Long-term capital appreciation

# Ariel investments



Charles Bobrinskoy

Portfolio Manager

#### Firm Facts

- Founded in 1983 by John W. Rogers, Jr.
- Headquartered in Chicago, with offices in New York, San Francisco and Sydney
- \$15.0 billion in Assets Under Management\*
- 95.6% owned by employees and board members

### Our Patient Investment Philosophy

#### Active Patience

We take the long-term view.

#### Independent Thinking

We invest to our convictions, not to benchmarks.

#### Focused Expertise

We specialize in bottom-up, fundamental research.

#### **Bold Teamwork**

We work collaboratively with a shared commitment to excellence.

### Our Value Approach

- Pioneer in small and mid-cap value investing, with one of the longest track records in the business.
- Fundamental, qualitative approach to investing.
- Concentrated yet diversified portfolios focused on our highest conviction ideas.
- · In depth sector and industry expertise.



## Ariel Focus Fund

### Fund Summary

**OBJECTIVE** 

INVESTMENT STYLE	All C	Cap Traditional Value
INDEX	Russe	ell 1000® Value Index
INCEPTION DATE		June 30, 2005
ASSETS		\$72.4 million
	Investor Class	Institutional Class
TICKERSYMBOL	ARFFX	AFOYX
CUSIP	04035F107	040337826
MINIMUM INITIAL INVESTMENT**	\$1,000	\$1,000,000
EXPENSE RATIO***	1.00%	0.75%
GROSS EXPENSE RATIO***	1.16%	0.86%

Performance <sup>1</sup> (%)					Annu	alized	
	QTR	YTD	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	Since Inception
Ariel Focus Fund (Investor Class)	7.45	7.45	14.54	2.76	8.38	6.44	6.23
Ariel Focus Fund (Institutional Class) <sup>2</sup>	7.51	7.51	14.87	3.02	8.66	6.71	6.40
Russell 1000® Value Index³	8.99	8.99	20.27	8.11	10.31	9.01	8.06
S&P 500 <sup>®</sup> Index <sup>3</sup>	10.56	10.56	29.88	11.49	15.04	12.96	10.40

Characteristics <sup>4</sup>			
	Ariel Focus Fund	Russell 1000® Value Index	
Number of Holdings	27.00	845.00	
Forward Price/Earnings	13.05	16.23	
Long-Term Earnings Growth (%)	9.41	9.80	
Interest Coverage Ratio	7.29	4.66	
Return on Equity (%)	19.67	18.84	
Discount to Private Market Value (%)	-19.95	_	
Active Share (%)	93.90	_	
Turnover (%)	22.30	_	
Source: FactSet; Turnover is sourced from North	hern Trust		

\*Assets under management include \$1.48 billion for Ariel Alternatives, a subsidiary of Ariel Investments, which reflects aggregate commitments and excludes fund specific leverage. \*\*Please see the Fund's prospectus for the no minimum \$50 per month Automatic Investment Option. \*\*\*As of 2/1/24. Currently, expense ratio caps of 1.00% for the Investor Class and 0.75% for the Institutional Class are in place to waive fees and reimburse certain expenses that exceed these caps. Ariel Investments, LLC (the Adviser) is contractually obligated to maintain these expense ratio caps through 1/31/25. 1Past performance does not guarantee future results and includes the reinvestment of dividends and capital gains. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. To access performance data as of the most recent month-end, visit arielinvestments.com. Any extraordinary short-term performance may not be sustainable and is not representative of the performance over longer periods. The total returns reflect that certain fees and expenses have been waived or reduced by the Adviser. <sup>2</sup>Performance for the Institutional Class prior to its inception date reflects the actual performance of the Investor Class and uses the expenses of the Investor Class without any adjustments. During this period, the performance of the Institutional Class would have been substantially similar, yet higher than that of the Investor Class. Both classes are invested in the same securities, but bear different expenses-primarily resulting from variations in distribution and service fees. <sup>3</sup>The Russell 1000® Value Index measures the performance of the large-cap value segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes those Russell 1000 companies with lower price-to-book ratios, lower forecasted growth values and lower sales per share historical growth. The inception date of this benchmark is January 1, 1987. The S&P 500® Index is widely regarded as the best gauge of large-cap U.S. equities. It includes 500 leading companies and covers approximately 80% of available U.S. market capitalization. Russell® is a trademark of London Stock Exchange Group, which is the source and owner of the Russell Indexes' trademarks, service marks and copyrights. Neither Russell nor its licensors accept any liability for any errors or omissions in the Russell Indexes or underlying data and no party may rely on any Russell Indexes and/or underlying data contained in this communication. No further distribution of Russell data is permitted without Russell's express written consent. Russell does not promote, sponsor or endorse the content of this communication. 4Definitions for the metrics below are detailed on page 2 under the section entitled Quantitative Measures.

