



Small-Mid Cap Sustainable Growth Portfolio

Fourth Quarter 2023

Portfolio Review

The Small-Mid Cap Sustainable Growth portfolio underperformed the Russell 2500 Growth Index in the fourth quarter. Stock selection was the challenge in the quarter as investors flocked to the most beaten down and levered names in the benchmark. Poor stock selection in health care and information technology detracted the most from performance. Good stock selection in industrials and an underweight in energy contributed positively during the quarter.

The biggest contributors to performance during the quarter were Fair Isaac and Simpson Manufacturing. Fair Isaac's shares outperformed in the quarter as the company continued to produce strong financial results despite a weak loan origination market due to its ability to raise scores pricing. Its software business also continued to deliver on its land-and-expand strategy. Management presented strong guidance for the upcoming fiscal year, which we believe will benefit the company similarly to this past fiscal year. Simpson Manufacturing's shares benefited from healthy results and continued pricing power in its end markets. The shares also benefited from lower expected interest rates adding to investor expectations for a strong housing market as buyers' affordability improves. Other top contributors included MarketAxess, Moelis, and Aspen Technology.

The biggest detractors to performance during the quarter were Silk Road Medical and Ryan Specialty. Silk Road Medical reported weak numbers in the third quarter, confirming fears that the business was experiencing increased competition from other methods as well as stubbornly low adoption among trained physicians. The company's CEO also stepped down. We exited our position during the quarter as the company's competitive position was not as strong as we had anticipated. Shares in Ryan Specialty declined in the quarter as investors anticipated the potential for slowing interest rate increases across the property and casualty insurance industry as inflation moderates. Other bottom contributors included West Pharmaceutical Services, HealthEquity, and Atrion.

Purchases and Sales

During the quarter, we purchased Aspen Technology, Moelis, and Simpson Manufacturing. We sold our position in Copart as the company's market capitalization is outside the portfolio's small and midcap mandate. We also sold Silk Road Medical (described above). Aspen Technology is one of the largest process optimization software companies. Its software runs mission critical operations in the Oil and Gas, Chemicals, Engineering and Construction, and other industrial segments. The software has high switching costs and, as a result, has experienced durable earnings growth even in challenging markets. Moelis is a boutique investment bank founded just before the Global Financial Crisis by Kenneth Moelis, a well-known investment banker. As it did during the financial crisis, the company took advantage recently of weaker M&A markets to attract the best talent to take share when dealmaking returned. As interest rates normalize, we expect pent up demand, particularly with private equity clients, to drive earnings growth. Simpson Manufacturing is one of the leading manufacturers of wood construction connectors. Its "Strong Tie" products have a dominant position in the market, often specified by local building codes. As a result, it enjoys healthy profitability and an ability to enact regular price increases. We believe the company benefits from being homebuilder agnostic and from the continued housing shortage in the U.S.

Outlook

With the Federal Reserve hiking cycle behind us and corporate earnings growth likely to resume, we believe 2024 should be a favorable year for equity returns. Coming into 2024, investor sentiment is nowhere near as negative as it was coming into 2023 but there is still plenty of cash on the sidelines built up over the last year. As short-term interest rates decline and the yield curve moves to flat, or even positively sloped, we believe this capital will make its way into fixed income and equity markets. From our perspective, returns in 2024 are unlikely to be as robust as 2023 but are likely to generate returns in line with earnings growth. We expect that 2024 will experience more volatility due to the election, which is likely to be contentious.

Portfolio Highlights

Style: Small-Mid Cap **Sub-Style:** Growth

Index: Russell 2500[™] Growth Portfolio Inception: 2018 Portfolio Assets: \$586.3 M* Portfolio Turnover: 25%-35%

Investment Management Team

	earch Date
Julie Biel, CFA Portfolio Manager + Senior Research Analyst	2004
Chris Wright, CFA Portfolio Manager + Senior Research Analyst	2012
Todd Beiley, CFA Senior Research Analyst	1999
Jon Christensen, CFA Senior Research Analyst	1995
Julie Kutasov Senior Research Analyst	2001
Craig Stone Senior Research Analyst	1990
Adam Xiao, CFA Senior Research Analyst	2013
Sean Dixon Research Analyst	2008
Luke Longinotti ESG Research Analyst	2020
Arthur Su, CFA Research Analyst	2015
Clarissa Ali Associate Research Analyst	2023

Top Five Holdings

As of December 31, 2023

Company	Percent of equity (%)
Fair Isaac	6.7
West Pharmaceutical Service	4.9
Bentley Systems	4.8
HEICO	4.7
Ryan Specialty	4.6
Total	25.7

^{*} 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.





Investment Process: Discovering Quality



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 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

Sell Discipline

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%

Extended Valuation

Portfolio Upgrade

Acquisition Activity

Negative Company or Industry Changes

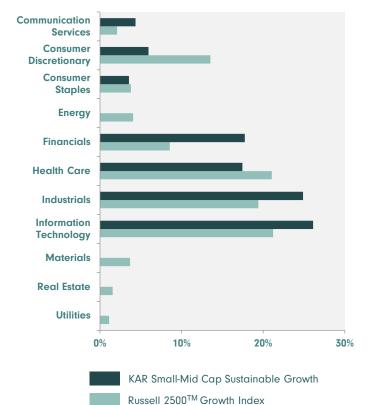
Higher Quality

Stronger, More Consistent Growth

Better Value

Sector Diversification

As of December 31, 2023



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.

