

3Q 2020 Update

William Blair Small-Mid Cap Growth Fund

**OBJECTIVE**

Capital Appreciation

**CHARACTERISTICS**

The Fund seeks to invest in small and mid cap quality companies that are expected to have solid growth in earnings.

**WHY CONSIDER THIS FUND?**

- Seeks to provide strong long-term investment returns with lower levels of risk
- Applies a time-tested, fundamental research approach to assess a company's growth sustainability and critical success factors
- Utilizes William Blair's Research Agenda to ensure portfolio managers and analysts continually focus on the most attractive portfolio candidates
- Managed by an experienced, long-tenured portfolio management team

**INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE % (as of 09/30/20)**

	QTR	YTD	1Y	3Y	5Y	Since Incep.
Class R6 (SI: 05/02/19)	8.37	9.26	13.93	—	—	12.52
Russell 2500™ Growth Index <sup>2</sup>	9.37	11.58	23.37	—	—	14.78
Morningstar Mid-Cap Growth Category <sup>3</sup>	10.20	15.01	24.49	—	—	—

**CALENDAR YEAR PERFORMANCE %**

	2019†
Class R6 (SI: 05/02/19)	8.17
Russell 2500™ Growth Index <sup>2</sup>	8.99

† Since Inception of Class R6 shares on 5/2/2019 through 12/31/2019.

**Performance cited represents past performance. Past performance does not guarantee future results and current performance may be lower or higher than the data quoted. Returns shown assume reinvestment of dividends and capital gains. Investment returns and principal will fluctuate with market and economic conditions and you may have a gain or loss when you sell shares. For the most current month-end performance information, please call +1 800 742 7272, or visit our Web site at [www.williamblairfunds.com](http://www.williamblairfunds.com). Class R6 shares are available only to investors who meet certain eligibility requirements.**

**EXPENSE RATIOS (%)**

	Gross Expense
Class R6	1.05

Expenses shown are as of the most recent prospectus.

**FUND FACTS AND STATISTICS <sup>1</sup>**

Total Net Assets (\$MM)	\$3,075
Number of Holdings	70
Wgt'd Avg Mkt Cap (\$BB)	\$8.6
Unwgt'd Median Mkt Cap (\$BB)	\$7.0
P/E Ratio (Next 12 Months)	31.3
EPS Growth (Long-Term Projected)	16.9
Trailing 1-Year Turnover (%)	53.4
Cash (%)**	3.3

\*\* Cash represents cash and any short-term or overnight investments held by the Fund.

**TOP TEN HOLDINGS (%)**<sup>4,5</sup>

Company	Industry	% of Fund
Horizon Therapeutics Public Limited Company	Pharmaceuticals	3.3
BWX Technologies, Inc.	Aerospace & Defense	2.8
Grand Canyon Education, Inc.	Diversified Consumer Services	2.4
Martin Marietta Materials, Inc.	Construction Materials	2.3
NICE Ltd.	Software	2.2
Trex Company, Inc.	Building Products	2.1
Etsy, Inc.	Internet & Direct Marketing Retail	2.1
SolarEdge Technologies, Inc.	Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment	2.0
Encompass Health Corporation	Health Care Providers & Services	2.0
Crown Holdings, Inc.	Containers & Packaging	2.0
<b>Total Top 10</b>		<b>23.2</b>

**SECTOR DIVERSIFICATION (%)**<sup>4,5</sup>

Sector Type	Fund	Index <sup>2</sup>
Information Technology	26.8	29.1
Health Care	25.3	30.5
Industrials	18.7	11.8
Consumer Discretionary	12.2	12.0
Communication Services	4.5	2.5
Materials	4.4	3.1
Financials	3.2	4.2
Consumer Staples	2.6	3.0
Real Estate	1.3	2.7
Energy	1.0	0.1
Utilities	0.0	1.0

