

Brown Advisory Flexible Equity Strategy

We believe that our strategy of investing in companies with attractive business economics, shareholder-oriented managements and the potential for future growth, purchased at bargain prices, can outperform the S&P 500 Index with less risk over a full market cycle.



MANEESH BAJAJ, CFA
Portfolio Manager

February 2020 Monthly Report

Performance Contributors

TOP FIVE CONTRIBUTORS*

TICKER	NAME	SECTOR	AVG. WEIGHT (%)	MONTHLY RETURN (%)	CONTRIBUTION TO RETURN (%)
SBAC	SBA Communications Corp. Class A	Real Estate	1.74	6.22	0.05
BABA	Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. Sponsored ADR	Consumer Discretionary	2.91	0.68	0.03
TJX	TJX Companies Inc	Consumer Discretionary	0.92	1.29	0.00
TSM	Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., Ltd. Sponsored ADR	Information Technology	1.21	-0.19	0.00
URI	United Rentals, Inc.	Industrials	1.04	-2.37	-0.02

BOTTOM FIVE CONTRIBUTORS*

TICKER	NAME	SECTOR	AVG. WEIGHT (%)	MONTHLY RETURN (%)	CONTRIBUTION TO RETURN (%)
V	Visa Inc. Class A	Information Technology	6.65	-8.53	-0.55
MA	Mastercard Incorporated Class A	Information Technology	5.94	-8.02	-0.47
BAC	Bank of America Corp	Financials	3.51	-13.19	-0.46
JPM	JPMorgan Chase & Co.	Financials	3.37	-12.28	-0.42
AAPL	Apple Inc.	Information Technology	3.54	-11.44	-0.38

Monthly Portfolio Activity

NEW INVESTMENT

TICKER	NAME	REASON FOR DECISION
DLTR	Dollar Tree, Inc.	We believe the management team has initiatives in place to improve comparable sales and margins at Family Dollar to realize value.

DELETION

TICKER	NAME	REASON FOR DECISION
	None	

Top 10 Equity Holdings (%)

Cash and equivalents: 3.7%

1. Visa, Inc.	6.0	6. Facebook, Inc.	3.8
2. Mastercard, Inc.	5.7	7. Lowe's Companies, Inc.	3.5
3. Alphabet, Inc. (Class A & C) #	5.1	8. Bank of America Corp.	3.2
4. Microsoft Corp.	5.1	9. Apple, Inc.	3.2
5. Berkshire Hathaway, Inc. Cl B	4.0	10. JPMorgan Chase & Co.	3.1

INSIDE THE STRATEGY: FACTS & TYPICAL PORTFOLIO FIGURES

Inception: 12/31/1984	Top 10 Weight: 30%–50%
Benchmark: S&P 500® Index	Position Size: 1%–6%, max. 8%
Portfolio: 35–45 Holdings	Cash Position: 0%–5%, max. 10%

Portfolio Comments

The Brown Advisory Flexible Equity Composite fell 7.9% (net of fees) during February, outperforming its benchmark, the S&P 500® Index, which was down 8.2%.

Bullish sentiment turned sharply negative, as concerns about the novel coronavirus triggered a powerful selloff in the final week of the month.

The consumer discretionary sector was one of the portfolio's best performers during the month. A relative overweight to the sector, in addition to strong fourth-quarter earnings from several holdings, contributed positively to performance. TJX Companies was a top contributor to performance for the month after reporting double-digit EPS growth and strong same-store sales. Real estate company, SBA Communications, was the top contributor to performance for the month after reporting solid earnings that exceeded consensus estimates.

The financials and technology sectors were the portfolio's weakest performers during the month, although all sectors struggled in the selloff. Within the financial sector, Ameriprise Financial and Bank of America were the weakest performers, falling approximately 14% and 13% respectively. Within the information technology sector, global payment networks, Visa and Mastercard, were the portfolio's top detractors to performance, with both holdings down approximately 8.5% and 8% respectively. Global recession fears in the wake of the novel coronavirus situation, as well as a sharp decline in interest rates across the yield curve, led those sectors lower in late February.

