



# **Mid Cap Core Portfolio**

Second Quarter 2025

## **Portfolio Review**

The Mid Cap Core portfolio underperformed the Russell Midcap Index in the second quarter. Poor stock selection in financials and consumer discretionary detracted from performance. An underweight in real estate and energy contributed positively to performance.

The biggest contributors to performance during the quarter were HEICO and Monolithic Power Systems.

- HEICO continues to execute in all segments as demand for the company's parts has increased in both commercial and defense aircrafts. The company continues to gain placement within aviation.
- Monolithic Power reported strong revenue growth driven by design wins in various end markets and provided greater confidence for a recovery in its Enterprise Data business in the second half of the year.
- Other top contributors included Bentley Systems, Westinghouse Air Brake Technologies, and Houlihan Lokey.

The biggest detractors to performance during the quarter were Cooper Companies and Brown & Brown.

- Cooper Companies projected organic growth was lowered by management as the contact lens industry has slowed. However, the company continues to take market share.
- Lower organic growth resulting from moderating premium rates led to a reduction in Brown & Brown's near-term earnings outlook.
- Other bottom contributors included POOLCORP, Exponent, and West Pharmaceutical Services.

#### **Purchases and Sales**

During the quarter, we purchased Advanced Drainage Systems and EMCOR Group. There were no complete sales.

- Advanced Drainage Systems is the leading designer and manufacturer of plastic water management solutions for the stormwater and onsite septic wastewater industries.
- EMCOR Group engages in the provision of electrical and mechanical construction and facilities services. It operates through the following segments: U.S. Electrical Construction; U.S. Mechanical Construction; U.S. Building Services; U.S. Industrial Services; and U.K. Building Services.

## **Outlook**

At the peak of tariff terror (the low point for the market), we saw equity valuations normalize, particularly those of expensive technology shares. At that time, valuations ranged from fair to attractive, particularly for small cap stocks. As investors gained confidence that cooler heads would prevail in the tariff wars, we saw valuations bounce back materially. This is particularly true for the largest companies in the S&P 500 (i.e., the big tech firms leading the surge). With so much uncertainty both at home and abroad, it is hard to gauge whether higher valuations are likely to be justified with strong earnings growth. Earnings estimates have been sliding as the year has progressed, which is not unusual. But this does put more pressure on expectations for the end of 2025 and into 2026.

It is also possible that investor expectations for interest rate cuts support higher equity market valuations. We would caution though that the Fed's stance currently is that the economy is on solid enough footing that it does not need to cut rates. Should that change, and the Fed were forced to cut rates, that probably would not be positive for equity valuations overall.

# **Portfolio Highlights**

Style: Mid Cap Sub-Style: Core

Index: Russell Midcap® Portfolio Inception: 2000 Portfolio Assets: \$6,469.2 M\* Portfolio Turnover: 25%-35%

# **Investment Management Team**

	earch Date
Jon Christensen, CFA Portfolio Manager + Senior Research Analyst	1995
Craig Stone Portfolio Manager + Senior Research Analyst	1990
<b>Todd Beiley, CFA</b> Senior Research Analyst	1999
Julie Biel, CFA Senior Research Analyst	2004
Julie Kutasov Senior Research Analyst	2001
Chris Wright, CFA Senior Research Analyst	2012
Adam Xiao, CFA Senior Research Analyst	2013
Tyler Cantarano Research Analyst	2017
Sean Dixon Research Analyst	2008
<b>Luke Longinotti, CFA</b> Governance & Sustainability Analyst	2020
Arthur Su, CFA Research Analyst	2015
<b>Clarissa Ali</b> Associate Research Analyst	2023

# **Top Five Holdings**

As of June 30, 2025

Company	Percent of equity (%)
HEICO	5.8
Houlihan Lokey	5.3
AMETEK	5.1
Teledyne Technologies	4.7
Westinghouse Air Brake Techn	nologies 4.5
Total	25.5

\*Figures in USD

This report is based on the assumptions and analysis made and believed to be reasonable by Advisor. However, no assurance can be given that Advisor's opinions or expectations will be correct. This report is intended for informational purposes only and should be not considered a recommendation or solicitation to purchase securities. Holdings are subject to change. Holdings and weightings are based on a representative portfolio. Individual Investors' holdings may differ slightly. Data is obtained by FactSet Research Systems and is assumed to be reliable. Numbers may not always add up due to rounding. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.







