

William Blair SICAV - US All Cap Growth Fund

Class J (USD)

William Blair

Quarterly Review

September 2020

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Portfolio Manager

ISIN: LU0995404869

Market Overview

COVID-19 was the dominant force affecting the economy and equities in a volatile year-to-date period.

Late in the first quarter, as it became clear that COVID-19 was becoming a global pandemic, equities declined rapidly due to stay-at-home directives, which effectively shut down many segments of the economy. After bottoming in mid-March, equity returns were robust during the second quarter. This was predominately the result of massive amounts of fiscal and monetary stimulus, coupled with improving COVID-19 trends, optimism regarding vaccine development and progress toward re-opening the economy. The Federal Reserve (Fed) responded quickly and dramatically in an attempt to limit economic damage.

Third quarter advances built on second quarter strength. Continued economic improvement, including positive trends in employment and increases in consumer spending, coupled with incremental progress towards the development of a vaccine, supported the market rise. Market returns were further fueled by a shift in Fed policy to allow flexibility around its inflation target, signaling policymakers' intent to keep the Fed Funds rate low for an extended period. Within the market, there was a pronounced bifurcation between the performance of "COVID beneficiaries" and those disrupted by COVID, as select companies across different sectors saw a strengthening of demand for their products (e.g., ecommerce), while others saw a complete collapse in demand (e.g., travel related), though this divergence began to narrow late in the third quarter.

Amid significant COVID-related business disruption, a focus on 2021 profit potential and a decline in 10-year U.S. Treasury yields allowed valuation multiple expansion to drive many U.S. equity indices in positive territory for the year-to-date period ended September 30, 2020.

Portfolio Performance

The portfolio trailed its benchmark during the third quarter, primarily driven by stock specific dynamics. The largest source of underperformance as compared to our benchmark came from not owning Apple (Information Technology) and Tesla (Consumer Discretionary). Both stocks have benefited from significant valuation multiple expansion, as fundamental expectations have remained relatively stable. In the case of Apple, given the maturity of the high-end smart phone, tablet and PC markets, and the recent revaluation of its services business, we believe the long-term growth and return prospects for our other Information Technology holdings are more attractive. As it relates to Tesla, we believe the stock is embedding unrealistic expectations as to the pace of auto market conversion to electronic vehicles, as well as Tesla's ultimate margin profile and market share. Within the portfolio, top detractors included Pure Storage (Information Technology), National Instruments (Information Technology), Perspecta (Information Technology), Alphabet (Communication Services) and Brink's Co (Industrials). Pure Storage, a provider of flash-based storage solutions, and National Instruments, a designer and manufacturer of tools utilized in the testing of electrical products, both experienced COVID-19 related demand

headwinds. Conversely, top contributors in the quarter included BigCommerce (Information Technology), Horizon Therapeutics (Health Care), Advanced Micro Devices (Information Technology), Copart (Industrials) and Bright Horizons (Consumer Discretionary). Shares of Horizon Therapeutics advanced on strong performance of Tepezza, a recently launched drug that treats Thyroid Eye Disease, and management's significant increase in peak sales guidance for the drug. Fabless semiconductor company Advanced Micro Devices benefited from robust growth in server CPU sales and continued high demand for laptops. Stock specific contributors and detractors for the third quarter are discussed in greater detail at the end of this quarterly review.

While we added value in the first quarter downdraft, the portfolio lagged its benchmark on a year-to-date basis. Performance drivers over the nine-month period were similar to those of the third quarter, with the largest negative impact on relative performance coming from not owning Apple and Tesla, as described in more detail above. In addition, our typical underweight to mega caps and corresponding overweight to high quality small/mid caps was a headwind given the strong outperformance of larger-cap stocks year-to-date. Within the portfolio, stock selection in Information Technology detracted from relative performance. Sector laggards included our position in Sabre, whose software enables global airline bookings that declined precipitously, as well as a number of holdings that we believe are long-term secular growers, but whose businesses have a degree of cyclicity and were not COVID beneficiaries. Other underperforming holdings

