

# William Blair SICAV - Emerging Markets Small Cap Growth

Class R (USD)

*William Blair*

Portfolio Review

June 2024

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Todd M. McClone, CFA, Partner  
D.J. Neiman, CFA, Partner  
Casey K. Preyss, CFA, Partner  
Portfolio Managers

FOR PROFESSIONAL INVESTORS ONLY

**Market Review**

Global equities advanced in the second quarter (the MSCI ACWI IMI returned +2.38% for the quarter and 10.28% year-to-date in USD terms), despite a shaky start following a shift in market expectations on the number of interest rate cuts from the Federal Reserve. From a global sector perspective, information technology (+10.77% for the quarter and 23.54% year-to-date, as measured by MSCI ACWI IMI) and communication services (+7.64% for the quarter and +19.16%, as measured by the MSCI ACWI IMI) continued to lead. Growth equities outperformed value-oriented equities (the MSCI ACWI IMI Growth returned +5.40% for the quarter and 14.86% year-to-date, while the MSCI ACWI IMI Value returned -0.74% for the quarter and 5.64% year-to-date).

U.S. equities gained (+3.25% for the quarter and 13.41% year-to-date as measured by the MSCI USA IMI) on continued strength from mega-cap technology. A primary focus was the Federal Reserve's hawkish tone following April's release of higher-than-expected inflationary data and robust jobs growth, suggesting fewer rate cuts than anticipated at the start of the year. However, these concerns abated over the quarter as May economic data showed some signs of cooling, with May core CPI reported at 3.4% and core PCE reported at 2.6%, the lowest since March 2021.

European equities were relatively flat during the second quarter (+0.56% for the quarter and +5.38% as measured by the MSCI Europe IMI) in part hampered by volatility from the French election weighing on returns as French equities declined -7.79% during June (as measured by MSCI France IMI). Economic data within Europe was mixed, as

French CPI moved closer to target, just 0.1% off ECB target for lowest annual pace since 2021. Concerns over Spanish core inflation remain, with the metric moving higher for the second straight month on a year-over-year basis. Importantly, the ECB moved forward with its first interest rate cut of 25 basis points. The U.K. posted gains during the quarter (+3.44% for the quarter and +6.38% year-to-date).

Emerging markets posted positive returns (+5.13% for the quarter and +7.41% year-to-date as measured by the MSCI EM IMI) with EM Asia offsetting underperformance in Latin America. Chinese equities gained (+6.80% for the quarter and +4.19% year-to-date as measured by the MSCI China IMI index), helped by initiatives to aid the struggling property market. Taiwan and India were the top performers within Asia ex-Japan (+13.46% for the quarter and 26.09% year-to-date as measured by MSCI Taiwan IMI; +12.01% for the quarter and 17.50% year-to-date as measured by MSCI India IMI;). Latin America returns declined (-12.63% for the quarter and -15.82% year-to-date as measured by the MSCI EM Latin America IMI), with weakness from Mexico and Brazil (-16.35% for the quarter and -15.32% year-to-date as measured by MSCI Mexico IMI; -12.92% for the quarter and -18.87% year-to-date as measured by MSCI Brazil IMI). EMEA was positive (+2.05% for the quarter and 3.46% year-to-date as measured by the MSCI EM EMEA IMI), with strength from Turkey (+16.33% for the quarter and +29.63% year-to-date as measured by MSCI Turkey IMI) and South Africa (+12.68% for the quarter and +5.39% year-to-date as measured by MSCI South Africa IMI).

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2Q**Performance**

The outperformance versus MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap (net) during the quarter was driven by a combination of allocation and stock selection effects. Strong stock selection within the industrials, real estate and information technology sectors coupled with the industrials overweighting were the most notable contributors to relative performance.

Within industrials, electrical equipment companies, in particular HD Hyundai Electric (HDHE) and ABB India, bolstered relative results. HDHE is a manufacturer of power transformers and equipment. The stock continued to accelerate on the back of the company's strong financial results and growth outlook, driven by exports into the North American and Middle East markets. HDHE is a key beneficiary of investments directed to upgrade and expand the grid due to higher penetration of EVs, renewable energy, and the rapid growth in AI data centers. ABB India is a 75% owned subsidiary of ABB Group, a global leader in automation, and it is benefitting from ongoing electrification and automation efforts in India with a broad set of opportunities. The stock outperformance was driven by robust results that exceeded consensus expectations. The company delivered strong order growth and margin expansion, as it benefited from favorable mix and positive operating leverage.

Godrej Properties drove the outperformance within real estate. The company has a strong brand and proven execution and is benefiting from the ongoing property sector consolidation in India and a residential real estate cycle upturn. The stock accelerated as the company

delivered record quarterly sales growth and robust presales guidance for FY25.

Within information technology, ASPEED was a significant contributor to relative results. ASPEED is a niche dominator in our view with roughly 65% market share in baseboard management controllers (BMC). The stock was boosted by the company's stronger-than-expected revenue growth amid general server demand recovery and upbeat management guidance on the back of increasing AI demand, improved mix, new customers for mini BMC, progress on security chip development, and higher content in new Nvidia servers.