Development of KAR High-Quality

#### **Quantitative Screens**

- High return on capital over a full economic cycle
- · Long and resilient earnings history
- · High return on net operating assets
- Minimal debt

#### **Other Resources**

- Research on existing portfolio holdings
- Meetings with companies
- Industry reviews
- Investment conferences
- Third-party research



Proprietary Fundamental Research

#### **Qualitative Analysis**

• Evaluate sustainability of business model and assess management's ability to direct capital where it can create further control of its

#### **Financial Analysis**

 Evaluate basis for profitability, long-term growth potential, and ability to allocate capital appropriately

#### **Valuation Analysis**

Determine the current and potential value of the business

# 

**Portfolio** Construction

#### **Position Weights**

- Maximum initial position size is 5% (at cost)
- Maximum position size is 10% (at market)

#### **Sector Tolerances**

• Seek broad diversification, but no sector constraints

## Non-U.S. Holdings

Up to 20%

#### **Holding Period**

- Typically 3-to-5 years, but is often
- Portfolio turnover is typically 25% to 35%

#### **Cash Levels**

 Typically will not exceed 10% once a portfolio is fully invested; review by CIO triggered if over 10%



Sell Discipline

**Extended Valuation** 

Portfolio Upgrade

**Acquisition Activity** 

**Negative Company or Industry Changes** 

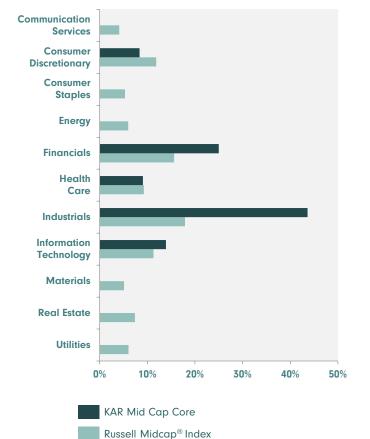
**Seeking Higher Quality** 

Seeking Stronger, More Consistent Growth

**Seeking Better Value** 

# **Sector Diversification**

As of June 30, 2025



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# **Portfolio Characteristics**

As of June 30, 2025

	KAR Mid Cap Core			
Quality				
Return on Equity—Past 5 Years	25.0%	16.3%		
Debt/EBITDA*	1.3 x	2.2 x		
Earnings Variability—Past 10 Years	34.0%	64.2%		
Growth				
Earnings Per Share Growth—Past 5 Years	14.9%	13.1%		
Earnings Per Share Growth—Past 10 Years	15.8%	10.8%		
Dividend Per Share Growth—Past 5 Years	12.1%	8.6%		
Dividend Per Share Growth—Past 10 Years	11.9%	7.5%		
Capital Generation—{ROE x (1-Payout)}	19.6%	11.5%		
Value				
P/E Ratio—Trailing 12 Months	29.7 x	26.3 x		
Dividend Yield <sup>†</sup>	0.8%	1.6%		
Free Cash Flow Yield <sup>‡</sup>	3.4%	3.8%		
Market Characteristics				
\$ Weighted Average Market Cap—3-Year Avg.	\$19.7 B	\$24.8 B		
Largest Market Cap-3-Year Avg.	\$44.1 B	\$94.1 B		
Annualized Standard Deviation—Since Inception§	15.1%	17.4%		

\*KAR utilizes the interquartile method when calculating Debt/EBITDA. The interquartile method excludes outliers from an aggregate statistic such as weighted average. The interquartile method does not assume that data from the top or bottom of the distribution are outliers—only the extreme ends are excluded—and that it can be applied consistently as a quantitative method for most fundamental characteristics. Debt/EBITDA utilizes net debt for the calculation

†Dividend yield is a financial ratio that shows how much companies have paid out in dividends in the most recent year relative to their stock price at the end of such year. Dividend yield is being shown here as a characteristic of the stocks held in the portfolio and not to infer how the stocks have or will perform, as dividends are not the only component of the portfolio's performance. Dividends are subject to change from year-to-year, and the portfolio's dividend yield could be lower or higher in future years.

\*Free cash flow data is as of March 31, 2025. Prices are as of June 30, 2025. Excludes

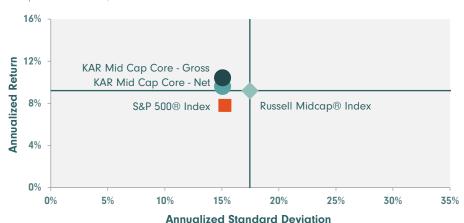
mancias. §January 1, 2000. Standard deviation for the KAR strategy is based on net-of-fee returns. This material is deemed supplemental and complements the performance and disclosure at the end of this presentation. Data is obtained from FactSet Research Systems and BNY Mellon and is assumed to be reliable. Other principal consultant firms may use different algorithms to calculate selected statistics. Estimates are based on certain assumptions and historical information. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Returns could be reduced, or losses incurred, due to currency fluctuations