included Brink's Co (Industrials), Coca-Cola (Consumer Staples), BWX Technologies (Industrials) and Laureate Education (Consumer Discretionary). COVID-19 related closures weighed on Brink's Company, a global cash management services company, most notably as it relates to revenues derived from retail locations that were either temporarily closed or operating on a limited basis. Beverage company Coca-Cola also faced revenue headwinds that resulted from store and restaurant closures. Top contributors for the year-to-date period included Horizon Therapeutics (Health Care), Amazon.com (Consumer Discretionary), Advanced Micro Devices (Information Technology), BigCommerce (Information Technology) and BJ's Wholesale Club (Consumer Staples). Horizon Therapeutics was a standout as sales of Tepezza, as described above, consistently exceeded expectations. Amazon benefited from COVID-19 related tailwinds in its retail business, including increased consumer demand and the rapid shift to e-commerce, and in its cloud computing business AWS, including accelerating migration to, and use of, cloud-based services.

Outlook

Looking forward, though the U.S. economy is recovering and broad market indices are near prior peak levels, uncertainty remains. The upcoming U.S. presidential election is likely to cause volatility to the extent its outcome is not immediately known and as the market digests its implications. Should there be a change in leadership, the market will have to weigh likely changes in tax policy and

regulation against the potential for higher levels of fiscal stimulus.

In addition, virus trends heading into colder months are a source of concern for consumers and businesses most impacted by COVID-19 at the same time the benefits of earlier federal aid packages are fading and job growth is slowing. Progress toward the development and rollout of a vaccine and the Fed's commitment to remain accommodative are critical factors in supporting a continued recovery.

Our investment philosophy is built on the belief that future cash flows are the ultimate determinants of long-term value creation and stock performance. We remain focused on identifying companies with superior management, high barriers to entry, differentiated products or services, and the financial flexibility to invest through uncertainty. We seek to construct a portfolio of companies that we believe will emerge from the current period stronger regardless of political outcomes or the duration of the economic recovery.

	Value	Core	Growth
Month to Date			
Russell 3000	-2.58	-3.64	-4.57
Russell 1000	-2.46	-3.65	-4.70
Russell Midcap	-2.27	-1.95	-1.40
Russell 2500	-3.85	-2.59	-0.77
Russell 2000	-4.65	-3.34	-2.14
Quarter to Date			
Russell 3000	5.42	9.21	12.86
Russell 1000	5.59	9.47	13.22
Russell Midcap	6.40	7.46	9.37
Russell 2500	3.54	5.88	9.37
Russell 2000	2.56	4.93	7.16
Year to Date			
Russell 3000	-12.23	5.41	23.00
Russell 1000	-11.58	6.40	24.33
Russell Midcap	-12.84	-2.35	13.92
Russell 2500	-18.39	-5.82	11.58
Russell 2000	-21.54	-8.69	3.88

Source: FactSet; Eagle

Past Performance is not a guarantee of future results. A direct investment in an index is not possible.

The Russell 3000 Index measures the performance of the all-cap segment of the U.S. equity universe. The Russell 1000 Index measures the performance of the large-cap segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes approximately 1000 of the largest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The Russell Midcap Index measures the performance of the mid cap segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes approximately 800 of the smallest securities in the Russell 1000 Index based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The Russell 2500 Index measures the performance of the small to mid-cap segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes approximately 2500 of the smallest securities in the Russell 3000 Index based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The Russell 2000 Index measures the performance of the small cap segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes approximately 2000 of the smallest securities in the Russell 3000 Index based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. Core returns represent the Total Return indices. The value segments of these indices include companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower forecasted growth values. The growth segments of these indices include companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values.

Market Performance

- U.S. equity benchmarks were down in September due in part to comments by the Fed that fiscal stimulus is needed to support continued economic recovery and concerns that political gridlock may impede progress on further stimulus efforts.
- Market volatility may remain high as investors face significant uncertainty, a prominent source of which is the upcoming U.S. presidential election. Other risks include the re-escalation of trade tensions with China, potential delays in additional fiscal stimulus, deterioration in virus trends, the pace of vaccine development, and mounting social tensions.

