

### The meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. at the Fresno County Employees Retirement Association, 7772 N. Palm Ave., Fresno, CA 93711

- 1. Call to Order.
- 2. Public Comment At this time, members of the public may comment on any item, within the jurisdiction of the Deferred Compensation Management Council, not appearing on the agenda. Please limit comments to 3 minutes or less.
- 3. Approve the December 16, 2021 Agenda.
- 4. Approve the Action Summary Minutes from the September 23, 2021 meeting.
- 5. Approve the 2022 Deferred Compensation Management Council meeting schedule:
  - a. Thursday, March 24 at 2:30 p.m.
  - b. Thursday, June 2 at 2:30 p.m.
  - c. Thursday, September 22 at 2:30 p.m.
  - d. Thursday, December 15 at 2:30 p.m.
- 6. Receive and File a Deferred Compensation Plan participation report, prepared by County staff.
- 7. Receive and File the 2021-22 Fiscal Year First Quarter Deferred Compensation Plan Budget Report, prepared by County staff.
- Receive and File the Deferred Compensation Plan Review as of September 30, 2021 prepared by Nationwide Retirement Solutions.
- 9. Receive and File and Approve Actions related to Deferred Compensation Plan Investments.
  - a. Receive and File the Deferred Compensation Plan Investment Review as of September 30, 2021, prepared by Northwest Capital Management.

- b. Classify Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N (JDSNX), Nicholas Limited Edition I (NCLEX), and Blackrock EAFE Equity Index Fund T (10cff5) as To Be Removed.
- c. Add the following funds: Columbia Small Cap Value Fund II Institutional 3 (CRRYX), Alger Small Cap Focus Y (AOFYX), and Vanguard Developed Markets Index Admiral (VTMGX).
- d. Remove the Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N (JDSNX) and map all assets to the Columbia Small Cap Value (CRRYX)
- e. Remove the Nicholas Limited Edition I (NCLEX) and map all assets to the Alger Small Cap Focus Y (AOFYX)
- f. Remove the Blackrock EAFE Equity Index Fund T (10cff5) and map all assets to the Vanguard Developed Markets Index Admiral (VTMGX).
- g. Direct Northwest Capital Management to conduct a formal manager search to find a potential replacement for the Great-West Lifetime Target Date Funds.



# ITEM 4

# Deferred Compensation Management Council September 23, 2021 Action Summary Minutes

The meeting was held at 2:00 p.m. via Webex teleconference

<u>Members Present:</u> Jean Rousseau, Robert Bash, Oscar Garcia, Kari Gilbert, Donald Kendig, and Hollis Magill

**Members Absent:** Lawrence Seymour

1. Call to Order

ACTION: The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m.

2. Roll call to confirm members in attendance.

The roll call confirmed that all Members were present, with the exception of Member Seymour.

3. Public Comment Period

There were no comments from the public.

4. Approve the September 23, 2021 Agenda.

<u>ACTION</u>: The September 23, 2021 Meeting Agenda was unanimously approved as recommended.

5. Approve the Action Summary Minutes from the June 23, 2021 meeting.

<u>ACTION</u>: The June 23, 2021 Action Summary Minutes were unanimously approved as recommended.

6. Receive and File a Deferred Compensation Plan participation report, prepared by County staff.

<u>ACTION</u>: The Deferred Compensation Plan participation report was received and filed.

December 16, 2021 Deferred Compensation Management Council Meeting Item 4: September 23, 2021 Action Summary Minutes Page 2

- 7. Receive and File and Approve Actions related to the County of Fresno Deferred Compensation Plan Budget.
  - a. Receive and File the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year-End Deferred Compensation Plan Budget Report, prepared by County staff;

# <u>ACTION</u>: The Fiscal Year-End Deferred Compensation Plan Budget Report was received and filed.

b. Approve a pro rata distribution of \$99,748 to current Deferred Compensation Plan participants based on each participant's percentage of Deferred Compensation Plan assets as of June 30, 2021.

### <u>ACTION</u>: The pro rata distribution of \$99,748 to current Deferred Compensation Plan participants was unanimously approved as recommended.

8. Approve the proposed Amended and Restated County of Fresno 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan Document and direct staff to submit the Plan Document to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

### <u>ACTION</u>: The Item was unanimously approved as recommended.

- 9. Receive and File and Approve Actions related to Deferred Compensation Plan Investments.
  - a. Receive and File the Deferred Compensation Plan Investment Review as of September 30, 2020, prepared by Northwest Capital Management;

# <u>ACTION</u>: The Deferred Compensation Plan Investment Review as of June 30, 2021 was received and filed.

b. Approve placement of the Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N on the Watch List.

### <u>ACTION</u>: The Item was unanimously approved as recommended.

c. Direct Northwest Capital Management to conduct manager searches to find potential replacements for the Nicholas Limited Edition I, Janus Henderson Small Cap Value and BlackRock International Index funds.

### <u>ACTION</u>: The Item was unanimously approved as recommended.

December 16, 2021 Deferred Compensation Management Council Meeting Item 4: September 23, 2021 Action Summary Minutes Page 3

d. Provide direction to Northwest Capital Management on whether to conduct a formal manager search to find a potential replacement for the Great-West target date funds.

<u>ACTION</u>: The Council voted unanimously to direct Northwest Capital Management to provide additional information regarding hybrid and passive target date funds at the next meeting.

10. Receive and File the Deferred Compensation Plan Review as of June 30, 2021, prepared by Nationwide Retirement Solutions.

# <u>ACTION</u>: The Deferred Compensation Plan Review as of June 30, 2021was received and filed.

### The meeting was adjourned at 3:18 p.m.



HUMAN RESOURCES

ITEM 6

DATE:	December 16, 2021
TO:	Deferred Compensation Management Council David Joseph, Senior Human Resources Analyst
FROM:	David Joseph, Senior Human Resources Analyst
SUBJECT:	Deferred Compensation Plan Participation Report

#### BACKGROUND

Your Council has made it a priority to increase employee participation in the Deferred Compensation Plan and has expressed the desire to monitor Plan participation by demographic groups. The purpose of this item is to report on the state of Plan participation.

#### **ISSUE**

Staff has prepared a report which shows Plan participation by age band, department, retirement tier, and employee group, attached to this item as Exhibit A. In summary, as of the pay period ending November 14, 2021, the overall participation rate is 56.4%, based on 3,992 active contributors out of 7,076 eligible employees. The average contribution is \$135.33 per pay period, which represents a 5.9% contribution rate. In addition, as of December 7, 2021, there are 7,016 total Plan participants, which includes both active and retired/separated employees.

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

There are no recommended actions associated with this item.

### Item 6 - Exhibit A

Department	Total EEs	Enrolled	Part%	Avg Comp	Avg Contrib	Contr%
Administrative Office	29	15	51.7%	\$3,765	\$235.34	6.3%
Agriculture Department	92	60	65.2%	\$2,430	\$149.90	6.2%
Assessor-Recorder	103	59	57.3%	\$2,299	\$179.35	7.8%
Auditor	72	39	54.2%	\$2,192	\$153.27	7.0%
Behavioral Health	570	302	53.0%	\$2,343	\$118.55	5.1%
Child Support Services	228	125	54.8%	\$2,034	\$93.98	4.6%
County Clerk - Elections	27	16	59.3%	\$2,118	\$218.10	10.3%
County Counsel	32	17	53.1%	\$4,152	\$235.65	5.7%
District Attorney	228	120	52.6%	\$3,521	\$274.06	7.8%
Human Resources	61	47	77.0%	\$2,684	\$152.64	5.7%
Internal Services	392	199	50.8%	\$2,104	\$124.15	5.9%
Library	276	104	37.7%	\$1,491	\$85.41	5.7%
Probation	543	368	67.8%	\$2,317	\$110.28	4.8%
Public Defender	139	80	57.6%	\$3,311	\$152.69	4.6%
Public Health	365	222	60.8%	\$2,496	\$184.72	7.4%
Public Works & Planning	384	209	54.4%	\$2,438	\$141.14	5.8%
Retirement Association	30	26	86.7%	\$2,546	\$100.27	3.9%
Sheriff - Coroner	1121	736	65.7%	\$2,736	\$208.35	7.6%
Social Services	2384	1248	52.3%	\$1,920	\$82.71	4.3%
Grand Total	7076	3992	56.4%	\$2,290	\$135.33	5.9%

<b>Retirement Tier</b>	<b>Total EEs</b>	Enrolled	Part%	Avg Comp	Avg Contrib	Contr%
Gen Tier I	1985	1142	57.5%	\$2,632	\$165.40	6.3%
Gen Tier II	87	62	71.3%	\$2,999	\$171.98	5.7%
Gen Tier III	504	260	51.6%	\$2,224	\$111.71	5.0%
Gen Tier IV	224	122	54.5%	\$2,411	\$130.59	5.4%
Gen Tier V	3317	1758	53.0%	\$1,900	\$86.53	4.6%
Safety Tier I	345	242	70.1%	\$3,372	\$252.82	7.5%
Safety Tier II	44	28	63.6%	\$3,134	\$290.04	9.3%
Safety Tier IV	56	41	73.2%	\$3,029	\$214.09	7.1%
Safety Tier V	514	337	65.6%	\$2,503	\$194.45	7.8%
Grand Total	7076	3992	56.4%	\$2,290	\$135.33	5.9%

### Item 6 - Exhibit A

Age Band	Total EEs	Enrolled	Part%	Avg Comp	Avg Contrib	Contr%
18-29	1120	556	49.6%	\$1,777	\$86.00	4.8%
30-39	2077	1205	58.0%	\$2,181	\$109.30	5.0%
40-49	1931	1151	59.6%	\$2,484	\$136.36	5.5%
50-59	1450	828	57.1%	\$2,563	\$188.36	7.3%
60+	498	252	50.6%	\$2,354	\$189.75	8.1%
Grand Total	7076	3992	56.4%	\$2,290	\$135.33	5.9%

Employee Group	Total EEs	Enrolled	Part%	Avg Comp	Avg Contrib	Contr%
Department Heads	15	13	86.7%	\$6,849	\$446.78	6.5%
Elected Officials	10	3	30.0%	\$5 <i>,</i> 883	\$766.67	13.0%
Management	325	214	65.8%	\$2,800	\$157.00	5.6%
Senior Management	308	207	67.2%	\$4,178	\$266.61	6.4%
Unrepresented	344	216	62.8%	\$2,211	\$112.22	5.1%
U01	411	277	67.4%	\$2,864	\$238.78	8.3%
U02	1020	609	59.7%	\$2,101	\$121.92	5.8%
U03	545	285	52.3%	\$2,377	\$106.40	4.5%
U04	1059	546	51.6%	\$1,728	\$66.68	3.9%
U07	66	40	60.6%	\$3,381	\$303.89	9.0%
U10	42	32	76.2%	\$3,607	\$268.37	7.4%
U11	185	138	74.6%	\$2,567	\$116.52	4.5%
U12	1228	545	44.4%	\$1,419	\$53.44	3.8%
U13	127	67	52.8%	\$1,809	\$61.91	3.4%
U14	48	35	72.9%	\$3,930	\$383.04	9.7%
U19	150	102	68.0%	\$2,442	\$188.53	7.7%
U22	241	100	41.5%	\$1,697	\$87.26	5.1%
U25	49	25	51.0%	\$2,318	\$101.83	4.4%
U30	96	53	55.2%	\$4,554	\$329.52	7.2%
U31	74	44	59.5%	\$3,981	\$176.85	4.4%
U35	27	20	74.1%	\$4,434	\$316.44	7.1%
U36	441	257	58.3%	\$2,608	\$136.29	5.2%
U37	45	38	84.4%	\$3,307	\$208.55	6.3%
U38	4	4	100.0%	\$4,953	\$587.00	11.9%
U39	70	27	38.6%			4.2%
U42	22	8	36.4%	\$3,444	\$229.21	6.7%
U43	124	87	70.2%	\$2,795	\$193.36	6.9%
Grand Total	7076	3992	56.4%	\$2,290	\$135.33	5.9%



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

**ITEM 7** 

DATE: December 16, 2021

TO: Deferred Compensation Management Council

FROM: David Joseph, Senior Human Resources Analyst

SUBJECT: 2021-22 Fiscal Year 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Budget Report

#### BACKGROUND

Pursuant to Section 8.02 of the County of Fresno 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan Document, your Council shall determine the reasonable Deferred Compensation Plan (Plan) expenses, such as third-party administration, consulting, legal and County staff costs. In addition, your Council shall determine the administrative fee charged to Participants to pay for such reasonable Plan expenses, on an annual basis. On June 23, 2021, your Council approved a Fiscal Year 2021-22 budget for Plan expenses and set an administrative fee of 0.18%.

#### <u>ISSUE</u>

Staff has prepared a Fiscal Year 2021-22 budget report for the three-month period that ended September 30, 2021 (Exhibit A). The Fiscal Year 2021-22 Deferred Compensation Plan budget was approved by your Council on June 23, 2021 and is attached to this item (Exhibit B) for reference. Exhibit A has three (3) columns for Revenue, Discretionary Expenses, and Mandatory Expenses:

- 1. "Approved" provides the dollar amounts that were originally approved by your Council at the June 23, 2021 meeting.
- 2. "Year to Date" provides the revenue received and expenses incurred between July 1, 2021 and September 30, 2021.
- 3. "Projected" provides the dollar amounts that staff projects will be the year-end totals.

In addition, staff has provided the surplus or deficit numbers, both year to date and projected for the full year. Please note that the projections are estimates based primarily on the following:

- The trends for this fiscal year, such as increasing/decreasing Plan assets leading to increasing/decreasing revenues and record-keeping fees; and
- Expenses that will be incurred prior to the end of the fiscal year, such as the fiduciary liability insurance policy.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

There are no recommended actions associated with this item.

### Item 7 - Exhibit A

# **County of Fresno Deferred Compensation Plan**

### Fiscal Year 2021-22 Revenue & Expenses as of September 30, 2021

Revenue	Approved	Year to Date	Projected
Administrative Fees	\$ 239,000	\$ 101,227	\$ 311,000
Totals:	\$ 239,000	\$ 101,227	\$ 311,000
Discretionary Expenses	Approved	Year to Date	Projected
County Staff	\$ 156,000	\$ 31,047	\$ 115,453
Consultant	\$ 42,500	\$ 8,750	\$ 38,750
Fiduciary Liability Insurance	\$ 13,000	\$ -	\$ 13,000
Off-Site Training	\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ 2,500
Contingencies	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ -
Totals:	\$ 239,000	\$ 39,797	\$ 169,703

	Ţ	Year to Date	Projected
Surplus (Deficit)	: \$	61,431	\$ 141,297

Mandatory Expenses	Approved	Year to Date	Projected
<b>Record-keeping Fees</b>	\$ 350,000	\$ 86,931	\$ 348,000

## Item 7 - Exhibit B

# **Discretionary Items**

			5		
Revenue Source	2021-22 Budget	% of Revenue	2020-21 Budget	\$ Change from 2020-21	% Change from 2020-21
Administrative Fee	\$239,000	100%	\$225,000	\$14,000	6%
Total Revenue:	\$239,000	100%	\$225,000	\$14,000	6%
Expense	2021-22 Budget	% of Expenses	2020-21 Budget	\$ Change from 2020-21	% Change from 2020-21
County Staff	\$156,000	65%	\$139,000	\$17,000	12%
Consultant	\$42,500	18%	\$40,000	\$2,500	6%
Fiduciary Liability Insurance	\$13,000	5%	\$11,000	\$2,000	18%
Off-Site Training	\$2,500	1%	\$2,000	\$500	25%
Contingencies	\$25,000	11%	\$33,000	-\$8,000	-24%
Total Expenses:	\$239,000	100%	\$225,000	\$14,000	6%

# **Mandatory Items**

Revenue Source	2021-22 Budget	2020-21 Budget	\$ Change from 2020-21	% Change from 2020-21
Nationwide Fee	\$350,000	\$277,000	\$73,000	26%
Expense	2021-22 Budget	2020-21 Budget	\$ Change from 2020-21	% Change from 2020-21



# County of Fresno

Deferred Compensation Plan

3Q2021 Quarterly Dashboard

**Nationwide Retirement Solutions** 

Jake Sours Program Director Andee Gravitt Managing Director

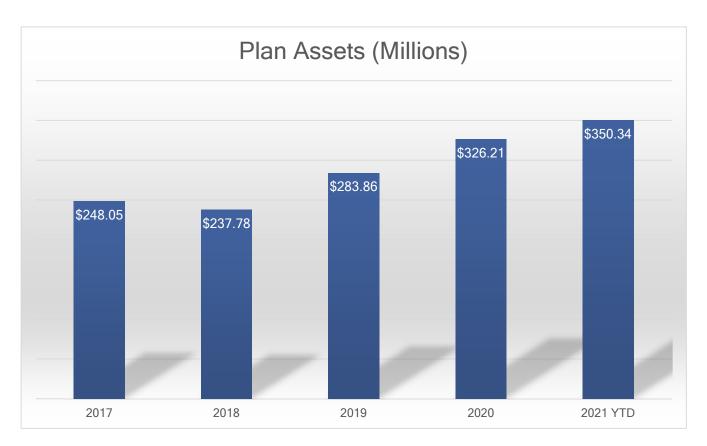


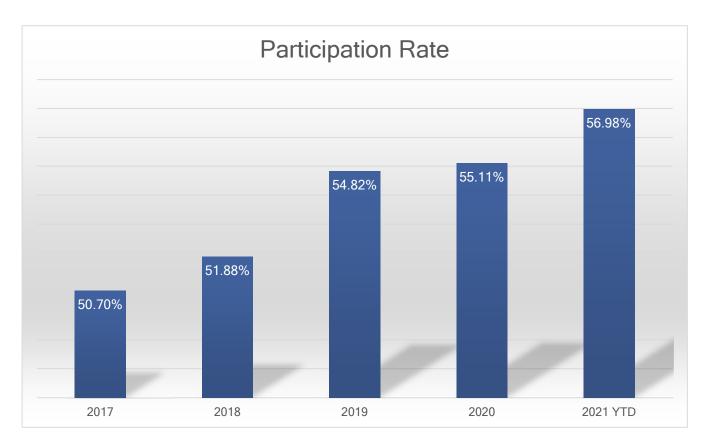
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

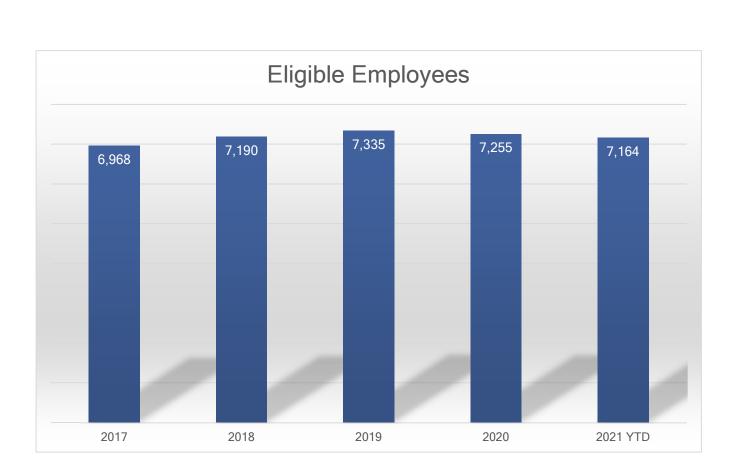
- Section 1 Executive Summary
- Section 2 Plan Health Report
- Section 3 Explicit Asset Fee Summary
- Section 4 Fee Normalization Calculation

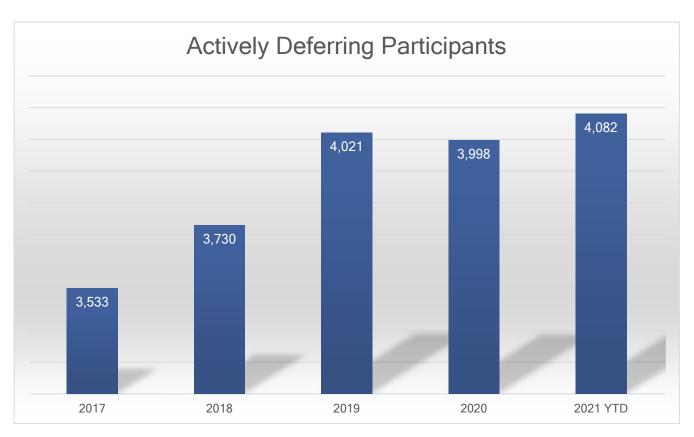
# **Executive Summary**

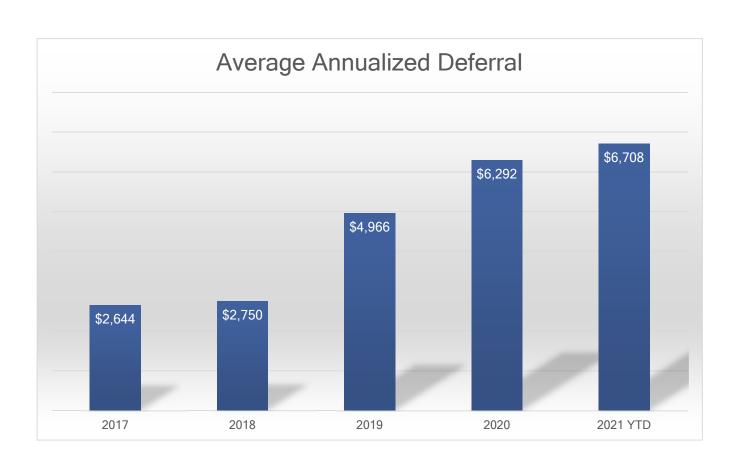
# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

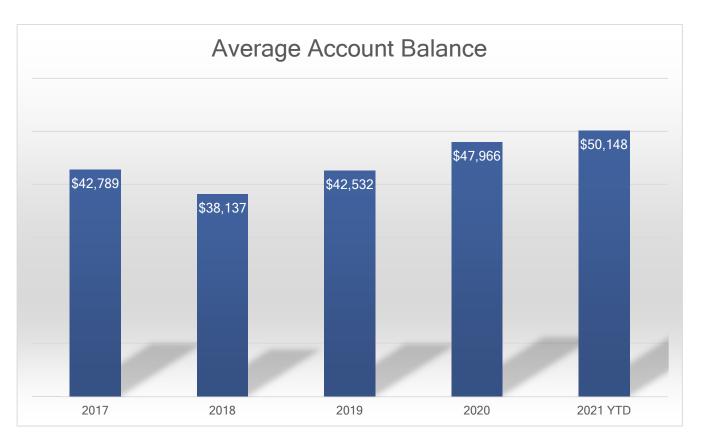


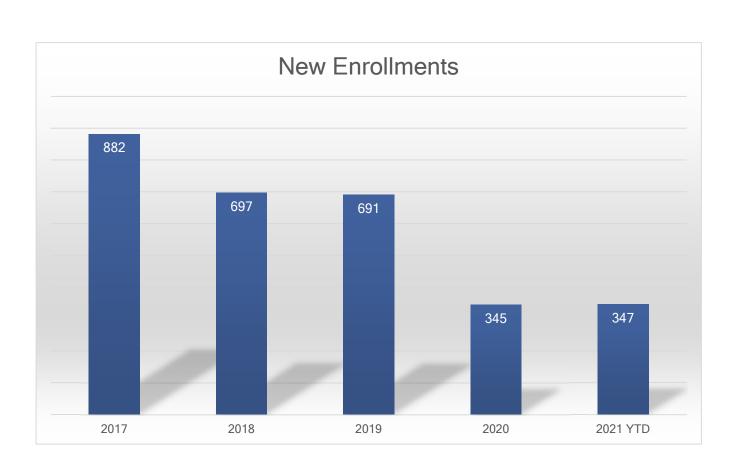


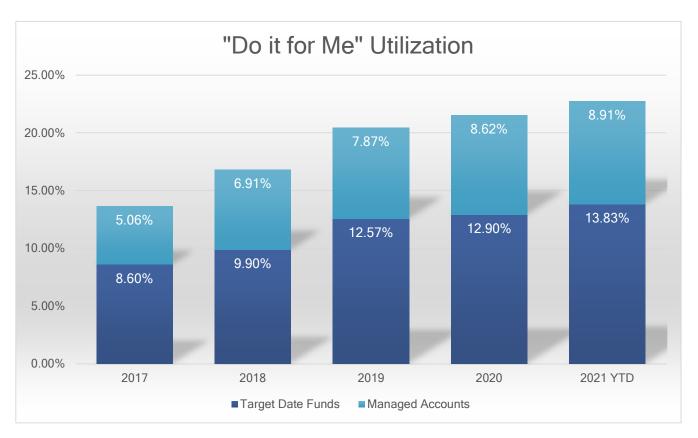


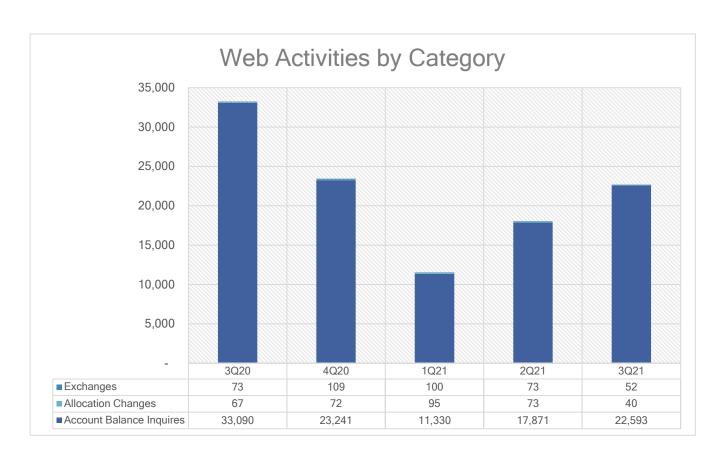


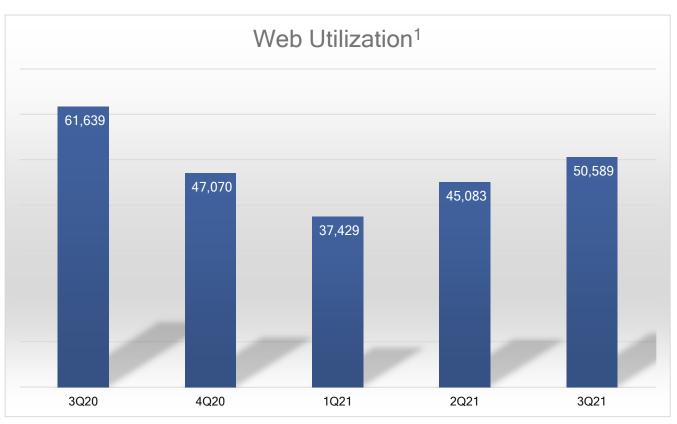




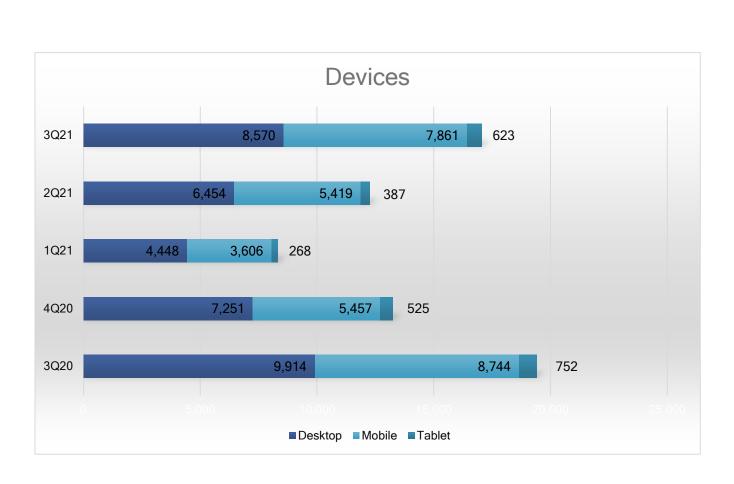




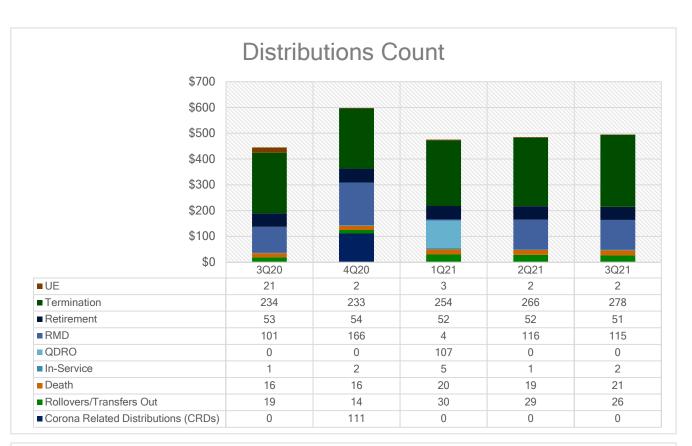


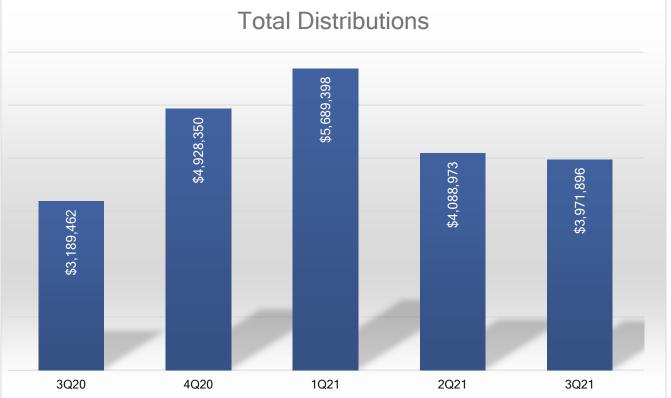


<sup>1</sup>Web Utilization represents total web hits for the quarter









Year to Date Rollovers & Transfers Out						
Payee	Number of Participants		ternal Transfer Out 1/1/21 to 9/30/21			
ALLIANZ LIFE INSURANCE CO	1	\$	(300,000.00)			
AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INVESTMENT SVCS INC	1	\$	(614,218.31)			
AMERICAN FUNDS SERVICES COMPANY	3	\$	(544,816.39)			
ASSETMARK TRUST COMPANY	1	\$	(50,193.78)			
CALSTRS PENSION 2	1	\$	(17,636.79)			
CAPITAL BANK AND TRUST COMPANY	3	\$	(170,047.36)			
CHARLES SCHWAB & CO INC	5	\$	(323,144.10)			
DIRECTED TRUST COMPANY	1	\$	(50,000.00)			
EDWARD JONES INVESTMENTS	2	\$	(45,615.39)			
FIDELITY MANAGEMENT TRUST COMPANY	5	\$	(678,366.50)			
FIIOC	2	\$	(30,889.95)			
GREAT WEST TRUST COMPANY LLC	1	\$	(3,346.80)			
JP MORGAN SECURITIES LLC	1	\$	(16,237.62)			
MATRIX TRUST COMPANY	1	\$	(226.11)			
MERRILL LYNCH PIERCE FENNER & SMITH INC	2	\$	(252,616.14)			
NYLIAC	1	\$	(153,468.86)			
PERSHING LLC	1	\$	(326,655.36)			
PFS INVESTMENTS INC	2	\$	(309,669.47)			
PRINCIPAL TRUST COMPANY	1	\$	(156,002.03)			
RANDOLPH BROOKS FCU	1	\$	(4,000.00)			
RBC CAPITAL MARKETS LLC	1	\$	(434,072.29)			
TD AMERITRADE CLEARING INC	6	\$	(490,754.12)			
UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES INC	3	\$	(907,580.42)			
UNITED LIFE INSURANCE CO	3	\$	(108,605.82)			
UNKNOWN	7	\$	(119,790.62)			
VANGUARD FIDUCIARY TRUST COMPANY	3	\$	(1,325,573.34)			
VANTAGEPOINT TRANSFER AGENTS-457	1	\$	(4,480.98)			
WELLS FARGO CLEARING SERVICES LLC	2	\$	(401,516.30)			
TOTAL	62	\$	(7,839,524.85)			

# **Plan Health Report**



# PLAN HEALTH REPORT

# COUNTY OF FRESNO CA

as of 09/30/2021



We value your partnership and the opportunity to offer a competitive, effective retirement plan to your participants. Through diligent work and thought leadership, we'll help you grow your plan and help your participants prepare for and live in retirement. This report includes balance information, participant demographics, contribution highlights and retirement readiness numbers. Together, we can use this information to help your participants achieve greater financial wellness.

Our goal is to help you objectively evaluate your Plan's performance and how it performs against other plans like yours. Since Nationwide Retirement Solutions is one of the largest retirement plan providers in the industry, we are uniquely positioned to compare your Plan to many others of similar asset size. By comparing the current year information to previous years, you can see how your Plan is performing, where your educational efforts are working and what areas offer opportunities for improvement. The "Peer Group" comparisons used in this report are based on cases with assets of: \$100 million - \$1 billion.

Thank you for your valued business. We look forward to helping improve retirement readiness for your participants.

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Retirement Specialists are registered representatives of Nationwide Investment Services Corporation, member FINRA. The information they provide is for educational purposes only and is not legal, tax or investment advice.

Nationwide, the Nationwide N and Eagle, and Nationwide is on your side are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company.

Nationwide Retirement Solutions, Inc. and Nationwide Life Insurance Company (collectively "Nationwide") have endorsement relationships with the National Association of Counties, the International Association of Fire Fighters-Financial Corporation and the National Association of Police Organizations. More information about the endorsement relationships may be found online at www.nrsforu.com.



### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

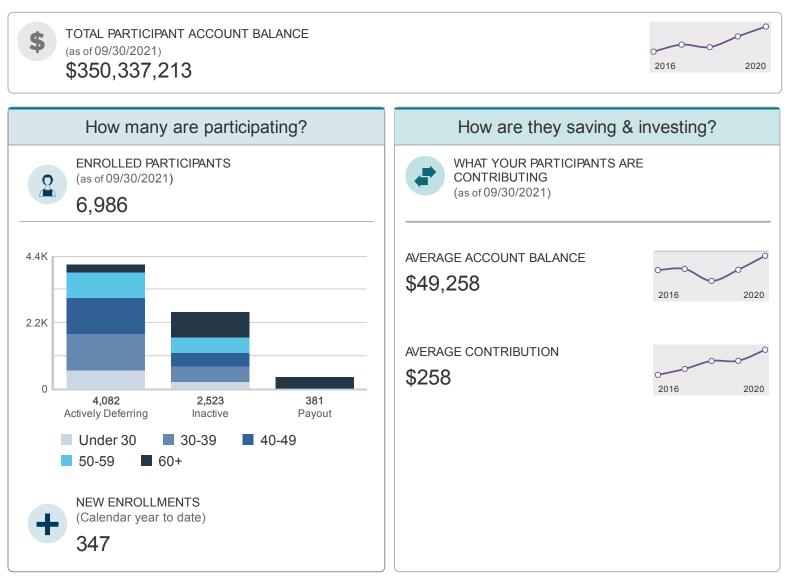


# Quick plan facts (as of 09/30/2021)

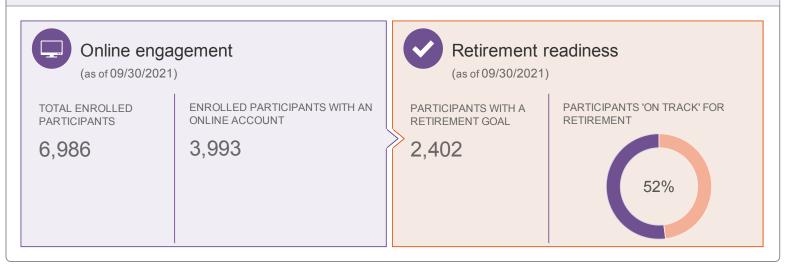
Metric	Current value	%Change from last quarter	%Change from last year
Participant Core Assets	\$344,119,219		17.00%
Total Participant Count	6,986	0.91%	3.10%
Total New Enrollments YTD Count	347	-23.18%	27.11%
Total Deferrals YTD	\$12,781,551	51.00%	20.00%
Total Rollovers-In YTD	\$444,694	6.00%	-43.00%
ProAccount Participant Count	732	2.09%	11.76%
ProAccount Assets	\$31,226,986	-1.00%	27.00%

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### 457 Plan Summary



#### How many participants are prepared for retirement





### PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

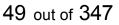
### How participants are engaged in the plan



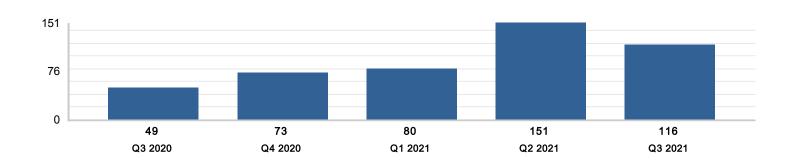
ENROLLED PARTICIPANTS <sup>1</sup> (as of 09/30/2021) **6,986** 



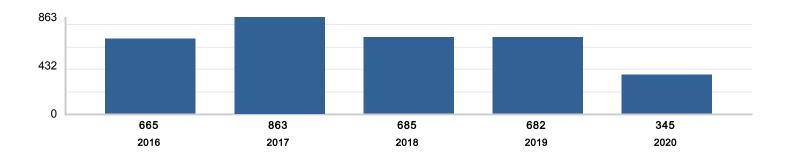
NEW ENROLLMENTS <sup>2</sup> (Calendar year to date) ONLINE ENROLLMENTS <sup>3</sup> (Calendar year to date)



#### ENROLLMENT TRENDS (BY QUARTER)<sup>4</sup>



#### ENROLLMENT TRENDS (BY YEAR)<sup>4</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Total number of enrolled participants in this plan.