# **Mid Cap Core Portfolio**

# Second Quarter 2025

# **Risk-Return Analysis**

Inception\* to June 30, 2025

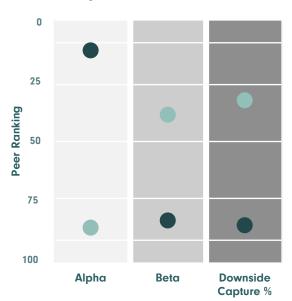


# **Historical Returns**

	KAR Mid Cap Core (gross)	KAR Mid Cap Core (net)‡	Russell Midcap®	
A	Core (gross)	core (net)	IIIdex	
Annualized Returns (%)†				
As of June 30, 2025				
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	6.48	6.28	8.53	
Year to Date	3.11	2.73	4.84	
One Year	8.08	7.28	15.21	
Three Years	13.04	12.20	14.33	
Five Years	12.01	11.18	13.11	
Seven Years	11.44	10.62	10.02	
Ten Years	12.07	11.24	9.89	
Inception*	10.43	9.61	9.21	
Annual Returns (%)				
2024	6.13	5.34	15.34	
2023	23.75	22.84	17.23	
2022	(19.04)	(19.66)	(17.32)	
2021	26.42	25.49	22.58	
2020	27.08	26.15	17.10	
2019	32.17	31.20	30.54	
2018	(3.21)	(3.93)	(9.06)	
2017	26.13	25.21	18.52	
2016	12.32	11.49	13.80	
2015	3.37	2.60	(2.44)	
2014	18.17	17.29	13.22	
2013	28.54	27.60	34.76	
2012	16.58	15.72	17.28	
2011	4.52	3.74	(1.55)	
2010	20.23	19.34	25.48	
2009	21.11	20.22	40.48	
2008	(28.63)	(29.18)	(41.46)	
2007	6.45	5.66	5.60	
2006	13.05	12.21	15.26	
2005	8.86	8.05	12.65	
2004	15.23	14.38	20.22	
2003	26.72	25.79	40.06	
2002	(12.62)	(13.28)	(16.19)	
2001	(2.76)	(3.49)	(5.62)	
2000	21.54	20.64	8.25	

# **Peer Comparison Chart**

Ten Years Ending June 30, 2025





The eVestment Mid Cap Core Universe includes 44 managers categorized in the mid cap core asset class by eVestment. KAR does not pay any fees to be included in the eVestment Mid Cap Core Universe or for the ranking itself. KAR does pay fees for the use of certain products and services provided by eVestment. eVestment rankings are based on gross of fee returns. Gross of fee returns will be reduced by investment management fees and other expenses that may be incurred in the management of the account. Management fees are described in KAR's Form ADV Part 2A, which is available upon request and can also be found at https://kayne.com/wpcontent/uploads/ADV-Part-2A.pdf. Returns could be reduced or losses incurred due to currency fluctuations. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

# **Performance Statistics**

Inception\* to June 30, 2025

	KAR Mid Cap Core (gross)	KAR Mid Cap Core (net)	Russell Midcap <sup>®</sup> Index
Alpha	2.39	1.62	0.00
Sharpe Ratio	0.57	0.51	0.42
Information Ratio	0.19	0.06	N/A
Beta	0.81	0.81	1.00
Downside Capture	76.24	77.79	100.00
Tracking Error	6.38	6.38	N/A

<sup>\*</sup>January 1, 2000.

<sup>†</sup>All periods less than one year are total returns and are not annualized. Returns are final. Returns could be reduced, or losses incurred, due to currency fluctuations.

<sup>\*</sup>Net of all fees and expenses. Assumes a 0.75% annual fee. Fees presented on the Disclosure page could vary from the assumed fee in the net-of-fee calculation, as actual fees paid by a particular client account differ depending on a variety of factors including, but not limited to, business unit and size of mandate. The fee used on the Disclosure page utilizes an assumed maximum fee across the firm's business units, which is further detailed on that page.

This material is deemed supplemental and complements the performance and disclosure at the end of this presentation. Returns of the Kayne Anderson Rudnick composite are final. For further details on the composite, please see the disclosure statement in this presentation. Data is obtained from FactSet Research Systems and is assumed to be reliable. **Past** performance is no guarantee of future results.