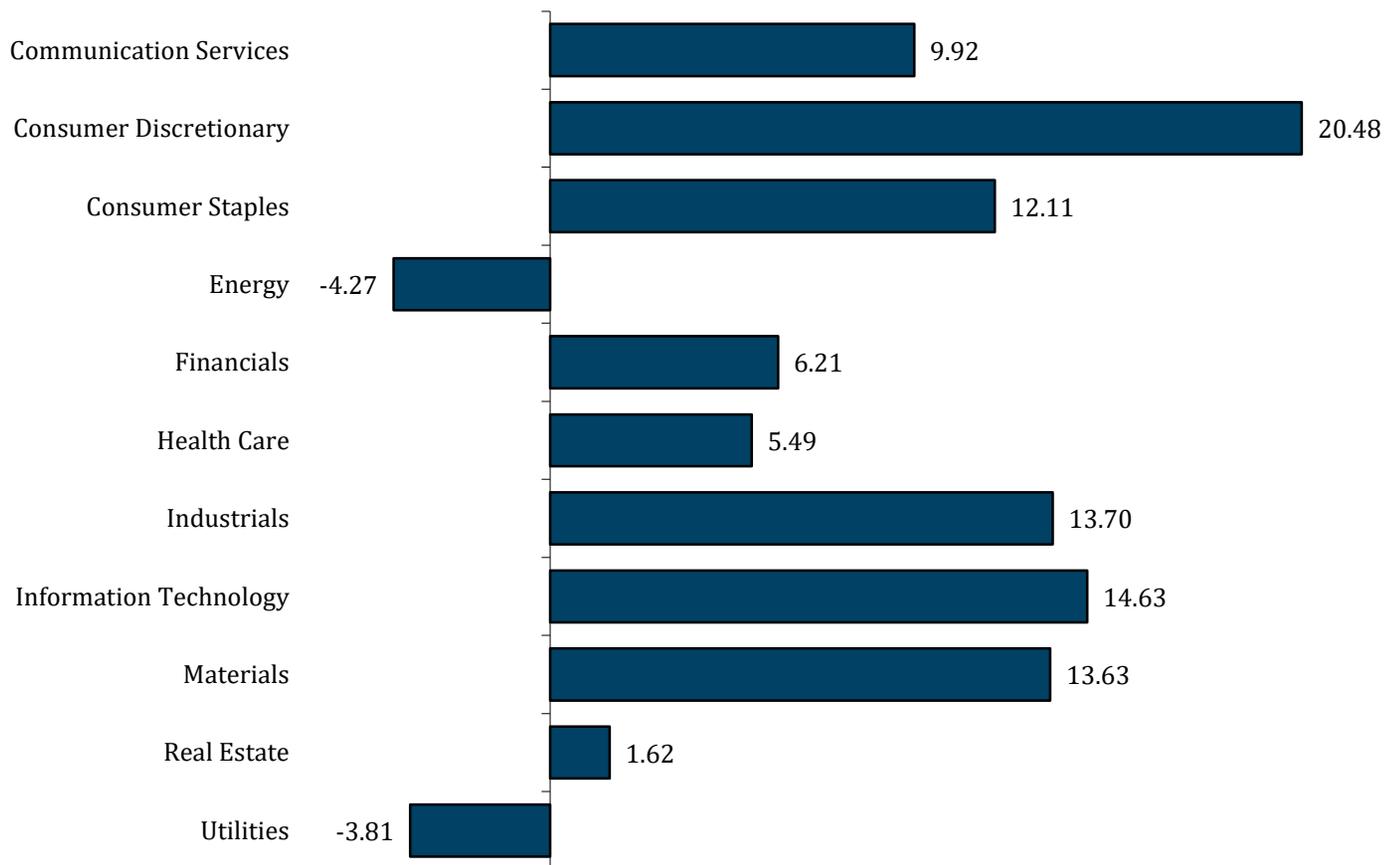
Style Performance

- Excluding large caps, growth benchmarks outperformed value benchmarks during September.
- Growth benchmarks continued to lead value benchmarks in the third quarter and year-to-date periods. The dispersion of returns between growth and value was widest among large caps.

