



Zacks
Small-Cap Core Fund

SINCE 2011

Zacks 
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

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WHY SMALL-CAP AND WHY ZACKS

Navigating a High-Potential Universe

In the small-cap space, buyouts are more common, rapid growth is more achievable and new opportunities can often be captured more quickly. This can create the potential for significant gains.

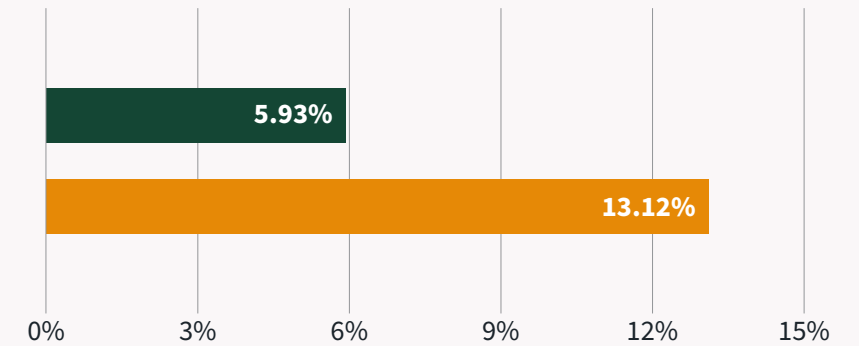
Small-cap stocks that have a market capitalization of \$3 billion or less. When compared with large-cap stocks, total returns in this universe can greatly outpace those of large-cap stocks, as outlined in the following chart.

But this return potential comes with risk, and that's why it's important to invest with extensive research and a methodical process. For Zacks, this means using a data-driven approach rooted in earnings estimate revisions research and well-tested quantitative models.

Total Return of Large-Cap¹ Stocks Vs. Small-Cap² Stocks

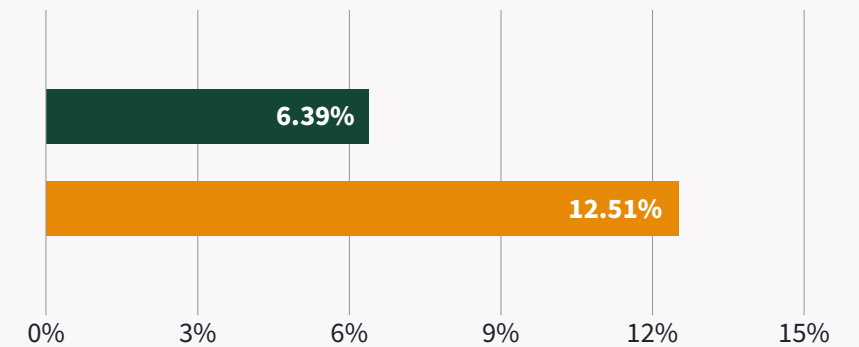
3-Year Total Return

- Large-Cap: 5.93%
- Small-Cap: 13.12%



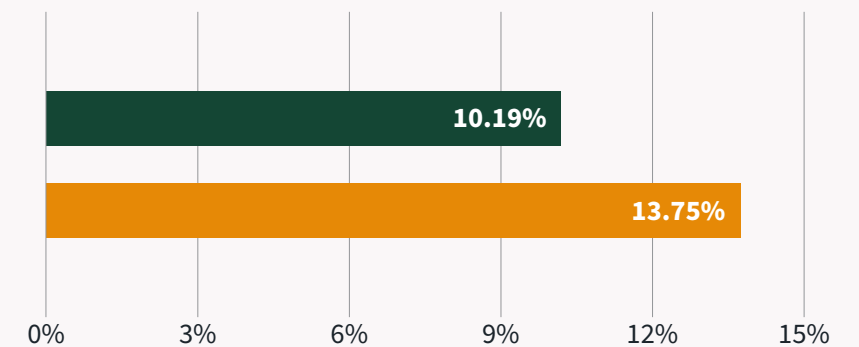
5-Year Total Return

- Large-Cap: 6.39%
- Small-Cap: 12.51%



10-Year Total Return

- Large-Cap: 10.19%
- Small-Cap: 13.75%






OUR METHODOLOGY

The Zacks Rank

The most important fundamental factor affecting stock prices is earnings. It's for this reason that research surrounding earnings estimate revisions, and models designed to analyze that data, can be highly effective in identifying small-cap stocks poised for growth.