Portfolio Characteristics

As of December 31, 2023

	KAR Small-Mid Cap Sustainable Growth	Russell 2500 TM Growth Index
Quality		
Return on Equity—Past 5 Years	21.8%	15.1%
Debt/EBITDA*	1.4 x	1.5 x
Earnings Variability—Past 10 Years	41.3%	70.3%
Growth		
Earnings Per Share Growth—Past 10 Years	12.0%	13.9%
Capital Generation—{ROE x (1-Payout)}	18.2%	13.2%
Value		
P/E Ratio—Trailing 12 Months	70.7 x	63.5 x
Free Cash Flow Yield†	1.9%	2.3%
Market Characteristics		
\$ Weighted Average Market Cap.	\$13.7 B	\$6.6 B
Largest Market Cap	\$34.5 B	\$20.7 B

*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.

*Free cash flow data is as of September 30, 2023. Prices are as of December 31, 2023. Excludes

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.

Small-Mid Cap Sustainable Growth Portfolio

Fourth Quarter 2023

Risk-Return Analysis

Inception* to December 31, 2023

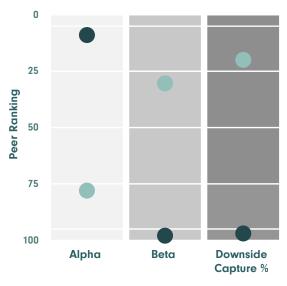


Historical Returns

	KAR Small-Mid Cap Sustainable Growth (gross)	KAR Small-Mid Cap Sustainable Growth (net)‡	Russell 2500 [™] Growth Index
Annualized Returns (%) [†] As of December 31, 2023			
4 th Quarter	8.77	8.55	12.59
One Year	20.07	19.06	18.93
Three Years	(0.04)	(0.89)	(2.68)
Five Years	16.71	15.74	11.43
Inception*	13.24	12.29	7.02
Annual Returns (%)			
2023	20.07	19.06	18.93
2022	(21.94)	(22.62)	(26.21)
2021	6.58	5.68	5.04
2020	48.40	47.18	40.47
2019	46.11	44.91	32.65
2018§	(9.44)	(9.77)	(15.93)

Peer Comparison Chart

Inception* to December 31, 2023







The eVestment Small-Mid Cap Growth Universe includes 68 managers categorized in the small-mid cap growth asset class by eVestment. KAR does not pay any fees to be included in the eVestment Small-Mid Cap Growth 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 December 31, 2023

	KAR Small- Mid Cap Sustainable Growth (gross)	KAR Small- Mid Cap Sustainable Growth (net)	Russell 2500 TM Growth Index
Alpha	6.74	5.84	0.00
Sharpe Ratio	0.55	0.50	0.21
Information Ratio	0.66	0.56	N/A
Beta	0.80	0.80	1.00
Downside Capture	72.60	73.94	100.00
Tracking Error	9.40	9.40	N/A

^{*}August 1, 2018

[†]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.

^{*}Net of all fees and expenses. Assumes a 0.85% 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.

[§]Performance calculations are for the five months ended December 31, 2018.

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.





Small-Mid Cap Sustainable Growth Composite

Fourth Quarter 2023

Disclosure

Year	Composite Gross Return (%)	Composite Net Return (%)	Russell 2500 TM Growth Index Return (%)	Composite 3-Yr Std Dev (%)	Benchmark 3-Yr Std Dev (%)	Number of Accounts	Internal Dispersion (%)	Composite Assets (\$ Millions)	Firm Assets (\$ Millions)
2018*	(9.44)	(9.95)	(15.93)	N/A	N/A	< 5	N/A	< 1	17,840
2019	46.11	44.28	32.65	N/A	N/A	< 5	N/A	< 1	25,685
2020	48.40	46.54	40.47	N/A	N/A	65	N/A	24	39,582
2021	6.58	5.21	5.04	18.89	22.28	126	0.81	427	47,269
2022	(21.94)	(22.97)	(26.21)	22.52	25.54	109	0.59	352	33,531

*2018 performance numbers in this table reflect the composite inception date of August 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018. The Russell 2500™ Growth 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, 2022.

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-Mid Cap Sustainable Growth Composite has had a performance examination for the period from August 1, 2018 through December 31, 2022. 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 is defined as all fully discretionary institutional and pooled Small-Mid Cap Sustainable Growth Portfolios. Small-Mid Cap Sustainable Growth Portfolios are invested in equity securities with market capitalizations consistent with the Russell 2500™ Growth Index, that have market control, solid 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 2500™ Growth Index. The Russell 2500™ Growth Index is a market capitalizationweighted index of growth-oriented stocks of the 2,500 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 the independent verifiers. The inception date of the composite is August 2018. The composite was created in August 2018. 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: 0.85% for the first \$25 million; 0.75% on the next \$25 million; 0.70% on the next \$50 million; 0.60% 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 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, which measures the variability of the composite (using gross returns) and the benchmark for the 36-month period, is not presented for periods prior to 2021 because 36 monthly composite returns are not available.

GLOSSARY

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.

INDEX DEFINITION

The Russell 2500™ Growth Index is a market capitalization-weighted index of growth-oriented stocks of the 2,500 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.