Market Cap Performance

- While larger caps outperformed smaller caps within the value benchmarks during September, performance was mixed within the growth benchmarks.
- Larger caps outperformed smaller caps in both the quarter and year-to-date periods.

**Russell 3000 Growth Total Return
Q3 2020**



Data calculated in our proprietary attribution system. Past returns are no guarantee of future performance. A direct investment in an index is not possible. The Russell 3000 Growth Index measures the performance of those Russell 3000 companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values.

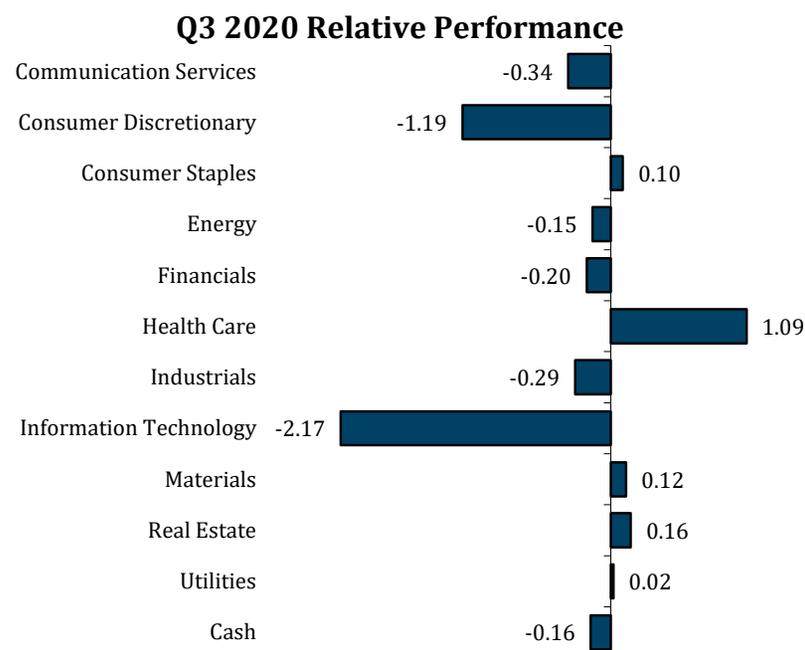
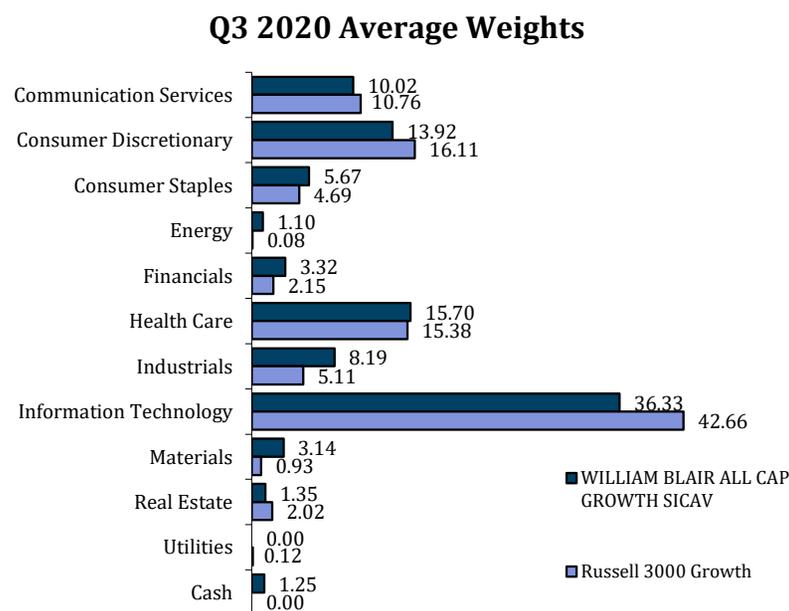
Periods ended 30/09/2020	Quarter	YTD	1 Year	Since Inception*
William Blair SICAV - US All Cap Growth Fund (Class J)	9.62%	17.79%	25.98%	27.86%
Russell 3000 Growth	12.86%	23.00%	36.12%	33.60%

*Inception 19/12/2018

The Russell 3000 Growth Index measures the performance of those Russell 3000 companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values.