There was one new addition to the strategy in February. Dollar Tree, an American chain operating a variety of discount stores, has faced challenges delivering on expected synergies from their 2015 acquisition of Family Dollar. The stock sold off following disappointing margins at Family Dollar. We believe the management team has initiatives in place to improve comparable sales and margins at Family Dollar to realize value. [B](#)

*Source: FactSet®. The information provided in this material is not intended to be and should not be considered to be a recommendation or suggestion to engage in or refrain from a particular course of action or to make or hold a particular investment or pursue a particular investment strategy, including whether or not to buy, sell, or hold any of the securities mentioned. It should not be assumed that investments in such securities have been or will be profitable. References to specific securities are for illustrative purposes only and do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold or recommended for advisory clients. Sectors are based on the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS®) classification system. The security returns listed represent the period of when the security was held during the month. Top five and bottom five contributors exclude cash and cash equivalents. Contribution to return is calculated by multiplying a security's beginning weight in the portfolio by the security's return on a daily basis, and geometrically linking the return for the reporting period. The top 10 equity holdings include cash and equivalents #Alphabet Inc. represents a 2.2% holding in Class A shares of the stock and a 2.9% holding in Class C shares of the stock. Numbers may not total due to rounding. The portfolio information provided is based on a representative Flexible Equity account and is provided as supplemental information. This representative account may differ from specific client portfolios. Please see disclosure statements at the end of this presentation for additional information and for a complete list of terms and definitions. Past performance is not indicative of future results. The composite performance shown above reflects the Flexible Equity Composite, managed by Brown Advisory Institutional. Brown Advisory Institutional is a GIPS Compliant firm and is a division of Brown Advisory LLC. Please see the Brown Advisory Flexible Equity disclosure statement at the end of this presentation for a GIPS compliant presentation.

Brown Advisory Institutional Flexible Equity Composite

Year	Composite Total Gross Returns (%)	Composite Total Net Returns (%)	Benchmark Returns (%)	Composite 3-Yr Annualized Standard Deviation (%)	Benchmark 3-Yr Annualized Standard Deviation (%)	Portfolios in Composite at End of Year	Composite Dispersion (%)	Composite Assets (\$USD Millions)*	GIPS Firm Assets (\$USD Millions)*
2018	-3.3	-3.7	-4.4	12.3	10.8	41	0.3	2,263	30,529
2017	25.1	24.6	21.8	11.4	9.9	50	0.3	2,912	33,155
2016	9.9	9.4	12.0	12.1	10.6	52	0.2	2,883	30,417
2015	-2.0	-2.4	1.4	11.1	10.5	56	0.2	2,686	43,746
2014	14.0	13.5	13.7	9.2	9.0	49	0.2	3,195	44,772
2013	37.5	36.9	32.4	11.9	11.9	44	0.4	2,247	40,739
2012	19.9	19.5	16.0	14.6	15.1	40	0.3	1,818	26,794
2011	5.8	5.4	2.1	18.5	18.7	43	1.1	1,714	19,962
2010	11.1	10.3	15.1	22.7	21.9	45	0.7	1,811	16,859
2009	37.1	36.0	26.5	21.3	19.6	48	3.4	1,905	11,058
2008	-36.5	-37.0	-37.0	16.6	15.1	51	1.9	1,541	8,547

*Returns prior to 2008 were earned at ABIM; therefore, firm assets are not applicable

Brown Advisory Institutional claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. Brown Advisory Institutional has been independently verified for the periods from January 1, 1993 through December 31, 2018. The Verification reports are available upon request. Verification assesses whether (1) the firm has complied with all the composite construction requirements of the GIPS standards on a firm-wide basis and (2) the firm's policies and procedures are designed to calculate and present performance in compliance with the GIPS standards. Verification does not ensure the accuracy of any specific composite presentation. GIPS® is a registered trademark owned by CFA Institute.