# **Mid Cap Core Composite**

Second Quarter 2025

## **Disclosure**

Year	Composite Gross Return (%)	Composite Net Return (%)	Russell Midcap® Index Return (%)	Composite 3-Yr Std Dev (%)	Benchmark 3-Yr Std Dev (%)	Number of Accounts	Internal Dispersion (%)	Composite Assets (\$ Millions)	Firm Assets (\$ Millions)
2015	3.37	2.03	(2.44)	11.96	11.00	15	0.44	40	8,095
2016	12.32	10.88	13.80	12.31	11.72	22	0.36	79	9,989
2017	26.13	24.53	18.52	10.76	10.51	72	0.23	170	14,609
2018	(3.21)	(4.46)	(9.06)	11.33	12.15	181	0.30	352	17,840
2019	32.17	30.50	30.54	12.49	13.08	323	0.39	700	25,685
2020	27.08	25.47	17.10	18.88	22.13	362	1.03	1,214	39,582
2021	26.42	24.82	22.58	17.65	20.84	467	0.27	1,946	47,269
2022	(19.04)	(20.11)	(17.32)	21.10	23.95	584	0.30	1,738	33,531
2023	23.75	22.17	17.23	18.95	19.38	692	0.54	2,799	41,186
2024	6.13	4.77	15.34	19.17	20.25	891	0.20	4,336	45,494

The Russell Midcap® Index and Russell 1000® Index are trademarks/service marks of Frank Russell Company. Russell® is a trademark of Frank Russell Company.

KAR (as defined below) claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS® standards. KAR has been independently verified for the period from January 1, 1999 through December 31, 2024.

A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis.

The Mid Cap Core Composite has had a performance examination for the period from January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2024. The verification and performance examination reports are available upon request.

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Kayne Anderson Rudnick Investment Management, LLC ("KAR"), a wholly owned subsidiary of Virtus Investment Partners, Inc., is a registered investment advisor under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. Registration of an Investment Advisor does not imply any level of skill or training. KAR manages a variety of equity and fixed-income strategies focusing exclusively on securities the firm defines as high quality.

The composite includes all fully discretionary institutional and pooled Mid Cap Core Portfolios. Mid Cap Core Portfolios are invested in equity securities with market capitalizations consistent with the Russell Midcap® Index, that have market control, rising free cash flow, shareholder-oriented management, strong consistent profit growth and low-debt balance sheets. For comparison purposes, the composite is measured against the Russell Midcap® Index. The Russell Midcap® Index is a market capitalization-weighted index of the 800 smallest companies in the Russell 1000® Index, which comprises the 1,000 largest U.S. companies. The index is calculated on a total-return basis with dividends reinvested. Benchmark returns are not covered by the report of the independent verifiers. The inception date of the composite is January 2000. The composite was created in January 2000. Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS Reports are available upon request. The firm's list of composite descriptions, list of broad distribution pooled fund and the list of limited distribution pooled funds descriptions are available upon request.

The model management fee used for the net returns in this table is 1.30% for all periods presented. The standard Institutional management fee schedule currently in effect is as follows: 0.75% for the first \$25 million; 0.65% on the next \$25 million; 0.65% on the heat \$50 million; 0.55% on the balance. The maximum Wealth Advisory Services Fee in effect is 1.30% for all assets, which breaks out as follows: 1.00% for the first \$3 million; 0.80% on the next \$2 million; 0.70% on the next \$5 million; 0.60% on the balance; with an additional 0.30% for any

assets invested in separately managed accounts strategies. The standard investment advisory fee schedule currently in effect for clients not engaging in Wealth Advisory Services is 1.00%. Actual management fees charged may vary depending on applicable fee schedules and portfolio size, among other things. Additional information may be found in Part 2A of Form ADV, which is available on request. The performance information is supplied for reference. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Results will vary among accounts. The U.S. dollar is the currency used to express performance. Returns are presented net of transaction fees and include the reinvestment of all income. Gross returns will be reduced by investment management fees and other expenses that may be incurred in the management of the account. Model net returns have been calculated by deducting 1/12th of the highest tier of the standard management fee schedule in effect for the respective period from the gross composite returns on a monthly basis.

Internal dispersion is calculated using the asset-weighted standard deviation of annual gross returns for accounts in the composite for the entire year. For those years when less than five accounts were included for the full year, no dispersion measure is presented. The three-year annualized ex-post standard deviation measures the variability of the composite (using gross returns) and the benchmark for the 36-month period.

#### GLOSSARY

Standard Deviation: Measures variability of returns around the average return for an investment portfolio. Higher standard deviation suggests greater risk. Alpha: A risk-adjusted measure of an investment's excess return relative to a benchmark. Sharpe Ratio: A risk-adjusted measure calculated using standard deviation and excess return to determine reward per unit of risk. Information Ratio: The information ratio (IR) is a measurement of portfolio returns beyond the returns of a benchmark, usually an index, compared to the volatility of those returns. Beta: A quantitative measure of the volatility, or systematic risk, of a security or a portfolio in comparison to the market as a whole. Downside Capture Ratio: A statistical measure of an investment manager's overall performance in down-markets. It is used to evaluate how well an investment manager performed relative to an index during periods when that index has dropped. Tracking Error: The divergence between the price behavior of a position or a portfolio and the price behavior of a benchmark. It is reported as a standard deviation percentage difference, which reports the difference between the return an investor receives and that of the benchmark they were attempting to imitate.