Partially mitigating these positive effects was weak stock selection within financials and consumer discretionary. Financials performance was dragged down by bank holdings, in particular Bank Negara Indonesia Persero Tbk Pt and Gentera Sab De Cv. Bank Negara Indonesia Persero is the 4th largest bank and the 3rd largest SOE bank in Indonesia. The stock was dragged down by the ongoing pressure on net interest margin driven by higher interest rates and lower loan yield, which suffer from the bank's continued focus on high quality loans and increased competition in SME segment. Gentera operates as a bank and is the largest microfinance company in Latin America. The stock weakened after presidential election results due to market concerns about heightened regulatory risks for banks, notably around potential higher taxes and fee and interest rates caps.

Mitra Adiperkasa and Cyrela Brazil Realty were notable detractors within the consumer discretionary sector. Mitra Adiperkasa operates department stores and specialty stores in Indonesia. The stock declined as the company delivered below-consensus same-store sales growth and

net profit, which was negatively impacted by higher finance costs and foreign-exchange loss. Cyrela Brazil Realty is a leading mid/high-income homebuilder in Brazil, with operations concentrated in the country's key metropolitan areas. The outlook for higher interest rates in Brazil weighed on this highly rates-sensitive stock.

### **Positioning**

During the period, the increase to industrials sector weighting was the most notable change from a sector perspective. Within industrials, electrical equipment weighting was augmented with the purchase of Henan Pinggao Electric and Xuji Electric. Henan Pinggao is a power grid equipment maker specialized in the gas-insulated system utilized in ultra-high voltage (UHV) and high voltage transmission lines. We expect Pinggao to be a key beneficiary of China's accelerated approval and construction of UHV projects in 2024 and 2025. In addition, Pinggao has witnessed substantial recovery in its distribution products and international business since 2023, and we expect the overseas strong demand and order inflow to support the company's higher-than-expected growth and profitability. Xuji Electric is the grid automation equipment maker in China, which we believe is well positioned to benefit from China's UHV construction upcycle and grid digitalization investments from the next Five-Year Plan.

Machinery exposure was also increased with the purchase Anhui Heli Co and Escorts Kubota. Anhui Heli is a leading forklift truck manufacturer in China with a 25% domestic share. We believe the company is well positioned to benefit from electrification and import substitution trends in China, as well as growing overseas demand with exports becoming a key growth driver in the future. Escorts Kubota

is the tractor manufacturer in India with exposure to agriculture, construction, and railway equipment. The company's robust growth outlook is underpinned by improving trends in the domestic tractor industry and tailwinds to construction equipment from government-led infrastructure projects and increased capex.

These increases were funded by reductions to financials and consumer discretionary sectors. Piraeus Financial Holdings and Bank Negara Indonesia Persero were notable liquidations within financials. Piraeus Financial Holdings is the largest bank in Greece with 25% loan market share. We liquidated the position in favor of other opportunities due to market capitalization guidelines. We exited Bank Negara Indonesia due to continued near-term headwinds to funding costs driven by higher interest rates and declining deposits, coupled with lower loan yield driven by mix shift to higher quality loans and increased competition in SME segment.

Within consumer discretionary, we sold Cyrela Brazil Realty and Hisense Home Appliances. Cyrela was sold due to the higher-than-expected interest rates environment in Brazil and its impact on real estate affordability. Hisense Home Appliances is the largest player in China's central air conditioning market with roughly 23% market share. We sold the position due to weaker-than-expected consumer demand in China.

From a geographic perspective, the most notable change was the increase to the India weighting to a larger overweighting and the reduction to the Latin America exposure, primarily through decreases to Mexico and Brazil.

**YTD****Performance**

Outperformance versus MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap (net) year-to-date was driven by a combination of country allocation and stock selection effects. Stock selection was particularly strong within the industrials and materials sectors. Furthermore, healthcare and materials underweightings bolstered allocation effect.

Within industrials, electrical equipment companies, in particular HD Hyundai Electric and ABB India, drove the relative outperformance. HD Hyundai Electric Co (HDHE) Ltd is a manufacturer of power transformers and equipment. The stock was added in the middle of the first quarter and accelerated on the back of the company's strong results and growth outlook, driven by exports into the North American and Middle East markets. ABB India is a leader in automation and is benefitting from ongoing electrification and automation efforts in India with a broad set of opportunities. The stock outperformance was driven by robust results that exceeded consensus expectations in the first half of the year. The company delivered strong order growth and margin expansion, as it benefited from favorable mix and positive operating leverage.

Within materials, Jindal Stainless was a notable contributor to relative performance. Jindal Stainless is India's largest stainless steel manufacturer with over 50% market share in the domestic market. The stock outperformance was underpinned by the company's robust volume growth and outlook, which is aided by opportunities in the domestic market, especially railways and automotive, coupled with the export duty removal, driving volumes in the premium segment.