1. *For the purpose of complying with the GIPS standards, the firm is defined as Brown Advisory Institutional, the Institutional and Balanced Institutional asset management divisions of Brown Advisory. As of July 1, 2016, the firm was redefined to exclude the Brown Advisory Private Client division, due to an evolution of the three distinct business lines.
2. The Institutional Flexible Equity Composite includes all actual, discretionary, institutional accounts with a flexible value equity objective of 100%. The strategy seeks bargains in "value" as well as "growth" stocks and invests primarily in the common stock of domestic companies with market capitalizations greater than \$2 billion at the time of purchase. As of January 1, 2013, the minimum account market value required for composite inclusion is \$1.5 million. Prior to August 2013 the name of this composite was Institutional Flexible Value. The strategy remains the same.
3. This composite was created in 1985.
4. The benchmark is the S&P 500® Index. The S&P 500 Index is a capitalization-weighted index of 500 stocks that is designed to measure performance of the broad domestic economy through changes in the aggregate market value of 500 stocks representing all major industries. Index returns assume reinvestment of dividends and do not reflect any fees or expenses. An investor cannot invest directly into an index. Benchmark returns are not covered by the report of the independent verifiers. Standard & Poor's, S&P®, and S&P 500® are registered trademarks of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC ("S&P"), a subsidiary of S&P Global Inc.
5. The composite dispersion presented is an equal-weighted standard deviation of portfolio returns calculated for the accounts in the composite for the entire calendar year period.
6. Between October 2006 and December 2008, a significant cash flow policy was adopted for this composite. A significant cash flow is defined as a single flow of cash or securities of more than 25% of the portfolio's market value at prior month end. Accounts with significant cash flows are excluded from the composite for a grace period, defined as the month during which the flow occurred. Additional information regarding significant cash flow policies are available upon request.
7. Gross-of-fees performance returns are presented before management fees but after all trading commissions, and gross of foreign withholding taxes (if applicable). Net-of-fee performance returns reflect the deduction of actual management fees and all trading commissions. Other expenses can reduce returns to investors. Prior to 2011, net performance is based on a model fee using the highest fee in effect, 0.75% applied quarterly. The Actual fees may vary, depending on, among other things, the applicable fee schedule and portfolio size. The fee schedule is as follows: 0.60% on the first \$25 million; 0.50% on the next \$25 million; 0.45% on the next \$50 million; and 0.40% on the balance over \$100 million. For periods after 2011 actual fees are used to calculate net returns. Actual fees paid by accounts in the composite may differ from the current fee schedule.

8. The three-year annualized ex-post standard deviation measures the variability of the composite (using gross returns) and the benchmark for the 36-month period ended on December 31.
9. Valuations and performance returns are computed and stated in U.S. Dollars. All returns reflect the reinvestment of income and other earnings.
10. A complete list of composite descriptions, policies for valuing portfolios, calculating performance, and preparing compliant presentations are available upon request.
11. Past performance does not indicate future results.
12. This piece is provided for informational purposes only and should not be construed as a research report, a recommendation or suggestion to engage in or refrain from a particular course of action or to make or hold a particular investment or pursue a particular investment strategy, including whether or not to buy, sell or hold any of the securities mentioned, including any mutual fund managed by Brown Advisory.

Disclosures

Past performance is not a guarantee of future performance and you may not get back the amount invested.

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The S&P 500® Index represents the large-cap segment of the U.S. equity markets and consists of approximately 500 leading companies in leading industries of the U.S. economy. Criteria evaluated include market capitalization, financial viability, liquidity, public float, sector representation and corporate structure. An index constituent must also be considered a U.S. company. An investor cannot invest directly into an index. S&P® and S&P 500® are registered trademarks of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC. FactSet® is a registered trademark of FactSet Research Systems, Inc. Sectors are based on the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS®) classification system. GICS® is a registered trademark of MSCI and Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC.

Terms and Definitions for Representative Account Calculations

The **Average Weight** of a position or sector refers to the daily average for the period covered in this report of a stock's value as a percentage of the portfolio. The **Total Return** of an equity security is the sum of the return from price movement and the return due to dividend payments or other sources of income. Standard benchmark-, sector- and portfolio-level returns are the sums of the weights of each security multiplied by its return, summed and calculated daily and summed over the period covered by the report or by an otherwise-noted period. **Contribution to Return** is calculated by multiplying a security's beginning portfolio weight by its daily return and geometrically linking the security's daily contribution to return over the entire reporting period.