**MARKET CAP DIVERSIFICATION (%)**<sup>4,5</sup>

Market Cap	Fund	Index <sup>2</sup>
> \$10.0B	41.6	23.1
\$4.0B - \$10.0B	37.9	34.0
\$2.0B - \$4.0B	17.3	24.8
\$1.0B - \$2.0B	3.2	11.1
< \$1.0B	0.0	7.0

**PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**



**Dan Crowe, CFA**  
Started in Industry: 1999  
Education: B.S., Univ. of Illinois



**Jim Jones, CFA**  
Started in Industry: 2000  
Education: M.B.A., Univ. of North Carolina; B.S., Miami Univ.

1 **Weighted Average Market Capitalization:** The Weighted Average Market Capitalization for a portfolio is calculated as the average market capitalization of the stocks within the portfolio, weighted by the amount of each stock owned. **Unweighted Median Market Capitalization:** This calculation represents the median market capitalization of the stocks in the portfolio, regardless of the amount of each stock owned. **P/E (Price/Earnings) Ratio:** A stock with a higher P/E ratio would be considered more expensive relative to another stock with a lower P/E. An investor may pay a higher P/E for a stock for several reasons including, but not limited to, an expectation that the company possesses higher returns on invested capital, less economic sensitivity, higher consistency of earnings and/or higher earnings growth potential. **EPS Growth (Long-Term Projected):** This measure represents the weighted average of forecasted growth in earnings expected to be experienced by stocks within the portfolio over the next 3-5 years. This projected earnings growth should not be considered an indication of future fund performance. **Trailing 1-Year Turnover:** This figure reflects the portfolio's trading activity by calculating the amount of the portfolio's holdings bought or sold over the prior year, expressed as a percentage of the portfolio's average market value. Turnover figures may be related to the amount of trading costs experienced by the portfolio. **Standard Deviation:** A higher standard deviation represents a greater dispersion of returns, and thus, a greater amount of risk. Standard deviation returns shown are annualized and calculated using monthly returns. Funds without a 10-year history are reported against the Fund's inception date. If the Fund's inception date does not fall on the first day of a given month, the annualized standard deviation is calculated based on the first day of the month following the Fund's inception date.

2 The Russell 2500 Growth Index measures the performance of those Russell 2,500 companies with above average price-to-book ratios and forecasted growth rates. It is not possible to directly invest in an unmanaged index.

3 The Morningstar Mid-Cap Growth Category represents the average annual composite performance of all mutual funds listed in the Mid-Cap Growth Category by Morningstar.

4 Top ten holdings are shown as % of total net assets. Sector and market cap diversification exclude cash equivalents.

5 Information about the Fund's holdings should not be considered investment advice. There is no guarantee that the Fund will continue to hold any one particular security or stay invested in any one particular sector. Holdings are subject to change at any time.

**Risks:** The Fund's returns will vary, and you could lose money by investing in the Fund. The Fund invests most of its assets in equity securities of small cap and mid cap domestic growth companies where the primary risk is that the value of the equity securities it holds might decrease in response to the activities of those companies or market and economic conditions. Individual securities may not perform as expected or a strategy used by the Adviser may fail to produce its intended result. Investing in small and medium capitalization companies involves special risks, including higher volatility and lower liquidity. Small and mid-cap stocks are also more sensitive to purchase/sale transactions and changes in the issuer's financial condition. Convertible securities may be called before intended, which may have an adverse effect on investment objectives. Diversification does not ensure against loss. The Fund is not intended to be a complete investment program. The Fund is designed for long-term investors.

**Please carefully consider the Fund's investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses before investing. This and other information is contained in the Fund's prospectus and summary prospectus, which you may obtain by calling +1 800 742 7272. Read the prospectus and summary prospectus carefully before investing. Investing includes the risk of loss.**

This content is for informational and educational purposes only and not intended as investment advice or a recommendation to buy or sell any security. Investment advice and recommendations can be provided only after careful consideration of an investor's objectives, guidelines, and restrictions.

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