Partially offsetting these positive effects was negative stock selection within information technology, coupled with the Mexico overweighting and Taiwan underweighting. Within technology, semiconductor holdings were a drag, in particular Hpsp and Global Unichip. In addition, Totvs was a notable detractor to relative sector performance. Hpsp is a front-end, semiconductor equipment company serving high-end logic and foundry end-clients. Weaker-than-expected capex from key clients and disappointing trends regarding expansion into memory weighed on the stock during the period. Global Unichip is a back-end IC design services company. Following a strong share price rally in 2023, the stock weakened in the first quarter of 2024 as the company reported lower-than-expected fourth quarter 2023 results and 2024 guidance due to slower-than-expected ramp-up of new business and relatively high inventory level. Totvs is a leading ERP provider in Brazil and a key beneficiary of the Digital Enterprise 2.0. The stock declined as the company's fourth quarter 2023 results trailed consensus expectations, especially due to weaker margin, and further weakened due to a deteriorated macroeconomic backdrop in Brazil.

**Outlook**

Global equities ended positive for the quarter following sharp declines in April. Markets regained their footing after a hawkish pivot by the Federal Reserve, recalibrating consensus expectations for the number of interest rate cuts this year from three to one. Sector performance was dominated by information technology and communication services, which was particularly evident in the U.S. Not surprisingly, those with exposure to artificial intelligence

continued to outperform, with the Taiwanese stock market benefiting from this theme, as one of the top performing markets globally. Emerging markets' outperformance was also bolstered by India's continued strength coupled with China policymakers' recent initiatives to salvage the failing property market edging Chinese equities into positive territory.

***Regional Outlooks:***

Following higher-than-expected inflationary data and robust jobs growth in the beginning of the quarter, U.S. economic data showed some signs of cooling as core personal consumption expenditures moderated to 2.6% in May. This should help pave the way for the long-anticipated fed funds rate-cut cycle, and we expect an accompanying continuation of the economic expansion.

In Europe, inflationary trends also appear to be moving in the right direction, with the European Central Bank announcing its first rate cut of 25 basis points. Wage growth remains positive in both the U.S. and Europe, which should bode well for continuing domestic demand growth. We are concerned that the political backdrop in Europe may weigh on intermediate-term growth, as evidenced by the result of the French election leaving the government deadlocked. It is difficult to see the growth differential between Europe and the U.S. narrowing anytime soon.

In Japan, a weak yen has weighed on the market and is diluting the positive impact from nominal wage growth and the stock-exchange-led structural reforms. The weakness, largely driven by persistently lower real rates relative to the rest of the world, is causing concern that Japanese inflation may remain above expectations. The need to import food and energy is further deteriorating

consumption while also depressing wage growth in real terms. In the medium term, we would expect the yen to at least stabilize as real rates converge. Further, we continue to witness progress of structural corporate reforms, with more focus on efficient capital allocation and improving shareholder returns.

We remain cautious within China against the backdrop of subpar growth, a challenging property market, and the increasingly difficult and unpredictable regulatory environment. Given that real estate represents the largest portion of household wealth for most of the Chinese population, falling property values have produced a negative wealth effect. While policymakers recently announced initiatives to prevent further deterioration of the property market, it likely is not nearly sizable enough to reignite confidence in the household and business sectors. Valuations may reflect much of this pessimism, but our international and global investment strategies will wait for more concrete signs of property and economic stabilization before broadening our China exposure.

***Spotlight on India:***

With a share of global GDP growth approaching 20%, we view India as one of the strongest markets in the emerging world, and its story continues to improve. Inflation has cooled, interest rates are no longer rising, GDP growth is robust, and capex in both the public and private sectors appears to be entering an upcycle. The country has surpassed Taiwan and Korea to become the second-largest component of the MSCI EM Index.

We have long viewed India as a source of alpha-generating opportunities for our portfolios; India is overrepresented in our quality growth opportunity set, and we have made

countless research visits to the country over the past 20 years.

The first leg of India's multidecade growth story—characterized by an emerging consumer—has evolved to “version 2.0,” centered on building out housing and critical infrastructure. India's residential real estate market is booming, and we expect decades of growth given the massive demand and short supply of housing.

The country has announced a \$35 billion railway expansion plan, substantial investments in power infrastructure, significant improvements to airport infrastructure, and numerous other initiatives that support our positive stance on the industrials sector.

We also maintain our positive outlook for the Indian financial sector. Since 2005, Indian banks have quietly but significantly outperformed the MSCI AC World Banks Index, and we believe there are reasons for continued optimism, since penetration rates for financial products are trending higher and remain very low relative to the rest of the world on an absolute basis.

Justifiably, the Indian market is trading at a premium to the EM universe, which we believe to be sustainable.

### **Research Insights**

Occasionally, we highlight some innovative research insights from our quantitative research team. One area of recent development that we believe can be a powerful breakthrough is the WB improving profitability factor. Our research in this area stems from analyzing the differences between the investment performance of growth versus value styles. As growth investors, we understand the

powerful influence of the valuation factor that drives returns for value-oriented strategies; we acknowledge that we take the risk to actively “*bet against*” it when we believe future growth to be underappreciated.

It is intuitive and fundamentally based that compared with “value” companies, “growth” companies typically demonstrate:

- Higher levels of profitability
- Higher investment growth
- And lower cost of debt

Our long-standing investment focus as growth investors centers on corporate sustainable value creation (SVC), i.e., our definition of quality, or profitable cash flow growth. Ideally, we would like to improve upon demonstrated SVC and better predict future realized SVC to create an even more powerful investment signal by predicting the levels of future investment growth and future profitability.