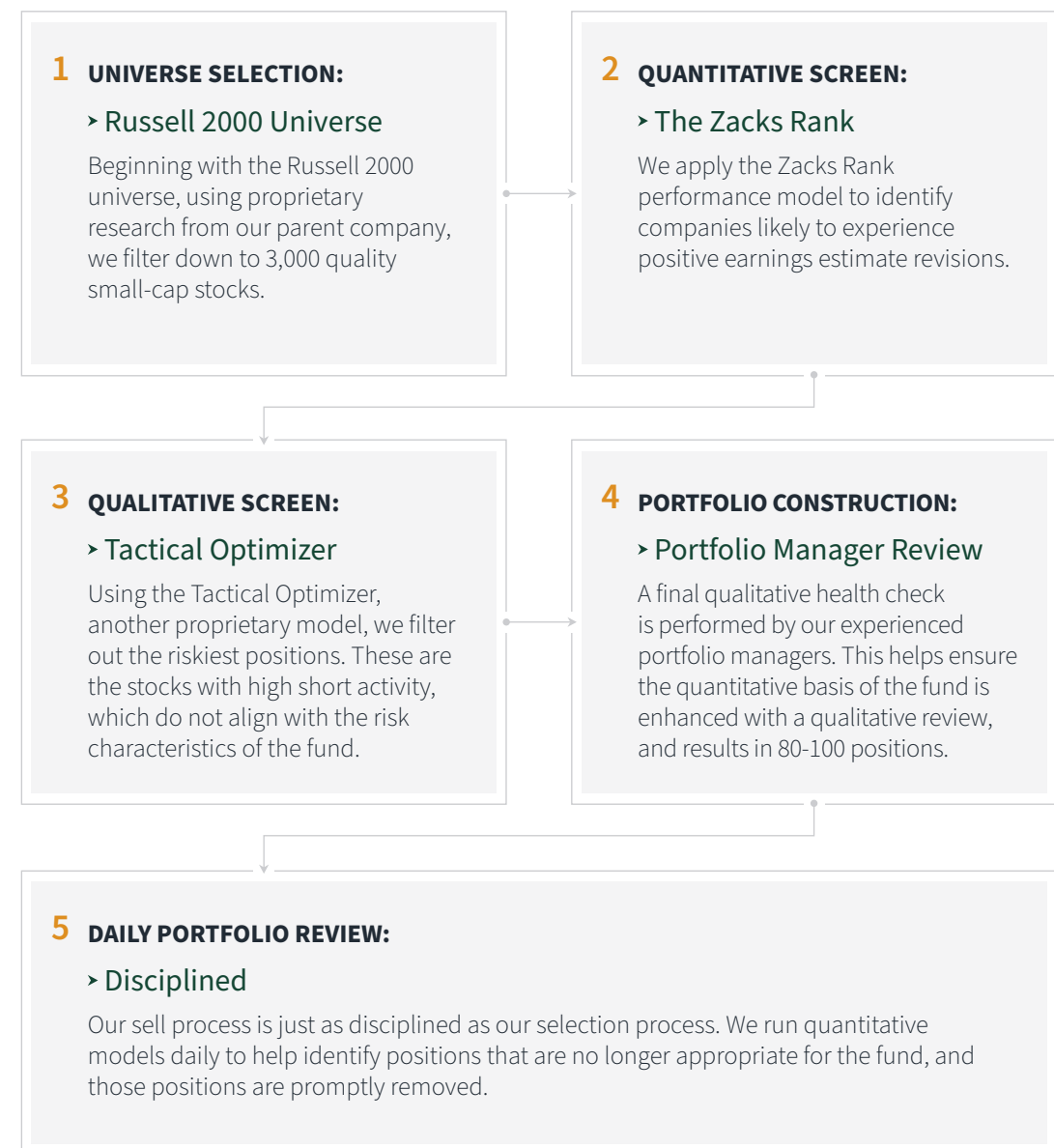
The Zacks Rank is the preeminent model of this kind, using independent research to rank companies based on changing earnings estimate patterns.

Originated by Zacks Investment Research, the parent company of Zacks Investment Management, this proprietary model classifies stocks into five groups according to these four factors:

- **FACTOR 1**
Agreement: The number of analysts revising earnings estimates upward.
- **FACTOR 2**
Magnitude: The degree of increase in those estimate revisions.
- **FACTOR 3**
Upside: The track record of the analysts predicting earnings direction.
- **FACTOR 4**
Surprises: How often the company surpasses earnings expectations on the upside.

OUR PROCESS

The Zacks Small-Cap Core Process





ZACKS SMALL-CAP CORE FUND:

Key Features

Since 2011, the Zacks Small-Cap Core Fund has employed a clear investment discipline based on the extensive research of our parent company, Zacks Investment Research.

“Small-Cap companies can offer the potential for significant gains. Although there is risk involved, given the right catalyst these companies can appreciate in price. So if you are a patient investor looking for potential capital appreciation, then the Zacks Small-Cap Core Fund might be the right investment for you.”