<sup>2</sup> Participants who open and close their account within the calendar year, will not be counted in year-to-date enrollment numbers.

<sup>3</sup> The number of online enrollments out of new enrollments.

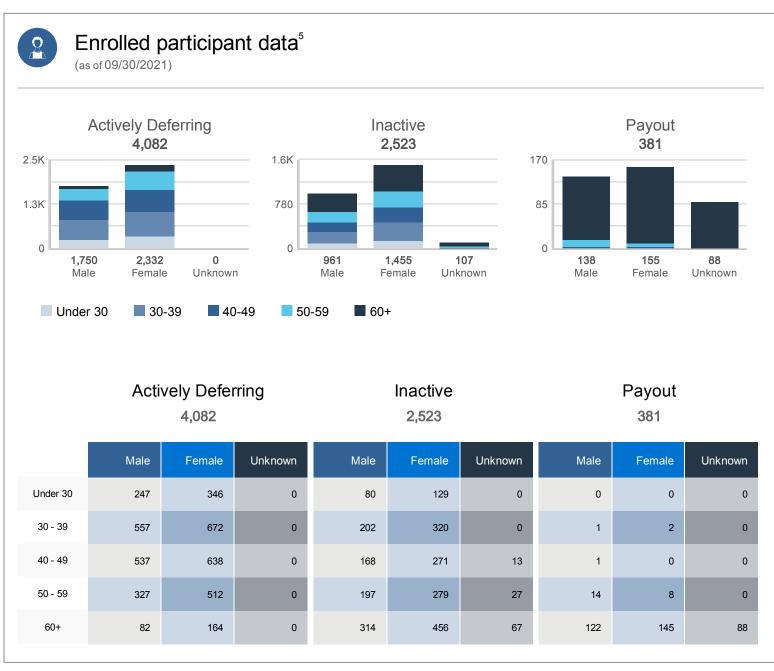
<sup>4</sup> Total number of participants enrolled by quarter or by year.



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### PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

### How participants are engaged in the plan

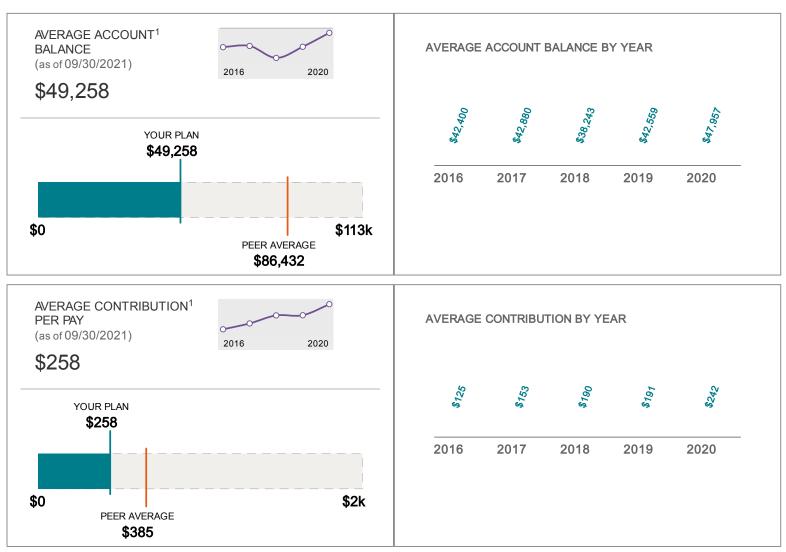


<sup>5</sup> Actively deferring - Participants with a balance, a contribution in the past 30 days and a status of employed. Inactive - Participants with a balance, no contribution in the past 30 days and no status of payout. Payout - Participants with a balance and a status of payout.



### **CONTRIBUTIONS & INVESTMENTS**

## What your participants are contributing



### Balances & contributions by age & gender

(as of 09/30/2021)

	Average account balance			Average annualized contributions		
	Male	Female	Unknown	Male	Female	Unknown
Under 30	\$6,557	\$2,872	\$0	\$2,908	\$1,284	\$0
30 - 39	\$13,155	\$8,275	\$0	\$3,583	\$2,376	\$0
40 - 49	\$47,696	\$21,223	\$19,464	\$5,881	\$2,456	\$130
50 - 59	\$93,898	\$65,352	\$48,327	\$14,834	\$6,555	\$50
60+	\$145,613	\$100,328	\$83,577	\$22,831	\$11,667	\$53

<sup>1</sup>A peer group consists of NRS plans with similar assets. This peer group comparison includes cases with \$100 million - \$1 billion.

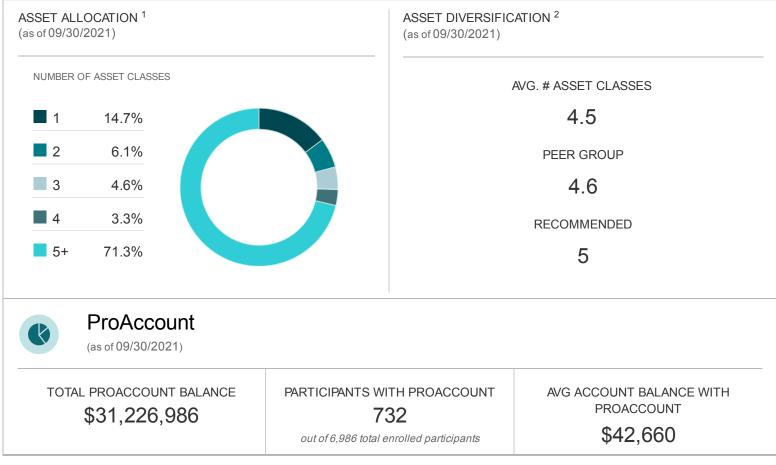


## **CONTRIBUTION & INVESTMENTS**

## What your participants are contributing

<b>4%</b> PARTICIPANTS WITH INCREA (Calendar year to date)	SED CONTRIBUTIONS	4%	PARTICIPANTS WITH AUTOMATIC CONTRIBUTIC INCREASE (Calendar year to date)
2021 IRS limits Regular Limit \$19,500	50+ Catch Up \$6,5	500	3-Year Catch Up \$19,500

### How your participants are invested



<sup>1</sup> Percentage of participants by number of investment classes.

<sup>2</sup> Average number of asset classes - Average number of asset classes in which participants are invested.

Peer group - Average number of asset classes in which this peer group (cases with \$100 million - \$1 billion) is invested.

Recommended number of asset classes - The number of asset classes in which a participant should be invested for ideal diversification.

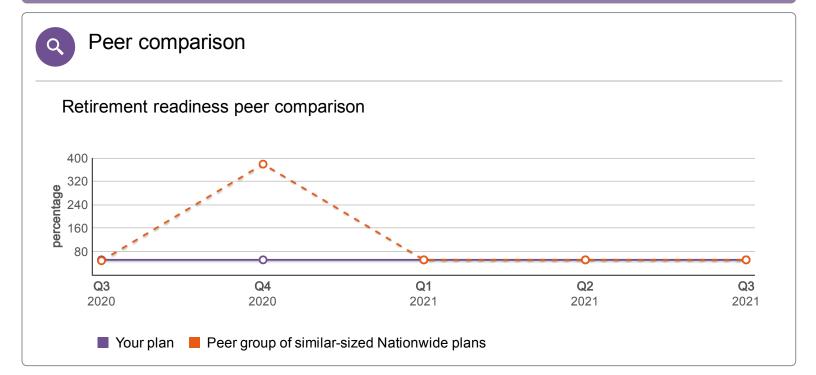


### **RETIREMENT READINESS**

### How many participants are prepared for retirement



Participants who actively review their online account and use their retirement outlook tools are 4 times more likely to take action and save more for retirement.



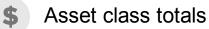
NRM-17390AO

<sup>1</sup> Participants with a retirement goal from My Interactive Retirement Planner®.

<sup>2</sup> Participants with a retirement goal from My Interactive Retirement Planner® and a retirement readiness score of "on track" (.915 or higher).



### **ASSET & FUND DETAILS**



Asset class	2019	2020	2021 YTD	% of total
Mid cap	\$16,132,398.74	\$18,258,901.71	\$20,339,725.53	5.8%
Large cap	\$113,464,259.09	\$137,887,387.01	\$149,898,709.75	42.8%
Bonds	\$12,609,798.74	\$17,653,644.57	\$17,106,179.36	4.9%
Specialty	\$6,693,393.11	\$5,472,955.69	\$6,008,597.57	1.7%
Loan	\$6,183,451.80	\$6,337,407.94	\$6,217,994.08	1.8%
Asset allocation	\$34,918,717.27	\$41,257,465.58	\$47,577,788.03	13.6%
International	\$16,510,275.24	\$18,402,159.97	\$20,000,328.22	5.7%
Small cap	\$12,363,029.67	\$12,107,622.12	\$14,414,962.19	4.1%
Fixed assets and cash	\$65,156,632.48	\$68,836,539.66	\$68,772,928.53	19.6%
Total	\$284,031,956.14	\$326,214,084.25	\$350,337,213.26	100%



\$

# Total contributions by asset class

Asset class	2019	2020	2021 YTD	% of total
Mid cap	\$741,158.85	\$885,558.50	\$600,881.02	4.5%
Large cap	\$3,340,342.18	\$3,865,117.32	\$2,923,070.85	22.1%
Balanced	\$28,914.38	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%
Bonds	\$665,120.03	\$759,183.13	\$636,833.15	4.8%
Specialty	\$319,313.54	\$522,372.41	\$578,386.58	4.4%
Asset allocation	\$5,356,843.53	\$5,702,886.76	\$4,672,096.30	35.3%
International	\$1,131,789.27	\$1,195,792.06	\$952,608.69	7.2%
Small cap	\$747,855.28	\$686,629.41	\$440,052.21	3.3%
Fixed assets and cash	\$2,076,823.16	\$2,563,173.96	\$2,422,316.00	18.3%
Total	\$14,408,160.22	\$16,180,713.55	\$13,226,244.80	100%



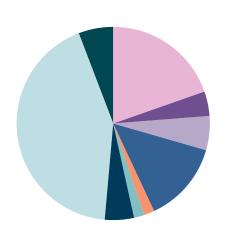
## ASSET & FUND DETAILS

2021



Asset allocation

(as of 09/30/2021)



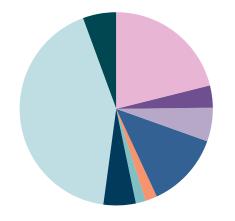
ASSET CLASS	YOUR PLAN	PEER GROUP	DIFFERENCE
Mid cap	5.8%	5.7%	0.1% ●
Large cap	42.8%	19.6%	23.2% ●
Balanced	0.0%	1.7%	-1.7% 🔴
Bonds	4.9%	3.9%	1.0% ●
Short term	0.0%	2.1%	0.0%
SDO	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Specialty	1.7%	0.7%	1.1% 🔵
Loan	1.8%	0.0%	1.7% 🔵
Asset allocation	13.6%	10.9%	2.6% ●
International	5.7%	5.5%	0.2% ●
Small cap	4.1%	3.1%	1.0% ●
Fixed assets and cash	19.6%	46.8%	-27.1% 🔴
Fixed Indexed Annuity	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

2020



### Asset allocation

(as of 12/31/2020)



ASSET CLASS	YOUR PLAN	PEER GROUP	DIFFERENCE
Mid cap	5.6%	5.6%	0.0%
Large cap	42.3%	19.6%	22.7% ●
Balanced	0.0%	1.6%	-1.6% 🔴
Bonds	5.4%	4.2%	1.2% ●
Short term	0.0%	2.1%	0.0%
SDO	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Specialty	1.7%	0.6%	1.1% 🔵
Loan	1.9%	0.0%	1.9% 🔵
Asset allocation	12.6%	12.9%	-0.3% ●
International	5.6%	5.6%	0.1% ●
Small cap	3.7%	3.2%	0.6% ●
Fixed assets and cash	21.1%	44.6%	-23.5% 🔴



### **BALANCE DETAILS**



Total account balance

(as of 09/30/2021)

Money source	Current value
Participant assets	\$350,337,213.26
Rollover Repayment Event Related	\$5,036.96
Salary Reduction	\$331,316,411.44
Rollover (Pre-Tax)	\$9,504,156.74
Rollover 457	\$1,966,797.40
Roth Contribution	\$1,150,876.72
Roth Rollover	\$167.56
Roth Rollover 457	\$13,330.03
Salary Reduction IRR	\$162,442.33
Loan balance	\$6,217,994.08
Total plan assets	\$350,337,213.26



### **BALANCE DETAILS**



Loan Details

(as of 09/30/2021)

Loan type	Number of loans	Principal value
Active loans		
General purpose loan	735	\$4,863,865.72
Primary residence loan	41	\$494,708.73
Defaulted loans*		
General purpose loan	143	\$838,847.25
Primary residence loan	4	\$20,572.38
Total	923	\$6,217,994.08
* Default amounts are included in Beginning and Ending Balance	020	ψ0,217,304.00

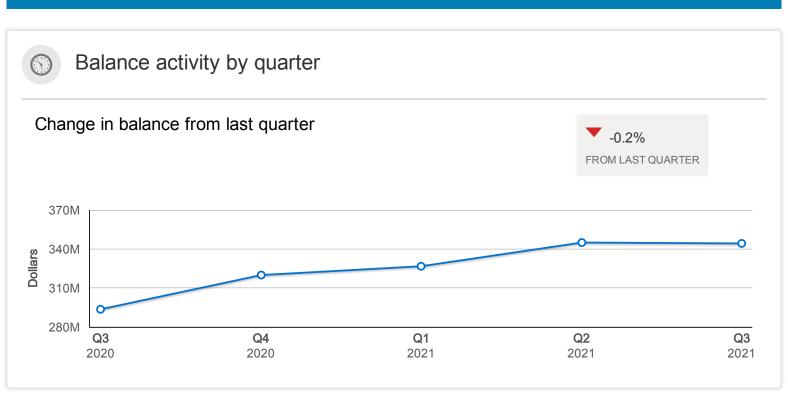
## ひ

Contributions and transfers/rollovers-in (as of 09/30/2021)

Туре	Year to date
Contributions	\$12,781,550.57
Transfers/Rollovers-In	\$444,694.23
Total	\$13,226,244.80



### **BALANCE DETAILS**



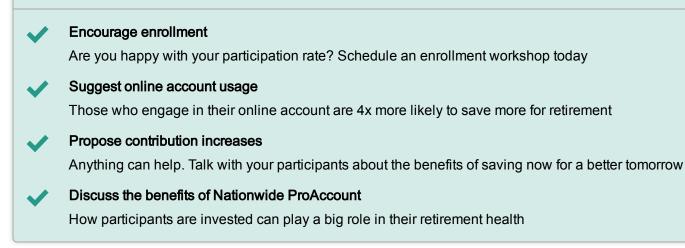


### **BALANCE DETAILS**



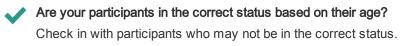
### **OPPORTUNITIES**

#### Top opportunities to improve plan health

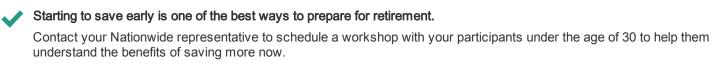


### Additional opportunities

How participants are engaged in the plan



#### What your participants are contributing



#### Are your female participants actively contributing? Host a workshop for women eligible and enrolled in your plan. Nationwide's Women & Investing tools can help.



Incremental increases can go a long way.

Let your participants know how having an automatic annual contribution increase can help them reach their retirement goal.

Work with your Nationwide Retirement Specialist to help manage your loans.

Are those closer to retirement aware of catch-up contributions? Let your participants know that catch-up contributions may help them reach their goal.

#### How your participants are invested



Are participants diversified enough?

Call your Nationwide retirement specialist and discuss your participants' asset diversification.

#### How many participants are prepared for retirement



#### How many participants are getting close to retirement?

Talk with your participants about which payout strategies may benefit them the most.



# **Explicit Asset Fee Summary**

# EXPLICIT ASSET FEE SUMMARY

	Plan Sponsor Fee Amount	NRS Fee Amount
July	\$26,545.97	\$29,496.21
August	\$23,339.77	\$29,174.03
September	\$22,608.12	\$28,260.56
3Q2021 Revenue Total	\$72,493.86	\$86,930.80

# Fee Normalization Calculation

# FEE NORMALIZATION CALCULATION

Fund Norra	Fund	Ticker	07/31/2021 Account Value	08/31/2021 Account Value	09/30/2021 Account Value	Jul-2021 Annual Fund Srvc Fee Rate	Aug-2021 Annual Fund Srvc Fee Rate	Sep-2021 Annual Fund Srvc Fee Rate	3Q2021 Fund Service Fee Payment Amount
Fund Name	Fund NTVB24	ASPYX							
Alger Spectra Fund - Class Y			\$69,489,158.78	\$72,106,837.02	\$68,389,887.37	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.0
BlackRock EAFE Equity Index Fund T	NTV194	BLKAX	\$4,302,143.89	\$4,441,783.90	\$4,360,068.30	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
	NTV195	BLKBX	\$63,703,093.84	\$65,307,906.22	\$62,166,997.03	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
BlackRock Equity Index Fund M BlackRock Mid Capitalzation	NTV196	BLKCX	\$00,100,000.01	\$00,001,000.22	\$52,100,001.00	0.00070	0.00070	0.00070	\$0.00
Equity Index Fund M			\$11,880,028.65	\$12,071,775.26	\$11,537,287.34	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
BlackRock Russell 2000 Index Fund M	NTV197	BLKDX	\$5,498,607.59	\$5,102,268.31	\$4,930,538.00	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
BlackRock US Debt Index Fund - W	NTV198	BLKEX	\$8,238,251.12	\$8,169,799.60	\$8,132,128.21	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
Columbia Dividend Income Fund -	NTV264	CDDYX	\$19,803,079.68	\$20,123,669.92	\$19,341,825.35	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
Class Y		FDIDY	\$10,000,010.00	φ20, 120,000.02	ψ10,041,020.00	0.00070	0.000 /0	0.00078	φ0.00
Fidelity Advisor Real Estate Income Fund - Institutional Class	NTV265	FRIRX	\$2,550,532.61	\$2,654,814.04	\$2,648,880.61	0.250%	0.250%	0.250%	\$1,649.53
Franklin Utilities Fund - Class R6	NTV266	FUFRX	\$3,457,668.85	\$3,592,365.68	\$3,359,716.96	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
Fresno County Stable Value Fund	NTG004	Fixed	\$68,156,605.94	\$68,802,656.07	\$68,772,928.53	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
Fulld	NTV354	GWLFX	<b>*</b> + • • • • • • • •	A	<b>*</b> • • • • • • • • • •	0.0000/	0.0000	0.0000/	
Great-West Lifetime 2015 Trust			\$4,331,169.06	\$4,377,351.06	\$4,244,962.52	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
Great-West Lifetime 2020 Trust	NTVA03	XX180	\$198,853.48	\$199,409.45	\$195,045.64	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
Great-West Lifetime 2025 Trust	NTV355	GWLGX	\$14,164,985.89	\$14,073,462.23	\$13,704,166.67	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
	NTVA04	XX181	\$872.609.62	\$1,175.636.17	\$1,166,556.59	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
Great-West Lifetime 2030 Trust	NTV356	GWLHX		• • • • • • •					
Great-West Lifetime 2035 Trust			\$10,346,817.33	\$10,605,851.10	\$10,343,670.31	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
Great-West Lifetime 2040 Trust	NTVA05	XX182	\$152,356.14	\$155,647.02	\$156,688.56	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
Great-West Lifetime 2045 Trust	NTV357	ZZ153	\$10,050,265.19	\$10,265,316.26	\$9,965,863.39	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
	NTVA06	XX183	\$153,419.66	\$163,575.64	\$159.824.62	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
Great-West Lifetime 2050 Trust	NTV358	GWLJX			¢7,007,000,00	0.0000/	0.0000/	0.000%	<b>\$</b> 0.00
Great-West Lifetime 2055 Trust		10/000	\$7,487,864.58	\$7,764,965.62	\$7,627,329.09	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
Great-West Lifetime 2060 Trust	NTVD17	XX293	\$10,103.17	\$13,999.54	\$13,680.64	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
Invesco Developing Markets Fund - Class R6	NTV08X	ODVIX	\$3,393,718.46	\$3,663,552.35	\$3,591,290.46	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
Janus Henderson Small Cap	NTV269	JDSNX	\$1,418,514.18	\$1,985,730.26	\$1,928,275.66	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
Value Fund - Class N	LXM001	Loan	\$5,270,531.03	\$5,355,207.76	\$5,358,574.45	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
Loan			\$5,270,551.05	\$5,555,207.70	40,000,074.40	0.000%	0.000 %	0.000%	\$0.00
Metropolitan West Funds - Total Return Bond Fund – Plan Class	NTV381	MWTSX	\$7,397,715.43	\$7,212,429.37	\$7,175,512.41	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
Nicholas Limited Edition Fund - Institutional Class	NTV268	NCLEX	\$7,611,821.38	\$7,836,943.63	\$7,556,148.53	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
T. Rowe Price Mid-Cap Growth	NTV981	RPTIX	\$8,970,150.55	\$9,190,409.48	\$8,802,438.19	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
Fund - I Class T. Rowe Price Overseas Stock	NTV509	TROIX				0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	
Fund – I Class Vanguard Total International		VTABX	\$12,083,542.17	\$12,371,017.07	\$12,048,969.46				\$0.00
Bond Index Fund - Admiral	NTV668	VIADA	\$1,860,629.38	\$1,814,555.78	\$1,798,538.74	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	\$0.00
Total			\$352,854,237.65	\$360,598,935.81	\$349,477,793.63				\$1,649.5

# Your Dedicated Service Team

# YOUR DEDICATED SERVICE TEAM

# Plan Sponsor Experience

Andee Gravitt, Managing Director nusaaa1@nationwide.com (907) 854-1458

Jake Sours, Program Director soursj1@nationwide.com (916) 708-1320

Nate Schroeder, Relationship Consultant (Operations) schroen1@nationwide.com (614) 435-5892

# Participants Experience

Deanna Sisk, Retirement Specialist siskd2@nationwide.com (559)-530-8550

Retirement Resource Group

Participant Solution Center nrsforu@nationwide.com (877) 693-2457



### Item 9

DATE: December 16, 2021

TO: Deferred Compensation Management Council

FROM: Brent Petty, NWCM, Inc.

SUBJECT: Third Quarter Investment Performance Report (Executive Summary)

#### **Capital Markets**

Name	YTD (10/31/2021)	Q3 2021	1-Year (10/31/2021)
S&P 500 TR USD	24.04	0.58	42.91
S&P MidCap 400 TR	22.32	-1.76	48.90
S&P SmallCap 600 TR USD	24.17	-2.84	58.94
MSCI EAFE NR USD	11.01	-0.45	34.18
MSCI EM NR USD	-0.27	-8.09	16.96
Bloomberg US Agg Bond TR USD	-1.58	0.05	-0.48

	10/29/2021	9/30/2021	10/30/2020
10-Year Treasury Yield	1.55%	1.52%	0.88%

#### Third Quarter (Complete Quarterly Investment Report is provided as **Exhibit A**)

China Evergrande Group, the world's most heavily indebted property developer, was left on the verge of collapse following the Chinese government's decision to address the oversupply issue and reduce the amount of debt companies are allowed to hold. Increased regulatory tightening in China raises questions over what the potential repercussions may be for the U.S. and other economies. In the U.S., Fed Chair Jay Powell revealed in August that the Federal Reserve would begin to reduce its purchases of Treasuries, sending a clear signal that the Fed intends to start tapering. Interest rates increased in response, with the benchmark 10-year Treasury bond climbing to 1.54%. Tapering will also likely lead to higher mortgage rates, with 30-year mortgage rates predicted to reach 3% for the first time since April. So-called transitory inflation now appears poised to last longer than expected, as supply chain issues and labor shortages persist. Inflation in energy prices jumped 25% over the past year and the semiconductor shortage is now expected to continue into 2022. In October, it was announced that social security benefits would be increased by 5.9%, the highest cost of living adjustment in nearly 40 years. Inflation issues have been further compounded as companies and their employees grapple with the implementation of various

December 16, 2021 Deferred Compensation Management Council Meeting Third Quarter Investment Performance Report Page 2

vaccine mandates. All of these issues coupled with the two months rise in Delta cases followed by a recent decline, which has increased the likelihood that some of 2021's forecasted GDP will be pushed out to 2022 and 2023.

- **U.S. Equities** finished the quarter slightly ahead. The S&P 500 declined 4.65% in September, resulting in a 0.6% return for the quarter. Large cap growth outperformed value for the quarter. The best-performing sectors were financials and technology, while energy and industrials declined.
- In **International Equities**, the MSCI EAFE Index gained -0.45%, underperforming the S&P 500 by 1.03%. EAFE was negatively impacted by the strength in the U.S. dollar. The MSCI Emerging Markets Index declined by 8.09% in the third quarter.
- In Fixed Income, the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index gained 0.05% for the quarter but remains down 1.55% for the year. The 10-year treasury bond climbed to 1.54%, following comments made by the Fed regarding plans to reduce bond purchases. The ICE BOFA U.S. High Yield Index earned 0.94% as higher GDP reduced fears of defaults.

#### Economic Factors

- U.S. GDP increased by 6.7% in the second quarter, beating the first quarter's 6.4% gain. In September, the OECD reduced their 2021 estimated global GDP growth from 5.8% to 5.7%. Third quarter GDP increased at an annual rate of 2.0%, according to estimates released in October.
- U.S. unemployment rates continued to decline, dropping to 4.8% in September. However, the lower unemployment rate is largely attributable to workers permanently leaving the workforce. September job gains were the lowest since December 2020. It will likely take until mid to late 2022 for employment to return to pre-pandemic levels.
- In September, the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.4% on a seasonally adjusted basis. Energy increased 1.3% for the month, while gasoline costs increased 1.3%. Inflation hit a 13-year high in September, with consumer prices up 5.4% from a year ago.

#### **Investments**

- An updated fund watch report has been included as Exhibit B.
- A summary of proposed investment changes is provided as **Exhibit C**.
- Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N scored a four this quarter. It is recommended that the fund be listed as To Be Removed. An in-depth fund review and recommendation is included as **Exhibit D**.

December 16, 2021 Deferred Compensation Management Council Meeting Third Quarter Investment Performance Report Page 3

- Nicholas Limited Edition I moved from a score of four to a score of five this quarter, it is recommended that the fund be listed as To Be Removed. An in-depth fund review and recommendation is included as **Exhibit E**.
- A review of the County's index funds was conducted as **Exhibit F**. As a result, it is recommended that the Blackrock EAFE Equity Index Fund T (10cff5) be listed as To Be Removed.
- An in-depth review on the Great-West Target Date series is included as **Exhibit G**.
- Columbia Dividend Income fund is being monitored due to the departure of one of the fund's three portfolio managers in Q1 2021, it is recommended that the fund remain on watch.
- The remaining investment options are compliant with the County's investment policy performance criteria.

#### **Recommended Actions**

- 1. Classify Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N (JDSNX), Nicholas Limited Edition I (NCLEX), and Blackrock EAFE Equity Index Fund T (10cff5) as To Be Removed
- 2. Add the following funds: Columbia Small Cap Value Fund II Institutional 3 (CRRYX), Alger Small Cap Focus Y (AOFYX), and Vanguard Developed Markets Index Admiral (VTMGX)
- 3. Remove the Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N (JDSNX) and map all assets to the Columbia Small Cap Value (CRRYX)
- 4. Remove the Nicholas Limited Edition I (NCLEX) and map all assets to the Alger Small Cap Focus Y (AOFYX)
- 5. Remove the Blackrock EAFE Equity Index Fund T (10cff5) and map all assets to the Vanguard Developed Markets Index Admiral (VTMGX)
- 6. Direct Northwest Capital Management to conduct a formal manager search to find a potential replacement for the Great-West Lifetime Target Date Funds.

Quarterly Report - September 30, 2021County of Fresno457 DC Plan13333 SW 68th Pkwy Suite 230Portland, OR 97223Phone 503-597-1616

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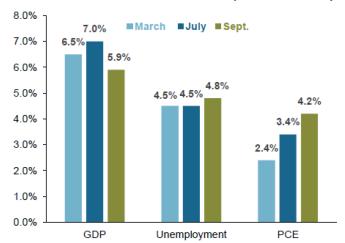
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# Market Overview

# Tick Tock or Not?

#### The Fed's changing view of the economy

2021 estimates as outlined in the FOMC's Summary of Economic Projections



Evergrande, China's second largest real estate developer by sales, is on the brink of collapse after the country's central bank tightened credit and tried to address its overbuilding problem. As China continues to tighten, it wouldn't be a surprise to see more leveraged companies crumble in the world's second largest economy. The question is whether China's efforts to fix their balance sheet has repercussions for the U.S. and other economies.

Meanwhile in the U.S., Fed Chair Jay Powell referenced the Federal Reserve's intention to reduce purchases of Treasury securities as a precursor to tapering. Interest rates increased in response, with the benchmark 10-year Treasury bond climbing to 1.5% versus 1.4% at the beginning of the quarter and 1.2% in mid-July. In a yield starved world, the U.S. dollar climbed in excess of 4.0% compared to a basket of major currencies (DXY). 30-year mortgage rates will likely breach 3.0% for the first time since April, threatening to soften runaway housing prices. In the twelve months ending July 2021, housing prices gained a record-breaking 20.0%, topping last quarter's record of 14.6%. Construction labor shortages as well as higher lumber and other material costs have negatively impacted new construction, so a supply shortage will likely occur in many metropolitan areas.

# Consensus forecasts S&P 500 EPS to grow by 27% year/year in 3Q

As of September 30, 2021

	3QE 2021 Consensus Bottom-up												
	EPS	Sales	Mar	gin	Median stock								
Sector	Growth	Growth	Level	Change	EPS growth								
Materials	90 %	26 %	14.1 %	475 bp	15 %								
Industrials	71	17	8.9	278	15								
Info Tech	28	16	23.9	218	19								
Communication Services	25	21	15.1	40	2								
Financials	15	NM	NM	NM	15								
Real Estate	13	NM	NM	NM	24								
Health Care	13	8	10.8	46	8								
Consumer Discretionary	4	13	6.8	(61)	9								
Consumer Staples	2	6	7.5	(36)	2								
Utilities	1	NM	NM	NM	(1)								
Energy	NM	45	8.1	880	327								
S&P 500	27 %				12 %								
ex. Financials and Utilities	32	15 %	11.6 %	146 bp	12								
ex. Energy	20	13	12.0	99	11								

The economic recovery has had fits and starts as companies continue struggling to replenish inventories. To address logistical bottlenecks partially caused by a shortage of truck drivers, Coca-Cola has resorted to using coal cars in order to move supplies. Inflation in energy prices was 25% over the past year and the semiconductor shortage that was supposed to ameliorate in September is now expected to continue into 2022. Transitional inflation might last longer than expected and the employee shortage has left some industries and areas shorthanded despite rapidly climbing wage offers. On October 13<sup>th</sup>, it was announced that 2022 social security benefits would be increased by 5.9%. Complicating the inflation issue is the tug of war between governmental and business vaccine mandates and resistant employees who are being fired or placed on unpaid leave.

All of these issues, coupled with the two months rise in Delta cases followed by a recent decline, increases the likelihood that some of 2021's GDP will be pushed out to 2022 and 2023. Historically, the average epidemic lasts over three years. This one might be no different.

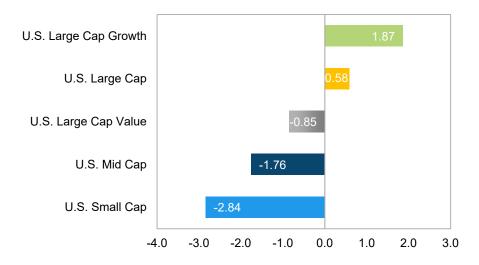
Source: Department of Commerce, J.P. Morgan Asset Management, Morningstar, Goldman Sachs Global Investment Research, CBO, Northwest Capital Management. Past performance does not guarantee future results. All indexes are unmanaged and cannot be invested into directly. Data as of September 30, 2021.

## Asset Class Performance

# Markets at a Glance

#### U.S. Equity Quarterly Performance

% Total Return USD



**U.S. Equities:** The S&P 500, representing large cap equities, eked out a 0.58% return in the third quarter, dragged down by a -4.65% return for the month of September. Large cap growth outperformed value for the quarter 1.87% to -0.85%, as well as year to date 16.44% to 15.31%. The S&P 500 sectors were led by financials and technology, with returns of 2.74% and 1.34% respectively. Energy and industrials declined for the quarter and small caps, after being on a record tear the last year, returned -2.84%.

International Equities: The MSCI EAFE index returned -0.45%, underperforming the S&P 500 by 1.03%.EAFE was negatively impacted by the strength in the U.S. dollar. The MSCI emerging index returned -8.1% in the third quarter, impacted by China's struggles, the stronger US dollar, and lower Covid vaccination rates.

#### **Trailing Returns**

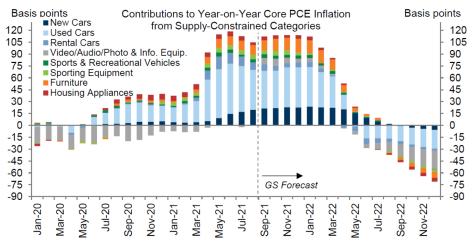
% Total Return USD



**Fixed Income**: The Barclays Bloomberg Aggregate Index gained 0.05%, still leaving the benchmark returning -1.55% for the year. Long duration Treasuries and corporates aided results. The yield on the 10-year treasury bond climbed to 1.54% from 1.44% based on the Federal Reserve's intention to reduce bond purchases. Even with the interest rate increases, Treasury rates are lower than the end of 2019. The ICE BOFA high yield index earned 0.94% as higher GDP reduced fears of defaults.

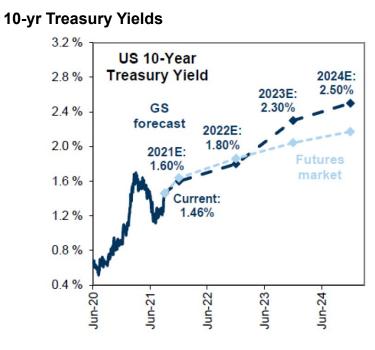
# Economy Inflation and Yields Rise

#### Expect Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) Inflation to Fluctuate for Supply-Constrained Categories Over the Next Year



**GDP:** GDP increased by 6.7% in the second quarter, higher than the first quarter's 6.4% gain, as the economy continued to benefit from increased vaccinations and the accompanying economic re-opening. The first estimate for the third quarter, which will be released later in October, will be robust, though likely lower, with the impact of increased Delta infections slowing the pace of growth. In September, the OECD, slightly reduced their 2021 estimated global GDP growth from 5.8% to 5.7%.

Labor Market: The unemployment rate continued its decline, dropping to 4.8% in September from 5.9% at the end of June. With only 194,000 job gains, this sharp decline was primarily due to people permanently leaving the labor force. September job gains were the lowest since December 2020, and a sharp decline from August's 366,000 and July's 943,000. It will still likely now take well into 2022 to recover all the jobs lost during COVID.



**Inflation:** In August, CPI-U rose a seasonally adjusted 0.3%, bringing the last 12 months total inflation to 5.3%. Removing food and energy, the change in August's core CPI was only 0.1%, its lowest gain since February, bringing the last 12 months total inflation to 4.0%. Energy costs rose 2.0% for the month, boosted by the 2.8% increase in gasoline costs.

## Plan Legislative and Regulatory Update

### **Excessive Fee Case Heads to the Supreme Court**

The Supreme Court has agreed to hear *Hughes v. Northwestern University*, a case involving allegations related to excessive investment and recordkeeping fees.<sup>1</sup>



The plaintiffs in the case claim that Northwestern University breached their fiduciary duty of prudence under ERISA by forcing plan participants to pay excessive recordkeeping fees and offering mutual funds with higher fees than other materially identical investment products.

The ruling in this case will determine whether charging participants significantly higher fees is sufficient to allege that a breach of duty has occurred. Until now, the Supreme Court has not taken on an ERISA excess fee case and the court's ruling should provide needed clarity on the issue.

Action Item: Monitor your plan's fees to ensure they are competitive and reasonable.

#### House Advances New Auto-Enrollment Legislation

On September 9<sup>th</sup>, the House Ways and Means Committee advanced legislation which would require small businesses to provide retirement plans for their employees.<sup>2</sup> The <u>measure</u> was approved mostly along party lines, with two Democrats joining the Republicans in opposition.

The proposed legislation included the following provisions:

- Employers that don't already offer a way for their employees to save for retirement must automatically enroll workers in IRAs or 401(k)-type plans, unless the worker opts out.
- The bill specifies that the retirement accounts must deduct 6% of wages from paychecks, rising to 10% over several years, and sets target-date funds as the default investment.
- Provides employers a tax credit to offset costs and imposes an excise tax on businesses which do not comply with the automatic-enrollment requirements.
- · Makes the Saver's Credit refundable into a tax-favored retirement account, such as a Roth IRA.

**Update:** It was announced in late October that all the retirement-related provisions outlined above had been removed from the proposed budget reconciliation bill. Although these provisions have been stripped from this bill, it is likely that some or all of these provisions will be included in future legislation, such as SECURE 2.0.

**Action Item:** NWCM will continue to monitor and review the legislative activity associated with retirement plans. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your NWCM advisor.