Periods greater than one year are annualized. All charges and fees have been included within the performance figures. For the most current month-end performance information, please visit the SICAV website at sicav.williamblair.com. Please refer to the 'Important Disclosures' section at the end of this document for further information on investment risks and returns.

The charts below show the average sector weights and relative performance, by sector, for the portfolio vs. its benchmark.



Source: Proprietary attribution system.

The Russell 3000 Growth Index measures the performance of those Russell 3000 companies with higher price-to book ratios and higher forecasted growth values. It is a capitalization-weighted index as calculated by Russell on a total return basis with dividends reinvested. This benchmark is a comparable market proxy. Performance shown assumes reinvestment of dividends and capital gains and is gross of investment management fees. Deduction of fees would reduce the returns shown. Please refer to the 'Important Disclosures' section at the end of this document for further information on investment risks and returns.

The securities listed below are significant contributors to performance for the quarter ended 30/09/2020.

BigCommerce Holdings (BIGC) is a leading SaaS e-commerce platform that provides merchants with sophisticated functionality to grow businesses, including website setup, store design and hosting, order processing and order management. We participated in the company's IPO during the quarter. Shares advanced strongly following the IPO, and we liquidated our position at a premium as the stock's valuation multiple had expanded such that we viewed the risk/reward profile to be less attractive on a forward-looking basis.

Horizon Therapeutics (HZNP) is a specialty biopharmaceutical company focused on drug formulations that target the treatment of arthritis pain, inflammation and rare diseases. Strong performance of Tepezza, a recently launched drug that treats Thyroid Eye Disease, and management's significant increase in peak sales guidance for the drug, drove outsized stock performance. We trimmed our position on strength. We believe the company will continue to shift its portfolio of treatments to highly profitable, rare disease drugs, which will improve the durability of growth and future earnings potential.

Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) is a fabless semiconductor company that designs and markets central processing unit (CPU) chipsets, graphics processing unit (GPU) chipsets and custom chip designs for large original equipment manufacturers. The company reported strong earnings results during the quarter, driven by robust growth in server CPU sales and continued high demand for laptops. Advanced Micro Devices continues to gain momentum in the CPU market relative to competitors and management increased full-year guidance, indicating a positive outlook on growth in all segments, particularly in PC CPUs. We trimmed our position on strength, given a valuation that now embeds significant share gains relative to Intel. We believe that Advanced Micro Devices will continue to take share of a growing market, while at the same time expanding margins.

Holdings are subject to change at any time. Please refer to the 'Important Disclosures' section at the end of this document for further information on investment risks and returns.

The securities listed below are significant detractors to performance for the quarter ended 30/09/2020.

Pure Storage (PSTG) is a provider of flash-based storage solutions. Its technology replaces storage systems designed for mechanical disks, which store data magnetically, with all-flash systems, which store data electronically on microchips. While the company reported revenue and earnings that were ahead of expectations, forward looking commentary disappointed investors. Specifically, the company noted COVID-related economic disruption was having a negative impact on the late stage business pipeline in the U.S., while the earlier stage pipeline looked promising. This near-term outlook does not alter the secular trend of the storage market migrating to the higher performance and increasingly less expensive flash technology where Pure Storage maintains a leadership position. We maintained our position.

National Instruments (NATI) designs and manufactures test and measurement tools utilized in the testing of electrical products. The company reported earnings results that were in-line with expectations, but lowered earnings and revenue guidance for the next quarter as COVID-19 related headwinds continue to impact demand. However, the company continues to show strength and momentum in higher growth areas of the market with secular growth drivers, including semiconductors and transportation. We added to our position. Despite near-term headwinds, we believe National Instruments' innovative modular testing technology offers a high value proposition to its customers with a wide moat and will allow the company to gain share in the growing market.