Improving profitability's origin is based on the premise that a stock's expected return is driven by fundamental characteristics, including current and future investment and future profitability.

Simply put, companies that can invest for growth and do it profitably can generate outsized investment returns. Our improving profitability approach attempts to capture this by identifying the *change* in a company's profitability combined with its investments for growth (R&D, capex)..

Adding this approach has been influential since we find it has many powerful attributes:

- Strengthens the SVC signal, in both duration and magnitude
- Is less volatile than other signals of changing corporate performance, such as earnings revisions
- Has had a low correlation to other factors
- Has demonstrated effectiveness in all economic regimes

Thus, we aim to further reduce the valuation risk inherent in growth investing by better predicting a company's future cash flow growth and the related level of profitability. We believe companies that consistently demonstrate superior attributes should continue to outperform. We believe this should prove effective in all market regimes, which is important given our assumption that the economic and market backdrop for investing will be different during this decade than the last, where growth investing at any cost was rewarded. We expect that the return to a more balanced backdrop will put a premium on the precision of growth investing execution, and we believe we have developed another tool that will be additive to our suite of investment insights.

		QTD	YTD	2023
Regions	AC World Small Cap (DM+EM)	-1.6	2.3	16.8
	Developed Markets (DM)	-2.8	1.5	15.8
	Japan	-5.8	-1.0	13.3
	Europe ex UK	0.1	1.3	16.8
	UK	1.9	3.2	16.3
	USA	-3.6	1.8	17.9
	Emerging Markets (EM)	5.9	7.0	23.9
	Asia	8.3	9.3	24.6
	China	1.9	-5.8	-24.9
	India	19.5	19.9	42.6
	Korea	1.9	2.6	27.8
	Taiwan	6.1	12.1	43.6
	EMEA	4.3	7.7	14.5
	South Africa	15.0	9.8	-4.3
	Latin America	-15.5	-16.7	34.3
	Brazil	-17.2	-20.0	32.3
	Mexico	-18.4	-12.7	45.6
	Frontier Markets (FM)	0.5	4.4	13.5
Size	Large Cap	5.7	8.8	8.9
	Small Cap	5.9	7.0	23.9
Sectors	Communication Svcs	1.2	-2.1	10.0
	Discretionary	6.2	5.3	8.6
	Staples	6.5	3.0	9.4
	Energy	-0.3	0.8	10.7
	Financials	6.8	8.2	25.1
	Healthcare	1.0	-1.4	11.4
	Industrials	11.3	21.4	25.5
	IT	4.8	7.1	53.8
	Materials	6.8	2.0	33.2
	Real Estate	1.1	2.8	7.2
	Utilities	6.1	8.9	17.3
Style	Quality	6.1	11.7	22.1
	Valuation	-7.2	-6.5	-1.7
	Etrend	4.2	16.4	19.6
	Momentum	19.6	31.3	9.2
	Growth	2.0	4.4	11.0

Source: FactSet

**Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results.** Regional performance is based on AC World Small Cap region/country indexes. Sector and style values are based on the MSCI EM Small Cap Index. Size values are based on the MSCI EM Index. Style values reflect the Quintile 1 minus Quintile 5 spread of William Blair's proprietary quantitative models. Based on Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) Sectors. Large Cap and Small Cap based on MSCI Global Investable Market Index Methodology. Data in blue reflects the top 20% (highest) values by region, country, sector, and style. Data in red reflects the bottom 20% (lowest) values by region, country, sector, and style. All index returns are net of dividends. A direct investment in an unmanaged index is not possible. Please refer to the 'Disclosures' section of this document for further information.

<i>Periods ended 30/06/2024</i>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>1 Year</b>	<b>3 Year</b>	<b>5 Year</b>	<b>Since Inception*</b>
William Blair SICAV – Emerging Markets Small Cap Growth Fund (Class R) (net)	6.51%	9.56%	19.43%	-1.04%	10.21%	11.24%
MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap (net)	5.93%	7.04%	20.04%	2.54%	9.99%	10.30%

\*Inception 19/12/2018

*The MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure equity market performance of small cap companies in emerging markets.*

*Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Returns for periods of one year or more are annualized. All charges and fees, except any entry, exit and switching charge, have been taken into account in calculating the Fund's performance. Returns for other share classes will differ from those shown above. The investment return and principal value of an investment in the Fund will fluctuate so that shares, on any given day or when redeemed, may be worth more or less than the original cost. Levels and bases for taxation may change. For the most current month-end performance information, please visit our web site at [sicav.williamblair.com](http://sicav.williamblair.com).*

*Please refer to the 'Important Disclosures' section of this document for further information.*

## Performance Analysis (by sector)

June 2024

The table below shows the calculated sector attribution of the William Blair SICAV - Emerging Markets Small Cap Growth portfolio vs. its benchmark.