Mitch Zacks
Principal and Senior Portfolio Manager

OBJECTIVE

The Fund’s primary investment objective is capital appreciation. The Fund’s Strategy seeks to generate excess returns over the market by implementing a quantitative investment process to select small-cap stocks with strong potential for capital appreciation.

Characteristics

- › **Exposure:** Small-cap companies with attractive risk-return characteristics
- › **Growth Potential:** High total return potential through small-cap exposure
- › **Process:** Build on Zacks research-driven investment process
- › **Risk Management:** Risk optimizer and disciplined sell process

Fund Details

Ticker (Institutional)	ZSCIX
Ticker (Investor)	ZSCCX
Cusip (Institutional)	46141P313
Cusip (Investor)	461418 428
Minimum Initial Investment	\$2,500
Min. Subsequent Investment	\$500
IRA Minimum	\$1,000
Inception Date	6/30/2011
Gross Expense Ratio	1.54%
Net Expense Ratio	1.39%

OUR TEAM

The Team Behind the Small-Cap Core Fund

The professionals below represent the expertise, experience and scholarly research that have come to define Zacks Investment Management. The Small-Cap Core Fund relies on these portfolio management, research and analysis teams, as well as the proprietary models and processes that they have developed.

PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM

Mitch Zacks, MBA

Principal and Senior Portfolio Manager

- › BA, Economics, Yale University
- › MBA, Analytic Finance, University of Chicago

Mitch Zacks is President of Zacks Investment Management, Senior Portfolio Manager, a member of the Investment Policy Committee, and the firm's primary expert on quantitative investing.

With over 22 years of investment experience, Mitch is principally involved in the engineering of the strategies that define Zacks, and he has personally developed many of the proprietary models implemented within those strategies.

Prior to joining Zacks, Mitch was an investment banking analyst with Lazard Frères. He has become widely recognized as an expert on corporate earnings, having written two books on quantitative investment strategies: "Ahead of the Market", which details the Zacks method for spotting winning stocks early in any cycle, and "The Little Book of Stock Market Profits: The Best Strategies of All Time Made Better," which was one of the top selling investment books in its publishing year. He has written a weekly column for the Chicago-Sun Times and currently produces a popular report, Mitch on the Markets.

Manish Jain

Portfolio Manager

- › 27 years of experience
- › Head of all fixed income strategies at Zacks Investment Management
- › Expert in corporate, government and municipal bonds as well as preferred stocks, MLPs, and other income-producing investments
- › BA, Finance, Michigan State University

PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT RESEARCH TEAM

Prasanth Sankar, Ph.D.

Assistant Portfolio Manager

- › 13 years of experience
- › BA, Physics, Indian Institute of Technology
- › Ph.D., Theoretical Physics, University of Illinois

Atanu Ghosh, MBA, CFA

Assistant Portfolio Manager

- › 15 years of experience
- › MBA, Washington University, St. Louis
- › BA, Computer Science, Jadavpur University
- › Chartered Financial Analyst

Tony Zhang, MBA, Ph.D., CFA

Quantitative Analyst

- › 6 years experience
- › MBA, Analytical Finance and Strategy, University of Chicago
- › Ph.D., Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH TEAM

Junkai Qjan, Ph.D.

Gowtham Selvi, M.Sc.

EQUITY INDEXING TEAM

Junjie Ju, MBA

Tharake Wijenayae, Ph.D.

FIRM OVERVIEW AND HISTORY

Zacks History and Legacy

To trace the history of Zacks is to draw a through-line from one of one of today's largest independent equity research providers, through 40 years of pioneering studies, to Wall Street's original think tank.

The Origins of Zacks Investment Research

In 1978, after receiving his doctorate from MIT, Len Zacks was the first to document the value of earnings estimate revisions within the stock selection process.

As time went on, his seminal article proved to be both accurate and influential. Zacks estimate revisions studies have become the most powerful indicator in forecasting material changes in earnings, and earnings have continued to be the most important fundamental factor affecting stock prices. Zacks Investment Management became synonymous with earnings estimate revisions analysis, and began originating concepts and innovations such as:

- ▶ EPS surprise, now widely used in the investment industry
- ▶ The Zacks Performance Rank, a proprietary stock-ranking model and the core of the Zacks Investment Philosophy
- ▶ Numerous proprietary quantitative models

Zacks Investment Research is now one of the largest providers of independent research in the U.S., with a litany of Ph.D.s and other analysts involved in developing and refining models, assessing data and conducting research in order to form new insights into the investment process.

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ZACKS INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT:

Born on Research

In 1992, Zacks Investment Management was established as a wholly owned subsidiary of Zacks Investment Research. As a boutique wealth management firm, we apply the time-tested insights of our parent company to create models like the Zacks Small-Cap Core Fund.