#### Forecasted Increases to 2022 Contribution and Benefit Limits

Nearly all qualified retirement plan limits will increase in 2022, according to projections using the Internal Revenue Code's cost-of-living adjustment and the Consumer Price Index.<sup>3</sup> They are the following:

- Contribution limits for 401(k), 403(b) and eligible 457 plan elective deferrals (and designated Roth contributions) will increase from \$19,500 to \$20,500.
- The 415(c) DC plan maximum annual addition is projected to increase from \$58,000 to \$61,000.
- 414(q)(1)(B) highly compensated employee limit is projected to increase from \$130,000 to \$135,000.

The IRS typically releases the next year's limits in late October or early November.

Action Item: If you have questions on how these increases may affect your plan, please contact your NWCM advisor.

#### Lifetime Income Disclosure Timing

According to a FAQ released on July 26 by EBSA<sup>4</sup>, Lifetime Income Disclosures must be included in quarterly statements starting on up to the second calendar quarter of 2022, ending June 30, 2022. The Disclosure was mandated by 2019's SECURE Act.

**Action Item:** Contact your Recordkeeper to find out when these disclosures will be included in your participants' statements.





#### **Upcoming Plan Document Deadlines**

Date	Legislation	Description
July 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2022	Cycle 3 Post-PPA Restatement	Every 6 years pre-approved 401(k) plan documents must be restated to incorporate legislative changes. By this date, all pre-approved 401(k) plans must be restated onto a post-PPA document. <b>Reach out to your recordkeeper to confirm that your plan document is being restated</b> .
December 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2022	CARES Act	If Coronavirus-Related Distributions or Loans were issued during the 2020 plan year, a retroactive plan amendment must be completed by December 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2022 (or by the end of 2024 for governmental plans).
December 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2022	SECURE Act	The required amendments for any of the optional retirement plan changes in the SECURE Act (such as qualified birth and adoption distributions) must be completed by December 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2022 (or by the end of 2024 for governmental plans and collectively bargained plans).

Note: Plan amendments for SECURE Act and CARES Act changes aren't due until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022. However, if you made discretionary changes to your qualified retirement plan in 2021 unrelated to the SECURE Act or CARES Act, plan amendments documenting those changes must be adopted by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 (for calendar-year plans).

Check out the latest in our ongoing series on Plan Sponsor Best Practices <u>here.</u>

# County of Fresno 457 DC Plan Summary of Assets

Asset Class	Ticker	%	9/30/2020	Net Increases/Decreases	9/30/2021	%	0% 20% 40% 60%
US Large Cap		43.05%	\$126,428,260	\$23,470,449	\$149,898,710	43.56%	
BlackRock Equity Index Fund M	02cff1	17.78%	\$52,212,426	\$9,954,571	\$62,166,997	18.07%	US Large Cap
Alger Spectra Y	aspyx	20.18%	\$59,263,492	\$9,126,396	\$68,389,887	19.87%	43.6%
Columbia Dividend Income Inst3	cddyx	5.09%	\$14,952,342	\$4,389,483	\$19,341,825	5.62%	
US Mid Cap		5.36%	\$15,747,832	\$4,591,893	\$20,339,726	5.91%	US Mid Cap 5.4%
BlackRock Mid Capitalzation Equity Index Fund N	03cff2	2.89%	\$8,482,416	\$3,054,872	\$11,537,287	3.35%	5.9%
T. Rowe Price Mid-Cap Growth I	rptix	2.47%	\$7,265,417	\$1,537,022	\$8,802,438	2.56%	
US Small Cap		3.62%	\$10,641,905	\$3,773,057	\$14,414,962	4.19%	US Small Cap 4.2%
BlackRock Russell 2000 Index Fund M	03cff3	1.25%	\$3,683,001	\$1,247,537	\$4,930,538	1.43%	4.270
Nicholas Limited Edition I	nclex	1.98%	\$5,807,011	\$1,749,137	\$7,556,149	2.20%	F 404
Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N	jdsnx	0.39%	\$1,151,893	\$776,383	\$1,928,276	0.56%	Foreign 5.4%
Foreign		5.38%	\$15,793,972	\$4,206,356	\$20,000,328	5.81%	
T. Rowe Price Overseas Stock I	troix	3.40%	\$9,987,894	\$2,061,075	\$12,048,969	3.50%	1.8%
BlackRock EAFE Equity Index Fund T	10cff5	1.16%	\$3,394,742	\$965,327	\$4,360,068	1.27%	Specialty 1.7%
Invesco Developing Markets R6	odvix	0.82%	\$2,411,336	\$1,179,954	\$3,591,290	1.04%	
Specialty		1.84%	\$5,411,467	\$597,131	\$6,008,598	1.75%	
Fidelity Advisor Real Estate Income I	frirx	0.62%	\$1,826,788	\$822,093	\$2,648,881	0.77%	Fixed Income 25.0%
Franklin Utilities R6	fufrx	1.22%	\$3,584,678	(\$224,961)	\$3,359,717	0.98%	
Fixed Income		28.36%	\$83,277,816	\$2,601,292	\$85,879,108	24.96%	Terret Data Funda 12.4%
BlackRock US Debt Index Fund W	04cff4	2.28%	\$6,705,526	\$1,426,602	\$8,132,128	2.36%	Target Date Funds
Metropolitan West Total Return Bd Plan	mwtsx	2.18%	\$6,394,528	\$780,985	\$7,175,513	2.09%	
Vanguard Total Intl Bd Idx Admiral	vtabx	0.85%	\$2,482,405	(\$683,866)	\$1,798,539	0.52%	■ 9/30/2020 ■ 9/30/2021
Fresno County Stable Value	fressv	23.05%	\$67,695,357	\$1,077,571	\$68,772,929	19.99%	
Target Date Funds		12.38%	\$36,357,176	\$11,220,612	\$47,577,788	13.83%	
Great-West Lifetime 2015 Trust	grwl15	1.47%	\$4,315,374	(\$70,412)	\$4,244,963	1.23%	
Great-West Lifetime 2020 Trust	grwl20	0.06%	\$186,303	\$8,743	\$195,046	0.06%	
Great-West Lifetime 2025 Trust	grwl25	3.81%	\$11,181,577	\$2,522,590	\$13,704,167	3.98%	
Great-West Lifetime 2030 Trust	grwl30	0.04%	\$128,862	\$1,037,695	\$1,166,557	0.34%	
Great-West Lifetime 2035 Trust	grwl35	2.65%	\$7,777,084	\$2,566,586	\$10,343,670	3.01%	
Great-West Lifetime 2040 Trust	grwl40	0.01%	\$17,043	\$139,645	\$156,689	0.05%	
Great-West Lifetime 2045 Trust	grwl45	2.60%	\$7,640,726	\$2,325,138	\$9,965,863	2.90%	
Great-West Lifetime 2050 Trust	grwl50	0.02%	\$55,840	\$103,985	\$159,825	0.05%	
Great-West Lifetime 2055 Trust	grwl55	1.72%	\$5,054,368	\$2,572,961	\$7,627,329	2.22%	
Great-West Lifetime 2060 Trust	grwl60	0.00%	\$0	\$13,681	\$13,681	0.00%	
Total		100%	\$293,658,428	\$50,460,791	\$344,119,219	100%	

### As of 09/30/2021

#### County of Fresno 457 DC Plan

Investment Summary

#### Liquid Equities Fixed Income Other **Passively-Managed and Cash Funds** US Foreign US Foreign н R С М s L S Е s т Υ U A U Investment Ticker Exp Qtr YTD 1 Yr 2 Yr 3 Yr 4 Yr 5 Yr 10 Yr BlackRock Equity Index Fund M 02cff1 0.02 7.95 21.60 31.20 26.52 18.13 18.51 18.05 16.06 BlackRock Mid Capitalzation Equity Index Fund M 03cff2 100 0.03 -1.83 15.45 43.59 18.60 11.12 11.89 13.00 14.53 100 BlackRock Russell 2000 Index Fund M 03cff3 0.03 -4.38 12.42 47.73 21.78 10.61 11.79 13.57 14.56 100 BlackRock EAFE Equity Index Fund T 10cff5 0.10 -0.37 8.61 26.14 12.78 7.96 6.73 9.16 8.51 BlackRock US Debt Index Fund W 04cff4 0.04 0.08 -1.55 -0.87 3.02 5.76 3.98 3.20 3.18 Vanguard Total Intl Bd Idx Admiral VTABX 100 0.06 -2.01 -1.00 0.56 3.57 2.68 0.11 4.01 Fresno County Stable Value 0.50 2.18 2.17 2.20 2.16 2.13 2.21 fressv 0.34 1.58

#### **Actively-Managed Funds**

Style	Investment	Ticker	L	м	S	L	S	Е	1	S	т	Y	н	U	С	R	с	Α	U	Ехр	Qtr	YTD	1 Yr	2 Yr	3 Yr	4 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
Income	Columbia Dividend Income Inst3	CDDYX	85	9		2									4					0.56	-1.03	14.17	26.81	14.62	12.62	12.79	13.90	14.36
Growth	Alger Spectra Y	ASPYX	64	25	4	5		1											1	1.05	1.58	10.92	23.32	32.45	21.07	22.39		
Growth	T. Rowe Price Mid-Cap Growth I	RPTIX	22	60	10	3									3				2	0.61	0.16	10.06	28.67	20.80	16.11	16.57	17.30	17.23
Utilities	Franklin Utilities R6	FUFRX	40	46	5	5													4	0.50	1.10	4.68	12.71	1.59	9.70	7.71	8.30	10.39
Blend	Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N	JDSNX	[	10	86		1								2				1	0.86	-2.13	14.53	43.97	7.00	5.18	5.45	7.93	10.93
Growth	Nicholas Limited Edition I	NCLEX	[	22	64	3	7								4					0.86	2.56	10.19	33.07	20.62	13.53	15.15	16.02	14.80
Blend	T. Rowe Price Overseas Stock I	TROIX	2			93		3							2					0.66	-1.28	8.65	26.58	14.20	8.08	6.45	9.47	8.80
Emerging Gr	Invesco Developing Markets R6	ODVIX	[			25		66							5				4	0.82	-9.17	-3.20	15.20	12.88	9.36	7.09	9.96	7.50
Intermediate	Metropolitan West Total Return Bd Plan	MWTSX	[						65	14		4		5	5			1	6	0.37	0.13	-1.02	0.25	4.10	6.21	4.41	3.59	4.18
Real Estate	Fidelity Advisor Real Estate Income I	FRIRX	6	7	8				2			27		1	13	10		26		0.71	1.31	14.30	24.66	7.08	8.94	7.40	7.09	8.96

US Large Cap	US Mid Cap	US Small Cap	Frgn Develpd Large Cap	Frgn Develpd Small Cap	Frgn Emergng Markets	US Intermed Duration	US Short Duration	US TIPS
US High Yield	Global Hedged	Global Unhedged	Liquid Assets	REIT	Commodities	Alternatives	Uncategorized	

Northwest Capital Management, Inc.

As of 9/30/2021

### County of Fresno 457 DC Plan

Investment Summary

			Equities				Fi	ixed	Inco	me		iquid		~														
Target-Date	Target-Date Funds			US		F	orei	gn		ι	JS		For	reign	Liq		Oti	ner										
Style	Investment	Ticker	L	м	S	L.	S	Е	Т	S	т	Y	н	U	С	R	с	А	U	Ехр	Qtr	YTD	1 Yr	2 Yr	3 Yr	4 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
Target Date	Great-West Lifetime 2015 Trust	GRWL15	17	8	4	10		3	20	8	13	5	5		4	3				0.40	-0.19	5.41	13.11	10.59	8.80	7.92	8.09	8.04
Target Date	Great-West Lifetime 2020 Trust	GRWL20	19	8	5	12		4	21	6	9	5	5		3	3				0.40	-0.38	5.75	14.23	10.84	8.94	8.21	8.53	
Target Date	Great-West Lifetime 2025 Trust	GRWL25	22	9	6	14		5	19	5	6	5	4		2	3				0.40	-0.59	6.24	16.04	12.21	9.68	8.99	9.48	9.71
Target Date	Great-West Lifetime 2030 Trust	GRWL30	25	11	7	17		6	16	3	4	4	3		1	3				0.41	-0.80	7.18	18.39	13.10	10.06	9.40	10.17	
Target Date	Great-West Lifetime 2035 Trust	GRWL35	29	12	8	21		7	11	1	2	2	2		1	4				0.41	-1.07	8.16	21.26	14.75	10.89	10.51	11.41	11.37
Target Date	Great-West Lifetime 2040 Trust	GRWL40	30	13	10	23		9	8	1		2	1			3				0.41	-1.31	9.15	23.85	15.79	11.30	10.76	11.83	
Target Date	Great-West Lifetime 2045 Trust	GRWL45	31	13	10	24		10	6			1	1			4				0.41	-1.48	9.62	25.41	16.43	11.57	11.31	12.40	12.25
Target Date	Great-West Lifetime 2050 Trust	GRWL50	30	13	11	25		10	5			1	1			4				0.41	-1.59	9.77	25.95	16.59	11.65	11.02	12.18	
Target Date	Great-West Lifetime 2055 Trust	GRWL55	29	13	11	25		11	5			1	1			4				0.42	-1.69	9.66	26.08	16.50	11.51	11.22	12.35	12.12
Target Date	Great-West Lifetime 2060 Trust	GRWL60	29	13	11	25		11	5			1	1			4				0.42	-1.82	0.00						

US Large Cap	US Mid Cap	US Small Cap	Frgn Develpd Large Cap	Frgn Develpd Small Cap	Frgn Emergng Markets	US Intermed Duration	US Short Duration	US TIPS
US High Yield	Global Hedged	Global Unhedged	Liquid Assets	REIT	Commodities	Alternatives	Uncategorized	

Northwest Capital Management, Inc.

As of 9/30/2021

Northwest Capital Management, Inc.

Fund Policy Compliance

Factor

Fund Compliance Methodology

RETURNS

quartile rank for all time periods

**RISK** 

(no credit for bottom quartile performance)

**RISK ADJUSTED RETURNS** 

Summary compliance report shows the average peer group

# CALCULATION METHODOLOGY OF OVERALL FUND

Weight

40% Overall

20% Overall

Explanation

Absolute Returns

Sharpe Ratio

3.5.10 Year Periods

Peer Group Percentile Rankings:

**Standard Deviation** 

Summary compliance report shows the average peer group		10% Overall	Peer Group Percentile Rankings: 3,5,10 Year Periods	Ranks in top 75% of Peer Group	Ranks in bottom 25% of Peer Group
quartile rank for all time periods (no credit for bottom quartile performance)	30% Overall	20% Overall	Upside/Downside Capture Peer Group Percentile Rankings: 3,5,10 Year Periods	<b>Proportional Score</b> Ranks in top 75% of Peer Group	<b>No Score</b> Ranks in bottom 25% of Peer Group
OTHER Fund expense quartile rank		5% Overall	Expense Ratio For current period	<b>Proportional Score</b> Ranks in top 75% of Peer Group	<b>No Score</b> Ranks in bottom 25% of Peer Group
Manager tenure is greater than 3 years	10% Overall	5% Overall	Average Tenure Number of years	Full Score Manager Tenure more than 3 years	No Score Manager Tenure less than 3 years
For peer group rankings, a rank of 1-50 indicates the manager performed risk, a rank of 1 would mean the manager had a very low standard deviation had a very high return compared to its peer group.		•			er

1 (Worst) - 10 (Best)

Score Calculation

Proportional Score

Ranks in top 75%

**Proportional Score** 

of Peer Group

No Score

No Score

No Score

Ranks in bottom

25% of Peer Group

#### Fund Policy Compliance

Summary of Fund Compliance

#### Passively-Managed and Cash Funds

Туре	Assets %	Fund Name	Ticker
LC Index	18.07%	BlackRock Equity Index Fund M	02cff1
MC Index	3.35%	BlackRock Mid Capitalzation Equity Index Fund M	03cff2
SC Index	1.43%	BlackRock Russell 2000 Index Fund M	03cff3
GI Index	1.27%	BlackRock EAFE Equity Index Fund T	10cff5
TB Index	2.36%	BlackRock US Debt Index Fund W	04cff4
Int'l Index	0.52%	Vanguard Total Intl Bd Idx Admiral	VTABX
Stable Value	19.99%	Fresno County Stable Value	fressv

\* This Investment has less than 3 years of performance data

#### **Actively-Managed Funds**

Status	Assets %	Fund Name	Ticker	Return (40%)	Risk Adjusted Return (20%	Risk (30%)	Expense (5%)	Tenure (5%)
Watch	5.62%	Columbia Dividend Income Inst3	CDDYX			$\bigcirc$		
Pass	19.87%	Alger Spectra Y	ASPYX	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	0	
Pass	2.56%	T. Rowe Price Mid-Cap Growth I	RPTIX	0	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$		
Pass	0.98%	Franklin Utilities R6	FUFRX	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	0		
Watch	0.56%	Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N	JDSNX	$\bigcirc$	0	$\bigcirc$		
Watch	2.20%	Nicholas Limited Edition I	NCLEX	0	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$		
Pass	3.50%	T. Rowe Price Overseas Stock I	TROIX	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	0		
Pass	1.04%	Invesco Developing Markets R6	ODVIX	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$		
Pass	2.09%	Metropolitan West Total Return Bd Plan	MWTSX			$\bigcirc$		
Pass	0.77%	Fidelity Advisor Real Estate Income I	FRIRX	$\bigcirc$		$\bigcirc$		$\bigcirc$

\* This Investment has less than 3 years of performance data

As of 9/30/2021

### County of Fresno 457 DC Plan

Fund Policy Compliance

Target-Date Funds														
Status	Assets %	Fund Name	Ticker	Return (40%)	Risk Adjusted Return (20%	Risk (30%)	Expense (5%)	Tenure (5%)						
Pass	1.23%	Great-West Lifetime 2015 Trust	GRWL15	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$							
Pass	0.06%	Great-West Lifetime 2020 Trust	GRWL20	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	0	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$						
Pass	3.98%	Great-West Lifetime 2025 Trust	GRWL25	$\bigcirc$		$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$							
Pass	0.34%	Great-West Lifetime 2030 Trust	GRWL30	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$						
Pass	3.01%	Great-West Lifetime 2035 Trust	GRWL35	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$							
Pass	0.05%	Great-West Lifetime 2040 Trust	GRWL40	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$		$\bigcirc$						
Pass	2.90%	Great-West Lifetime 2045 Trust	GRWL45	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$							
Pass	0.05%	Great-West Lifetime 2050 Trust	GRWL50	0	0	0		$\bigcirc$						
Pass	2.22%	Great-West Lifetime 2055 Trust	GRWL55	0	0	0	$\bigcirc$							
	0.00%	Great-West Lifetime 2060 Trust*	GRWL60											

\* This Investment has less than 3 years of performance data

#### 12

As of 9/30/2021

Fund Policy Compliance

#### Passively-Managed and Cash Funds

Type of Fund	Assets % Ticker Fund Name			Return vs r Group (4			Adjusted F harpe (20%		Stan	dard Devi	ation		Risk (30% Ip Captur		Do	wn Captu	ire	Other Expense	(10%) Tenure	
				3Y	5Y	10Y	3Y	5Y	10Y	3Y	5Y	10Y	3Y	5Y	10Y	3Y	5Y	10Y	Peer Rank %	Avg Yrs
LC Index	18.07%	02cff1	BlackRock Equity Index Fund M	5	5	32	3	3	28	30	31	46	99	99	99	1	1	1	2	5
MC Index	3.35%	03cff2	BlackRock Mid Capitalzation Equity Index Fund M	46	32	24	52	42	35	72	70	62	17	13	15	78	76	71	1	5
SC Index	1.43%	03cff3	BlackRock Russell 2000 Index Fund M	29	21	30	30	23	37	57	57	62	26	21	25	54	50	69	2	5
GI Index	1.27%	10cff5	BlackRock EAFE Equity Index Fund T	47	30	33	42	23	28	34	29	45	64	51	43	31	26	38	5	5
TB Index	2.36%	04cff4	BlackRock US Debt Index Fund W	1	1	1	36	16	5	85	85	81	12	7	8	50	52	49	1	5
Int'l Index	0.52%	VTABX	Vanguard Total Intl Bd Idx Admiral	57	39		12	16		10	12		79	67		20	31		2	8
table Valu	19.99%	fressv	Fresno County Stable Value	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	5	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	44	6

#### Actively-Managed Funds

Overall Fund	Assets %	Ticker	Fund Name		Return vs Peer Group (40%)			Adjusted I narpe (20		Stan	dard Devi	ation		Risk (30% Jp Captur		Do	wn Captı	ıre	Other Expense	(10%) Tenure
Score				3Y	5Y	10Y	3Y	5Y	10Y	3Y	5Y	10Y	3Y	5Y	10Y	3Y	5Y	10Y	Peer Rank %	Avg Yrs
9	5.62%	CDDYX	Columbia Dividend Income Inst3	9	6	10	1	1	1	9	9	9	76	75	80	8	5	8	14	10
6	19.87%	ASPYX	Alger Spectra Y	35			38			62			37			41			60	6
5	2.56%	RPTIX	T. Rowe Price Mid-Cap Growth I	68	70	38	59	56	9	17	15	12	80	81	64	36	35	17	8	29
6	0.98%	FUFRX	Franklin Utilities R6	31	49	30	33	57	29	78	79	63	4	1	10	55	75	67	15	17
4	0.56%	JDSNX	Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N	83	82	79	75	53	31	6	4	5	95	95	93	6	4	2	17	8
5	2.20%	NCLEX	Nicholas Limited Edition I	58	66	78	37	39	29	2	2	3	96	95	93	3	3	6	16	15
6	3.50%	TROIX	T. Rowe Price Overseas Stock I	45	23	22	53	31	23	75	75	66	20	17	22	85	74	46	21	15
7	1.04%	ODVIX	Invesco Developing Markets R6	50	32	32	45	26	27	21	19	21	60	65	68	43	19	21	12	14
8	2.09%	MWTSX	Metropolitan West Total Return Bd Plan	23	31	14	9	11	2	21	17	15	54	59	45	18	21	16	13	23
5	0.77%	FRIRX	Fidelity Advisor Real Estate Income I	74	53	90	72	31	10	16	7	3	92	94	97	8	5	1	17	3

#### County of Fresno 457 DC Plan

Fund Policy Compliance

#### **Target-Date Funds**

Overall	Assets %	ssets % Ticker Fund Name			Return vs			Adjusted I		Stan	dard Devi	iation		Risk (30%) Jp Captur		Do	own Captu	ıre	Other Expense	(10%) Tenure
Fund		Ticker	Fund Name	Pee	r Group (4	40%)	51	harpe (20	%)											
Score				3Y	5Y	10Y	3Y	5Y	10Y	3Y	5Y	10Y	3Y	5Y	10Y	3Y	5Y	10Y	Peer Rank %	Avg Yrs
6	1.23%	GRWL15	Great-West Lifetime 2015 Trust	29	27	57	35	34	31	55	51	45	40	43	50	48	35	43	33	5
6	0.06%	GRWL20	Great-West Lifetime 2020 Trust	38	30		46	35		67	70		41	37		54	52		27	
7	3.98%	GRWL25	Great-West Lifetime 2025 Trust	35	30	37	36	19	14	41	40	34	48	45	64	40	31	28	29	5
5	0.34%	GRWL30	Great-West Lifetime 2030 Trust	49	46		46	32		45	42		59	56		36	37		27	
6	3.01%	GRWL35	Great-West Lifetime 2035 Trust	47	36	38	46	25	22	45	37	41	64	55	68	33	37	29	28	5
5	0.05%	GRWL40	Great-West Lifetime 2040 Trust	53	42		58	42		46	45		61	62		42	44		25	
6	2.90%	GRWL45	Great-West Lifetime 2045 Trust	58	39	26	60	36	26	37	41	40	66	56	54	39	40	34	26	5
5	0.05%	GRWL50	Great-West Lifetime 2050 Trust	59	50		58	49		41	43		69	65		45	46		24	
5	2.22%	GRWL55	Great-West Lifetime 2055 Trust	68	50	51	62	46	51	45	46	48	72	58	60	49	48	45	26	5
	0.00%	GRWL60	Great-West Lifetime 2060 Trust *																30	

\* This Investment has less than 3 years of performance data

All data except for 'Tenure - Average Years' are listed as a peer rank percentage

All Funds remain in compliance with Investment Policy and no action need be taken other than indicated in the Fund Compliance Commentary section of this report.

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Northwest Capital Management, Inc.

10/31/2021

This report, along with more detailed performance data on Plan Investment Options, was reviewed by the Plan's Trustee and/or Investment Committee.

Trustee / Committee Member

Date

#### BlackRock Equity Index Fund M (02cff1)

Fund Type: LC Index

The fund seeks to replicate the performance of U.S. Large Cap Stocks

Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
02cff1	7.95%	31.20%	18.13%	18.05%	16.06%
S&P 500 TR USD	0.59%	30.01%	16.00%	16.90%	16.64%
Out/(Under) Performing	7.36%	1.18%	2.12%	1.15%	-0.58%
Peer Group Ranking	1	27	5	5	32

#### BlackRock Mid Capitalzation Equity Index Fund M (03cff2)

Fund Type: MC Index

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US Mid Cap
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US Large Cap

The fund seeks to replicate the performance of U.S. Mid Cap Stocks

Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
03cff2	-1.83%	43.59%	11.12%	13.00%	14.53%
S&P MidCap 400 TR	-1.76%	43.69%	11.08%	12.96%	14.72%
Out/(Under) Performing	-0.07%	-0.10%	0.04%	0.04%	-0.19%
Peer Group Ranking	62	18	46	32	24

#### BlackRock Russell 2000 Index Fund M (03cff3)

Fund Type: SC Index

US Small Cap

The fund seeks to replicate the performance of U.S. Small Cap Stocks

Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
03cff3	-4.38%	47.73%	10.61%	13.57%	14.56%
Russell 2000 TR USD	-4.36%	47.68%	10.54%	13.45%	14.63%
Out/(Under) Performing	-0.02%	0.06%	0.07%	0.13%	-0.07%
Peer Group Ranking	84	56	29	21	30

#### BlackRock EAFE Equity Index Fund T (10cff5)

Frgn Develpd Large Cap

The fund seeks to replicate performance of Foreign stock represented by the MSCI EAFE Index

Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
10cff5	-0.37%	26.14%	7.96%	9.16%	8.51%
MSCI ACWI Ex USA NR USD	-2.99%	23.91%	8.03%	8.94%	7.48%
Out/(Under) Performing	2.62%	2.23%	-0.06%	0.22%	1.03%
Peer Group Ranking	16	30	47	30	33

#### BlackRock US Debt Index Fund W (04cff4)

Fund Type: TB Index

Fund Type: GI Index

US Intermed Duration

The fund seeks to replicate the performance of the U.S. Bond Market

Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
04cff4	0.08%	-0.87%	5.76%	3.20%	3.18%
Bloomberg US Govt Interm TR USD	0.00%	-1.32%	3.99%	1.99%	1.81%
Out/(Under) Performing	0.07%	0.45%	1.77%	1.21%	1.37%
Peer Group Ranking	31	41	1	1	1

#### As of 9/30/2021

#### Vanguard Total Intl Bd Idx Admiral (VTABX)

Fund Type: Int'l Index

The investment seeks to track the performance of a benchmark index that measures the investment return of non-U.S. dollar-denominated investment-grade bonds.

The fund employs an indexing investment approach designed to track the performance of the Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate ex-USD Float Adjusted RIC Capped Index (USD Hedged). This index provides a broad-based measure of the global, investment-grade, fixed-rate debt markets. It is non-diversified.

Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
VTABX	0.06%	-1.00%	4.01%	2.68%	
Bloomberg Gbl Agg xUSD FI Aj RIC TR HUSD	-0.01%	-0.92%	4.17%	2.85%	
Out/(Under) Performing	0.07%	-0.08%	-0.16%	-0.17%	
Peer Group Ranking	20	85	57	39	

#### Fresno County Stable Value (fressv)

Fund Type: Stable Value				Liqui	d Assets
Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
fressv	0.50%	2.18%	2.20%	2.13%	2.21%
ICE BofA 0-3 M US Trsy Bill TR USD	0.00%	0.05%	1.11%	1.10%	0.58%
Out/(Under) Performing	0.49%	2.12%	1.09%	1.03%	1.63%
Peer Group Ranking	1	1	1	1	1

#### Columbia Dividend Income Inst3 (CDDYX)

Fund Score: 9 (Status: Watch)

**Global Hedged** 

US Large Cap

The investment seeks total return, consisting of current income and capital appreciation.

The fund invests at least 80% of its net assets (including the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes) in a diversified portfolio of income-producing (dividend-paying) equity securities, which will consist primarily of common stocks but also may include preferred stocks and convertible securities. It invests principally in securities of companies believed to be undervalued but also may invest in securities of companies believed to have the potential for long-term growth. The fund may invest in companies that have market capitalizations of any size.

Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
CDDYX	-1.03%	26.81%	12.62%	13.90%	14.36%
S&P 500 Value TR USD	-0.85%	32.01%	10.69%	11.69%	13.76%
Out/(Under) Performing	-0.18%	-5.20%	1.93%	2.21%	0.60%
Peer Group Ranking	61	81	9	6	10

Columbia Dividend Income returned -1.0% in Q3 2021, compared to -0.8% for its benchmark (the S&P 500 Value). For the trailing year, the fund returned 26.8%, underperforming its benchmark which returned 32.0%. Both stock selection and sector allocation detracted from relative results this quarter. Selection within information technology and financials weighed on performance. On an individual stock basis, an overweight position in LAM Research was the leading detractor, as semiconductor stocks struggled this guarter following reports predicting a drop in the price of dynamic random access memory (DRAM) semiconductors. DRAM semiconductors are piling up in warehouses as finished products cannot be produced due global shortages. Relative performance was also hurt by a lack of exposure to non-dividend and low dividend paying companies, such as Apple, Alphabet, Moderna, and Tesla. Looking forward, management remains focused on identifying companies best able to navigate cost inflation and overcome supply chain constraints. Sustainable free cash flow, profit margins, capital discipline and strong balance sheets are areas management concentrates on. The fund was placed on watch beginning in Q1 2021 due to the departure of Peter Santoro, one of the fund's three portfolio managers. The fund continues to be managed by the remaining portfolio managers Scott Davis and Michael Barclay. The fund currently scores an 9 under our scoring methodology and its risk-adjusted returns rank in the top decile of its peers over the trailing 3yr, 5yr and 10-yr periods.

#### Alger Spectra Y (ASPYX)

Fund Score: 6 (Status: Pass)

The investment seeks long-term capital appreciation.

The fund invests primarily in the equity securities of companies of any size that the manager believes demonstrate promising growth potential. Equity securities include common or preferred stocks that are listed on U.S. or foreign exchanges. It may invest a significant portion of its assets in securities of companies conducting business within a single sector, including the information technology, consumer discretionary, and health care sectors.

Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
ASPYX	1.58%	23.32%	21.07%		
S&P 500 Growth TR USD	1.87%	28.86%	20.23%	21.15%	18.96%
Out/(Under) Performing	-0.29%	-5.54%	0.84%		
Peer Group Ranking	13	76	35		

Alger Spectra returned 1.6% for the trailing quarter compared to 1.9% for its benchmark (the S&P 500 Index). For the trailing year, the fund returned 23.3% compared to 28.9% for the benchmark. Overweight positions to Roku, Pinterest, and Paypal Holdings were headwinds on performance as these stocks underperformed the broader market. Allocations to Upstart Holdings, Alphabet, and Microsoft Corporation boosted relative performance as these stocks outperformed. Looking forward, management is focused on durable secular growth and companies with innovative products. For our part we are concerned with performance and are continuing to monitor the fund. The fund scores a 6 under our scoring methodology and trailing risk adjusted returns rank in the above median relative to peers over the trailing 3yr period.

#### T. Rowe Price Mid-Cap Growth I (RPTIX)

Fund Score: 5 (Status: Pass)

US Large Cap

The investment seeks long-term capital appreciation.

The fund normally invests at least 80% of its net assets (including any borrowings for investment purposes) in a diversified portfolio of common stocks of mid-cap companies whose earnings T. Rowe Price expects to grow at a faster rate than the average company. The advisor defines mid-cap companies as those whose market capitalization falls within the range of either the S&P MidCap 400 Index or the Russell Midcap Growth Index. While most assets will typically be invested in U.S. common stocks, the fund may invest in foreign stocks in keeping with the fund's objectives.

Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
RPTIX	0.16%	28.67%	16.11%	17.30%	17.23%
S&P MidCap 400 Growth TR USD	-1.96%	33.27%	12.03%	13.96%	14.78%
Out/(Under) Performing	2.11%	-4.61%	4.09%	3.34%	2.45%
Peer Group Ranking	42	68	68	70	38

T. Rowe Price Mid-Cap Growth returned 0.2% in Q3 2021 compared to the -2.0% loss for its benchmark (S&P MidCap 400 Growth). For the trailing four quarter period, the fund returned 28.7% compared to 33.3% for the benchmark. The fund beat the benchmark thoroughly this guarter and returned positive growth with its overweight to health care and stock selection within the sector. The portfolio's stock choices in technology, basic materials, and industrials were also net positives. Catalent, a specialty and generic drug manufacturer, was the top performing stock in the portfolio, having a solid guarter supported by Covid-19 related manufacturing and the acquisition of nutritional supplement manufacturer Battera. Hologic, another top-performing healthcare stock, saw Covid-19 testing sales higher than expected, which boosted its already improving core business segments. Health care remains the portfolio's highest allocation, followed closely by technology. Management's positive outlook on health care is based on the rapid pace of scientific advances, an aging U.S. population, and consumers' willingness to spend more on health care. Looking ahead, management sees a path for growth to broaden out to attractively valued but ignored companies. Their strategy will continue to focus on owning quality companies with durable growth prospects and, in their view, prudent balance sheets. The portfolio is headed by Brian Berghuis, who looks for companies with strong business models and good management teams and that have the potential for margin expansion, taking valuation into account. The fund's score remains a 5 under our methodology. Its returns rank in the top half relative to its peers for the trailing 10yr period.

US Mid Cap

#### Franklin Utilities R6 (FUFRX)

Fund Score: 6 (Status: Pass)

The investment seeks capital appreciation and current income.

The fund normally invests at least 80% of its net assets in the securities of public utilities companies. These are companies that provide electricity, natural gas, water, and communications services to the public and companies that provide services to public utilities companies. It concentrates (invests more than 25% of its total assets) in companies operating in the utilities industry. The fund invests primarily in equity securities, which consist mainly of common stocks.

Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
FUFRX	1.10%	12.71%	9.70%	8.30%	10.39%
MSCI World/Utilities NR USD	-1.06%	7.87%	8.38%	7.30%	6.89%
Out/(Under) Performing	2.16%	4.84%	1.32%	1.00%	3.50%
Peer Group Ranking	10	50	31	49	30

#### Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N (JDSNX)

US Small Cap

The investment seeks capital appreciation.

Fund Score: 4 (Status: Watch)

US Large Cap

The fund pursues its investment objective by investing primarily in the common stocks of small companies whose stock prices are believed to be undervalued by the fund's portfolio managers. It invests, under normal circumstances, at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in equity securities of small companies whose market capitalization, at the time of initial purchase, is less than the 12-month average of the maximum market capitalization for companies included in the Russell 2000 Value Index. The fund may invest up to 20% of its net assets in cash or similar investments.

Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
JDSNX	-2.13%	43.97%	5.18%	7.93%	10.93%
Russell 2000 Value TR USD	-2.98%	63.93%	8.59%	11.03%	13.22%
Out/(Under) Performing	0.85%	-19.95%	-3.41%	-3.10%	-2.29%
Peer Group Ranking	54	92	83	82	79

Janus Henderson Small Cap Value returned -2.1% in Q3 2021, compared to -3.0% for its benchmark (the Russell 2000 Value Index). For the trailing year, the fund returned 44.0%, underperforming its benchmark which returned of 63.9%. Selection in health care along with an underweight position and positive stock selection in communication services contributed to relative performance, while stock selection in industrials and an underweight in energy detracted. On an individual stock basis, top contributors included Encore Wire Corporation and Skyline Champion Corporation. Both Encore Wire, a copper wire and cable supplier, and Skyline Champion, a builder of modular and manufactured homes, have benefited from strong construction activity and a robust housing market. The top detractor was Stoneridge, a manufacturer of vehicle components. Looking forward, management believes the fund is well-positioned to provide downside protection during periods of market volatility. Management expects volatility to continue in the near-term and is mindful of inflation pressures. Management is attempting to take advantage of the current market volatility by identifying undervalued small-cap companies; management has also selectively added to the fund's health care exposure. The fund currently scores a 4 under our scoring methodology and remains on watch due to its recent underperformance. The fund's risk-adjusted returns rank above median relative to peers over the trailing 10yr period.

#### Nicholas Limited Edition I (NCLEX)

Fund Score: 5 (Status: Watch)

US Small Cap

The investment seeks to increase the value of the investment over the long-term. The fund primarily invests in common stocks of domestic corporations with small- and medium-sized market capitalizations believed to have growth potential. The advisor believes a company's annual sales volume and market capitalization are the factors most illustrative of a company's size. The advisor generally considers companies with market capitalizations up to \$3 billion as "small", between \$3 billion and \$25 billion as "medium," and greater than \$25 billion as "large."

Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
NCLEX	2.56%	33.07%	13.53%	16.02%	14.80%
Russell 2000 Growth TR USD	-5.65%	33.27%	11.70%	15.34%	15.74%
Out/(Under) Performing	8.21%	-0.20%	1.83%	0.68%	-0.94%
Peer Group Ranking	4	68	58	66	78

Nicholas Limited Edition returned 2.6% in Q3 2021, overperforming its benchmark at -5.7% (the Russell 2000 Growth Index). For the trailing year, the fund returned 33.1%, compared to the benchmark, which came in at 33.3%. When compared to the benchmark, the fund's strategy fared well this quarter. It benefitted from both stock selection and overweights in the financial and health care sectors. The top performing investments were InMode Ltd, which provides minimally and non-invasive surgical aesthetic and medical treatment solutions, and SPS Commerce Inc, a provider of cloud-based supply chain management solutions for suppliers, retailers, and distributors. Another top returning stock was Paylocity, a tech company which focuses on cloud-based human capital applications. Paylocity is guickly growing, and analysts expect an economic recovery to help Paylocity return to form in fiscal 2022. The fund, run by David O. Nicholas, began in 1987 and focuses in on growth companies with small cap market capitalization. Nicholas also serves as the Chief Investment Officer for the Nicholas Company and has headed the fund since 1993. Ryan P. Bushman, CFA was made co-manager in February 2021. Management believe the fund is well-diversified, the top allocations being technology, healthcare, and industrials. The fund's score raised to a 5 under our scoring methodology but remains on watch. Risk-adjusted returns for the fund rank above median relative to peers over the trailing 3yr, 5yr, and 10yr periods.

#### T. Rowe Price Overseas Stock I (TROIX)

Fund Score: 6 (Status: Pass)

Frgn Develpd Large Cap

The investment seeks long-term growth of capital through investments in the common stocks of non-U.S. companies.

The manager expects to invest significantly outside the U.S. and to diversify broadly among developed market and, to a lesser extent, emerging market countries throughout the world. It normally invests at least 80% of its net assets (including any borrowings for investment purposes) in non-U.S. stocks and at least 65% of its net assets in stocks of large-cap companies. The fund may sell securities for a variety of reasons, such as to secure gains, limit losses, or redeploy assets into more promising opportunities.

Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
TROIX	-1.28%	26.58%	8.08%	9.47%	8.80%
MSCI ACWI Ex USA NR USD	-2.99%	23.91%	8.03%	8.94%	7.48%
Out/(Under) Performing	1.71%	2.67%	0.06%	0.53%	1.32%
Peer Group Ranking	39	25	45	23	22

T. Rowe Price Overseas Stock I returned -1.4% in Q3 2021, compared to -3.0% for its benchmark (the MSCI ACWI Ex USA Index). For the trailing year, the fund returned 26.4%, while its benchmark returned 23.9%. International stocks faced global headwinds this guarter due to supply chain issues, default concerns in China's property market, and a slide in tech stocks following the rise in bond vields. A regulatory crackdown in China also negatively impacted Chinese stocks, particularly in the information technology sector. From a regional perspective, Canada detracted while Japan added to relative performance. Stock selection was the primary driver of the fund's underperformance this quarter, due to poor selections in the health care and consumer discretionary sectors. Swedish medical technology company Elekta AB was a key detractor as pandemic -related costs led to weak margins. Philips, a Dutch health care company, underperformed following a recall of ventilation devices. Philips was also hit with a class action lawsuit due to the use of toxic foam in its breathing machines. The industrials and financials sectors contributed to relative returns due to favorable selection. Management reduced its allocation to health care this guarter. Looking forward, management believes the fund is well-positioned to take advantage of the continued rebound in economic activity. Management is focused on identifying trade-offs between fundamentals and valuation in this volatile market environment. The fund currently scores a 6 under our methodology. The fund's returns rank in the top decile of its peers over the trailing 10yr period.

#### County of Fresno 457 DC Plan

#### **Fund Comments**

#### Invesco Developing Markets R6 (ODVIX)

Fund Score: 7 (Status: Pass)

The investment seeks capital appreciation.

The fund mainly invests in common stocks of issuers in developing and emerging markets throughout the world and at times it may invest up to 100% of its total assets in foreign securities. Under normal market conditions, it will invest at least 80% of its net assets, plus borrowings for investment purposes, in equity securities of issuers whose principal activities are in a developing market, i.e. are in a developing market or are economically tied to a developing market country, and in derivatives and other instruments that have economic characteristics similar to such securities.

Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
ODVIX	-9.17%	15.20%	9.36%	9.96%	7.50%
MSCI EM NR USD	-8.09%	18.21%	8.59%	9.24%	6.09%
Out/(Under) Performing	-1.08%	-3.01%	0.77%	0.72%	1.41%
Peer Group Ranking	76	72	50	32	32

Invesco Developing Markets returned -9.2% in Q3 2021 compared to -8.1% for its benchmark (the MSCI Emerging Markets Index). For the last 12 months, the fund returned 15.2% compared to 18.2% for the benchmark. By region, the fund's strategy fared best with allocations in India, Russia, and South Korea. However, these positives were offset by stock selection in Brazil and China. When comparing to the benchmark, these negative performers included Tencent Holdings, the Chinese internet giant with businesses and investments in a wide variety of services and contents, and Vale SAADR, the Brazilian mining company and the world's largest iron ore miner. The equity's choice of Basic Materials stocks like Vale were by far its worst performer by sector. China continues to be the fund's highest allocation, and management attributes the emerging market's slowdown to China's regulatory crackdown. They, however, believe the ingredients still exist for a bull market in China, given strong growth, favorable portfolio diversification trends among China's domestic investors, and growing access to high quality new company listings. Their largest exit this quarter was China's Alibaba, the world's largest online and mobile commerce company, on concerns about increased competition. Management will continue to focus on the long-term and avoid tactical decisions. The team is led by Justin Leverenz, who uses a moderate growth approach and tries to envision how companies might change in the future to take advantage of different conditions or unforeseen opportunities. The fund score is a 7 under NWCM's methodology. Its risk-adjusted returns rank in the top half relative to peers for the trailing 3yr, 5yr, and 10yr periods.

#### Metropolitan West Total Return Bd Plan (MWTSX)

Fund Score: 8 (Status: Pass)

Frgn Emergng Markets

US Intermed Duration

The investment seeks to maximize long-term total return. The fund pursues its objective by investing, under normal circumstances, at least 80% of its net assets in investment grade fixed income securities or unrated securities determined by the Adviser to be of comparable quality. Up to 20% of the fund's net assets may be invested in securities rated below investment grade or unrated securities determined by the Adviser to be of comparable quality. The fund also invests at least 80% of its net assets plus borrowings for investment purposes in fixed income securities it regards as bonds.

Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
MWTSX	0.13%	0.25%	6.21%	3.59%	4.18%
Bloomberg US Agg Bond TR USD	0.05%	-0.89%	5.36%	2.95%	3.01%
Out/(Under) Performing	0.09%	1.15%	0.85%	0.64%	1.17%
Peer Group Ranking	33	58	23	31	14

MetWest Total Return returned 0.1% for the trailing quarter compared to 0.1% for its benchmark (the BBgBarc US Agg Bond TR Index). For the trailing year, the fund returned 0.3% compared to -0.9% for the benchmark. Modest outperformance for the quarter was primarily due to the portfolio's focus on high yield idiosyncratic opportunities and underweight to corporate credit. Additionally, an overweight to financials was another tailwind on performance as this sector outperformed the broader market. Looking forward, the strategy remains defensively positioned as management anticipates risks of global banks trying to manage the withdrawal of fiscal and monetary stimulus. For our part we are pleased with performance. The fund scores an 8 under our scoring methodology and trailing risk adjusted returns rank in the top quartile over the trailing 3yr, 5yr, and 10yr periods.

#### As of 9/30/2021

The fund normally invests primarily in preferred and common stocks of REITs; debt securities of real estate entities; and commercial and other mortgage-backed securities, with an emphasis on lower-quality debt securities (those of less than investment-grade quality, also referred to as high yield debt securities or junk bonds). It invests at least 80% of assets in securities of companies principally engaged in the real estate industry and other real estate related investments. The fund invests in domestic and foreign issuers.

Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
FRIRX	1.31%	24.66%	8.94%	7.09%	8.96%
FTSE Nareit Equity REITs TR USD	0.98%	37.40%	10.01%	6.73%	11.22%
Out/(Under) Performing	0.33%	-12.74%	-1.07%	0.36%	-2.27%
Peer Group Ranking	43	87	74	53	90

The Fidelity Real Estate Income fund returned 1.3% in Q3 2021 compared to the 1.0% return for its benchmark (FTSE Nareit Equity REITs index). For the trailing four quarter period, the fund returned 24.6% compared to 37.4% for the benchmark. Security selection in the fund's equity and fixed income holdings contributed to overall performance for the quarter. The fund invests in debt securities of real estate entities to achieve higher yield and less volatility compared to investing in REIT common stocks alone. As of September 30, 2021 the fund had 40% of its allocation in these debt securities and other fixed income products. This large allocation to fixed income is a major reason for the deviation from the benchmark. Looking forward, the portfolio managers believe that favorable conditions for real estate companies will emerge in the near future. The fund scored a 5 under our methodology. Its risk-adjusted returns rank in the top half relative to its peers for the trailing 5yr and 10yr periods.

### County of Fresno 457 DC Plan

Fund Comments

#### Fidelity Advisor Real Estate Income I (FRIRX)

Fund Score: 5 (Status: Pass)

The investment seeks higher than average income; and capital growth is the secondary objective.

						Great-west Lifetime 2020
Frailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr	Fund Score: 6 (Status: Pass)
FRIRX	1.31%	24.66%	8.94%	7.09%	8.96%	
TSE Nareit Equity REITs TR USD	0.98%	37.40%	10.01%	6.73%	11.22%	
Dut/(Under) Performing	0.33%	-12.74%	-1.07%	0.36%	-2.27%	Trailing Returns
Peer Group Ranking	43	87	74	53	90	GRWL20 DJ Target 2020 TR USD

### Great-West Lifetime 2015 Trust (GRWL15)

REIT

Ind Score: 6 (Status: Pass) Uncat						
Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr	
GRWL15	-0.19%	13.11%	8.80%	8.09%	8.04%	
DJ Target 2015 TR USD	-0.52%	4.18%	5.15%	4.01%	4.79%	
Out/(Under) Performing	0.33%	8.92%	3.65%	4.08%	3.24%	
Peer Group Ranking	24	37	29	27	57	

#### Great-West Lifetime 2020 Trust (GRWL20)

Uncategorized

Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
GRWL20	-0.38%	14.23%	8.94%	8.53%	
DJ Target 2020 TR USD	-0.57%	6.50%	6.07%	5.09%	5.98%
Out/(Under) Performing	0.20%	7.73%	2.86%	3.44%	
Peer Group Ranking	36	35	38	30	

#### Great-West Lifetime 2025 Trust (GRWL25)

Fund Score: 7	(Status: Pass)	

Uncategorized

Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
GRWL25	-0.59%	16.04%	9.68%	9.48%	9.71%
DJ Target 2025 TR USD	-0.65%	9.98%	7.09%	6.47%	7.36%
Out/(Under) Performing	0.06%	6.05%	2.59%	3.01%	2.35%
Peer Group Ranking	54	40	35	30	37

### County of Fresno 457 DC Plan

### Fund Comments

### As of 9/30/2021

<b>Great-West Lifetime 2030 Trust (G</b> Fund Score: 5 (Status: Pass)	GRWL30)			Uncat	egorized	Great-West Lifetime 2045 Trust (GRWL45)         red       Fund Score: 6 (Status: Pass)         Uncategor					tegorized
Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr	Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
GRWL30	-0.80%	18.39%	10.06%	10.17%		GRWL45	-1.48%	25.41%	11.57%	12.40%	12.25%
DJ Target 2030 TR USD	-0.72%	14.12%	8.20%	8.06%	8.81%	DJ Target 2045 TR USD	-0.98%	26.11%	11.05%	11.79%	11.73%
Out/(Under) Performing	-0.08%	4.27%	1.87%	2.11%		Out/(Under) Performing	-0.50%	-0.70%	0.53%	0.61%	0.52%
Peer Group Ranking	60	48	49	46		Peer Group Ranking	85	62	58	39	26
Great-West Lifetime 2035 Trust (GRWL35) Fund Score: 6 (Status: Pass) Uncategorize					eqorized	Great-West Lifetime 2050 Trust (GRWL50) Fund Score: 5 (Status: Pass) Uncategorized					
Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr	Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
GRWL35	-1.07%	21.26%	10.89%	11.41%	11.37%	GRWL50	-1.59%	25.95%	11.65%	12.18%	10 11
DJ Target 2035 TR USD	-0.83%	18.46%	9.26%	9.53%	10.06%	DJ Target 2050 TR USD	-1.04%	28.41%	11.57%	12.33%	12.02%
Out/(Under) Performing	-0.25%	2.81%	1.63%	1.88%	1.31%	Out/(Under) Performing	-0.55%	-2.46%	0.08%	-0.15%	
Peer Group Ranking	72	59	47	36	38	Peer Group Ranking	86	66	59	50	
Great-West Lifetime 2040 Trust (0	GRWL40)					Great-West Lifetime 2055 Trus	t (GRWL55)				
Fund Score: 5 (Status: Pass)				Uncat	egorized	Fund Score: 5 (Status: Pass)				Uncat	tegorized
Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr	Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
GRWL40	-1.31%	23.85%	11.30%	11.83%		GRWL55	-1.69%	26.08%	11.51%	12.35%	12.12%
DJ Target 2040 TR USD	-0.91%	22.64%	10.25%	10.82%	11.07%	DJ Target 2055 TR USD	-1.06%	29.23%	11.80%	12.48%	12.10%
Out/(Under) Performing	-0.40%	1.21%	1.05%	1.01%		Out/(Under) Performing	-0.63%	-3.15%	-0.29%	-0.14%	0.02%
Peer Group Ranking	80	57	53	42		Peer Group Ranking	91	72	68	50	51

### County of Fresno 457 DC Plan

Fund Comments

<b>Great-West Lifetime 2060 Trus</b> Fund Score: 9 (Status: Pass)	Uncat	egorized			
Trailing Returns	1 Qtr	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
GRWL60	-1.82%				
DJ Target 2060 TR USD	-1.06%	29.23%	11.80%	12.48%	12.10%
Out/(Under) Performing	-0.76%				
Peer Group Ranking	94				

### As of 9/30/2021

### County of Fresno 457 DC Plan

### Expense Ratio Report (Entity)

### Passively-Managed and Cash Funds

		Expense Peer		Peer	Range of Peer Group Expense Ratios							
	Investment	Ticker	Ratio	Rank	0%	0.5%	1%	1.5%	2%	2.5%	3%	
62,166,997	BlackRock Equity Index Fund M	02cff1	0.02%	2								
11,537,287	BlackRock Mid Capitalzation Equity Index Fund M	03cff2	0.03%	1								
4,930,538	BlackRock Russell 2000 Index Fund M	03cff3	0.03%	2								
4,360,068	BlackRock EAFE Equity Index Fund T	10cff5	0.10%	5								
8,132,128	BlackRock US Debt Index Fund W	04cff4	0.04%	1								
1,798,539	Vanguard Total Intl Bd Idx Admiral	VTABX	0.11%	2								
68,772,929	Fresno County Stable Value	fressv	0.34%	44								
Actively-Mana	iged Funds											
19,341,825	Columbia Dividend Income Inst3	CDDYX	0.56%	14								
68,389,887	Alger Spectra Y	ASPYX	1.05%	60								
8,802,438	T. Rowe Price Mid-Cap Growth I	RPTIX	0.61%	8								
3,359,717	Franklin Utilities R6	FUFRX	0.50%	15								
1,928,276	Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N	JDSNX	0.86%	17								
7,556,149	Nicholas Limited Edition I	NCLEX	0.86%	16								
12,048,969	T. Rowe Price Overseas Stock I	TROIX	0.66%	21								
3,591,290	Invesco Developing Markets R6	ODVIX	0.82%	12						1		
7,175,513	Metropolitan West Total Return Bd Plan	MWTSX	0.37%	13								
2,648,881	Fidelity Advisor Real Estate Income I	FRIRX	0.71%	17								
Target-Date F	unds											
4,244,963	Great-West Lifetime 2015 Trust	GRWL15	0.40%	33								
195,046	Great-West Lifetime 2020 Trust	GRWL20	0.40%	27								
13,704,167	Great-West Lifetime 2025 Trust	GRWL25	0.40%	29								
1,166,557	Great-West Lifetime 2030 Trust	GRWL30	0.41%	27								
10,343,670	Great-West Lifetime 2035 Trust	GRWL35	0.41%	28								
156,689	Great-West Lifetime 2040 Trust	GRWL40	0.41%	25								
9,965,863	Great-West Lifetime 2045 Trust	GRWL45	0.41%	26								
159,825	Great-West Lifetime 2050 Trust	GRWL50	0.41%	24								
7,627,329	Great-West Lifetime 2055 Trust	GRWL55	0.42%	26								
13,681	Great-West Lifetime 2060 Trust	GRWL60	0.42%	30								
344,119,219		Expense Ratio Averages	0.44%	19		Weight	ed Average	e Gross Exp	ense Ratio	): 0.46%		

Your Plan	Bal Weighted Avg	1st Quartile	2nd Quartile	3rd Quartile	4th Quartile
Expense Ratio	0.46%	74.1%(20)	22.2%(6)	3.7%(1)	-

Northwest Capital Management, Inc.

# County of Fresno 457 DC Plan Investment Fund Performance Report

Retirement Date	Investment	3-Mo	1 Yr	2 Yr *	3 Yr *	5 Yr *	Expense Ratio
2015							· ·
	Great-West Lifetime 2015 Trust	-0.19	13.11	10.59	8.8	8.09	0.4
	Morningstar Lifetime Mod 2015 TR USD	-0.18	12.85	10.61	9.21	7.94	
	Benchmark +/-	-0.01	0.26	-0.02	-0.41	0.15	
2020							
	Great-West Lifetime 2020 Trust	-0.38	14.23	10.84	8.94	8.53	0.4
	Morningstar Lifetime Mod 2020 TR USD	-0.29	14.14	11.32	9.71	8.58	
	Benchmark +/-	-0.09	0.09	-0.48	-0.77	-0.05	
2025							
	Great-West Lifetime 2025 Trust	-0.59	16.04	12.21	9.68	9.48	0.4
	Morningstar Lifetime Mod 2025 TR USD	-0.42	16.07	12.16	10.15	9.35	
	Benchmark +/-	-0.17	-0.03	0.05	-0.47	0.13	
2030			40.00	40.4	10.00	10.1-	
	Great-West Lifetime 2030 Trust	-0.8	18.39	13.1	10.06	10.17	0.41
	Morningstar Lifetime Mod 2030 TR USD	-0.57	18.97	13.23	10.56	10.26	
	Benchmark +/-	-0.23	-0.58	-0.13	-0.50	-0.09	
2035							
	Great-West Lifetime 2035 Trust	-1.07	21.26	14.75	10.89	11.41	0.41
	Morningstar Lifetime Mod 2035 TR USD	-0.73	22.53	14.38	10.90	11.10	
00.40	Benchmark +/-	-0.34	-1.27	0.37	-0.01	0.31	
2040		4.04	00.05	45 70	44.0	44.00	0.44
	Great-West Lifetime 2040 Trust	-1.31	23.85	15.79	11.3	11.83	0.41
	Morningstar Lifetime Mod 2040 TR USD	-0.89	25.71	15.36	11.17	11.69	
2045	Benchmark +/-	-0.42	-1.86	0.43	0.13	0.14	
2045	Great-West Lifetime 2045 Trust	-1.48	25.41	16.43	11.57	12.4	0.41
		-1.40	27.69	15.94	11.37	12.4	0.41
	Morningstar Lifetime Mod 2045 TR USD Benchmark +/-	-0.47	-2.28	0.49	0.25	0.44	
2050	Denchmark +/-	-0.47	-2.20	0.49	0.25	0.44	
2050	Great-West Lifetime 2050 Trust	-1.59	25.95	16.59	11.65	12.18	0.41
	Morningstar Lifetime Mod 2050 TR USD	-1.10	28.42	16.12	11.35	11.99	0.41
	Benchmark +/-	-0.49	-2.47	0.47	0.30	0.19	
2055	Dencimark 17-	-0.43	-2.47	0.47	0.00	0.15	
2000	Great-West Lifetime 2055 Trust	-1.69	26.08	16.5	11.51	12.35	0.42
	Morningstar Lifetime Mod 2055 TR USD	-1.17	28.59	16.12	11.32	11.96	0.72
	Benchmark +/-	-0.52	-2.51	0.38	0.19	0.39	
2060		0.02	2.01	0.00	0.10	0.00	
2000	Great-West Lifetime 2060 Trust	-1.82					0.42
	Morningstar Lifetime Mod 2060 TR USD	-1.24	28.62	16.08	11.27	11.89	•••=
	Benchmark +/-	-0.58					

\* Returns are annualized after 1 year

\*\* Great West Lifetime Trust Series replaced Great West Lifetime Trust Series II in June 2016. Return data prior to June 2016 reflects Great West Lifetime Trust Series II

\*\*\* Great West Lifetime Trust Series expense ratios were reduced to 0.40%-0.42% in Q1 2019

\*\*\*\* The following Lifetime Trusts were added in Q3 2019: 2020, 2030, 2040, 2050

\*\*\*\*\* The following Lifetime Trusts were added in Q2 2021: 2060

### As of 09/30/2021

#### Current Lineup Status

Asset Class		Current Status	Placed On Watch	Asset Class		Current Status	Placed On Watch
US Large Ca	ар			Fixed Incom	e		
ASPYX	Alger Spectra Y	Pass	-	04cff4	BlackRock US Debt Index Fund W	Pass	-
CDDYX	Columbia Dividend Income Inst3	Watch	2021 - Q2	MWTSX	Metropolitan West Total Return Bd Plan	Pass	-
US Mid Cap				VTABX	Vanguard Total Intl Bd Idx Admiral	Pass	-
03cff2	BlackRock Mid Capitalzation Equity Index Fund	Pass	-	fressv	Fresno County Stable Value	Pass	-
RPTIX	T. Rowe Price Mid-Cap Growth I	Pass	-	Target Date	Funds		
US Small Ca	ар			GRWL15	Great-West Lifetime 2015 Trust	Pass	-
03cff3	BlackRock Russell 2000 Index Fund M	Pass	-	GRWL20	Great-West Lifetime 2020 Trust	Pass	-
NCLEX	Nicholas Limited Edition I	Watch	2021 - Q1	GRWL25	Great-West Lifetime 2025 Trust	Pass	-
JDSNX	Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N	Watch	2021 - Q3	GRWL30	Great-West Lifetime 2030 Trust	Pass	-
Foreign				GRWL35	Great-West Lifetime 2035 Trust	Pass	-
10cff5	BlackRock EAFE Equity Index Fund T	Pass	-	GRWL40	Great-West Lifetime 2040 Trust	Pass	-
TROIX	T. Rowe Price Overseas Stock I	Pass	-	GRWL45	Great-West Lifetime 2045 Trust	Pass	-
ODVIX	Invesco Developing Markets R6	Pass	-	GRWL50	Great-West Lifetime 2050 Trust	Pass	-
Specialty				GRWL55	Great-West Lifetime 2055 Trust	Pass	-
FRIRX	Fidelity Advisor Real Estate Income I	Pass	-	GRWL60	Great-West Lifetime 2060 Trust	Pass	-
FUFRX	Franklin Utilities R6	Pass	-				

#### Watch List History

JDSNXJanus Henderson Small Cap Value NIn Plan2021 - Q3-NCLEXNicholas Limited Edition NIn Plan2021 - Q1-2016 - Q22017 - Q12013 - Q4201CDDYXColumbia Dividend Income Inst3In Plan2021 - Q2-2013 - Q42014 - Q4201FRESSVCounty Of Fresno Stable Value FundIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q12018 - Q1-2018 - Q42014 - Q4GRWL15Great-West Lifetime 2015 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q12018 - Q12013 - Q4201-2013 - Q42012013 - Q42014 - Q42014 - Q42014 - Q4					Time on Watch		ne on Watch		ne on Watch
NCLEXNicholas Limited Edition NIn Plan2021 - Q1-2016 - Q22017 - Q12013 - Q4201CDDYXColumbia Dividend Income Inst3In Plan2021 - Q2-2013 - Q42014 - Q42014			Status	Placed	Removed	Placed	Removed	Placed	Removed
CDDYXColumbia Dividend Income Inst3In Plan2021 - Q22013 - Q42014 - Q4FRESSVCounty Of Fresno Stable Value FundIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1GRWL15Great-West Lifetime 2015 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1GRWL25Great-West Lifetime 2025 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1 </td <td>JDSNX</td> <td>Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N</td> <td>In Plan</td> <td>2021 - Q3</td> <td>-</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	JDSNX	Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N	In Plan	2021 - Q3	-				
FRESSVCounty Of Fresno Stable Value FundIn Plan2017 · Q12018 · Q1GRWL15Great-West Lifetime 2015 TrustIn Plan2017 · Q12018 · Q1GRWL25Great-West Lifetime 2025 TrustIn Plan2017 · Q12018 · Q1GRWL35Great-West Lifetime 2035 TrustIn Plan2017 · Q12018 · Q1GRWL45Great-West Lifetime 2045 TrustIn Plan2017 · Q12018 · Q1GRWL55Great-West Lifetime 2055 TrustIn Plan2017 · Q12018 · Q2GRWL55Great-West Lifetime 2055 TrustIn Plan2017 · Q12018 · Q2GRWL55Great-West Lifetime 2055 TrustIn Plan2017 · Q12018 · Q1GRWL55Great-West Lifetime 2055 TrustIn Plan2017 · Q12018 · Q2GRWL55Great-West Lifetime 2055 TrustRemoved2018 · Q32019 · Q22012 · Q1GRWL55Great-West Lifetime 2055 TrustRemoved2018 · Q32019 · Q22012 · Q1GAKDXVirtus Seix Total Ret	NCLEX	Nicholas Limited Edition N	In Plan	2021 - Q1	-	2016 - Q2	2017 - Q1	2013 - Q4	2015 - Q2
GRWL15Great-West Lifetime 2015 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1GRWL25Great-West Lifetime 2025 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1GRWL35Great-West Lifetime 2035 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1GRWL45Great-West Lifetime 2045 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1GRWL55Great-West Lifetime 2055 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q22016 - Q22017 - Q1FBNRXTempleton Global Bond R6Removed2018 - Q32019 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3HFCIXHennessy Focus InstitutionalRemoved2018 - Q32019 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3OAKBXOakmark Equity and Income InvestorRemoved2018 - Q32019 - Q22013 - Q42015 - Q2SAMZXVirtus Seix Total Return Bond R6Removed2013 - Q42015 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3SEGSXSentinel Government Securities ARemoved2013 - Q42015 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3JMCVXPerkins Mid Cap Value TRemoved2012 - Q42015 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3MSIIXMainStay International Equity IRemoved2012 - Q42015 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3FAXIXPax Balanced Ins	CDDYX	Columbia Dividend Income Inst3	In Plan	2021 - Q2	-	2013 - Q4	2014 - Q4		
GRWL25Great-West Lifetime 2025 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1GRWL35Great-West Lifetime 2035 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1GRWL45Great-West Lifetime 2045 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1GRWL55Great-West Lifetime 2055 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q22016 - Q22017 - Q1GRWL55Great-West Lifetime 2055 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q12016 - Q22017 - Q1GRWL55Great-West Lifetime 2055 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12019 - Q22016 - Q22017 - Q1GRWL55Great-West Lifetime 2055 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12019 - Q22012 - Q12017 - Q1HCIXHennessy Focus InstitutionalRemoved2018 - Q32019 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3SAMZXVirtus Seix Total Return Bond R6Removed2018 - Q32019 - Q22013 - Q42015 - Q2JMCVXPerkins Mid Cap Value TRemoved2013 - Q42015 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3MSIIXMainStay International Equity IRemoved2012 - Q42015 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3PAXIXPax Balanced InstitutionalRemoved2012 - Q42013 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q4<	FRESSV	County Of Fresno Stable Value Fund	In Plan	2017 - Q1	2018 - Q1				
GRWL35Great-West Lifetime 2035 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1GRWL45Great-West Lifetime 2045 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1GRWL55Great-West Lifetime 2055 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1GRWL55Great-West Lifetime 2055 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1GRWL55Great-West Lifetime 2055 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1FBNRXTempleton Global Bond R6Removed2019 - Q42020 - Q22016 - Q22017 - Q1HFCIXHennessy Focus InstitutionalRemoved2018 - Q32019 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3OAKBXOakmark Equity and Income InvestorRemoved2018 - Q32019 - Q22013 - Q42015 - Q2SAMZXVirtus Seix Total Return Bond R6Removed2013 - Q42015 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3SEGSXSentinel Government Securities ARemoved2013 - Q42015 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3JMCVXPerkins Mid Cap Value TRemoved2012 - Q42015 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3MSIIXMainStay International Equity IRemoved2012 - Q42015 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3PAXIXPax Balanced InstitutionalRemoved2012 - Q42013 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3GTAVXInvesco Mid Cap Core Equity R5Removed2012 - Q12013 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3	GRWL15	Great-West Lifetime 2015 Trust	In Plan	2017 - Q1	2018 - Q1				
GRWL45Great-West Lifetime 2045 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1GRWL55Great-West Lifetime 2055 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1GRWL55Great-West Lifetime 2055 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1FBNRXTempleton Global Bond R6Removed2019 - Q42020 - Q22016 - Q22017 - Q1HFCIXHennessy Focus InstitutionalRemoved2018 - Q32019 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3OAKBXOakmark Equity and Income InvestorRemoved2018 - Q32019 - Q22013 - Q42015 - Q2SAMZXVirtus Seix Total Return Bond R6Removed2014 - Q22015 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3SEGSXSentinel Government Securities ARemoved2013 - Q42015 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3JMCVXPerkins Mid Cap Value TRemoved2012 - Q42015 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3MSIIXMainStay International Equity IRemoved2012 - Q42015 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3PAXIXPax Balanced InstitutionalRemoved2012 - Q42013 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3GTAVXInvesco Mid Cap Core Equity R5Removed2012 - Q12013 - Q22013 - Q2	GRWL25	Great-West Lifetime 2025 Trust	In Plan	2017 - Q1	2018 - Q1				
GRWL55Great-West Lifetime 2055 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1GRWL55Great-West Lifetime 2055 TrustIn Plan2017 - Q12018 - Q1FBNRXTempleton Global Bond R6Removed2019 - Q42020 - Q22016 - Q22017 - Q1HFCIXHennessy Focus InstitutionalRemoved2018 - Q32019 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3OAKBXOakmark Equity and Income InvestorRemoved2018 - Q32019 - Q22013 - Q42015 - Q2SAMZXVirtus Seix Total Return Bond R6Removed2014 - Q22015 - Q22013 - Q42015 - Q2SEGSXSentinel Government Securities ARemoved2013 - Q42015 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3JMCVXPerkins Mid Cap Value TRemoved2012 - Q42015 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3MSIIXMainStay International Equity IRemoved2012 - Q42015 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3PAXIXPax Balanced InstitutionalRemoved2012 - Q42013 - Q22012 - Q12012 - Q3GTAVXInvesco Mid Cap Core Equity R5Removed2012 - Q12013 - Q22013 - Q2	GRWL35	Great-West Lifetime 2035 Trust	In Plan	2017 - Q1	2018 - Q1				
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	PAXIX	Pax Balanced Institutional	Removed	2012 - Q4	2013 - Q2				
IINCX Ivy International Core Equity R6 Removed 2019 - Q2 2020 - Q2	GTAVX	Invesco Mid Cap Core Equity R5	Removed	2012 - Q1	2013 - Q2				
	IINCX	Ivy International Core Equity R6	Removed	2019 - Q2	2020 - Q2				

\* Watch List History displays all funds that have been on watch in the plan since 2012

Fund Change Keep Share Class Change Add

### Data as of 09/30/2021

Current Lineup Proposed Lineup										
Fund Name	% of Assets	Assets	Gross Exp Ratio	Revenue Share	Net Exp Ratio	Action	Fund Name	Gross Exp Ratio	Revenue Share	Net Exp Ratio
US Large Cap							US Large Cap			
Alger Spectra Y (aspyx)	19.87%	\$68,389,887	1.05%	0.00%	1.05%	Кеер	Alger Spectra Y (aspyx)	1.05%	0.00%	1.05%
Columbia Dividend Income Inst3 (cddyx)	5.62%	\$19,341,825	0.56%	0.00%	0.56%	Keep	Columbia Dividend Income Inst3 (cddyx)	0.56%	0.00%	0.56%
Blackrock Equity Index Fund M (02cff1)	18.07%	\$62,166,997	0.02%	0.00%	0.02%	Кеер	Blackrock Equity Index Fund M (02cff1)	0.02%	0.00%	0.02%
US Mid Cap							US Mid Cap			
T. Rowe Price Mid-Cap Growth I (rptix)	2.56%	\$8,802,438	0.61%	0.00%	0.61%	Кеер	T. Rowe Price Mid-Cap Growth I (rptix)	0.61%	0.00%	0.61%
Blackrock Mid Cap Equity Index - Fund M (03cff2)	3.35%	\$11,537,287	0.03%	0.00%	0.03%	Keep	Blackrock Mid Cap Equity Index - Fund M (03cff2)	0.03%	0.00%	0.03%
US Small Cap							US Small Cap			
Nicholas Limited Edition I (nclex)	2.20%	\$7,556,149	0.86%	0.00%	0.86%	Recommended Fund Change	Alger Small Cap Focus Y (aofyx)	0.84%	0.00%	0.84%
Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N (jdsnx)	0.56%	\$1,928,276	0.86%	0.00%	0.86%	Recommended Fund Change	Columbia Small Cap Value II Inst3 (crryx)	0.83%	0.00%	0.83%
Blackrock Russell 2000 Index Fund M (03cff3)	1.43%	\$4,930,538	0.03%	0.00%	0.03%	Кеер	Blackrock Russell 2000 Index Fund M (03cff3)	0.03%	0.00%	0.03%
International - Developed							International - Developed			
T. Rowe Price Overseas Stock I (troix)	3.50%	\$12,048,969	0.66%	0.00%	0.66%	Кеер	T. Rowe Price Overseas Stock I (troix)	0.66%	0.00%	0.66%
Blackrock Eafe Equity Index Fund T (10cff5)	1.27%	\$4,360,068	0.10%	0.00%	0.10%	Recommended Fund Change	Vanguard Developed Markets Index Admiral (vtmgx)	0.07%	0.00%	0.07%
International - Emerging							International - Emerging			
Invesco Oppenheimer Developing Markets I (odvix)	1.04%	\$3,591,290	0.82%	0.00%	0.82%	Кеер	Invesco Oppenheimer Developing Markets I (odvix)	0.82%	0.00%	0.82%
Specialty							Specialty			
Fidelity Advisor Real Estate Income I (frirx)	0.77%	\$2,648,881	0.71%	0.25%	0.46%	Кеер	Fidelity Advisor Real Estate Income I (frirx)	0.71%	0.25%	0.46%
Franklin Utilities R6 (fufrx)	0.98%	\$3,359,717	0.50%	0.00%	0.50%	Кеер	Franklin Utilities R6 (fufrx)	0.50%	0.00%	0.50%
Fixed Income							Fixed Income			
Blackrock US Debt Index Fund W (04cff4)	2.36%	\$8,132,128	0.04%	0.00%	0.04%	Кеер	Blackrock US Debt Index Fund W (04cff4)	0.04%	0.00%	0.04%
County Of Fresno Stable Value Fund (fressv)	19.99%	\$68,772,929	0.34%	0.00%	0.34%	Кеер	County Of Fresno Stable Value Fund (fressv)	0.34%	0.00%	0.34%
Metropolitan West Total Return Bond Plan (mwtsx)	2.09%	\$7,175,513	0.37%	0.00%	0.37%	Кеер	Metropolitan West Total Return Bond Plan (mwtsx)	0.37%	0.00%	0.37%
Vanguard Total Intl Bd Idx Admiral (vtabx)	0.52%	\$1,798,539	0.11%	0.00%	0.11%	Кеер	Vanguard Total Intl Bd Idx Admiral (vtabx)	0.11%	0.00%	0.11%
Target Date							Target Date			
Great-West Lifetime 2015 Trust (grwl15)	1.23%	\$4,244,963	0.40%	0.00%	0.40%	Кеер	Great-West Lifetime 2015 Trust (grwl15)	0.40%	0.00%	0.40%
Great-West Lifetime 2020 Trust (grwl20)	0.06%	\$195,046	0.40%	0.00%	0.40%	Кеер	Great-West Lifetime 2020 Trust (grwl20)	0.40%	0.00%	0.40%
Great-West Lifetime 2025 Trust (grwl25)	3.98%	\$13,704,167	0.40%	0.00%	0.40%	Keep	Great-West Lifetime 2025 Trust (grwl25)	0.40%	0.00%	0.40%
Great-West Lifetime 2030 Trust (grwl30)	0.34%	\$1,166,557	0.41%	0.00%	0.41%	Keep	Great-West Lifetime 2030 Trust (grwl30)	0.41%	0.00%	0.41%
Great-West Lifetime 2035 Trust (grwl35)	3.01%	\$10,343,670	0.41%	0.00%	0.41%	Keep	Great-West Lifetime 2035 Trust (grwl35)	0.41%	0.00%	0.41%
Great-West Lifetime 2040 Trust (grwl40)	0.05%	\$156,689	0.41%	0.00%	0.41%	Кеер	Great-West Lifetime 2040 Trust (grwl40)	0.41%	0.00%	0.41%
Great-West Lifetime 2045 Trust (grwl45)	2.90%	\$9,965,863	0.41%	0.00%	0.41%	Кеер	Great-West Lifetime 2045 Trust (grwl45)	0.41%	0.00%	0.41%
Great-West Lifetime 2050 Trust (grwl50)	0.05%	\$159,825	0.41%	0.00%	0.41%	Кеер	Great-West Lifetime 2050 Trust (grwl50)	0.41%	0.00%	0.41%
Great-West Lifetime 2055 Trust (grwl55)	2.22%	\$7,627,329	0.42%	0.00%	0.42%	Keep	Great-West Lifetime 2055 Trust (grwl55)	0.42%	0.00%	0.42%
Great-West Lifetime 2060 Trust (grwl60)	0.00%	\$13,681	0.42%	0.00%	0.42%	Кеер	Great-West Lifetime 2060 Trust (grwl60)	0.42%	0.00%	0.42%
Total	100%	\$344,119,219	0.461%	0.002%	0.459%	-	•	0.460%	0.002%	0.458%



Item 9 - Exhibit D

US Small Cap Value Manager Search

## **County of Fresno**

Brent Petty 503-597-1641 | brentp@nwcm.com Northwest Capital Management December 2021

	3-5	Executive Summary
-	6-9	Performance
	10-12	Risk
	13-15	Style
	16-17	Scenario Metrics
	18	Fees
	19	Conclusion

### **Executive Summary**

Janus Henderson Small Cap Value has been placed on watch by NWCM because the fund's returns and upside capture consistently rank in the bottom quartile relative to small cap value peers. The strategy is very much risk-conscious, resulting in a concentrated portfolio with strong downside protection. Despite the attractive risk profile, there are other investment options within the small cap value universe offering stronger returns and similar risk measures. As such, NWCM conducted a manager search to compare and potentially replace the fund with a manager that has more attractive risk and return profile.