### William Blair SICAV - Emerging Markets Small Cap Growth vs. MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap (net)

01/04/2024 to 30/06/2024

	William Blair SICAV - Emerging Markets Small Cap Growth			MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap (net)			Attribution Analysis		
GICS Sector	Average Weight	Total Return	Contrib to Return	Average Weight	Total Return	Contrib to Return	Allocation Effect	Issue Selection Effect	Total Effect
Communication Services	1.0%	7.1%	0.1%	3.7%	1.2%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%
Consumer Discretionary	18.2%	1.3%	0.2%	11.6%	6.2%	0.7%	0.0%	-1.0%	-1.0%
Consumer Staples	9.7%	8.4%	0.8%	6.2%	6.5%	0.4%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%
Energy	1.3%	2.9%	0.0%	1.9%	-0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Financials	10.2%	-1.4%	-0.3%	10.7%	6.8%	0.7%	0.0%	-1.0%	-1.1%
Health Care	3.9%	-2.0%	-0.1%	8.8%	1.0%	0.1%	0.3%	-0.2%	0.1%
Industrials	25.1%	21.2%	4.8%	18.6%	11.3%	2.0%	0.3%	2.1%	2.4%
Information Technology	16.5%	8.2%	1.4%	17.6%	4.8%	0.9%	0.0%	0.5%	0.6%
Materials	3.5%	9.6%	0.3%	11.7%	6.8%	0.8%	-0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Real Estate	7.3%	10.3%	0.7%	6.0%	1.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.6%	0.6%
Utilities	2.1%	-3.7%	-0.1%	3.2%	6.1%	0.2%	0.0%	-0.2%	-0.2%
Cash	1.2%	-	-0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>7.6%</b>	<b>7.6%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>5.9%</b>	<b>5.9%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>

**Past performance does not guarantee future results. Performance cited represents past performance and current performance may be lower or higher than the data quoted.** Gross investment performance assumes reinvestment of dividends and capital gains, is gross of investment management fees and net of transaction costs. Attribution by segment is based on estimated returns of equities held within the segments listed. All stocks held during a measurement period, including purchases and sales, are included. Cash is not allocated among segments. Calculations are for attribution analysis only and are not intended to represent simulated performance history. The actual returns may be higher or lower. We calculate attribution using our proprietary attribution system. Our proprietary attribution system runs transactions-based attribution, taking into account all trading activity. Interaction effect is reallocated into Selection effect. Based on Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) Sectors. International investing involves special risk considerations, including currency fluctuations, lower liquidity, economic and political risk. Please refer to the 'Important Disclosures' section of this document for further information.

## Performance Analysis (by region)

June 2024

The table below shows the calculated regional attribution of the William Blair SICAV - Emerging Markets Small Cap Growth portfolio vs. its benchmark.

### William Blair SICAV - Emerging Markets Small Cap Growth vs. MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap (net)

01/04/2024 to 30/06/2024

	William Blair SICAV - Emerging Markets Small Cap Growth			MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap (net)			Attribution Analysis		
Region	Average Weight	Total Return	Contrib to Return	Average Weight	Total Return	Contrib to Return	Allocation Effect	Issue Selection Effect	Total Effect
Asia	72.4%	14.3%	10.0%	78.5%	8.3%	6.5%	-0.2%	4.2%	4.0%
EMEA	13.0%	-0.6%	-0.2%	14.5%	4.4%	0.6%	0.0%	-0.8%	-0.8%
Latin America	13.4%	-13.7%	-2.1%	6.9%	-15.5%	-1.2%	-1.5%	0.1%	-1.4%
Cash	1.2%	-	-0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%
<b>Total</b>	100.0%	7.6%	7.6%	100.0%	5.9%	5.9%	-1.8%	3.5%	1.7%

**Past performance does not guarantee future results. Performance cited represents past performance and current performance may be lower or higher than the data quoted.** Gross investment performance assumes reinvestment of dividends and capital gains, is gross of investment management fees and net of transaction costs. Attribution by segment is based on estimated returns of equities held within the segments listed. All stocks held during a measurement period, including purchases and sales, are included. Cash is not allocated among segments. Calculations are for attribution analysis only and are not intended to represent simulated performance history. The actual returns may be higher or lower. We calculate attribution using our proprietary attribution system. Our proprietary attribution system runs transactions-based attribution, taking into account all trading activity. Interaction effect is reallocated into Selection effect. International investing involves special risk considerations, including currency fluctuations, lower liquidity, economic and political risk. Please refer to the 'Important Disclosures' section of this document for further information.

## Top Contributors/Detractors

June 2024

The tables below show the top contributors and detractors for the William Blair SICAV - Emerging Markets Small Cap Growth portfolio vs. its benchmark.

Top Five Contributors (%) for the Period: 01/04/2024 to 30/06/2024			
Issuer	Sector	Country	Contribution To Relative Return
Dixon Technologies India Ltd	Consumer Discretionary	India	0.80
HD Hyundai Electric Co Ltd	Industrials	South Korea	0.51
ABB India Ltd	Industrials	India	0.48
KEI Industries Ltd	Industrials	India	0.45
Godrej Properties Ltd	Real Estate	India	0.42