Since our inception, Zacks Investment Management has been dedicated to delivering results for our clients by seeking excess returns over standard benchmarks within a risk-controlled framework.

Ultimately, our active management approach and bottom-up fundamental stock selection process were built upon the very discoveries that changed the industry over 40 years ago, and have generated exceptional results ever since. Within the Zacks Small-Cap Core Fund, we will continue to adhere to this discipline in all market cycles.

"The Zacks legacy was born on research and it has been proven through history. We're an independent family business and to this day we're proud to share the fruits of our expert insights for the benefit of our clients."

Mitch Zacks
Principal and Senior Portfolio Manager

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Zacks Investment Management

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PRIMARY RISK CONSIDERATIONS

An investment in the Fund is subject to risks, and you could lose money on your investment. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objectives. There is a risk that the value of the Fund's stocks may fall due to general market and economic conditions and perceptions regarding the industries and or companies in which the Fund is invested.

There are risks involved in selling stocks short including the possibility that the Fund may not be able to close out a short position at a particular time or at a particular price. The Fund's loss on a short sale is limited only by the maximum attainable price of the security (which could be limitless) less the price the Fund paid for the security at the time it was borrowed.

The Fund may invest in stocks of companies of any size. Small-cap stocks may exhibit more erratic market and trading movements than larger stocks or the overall market. Small-cap companies can also be less liquid, making it more difficult for the managers to sell positions at the time they may wish.

Please read the prospectus for more detailed information.

Other Risks to Consider:

Equity Risk. The value of the securities held by the Fund may fall due to general market and economic conditions, perceptions regarding the industries in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate, or factors relating to specific companies in which the Fund invests. For example, an adverse event, such as an unfavorable earnings report, may depress the value of equity securities of an issuer held by the Fund; the price of common stock of an issuer may be particularly sensitive to general movements in the stock market; or a drop in the stock market may depress the price of most or all of the common stocks and other equity securities held by the Fund. The stock market has been subject to significant volatility recently which has increased the risk associated with an investment in the Fund. Common stock of an issuer in the Fund's portfolio may decline in price if the issuer fails to make anticipated dividend payments because, among other reasons, the issuer of the security experiences a decline in its financial condition. Common stock is subordinated to preferred stocks, bonds and other debt instruments in a company's capital structure, in terms of priority to corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater dividend risk than preferred stocks or debt instruments of such issuers. In addition, while broad market measures of common stocks have historically generated higher average returns than fixed income securities, common stocks have also experienced significantly more volatility in those returns.

Small-Cap Companies Risk. The securities of small-cap companies may be subject to more abrupt or erratic market movements and may have lower trading volumes or more erratic trading than securities of larger-sized companies or the market averages in general. In addition, such companies typically are subject to a greater degree of change in earnings and business prospects than are larger-sized, more established companies.

Foreign Investment Risk. Although the Fund will limit its investment in securities of foreign issuers to ADRs and Canadian issuers, the Fund's investments in non-U.S. issuers may involve unique risks compared to investing in securities of U.S. issuers. Adverse political, economic or social developments could undermine the value of the Fund's investments or prevent the Fund from realizing the full value of its investments. Financial reporting standards for companies based in foreign markets differ from those in the United States. Finally, the value of the currency of the country in which the Fund has invested could decline relative to the value of the U.S. dollar, which may affect the value of the investment to U.S. investors. In addition, the underlying issuers of certain depository receipts, particularly unsponsored or unregistered depository receipts, are under no obligation to distribute shareholder communications to the holders of such receipts, or to pass through to them any voting rights with respect to the deposited securities.

¹ Large-Cap Stocks are represented by the Russell 1000 Index. The Russell 1000 Index is a well-known, unmanaged index of the prices of 1000 large-company common stocks selected by Russell. The Russell 1000 Index assumes reinvestment of dividends but does not reflect advisory fees. An investor cannot invest directly in an index. The volatility of the benchmark may be materially different from the individual performance obtained by a specific investor.

² Small-Cap Stocks are represented by the Russell 2000 Index. The Russell 2000 Index is a well-known, unmanaged index of the prices of 2000 small-cap common stocks selected by Russell. The Russell 2000 Index assumes reinvestment of dividends but does not reflect advisory fees. An investor cannot invest directly in an index. The volatility of the benchmark may be materially different from the individual performance obtained by a specific investor. For more complete information on risks associated with this Fund, please read the prospectus and statement of additional information carefully.

Investors should consider the investment objectives and policies, risk considerations, charges and ongoing expenses of the Fund carefully before investing. The prospectus contains this and other information relevant to an investment in the Fund. The prospectus can be obtained by calling 1-888-453-4003. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.

The Zacks Small-Cap Core Fund is distributed by IMST Distributors, LLC.

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