## NWCM included the following funds in the US Small Cap Value equity manager search, and assessed them on the metrics shown below:

	Janus Henderson Small Cap Value	Boston Partners Small Cap Value	Columbia Small Cap Value	DFA US Small Cap Value
Performance			√	√
Risk			√	√
Style	√	√	√	√
Scenario Metrics	$\checkmark$	√	√	
Fees	√		√	√

✓ Best of the category (if any)

✓ Next best of the category

#### **Conclusion:**

While the incumbent, Janus Henderson Small Cap Value, has attractive risk mitigation tactics and a low expense ratio, this does not outweigh the opportunity cost of performance. Columbia Small Cap Value offers strong historical performance and risk-adjusted returns, style characteristics fitting the mandate, and fees in the top quartile relative to peers. As such, NWCM recommends replacing the incumbent investment manager with Columbia Small Cap Value offers attracted equity mandate.

## **Fund Highlights**

Fund	Ticker	Inception Date	Primary Prospectus Benchmark	Prospectus Net Expense Ratio	Minimum Investment	Turnover Ratio %	# of Holdings
Janus Henderson Small Cap Value (Incumbent)	JDSNX	5/31/2012	Russell 2000 Value TR USD	0.67	\$1,000,000	53.0	86
Boston Partners Small Cap Value II I	BPSIX	7/1/1998	Russell 2000 Value TR USD	0.99	\$100,000	46.0	169
Columbia Small Cap Value II Inst3	CRRYX	5/1/2002	Russell 2000 Value TR USD	0.83	\$1,000,000	55.0	117
DFA US Small Cap Value I	DFSVX	3/2/1993	Russell 2000 Value TR USD	0.39	\$0	18.0	1,049

Columbia Small Cap Value tends to hold 90-130 stocks with average portfolio turnover. The fund's net expense ratio of 83 basis points is more expensive than the incumbent, Janus Henderson SCV, which has a net expense ratio of 67 basis points.

As of most recent date sourced from Morningstar, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Strategy Inception Date shown represents the oldest share class.



## **Fund Highlights**

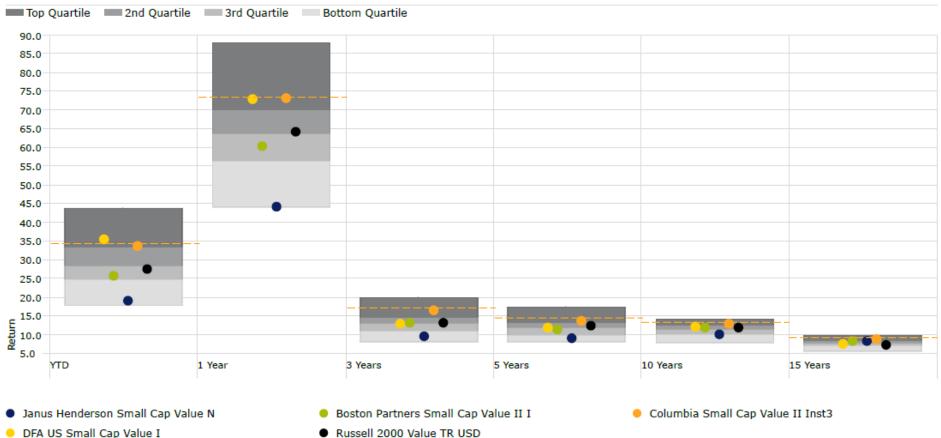
Fund	Firm AUM (\$Billions)	Firm City	Manager Name	Manager Tenure (Longest)	Manager Tenure (Average)	Strategy AUM (\$Billions)
Janus Henderson Small Cap Value (Incumbent)	\$427.6	Denver, CO	Justin Tugman, Craig Kempler	12.7	8.4	\$4.0
Boston Partners Small Cap Value II I	\$93.2	Boston, MA	David Davora, George Gumpert	22.9	19.4	\$3.8
Columbia Small Cap Value II Inst3	\$583.0	Boston, MA	Christian Stadlinger, Jarl Ginsberg	19.5	19.1	\$2.1
DFA US Small Cap Value I	\$659.0	Santa Monica, CA	Jed Fogdall, Joel Schneider, Marc Leblond	9.8	5.9	\$18.2

Columbia Management became a subsidiary of Ameriprise Financial Services after being acquired in 2009. In 2015 the firm merged into Threadneedle to become, what is known today, Columbia Threadneedle. The firm employs over 450 investment professionals with office locations in 17 countries. Christian Stadlinger has been the Portfolio Manager (PM) on the strategy since the strategy's inception in 2002, with Jarl Ginsberg joining shortly after as PM in 2003. Prior to their time at Columbia Threadneedle, the two managed small- and mid-cap portfolios for BlackRock beginning in 1998. Sourabh Banerji is a dedicated Analyst supporting Christian and Jarl on the strategy, alongside the broader centralized team of analysts.

As of most recent date sourced from Moningstar, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Strategy Inception Date shown represents the oldest share class.

### Performance – Trailing Returns

Columbia's dominant performance has consistently outperformed the benchmark and small cap value peers. For all the trailing periods shown, Year To Date (YTD), one-, three-, five-, ten-, and fifteen-year trailing, Columbia has performed in the top quartile relative to peers.

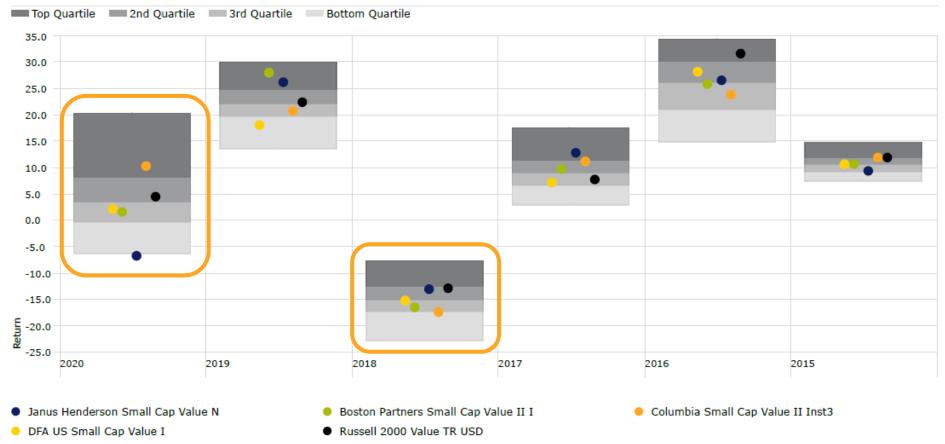


Peer Group (5-95%): Funds - U.S. - Small Value

#### As of 10/31/2021 sourced from Morningstar, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

### Performance – Calendar Year Returns

Typically, it is not recommended to assess manager performance based on individual calendar years, except for assessing a manager's resiliency to systemic risks. The 2020 calendar year illustrates periods of high market volatility due to the economic disruption of the COVID pandemic; for the year 2020, Columbia ranked in 17<sup>th</sup> percentile relative to peers and Janus Henderson ranked 96<sup>th</sup>. The bear market of 2018 also illustrates a period of high market volatility due to the US presidential election and US/China trade wars; for the year 2018, Columbia ranked in the 71<sup>st</sup> percentile and Janus Henderson ranked 26<sup>th</sup>.

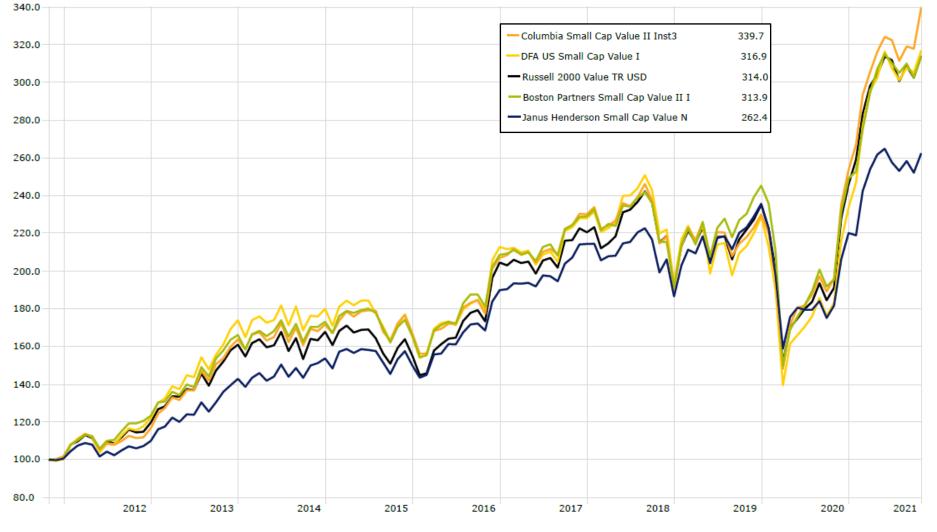


Peer Group (5-95%): Funds - U.S. - Small Value

### Performance – Investment Growth of \$100

\$100 invested in Columbia Small Cap Value ten years ago would be worth \$339.70 as of October 31, 2021, based on the performance of the fund. Of the group of funds shown, Columbia is the top performing manager. Having invested in the benchmark would be worth \$314.00, while having invested in the incumbent, Janus Henderson, would be worth \$262.40.

Time Period: 11/1/2011 to 10/31/2021



### Performance – Batting Average



Peer Group (5-95%): Funds - U.S. - Small Value

Batting Average is used to measure a manager's ability to beat an index. The higher the Batting Average, the more the fund has statistically outperformed the index. Two important considerations of Batting Average is that the measurement does not consider risk nor the scale of a fund's excess return relative to the benchmark.

Over the trailing periods shown, Columbia Small Cap Value has consistently ranked below median. Despite the fund dipping into the bottom quartile over the one- and five-year trailing time periods, performance over these periods ranked in the top quartile relative to peers as the fund has strong downside protection.

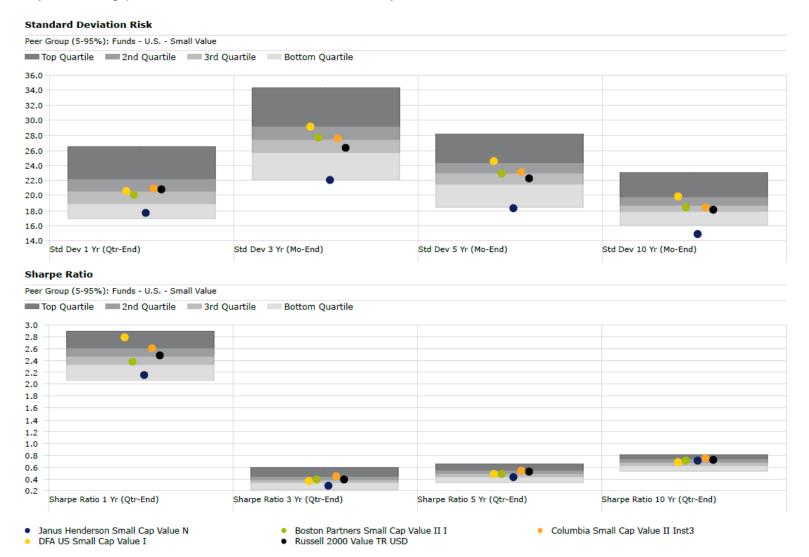
### Risk – Three-Year Rolling Information Ratio

Information Ratio (IR) is used to measure the consistency of a manager's performance relative to the index. Unlike Batting Average, IR uses risk-adjusted returns; a high IR illustrates a manager has consistently outperformed the index. Looking at the three-year rolling IR since 2016, Columbia ranked above median relative to peers for four of the six periods shown. Janus Henderson ranked in the top quartile for the four earliest time periods shown, falling into the second and bottom quartile for two most recent periods shown.



### Risk – Standard Deviation and Sharpe Ratio

Over the trailing time periods shown, Columbia Small Cap Value standard deviation risk is average relative to peers and slightly above the benchmark. A high Sharpe Ratio indicates a higher return for the same amount of risk, which Columbia exhibits over the three-, five-, and ten-year trailing periods. Janus Henderson consistently ranks the lowest Standard Deviation Risk and lowest Sharpe Ratio.



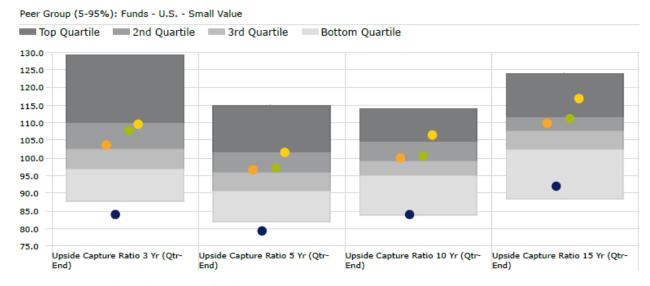
### Risk – Upside & Downside Capture

### **Upside Capture**

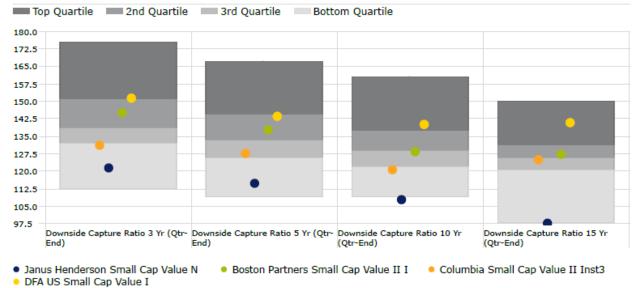
Upside Capture represents a manager's ability to generate returns in bull markets. If the Upside Capture is greater than 100, the manager outperformed the benchmark while it was rising. Over the trailing periods, Columbia's Upside Capture consistently ranks in the second quartile, while Janus Henderson's Upside Capture ranks in the bottom quartile relative to peers.

### **Downside Capture**

Downside Capture represents a manager's ability to protect returns in bear markets. If the Downside Capture is less than 100, the manager outperformed the benchmark while it was falling. Both Columbia and Janus Henderson have consistently low Downside Capture, illustrating that both strategies are successful at protecting returns when the benchmark is performing poorly.

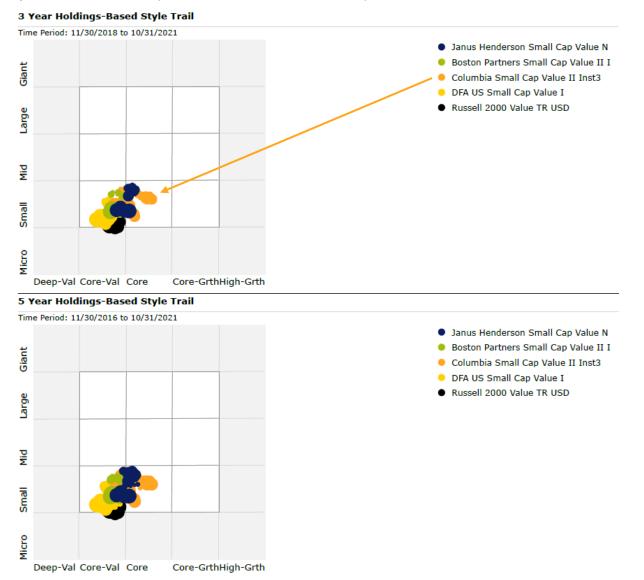






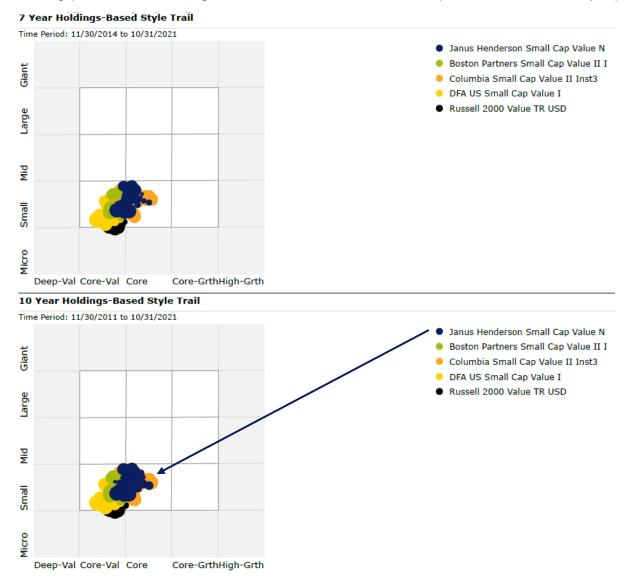
### Style – 3 and 5 Year Holdings Trail

Of the six funds shown, Columbia tilts slightly more core than the other funds being compared, though all funds have the same primary prospectus benchmark (the Russell 2000 Value Index).



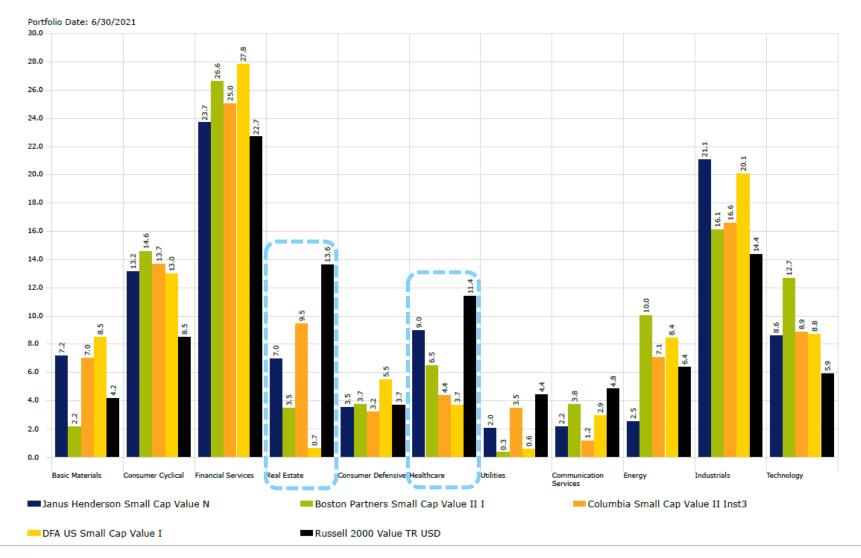
### Style – 7 and 10 Year Holdings Trail

Historical style trail is beneficial to assess whether a strategy's style drifts or, as NWCM prefers, remains consistent over time. Over the ten-year trailing periods, the holdings for Janus Henderson Small Cap Value drifted to a style previously more core.



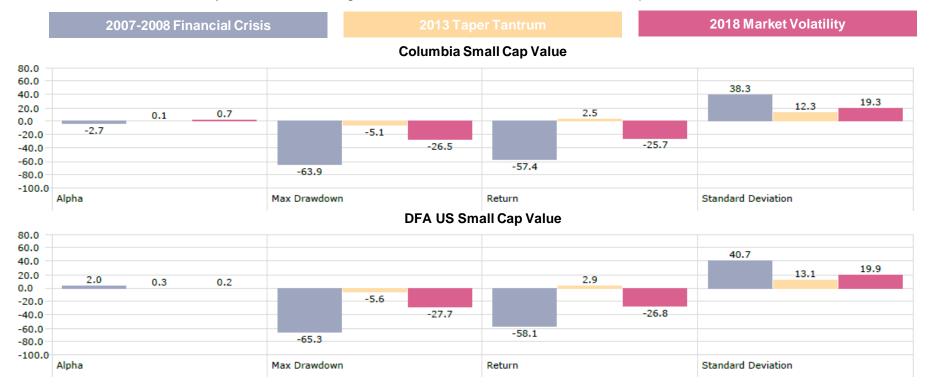
### Style – Sector Exposure

Sector exposure is helpful relative to the benchmark by considering active bets that managers might be taking. Columbia Small Cap Value prefers casting a broad net rather than taking specific sector risk, with the greatest active allocation being a 7% underweight relative to the benchmark. DFA excludes Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and highly regulated Utilities from the portfolio, and therefore has a nearly 0% allocation to those two sectors.



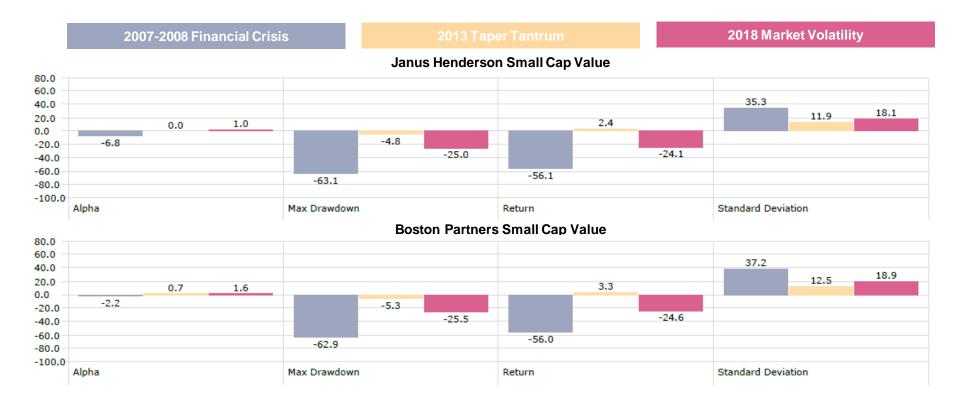
### Scenario Metrics – Market Drawdowns

The managers were measured during three periods of market drawdowns: the 2007-2008 Financial Crisis, 2013 Taper Tantrum, and the 2018 Market Volatility. Of the six funds shown, Columbia Small Cap Value sat in the middle, with no significantly high or low alpha, max drawdowns, return, or standard deviation. DFA had the lowest max drawdown and return during the 2007-2008 Financial Crisis and 2018 Market Volatility, as well as the highest standard deviation risk for all three periods.



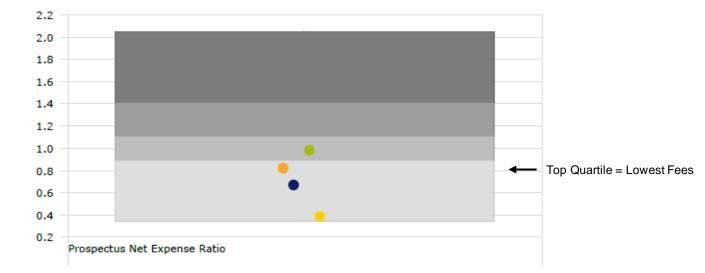
### Scenario Metrics – Market Drawdowns

The managers were measured during three periods of market drawdowns. Janus Henderson had the lowest standard deviation risk for all three periods, as well as the lowest return during the 2013 Taper Tantrum and 2018 Market Volatility. Boston Partners had the least severe max drawdown and highest alpha during the 2007-2008 Financial Crisis.



### Fees

The net expense ratio Columbia Small Cap Value ranks in the top quartile among small cap value peers. The net expense ratio for DFA is significantly lower than the others funds due to the firm's flexible trading approach. Fees for Boston Partners ranks in the second quartile relative to peers.



Peer Group (5-95%): Funds - U.S. - Small Value

Fund	Ticker	Prospectus Net Expense Ratio
Janus Henderson Small Cap Value (Incumbent)	JDSNX	0.67
Boston Partners Small Cap Value II I	BPSIX	0.99
Columbia Small Cap Value II Inst3	CRRYX	0.83
DFA US Small Cap Value I	DFSVX	0.39

### Conclusion

While the incumbent, Janus Henderson Small Cap Value, has attractive risk mitigation tactics and a low expense ratio, this does not outweigh the opportunity cost of performance. Columbia Small Cap Value offers strong historical performance and risk-adjusted returns, style characteristics fitting the mandate, and fees in the top quartile relative to peers. As such, NWCM recommends replacing the incumbent investment manager with Columbia Small Cap Value for the US Small Cap Value equity mandate.

	Janus Henderson Small Cap Value	Boston Partners Small Cap Value	Columbia Small Cap Value	DFA US Small Cap Value
Performance			√	$\checkmark$
Risk			√	√
Style	√	√	√	√
Scenario Metrics	√	√	√	
Fees	√		√	√

✓ Best of the category (if any)

✓ Next best of the category

### Appendix – Correlation

It is important to assess the correlation of underlying investments to ensure portfolio diversification. NWCM's recommendation of selecting Alger Small Cap Focus for the US Small Cap Growth equity mandate and Columbia Small Cap Value for the US Small Cap Value equity mandate would provide greater diversification to participants than the current incumbents, Nicholas Limited Edition and Janus Henderson Small Cap Value.

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	1 Nicholas Limited Edition I	1.00									
mall 2	2 Alger Small Cap Focus Y	0.86	1.00								
Cap 3	3 Artisan Small Cap Institutional	0.89	0.93	1.00							
owth unds	4 Hood River Small-Cap Growth Retirement	0.92	0.87	0.90	1.00						
5	5 Neuberger Berman Small Cap Growth R6	0.90	0.90	0.94	0.91	1.00					
6	6 Vanguard Explorer Adm	0.97	0.87	0.93	0.95	0.92	1.00				
mall <sup>7</sup>	7 Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N	0.87	0.62	0.72	0.82	0.75	0.89	1.00			
	8 Boston Partners Small Cap Value II I	0.89	0.65	0.75	0.86	0.78	0.91	0.96	1.00		
alue 9	9 Columbia Small Cap Value II Inst3	0.89	0.69	0.77	0.87	0.81	0.92	0.96	0.98	1.00	
unds 1	10 DFA US Small Cap Value I	0.86	0.62	0.71	0.84	0.76	0.89	0.96	0.98	0.98	1.00

Time Period: 11/1/2014 to 10/31/2021

### Appendix – Strategy Overview

### Janus Henderson Small Cap Value

The strategy has long been sub-advised by Perkins Investment Management, though as of May 2021 Perkins became fully integrated within Janus Henderson. Strategy is defensive value, looking for high quality companies with strong management teams, stable balance sheets, with durable competitive advantages that are trading at attractive valuations. The team analyzes first the potential for loss, rather than potential for gain. The portfolio is geared towards predictable businesses stocks, such as financials and industrials.

### **Boston Partners Small Cap Value**

Strategy uses value discipline, looking for stocks that have the three characteristics of: low valuation, strong fundamentals, and positive business momentum. The bottom-up, fundamental approach seeks long-term returns. Security selection drives portfolios construction, dependents upon target price, conviction in thesis, timing of catalyst, statistical characteristics, and liquidity.

### **Columbia Small Cap Value**

Investment team is supported by Central Research Team. Strategy believes the value approach to investing can outperform over time and that 'herd mentality' leads investors to overvalued securities. Most attractive values are determines using proprietary metrics to identify upward inflection points. Fundamental research inputs are used to narrow the investable universe. Holdings sit around 150 names; the team intends in casting a broad net to capture investment opportunity.

### **DFA US Small Cap Value**

Strategy believes public markets set prices fairly in real time, financial science is at the core of sound investments, and implementation makes a big difference. Valuation framework stating that expected returns are driven by prices investors pay and cash flows they expect to receive. All of DFA's equity strategies share foundational building blocks, looking to company size, relative price, and profitability. DFA prides themselves on reducing trading costs through economies of scale and minimizing portfolio turnover.

### Appendix – Data Tables

### **Performance – Trailing Returns**

	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	15 Years
Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N	19.19	44.42	9.61	9.27	10.13	8.51
Boston Partners Small Cap Value II I	25.96	60.40	13.34	11.62	12.12	8.55
Columbia Small Cap Value II Inst3	33.85	73.35	16.54	13.86	13.01	8.92
DFA US Small Cap Value I	35.57	73.01	12.94	12.09	12.23	7.63
Russell 2000 Value TR USD	27.60	64.30	13.44	12.61	12.12	7.41

Risk – Upside Capture	Upside Capture Ratio 3 Yr (Qtr-End)	Upside Capture Ratio 5 Yr (Qtr-End)	Upside Capture Ratio 10 Yr (Qtr-End)	Upside Capture Ratio 15 Yr (Qtr-End)
Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N	84.12	79.39	84.09	92.21
Boston Partners Small Cap Value II I	107.94	97.27	100.77	111.29
Columbia Small Cap Value II Inst3	103.70	96.81	100.01	110.08
DFA US Small Cap Value I	109.77	101.73	106.66	116.85

Risk – Downside Capture	Downside Capture Ratio 3 Yr (Qtr-End)	Downside Capture Ratio 5 Yr (Qtr-End)	Downside Capture Ratio 10 Yr (Qtr-End)	Downside Capture Ratio 15 Yr (Qtr-End)
Janus Henderson Small Cap Value N	121.76	115.06	108.02	98.13
Boston Partners Small Cap Value II I	145.23	137.93	128.45	127.36
Columbia Small Cap Value II Inst3	131.32	127.67	120.91	125.04
DFA US Small Cap Value I	151.37	143.78	140.16	140.90

### Columbia Small Cap Value II Inst3 (CRRYX)

Parent Name	Columbia Threadneedle	Asset Class	Equity
Firm-wide AUM	\$593.0 Billion	Sub-Style	US Small Cap Value
Strategy AUM	\$2.1 Billion	Most Suitable Benchmark	Russell 2000 Growth Index
Strategy Inception	5/1/2002	Net Expense Ratio	0.83%
Investment Approach	Active	# of Holdings	117

#### **OVERVIEW**

Columbia Small Cap Value is a bottom-up fundamental small cap value strategy that consistently delivers strong results at an attractive price. The long-tenured investment team of Christian Stadlinger and Jarl Ginsberg, supported by substantial firm resources, makes Columbia Small Cap Value a competitive option that NWCM recommends for this asset class.

#### **INVESTMENT PROCESS**

The Columbia Small Cap Value investment management approach focuses on fundamental company research, informed by the belief that a 'herd mentality' prevails in the market and leads investors to overvalue popular securities and undervalue those out of favor. The investment universe of the Russell 2000 Value Index is narrowed by looking at stocks in the cheapest 40% by Price-to-Earnings and stocks in the cheapest 20% by Price-to-Book, Price-to-Sales, or Price-to-Cash flow. The strategy identifies three types of value opportunities: company-specific normalized earnings (improving revenue growth leading to operating margin expansion), out-of-favor industries (stocks discounted by trough earnings experiencing cyclical stabilization of revenues), and out-of-limelight companies (low-profile businesses offering multiple expansion opportunities). The process of identifying the type of value opportunity present in a given firm helps the team close the valuation gap and avoid value traps. Proprietary models are used to estimate risk and model scenarios.

Columbia Small Cap Value tends to hold 90-130 stocks with average portfolio turnover. The strategy's sell discipline is based on whether the discount to peers has closed, upward inflection is realized or violated, or for portfolio rebalancing. Existing holdings are continuously being challenged and strategic selling is employed using valuation-driven disciplines to minimize any behavioral bias within the team.

#### **FUND MANAGEMENT**

Columbia Management was founded in 1962 in Portland Oregon. The firm became a subsidiary of Ameriprise Financial Services after being acquired in 2009. In 2015 the firm merged with another subsidiary and non-US asset management firm, Threadneedle. As of September 30, 2021, Columbia Threadneedle managed \$583 billion in assets. The firm employs over 450 investment professionals, with office locations in 17 countries.

William "Ted" Truscott, CEO, who joined the company in 2001, serves on the boards of Columbia Threadneedle and Ameriprise. Truscott was previously CIO with Zurich Scudder Investments, which was acquired by Deutsche Bank in 2002. He graduated with an MBA from New York University and a BA from Middlebury College.

### NWCM

#### December 2021

#### NWCM RESEARCH

Christian Stadlinger has been the Portfolio Manager (PM) on the strategy since the strategy's inception in 2002, with Jarl Ginsberg joining shortly after as PM in 2003. Prior to their time at Columbia Threadneedle, the two managed small- and mid-cap portfolios for BlackRock beginning in 1998. Sourabh Banerji is a dedicated Analyst supporting Christian and Jarl on the strategy, alongside the broader centralized team of 111 analysts.

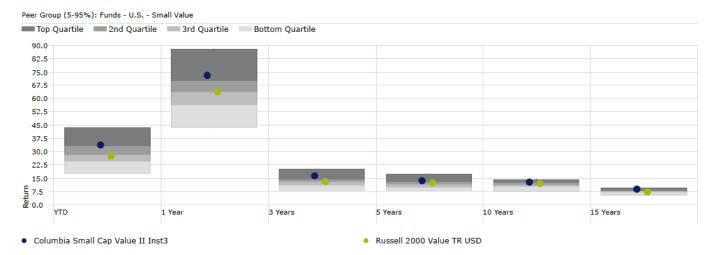
#### **Manager Timeline**



### PERFORMANCE

### Trailing Year Returns (Period Ending 10/31/2021)

Columbia's dominant performance has consistently out-distanced the benchmark and small cap value peers. For all the trailing periods shown, Year To Date (YTD), one-, three-, five-, ten-, and fifteen-year trailing, Columbia has performed in the top quartile relative to peers.

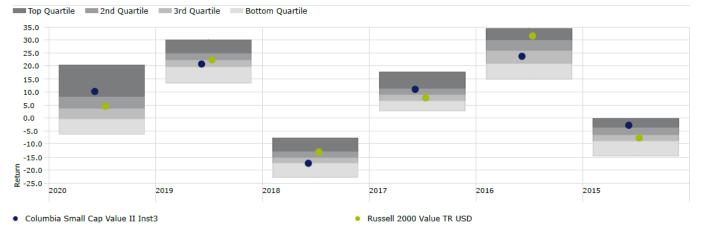


### **Calendar Year Returns**

Typically, assessing manager performance based on individual calendar years is only recommended for assessing a manager's resiliency to systemic risks. The 2020 calendar year illustrates periods of high market volatility due to the economic disruption of the COVID pandemic; for the year 2020, Columbia ranked in 17<sup>th</sup> percentile relative to peers. The bear market of 2018 also illustrates a period of high market volatility due to Fed financial tightening and US/China ongoing trade disputes; for the year 2018, Columbia ranked in the 71<sup>st</sup> percentile.

#### NWCM RESEARCH

Peer Group (5-95%): Funds - U.S. - Small Value



### **3 Year Rolling Returns**

Assessing rolling returns can be beneficial as they are independent of recent events and free of endpoint sensitivity. For the three-year rolling returns, Columbia Small Cap Value has consistently outperformed the index, except for the market downturn in 2018.



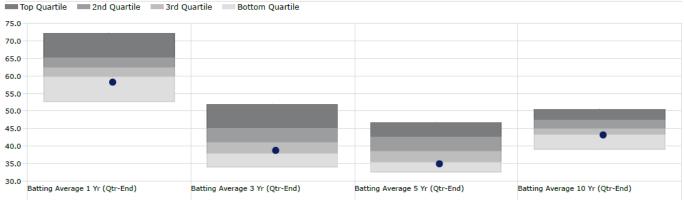
### **Batting Average**

Batting Average is used to measure the consistency of a manager's ability to beat an index. It is calculated by dividing the number of months in which the fund generated a return equal to or greater than the benchmark by the total number of months in the period. The higher the Batting Average, the more the fund has statistically outperformed the index over the given time period. Over the trailing periods shown, Columbia Small Cap Value has consistently ranked below median regarding Batting Average. Two important considerations of Batting Average are that the measurement does not consider risk nor the scale of a fund's excess return relative to the benchmark. Looking at the monthly excess return over the past 10-years, Columbia Small Cap Value outperformed the benchmark 62 of the 120 months by an average of 74 basis points, underperforming the benchmark for 58 of the months counted by -63 basis points. This illustrates that while Columbia Small Cap Value may underperform the benchmark on a month-to-month basis, the fund has a track record of rewarding investors with strong excess return during periods of outperformance.

### NWCM

#### NWCM RESEARCH

Peer Group (5-95%): Funds - U.S. - Small Value

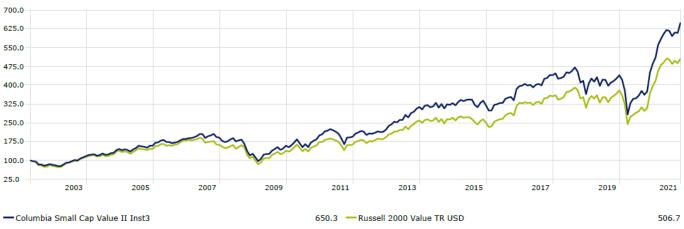


Columbia Small Cap Value II Inst3

### **Investment Growth**

\$100 invested in Columbia Small Cap Value ten years ago would be worth \$339.70 as of October 31, 2021, based on the performance of the fund. Having invested in the benchmark would be worth \$314.00.

