# Ariel Investments



Timothy Fidler<sup>CFA</sup>
Co-Portfolio Manager



Kenneth Kuhrt<sup>CPA</sup> Co-Portfolio Manager

### Firm Facts

- Founded in 1983 by John W. Rogers, Jr.
- Headquartered in Chicago, with offices in New York and San Francisco
- \$14.1 billion in Assets Under Management\*
- 95.7% 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 Appreciation Fund

For the Quarter Ended September 30, 2025

# Fund Summary

OBJECTIVE	Long-term	Capital Appreciation
INVESTMENT STYLE		Mid Cap Value
INDEX	Russell	Midcap® Value Index
INCEPTION DATE		December 01, 1989
ASSETS		\$896.3 million
	Investor Class	Institutional Class
TICKER SYMBOL	CAAPX	CAAIX
CUSIP	040337206	040337834
MINIMUM INITIAL INVESTMENT**	\$1,000	\$1,000,000
EXPENSE RATIO***	1.14%	0.83%

Performance <sup>1</sup> (%)					Annu	alized	
	QTR	YTD	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	Since Inception
Ariel Appreciation Fund (Investor Class)	9.51	7.83	7.26	13.41	11.55	8.13	9.89
Ariel Appreciation Fund (Institutional Class) <sup>2</sup>	9.57	8.09	7.60	13.76	11.89	8.46	10.02
Russell Midcap® Value Index³	6.18	9.50	7.58	15.51	13.67	9.96	10.91
Russell Midcap® Index³	5.33	10.42	11.11	17.69	12.66	11.39	11.16
S&P 500® Index³	8.12	14.83	17.60	24.93	16.47	15.30	10.80

### Characteristics<sup>4</sup>

	<b>Ariel Appreciation Fund</b>	Russell Midcap® Value Index
Number of Holdings	41	718
Forward Price/Earnings	14.35	16.10
Long-Term Earnings Growth (%)	11.58	10.55
Interest Coverage Ratio	5.46	4.59
Return on Equity (%)	16.76	17.97
Discount to Private Market Value (%)	-22.48	_
Active Share (%)	96.93	_
Turnover (%)	24.52	_
Source: FactSet: Turnover is sourced from No	orthern Trust	

\*Assets under management are aggregated on a firmwide basis for Ariel Investments and its affiliated investment advisers, including aggregate commitments to private funds and excluding fund specific leverage. \*\*Please see the fund's prospectus for additional minimums, including a \$50 per month Automatic Investment Program option. \*\*\*As of 02/01/25.

Performance data quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. All performance assumes 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 performance shown for short-term periods may not be sustainable and is not representative of the performance over longer periods. Annual Average Total Return does not reflect a maximum 4.75% sales load charged prior to 7/15/94.

The inception date for the Institutional Class shares is December 30, 2011. Performance information for the Institutional Class prior to that date reflects the actual performance of the Fund's Investor Class (and uses the actual expenses of the Fund's Institutional Class would have been substantially similar to, yet higher than, the performance of the Fund's Investor Class, because the shares of both classes are invested in the same portfolio of securities, but the classes bear different expenses, which are primarily differences in distribution and service fees. The Russell Midcape Value Index measures the performance of the mid-cap value segment of the U.S. equity universe. It includes those Russell Midcap Index 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 February 1, 1995. The Russell Midcape Index measures the performance of the mid-cap segment of the U.S. equity universe. The Russell Midcap Index is a subset of the Russell 1000® Index. It includes approximately 80% of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The inception date of this benchmark is November 1, 1991. The S&P 500® Index is widely regarded as th

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

	Ending Weight	Russell Midcap® Value Index
Consumer Discretionary	30.09	13.21
Industrials	23.36	21.24
Financials	19.08	15.84
Health Care	13.96	7.33
Real Estate	4.73	9.24
Energy	4.41	6.98
Consumer Staples	3.03	5.44
Basic Materials	0.00	3.38
Technology	0.00	8.95
Telecommunications	0.00	0.99
Utilities	0.00	7.41
Short-Term Investments	1.38	0.00

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

		Russell ICB Industry	Ending Weight
1	Generac Holdings, Inc.	Industrials	3.54
2	Sphere Entertainment Company	Consumer Discretionary	3.42
3	Madison Square Garden Entertainment Corporation	Consumer Discretionary	3.41
4	Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings, Ltd.	Consumer Discretionary	3.37
5	Charles River Laboratories International, Inc.	Health Care	3.31
6	Labcorp Holdings, Inc.	Health Care	3.20
7	Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc.	Consumer Discretionary	3.08
8	Knowles Corporation	Consumer Discretionary	3.06
9	Mattel, Inc.	Consumer Discretionary	3.05
10	Carlyle Group, Inc.	Financials	3.01
To	otal		32.45

# Market Cap Exposure (% of investments)

	Ariel Appreciation Fund	Russell Midcap® Value Index		Ariel Appreciation Fund	Russell Midcap® Value Index
Medium/Large (\$57.08B - \$192.40B)	7.58	7.41	Weighted Average (\$M)	\$18,244	\$27,722
Medium	15.53	59.63	(4)		
(\$16.16B - \$57.08B)	10.00	33.03	Smallest	<b>Ф</b> Е <b>7</b> Е	¢4.070
Medium/Small (\$5.16B - \$16.16B)	52.41	29.81	(\$M)	\$575	\$1,078
Small (\$5.16B & Below)	24.48	3.15	Largest (\$M)	\$173,225	\$127,175

Contributors and Detractors <sup>2</sup> (%)					
Top Five Contributors	Russell ICB Industry	Average Weight	Total Return	Contribution to Return	
Resideo Technologies, Inc.	Industrials	2.18	95.74	1.55	
Sphere Entertainment Company	Consumer Discretionary	2.99	48.61	1.26	
Generac Holdings, Inc.	Industrials	4.27	16.89	0.90	
Knowles Corporation	Consumer Discretionary	2.84	32.29	0.81	
Carlyle Group, Inc.	Financials	3.21	22.66	0.70	
<b>Bottom Five Detractors</b>					
CarMax, Inc.	Consumer Discretionary	2.10	-33.24	-0.82	
Fiserv, Inc.	Industrials	1.85	-25.22	-0.54	
Mattel, Inc.	Consumer Discretionary	3.34	-14.66	-0.53	
Manchester United plc, Class A	Consumer Discretionary	1.71	-14.99	-0.27	
The Middleby Corporation	Industrials	2.38	-7.69	-0.18	

Source: FactSet. Holdings are categorized according to the Russell Industry Classification Benchmark (ICB). Holdings not classified by ICB are categorized according to FactSet classification. Holdings are ranked by issuer Ending Weight (% of net assets). To determine the Fund's Contribution to Return (%) is contribution to Return (%). Contribution to Return (%) is contribution to Return (%) linked daily across the report period. The holdings shown do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold or recommended for investors. Countribution to Return (%) linked daily across the report period. The holdings shown do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold or recommended for investors. Ending Weight is the value of the position relative to the Fund's total assets as of the report date. Average Weight is the average value of the position relative to the Fund's total assets as of the report date 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. LT 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. The holdings are summarized at the portfolio level using weighted average. Interest Coverage Ratio, a liquidity measure, represents the ratio of earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) relative to the interest expense for the period. Holdings are summarized at the portfolio level using weighted average. Active Share measures the degree of active management by a portfolio manager. Discount to PMV is the percentage discount the portfolio trades at relative to Ariel Investments' internal estimate of the portfolio's private market value (PMV). The estimate of private market value (PMV) is determined by Ariel Investments. Turnover, a measure of portfolio change, is the lesser o