Perspecta (PRSP) is a government services contractor providing IT and mission support services to a range of government entities, focused primarily on the Department of Defense and various intelligence agencies. During the quarter, the company reported earnings results that were in-line with expectations and reiterated full-year revenue guidance. However, Perspecta is likely to lose its NGEN contract with the U.S. Navy in the near term. The NGEN contract is a material portion of the company's revenues and we believe the loss is likely to diminish the growth outlook of Perspecta. We maintained our position as we assess the risk/reward profile of the stock relative to other holdings in the portfolio.

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Top 10 Holdings by Weight		
	William Blair SICAV - US All Cap Growth Fund <u>% in Portfolio</u>	Russell 3000 Growth <u>% in Index</u>
Microsoft Corp	9.75	8.99
Amazon.com Inc	8.72	7.62
Alphabet Inc	6.33	3.88
Mastercard Inc - A	4.37	1.70
PayPal Holdings Inc	3.21	1.32
UnitedHealth Group Inc	3.11	1.40
Adobe Inc	2.82	1.35
Texas Instruments Inc	2.28	0.37
Fidelity National Info Serv	2.18	0.00
Horizon Therapeutics Plc	2.13	0.08
Total:	44.92	26.71

Source: Eagle.

As of Date: 30/09/2020.

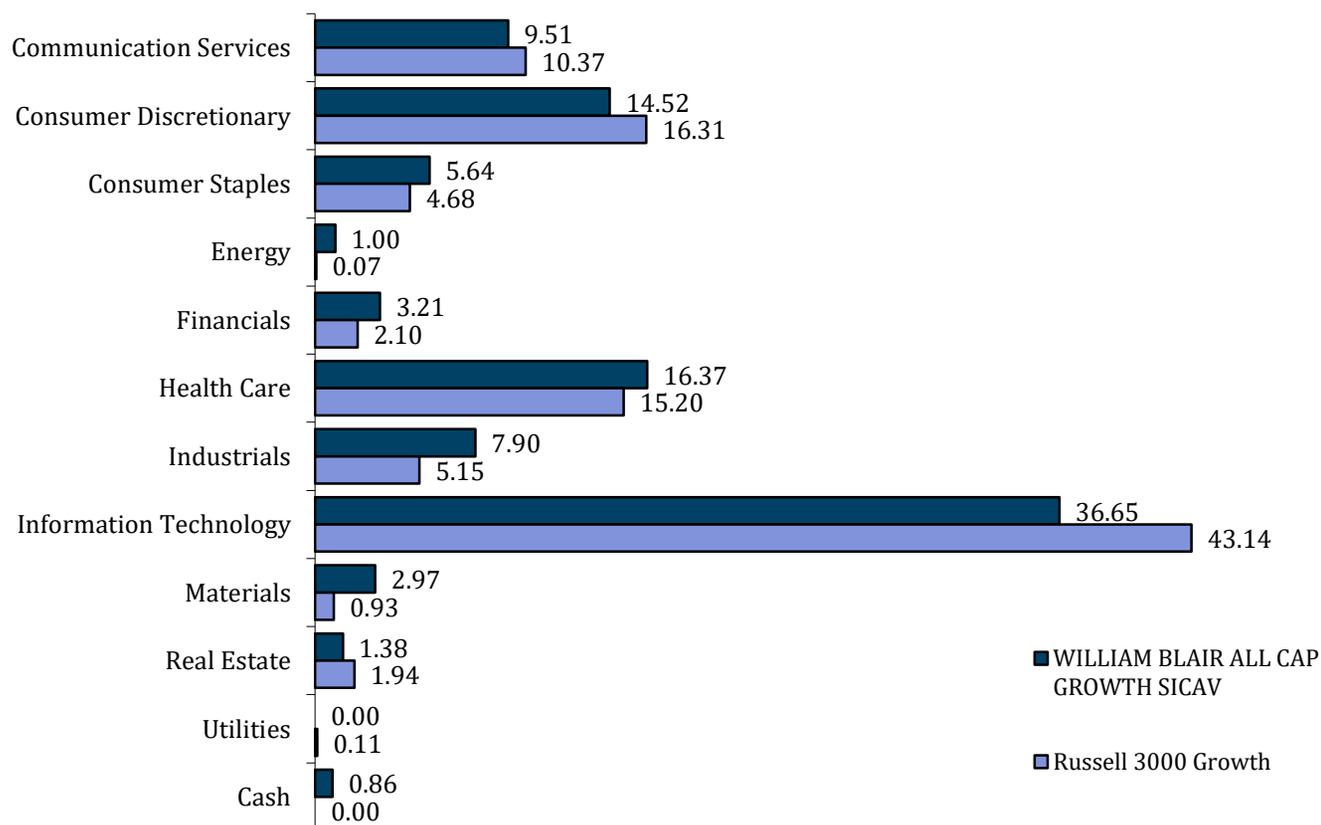
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	William Blair SICAV - US All Cap Growth Fund	Russell 3000 Growth
Growth		
EPS Growth Rate (LT forecast)	18.0%	17.1%
Quality		
Return on Assets (5-year average)	7.7%	9.3%
Free Cash Flow Margin	15.0%	15.9%
Debt to Total Capital	43.4%	48.6%
Valuation		
PE Ratio (1 year forecast)	31.0x	31.8x
Dividend Yield	0.6%	0.8%
Capitalization (\$M)		
Weighted Average Market Cap	\$426,888	\$625,534
Weighted Median Market Cap	\$91,212	\$220,521
Portfolio Positions		
Number of Securities	60	1,546
Cash		
% Cash in portfolio	0.9%	0.0%
Active Share		
% Active Share	68%	