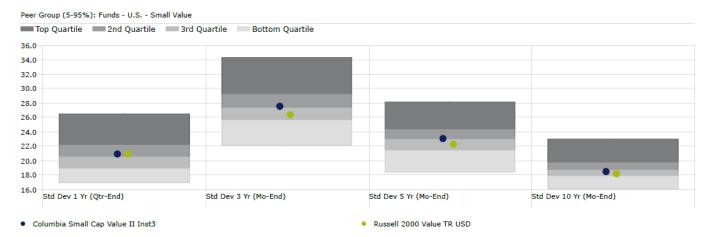
Time Period: Since Common Inception (5/2/2002) to 10/31/2021



#### **RISK**

#### **Standard Deviation Risk**

Over the trailing time periods shown, Columbia Small Cap Value risk as measured by standard deviation is average relative to peers and slightly above the benchmark.





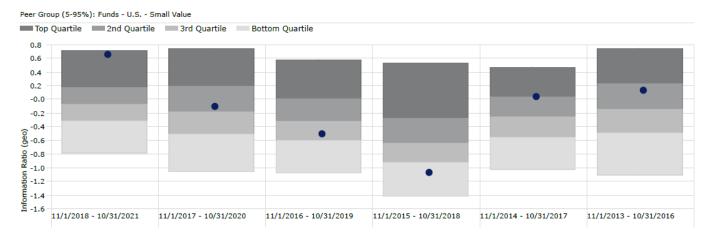
### Sharpe Ratio

A high Sharpe Ratio indicates a higher return given the same amount of risk taken, which Columbia exhibits over the three-, five-, and ten-year trailing periods.



#### **Information Ratio**

Information Ratio (IR) is used to measure the consistency of a manager's performance relative to the index adjusting for the tracking error the portfolio has demonstrated. Unlike Batting Average, IR uses risk-adjusted returns; a high IR illustrates a manager has consistently outperformed the index without taking excessive risk. Looking at the three-year rolling IR since 2016, Columbia ranked above median relative to peers for four of the six periods shown.

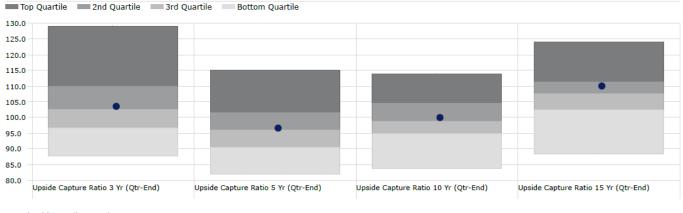


### **Upside Capture**

Upside Capture represents a manager's ability to participate in the returns in an upward trending market. If the Upside Capture is greater than 100, the manager captured more upside than the benchmark while it was rising. Over the trailing periods, Columbia's Upside Capture consistently ranks in the second quartile.

#### NWCM RESEARCH

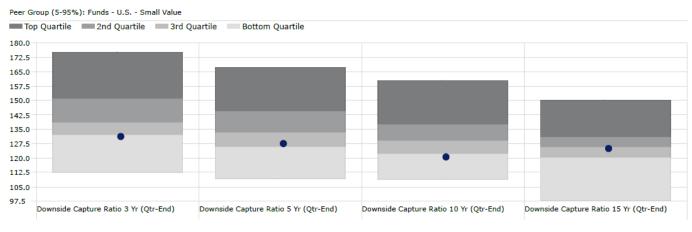
Peer Group (5-95%): Funds - U.S. - Small Value



Columbia Small Cap Value II Inst3

#### **Downside Capture**

Downside Capture represents a manager's ability to avoid the negative returns in downward trending markets. If the Downside Capture is less than 100, the manager outperformed by avoiding some of the downside return of a falling benchmark. Columbia has consistently low Downside Capture, illustrating that the strategy is successful at protecting returns when the benchmark is performing poorly.



Columbia Small Cap Value II Inst3

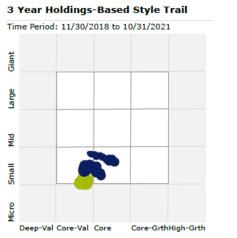
### STYLE

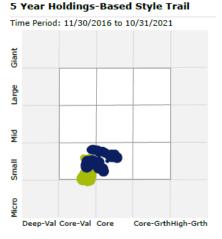
#### **Holdings-Based Style Trail**

Columbia Small Cap Value's style tilts slightly more core than the benchmark.

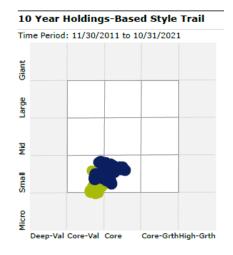
Columbia Small Cap Value II Inst3

Russell 2000 Value TR USD



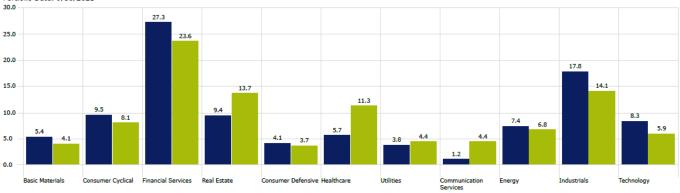






### Sector Exposure

Sector exposure is helpful relative to the benchmark by considering active bets that managers might be taking. Columbia Small Cap Value prefers casting a broad net rather than taking specific sector risk, with the greatest active allocation being a 6% underweight relative to the benchmark (Healthcare).



#### **FEES**

The net expense ratio of 83 basis points for Columbia Small Cap Value ranks in the top quartile among small cap value peers.