Contribution

Total

### Industry Weightings<sup>1</sup> (% of net assets)

	Ending Weight	Russell 1000® Value Index
Industrials	26.38	16.55
Financials	24.92	20.94
Consumer Discretionary	15.49	8.64
Energy	11.02	8.14
Health Care	7.05	13.59
Basic Materials	6.17	3.51
Technology	5.37	8.30
Consumer Staples	1.83	7.07
Real Estate	0.00	4.61
Telecommunications	0.00	3.69
Utilities	0.00	4.97
Short-Term Investments	1.78	0.00

### Top 10 Positions<sup>2</sup> (% of net assets)

		Russell ICB Industry	<b>Ending Weight</b>
1	Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.	Financials	6.61
2	Snap-on, Inc.	Industrials	6.22
3	Mohawk Industries, Inc.	Industrials	5.73
4	Oracle Corporation	Technology	5.37
5	BOK Financial Corporation	Financials	5.28
6	Bank of America Corporation	Financials	4.86
7	Resideo Technologies, Inc.	Industrials	4.74
8	APA Corporation	Energy	4.65
9	Lockheed Martin Corporation	Industrials	4.41
10	PHINIA, Inc.	Consumer Discretionary	3.99
To	otal		51.86

### Market Cap Exposure (% of investments)

	Ariel Focus Fund	Russell 1000® Value Index
Large (\$171.36B & Above)	16.92	30.27
Medium/Large (\$48.82B - \$171.36B)	13.42	33.86
Medium (\$14.51B - \$48.82B)	15.95	24.20
Medium/Small (\$4.70B - \$14.51B)	35.21	10.58
Small (\$4.70B & Below)	18.50	1.08

	Ariel Focus Fund	Russell 1000® Value Index
Weighted Average (\$M)	\$77,528	\$158,632
Smallest (\$M)	\$446	\$348
Largest (\$M)	\$380,776	\$909,258

Average

### Contributors and Detractors<sup>2</sup> (%)

Top Five Contributors	Russell ICB Industry	Weight	Return	to Return
Mohawk Industries, Inc.	Industrials	5.25	26.46	1.35
Oracle Corporation	Technology	5.22	19.60	1.02
PHINIA, Inc.	Consumer Discretionary	3.60	27.78	0.99
Resideo Technologies, Inc.	Industrials	4.57	19.13	0.96
Western Union Company	Industrials	3.63	19.35	0.69
Bottom Five Detractors				
Mosaic Company	Basic Materials	3.35	-8.55	-0.39
Barrick Gold Corporation	Basic Materials	3.03	-7.37	-0.35
APA Corporation	Energy	4.61	-3.39	-0.28
First American Financial Corporation	Financials	2.71	-4.37	-0.17
Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings	Health Care	3.30	-3.56	-0.14

Source: FactSet. 1Holdings are categorized according to the Russell Industry Classification Benchmark (ICB). Holdings not classified by ICB are categorized according to FactSet. 2The Fund's Top 10 Positions are ranked by issuer Ending Weight (% of net assets). Contributors and Detractors are ranked by issuer Contribution to Return (%). Contribution to Return (%) is the Ending Weight (%) times the Total Return (%) linked daily for the period. The holdings shown do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold or recommended for investors. Quantitative Measures (Source, FactSet): Ending Weight is the value of the holding relative to the Fund's total assets as of the report date. Average Weight is the average value of the holding relative to the Fund's total assets over the period. Forward Price/Earnings Ratio is a valuation measure that represents the price at quarter end divided by the mean earnings per share (EPS) consensus estimate for the next twelve months as of the run date. The holdings are summarized at the portfolio level using weighted harmonic average. Long Term Estimated Earnings Growth, an income statement measure, is the percent growth rate of the median earnings per share (EPS) consensus estimate for the unreported current year, current year+1, current year+2, and current year+3 as of the run date. Holdings are summarized at the portfolio level using weighted average. Interest Coverage Ratio is a liquidity measure that represents the ratio of earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) relative to the interest expense for the period. Holdings categorized as Financials by the Russell Industry Classification Benchmark (ICB) are excluded from the portfolio summary statistic. The holdings are summarized at the portfolio level using median. Return on Equity is a profitability measure that represents the consensus estimate for the next fiscal year net income divided by total equity over the period. Holdings are summarized at the portfolio level using weighted average. Active Share measures the degree the portfolio deviates from the benchmark. Discount to Private Market Value is the percentage discount at which the portfolio traded relative to Ariel Investment's internally generated estimate of the portfolio's private market value (PMV). Source: Northern Trust: Turnover, a measure of portfolio change, is the lesser of purchases or sales divided by the average market value of Fund assets over the trailing 13-month period. Ariel Focus Fund is a non-diversified Fund and therefore may be subject to greater volatility than a more diversified fund. The Fund is often concentrated in fewer sectors than its benchmarks, and its performance may suffer if these sectors underperform the overall stock market. The intrinsic value of the stocks in which the Fund invests may never be recognized by the broader market. Investing in small cap and mid-cap stocks is more risky and more volatile than investing in large cap stocks. Investing in stocks is risky and subject to the volatility of the markets. Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, and charges and expenses before investing. For a current summary prospectus or full prospectus, which contains - detailed information or details about the funds offered by Ariel Investment Trust, call 800-292-7435 or visit arielinvestments.com. Please read the summary prospectus or full prospectus carefully before investing. Distributed by Ariel Distributors, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Ariel Investments, LLC. Ariel Distributors, LLC is a member of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation.