





Small Cap Quality Value Portfolio

Second Quarter 2025

Portfolio Review

The Small Cap Quality Value portfolio underperformed the Russell 2000 Value Index in the second quarter. An underweight in information technology and poor stock selection in financials detracted from performance. Good stock selection and an overweight in consumer discretionary and an underweight in energy contributed positively to performance.

The biggest contributors to performance during the quarter were Construction Partners and The Cheesecake Factory. Construction Partners reported significant revenue growth and margin expansion driven by good operational execution in a strong road infrastructure spend environment combined with meaningful acquisition activity. The Cheesecake Factory is benefitting from resilient comparable store sales growth relative to the broader casual dining industry and moderating food and labor inflation. Also, the company continues to expand its North Italia and Flower Child branded restaurants, which we believe are opening at attractive economics. Other top contributors included RBC Bearings, Armstrong World Industries, and Houlihan Lokey.

The biggest detractors from performance during the quarter were Watsco and Hillman Solutions. Watsco is facing revenue headwinds from weaker equipment sales, particularly in its commercial business due to new refrigeration transition disruptions. More recently, the residential market is beginning to show signs of softness heading into the peak cooling season. Hillman's underperformance stems from their exposure to foreign made goods and the impact of tariffs on their cost structure. Other bottom detractors included Azenta, Getty Realty, and RLI.

Purchases and Sales

During the quarter, there were no new purchases and we sold Azenta, Lakeland Financial, and Scotts Miracle-Gro. Our investment in Azenta resulted from our position in the predecessor company, Brooks Automation, and was based on the company's highly specialized cold storage business. While Azenta's core business of cold storage unit sales and storage services remained solid, a sizable acquisition of another cold storage company serving emerging markets had a material negative impact on the company's financial results and business predictability. While the other company has since been divested and there has been a change in senior management, our concerns over the company's capital allocation discipline remained. While we continue to believe that Azenta's differentiated capabilities in robotic automation and gene synthesis remain intact, we did not have sufficient confidence in the new management team to overcome our concerns over the elevated execution risk associated with the ongoing business transformation. We reduced our position in Lakeland Financial in late 2024 when the shares reacted favorably to the results of the U.S. Presidential election. However, our previous concerns over the company's internal controls and underwriting discipline remained and reduced our confidence in the management team. With these considerations in mind, we sold our remaining position in the company. We sold our shares in Scotts Miracle-Gro due to the lack of consistent capital allocation discipline. We became particularly concerned when Scotts announced an unexpected CFO departure. With large family ownership/Board representation, we believe Scotts needs a strong independent voice guiding consistent capital allocation discipline that the current Chairman/CEO (the son of the company's founder) has lacked. It became clear that the Chief Accounting Officer (the interim CFO) was to be given the permanent CFO role ruining our hopes for a strong replacement.

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: Small Cap **Sub-Style:** Value

Index: Russell 2000® Value Portfolio Inception: 1998 Portfolio Assets: \$5,281.3 M* Portfolio Turnover: 25%-35%

Investment Management Team

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

Top Five Holdings

As of June 30, 2025

Company	Percent of equity (%)
Construction Partners	7.7
Houlihan Lokey	5.8
Cheesecake Factory	5.5
Armstrong World Industries	5.4
Watsco	5.1
Total	29.5

^{*}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 Universe

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 market

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 longer
- 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

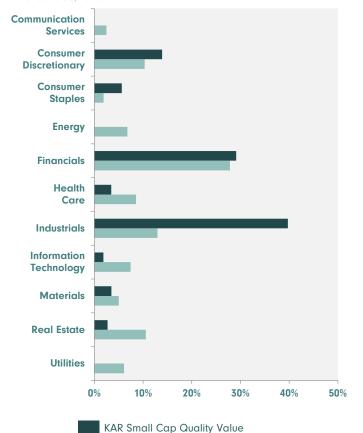
Seeking Higher Quality

Seeking Stronger, More Consistent Growth

Seeking Better Value

Sector Diversification

As of June 30, 2025



Holdings are subject to change. Holdings and weightings are based on a representative portfolio. Individual Investors' holdings may differ slightly. The sector information represented above is based on GICS sector classifications. Data is obtained by FactSet Research Systems and is assumed to be reliable.

Russell 2000® Value Index

Portfolio Characteristics

As of June 30, 2025

	KAR Small Cap Quality Value	Russell 2000® Value Index
Quality	_	
Return on Equity—Past 5 Years	20.8%	8.2%
Debt/EBITDA*	1.3 x	3.2 x
Earnings Variability—Past 10 Years	41.0%	79.7%
Growth		
Earnings Per Share Growth—Past 5 Years	9.2%	6.5%
Earnings Per Share Growth—Past 10 Years	9.7%	7.3%
Dividend Per Share Growth—Past 5 Years	9.7%	6.1%
Dividend Per Share Growth—Past 10 Years	9.7%	4.6%
Capital Generation—{ROE x (1-Payout)}	14.0%	6.2%
Value		
P/E Ratio—Trailing 12 Months	27.8 x	28.1 x
Dividend Yield [†]	1.3%	2.3%
Free Cash Flow Yield [‡]	4.2%	2.6%
Market Characteristics		
\$ Weighted Average Market Cap—3-Year Avg.	\$5.1 B	\$2.6 B
Largest Market Cap—3-Year Avg.	\$14.9 B	\$10.2 B
Annualized Standard Deviation—Since Inception§	17.3%	19.6%

*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.

lower or higher in future years.