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Peer Group (5-95%): Funds - U.S. - Small Value
```

Columbia Small Cap Value II Inst3

#### CONCLUSION

Backed by the ample resources provided by Columbia Threadneedle, the seasoned duo of Christian Stadlinger and Jarl Ginsberg have a proven track record of performance. Since the fund's 2002 inception, Stadlinger has been successful in finding value by focusing on company fundamentals and market behavioral biases. Columbia Small Cap Value offers strong historical performance and risk-adjusted returns, style characteristics, and low fees relative to peers. NWCM recommends Columbia Small Cap Value to be a suitable option for the Small Cap Value space.

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### NWCM



Item 9 - Exhibit E

US Small Cap Growth Manager Search

# **County of Fresno**

Brent Petty 503-597-1641 | brentp@nwcm.com Northwest Capital Management December 2021

	3-5	Executive Summary
-	6-10	Performance
	11-14	Risk
	15-17	Style
	18-19	Scenario Metrics
	20	Fees
	21	Conclusion

### **Executive Summary**

Nicholas Limited Edition has been placed on watch by NWCM because the fund's returns and upside capture consistently rank in the bottom quartile relative to small cap growth peers. Nicholas has been successful at providing portfolio stability against adverse market conditions. While Nicholas' risk profile is very attractive, there are other investment options within the small cap growth universe offering stronger returns and similar risk measures. As such, NWCM conducted a manager search to compare and potentially replace the fund with a manager that has a more attractive risk and return profile.

# NWCM included the following funds in the US Small Cap Growth equity manager search, and assessed them on the metrics shown below:

	Nicholas Limited Edition	Alger Small Cap Focus	Artisan Small Cap	Hood River Small-Cap Growth	Neuberger Berman Small Cap Growth	Vanguard Explorer
Performance		√	√	√		
Risk		√	√		√	
Style	√	√	√	√	√	
Scenario Metrics	√	√	√		√	√
Fees	√	√			√	√

√ Best of the category (if any)

√ Next best of the category

#### **Conclusion:**

While the incumbent, Nicholas Limited Edition, has attractive risk mitigation tactics and a low expense ratio, this does not outweigh the opportunity cost of performance. Alger offers top quartile returns relative to peers, strong risk-adjusted returns, style characteristics fitting the mandate, and fees in the top quartile relative to peers. As such, NWCM recommends replacing the incumbent investment manager with Alger Small Cap Focus for the US Small Cap Growth equity mandate.

# **Fund Highlights**

Fund	Ticker	Inception Date	Primary Prospectus Benchmark	Prospectus Net Expense Ratio	Minimum Investment	Turnover Ratio %	# of Holdings
Nicholas Limited Edition (Incumbent)	NCLEX	5/18/1987	Russell 2000 Growth TR USD	0.86	\$100,000	28.2	75
Alger Small Cap Focus Y	AOFYX	3/8/2008	Russell 2000 Growth TR USD	0.84	\$500,000	37.5	52
Artisan Small Cap Institutional	APHSX	5/7/2012	Russell 2000 TR USD	0.99	\$1,000,000	40.6	68
Hood River Small-Cap Growth Retirement	HRSIX	3/3/2017	Russell 2000 Growth TR USD	0.99	\$0	119.0	98
Neuberger Berman Small Cap Growth R6	NSRSX	9/7/2018	Russell 2000 Growth TR USD	0.81	\$0	128.0	87
Vanguard Explorer Adm	VEXRX	11/12/2001	Russell 2500 Growth TR USD	0.30	\$50,000	43.0	752

Alger Small Cap Focus is a concentrated portfolio that tends to hold around 50 high conviction names with low portfolio turnover. Over time, Alger has intentionally developed investment products to be more focused strategies. The fund's net expense ratio of 84 basis points is slightly less expensive than the incumbent, Nicholas Limited Edition, which has a net expense ratio of 86 basis points.

As of most recent date sourced from Morningstar, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Strategy Inception Date shown represents the oldest share class.

# **Fund Highlights**

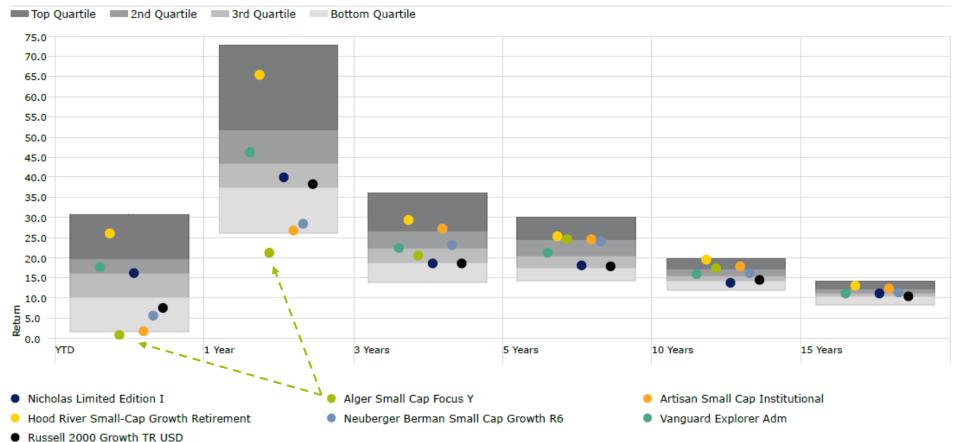
Fund	Firm AUM (\$Billions)	Firm City	Manager Name	Manager Tenure (Longest)	Manager Tenure (Average)	Strategy AUM (\$Billions)
Nicholas Limited Edition (Incumbent)	\$1.6	Milwaukee, WI	Catherine Nicholas, John Wylie, Lisa Wheatley, Monika Garg	28.7	14.7	\$0.5
Alger Small Cap Focus Y	\$46.2	New York, NY	Amy Y. Zhang	6.8	6.8	\$10.0
Artisan Small Cap Institutional	\$175.2	Milwaukee, WI	James Hamel, Matthew Kamm, Craigh Cepukenas, Jason White, Pratik Patel	17.2	13.0	\$6.6
Hood River Small-Cap Growth Retirement	\$3.4	Palm Beach Gardens, FL	Brian Smoluch, David Swank	18.8	15.7	\$3.2
Neuberger Berman Small Cap Growth R6	\$437.0	New York, NY	Kenneth Turek, Trevor Moreno, Chad Bruso	6.0	6.0	\$0.4
Vanguard Explorer Adm	\$7,980.9	Malvern, PA	Cesar Orosco, Daniel Fitzpatrick, Ryan Crane, Chad Meade, Brian Schaub	8.3	5.2	\$37.8

Alger is a private, 100% women-owned investment boutique, offering ownership participation to employees. More than 50% of portfolio managers at Alger are women and/or minorities. The firm was founded in 1964 and currently manages \$46 billion in assets. Nearly a quarter of the firm's assets under management are from the Alger Small Cap Focus strategy. Amy Zhang has managed the portfolios for Alger Small Cap Focus and Alger Small Cap Growth since joining the firm in 2015. She is supported by a centralized team of analysts.

As of most recent date sourced from Morningstar, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Strategy Inception Date shown represents the oldest share class.

### Performance – Trailing Returns

Over the most recent Year To Date (YTD) and 1 Year trailing time periods, Alger has performed in the bottom quartile due to underperformance in Q1 2021. Two Healthcare stocks were the primary detractors from the strategy's performance in the Q1 2021, a risk that can come with holding a more focused portfolio. One of the stocks (Quidel Corp) that performed poorly during Q1 2021 had previously been a top contributor, returning 195% for the year 2020. Alger Small Cap Focus has outperformed the benchmark for every quarter since Q1 2021. Hood River has had particularly strong performance, though at the expense of higher risk and fees.



Peer Group (5-95%): Funds - U.S. - Small Growth

### Performance – Calendar Year Returns

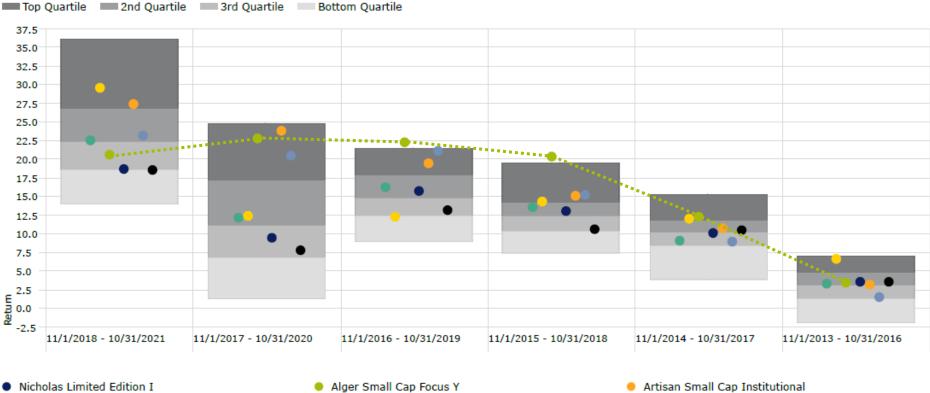
Typically, assessing manager performance based on individual calendar years is only recommended for assessing a manager's resiliency to systemic risks. The 2020 calendar year illustrates periods of high market volatility due to the economic disruption of the COVID pandemic; for the year 2020, Alger Small Cap Focus ranked in the 22nd percentile relative to peers. The bear market of 2018 also illustrates a period of high market volatility due to Fed financial tightening and US/China ongoing trade disputes; for the year 2018, Alger Small Cap Focus ranked in the 1st percentile.



As of 10/31/2021 sourced from Morningstar, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

### Performance – Three-Year Rolling Returns

Assessing rolling returns can be beneficial as they are independent of recent events and free of endpoint sensitivity. For the threeyear rolling returns every year since 2016, Alger ranked in the top quartile relative to small cap growth peers in four out of the six rolling periods. Since Amy became portfolio manager in 2015, Alger Small Cap Focus has exhibited dominant returns. While the strategy fell below median relative to peers over the 3-year rolling ending October 31, 2021 (ranking in the 57th percentile), the strategy still achieved its investment objective of outperforming its benchmark, the Russell 2000 Growth Index.



Neuberger Berman Small Cap Growth R6

Peer Group (5-95%): Funds - U.S. - Small Growth

- Hood River Small-Cap Growth Retirement
- Russell 2000 Growth TR USD

Vanguard Explorer Adm

### Performance – Batting Average



#### Batting Average

Batting Average is used to measure the consistency of a manager's ability to beat an index. The higher the Batting Average, the more the fund has statistically outperformed the index. Over the three, five, and ten-year trailing time periods, Alger's Batting Average ranked in the top quartile relative to peers.

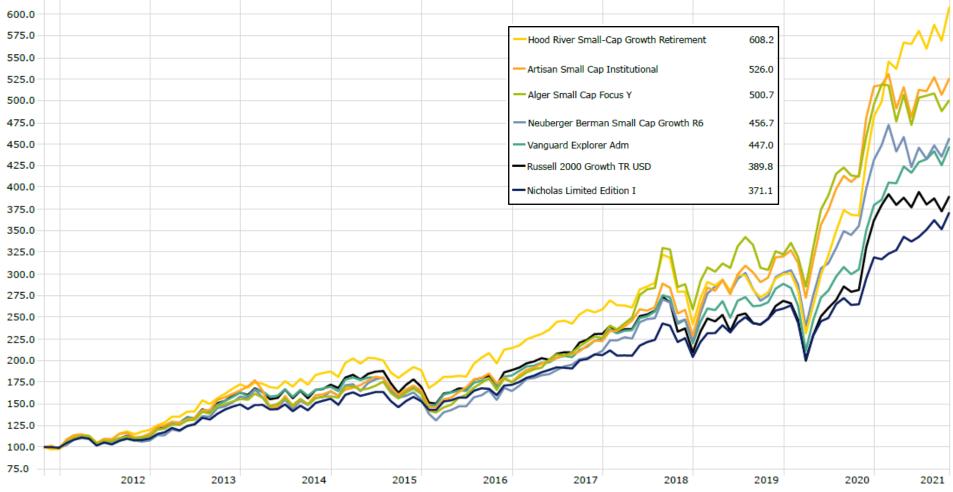
Looking at the one-year trailing period, which includes Alger's poor performance in Q1 2021, Alger's Batting Average is in line with three of the other managers shown (including the incumbent Nicholas Limited Edition). Hood River's Batting Average over the one-and three-year ranks in the top quartile relative to peers, though dropping to median over the ten-year trailing.

### Performance – Investment Growth of \$100

\$100 invested in Alger Small Cap Focus ten years ago would be worth \$500.70 as of October 31, 2021, based on the performance of the fund. Having invested in the benchmark would be worth \$389.80. Having invested in the top performing manager of the group, Hood River, would be worth \$608.20, though with much greater volatility over the time period.

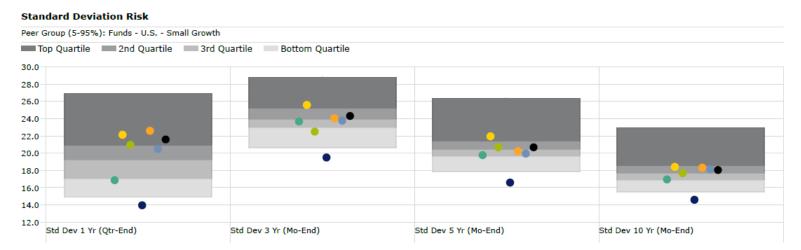
625.0 600.0 575.0

Time Period: 11/1/2011 to 10/31/2021

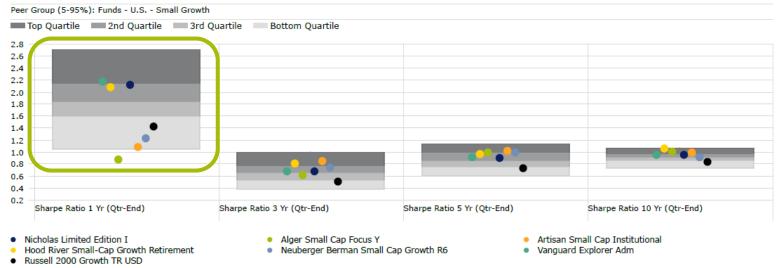


## Risk – Standard Deviation and Sharpe Ratio

Over the five- and ten-year periods, Alger Small Cap Focus risk as measured by standard deviation is average relative to peers and in line with the benchmark. Hood River's standard deviation risk has been consistently high over the trailing time periods. A low Sharpe Ratio indicates a lower return given the same amount of risk taken, which Alger experienced over the one-year trailing period as it was dragged down from poor performance in Q1 2021.

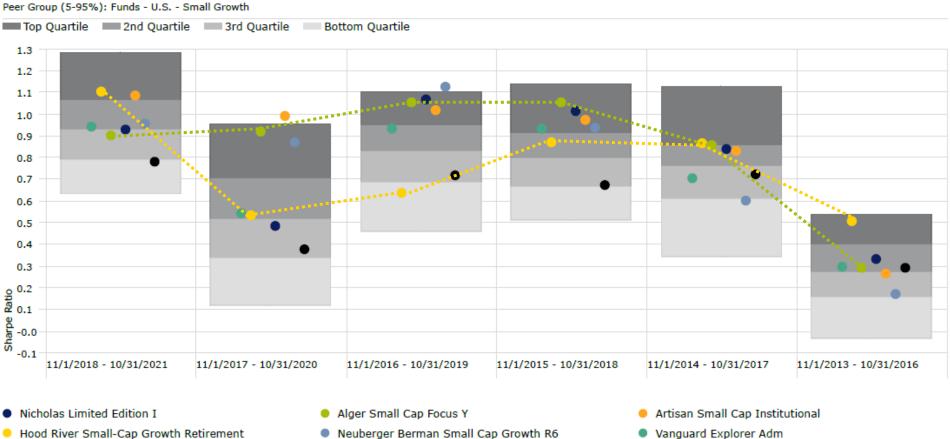


#### Sharpe Ratio



### Risk – Three-Year Rolling Sharpe Ratio

Looking further at Sharpe Ratio, the three-year rolling Sharpe Ratio for Alger Small Cap Focus ranks in the top quartile relative to peers for four of the six periods assessed. For the other two periods, the Sharpe Ratio rank for Alger has ranged between slightly above and slightly below the peer average. Hood River's Sharpe Ratio ranks in the top quartile for only three of the six periods assessed.



- Hood River Small-Cap Growth Retirement
- Russell 2000 Growth TR USD

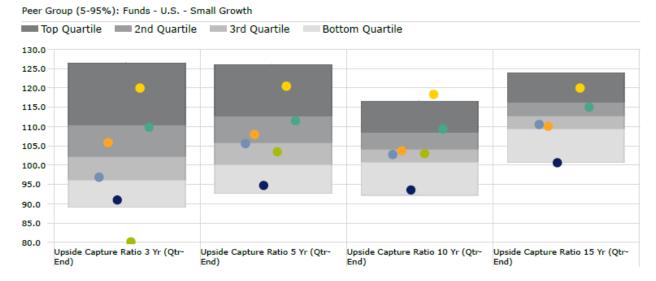
### Risk – Upside & Downside Capture

#### **Upside Capture**

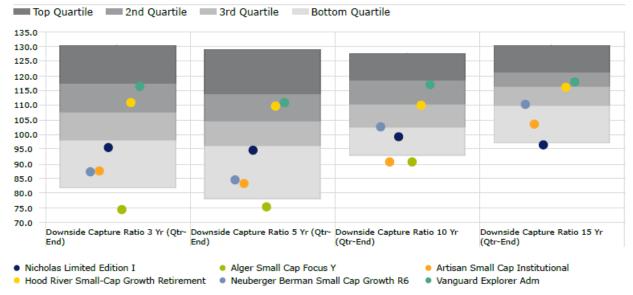
Upside Capture represents a manager's ability to participate in the returns in upward trending markets. If the Upside Capture is greater than 100, the manager captured more upside than the benchmark while it was rising. Over the three-year trailing, Alger was in the bottom quartile, though over the five- and tenyear trailing Alger's Upside Capture was greater than 100. Hood River's Upside Capture has consistently ranked in the top quartile.

#### **Downside Capture**

Downside Capture represents a manager's ability to avoid the negative returns in downward trending markets. If the Downside Capture is less than 100, the manager outperformed by avoiding some of the downside return of a falling benchmark. Alger Small Cap Focus has consistently low Downside Capture, illustrating that the strategy is successful at protecting returns when the benchmark is performing poorly. Over the trailing periods, Hood River has had a Downside Capture greater than 100.







### Risk – Three-Year Rolling Information Ratio

Information Ratio (IR) is used to measure the consistency of a manager's performance relative to the index. A high IR illustrates a manager has consistently outperformed the index. Looking at the three-year rolling returns since 2016, Alger Small Cap Focus has had a positive IR for all six periods shown.





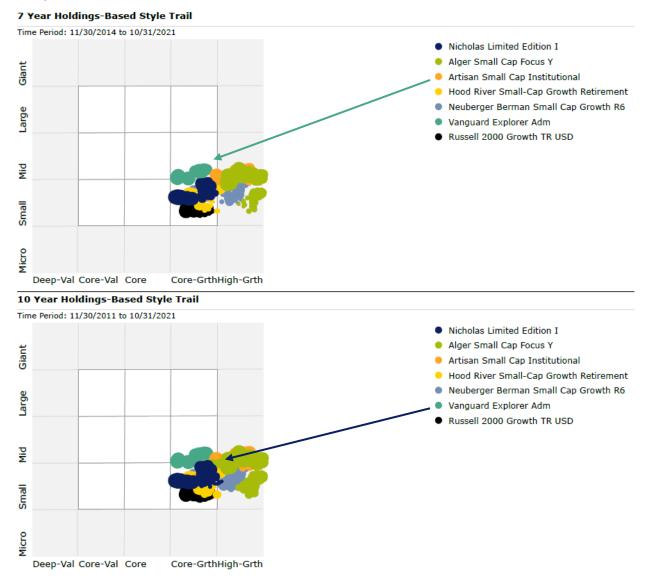
## Style – Three- and Five-Year Holdings Trail

Of the six funds shown, Alger's style is the most growth-oriented, though Artisan Small Cap and Neuberger Berman Small Cap trail closely. The primary benchmark for Artisan is the core Russell 2000 Index, though the fund embodies growth characteristics.



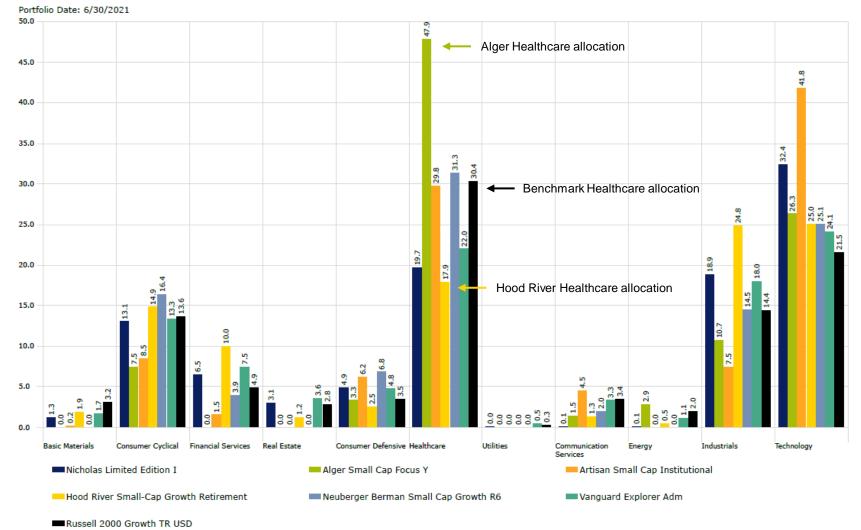
### Style – Seven- and Ten-Year Holdings Trail

Vanguard Explorer tilts SMID (Small-Mid capitalization), though it does not drift too far away from the other "small" funds. The styles for Vanguard Explorer and Nicholas Limited Edition tilt more towards core.



## Style – Sector Exposure

Sector exposure is helpful relative to the benchmark to consider any active bets that managers might be taking. A concentrated exposure highlights manager confidence, though can also introduce additional risk relative to peers and the benchmark. Alger Small Cap Focus currently has a 19% overweight to Healthcare relative to the benchmark, a sector that has been growing rapidly within the Russell 2000 Growth Index over recent years alongside the increased allocation to small cap companies not earning profits. Because of this, some small cap growth managers may shy away from Healthcare out of uncertainty.



### Scenario Metrics – Market Drawdowns

The managers were measured during three periods of market drawdowns: the 2007-2008 Financial Crisis, 2013 Taper Tantrum, and the 2018 Market Volatility. Of the six funds shown, Alger Small Cap Focus had the lowest 2007-2008 return and highest 2018 standard deviation risk, though generated positive alpha for the 2013 and 2018 market drawdowns.



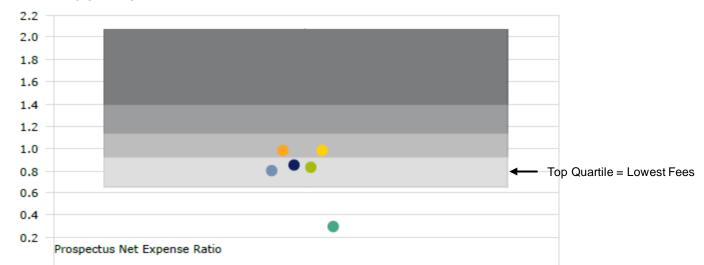
### Scenario Metrics – Market Drawdowns

The managers were measured during three periods of market drawdowns. Hood River had the most significant max drawdown for all three market drawdowns, and Vanguard Explorer had consistently negative alpha. Nicholas Limited Edition had the lowest standard deviation for all three periods.



### Fees

The net expense ratio for Alger Small Cap Focus ranks in the top quartile among small cap growth peers. The net expense ratio for Vanguard Explorer is significantly lower than the others funds due to the multiple-advisor approach. Fees for Artisan and Hood River rank in the second quartile relative to peers.



Peer Group (5-95%): Funds - U.S. - Small Growth

Fund	Ticker	Prospectus Net Expense Ratio
Nicholas Limited Edition (Incumbent)	NCLEX	0.86
Alger Small Cap Focus Y	ΑΟΓΥΧ	0.84
Artisan Small Cap Institutional	APHSX	0.99
Hood River Small-Cap Growth Retirement	HRSIX	0.99
Neuberger Berman Small Cap Growth R6	NSRSX	0.81
Vanguard Explorer Adm	VEXRX	0.30

### Conclusion

While the incumbent, Nicholas Limited Edition, has attractive risk mitigation tactics and a low expense ratio, this does not outweigh the opportunity cost of performance. Alger offers top quartile returns relative to peers, strong risk-adjusted returns, style characteristics fitting the mandate, and fees in the top quartile relative to peers. As such, NWCM recommends replacing the incumbent investment manager with Alger Small Cap Focus for the US Small Cap Growth equity mandate.

	Nicholas Limited Edition	Alger Small Cap Focus	Artisan Small Cap	Hood River Small-Cap Growth	Neuberger Berman Small Cap Growth	Vanguard Explorer
Performance		√	√	√		
Risk		√	√		√	
Style	√	√	√	√	√	
Scenario Metrics	√	√	√		√	√
Fees	√	√			√	√

✓ Best of the category (if any)

✓ Next best of the category

## Appendix – Strategy Overview

#### **Nicholas Limited Edition**

Stocks in the portfolio must have some source of positive change, sustainable long-term revenue and earnings potential, and positive price strength. Idea generation through quantitative screening and networking. Proprietary financial models are used to assess company fundamentals, ultimately building an investment thesis. Names that pass the screen undergo due diligence on management, business model, financials. Holdings range 70-100 names.

#### Alger Small Cap

Alger's philosophy as a firm is bottom-up fundamental growth. Strategy utilizes research to focus on companies with defensible competitive positions, strong financials, solid operating histories, undergoing positive dynamic change. Management has a long-term investment horizon of 3-5 years. Idea generation through looking at companies early in their corporate life cycle, reading industry publications and attending conferences. Proprietary financial models are used to assess company fundamentals. Holdings range around 50 names.

#### Artisan Small Cap

Management believes following profit cycles can lead to significant asset growth for stocks. Security selection by purchasing stocks with attractive valuations, often franchise companies, with accelerating profit cycles. Stocks are broken into three categories: garden (early profit cycle), crop (profits being realized), and harvest (profit cycle approaching valuation). ESG is integrated into stock assessment. Stock positions are built according to management conviction and undergoing profit acceleration.

#### Hood River Small-Cap Growth

Management strongly believes Wall Street is ill-equipped in assessing small companies and aims to take advantage of the information gap. Look for companies with strong cash flow, superior products, increasing market share, in growing industries with excellent management. Speaking with management, customers, suppliers, industry experts, as well as forecasting earnings and financial strength leads to conviction. Holdings range 80-100 names.

#### Neuberger Berman Small Cap Growth

The team focuses on identifying underappreciated growth catalysts from potentially underfollowed and under-owned companies. Catalysts can better a company for sustainable growth regardless of market environment, those catalysts being: disruptive (new products/services), expansion (market share), operational (efficiencies), and fundamentals (strong financials). Bottom-up, fundamental approach that is benchmark-aware.

#### **Vanguard Explorer**

This strategy seeks to identify small and mid size companies with growth potential, using multiple advisors with diverse strategies. The fund is well diversified with exposure to over 500 stocks. Fund advisors are: Wellington Management Company LLP, Stephens Investment Management Group LLC, ArrowMark Partners, Vanguard Quantiative Equity Group, and ClearBridge Investments LLC.

## Appendix – Data Tables

#### **Performance – Trailing Returns**

	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	15 Years
Nicholas Limited Edition I	16.30	40.06	18.79	18.33	14.01	11.37
Alger Small Cap Focus Y	0.94	21.45	20.69	24.69	17.48	-
Artisan Small Cap Institutional	1.82	26.97	27.40	24.84	18.06	12.41
Hood River Small-Cap Growth Retirement	26.18	65.57	29.62	25.33	19.79	13.15
Neuberger Berman Small Cap Growth R6	5.74	28.51	23.18	24.20	16.40	11.48
Vanguard Explorer Adm	17.79	46.42	22.63	21.37	16.15	11.38
Russell 2000 Growth TR USD	7.64	38.45	18.64	17.90	14.57	10.46
Risk – Upside Capture	Upside Capture Ratio 3 Yr (Qtr-End)		Upside Capture Ratio 5 Yr (Qtr-End)		ure atio ) Yr	Upside Capture Ratio 15 Yr (Qtr-End)
Nicholas Limited Edition I	91.13		94.93	93	.61	100.79
Alger Small Cap Focus Y	80.24		103.67	103	.19	-
Artisan Small Cap Institutional	105.94		108.03	103	.80	110.08
Hood River Small-Cap Growth Retirement	120.06		120.39	118	.29	120.09
Neuberger Berman Small Cap Growth R6	96.94		105.75	102	.80	110.65
Vanguard Explorer Adm	109.87		111.47	109	.50	115.17
Risk – Downside Capture	Downside Capture Ratio 3 Yr (Qtr-End)		Downside Capture Ratio 5 Yr (Qtr-End)	F	iture Ratio .0 Yr	Downside Capture Ratio 15 Yr (Qtr-End)
Nicholas Limited Edition I	95.75		94.89	9	9.34	96.75
Alger Small Cap Focus Y	74.64		75.46	9	0.84	-
Artisan Small Cap Institutional	87.81		83.53	9	0.98	103.58
Hood River Small-Cap Growth Retirement	111.10		109.70	11	0.00	116.09
Neuberger Berman Small Cap Growth R6	87.58		84.77	10	2.77	110.38
Vanguard Explorer Adm	116.58		111.02	11	7.10	118.18

## Alger Small Cap Focus Y (AOFYX)

Parent Name	Alger	Asset Class	Equity
Firm-wide AUM	\$46.2 Billion	Sub-Style	US Small Cap Growth
Strategy AUM	\$10.0 Billion	Most Suitable Benchmark	Russell 2000 Growth Index
Strategy Inception	3/8/2008	Net Expense Ratio	0.84%
Investment Approach	Active	# of Holdings	52

#### **OVERVIEW**

Alger Small Cap Focus is a quality product that has benefited from solid growth stock picking. The soft close (closed to retail investors) initiated in 2019 should help control future asset growth. Performance has been superior, especially during the market downturn in 2018. With an experienced CEO in Dan Chung leading the firm, and a 26-year investment veteran in Amy Zhang as the portfolio manager, NWCM recommends Alger Small Cap Focus as a suitable option in this asset class.

#### **INVESTMENT PROCESS**

Alger Small Cap Focus is a concentrated portfolio that tends to hold around 50 high conviction names with low portfolio turnover. Over time, Alger has intentionally developed investment products to be more focused strategies. Alger's foundation is its focus on "Positive Dynamic Change" which seeks to identify companies with increasing unit volume, strong business models, and market dominance. Unlike other managers who define the investment universe based on market capitalization, Zhang looks for companies with operating revenues of \$500 million or less. The strategy also consider stocks that represent firms with similar growth opportunities, either through product innovation or new management or regulations. The firm's deep analyst team utilizes several external research sources to generate investment ideas, followed by modelling and stress testing expected results. Analyst recommendations are debated during weekly investment professional meetings.

Alger Small Cap Focus typically owns positions of 1-5% and limits the market capitalization of any of its holdings to the same size as the largest position in either the Russell 2000 Growth Index or the MSCI Small Cap Index. Individual positions are typically initiated at 0.50% and, to maintain sufficient liquidity, are capped at a security's 10 days trading volume. This product, like other Alger offerings, is benchmark agnostic. It currently has an active share (proportion of holdings that differ from the benchmark) of 94% and material benchmark over-weights in both Healthcare and Information Technology. This makes clear that this manager is not afraid to look very different from the Russell 2000 Growth Index. Software from investment technology firm Charles River is utilized to maintain policy compliance and trading execution. This manager has historically held winners even as they grow into the mid-cap asset class, with the intention of finding small cap companies that have the potential to double their revenue stream in five years. Positions may be sold if the investment thesis changes, the stock becomes overvalued, or a better relative opportunity is presented. Generally, individual positions in the portfolio will not exceed 8% of the fund's overall value.

#### FUND MANAGEMENT

Alger is a private, 100% women-owned investment boutique. Headquartered in New York, NY, the firm is owned by three members of the Alger family alongside 20 senior investment professionals; ownership participation if offered to employees. More than 50% of portfolio managers at Alger are women and/or

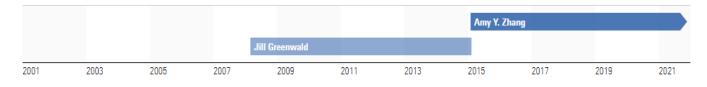


minorities. The firm was founded by Fred Alger in 1964 and it currently manages \$46 billion in assets. Nearly a quarter of the firm's assets under management are from the Alger Small Cap Focus strategy. Alger is known as an early adopter of both growth investing and its bottom-up research.

Dan Chung, CFA, CEO, is Fred Alger's son-in-law, who joined the firm in 1994 as a technology analyst. He was named CIO in 2001 after his successor, David Alger, and 34 other firm employees perished in the 9/11 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. Dan graduated from Stanford University and earned his JD at Harvard Law School.

Amy Zhang, CFA, has managed the portfolios for Alger Small Cap Focus and Alger Small Cap Growth since joining the firm in 2015. Previously, she was a small cap portfolio manager at Brown Capital Management. Zhang has 26 years investment experience and earned her MBA at Columbia University. Zhang is supported by a centralized team of 37 analysts with an average of 14 years of experience. Alger has a reputation for rigorously training its analysts in its growth stock investment philosophy and indepth company analysis.

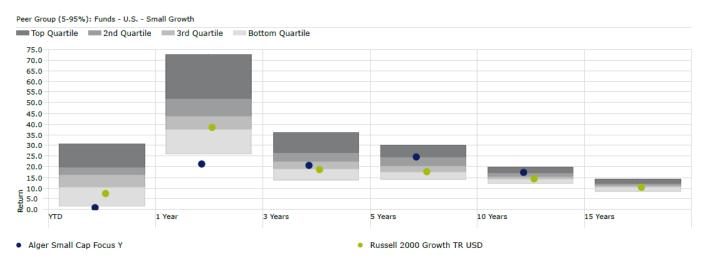
#### **Manager Timeline**



#### PERFORMANCE

#### Trailing Year Returns (Period Ending 10/31/2021)

Over the most recent Year to Date (YTD) and 1 Year trailing time periods, Alger has performed in the bottom quartile due to underperformance in Q1 2021. Two Healthcare stocks were the primary detractors from the strategy's performance in the Q1 2021, a risk that can come with holding a more focused portfolio. One of the stocks (Quidel Corp) that performed poorly during Q1 2021 had previously been a top contributor, returning 195% for the year 2020. Alger Small Cap Focus has outperformed the benchmark for every quarter since Q1 2021. Performance over the five- and ten-year trailing have ranked in the top quartile relative to peers.

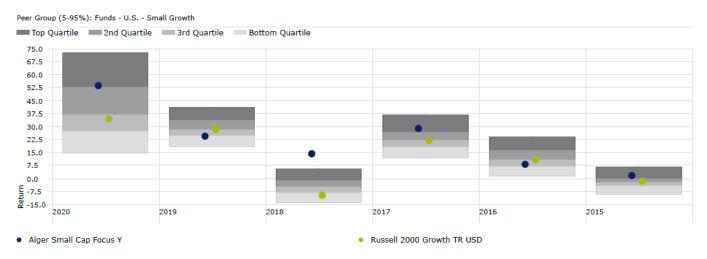


#### **Calendar Year Returns**

Typically, assessing manager performance based on individual calendar years is only recommended for assessing a manager's resiliency to systemic risks. The 2020 calendar year illustrates periods of high market volatility due to the economic disruption of the COVID pandemic; for the year 2020, Alger Small

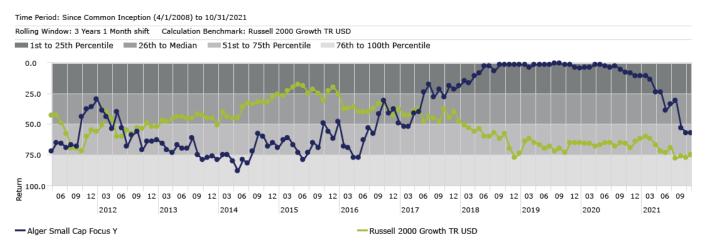


Cap Focus ranked in the 22<sup>nd</sup> percentile relative to peers. The bear market of 2018 also illustrates a period of high market volatility due to Fed financial tightening and US/China ongoing trade disputes; for the year 2018, Alger Small Cap Focus ranked in the 1<sup>st</sup> percentile.



#### 3 Year Rolling Returns

Assessing rolling returns can be beneficial as they are independent of recent events and free of endpoint sensitivity. For the three-year rolling returns every year since 2016, Alger ranked in the top quartile relative to small cap growth peers in four out of the six rolling periods. Since Amy became portfolio manager in 2015, Alger Small Cap Focus has exhibited dominant returns. While the strategy fell below median relative to peers over the 3-year rolling ending October 31, 2021 (ranking in the 57<sup>th</sup> percentile), the strategy still achieved its investment objective of outperforming its benchmark, the Russell 2000 Growth Index.

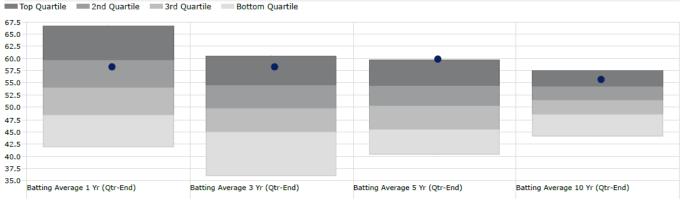


#### **Batting Average**

Batting Average is used to measure the consistency of a manager's ability to beat an index. The higher the Batting Average, the more the fund has statistically outperformed the index. Over the three-, five-, and ten-year trailing time periods, Alger's Batting Average ranked in the top quartile relative to peers.

### NWCM

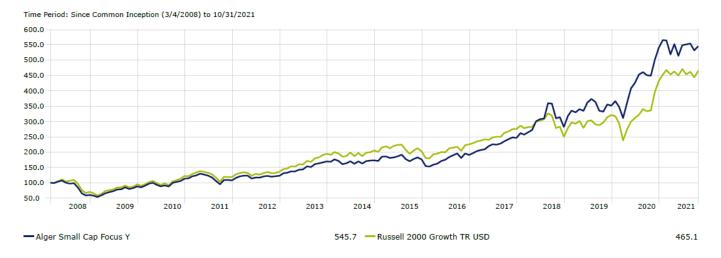
Peer Group (5-95%): Funds - U.S. - Small Growth



Alger Small Cap Focus Y

#### **Investment Growth**

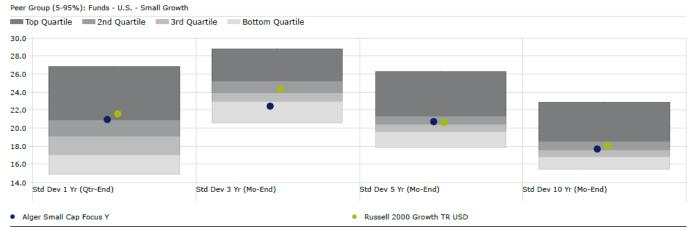
\$100 invested in Alger Small Cap Focus ten years ago would be worth \$500.70 as of October 31, 2021, based on the performance of the fund. Having invested in the benchmark would be worth \$389.80.



#### **RISK**

#### **Standard Deviation Risk**

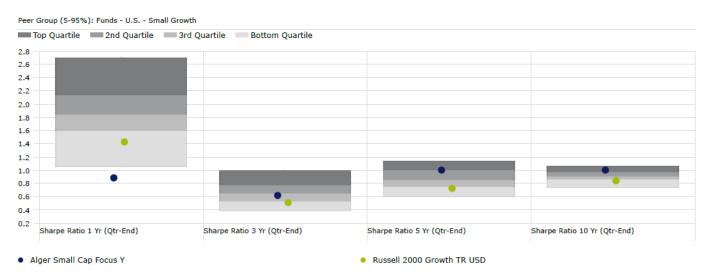
Over the five- and ten-year periods, Alger Small Cap Focus risk as measured by standard deviation is average relative to peers and in line with the benchmark.



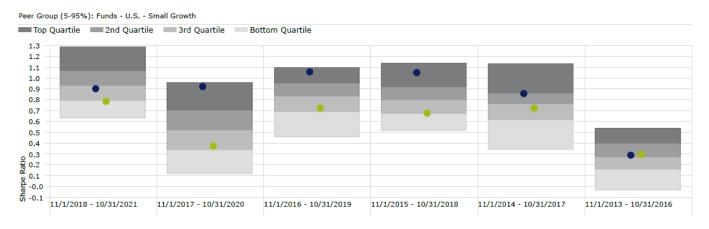


#### Sharpe Ratio

A low Sharpe Ratio indicates a lower return given the same amount of risk taken, which Alger experienced over the one-year trailing period as it was dragged down from poor performance in Q1 2021.



Looking further at Sharpe Ratio, the three-year rolling Sharpe Ratio for Alger Small Cap Focus ranks in the top quartile relative to peers for four of the six periods assessed. For the other two periods, the Sharpe Ratio rank for Alger has ranged between slightly above and slightly below the peer average.

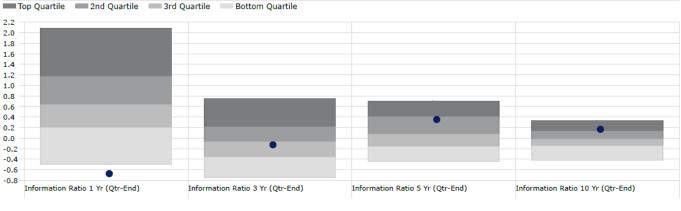


#### **Information Ratio**

Information Ratio (IR) is used to measure the consistency of a manager's performance relative to the index adjusting for the tracking error the portfolio has demonstrated. A high IR illustrates a manager has consistently outperformed the index without taking excessive risk. The IR for Alger Small Cap Focus ranked below median over the one- and three-year trailing periods, and above median over the five- and ten-year trailing periods.

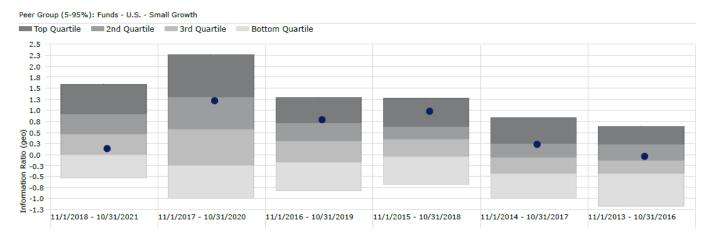
### NWCM

Peer Group (5-95%): Funds - U.S. - Small Growth



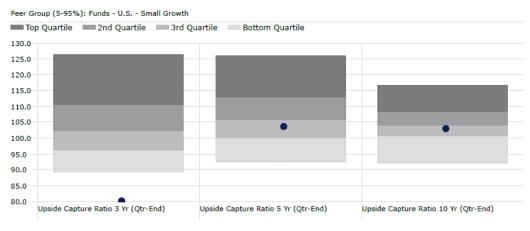


Looking further at Information Ratio, specifically the three-year rolling returns since 2016, Alger Small Cap Focus had a positive IR for all six periods shown.



#### **Upside Capture**

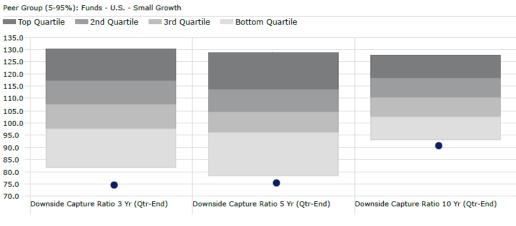
Upside Capture represents a manager's ability to participate in the returns in an upward trending market. If the Upside Capture is greater than 100, the manager captured more upside than the benchmark while it was rising. Over the three-year trailing, Alger was in the bottom quartile, though over the five- and ten-year trailing Alger's Upside Capture was greater than 100.



Alger Small Cap Focus Y

#### **Downside Capture**

Downside Capture represents a manager's ability to avoid the negative returns in downward trending markets. If the Downside Capture is less than 100, the manager outperformed by avoiding some of the downside return of a falling benchmark. Alger Small Cap Focus has consistently low Downside Capture, illustrating that the strategy is successful at protecting returns when the benchmark is performing poorly.



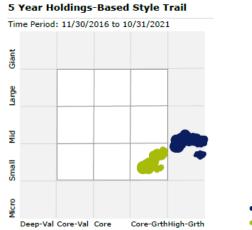
Alger Small Cap Focus Y

#### **STYLE**

#### Holdings-Based Style Trail

Alger's style is very growth-oriented and has drifted towards mid-capitalization over the ten-year trailing period.



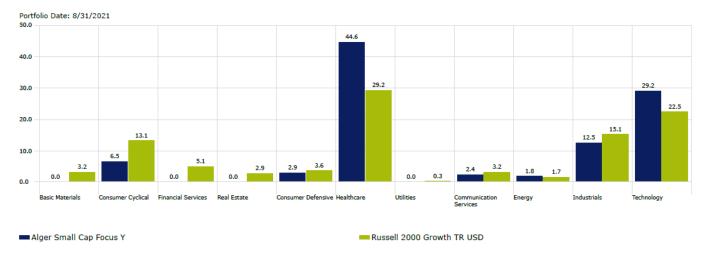


Alger Small Cap Focus Y
 Russell 2000 Growth TR USD



#### Sector Exposure

Sector exposure is helpful relative to the benchmark to consider any active bets that managers might be taking. Alger Small Cap Focus currently has a 19% overweight to Healthcare relative to the benchmark. The Healthcare sector has been growing rapidly within the Russell 2000 Growth Index over recent years alongside the increased allocation to small cap companies not earning profits. Because of this, some small cap growth managers shy away from Healthcare out of uncertainty.



#### **FEES**

The net expense ratio of 84 basis points for Alger Small Cap Focus ranks in the top quartile among small cap growth peers.

#### Peer Group (5-95%): Funds - U.S. - Small Growth

Top Quartile	2nd Quartile	3rd Quartile	Bottom Quartile	
2.1				_
2.0				
1.9				
1.8				
1.7				
1.6				
1.5				
1.4				
1.3				
1.2				
1.1				
1.0				
0.9		•		
0.8		•		
0.7				
0.6				
Prospectus N	let Expense Ratio			
<ul> <li>Alger Small Cap Focu</li> </ul>	is Y			

#### CONCLUSION

Amy Zhang's unique view of the small cap universe, focus on "Positive Dynamic Change", and benchmark agnostic perspective makes the Alger Small Cap Focus strategy distinctly compelling. Since Zhang began her role as the lead portfolio manager, the strategy has exhibited dominant returns with resiliency to systemic risks. The high-conviction portfolio of Alger Small Cap Focus offers a proven track record, ran by a well-equipped team, at an attractive price. NWCM recommends Alger Small Cap Focus to be a suitable option for the Small Cap Growth space.

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### NWCM



Item 9 - Exhibit F

Blackrock and Vanguard Index Fund Review

# **County of Fresno**

Brent Petty 503-597-1641 | brentp@nwcm.com Northwest Capital Management December 2021

I	Executive Summary
П	Fund Mapping Table
Ш	Fund Highlights
IV	Evaluation Criteria (benchmark selection, performance, fees, tracking error, securities lending)
V	Conclusion

## **Executive Summary**

As of March 31, 2021, Wells Fargo/BlackRock, Vanguard, and Fidelity were the some of the largest index asset managers in the world. County of Fresno is currently invested in six index funds: five with Wells Fargo/BlackRock and one with Vanguard. NWCM compared the five Wells Fargo/BlackRock investment options (US Large, Mid, and Small Cap Equities, Non-US Equities, and US Fixed Income) with similar Vanguard investment options. NWCM compared Vanguard Total International Bond Index Fund Admiral (VTABX) with a similar option offered by Fidelity, as Wells Fargo/BlackRock did not have a comparable offering. The twelve funds were compared according to benchmark selection, performance, cost, tracking precision, and securities lending.

#### **Overall Evaluation:**

- 1. Benchmark Selection: The strategies across all asset classes track indices that provide broad exposure to the applicable investment market.
- 2. Performance: All of the Wells Fargo/BlackRock investment options have stronger 5-year relative performance than the alternative Vanguard products (for all equities and US Fixed Income). In more recent trailing years, Vanguard has stronger absolute returns than BlackRock for Non-US Equity. For US Fixed Income, the BlackRock CIT has consistently stronger relative outperformance than the respective Vanguard mutual fund alternative. For Non-US Fixed Income, Vanguard had stronger relative and obsolete performance than Fidelity in 2020.
- 3. Cost: For US equities, the County of Fresno is currently invested in the less expensive investment option. For Non-US Equity, switching to Vanguard would result in a lower fee, especially once the next share class threshold is reached. For US Fixed Income, the fees are the same for the two funds. For Non-US Fixed Income, switching from Vanguard to Fidelity would result in a slightly lower fee; fees for Vanguard would also be minimized once the next share class threshold is reached.
- 4. Tracking Precision: Tracking error is the standard deviation of the difference between the fund return and the benchmark return, which reflects the risk of fund management. For US equities over the 5-year period, Vanguard's tracking precision is much tighter than Wells Fargo/BlackRock. For Non-US Equity, US and Non-US Fixed Income, Vanguard has worse tracking precision than the BlackRock and Fidelity comparable alternatives.
- 5. Securities Lending: Vanguard's large asset base provides scale and allows 95% of revenue to go back to shareholders. BlackRock acts as their own lending agent, lending up to 100% of commingled fund assets and taking 50% of the securities lending proceeds, offering only 50% to investors. Fidelity mutual funds have indemnification protection against borrower default when a lending agent is used.

