

# NORTHERN FUNDS

## SMALL CAP INDEX FUND

EQUITY

MUTUAL FUND

AS OF 4Q19

### Investment Objective

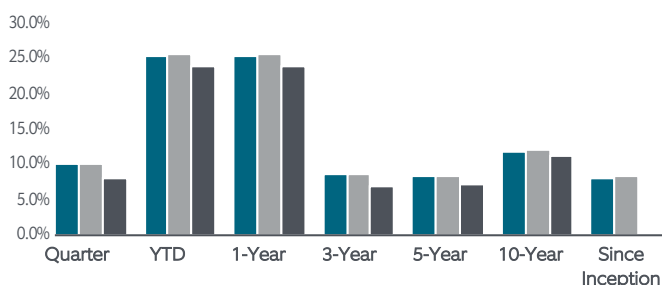
The Fund seeks to provide investment results approximating the aggregate price and dividend performance of the securities included in the Russell 2000® Index.

### Investment Approach

The Fund will invest substantially all (and at least 80%) of its net assets in the equity securities included in the Russell 2000® Index, in weightings that approximate the relative composition of securities contained in the Russell 2000® Index.

### INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE % — AS OF 12/31/19

- Northern Funds Small Cap Index Fund
- Russell 2000 Index<sup>1</sup>
- Morningstar Category Avg Small Blend



#### Average Annual Returns

	9.82	25.22	25.22	8.44	8.08	11.62	7.89
■ Fund	9.82	25.22	25.22	8.44	8.08	11.62	7.89
■ Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	9.94	25.52	25.52	8.59	8.23	11.83	8.36
■ Morningstar	8.02	23.75	23.75	6.84	7.12	11.17	—

**Performance quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than that shown here. Performance data current to the most recent month end is available by calling 800-595-9111.**

Northern Trust Investments, Inc. has contractually agreed to reimburse a portion of the operating expenses of the Fund (other than certain excepted expenses, i.e., acquired fund fees and expenses; the compensation paid to each Independent Trustee of the Trust; expenses of third party consultants engaged by the Board of Trustees; membership dues paid to the Investment Company Institute and Mutual Fund Directors Forum; expenses in connection with the negotiation and renewal of the revolving credit facility; and extraordinary expense and interest) to the extent the "Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses" exceed 0.15%. The "Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Expense Reimbursement" may be higher than the contractual limitation as a result of the excepted expenses that are not reimbursed. This contractual limitation may not be terminated before July 31, 2020 without the approval of the Board of Trustees. In the absence of contractual expense reimbursements, yield, total return, growth since inception and dividends would have been reduced. Total return is based on net change in NAV assuming reinvestment of distributions.

Please see back page for calendar year returns, index definitions and investment terms.

### FUND OVERVIEW

	Fund
Benchmark/Index	Russell 2000 Index <sup>1</sup>
Morningstar Category	Small Blend
Inception Date	9/3/99
Total Net Assets	\$1.3 Billion
Symbol/CUSIP	NSIDX
Dividend Schedule	Annually
Expense Ratio - Gross (%)	0.19
Expense Ratio - Net (%)	0.15

The Gross and Net Expense Ratios are as of the most recent prospectus. The Net Expense Ratio includes contractual expense reimbursements that, if not extended, will end on July 31, 2020.

### FUND CHARACTERISTICS

	Fund	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>
Number of Holdings	1,943	1,994
Weighted Average Market Cap (\$M)	2,500.4	2,464.3
Return on Equity (%)	4.1	4.1
Trailing 12-month Price-to-Earnings Ratio	20.9	20.8
Price-to-Book Ratio	2.2	2.2
Annual Portfolio Turnover as of 3/31/19 (%)	20.8	

### PERFORMANCE AND RISK CHARACTERISTICS (3 YR)

	Fund
Beta	1.00
Information Ratio	-1.18
Upside Capture Ratio	99.45
Downside Capture Ratio	100.23

Above risk characteristics are based on 3-year time period.