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

*June 1, 1998. 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.

Small Cap Quality Value Portfolio

Second Quarter 2025

Risk-Return Analysis

Inception* to June 30, 2025

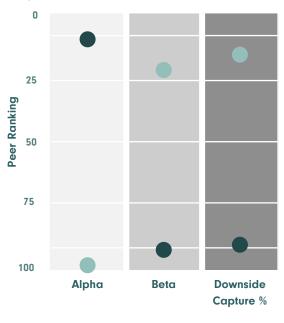


Historical Returns

	KAR Small Cap Quality Value (gross)	KAR Small Cap Quality Value (net) [‡]	Russell 2000® Value Index
Annualized Returns (%)†			
As of June 30, 2025			
2 nd Quarter	3.76	3.53	4.97
Year to Date	(0.61)	(1.06)	(3.16)
One Year	12.04	11.05	5.54
Three Years	10.16	9.18	7.45
Five Years	9.46	8.48	12.47
Seven Years	7.92	6.96	4.85
Ten Years	9.77	8.79	6.72
Inception*	10.91	9.92	7.62
Annual Returns (%)			
2024	10.54	9.55	8.05
2023	20.02	18.95	14.65
2022	(23.41)	(24.11)	(14.48)
2021	20.68	19.62	28.27
2020	29.85	28.71	4.63
2019	25.79	24.68	22.39
2018	(14.80)	(15.57)	(12.86)
2017	20.48	19.41	7.84
2016	26.74	25.62	31.74
2015	(0.16)	(1.05)	(7.47)
2014	3.05	2.13	4.22
2013	41.06	39.84	34.52
2012	9.97	8.99	18.05
2011	6.57	5.61	(5.50)
2010	25.10	24.00	24.50
2009	26.97	25.85	20.58
2008	(28.51)	(29.17)	(28.92)
2007	2.19	1.27	(9.78)
2006	24.45	23.36	23.48
2005	8.88	7.91	4.71
2004	28.10	26.98	22.25
2003	21.88	20.80	46.03
2002	1.11	0.21	(11.43)
2001	19.42	18.36	14.02
2000	24.92	23.82	22.83
1999	(7.69)	(8.52)	(1.49)
1998§	9.61	9.04	(10.93)

Peer Comparison Chart

Inception* to June 30, 2025



KAR Small Cap Quality Value

Russell 2000® Value Index

The eVestment Small Cap Value Universe includes 55 managers categorized in the small cap value asset class by eVestment. KAR does not pay any fees to be included in the eVestment Small Cap Value 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/ wp-content/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 Small Cap Quality Value (gross)	KAR Small Cap Quality Value (net)	Russell 2000® Value Index
Alpha	4.21	3.28	0.00
Sharpe Ratio	0.51	0.45	0.28
Information Ratio	0.37	0.26	N/A
Beta	0.78	0.78	1.00
Downside Capture	72.76	74.36	100.00
Tracking Error	8.88	8.88	N/A

§Performance calculations are for the seven months ended December 31, 1998. 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. Returns could be reduced, or losses incurred, due to currency fluctuations.

^{*}June 1, 1998

[†]All periods less than one year are total returns and are not annualized. Returns are final. *Net of all fees and expenses. Assumes a 0.90% 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.





Small Cap Quality Value Composite

Second Quarter 2025

Disclosure

Year	Composite Gross Return (%)	Composite Net Return (%)	Russell 2000® Value Index Return (%)	Composite 3-Yr Std Dev (%)	Benchmark 3-Yr Std Dev (%)	Number of Accounts	Internal Dispersion (%)	Composite Assets (\$ Millions)	Firm Assets (\$ Millions)
2015	(0.16)	(1.45)	(7.47)	13.94	13.65	151	0.20	535	8,095
2016	26.74	25.13	31.74	14.30	15.72	141	1.13	711	9,989
2017	20.48	18.94	7.84	12.32	14.17	191	0.56	996	14,609
2018	(14.80)	(15.92)	(12.86)	14.42	15.98	152	0.35	895	17,840
2019	25.79	24.20	22.39	14.59	15.90	126	0.65	1,107	25,685
2020	29.85	28.20	4.63	22.12	26.49	121	0.97	1,835	39,582
2021	20.68	19.15	28.27	19.96	25.35	118	0.36	2,932	47,269
2022	(23.41)	(24.42)	(14.48)	23.28	27.66	125	0.24	1,942	33,531
2023	20.02	18.49	14.65	20.07	22.06	115	0.44	2,032	41,186
2024	10.54	9.12	8.05	22.37	23.77	106	0.51	2,035	45,494

The Russell 2000® Value Index is a trademark/service mark 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 Small Cap Quality Value Composite has had a performance examination for the period from January 1, 1999 through December 31, 2024. The verification and performance examination reports are available upon request.

GIPS® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein.

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 Small Cap Quality Value Portfolios. Small Cap Quality Value Portfolios are invested in equity securities with capitalizations consistent with the Russell 2000® Value Index, that have market control, rising free cash flow, shareholderoriented management, strong consistent profit growth and low-debt balance sheets. For comparison purposes, the composite is measured against the Russell 2000® Value Index. The Russell 2000® Value Index is a market capitalization-weighted index of value-oriented stocks 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. Benchmark returns are not covered by the report of independent verifiers. The inception date of the composite is June 1998. The composite was created in June 1998. 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: 0.90% for the first \$25 million; 0.80% on the next \$25 million; 0.70% 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.