Characteristics have been calculated by William Blair.

Please refer to the 'Important Disclosures' section of this document for further information on investment risks and returns.

Sector Weights as of 30/09/2020



Source: William Blair; Eagle

Based on Global Industry Classification Sectors (GICS). Concentration of assets in one or a few sectors may entail greater risk than a fully diversified stock portfolio and should be considered as only part of a diversified portfolio.

	Portfolio Weight	Benchmark Weight		Portfolio Weight	Benchmark Weight		Portfolio Weight	Benchmark Weight
COMMUNICATION SERVICES	9.51	10.37	HEALTH CARE (continued)			INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (continued)		
Alphabet Inc-Cl A	6.33	1.95	Stryker Corp	2.13	0.13	Arista Networks Inc	1.54	0.06
Activision Blizzard Inc	1.82	0.14	Agilent Technologies Inc	1.66	0.02	Nice Ltd - Spon Adr	1.34	0.00
Take-Two Interactive Softwre	0.71	0.10	Abbott Laboratories	1.55	0.41	National Instruments Corp	1.23	0.00
Live Nation Entertainment In	0.64	0.04	Zoetis Inc	1.33	0.41	Workday Inc-Class A	1.16	0.21
CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY	14.52	16.31	Illumina Inc	0.79	0.26	Inphi Corp	0.75	0.03
Amazon.Com Inc	8.72	7.62	Steris PLC	0.78	0.00	Mongodb Inc	0.70	0.07
Bright Horizons Family Solut	1.21	0.04	Penumbra Inc	0.63	0.04	Perspecta Inc	0.70	0.01
Advance Auto Parts Inc	1.12	0.00	Teleflex Inc	0.63	0.06	Verra Mobility Corp	0.50	0.01
Burlington Stores Inc	0.85	0.07	Quidel Corp	0.57	0.05	Alarm.Com Holdings Inc	0.47	0.01
Ulta Beauty Inc	0.83	0.06	Veracyte Inc	0.54	0.01	Grid Dynamics Holdings Inc	0.32	0.00
Etsy Inc	0.67	0.08	Ligand Pharmaceuticals	0.52	0.01	MATERIALS	2.97	0.93
Grand Canyon Education Inc	0.57	0.00	INDUSTRIALS	7.90	5.15	Ball Corp	1.71	0.14
Revolve Group Inc	0.54	0.00	Copart Inc	1.84	0.12	Linde PLC	1.27	0.00
CONSUMER STAPLES	5.64	4.68	Costar Group Inc	1.57	0.19	REAL ESTATE	1.38	1.94
Coca-Cola Co/The	1.68	0.64	Bwx Technologies Inc	1.44	0.02	Sba Communications Corp	1.38	0.03
Costco Wholesale Corp	1.56	0.79	Fortive Corp	1.29	0.00	Cash	0.86	0.00
Estee Lauder Companies-Cl A	1.30	0.25	Brink's Co/The	1.00	0.01	Total	100.00	100.00
Bj's Wholesale Club Holdings	1.09	0.03	Trex Company Inc	0.77	0.05			
ENERGY	1.00	0.07	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	36.65	43.14			
Cameco Corp	1.00	0.00	Microsoft Corp	9.75	8.99			
FINANCIALS	3.21	2.10	Mastercard Inc - A	4.37	1.70			
Aon Plc-Class A	1.21	0.27	Paypal Holdings Inc	3.21	1.32			
Ares Management Corp - A	1.01	0.02	Adobe Inc	2.82	1.35			
Virtu Financial Inc-Class A	0.98	0.01	Texas Instruments Inc	2.28	0.37			
HEALTH CARE	16.37	15.20	Fidelity National Info Serv	2.18	0.00			
Unitedhealth Group Inc	3.11	1.40	Advanced Micro Devices	1.74	0.51			
Horizon Therapeutics PLC	2.13	0.08	Pure Storage Inc - Class A	1.56	0.01			

