

INVESTMENT OVERVIEW

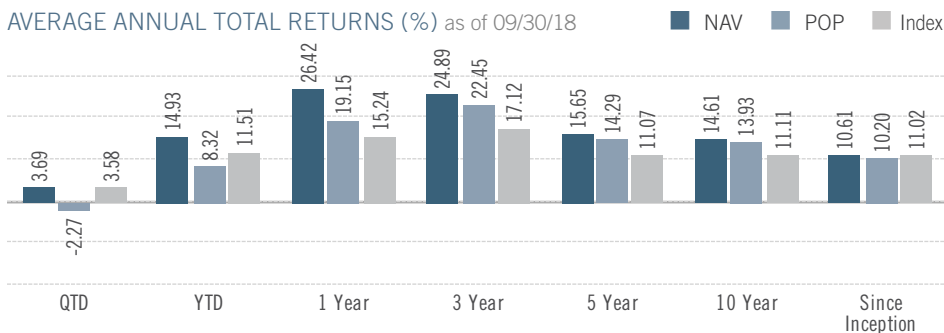
The Fund seeks to generate attractive risk-adjusted long-term returns by investing in the stocks of U.S. small-cap companies with durable competitive advantages, excellent management, lower financial risk, and strong growth trajectories. A disciplined investment process is employed to identify businesses that are differentiated by above-average returns on capital and trading at attractive valuations.

KEY FEATURES

High-Quality Businesses — Searches for quality small-cap core stocks with solid balance sheets, consistent growth, profitability, and market dominant business models

Lower Volatility Approach — Extensive fundamental research favors companies with less business risk, as defined by lower earnings variability, consistent and profitable growth, high returns on capital, strong free cash flow, and a low organic need for external financing, all of which can help to protect profits in difficult markets

High-Conviction Portfolio — Focused on the portfolio team's 25-35 strongest investment opportunities, with a long-term, low-turnover approach to realize full stock value potential



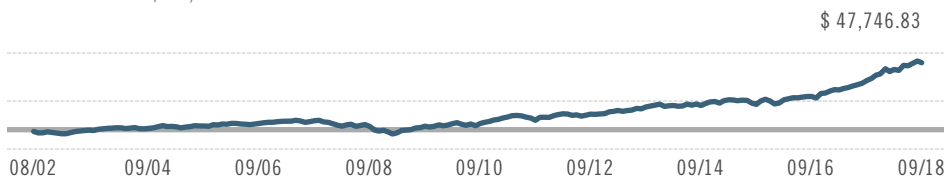
Performance data quoted represents past results. Past performance is no guarantee of future results and current performance may be higher or lower than the performance shown. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate, so your shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Please visit Virtus.com for performance data current to the most recent month-end.

The fund class gross expense ratio is 1.32% and reflects the direct and indirect expenses paid by the Fund. The gross expense ratio minus the indirect expenses incurred by the underlying funds in which the Fund invests is 1.30%. Average annual total return is the annual compound return for the indicated period and reflects the change in share price and the reinvestment of all dividends and capital gains. Returns for periods of one year or less are cumulative returns. Class A shares have a maximum sales charge of 5.75%. A contingent deferred sales charge of 1% may be imposed on certain redemptions within 18 months on purchases on which a finder's fee has been paid. POP (Public Offering Price) performance reflects the deduction of the maximum sales charge.

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE (%)

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Fund	34.62	17.08	0.84	6.06	27.47	11.98	9.07	20.87	30.22	-30.72
Index	14.65	21.31	-4.41	4.89	38.82	16.35	-4.18	26.85	27.17	-33.79

GROWTH OF \$10,000



This chart assumes an initial investment of \$10,000 made on 8/30/2002. As of 9/28/2018 the fund value would have been \$47,746.83. Fund performance assumes reinvestment of dividends and capital gain distributions and reflects a front end sales charge of 5.75%.

Effective July 31, 2018, this Fund is closed to new investors. Please see the prospectus for exceptions.

FUND INFORMATION

	Ticker	CUSIP
A Shares	PKSAX	92828N551
C Shares	PKSCX	92828N536
I Shares	PKSFX	92828N528
R6 Shares	VSCRX	92828N429

Inception Date	08/30/02
AUM (\$ millions)	1,594.9
Number of Holdings	27
Dividends	Semi-Annually
Morningstar Category	Small Growth
Lipper Category	Small-Cap Growth Funds
Index	Russell 2000® Index

MORNINGSTAR RATINGS

Time Period	# of Stars	# of Funds
Overall	★★★★★	606
3 Year	★★★★★	606
5 Year	★★★★★	532
10 Year	★★★★★	404

Strong ratings are not indicative of positive fund performance.

INVESTMENT ADVISER

Virtus Investment Advisers, Inc.

INVESTMENT SUBADVISER



Kayne Anderson Rudnick

A VIRTUS INVESTMENT PARTNER

Kayne Anderson Rudnick believes that superior risk-adjusted returns may be achieved through investment in high-quality companies with market dominance, excellent management, financial strength, and consistent growth, purchased at reasonable prices.