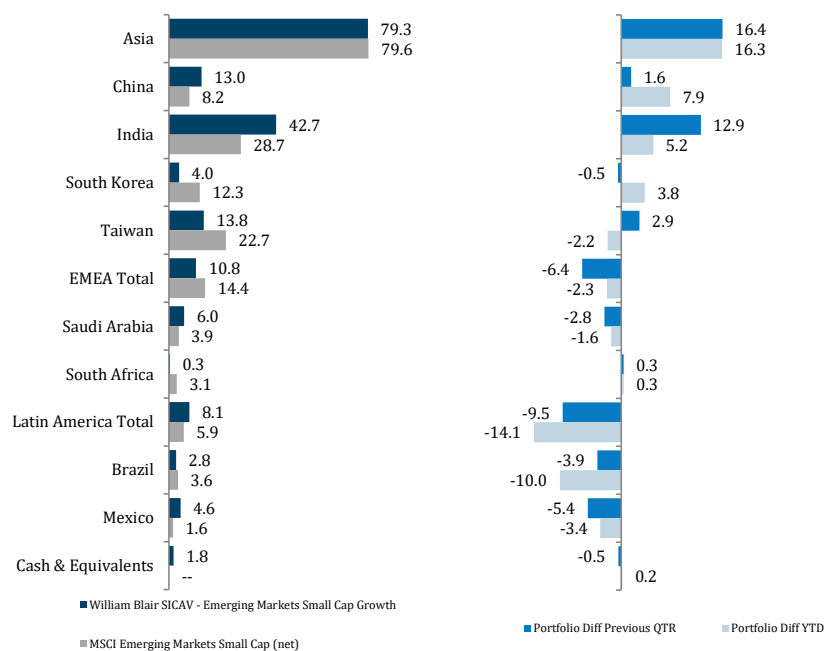
Top Five Detractors (%) for the Period: 01/04/2024 to 30/06/2024			
Issuer	Sector	Country	Contribution To Relative Return
Alsea SAB de CV	Consumer Discretionary	Mexico	-0.50
Prologis Property Mexico SA de CV	Real Estate	Mexico	-0.40
Mitra Adiperkasa Tbk PT	Consumer Discretionary	Indonesia	-0.40
Cyrela Brazil Realty SA Empreendimentos e Participacoes	Consumer Discretionary	Brazil	-0.37
Corp Inmobiliaria Vesta SAB de CV	Real Estate	Mexico	-0.36

**Index:** MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap (net)

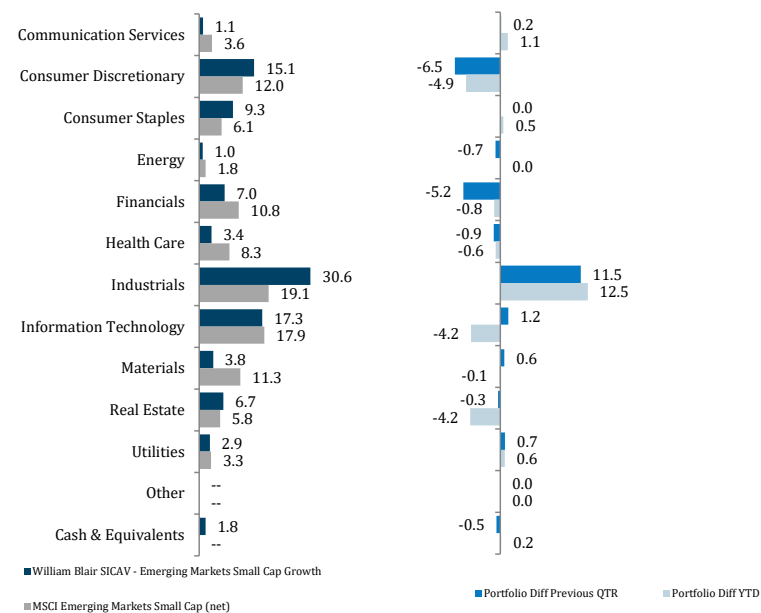
**Past performance does not guarantee future results. Performance cited represents past performance and current performance may be lower or higher than the data quoted.** Gross investment performance assumes reinvestment of dividends and capital gains, is gross of investment management fees and net of transaction costs. Performance results will be reduced by the fees incurred. Attribution is based on estimated returns of all equities held during a measurement period, including purchases and sales. Calculations are for attribution analysis only and are not intended to represent simulated performance history. The actual returns may be higher or lower. We calculate attribution using our proprietary attribution system. Our proprietary attribution system runs transactions-based attribution, taking into account all trading activity. Based on Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) Sectors. International investing involves special risk considerations, including currency fluctuations, lower liquidity, economic and political risk. Individual securities listed in this report are for informational purposes only. Holdings are subject to change at any time. This information does not constitute, and should not be construed as, investment advice or recommendations with respect to the securities listed.

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## Regional Exposure



## Sectoral Exposure



Source: William Blair.

As of Date: 30/06/2024

Cash & Equivalents includes: cash and dividend accruals. Based on Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) Sectors. Please refer to the 'Important Disclosures' section of this document for further information.

## Top Holdings by Market Cap

June 2024

The table below shows the William Blair SICAV - Emerging Markets Small Cap Growth portfolio's largest holdings as of 30/06/2024 by market cap as well as the sub-totals by market cap for the portfolio and index. The stocks are listed by country and by the sector that defines each one's role in the portfolio.

