

## 4Q 2021 Update William Blair Growth Fund

### OBJECTIVE

Capital Appreciation

### CHARACTERISTICS

The Fund seeks to invest across the market cap spectrum in companies with strong growth characteristics, quality management teams and solid financials.

### WHY CONSIDER THIS FUND?

- Seeks to deliver competitive returns over time with a moderate risk profile
- Applies a time-tested, fundamental research approach to assess a company's growth sustainability and critical success factors
- Features an unconstrained opportunity set to leverage the best ideas, regardless of market cap
- Provides a focused yet diversified portfolio of stocks
- Managed by an experienced and long-tenured portfolio manager

### INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE (AS OF 12/31/21)

	QTR	YTD	1 Y	3 Y	5 Y	Since Incep.
Class R6 (SI: 05/02/19)	5.89%	22.55%	22.55%	--	--	25.99%
Russell 3000® Growth Index <sup>3</sup>	10.89%	25.85%	25.85%	--	--	28.71%
S&P 500 Index <sup>4</sup>	11.03%	28.71%	28.71%	--	--	22.17%
Morningstar Large Growth Category <sup>5</sup>	6.91%	20.45%	20.45%	--	--	--

### CALENDAR YEAR PERFORMANCE

	2021	2020	2019*
Class R6 (SI: 05/02/19)	22.55	36.50%	10.75%
Russell 3000® Growth Index <sup>3</sup>	25.85	38.26%	12.79%

\*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	Net Expense
Class R6	0.87%	--

Expenses shown are as of the most recent prospectus.

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

Total Net Assets (\$MM)	\$346
Number of Holdings	58
Wgt'd Avg Mkt Cap (\$BB)	\$597.5
Unwgt'd Median Mkt Cap (\$BB)	\$19.5
P/E Ratio (Next 12 Months)	33.2
EPS Growth (Long-Term Projected)	23.3%
Trailing 1-Year Turnover (%)	29.8%
Cash <sup>2</sup>	0.7%

TOP TEN HOLDINGS (%)<sup>6,7</sup>

Company	Industry	% of Fund
Microsoft Corporation	Software	9.7
Alphabet Inc.	Interactive Media & Services	7.8
Amazon.com, Inc.	Internet & Direct Marketing Retail	7.1
Mastercard Inc.	IT Services	3.9
Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.	Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment	3.6
Unitedhealth Group Inc.	Health Care Providers & Services	3.1
PayPal Holdings, Inc.	IT Services	2.5
Pure Storage, Inc.	Technology Hardware & Equipment	2.5
Stryker Corp.	Health Care Equipment & Supplies	2.5
Adobe Inc.	Software	2.4
<b>Total Top 10</b>		<b>45.1</b>

PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT



**David C. Fording, CFA**  
 Started in Industry: 1995  
 Education: M.B.A.,  
 New York Univ.;  
 B.A., Tufts Univ.

SECTOR DIVERSIFICATION<sup>6,7</sup>

Sector Type	Fund	Index <sup>3</sup>
Information Technology	38.5%	44.7%
Consumer Discretionary	14.3%	18.2%
Health Care	13.2%	9.7%
Communication Services	11.1%	11.1%
Industrials	10.5%	6.3%
Consumer Staples	3.7%	4.0%
Financials	3.4%	2.6%
Energy	2.7%	0.4%
Materials	1.5%	1.1%
Real Estate	1.1%	1.9%
Utilities	0.0%	0.0%
Exchange-Traded Funds	0.0%	0.0%

MARKET CAP DIVERSIFICATION<sup>6,7</sup>

Market Cap	Fund	Index <sup>3</sup>
> \$100.0B	50.6%	69.8%
\$30.0B - \$100.0B	12.2%	15.7%
\$5.0B - \$30.0B	23.4%	10.2%
<\$5.0B	13.8%	4.3%

<sup>1</sup> **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.

<sup>2</sup> Cash represents cash and any short-term or overnight investments held by the Fund.

<sup>3</sup> The Russell 3000 Growth Index consists of large, medium and small-capitalization companies with above average price-to-book ratios and forecasted growth rates. The stocks in this index are also members of either the Russell 1000 Growth or the Russell 2000 Growth indices. The size of companies in the Russell 3000 Growth Index may change with market conditions. It is not possible to directly invest in an unmanaged index.

<sup>4</sup> The S&P 500 Index indicates broad larger capitalization equity market performance. It is not possible to directly invest in an unmanaged index.

<sup>5</sup> The Morningstar Large Growth Category represents the average annual composite performance of all mutual funds listed in the Large Growth Category by Morningstar.

<sup>6</sup> Top ten holdings are shown as % of total net assets. Sector and market cap diversification exclude cash equivalents.

<sup>7</sup> 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 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. The securities of smaller and medium sized companies tend to be more volatile and less liquid than securities of larger companies. In addition, small and medium sized companies may be traded in lower volumes. This can increase volatility and increase the liquidity risk whereby the Fund will not be able to sell the security on short notice at a reasonable price. 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.**

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