As of Date: 30/09/2020.

Holdings are subject to change at any time. Please refer to the 'Important Disclosures' section at the end of this document for further information on investment risks and returns.

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Further specific risks may arise in relation to specific investments and you should review the risk factors very carefully before investing. Intended risk profile of the Fund may change overtime. The Fund is designed for long-term investors. The most current month-end performance information is available on sicav.williamblair.com.

FUND INFORMATION

The SICAV has appointed FUNDROCK MANAGEMENT COMPANY S.A., a "société anonyme" incorporated under the laws of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and having its registered office at 33, rue de Gasperich, L-5826 Hesperange as its management company (the "Management Company"). The Management Company is authorised and regulated by the Luxembourg Supervisory Authority of the Financial Sector (the "CSSF") as the management company of UCITS (defined below) under the EU directive 2009/65/EC, as amended.

The Management Company has been appointed as the management company of WILLIAM BLAIR SICAV, a "société d'investissement à capital variable", incorporated under the laws of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg having its registered office at 31, Z.A.I. Bourmicht, Bertrange, registered in the R.C.S. Luxembourg under n° 98806 and approved by the CSSF as an undertaking for collective investment in transferable securities (UCITS) in accordance with the EU directive 2009/65/EC, as amended (the "Fund").

Important Disclosures

The Management Company has appointed WILLIAM BLAIR INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT, LLC, having its registered office at 150 North Riverside Plaza Chicago, IL 60606-1598, USA ("William Blair Group") as the investment manager for the Fund (the "Investment Manager").

The Articles of Incorporation, the Prospectus, the Key Investor Information Documents (KIID), the Annual and Half-yearly Reports of the Fund and the Subscription Form are available free of charge in English and German from our website SICAV.williamblair.com or at the registered office of the Management Company (33, rue de Gasperich, L-5826 Hesperange, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg), at the registered office of the Fund (William Blair SICAV, 31, Z.A. Bourmicht, L-8070 Bertrange, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg) or from the Swiss representative, First Independent Fund Services Limited, Klausstrasse 33, CH-8008 Zurich, and in German language at Marcard, Stein & Co., Ballindamm 36, 20095 Hamburg, Germany, and at Bank of Austria Creditanstalt AG, Am Hof 2, 1010 Vienna, Austria.

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