#### **Conclusion:**

We find that Wells Fargo/BlackRock's benchmarks offer universal coverage of the US equity and fixed income markets at a competitive cost. For Non-US Equity, we find that Vanguard provides better performance and tracking error at a less expensive cost. For Non-US Fixed Income, we find that Vanguard offers adequate market coverage with strong proven downside protection. As such, NWCM recommends remaining with Wells Fargo/BlackRock for US equities and US Fixed Income, selecting Vanguard for Non-US Equity index coverage, and remaining with Vanguard for Non-US Fixed Income.

## Highlights – Equities

	US Larg	ge Cap	US Mid Cap			
Name	BlackRock Equity	Vanguard Institutional Index I	BlackRock Mid Capitalization	Vanguard Mid Cap Index Fund Inst		
CUSIP/Ticker	09257F792	VINIX	09257F305	VMCIX		
Strategy Inception Date	1/30/1974	7/31/1990	2/27/1981	5/21/1998		
Manager Name	BlackRock Index Investments Team	Donald M. Butler Michelle Louie	BlackRock Index Investments Team	Donald M. Butler Michael A. Johnson		
Benchmark	S&P 500 TR USD	S&P 500 TR USD	S&P MidCap 400 TR	CRSP US Mid Cap TR USD		
Fund Size	\$4,376,428,328	\$287,782,291,632	\$994,752,160	\$49,655,119,243		
# of Holdings	505	507	400	367		

**US Small Cap** 

Non-US

Name	BlackRock Russell 2000	Vanguard Small Cap Index I	BlackRock EAFE Equity	Vanguard Developed Markets Index Admiral
CUSIP/Ticker	09257F842	VSCIX	06739Q560	VTMGX
Strategy Inception Date	6/30/1997	10/3/1960	6/30/1999	8/17/1999
Manager Name	BlackRock Index Investments Team	Gerard C. O'Reilly William A. Coleman	BlackRock Index Investments Team	Michael Perre Christine D. Franquin
Benchmark	Russell 2000 TR USD	CRSP US Small Cap TR USD	MSCI EAFE NR USD	FTSE Dvlp ex US All Cap(US RIC)NR USD
Fund Size	\$8,087,367,613	\$46,097,605,018	\$54,546,699,097	\$100,573,770,783
# of Holdings	1,992	1,477	858	4,025

As of most recent date sourced from Morningstar, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Strategy Inception Date shown represents the oldest share class.

## Highlights – Fixed Income

	U	S	Nor	n-US
Name	me BlackRock US Debt Index Fund W		Vanguard Total Intl Bd Idx Admiral	Fidelity International Bond Index
CUSIP/Ticker	06739Q685	VBTIX	VTABX	FBIIX
Strategy Inception Date	9/29/2006	12/11/1986	5/31/2013	10/10/2019
Manager Name	BlackRock Index Investments Team	Joshua C. Barrickman	Joshua C. Barrickman	Andrew Lewis Brandon C Bettencourt
Benchmark	BBgBarc US Agg Bond TR USD	BBgBarc US Agg Float Adj TR USD	BBgBarc Gbl Agg x USD Fl Aj RIC TR HUSD	BBgBarc Gbl Agg x USD Fl Aj RIC TR HUSD
Fund Size	\$342,150,231	\$79,406,854,136	\$43,207,633,378	\$220,361,057
# of Holdings	14,052	18,577	6,308	685

As of most recent date sourced from Morningstar, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Strategy Inception Date shown represents the oldest share class.

### Index Fund Comparison

### **Tracking Different Benchmarks**

Wells Fargo/BlackRock and Vanguard track the same index for US Large Cap, and Vanguard and Fidelity track the same index for Non-US Fixed Income. For all other sub-asset classes, Wells Fargo/BlackRock Collective Investment Trust (CIT) options track different benchmarks than the respective Vanguard Mutual Funds (MF) options. While the indices are similar, they are not entirely correlated.

- US Mid Cap Equities
  - Wells Fargo tracks the S&P MidCap 400 Index
  - Vanguard tracks the CRSP US Mid Cap Index
- US Small Cap Equities
  - Wells Fargo tracks the Russell 2000 Index
  - Vanguard tracks the CRSP US Small Cap Index
- Non-US Small Cap Equities
  - Wells Fargo tracks the MSCI EAFE Index
  - Vanguard tracks the FTSE Developed ex US All Cap Index
- US Fixed Income
  - Wells Fargo tracks the BBgBarc US Agg Bond Index
  - Vanguard tracks the BBgBarc US Agg Float Adj Index

### **5 Year Returns Correlation**

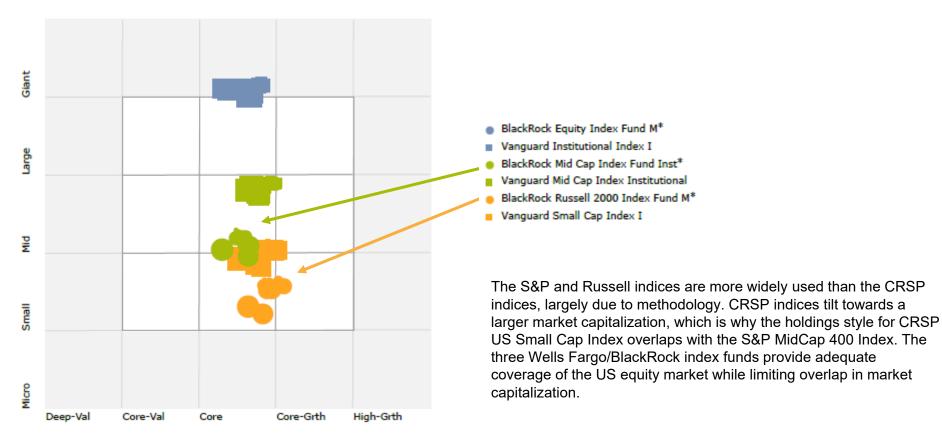
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 BlackRock Mid Capitalization	Equity Index Fund M	1.00							
2 Vanguard Mid Cap Index Ins	titutional 🤇	0.97	1.00						
3 BlackRock Russell 2000 Inde	ex Fund M	0.97	0.93	1.00					
4 Vanguard Small Cap Index I		0.99	0.97 <	0.99	1.00				
5 BlackRock EAFE Equity Index	x Fund T	0.83	0.86	0.81	0.82	1.00			
Vanguard Developed Market	s Index Admiral	0.86	0.89	0.83	0.85 <	0.99	1.00		
BlackRock US Debt Index Fu	ind W	-0.07	0.06	-0.09	-0.02	0.06	0.07	1.00	
Vanguard Total Bond Market	Index I	-0.08	0.04	-0.10	-0.03	0.06	0.06	1.00	1.00
1.00 to 0.80 0.00 to -0.20	0.80 to 0.60	-	-0.40 t	o 0.40 :o -0.60		40 to 0.20 .60 to -0.80		0.20 to 0.00	

## **US Equities Index Comparison**

### S&P, Russell, and CRSP

For passive US equity offerings, Wells Fargo/BlackRock tracks S&P and Russell indices whereas Vanguard tracks CRSP.

- **S&P** is based on market capitalization count (Top 500)
- Russell is based on market capitalization count (Top 1,000), with a minimum total market capitalization of \$30 million
- **CRSP** is based on market capitalization percentage (Top 85%) tilting towards larger capitalization for small and mid cap equities compared to other index providers, with a minimum total market capitalization of \$15 million



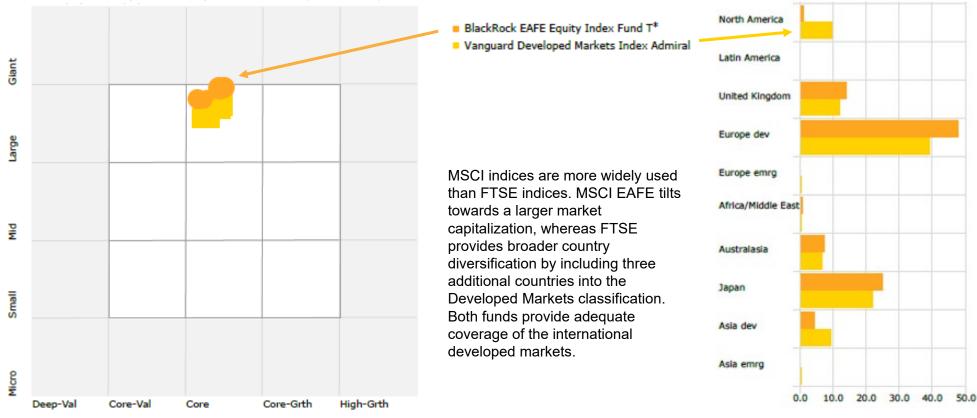
### **3 Year Rolling Holdings Based Style Analysis**

## **Non-US Equities Index Comparison**

### **MSCI EAFE and FTSE Developed ex US**

For passive Non-US equity offerings, Wells Fargo/BlackRock tracks MSCI EAFE and Russell indices whereas Vanguard tracks CRSP.

- MSCI EAFE captures large and mid cap representation across 21 Developed Markets countries.
- **FTSE Developed ex US** captures all market capitalization, including small cap, across 24 Developed Markets countries with the same overlap as MSCI EAFE with the exception of including Canada, Poland, and South Korea.



### **3 Year Rolling Holdings Based Style Analysis**

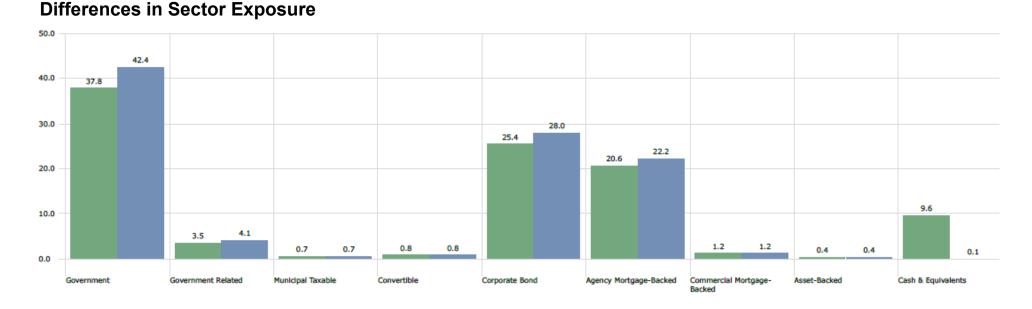
### **US Fixed Income Index Comparison**

# 80.0 60.0 40.0 20.0 0.0 -20.0 AAA AA A BBB

### **Differences in Credit Quality**

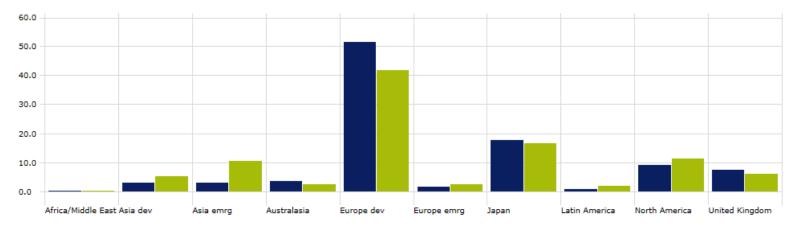
The Wells Fargo/BlackRock US Agg Bond Index CIT tracks the BBgBarc US Agg Bond Index, whereas the Vanguard Total Bond Market Index (VBTIX) tracks the BBgBarc US Agg Float Adj Index. The Float-Adjusted version excludes US agency debentures held in the Federal Reserve System Open Market Account. Both funds provide adequate coverage of the US bond market.

BlackRock US Debt Index Fund W\*
 Vanguard Total Bond Market Index I



## Non-US Fixed Income Index Comparison

### **Differences in Region Exposure**



■Vanguard Total Intl Bd Idx Admiral™
Fidelity® International Bond Index

Both Vanguard Total Intl Bond Index (VTABX) and Fidelity International Bond Index (FBIIX) track the BBgBarc Gbl Agg Ex-US Float Adj RIC Index. Both funds invest in at least 80% of the index assets, partaking in sampling techniques by holding a range of securities that, in aggregate, approximate the full index. Both funds provide adequate coverage of the Non-US bond market.

### **Differences in Sector Exposure**

70.0 64.1 59.7 60.0 50.0 40.0 30.0 20.4 20.0 15.5 14.9 13.0 10.0 4.0 3.8 1.3 1.7 0.2 0.5 0.0 Comparate Book Accel-Backed Cash & Equivaler Gourse



## **Performance Comparison – Equities**

For equities, the BlackRock CIT investments have consistently stronger relative performance than the respective Vanguard mutual fund alternatives. In more recent trailing years, Vanguard has stronger absolute returns than BlackRock for Non-US Equity.

	Name	YTD	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr	2020	2019	2018
	BlackRock Equity Index Fund M	15.27	40.84	18.73	17.68	_	18.46	31.53	-4.36
US	S&P 500 TR USD	15.25	40.79	18.67	17.65	14.84	18.40	31.49	-4.38
Large	Excess Return	0.02	0.04	0.05	0.04	_	0.07	0.05	0.03
Cap Equity	Vanguard Institutional Index I (VINIX)	15.24	40.77	18.65	17.62	14.81	18.39	31.46	-4.42
Equity	S&P 500 TR USD	15.25	40.79	18.67	17.65	14.84	18.40	31.49	-4.38
	Excess Return	-0.01	-0.02	-0.02	-0.03	-0.03	-0.01	-0.02	-0.04
	BlackRock Mid Capitalization Equity Index Fund M	17.60	53.27	13.22	14.35	_	13.78	26.22	-11.04
US	S&P MidCap 400 TR	17.59	53.24	13.17	14.29	12.40	13.66	26.20	-11.08
Mid	Excess Return	0.00	0.03	0.06	0.05	_	0.12	0.02	0.05
Cap Equity	Vanguard Mid Cap Index Institutional (VMCIX)	15.31	46.88	16.51	15.76	13.14	18.26	31.04	-9.24
Equity	CRSP US Mid Cap TR USD	15.31	46.93	16.51	15.78	13.24	18.24	31.09	-9.22
	Excess Return	-0.01	-0.04	0.00	-0.02	-0.11	0.02	-0.04	-0.02
	BlackRock Russell 2000 Index Fund M	17.57	62.22	13.61	16.60	-	19.96	25.69	-10.87
US	Russell 2000 TR USD	17.54	62.03	13.52	16.47	12.34	19.96	25.52	-11.01
Small	Excess Return	0.04	0.19	0.09	0.13	_	0.00	0.17	0.14
Cap Equity	Vanguard Small Cap Index I (VSCIX)	16.39	56.51	14.76	15.97	12.90	19.12	27.40	-9.32
Equity	CRSP US Small Cap TR USD	16.38	56.47	14.73	15.94	12.95	19.07	27.35	-9.33
	Excess Return	0.01	0.04	0.03	0.03	-0.05	0.04	0.05	0.01
	BlackRock EAFE Equity Index Fund T	9.02	32.70	8.59	10.61	6.16	8.23	22.42	-13.50
	MSCI EAFE NR USD	8.83	32.35	8.27	10.28	5.89	7.82	22.01	-13.79
	Excess Return	0.18	0.35	0.33	0.33	0.27	0.42	0.40	0.29
Equity	Vanguard Developed Markets Index Adm (VTMGX)	9.91	35.81	9.14	10.90	6.38	10.26	22.05	-14.46
	FTSE Dvlp ex US All Cap(US RIC)NR USD	9.98	36.43	9.08	11.00	6.12	10.00	22.34	-14.79
	Excess Return	-0.06	-0.62	0.06	-0.10	0.27	0.26	-0.29	0.34

### Performance Comparison – Fixed Income

For US Fixed Income, the BlackRock CIT has consistently stronger relative outperformance than the respective Vanguard mutual fund alternative.

	Name	YTD	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr	2020	2019	2018
	BlackRock US Debt Index Fund W	-1.62	-0.31	5.39	3.07	3.45	7.62	8.74	0.03
	BBgBarc US Agg Bond TR USD	-1.60	-0.33	5.34	3.03	3.39	7.51	8.72	0.01
US Fixed	Excess Return	-0.02	0.02	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.11	0.03	0.02
Income	Vanguard Total Bond Market Index I (VBTIX)	-1.68	-0.41	5.40	3.01	3.37	7.74	8.73	-0.01
	BBgBarc US Agg Float Adj TR USD	-1.67	-0.33	5.44	3.07	3.44	7.75	8.87	-0.08
	Excess Return	-0.01	-0.08	-0.04	-0.06	-0.06	-0.01	-0.14	0.07
	Vanguard Total Intl Bd Idx Admiral (VTABX)	-2.07	0.04	3.91	2.84	-	4.54	7.88	2.93
	BBgBarc Gbl Agg x USD Fl Aj RIC TR HUSD	-1.97	0.15	4.12	3.01	_	4.75	8.06	3.16
Non-US Fixed	Excess Return	1.96	-0.22	-4.16	-3.07	_	-0.21	-0.18	-0.24
Income	Fidelity International Bond Index (FBIIX)	-1.61	0.52	_	-	-	4.33	_	—
	BBgBarc Gbl Agg x USD Fl Aj RIC TR HUSD	-1.97	0.15	4.12	3.01	_	4.75	8.06	3.16
	Excess Return	0.36	0.37	_	_	_	-0.42	_	_

For Non-US Fixed Income, Vanguard had stronger relative and obsolete performance than Fidelity in 2020. NWCM has no concern with the short track record of the Fidelity International Bond Index (FBIIX) fund, as the fund is managed by a core team of well-tenured investment managers with successful track record managing Fidelity's many other passive fixed income investment offerings.

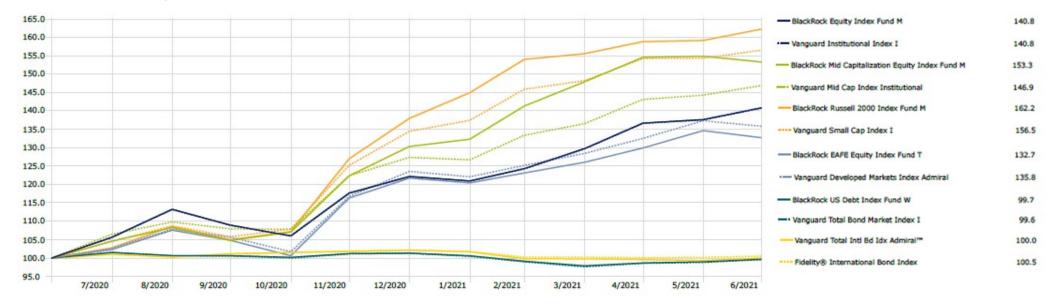
## **Fund Fees**

	Wells Farg	o/BlackRock	Van		
	Expense Ratio (%)	Estimated Annual Fee*	Expense Ratio (%)	Estimated Annual Fee*	% Fee Change +/-
US Large Cap Equity	0.020	\$12,495	0.040	\$24,990	100%
US Mid Cap Equity	0.030	\$3,541	0.040	\$4,722	33%
US Small Cap Equity	0.030	\$1,697	0.040	\$2,262	33%
Non-US Equity	0.100	\$4,322	0.070	\$3,026	-30%
US Fixed Income	0.040	\$3,226	0.040	\$3,226	0%
	Van	guard	Fic		
Non-US Fixed Income	0.11	\$2,025	0.060	\$1,104	-45%

1 Year Rolling Investment Growth of \$100

The expense ratios across the strategies vary slightly, so it's helpful to estimated annual fees for each asset class. Based on current asset sizes, switching from the Wells Fargo/BlackRock CITs to Vanguard mutual funds would result in a significantly higher annual fees for US Equities. For Non-US Equity, the Wells Fargo/BlackRock CIT has \$4.3 million in AUM as of 6/30/21. Vanguard's fee with the Admiral share class is less expensive than the current investment option and the fee would be reduced even further (dropping to 0.05%) once AUM hits \$5 million. For Non-US Fixed Income, the Vanguard mutual fund currently has \$1.8 million in AUM. Vanguard's fee with the Admiral share class is more expensive than the current investment option, though the fee would be comparable (dropping to 0.07%) once AUM hits \$5 million.

13



## **Tracking Error**

Tracking error may be affected by transaction costs, shareholder purchases and redemptions, NAV rounding, expense ratio, among other things. Vanguard's tracking capabilities run tighter than Wells Fargo/BlackRock, though the fees are more expensive for US Large and Mid Cap equities. For US Fixed Income, tracking error is within expectations and the fees are the same. For Non-US Fixed Income, tracking error is within expectations and the fees are less expensive for Fidelity.

Tracking error Optimization Minimum replication Maximum replication

Strike the right balance between tracking error and the cost of investing.

#### **Tracking Error vs Respective Benchmark**

Name	YTD	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr
BlackRock Equity Index Fund M	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.02	—
Vanguard Institutional Index I (VINIX)	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
BlackRock Mid Capitalization Equity Index Fund M	0.02	0.03	0.05	0.04	—
Vanguard Mid Cap Index Institutional (VMCIX)	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.41
BlackRock Russell 2000 Index Fund M	0.02	0.04	0.06	0.05	—
Vanguard Small Cap Index I (VSCIX)	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.42
BlackRock EAFE Equity Index Fund T	0.74	0.51	1.15	1.04	1.65
Vanguard Developed Markets Index Admiral (VTMGX)	0.82	1.10	1.58	1.51	2.05
BlackRock US Debt Index Fund W	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.10
Vanguard Total Bond Market Index (VBTIX)	0.33	0.33	0.29	0.28	0.26
Vanguard Total Intl Bd Idx Admiral (VTABX)	0.77	0.53	0.32	0.27	_
Fidelity International Bond Index (FBIIX)	0.64	0.50	—	_	—

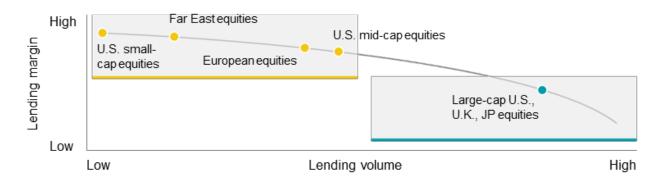


### **Securities Lending**

	Wells Fargo/BlackRock	Vanguard	Fidelity
Index manager	BlackRock	Vanguard	Geode Capital Management
Lending Agent	BlackRock	List of Approved Borrowers	Fidelity Agency Lending Goldman Sachs Agency Lending
Daily Management Fee Annual Rate	0.05-0.06%	0.05%	< 10%
Fund/Agent Split	50/50	95/5	90/10
Collateral	102% US Equities, 105% Non-US	102% US Equities, 105% Non-US	102% US Equities, 105% Non-US
Max % amount of fund lent	Up to 100% net assets	0-7% gross assets	33.3%
Proceeds reinvestment	Money Market Fund	Money Market Fund	Money Market Fund
Equity and Fixed Income Lending	Yes	Equity Only	Yes

With index fund providers, there is an inherent tendency towards underperformance relative to the index because index funds incur investment management, transaction, and other operating costs which the benchmark does not. Index fund managers must also manage cash flows into and out of the fund. Passive managers often seek to offset these factors by employing strategies such as sampling (meaning they do not purchase all the holdings of a given index, only that which is sufficient to be representative of the entire index) and securities lending (to generate additional incremental return). The theoretical risk in the transaction is that (a) the borrower may not be able to return the borrowed security or (b) the collateral is reinvested in poor quality or illiquid investments and loses value. Collateral reinvestment risk can be mitigated by maintaining conservative investment guidelines.

Investors in Vanguard's vehicles receive nearly all securities lending returns, whereas BlackRock retains 50% of the proceeds for its own use to cover all direct operational and custodial costs. BlackRock CIT investments may lend up to 100% of their net assets, though in practice often lend significantly less depending on the portfolio. Vanguard's lending best practice ranges 0-7% of gross assets. Fidelity mutual funds have indemnification protection against borrower default when a lending agent is used.



Source: Fund documents

### Conclusion

We find that Wells Fargo/BlackRock's benchmarks offer universal coverage of the US equity and fixed income markets at a competitive cost. For Non-US Equity, we find that Vanguard provides better performance and tracking error at a less expensive cost. For Non-US Fixed Income, we find that Vanguard offers adequate market coverage with strong proven downside protection. As such, NWCM recommends remaining with Wells Fargo/BlackRock for US equities and US Fixed Income, selecting Vanguard for Non-US Equity index coverage, and remaining with Vanguard for Non-US Fixed Income.

	Wells Fargo/BlackRock	Vanguard
US Large Cap Equity	√	
US Mid Cap Equity	√	
US Small Cap Equity	√	
Non-US Equity		√
US Fixed Income	√	
	Vanguard	Fidelity
Non-US Fixed Income	√	

NWCM

Item 9 - Exhibit G

Target Date Fund Review Hybrid & Passive Option Profile & GreatWest LifeTime Series Comparison

# **County of Fresno**

Brent Petty 503-597-1641 | brentp@nwcm.com Northwest Capital Management December 2021

3-6	Executive Summary
7-8	Glide Path
9-12	Asset Allocation
13-14	Performance
15-16	Risk
17-18	Fees
19	Conclusion

## **Executive Summary**

#### **Objective**

The purpose of this analysis is to provide insight into the relative merits and suitability of the current target date fund (TDF) suite in the plan by comparing its attributes as an investment platform with those of prominent Hybrid and Passive TDF alternatives. The incumbent, Great-West Lifetime Trusts (LT), was an early entrant into the Hybrid TDF space. As such, Great-West was considered both innovative and more diversified in its approach than both actively-managed and passive-managed peers. Given the ongoing innovation across the TDF universe, there are now considerably more alternatives in the Hybrid TDF space, offered by robust teams from prominent investment management shops. This comparison is timely due to this ongoing category development.

#### **Observations and Recommendations**

NWCM has assessed the results of this comparison and offers the following observations:

While passive TDF options tend to have a cost advantage, the priority of maintaining lower fees tends to impede the ability of these products to offer as much diversification benefits as NWCM believes to be advantageous over multiple market cycles over a 20-40 year investment timeline

A broad range of Hybrid TDF options have come to market during the last several years, managed by experienced portfolio management teams with solid track records. Both the Great-West Lifetime TDF offerings (Hybrid and Passive) tend to have higher costs than their competitors. On the purely passive side, this is a function of added diversification, as additional asset class index options outside of core offerings tend to have higher operating costs.

NWCM believes that wellconstructed Hybrid TDF options are an innovation that allows the benefits of both diversification as well as cost control through the judicious use of passive elements.

#### **Conclusion**

NWCM philosophically subscribes to the merits TDF suites using a hybrid construction methodology (active and passive managed investments) offer over long investment horizons. Great-West LT was a pioneer in this space, but the marketplace has matured and there are now compelling hybrid TDF alternatives the DCMC might find compelling. NWCM recommends conducting a manager search, vetting the incumbent against the top providers in the hybrid universe to replace the fund with a provider more suitable for the County. If the DCMC determines that a TDF suite using fully passive management is more appropriate, NWCM would recommend conducting a similar search against the top passive providers.

## The Relative Merits of Hybrid and Passive TDFs

The table identifies a number relative strengths and weaknesses of hybrid and passive TDF management.

Strategy	Pros	Cons
Hybrid	<ul> <li>Hybrid strategies offer attractive fees relative to fully-active management TDF series, with similar portfolio diversification</li> <li>Utilize active management in less efficient asset classes where the potential to add value is highest</li> <li>Utilize passive management in more efficient asset classes to benefit from the availability of lower fees</li> <li>The adoption of TDFs using a hybrid approach has been gaining traction in recent years</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Hybrid strategies are a relatively new innovation and most suites have relatively recent inception dates</li> <li>Care must be taken to ensure that there is an investment fee advantage over fully active strategies</li> <li>Over the past 5 years, hybrid strategies have experienced median returns, while passive strategies have been in favor during this period</li> </ul>
Passive	<ul> <li>Universe TDF flows have been trending towards passive management</li> <li>The majority of TDF assets in the investment universe reside in passively-managed options</li> <li>Attractive fees</li> <li>Returns have been comparable to actively-managed strategies with similar glide paths in more recent market cycles</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The most prominent passive TDF series tend to be less diversified than hybrid strategies due to the priority emphasis on fee management</li> <li>The hands-off approach of passive does not include risk control beyond basic diversification</li> <li>External risks can be a headwind for returns in periods of market volatility</li> </ul>

## Portfolio Details – Hybrid

Generally, hybrid target date funds offer glidepaths that continue to de-risk *through* the target retirement date (*"through" glidepaths*). The exceptions in this comparison are the JPMorgan and PIMCO series; de-risking ceases at the target date (*"to" glidepaths*). Manager tenure on hybrid strategies is relatively short given the category's more recent inception dates.

	Eidelike.	Great-West	IDMassas	DIMCO DealDeath	Deinsteal	T. David Dates
	Fidelity Freedom Blend Series	LT Series	JPMorgan SmartRetirement Blend Series	PIMCO RealPath Blend Series	Principal Lifetime Hybrid Series	T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend Series
Share Class / Type	Prem / MF	/ CIT	R6 / MF	Instl / MF	R6 / MF	C / CIT
Vintages Offered (Incl. Income)	2005 - 2065	2015 - 2060	2020 - 2060	2025 - 2060	2015 - 2065	2005 - 2065
Total # Offered	14	10	10	9	12	13
Active/Passive°	Blend	Blend	Blend	Blend	Blend	Blend
Open/Proprietary1	Proprietary	Open	Open	Open	Open	Proprietary
Glide Path Type (To / Through)	Through	Through	То	То	Through	Through
Landing Point	15 Years After Retirement	30 Years After Retirement	At Retirement	At Retirement	15 Years After Retirement	30 Years After Retirement
Equity Exposure (holdings-based) <sup>2</sup>	88.64% (2060) 18.76% (Income) 69.88% (Spread)	90.78% (2060) 38.80% (2015) 51.98% (Spread)	88.54% (2060) 32.70% (2020) 55.84% (Spread)	78.57% (2060) 21.15% (Income) 57.42% (Spread)	92.15% (2065) 24.29% (Income) 67.86% (Spread)	93.19% (2060) 36.76% (2005) 56.43% (Spread)
Equity Exposure (returns-based) <sup>3</sup>	91.22% (2040) 17.57% (Income) 73.65% (Spread)	86.38% (2060) 38.37% (2015) 48.01% (Spread)	85.97% (2050) 29.47% (Income) 56.50% (Spread)	81.94% (2050) 37.17% (Income) 44.77% (Spread)	89.92% (2060) 23.94% (Income) 65.98% (Spread)	92.14% (2055) 37.85% (2005) 54.29% (Spread)
Non-Traditional Exposure Rank (returns-based)*	2nd Quartile	2nd Quartile	1st Quartile	1st Quartile	3rd Quartile	3rd Quartile
Average Prosp. Net Exp. Ratio	0.27	0.40	0.19	0.24	0.37	0.19
Longest Manager Tenure (Years)	3.08	6.79	9.25	5.78	7.01	3.66
Average Manager Tenure (Years)	3.02	5.77	8.83	5.35	6.77	3.66
Largest Net Assets (\$ Millions)	\$2,244.00 (2030)	\$347.33 (2035)	\$2,630.00 (2030)	\$280.00 (2030)	\$499.00 (2030)	\$579.12 (2030)
Average Net Assets Across Vintages (\$ Millions)	\$759.29	\$141.19	\$1,557.90	\$207.67	\$244.17	\$280.53

The share classes shown were selected for comparison purposes and may not be available to the client. All information contained here is based on products selected in this report and not necessarily all available products offered. Created with Target-Date Radar & MPI Stylus 2021.

### Portfolio Details – Passive

The passive target date funds manage a larger quantity of assets than the hybrid funds due to a variety of reasons. In part, the lowcost nature of passive funds fits with prevailing focus on fees. Additionally, the hybrid approach is a more recent innovation within the target date fund space.

	BlackRock LifePath Index Series	Fidelity Freedom Index Series	Great-West Lifetime Index Series	Great-West LT Series	Schwab Target Index Series	State Street Target Retirement Series	TIAA-CREF Lifecycle Index Series	Vanguard Target Retirement Series
Share Class / Type	K / MF	Prem / MF	/ CIT	/ CIT	Instl / MF	K / MF	Instl / MF	Instl / MF
Vintages Offered (Incl. Income)	2025 - 2065	2005 - 2065	2015 - 2060	2015 - 2060	2010 - 2065	2020 - 2065	2010 - 2065	2015 - 2065
Total # Offered	10	14	10	10	12	11	12	12
Active/Passive°	Passive	Passive	Passive	Blend	Passive	Passive	Passive	Passive
Open/Proprietary <sup>1</sup>	Proprietary	Proprietary	Open	Open	Proprietary	Proprietary	Proprietary	Proprietary
Glide Path Type (To / Through)	То	Through	Through	Through	Through	Through	Through	Through
Landing Point	At Retirement	15 Years After Retirement	30 Years After Retirement	30 Years After Retirement	20 Years After Retirement	5 Years After Retirement	30 Years After Retirement	10 Years After Retirement
Equity Exposure (holdings-based)²	97.55% (2055) 38.65% (Income) 58.90% (Spread)	88.75% (2065) 18.97% (Income) 69.78% (Spread)	92.17% (2060) 41.65% (2015) 50.52% (Spread)	90.78% (2060) 38.80% (2015) 51.98% (Spread)	94.33% (2060) 34.71% (2010) 59.62% (Spread)	87.17% (2050) 34.54% (Income) 52.63% (Spread)	92.20% (2060) 38.61% (2010) 53.59% (Spread)	90.32% (2065) 29.98% (Income) 60.34% (Spread)
Equity Exposure (returns-based) <sup>3</sup>	93.11% (2065) 37.98% (Income) 55.13% (Spread)	87.38% (2050) 16.89% (Income) 70.49% (Spread)	87.86% (2060) 39.56% (2015) 48.30% (Spread)	86.38% (2060) 38.37% (2015) 48.01% (Spread)	87.16% (2060) 33.33% (2010) 53.83% (Spread)	88.33% (2065) 31.29% (Income) 57.04% (Spread)	91.66% (2060) 38.17% (2010) 53.49% (Spread)	88.06% (2065) 27.37% (Income) 60.69% (Spread)
Non-Traditional Exposure Rank (returns-based)*	2nd Quartile	4th Quartile	2nd Quartile	2nd Quartile	4th Quartile	2nd Quartile	4th Quartile	3rd Quartile
Average Prosp. Net Exp. Ratio	0.09	0.06	0.17	0.40	0.08	0.09	0.10	0.09
Longest Manager Tenure (Years)	10.34	12.00	6.31	6.79	5.10	7.01	12.01	6.27
Average Manager Tenure (Years)	9.02	10.84	5.88	5.77	5.10	6.51	11.41	6.10
Largest Net Assets (\$ Millions)	\$10,853.00 (2030)	\$15,747.00 (2030)	\$101.25 (2035)	\$347.33 (2035)	\$742.00 (2030)	\$1,869.00 (2030)	\$6,215.00 (2030)	\$57,317.00 (2030)
Average Net Assets Across Vintages (\$ Millions)	\$5,762.30	\$6,833.64	\$45.94	\$141.19	\$361.00	\$1,012.64	\$3,621.82	\$30,972.00

The share classes shown were selected for comparison purposes and may not be available to the client. All information contained here is based on products selected in this report and not necessarily all available products offered. Created with Target-Date Radar & MPI Stylus 2021.

# Glide Path – Hybrid

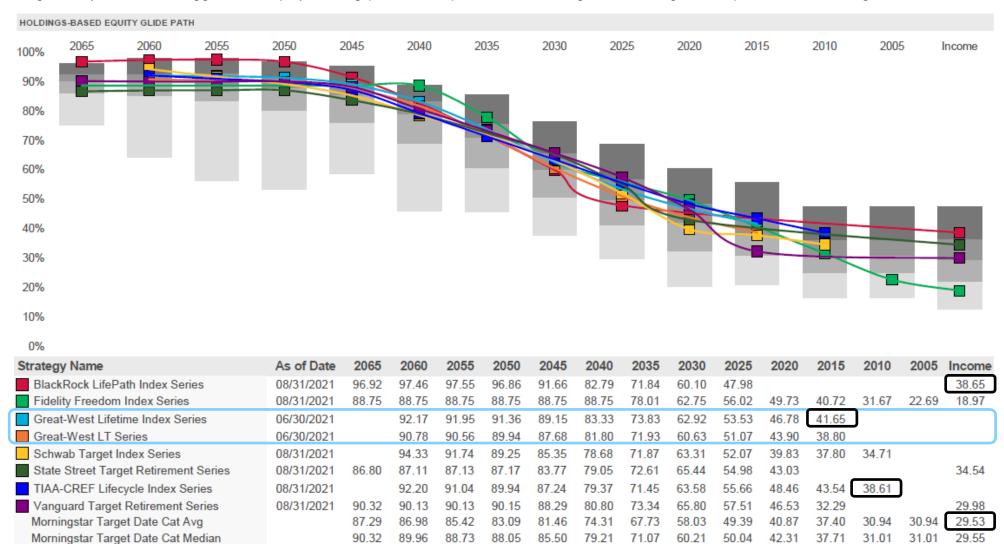
At (and through) retirement, Great-West has a more aggressive allocation to equities (38%) compared to majority of hybrid peers; some drop as low as 19%, compared to the Morningstar Target Date Average of 29.5%. Except for T Rowe Price, hybrid TDF options tend to have relatively conservative equity landing points than target date fund peers in the Morningstar database.



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## Glide Path – Passive

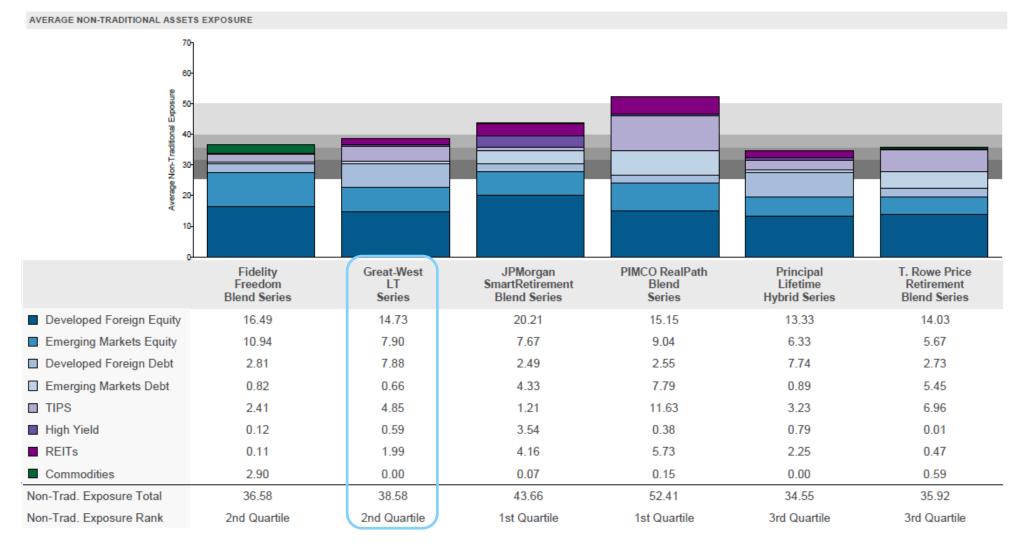
Typically, target date fund managers that offer both passive and hybrid target date fund options will use the same glide path for both (such as the Great-West Lifetime hybrid and index series), though actual allocations may vary somewhat. Passive TDF options generally have more aggressive equity landing points than peers; some as high as 42%, again compared to the average of 29.5%.





## Non-Traditional Assets – Hybrid

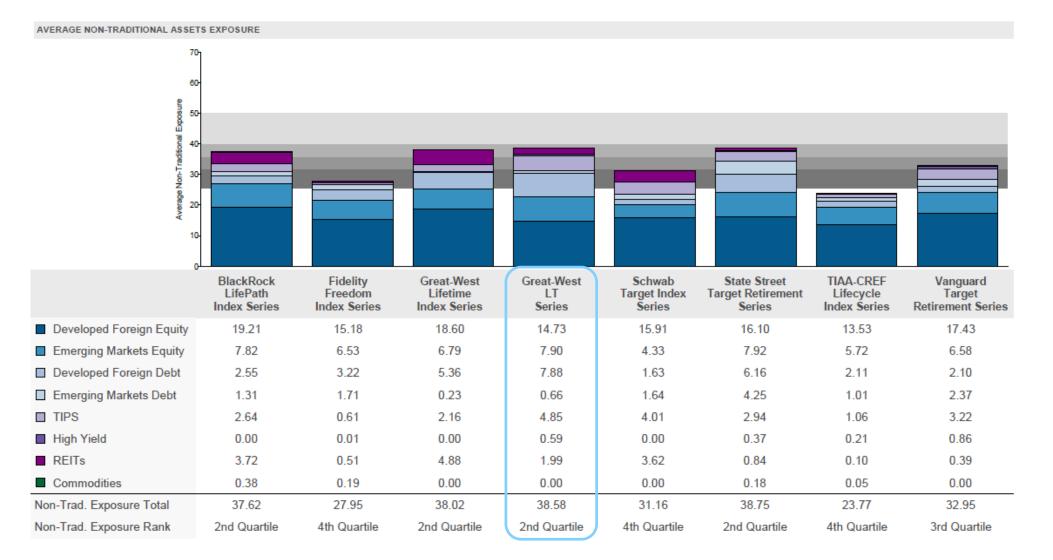
The hybrid universe offers higher average non-traditional assets exposure than the passive universe, particularly within fixed income (Debt, TIPS, and High Yield). This can meaningfully contribute to the diversification benefit within the portfolios.



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### Non-Traditional Assets – Passive

Great-West has higher average allocation to non-traditional assets, sitting in the second quartile relative to all target date fund peers.



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## Inflation-Hedge Assets: Hybrid

Inflation-Hedge assets help reduce the risk of losing purchasing power; these assets are made up of TIPS, Commodities, and REITs. Because these assets are non-traditional, hybrid target date funds also have higher exposure compared to passive funds. As indicated by the green check mark below, nearly all the hybrid target date funds have inflation-hedge asset exposure ranking in the top half relative to peers.

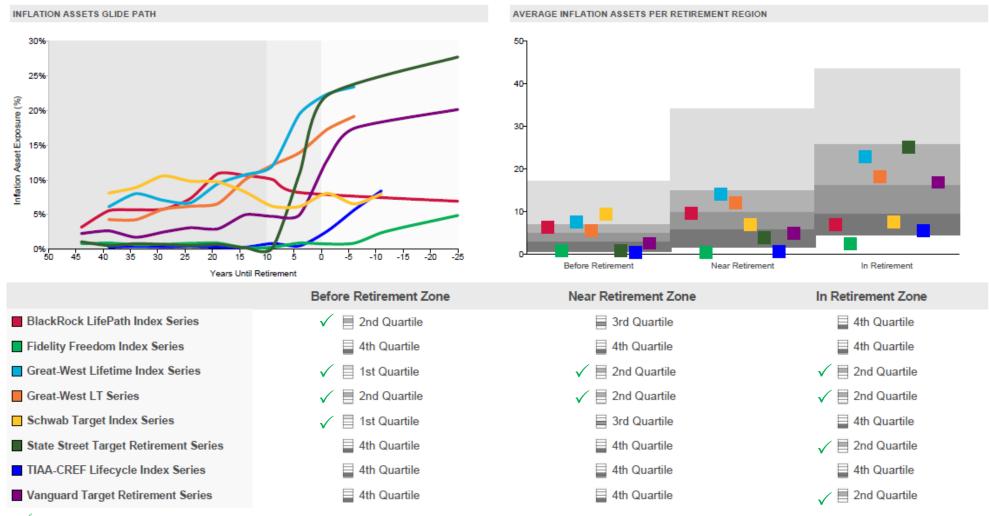


Ranks in the top half relative to peers.

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### Inflation-Hedge Assets: Passive

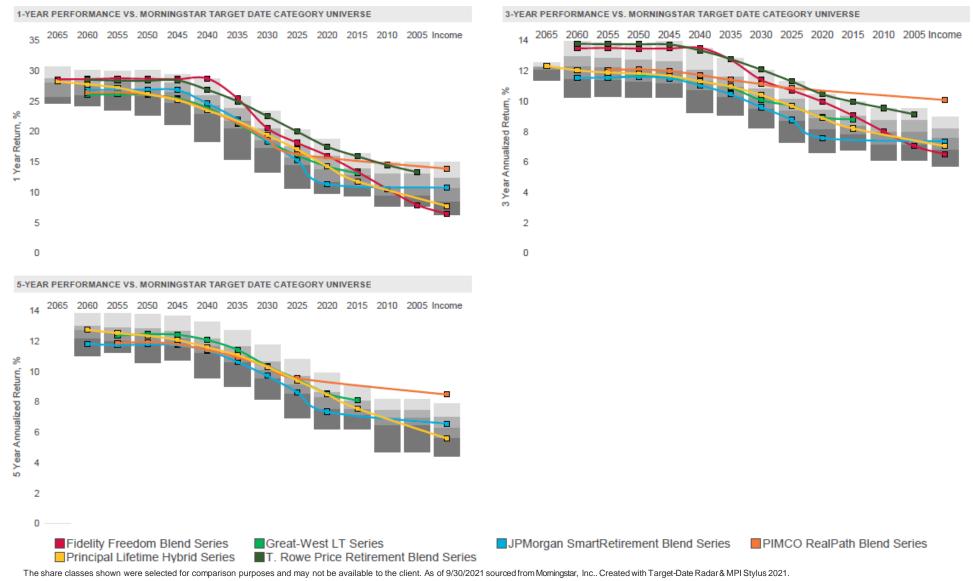
Compared to all target date fund peers, Great-West sits in the second quartile for average inflation assets within their target date fund. As indicated by the green check mark below, only a couple of the passive target date funds have inflation-hedge asset exposure ranking in the top half relative to peers. Passive target date funds offer less portfolio diversification than hybrid peers.



✓ Ranks in the top half relative to peers. The share classes shown were selected for comparison purposes and may not be available to the client. As of most recent date sourced from Momingstar, Inc.. Created with Target-Date Radar & MPI Stylus 2021.

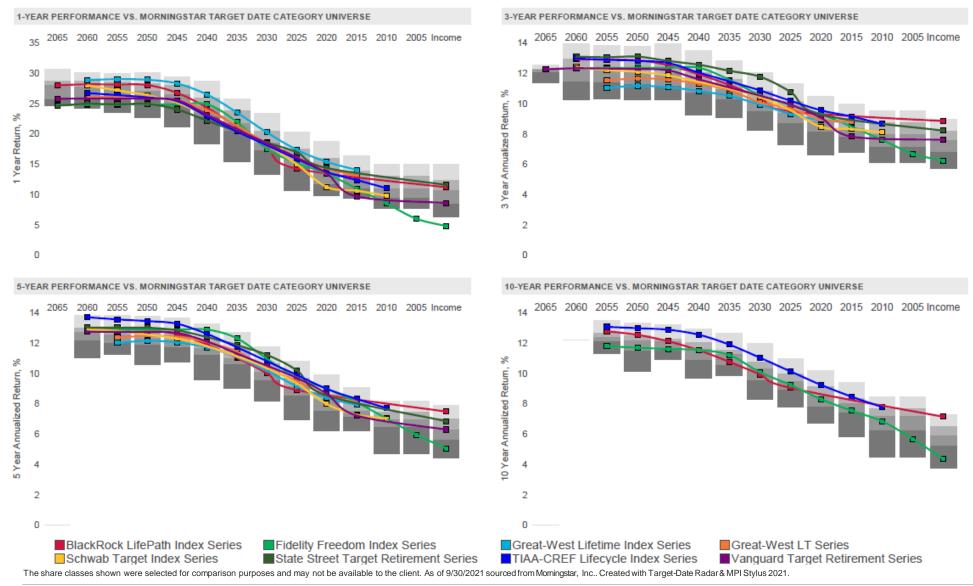
## Performance – Hybrid

Due to recent inception dates, we can only assess hybrid target date performance out to the 3-Year trailing time period. Great-West performance sits near the median across vintage years over the 3-Year trailing time period.



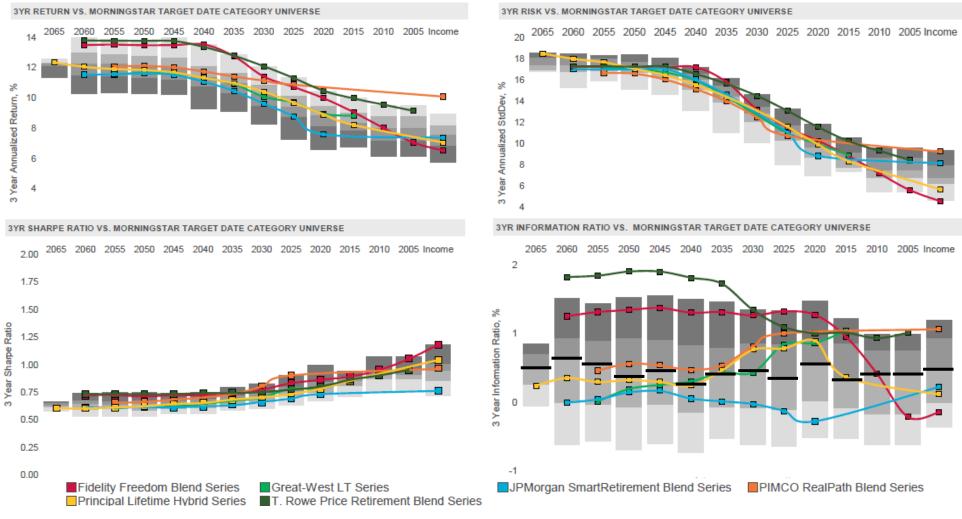
### Performance – Passive

Passive target date fund performance is as competitive as the hybrid fund options. Over the 3- and 5-Year, performance for Great-West Lifetime Index ranks low relative to other passive options, with the Lifetime hybrid fund ranking slightly better.



## Risk / Return – Hybrid

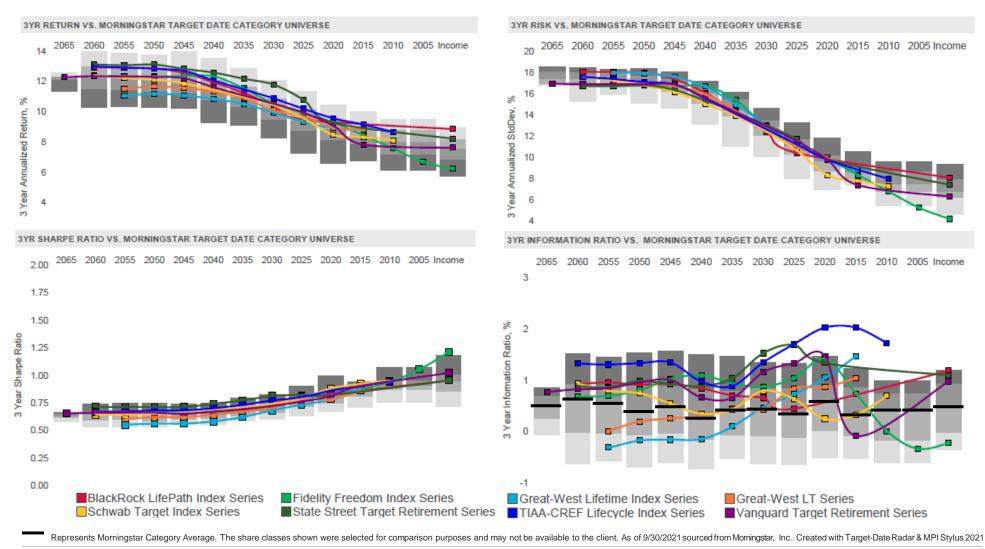
Over the 3-Year trailing time period, the hybrid funds have higher risk than passive fund options. Information Ratios for the hybrid funds spread across the quartiles, with only one of the six hybrid TDFs shown, T. Rowe Price, consistently ranking above median (black line in the illustration below) across vintage years. PIMCO and Fidelity ranked above median for all vintage years except one and two, respectively.



Represents Morningstar Category Average. The share classes shown were selected for comparison purposes and may not be available to the client. As of 9/30/2021 sourced from Morningstar, Inc.. Created with Target-Date Radar & MPI Stylus 2021

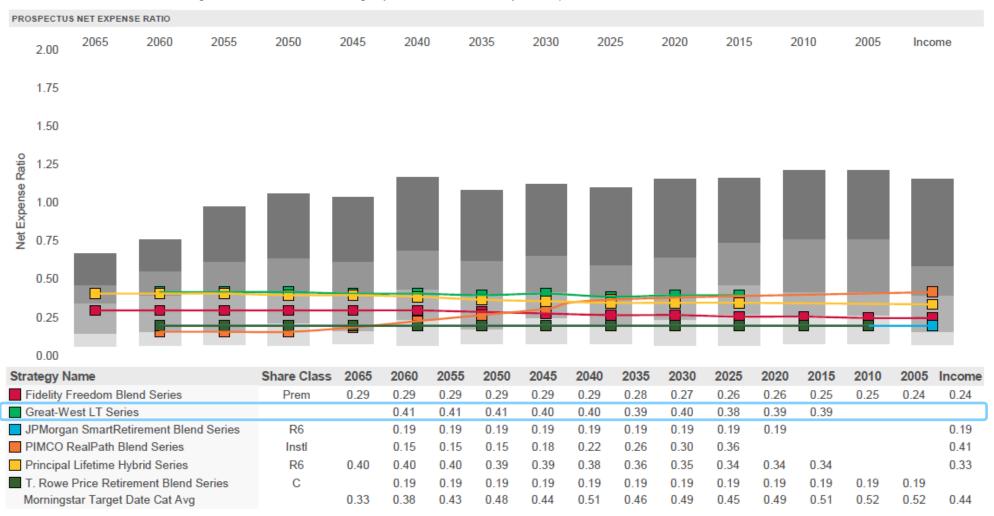
### Risk / Return – Passive

Risk across passive target date options for the 3-Year trailing time periods sits around median relative to all target date fund peers. Information Ratio varies significantly across vintage years, with years prior to retirement having a higher Information Ratio (and higher equity exposure). Overall, nearly half of the passive TDFs shown consistently rank above median (black line in the illustration below) across vintage years.



## Fees – Hybrid

Depending on the suite, investment fees for hybrid target date funds can still be as expensive as other fully active options. Great-West has some of the highest fees across vintage years than other hybrid options.



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### Fees – Passive

PROSPECTUS NET EXPENSE RATIO 2055 2050 2045 2040 2035 2030 2025 2020 2015 2010 2005 2065 2060 Income 2.00 1.75 1.50 Net Expense Ratio 1.25 1.00 0.75 0.50 0.25 0.00 Share Class 2025 Strategy Name 2065 2060 2055 2050 2045 2040 2035 2030 2020 2015 2010 2005 Income BlackRock LifePath Index Series 0.09 Κ 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 Fidelity Freedom Index Series Prem 0.06 0.06 0.06 0.06 0.06 0.06 0.06 0.06 0.06 0.06 0.06 0.06 0.06 0.06 Great-West Lifetime Index Series 0.17 0.17 0.17 0.17 0.17 0.17 0.17 0.18 0.18 0.18 Great-West LT Series 0.41 0.41 0.40 0.40 0.39 0.40 0.38 0.39 0.39 0.41 Schwab Target Index Series 0.08 Instl 0.08 0.08 0.08 0.08 0.08 0.08 0.08 0.08 0.08 0.08 State Street Target Retirement Series Κ 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 TIAA-CREF Lifecycle Index Series 0.10 0.10 0.10 0.10 0.10 0.10 0.10 0.10 0.10 0.10 0.10 Instl Vanguard Target Retirement Series 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 0.09 Instl Morningstar Target Date Cat Avg 0.33 0.38 0.43 0.48 0.44 0.51 0.46 0.49 0.45 0.49 0.51 0.52 0.52 0.44

Fees for the Great-West Lifetime Index Series are the highest relative to the other passive target date funds.

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## Conclusion

In the analysis, we compared the incumbent, Great-West Lifetime Trusts, with a range of other hybrid target date fund options as well as the top passively managed target date fund options. We have summarized the results of our comparison of management styles across glide path, asset allocation, performance, risk, and fees in the table below.

	Great-West Lifetime (LT) Series	Hybrid Target Date Fund Universe	Passive Target Date Fund Universe
Glide Path	More aggressive than other Hybrids regarding equity landing point	More conservative equity landing point	More aggressive equity landing point
Asset Allocation	Relatively high allocation to non- traditional and inflation-hedging assets	More exposure to non-traditional and inflation-hedging assets	Less exposure to non-traditional assets
Performance	Performance ranks at/below median	Less performance available due to recent inception dates, larger spread among hybrid funds	Competitive performance to hybrid TDFs
Risk	Risk / Return varies across vintage years	Varied risk profiles across the target date fund universe, overall higher risk than passive	Less risk, higher Information Ratio at (and through) Retirement
Fees	High fees relative to other Hybrids	Fees range top to third quartile	Top quartile fees

#### **Conclusion**

NWCM philosophically subscribes to the merits TDF suites using a hybrid construction methodology (active and passive managed investments) offer over long investment horizons. Great-West LT was a pioneer in this space, but the marketplace has matured and there are now compelling hybrid TDF alternatives the DCMC might find compelling. NWCM recommends conducting a manager search, vetting the incumbent against the top providers in the hybrid universe to replace the fund with a provider more suitable for the County. If the DCMC determines that a TDF suite using fully passive management is more appropriate, NWCM would recommend conducting a similar search against the top passive providers.