PORTFOLIO MANAGERS

Jon Christensen, CFA

Industry start date: 1995
Start date with Fund: 2008

Todd Bailey, CFA

Industry start date: 1999
Start date with Fund: 2009

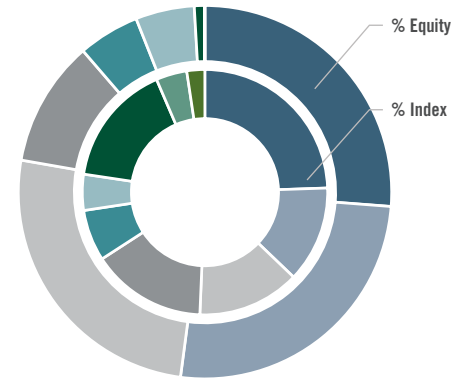
CHARACTERISTICS	Fund	Index
Avg. Weighted Market Cap (bn)	7.22	2.40
Median Market Cap (bn)	6.31	0.93
Trailing P/E Ex-Negative Earnings	26.44	18.85
Price-to-Cash Flow	25.05	16.28
Price-to-Book Value	6.31	3.15
3-Year EPS Growth Rate	13.80	9.17
5-Year EPS Growth Rate	19.60	7.13
Active Share	99.02	n/a

RISK STATISTICS (3 YEAR)	Fund	Index
Alpha	10.50	n/a
Beta	0.74	1.00
R ²	0.73	1.00
Sharpe Ratio	2.15	1.26
Standard Deviation	11.19	12.93

TOP TEN HOLDINGS	% Fund
Autohome, Inc. Sponsored ADR Class A	6.96
Teledyne Technologies Incorporated	5.53
Primerica, Inc.	5.34
Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc.	5.31
Aspen Technology, Inc.	5.31
CDW Corp.	4.96
Rightmove plc	4.75
WABCO Holdings Inc.	4.36
Copart, Inc.	4.28
Pool Corporation	3.82

Holdings and sector weightings are subject to change.

SECTOR ALLOCATIONS



Sector	% Equity	% Index
Financial Services	26.23	24.46
Technology	25.87	12.70
Producer Durables	25.66	13.52
Consumer Discretionary	10.92	15.18
Materials & Processing	5.31	6.76
Energy	5.10	4.74
Health Care	0.91	16.18
Utilities	0.00	4.08
Consumer Staples	0.00	2.38

IMPORTANT RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Equity Securities: The market price of equity securities may be adversely affected by financial market, industry, or issuer-specific events. Focus on a particular style or on small or medium-sized companies may enhance that risk. **Limited Number of Investments:** Because the fund has a limited number of securities, it may be more susceptible to factors adversely affecting its securities than a less concentrated fund. **Industry/Sector Concentration:** A fund that focuses its investments in a particular industry or sector will be more sensitive to conditions that affect that industry or sector than a non-concentrated fund. **Prospectus:** For additional information on risks, please see the fund's prospectus.

GLOSSARY

Avg. Weighted Market Cap (bn): The total dollar market value of all of a company's outstanding shares. **Trailing P/E Ex-Negative Earnings:** Per share stock price divided by the latest 12-months earnings per share. **Price-to-Cash Flow:** Per-share stock price divided by the per-share operating cash flow. **Price-to-Book Value:** A ratio used to compare a stock's market value to its book value. **3-Year EPS Growth Rate:** Average of earnings per share growth for latest 3-year period. **5-Year EPS Growth Rate:** Average of earnings per share growth for latest 5-year period. **Active Share:** A measure of the percentage of stock holdings in a manager's portfolio that differ from the benchmark index. **Alpha:** A risk-adjusted measure of an investment's excess return relative to a benchmark. **Beta:** A quantitative measure of the volatility, or systematic risk, of a security or a portfolio in comparison to the market as a whole. **R²:** A measure that represents the percentage of a fund or security's movements that can be explained by movements in a benchmark index. **Sharpe Ratio:** A risk-adjusted measure calculated using standard deviation and excess return to determine reward per unit of risk. **Standard Deviation:** Measures variability of returns around the average return for an investment portfolio. Higher standard deviation suggests greater risk.

Index: The Russell 2000® Index is a market capitalization-weighted index of the 2,000 smallest companies in the Russell Universe, which comprises the 3,000 largest U.S. companies. The index is calculated on a total return basis with dividends reinvested. The index is unmanaged, its returns do not reflect any fees, expenses, or sales charges, and is not available for direct investment.

Morningstar Rating™ for funds, or 'star rating,' is calculated for managed products (including mutual funds, variable annuity and variable life subaccounts, exchange-traded funds, closed-end funds, and separate accounts) with at least a three-year history. Exchange-traded funds and open-ended mutual funds are considered a single population for comparative purposes. It is calculated based on a Morningstar Risk-Adjusted Return measure that accounts for variation in a managed product's monthly excess performance, placing more emphasis on downward variations and rewarding consistent performance. The top 10% of products in each product category receive 5 stars, the next 22.5% receive 4 stars, the next 35% receive 3 stars, the next 22.5% receive 2 stars, and the bottom 10% receive 1 star. The Overall Morningstar Rating for a managed product is derived from a weighted average of the performance figures associated with its three-, five-, and 10-year (if applicable) Morningstar Rating metrics. The weights are: 100% three-year rating for 36-59 months of total returns, 60% five-year rating/40% three-year rating for 60-119 months of total returns, and 50% 10-year rating/30% five-year rating/20% three-year rating for 120 or more months of total returns. While the 10-year overall star rating formula seems to give the most weight to the 10-year period, the most recent three-year period actually has the greatest impact because it is included in all three rating periods. Ratings do not take into account the effect of sales charges and loads.

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