



 $\Delta$  All performance figures are based on composite portfolio performance on a pre-tax basis with reinvestment of dividends and is net of all trading, custodial, and management fees.

† Portfolio benchmark is the Morningstar Global Markets Index.

#### **Calendar Year Performance**

YTD		24.2%
2020		24.8%
2019		25.3%
2018		-2.5%
2017		26.0%
2016		6.6%
2015		0.5%
2014		19.9%
2013		54.4%
2012		15.5%
2011		5.4%
2010*		25.6%

\* 2010 return is Sep 1 – Dec 31 and is not annualized.

### % ANNUALIZED TRAILING PERFORMANCE AS OF 3/31/2021

	QI 2021	YTD	I YEAR	3 YEARS	5 YEARS	10 YEARS	INCEPT
Global Tactical ETFs (Net)	24.2	24.2	92.0	24.2	20.3	18.0	20.6
Morningstar Global Markets NR Index	4.9	4.9	56.5	11.8	13.1	9.2	11.0

Investment returns presented assume reinvestment of dividends and capital gains and are net of actual management fees. Current performance may be higher or lower than what is shown. Benchmark performance is shown for comparison purposes only and it is not possible to invest directly in an index. Holdings shown and discussed in this analysis should not be deemed as a recommendation to buy or sell securities and the current portfolio holdings may be different than what is presented. There are risks involved in investing in any Athena Portfolio, including loss of principal.

For complete portfolio performance, disclosures and risks, refer to athenainvest.com.

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The opinions expressed in this commentary are as of March 31, 2021. GT-QC-202103