# Brown Advisory Large-Cap Sustainable Growth Strategy

**Brown** ADVISORY Thoughtful Investing.

We seek competitive risk-adjusted returns over a full market cycle through a concentrated portfolio of companies that we believe offer durable fundamental strengths, sustainable competitive advantages and compelling valuations.

# February 2020 Monthly Report

## **Performance Contributors** TOP FIVE CONTRIBUTORS\*

TICKER NAME		SECTOR	AVG. WEIGHT (%)	MONTHLY RETURN (%)	CONTRIBUTION TO RETURN (%)	
ETSY	Etsy, Inc.	Consumer Discretionary	1.53	18.44	0.27	
TJX	TJX Companies Inc	Consumer Discretionary	2.62	1.29	0.02	
ADI	Analog Devices, Inc.	Information Technology	2.28	-0.64	-0.04	
ADBE	Adobe Inc.	Information Technology	3.26	-1.71	-0.06	
BLL	Ball Corporation	Materials	2.28	-2.38	-0.07	

#### **BOTTOM FIVE CONTRIBUTORS\***

TICKER NAME		SECTOR	AVG. WEIGHT (%)	MONTHLY RETURN (%)	CONTRIBUTION TO RETURN (%)	
DHR	Danaher Corporation	Health Care	4.44	-10.15	-0.44	
V	Visa Inc. Class A	Information Technology	4.64	-8.65	-0.40	
NDSN	Nordson Corporation	Industrials	2.66	-13.95	-0.36	
AMZN	Amazon.com, Inc.	Consumer Discretionary	4.33	-6.22	-0.27	
ТМО	Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.	Health Care	3.80	-7.17	-0.27	

# Monthly Portfolio Activity

## **NEW INVESTMENTS**

TICKER		REASON FOR DECISION			
	None				

#### DELETION

TICKER	NAME	REASON FOR DECISION
	None	

10. Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc.

5.0

4.7

4.5

4.3

4.3

# Top 10 Equity Holdings (%)

2. American Tower Corp.

Microsoft Corp.

3. Visa, Inc. Class A

Amazon.com, Inc.

4. Danaher Corp.

		Cash and equivalents: 1.5%			
6.	Alphabet. Inc. Class A	4.1			
7.	Intuit, Inc.	4.1			
8.	Verisk Analytics, Inc.	3.9			
9.	UnitedHealth Group, Inc.	3.6			

KARINA FUNK, CFA





**DAVID POWELL, CFA** Portfolio Manager

#### INSIDE THE STRATEGY: FACTS & TYPICAL PORTFOLIO FIGURES

Inception: 12/31/2009	Top 10 Weight: 35%-50%
Benchmark: Russell 1000° Growth Index	Position Size: 1%-5%
Portfolio: 30–40 Holdings	Cash Position: 2%-5%

# Portfolio Comments

The Brown Advisory Large-Cap Sustainable Growth Composite fell 5.6% (net of fees) during February, outperforming its benchmark, the Russell 1000® Growth Index, which fell 6.8%.

On a relative basis, not owing Apple was the biggest positive contributor to performance, as Apple was down approximately 11% on novel coronavirus related concerns regarding manufacturing and sales in China. On the other hand, Etsy has a resilient supply chain, as makers already work from home. Etsy also reported solid quarterly earnings in late February. Our position in Etsy returned approximately 18%, and was a large positive contributor in absolute terms and also a large positive contributor to relative performance. TJX Companies was the only other holding in the strategy that had a positive return, up approximately 1%, after announcing positive quarterly earnings, an increased dividend and a stock buyback plan.

All of our other holdings fell with the broader market, some more than others. Nordson, a multinational adhesive and sealant company, was the worst performer in the portfolio for the month from an absolute return perspective, down approximately 14% after sluggish first-quarter earnings and revenues missed analysts' estimates.

With the novel coronavirus still roiling the markets day by day, we remain focused on the long-term investment theses for our company holdings, while being keenly aware that opportunities to invest in pipeline companies could occur throughout this volatility. B

<sup>\*</sup>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 security returns listed represent the period of when 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. The portfolio information provided is based on a representative Large-Cap Sustainable Growth 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 Large-Cap Sustainable Growth 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 Large-Cap Sustainable Growth disclosure statement at the end of this presentation for a GIPS compliant presentation.

Brown Advisory Large-Cap Sustainable Growth 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	5.4	4.8	-1.5	11.6	12.1	41	0.2	1,049	30,529
2017	29.1	28.4	30.2	10.6	10.5	32	0.2	762	33,155
2016	6.6	6.0	7.1	11.5	11.2	32	0.1	503	30,417
2015	13.7	13.1	5.7	11.1	10.7	23	0.3	405	43,746
2014	7.1	6.5	13.1	9.9	9.6	25	0.1	303	44,772
2013	34.5	33.7	33.5	12.1	15.5	24	0.2	288	40,739
2012	16.5	15.9	15.3	15.7	15.7	22	0.3	211	26,794
2011	5.4	5.0	2.6	NA	NA	21	0.3	37	19,962
2010	23.5	23.1	16.7	NA	NA	18	N/A	13	16,859

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.

- Institute
  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 Large-Cap Sustainable Growth Composite includes all discretionary portfolios invested in the Sustainable Large Cap Strategy. The strategy invests primarily in large market capitalization companies with financially and environmentally sustainable business models. The minimum account market value required for composite inclusion is \$1.5 million. Prior to 2012, the minimum was \$100,000.
  - 3. This composite was created in 2010. Prior to 3/31/13, the strategy was named Large-Cap Sustainability. Prior to 12/31/2011 the strategy was named Winslow Green Large Cap. No changes have been made to the strategy since inception.
  - 4. The benchmark is the Russell 1000° Growth Index. The Russell 1000° Growth Index measures the performance of the large-cap growth segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes those Russell 1000° Index companies with higher

- price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values. The Russell 1000® Growth Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive and unbiased barometer for the large-cap growth segment. The Index is completely reconstituted annually to ensure new and growing equities are included and that the represented companies continue to reflect growth characteristics. The Russell 1000® Growth index and Russell® are trademarks/service marks of the London Stock Exchange Group companies. An investor cannot invest directly into an index. Benchmark returns are not covered by the report of the independent verifiers.
- 5. The dispersion of annual returns is measured by the equal weighted standard deviation of portfolio returns. The composite dispersion is not applicable (N/A) for periods where there were five or fewer accounts in the composite for the entire period.
- 6. 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. The standard management fee schedule is as follows: 0.80% on the first \$10 million; 0.65% on the next \$15 million; 0.50% on the next \$25 million; and 0.40% on the balance over \$50 million. Further information regarding investment advisory fees is described in Part II A of the firm's form ADV. Actual fees paid by accounts in the composite may differ from the current fee schedule.
- 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. The 3 year annualized standard deviation is not
  presented as of December 31, 2010 and December 31, 2011 because 36 monthly returns for the composite were not
  available (NA).
- Valuations and performance returns are computed and stated in U.S. Dollars. All returns reflect the reinvestment of income and other earnings.
- A complete list of composite descriptions, policies for valuing portfolios, calculating performance, and preparing compliant presentations are available upon request.
- 10. Past performance does not indicate future results.
- 11. 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.

The views expressed are those of the author and Brown Advisory as of the date referenced and are subject to change at any time based on market or other conditions. These views are not intended to be and should not be relied upon as investment advice and are not intended to be a forecast of future events or a guarantee of future results. 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

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# **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.