

Cash Holding Trends in Equity MFs as of November 2025

Cash Reserves Across AMCs: Who's Holding How Much?

- Mutual Funds Step Up Equity Buying, Cash Buffer Dips:** Mutual Funds remained strong **buyers in equities** during November, **stepping up equity deployment sharply to ₹43,465 Cr**, including allocations to IPOs. This increased deployment nudged **overall cash holdings slightly lower to ₹2.02 lakh Cr in November** from ₹2.09 Lakh Cr in October.
- AMC Cash Levels Ease Further in November:** The **average cash holding ratio** across the top 20 Asset Management Companies softened to **4.06% in November**, down from **4.54% in October**, as equity AUM rose and market investments increased. The continued decline keeps the industry's cash levels well **below the 5% threshold**, highlighting strong investor confidence, persistent risk-on sentiment and a preference among fund managers to stay more fully invested amid resilient market conditions.
- Equity MF Inflows Bounce Back in November:** Equity mutual funds saw a recovery in November, with net **inflows rising 21.20% month-on-month to ₹29,911 Cr** from ₹24,690 Cr in October. **SIP flows** largely stayed steady, with November contributions at **₹29,445 Cr**, just lower than the all-time high of **₹29,529 Cr** of October.

Top 20 AMCs Holding the Largest Cash Piles			
Based on Equity-Oriented Mutual Fund Schemes			
Category	Equity Allocation (₹ Cr)	Cash Holding (₹ Cr)	Cash as % of AUM
SBI MF	746,312	30,252	3.90
ICICI Pru MF	490,391	25,904	5.02
HDFC MF	431,768	30,288	6.55
Nippon India MF	405,124	6,802	1.65
UTI MF	273,421	2,928	1.06
Kotak MF	249,260	6,254	2.45
Axis MF	196,234	8,660	4.23
Mirae MF	168,880	1,273	0.75
Aditya Birla SL MF	155,597	3,650	2.29
DSP MF	117,126	4,981	4.08
Motilal Oswal MF	111,602	7,790	6.52
PPFAS MF	106,658	28,992	21.37
Franklin Templeton MF	98,300	3,820	3.74
Canara Robeco MF	95,259	2,412	2.47
Tata MF	85,486	4,120	4.60
Quant MF	74,773	12,082	13.91
Bandhan MF	73,527	4,970	6.33
HSBC MF	73,089	1,612	2.16
Invesco MF	71,824	3,070	4.10
Sundaram MF	47,349	2,093	4.23

Cash-Heavy Mutual Funds: PPFAS Leads with 21.37%

- PPFAS Mutual Fund** continues to hold the highest cash-to-AUM ratio among equity-oriented schemes at **21.37% (₹28,992 Cr)**, signaling a distinctly conservative investment posture and strong flexibility for future market opportunities. **Quant MF** follows with a substantial **13.91% (₹12,082 Cr)**, while **HDFC MF** (6.55%) and **Motilal Oswal MF** (6.52%) remain comfortably above the industry average, reflecting cautious optimism.
- SBI Mutual Fund** leads with the largest cash pile at **₹30,252 Cr (3.90%)**, followed by **HDFC Mutual Fund** at **₹30,288 Cr (6.55%)**, and **ICICI Prudential MF** holding **₹25,904 Cr (5.02%)**, highlighting robust liquidity buffers across India's top fund houses.
- Bandhan MF (6.33%)** also maintain healthy cash balances to navigate evolving market volatility.

* Data Source:- ACE MF

* Average of Cash Holding Ratio= Average of cash holdings ratio of the AMCs

Cash Reserves Across Equity MF Categories: A Deep Dive

- ❖ **Contra & Flexi Cap Funds Lead the Liquidity Charts:** **Contra Funds** top the liquidity chart with the highest cash-to-AUM ratio of **15.10% (₹11,392 Cr)**, reflecting a highly defensive and opportunistic positioning amid ongoing market volatility. **Flexi Cap Funds** follow with a strong **10.06% (₹54,905 Cr)** held in cash, highlighting their tactical flexibility to deploy funds across market caps as opportunities emerge.
- ❖ **Small Cap & Focused Funds Maintain Elevated Cash Levels:** **Small Cap Funds** continue to hold a substantial **6.92% (₹25,609 Cr)** in cash – a prudent stance to counter sharp price swings in smaller, high-beta stocks. **Focused Funds**, with **7.01% (₹12,249 Cr)**, also maintain robust liquidity to support concentrated portfolio strategies.

Equity MF Categories & Their Cash Pile: A Comparative View			
Category	Equity Allocation (₹ Cr)	Cash Holding (₹ Cr)	Cash as % of AUM
Contra Fund	64,052	11,392	15.10%
Flexi Cap Fund	491,007	54,905	10.06%
Focused Fund	162,522	12,249	7.01%
Small cap Fund	344,300	25,609	6.92%
Dividend Yield Fund	31,246	1,836	5.55%
Value Fund	135,076	7,077	4.98%
Sector/Thematic Fund	511,393	26,596	4.94%
Mid Cap Fund	440,660	21,639	4.68%
Large Cap Fund	402,887	16,264	3.88%
Large & Mid Cap Fund	319,853	9,775	2.97%
Multi Cap Fund	216,249	6,605	2.96%
ELSS Fund	247,192	7,457	2.93%

Breaking Down Cash Reserves Across Equity MF Schemes

- ❖ **Parag Parikh & SBI Contra Lead in Cash Proportion:** **Parag Parikh Flexi Cap Fund** holds the highest cash-to-AUM ratio at **21.71% (₹28,178 Cr)**, reflecting a distinctly conservative and flexible strategy aimed at capitalizing on future market opportunities. Close behind, **SBI Contra Fund** maintains a substantial **19.87% (₹9,903 Cr)** in cash, signalling a cautious yet opportunistic stance amid current market uncertainties. **HDFC Flexi Cap Fund**, with **13.81% (₹12,989 Cr)**, also demonstrates a prudent approach, keeping ample liquidity for tactical deployment as valuations evolve.
- ❖ **Small & Mid Cap Funds Maintain Elevated Cash Buffers:** **SBI Small Cap Fund** holds **14.42% (₹5,232 Cr)** in cash, indicating defensive positioning to manage heightened volatility in smaller companies. Similarly, **HDFC Small Cap Fund** (**10.22% ; ₹3,884 Cr**) and **HDFC Focussed Fund** (**15.92% ; ₹4,177 Cr**) continue to maintain liquidity cushions, balancing growth exposure with risk control.

Top 10 Equity MF Schemes with High Cash Stash				
Scheme Name	Category	Equity Allocation (₹ Cr)	Cash Holding (₹ Cr)	Cash as % of AUM
Parag Parikh Flexi Cap Fund	Flexi Cap Fund	101,605	28,178	21.71%
HDFC Flexi Cap Fund	Flexi Cap Fund	81,080	12,989	13.81%
SBI Contra Fund	Contra	39,935	9,903	19.87%
ICICI Pru Large Cap Fund	Large Cap Fund	70,645	7,515	9.61%
HDFC Mid Cap Fund	Mid Cap Fund	86,382	5,787	6.28%
SBI Small Cap Fund	Small cap Fund	31,040	5,232	14.42%
HDFC Focused Fund	Focused Fund	22,053	4,177	15.92%
SBI Focused Fund	Focused Fund	38,808	3,965	9.27%
HDFC Small Cap Fund	Small cap Fund	34,136	3,884	10.22%
ICICI Pru Value Fund	Value Fund	56,516	3,875	6.42%

* Data Source:- ACE MF, Data updated as on 30th November 2025