	Country	Sector	% of Total Net Assets in Portfolio	% of Total Net Assets in Index*
<b>Large Cap(&gt;\$15b)</b>			<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Mid Cap(\$3-15b)</b>			<b>37.5%</b>	<b>6.3%</b>
Dixon Technologies India Ltd	India	Consumer Discretionary	2.7%	0.4%
ABB India Ltd	India	Industrials	2.2%	0.0%
Wiwynn Corp	Taiwan	Information Technology	2.0%	0.0%
ASPEED Technology Inc	Taiwan	Information Technology	2.0%	0.3%
Varun Beverages Ltd	India	Consumer Staples	2.0%	0.0%
<b>Small Cap(&lt;\$3b)</b>			<b>62.5%</b>	<b>93.7%</b>
KEI Industries Ltd	India	Industrials	2.7%	0.2%
YTL Power International Bhd	Malaysia	Utilities	1.8%	0.0%
Huaming Power Equipment Co Ltd	China	Industrials	1.6%	0.0%
Titagarh Rail System Ltd	India	Industrials	1.5%	0.1%
Cosmax Inc	South Korea	Consumer Staples	1.4%	0.1%

**\*Index:** MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap (net)

Source: Eagle

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## Top Portfolio Changes During the Period: 01/04/2024 to 30/06/2024

	Security Name	Country	Sector
New Purchases	Ytl Power International Bhd	Malaysia	Utilities
	Cosmax Inc	South Korea	Consumer Staples
	Henan Pinggao Electric Co-A	China	Industrials
	Eastroc Beverage Group Co -A	China	Consumer Staples
	Shanghai Bochu Electronic-A	China	Information Technology
Liquidations	Hisense Home Appliances G-A	China	Consumer Discretionary
	Cyrela Brazil Realty Sa Emp	Brazil	Consumer Discretionary
	Piraeus Financial Holdings S	Greece	Financials
	Bank Negara Indonesia Perser	Indonesia	Financials
	Yankershop Food Co Ltd-A	China	Consumer Staples

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	William Blair SICAV - Emerging Markets Small Cap Growth	MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap (net)	Difference
<b>Quality</b>			
WB Quality Model (Percentile)	35	48	
Return on Equity (%)	21.3	12.9	65%
Cash Flow ROIC (%)	20.9	13.2	58%
Debt/Equity (%)	44.4	61.2	-27%
<b>Growth</b>			
WB Growth Model (Percentile)	26	40	
EPS 3Y Forward CAGR (%)	26.7	20.5	30%
5-Year Historic EPS Growth (%)	24.6	16.0	54%
Reinvestment Rate (%)	16.2	9.1	78%
<b>Earnings Trend</b>			
WB Earnings Trend Model (Percentile)	32	50	
EPS Revision Breadth (%)	3.5	1.7	1.8
<b>Valuation</b>			
WB Valuation Model (Percentile)	82	57	
P/E (next 12 months)	23.8	14.1	69%
Dividend Yield (%)	1.9	2.3	-16%
<b>Other</b>			
WB Composite Model (Percentile)	47	52	
Float Adjusted Weighted Average Market Cap (\$m)	2,811	1,154	143%
Number of Holdings	127	2,031	
Active Share (%)	93	--	

Characteristics have been calculated by William Blair.