NOT FDIC INSURED

MAY LOSE VALUE

NO BANK GUARANTEE

NORTHERN FUNDS  
SMALL CAP INDEX FUND

CALENDAR YEAR RETURNS %

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Small Cap Index Fund	25.22	-11.14	14.59	21.17	-4.56	4.69	38.65	16.20	-4.49	26.42
Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	25.52	-11.01	14.65	21.31	-4.41	4.89	38.82	16.35	-4.18	26.85
Morningstar Small Blend	23.75	-12.72	12.28	20.78	-5.38	3.79	37.39	15.46	-4.07	25.61

Performance quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results.

TOP HOLDINGS %

	Fund
Novocure Ltd.	0.4
Medicines Company	0.3
Generac Holdings Inc.	0.3
Lumentum Holdings, Inc.	0.3
Teladoc Health, Inc.	0.3
Arrowhead Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	0.3
Haemonetics Corporation	0.3
Performance Food Group Company	0.3
Trex Company, Inc.	0.3
Amedisys, Inc.	0.3

SECTOR

ALLOCATION %	Fund	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>
Health Care	18.2	18.2
Financials	17.8	17.7
Industrials	15.9	15.8
Information Technology	13.6	13.6
Consumer Discretionary	10.8	10.9
Real Estate	7.7	7.8
Materials	3.9	3.9
Utilities	3.7	3.7
Energy	3.2	3.2
Consumer Staples	3.0	3.0
Communication Services	2.3	2.3

ASSET ALLOCATION %

	Fund
Stocks	98.6
Cash	1.4

PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

BRENT REEDER

Began career in 1993 | With Northern Trust since 1993

Mr. Reeder received a B.A. in economics from DePauw University and an MBA in finance from DePaul University. He is an Associated Person with the National Futures Association.

YAIR A. WALNY\*, CFA®

Began career in 2008 | With Northern Trust since 2009

Mr. Walny received a B.S. in economics from the University of Illinois at Chicago. He is an active CFA® charterholder, and a member of the CFA® Institute and CFA® Society of Chicago.

\*Portfolio Manager added effective July 31, 2019.

DISCLOSURE AND RISKS

All data is as of date indicated and subject to change.

**Equity Risk:** Equity securities (stocks) are more volatile and carry more risk than other forms of investments, including investments in high-grade fixed-income securities. The net asset value per share of this Fund will fluctuate as the value of the securities in the portfolio changes.

**Index Fund Risk:** The performance of the Fund is expected to be lower than that of the Index because of Fund fees and expenses. It is important to remember that there are risks associated with index investing, including the potential risk of market decline, as well as the risks associated with investing in specific companies.

**Small-Cap Risk:** Small-capitalization funds typically carry additional risks since smaller companies generally have a higher risk of failure. Their stocks are subject to a greater degree of volatility, trade in lower volume and may be less liquid.

DEFINITIONS

<sup>1</sup> Russell 2000® Index is an unmanaged index which measures the performance of the 2,000 smallest of the 3,000 largest U.S. companies, based on market capitalization. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

**Beta:** Beta represents the systematic risk of a portfolio and measures its sensitivity to a benchmark.

**Down Market Capture:** A measure of a managers performance in down markets relative to the market.

**Information Ratio:** A measure of risk-adjusted relative return.

**Price-to-Book Ratio:** A ratio used to compare a stocks market value to its book value. It is calculated by dividing the current price of the stock by the latest quarters book value per share.

**Return on Equity:** Amount of net income returned as a percentage of shareholders equity.

**Trailing 12-month Price-to-Earnings Ratio:** The sum of a companys price-to-earnings. Calculated by taking the current stock price and dividing it by the current earnings per share for the past 12 months.

**Up Market Capture:** A measure of a managers performance in up markets relative to the market.

Please carefully read the prospectus and summary prospectus and consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses of Northern Funds before investing. Call 800-595-9111 to obtain a prospectus and summary prospectus, which contain this and other information about the funds.

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