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	Portfolio Weight		Portfolio Weight		Portfolio Weight
<b>EM Asia</b>	<b>79.31</b>	<b>EM Asia (continued)</b>		<b>EM Asia (continued)</b>	
<b>China</b>	<b>12.95</b>	<b>India (continued)</b>		<b>India (continued)</b>	
Huaming Power Equipement C-A	1.56	Phoenix Mills Ltd	1.06	Newgen Software Technologies	0.44
Hla Group Corp L-A	1.46	Ramkrishna Forgings Ltd	0.98	Chalet Hotels Ltd	0.42
Henan Pinggao Electric Co-A	1.38	Blue Star Ltd	0.97	Ethos Ltd	0.40
Xuji Electric Co Ltd-A	1.16	Voltamp Transformers Ltd	0.89	Schaeffler India Ltd	0.39
Eastroc Beverage Group Co -A	1.08	Makemytrip Ltd	0.86	Kalyan Jewellers India Ltd	0.38
Beijing Roborock Technolog-A	0.91	Pg Electroplast Ltd	0.84	Sterling And Wilson Renewabl	0.36
Giant Biogene Holding Co Ltd	0.78	Triveni Turbine Ltd	0.84	Linde India Ltd	0.36
Anhui Heli Co Ltd-A	0.72	Astral Ltd	0.79	Tbo Tek Ltd	0.35
Huaneng Lancang River Hydr-A	0.67	Prestige Estates Projects	0.73	Ksb Ltd	0.32
Sieyuan Electric Co Ltd-A	0.66	Data Patterns India Ltd	0.71	Nuvama Wealth Management Ltd	0.30
Hexing Electrical Co Ltd-A	0.63	J.B. Chemicals & Pharma Ltd	0.70	Rainbow Children's Medicare	0.26
Proya Cosmetics Co Ltd-A	0.59	Venus Pipes & Tubes Ltd	0.70	Narayana Hrudayalaya Ltd	0.25
Yutong Bus Co Ltd-A	0.59	Bikaji Foods International L	0.68	Tega Industries Ltd	0.19
Pop Mart International Group	0.45	Escorts Kubota Ltd	0.68	Amber Enterprises India Ltd	0.18
Shanghai Bochu Electronic-A	0.24	Lemon Tree Hotels Ltd	0.67	Cholamandalam Investment And	0.10
Miniso Group Holding Ltd-Adr	0.10	Transformers & Rectifiers In	0.66	Shakti Pumps (India) Ltd	0.07
<b>India</b>	<b>42.71</b>	Uno Minda Ltd	0.59	<b>Indonesia</b>	<b>1.62</b>
Kei Industries Ltd	2.70	360 One Wam Ltd	0.58	Bank Syariah Indonesia Tbk P	1.01
Dixon Technologies India Ltd	2.70	Karur Vysya Bank Ltd	0.57	Mitra Adiperkasa Tbk Pt	0.37
Abb India Ltd	2.15	Max Healthcare Institute Ltd	0.57	Map Aktif Adiperkasa Pt	0.24
Varun Beverages Ltd	1.92	Bharti Hexacom Ltd	0.55	<b>Malaysia</b>	<b>2.99</b>
Godrej Properties Ltd	1.64	Kpit Technologies Ltd	0.55	Ytl Power International Bhd	1.79
Macrotech Developers Ltd	1.55	Azad Engineering Ltd	0.52	Gamuda Bhd	0.82
Titagarh Rail System Ltd	1.43	Obero Realty Ltd	0.51	Frontken Corp Bhd	0.37
Cg Power And Industrial Solu	1.32	Gmr Airports Infrastructure	0.50	<b>Philippines</b>	<b>0.86</b>
Jindal Stainless Ltd	1.26	Astra Microwave Products Ltd	0.48	Intl Container Term Svcs Inc	0.86
Kaynes Technology India Ltd	1.07	Cyient Dlm Ltd	0.48	<b>South Korea</b>	<b>4.02</b>
Apar Industries Ltd	1.06	Mankind Pharma Ltd	0.45	Cosmax Inc	1.39

As of Date: 30/06/2024

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	Portfolio Weight		Portfolio Weight		Portfolio Weight
<b>EM Asia (continued)</b>		<b>EMEA (continued)</b>		<b>Latin America (continued)</b>	
<b>South Korea (continued)</b>		<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>Mexico (continued)</b>	
Leeno Industrial Inc	1.01	Baltic Classifieds Group	0.55	Vista Energy Sab De Cv	0.99
Hd Hyundai Electric Co Ltd	0.75	<b>Poland</b>	<b>1.57</b>	Corp Inmobiliaria Vesta Sab	0.68
Classys Inc	0.47	Alior Bank SA	0.83	Alsea Sab De Cv	0.65
Hanwha Aerospace Co Ltd	0.30	Benefit Systems SA	0.74	Prologis Property Mexico SA	0.48
Hpsp Co Ltd	0.10	<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	<b>6.02</b>	Qualitas Controladora Sab Cv	0.47
<b>Taiwan</b>	<b>13.84</b>	Riyadh Cables Group Co	1.10	Gentera Sab De Cv	0.09
Wiwynn Corp	1.97	Leejam Sports Co Jsc	0.92	<b>Cash</b>	<b>1.80</b>
Aspeed Technology Inc	1.96	Saudia Dairy & Foodstuff Co	0.92	<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Lotes Co Ltd	1.87	National Medical Care Co	0.70		
Asia Vital Components	1.76	Bupa Arabia For Cooperative	0.56		
Asmedia Technology Inc	1.21	East Pipes Integrated Co For	0.55		
Fortune Electric Co Ltd	1.02	Alkhorayef Water & Power Tec	0.47		
Jentech Precision Industrial	0.81	The National Agriculture Dev	0.42		
Elite Material Co Ltd	0.77	National Co For Learning & E	0.37		
Kaori Heat Treatment Co Ltd	0.65	<b>South Africa</b>	<b>0.34</b>		
Kinik Company	0.64	Truworths International Ltd	0.34		
Auras Technology Co Ltd	0.55	<b>United Arab Emirates</b>	<b>0.62</b>		
Tripod Technology Corp	0.49	Salik Co Pjsc	0.62		
Voltronic Power Technology	0.08	<b>Latin America</b>	<b>8.12</b>		
Fositek Corp	0.05	<b>Argentina</b>	<b>0.75</b>		
<b>Thailand</b>	<b>0.32</b>	Grupo Financiero Galicia-Adr	0.75		
Ichitan Group Pcl-Foreign	0.32	<b>Brazil</b>	<b>2.80</b>		
<b>EMEA</b>	<b>10.77</b>	Cury Construtora E Incorpora	1.15		
<b>Greece</b>	<b>0.59</b>	Direcional Engenharia SA	0.76		
Jumbo SA	0.59	Inter & Co Inc - Bdr	0.66		
<b>Kazakhstan</b>	<b>1.08</b>	Smartfit - Ordinary	0.24		
Jsc Kaspi.Kz Adr	1.08	<b>Mexico</b>	<b>4.56</b>		
		Bbb Foods Inc-Class A	1.20		

As of Date: 30/06/2024

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