

## Strategy Objective

The Large-Cap Core Equity strategy seeks to provide long-term capital appreciation and to minimize periods of significant negative returns by investing in market-leading, financially strong U.S. companies that serve as proxies for favored sectors.

**Inception Date:** January 1996

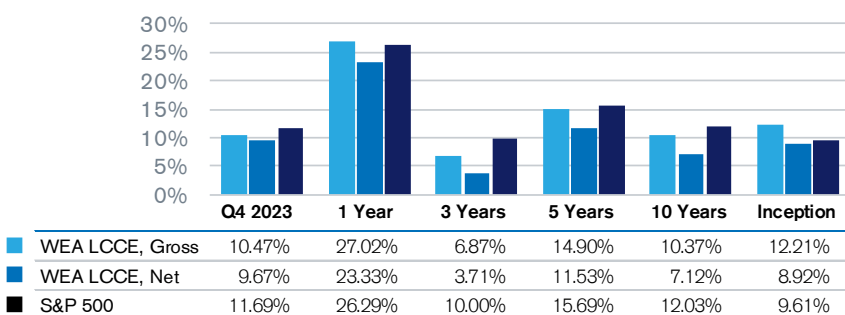
**Focus:** U.S. large-cap equities

**Investments:** Long-only equities of market-leading, financially strong U.S. companies; no leverage, derivatives, or options

**Risk Mitigation:** Manage downside protection through sector avoidance

**Tax efficiency:** Low average annual turnover/long-term holding periods

## INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE\*



Returns for periods greater than one year are annualized.

Source: Archer IMS, IDC, WestEnd Advisors

WestEnd Advisors claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®)

## RISK AND RETURN SUMMARY\*

	Trailing 5 Years			Trailing 10 Years		
	Large-Cap Core Equity		S&P 500	Large-Cap Core Equity		S&P 500
	Gross	Net		Gross	Net	
Return	14.90%	11.53%	15.69%	10.37%	7.12%	12.03%
Standard Deviation	17.35%	17.26%	19.22%	14.25%	14.18%	15.31%
Alpha	1.03%	-2.28%	n/a	-0.30%	-3.50%	n/a
Beta	0.87	0.86	1.00	0.87	0.87	1.00
Sharpe Ratio	0.75	0.56	0.72	0.64	0.41	0.70
R-Squared	92.6%	92.6%	n/a	88.0%	88.0%	n/a
Tracking Error	5.35%	5.37%	n/a	5.31%	5.31%	n/a
Upside Capture	92.4%	82.5%	100.0%	86.6%	73.1%	100.0%
Downside Capture	92.6%	98.7%	100.0%	91.3%	98.3%	100.0%

Source: Archer IMS, IDC, WestEnd Advisors

## SHORT-TERM VARIABILITY, LONG-TERM CONSISTENCY\*

Large-Cap Core Equity vs. S&P 500		1-Year	3-year	5-year
		Rolling	Rolling	Rolling
Number of rolling periods		109	101	93
Periods of outperformance	Gross	63	67	65
	Net	46	38	35
Percent of periods outperformed	Gross	58%	66%	70%
	Net	42%	38%	38%
Avg. period relative performance (annualized)	Gross	2.41 ppts	2.52 ppts	2.48 ppts
	Net	-0.91 ppts	-0.76 ppts	-0.76 ppts

Source: Archer IMS, IDC, WestEnd Advisors

## PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION

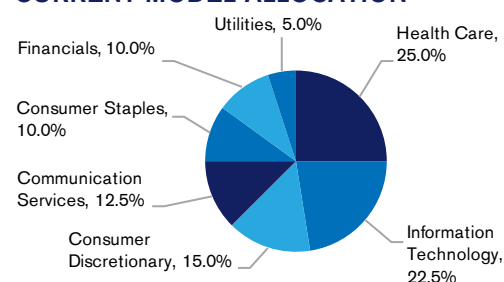
Number of Holdings	20 on average
Typical Position Size	5% at cost
Maximum Position Size	10%
Maximum Industry Exposure	15% at cost
Maximum Sector Exposure	35% at cost
Target Cash Position	2% to 5%
Annual Turnover Range	21% to 61%**

## MODEL PORTFOLIO WEIGHTS

Equity Sectors	
Health Care	25.0%
Information Technology	22.5%
Consumer Discretionary	15.0%
Communication Services	12.5%
Consumer Staples	10.0%
Financials	10.0%
Utilities	5.0%

Source: Bloomberg, WestEnd Advisors

## CURRENT MODEL ALLOCATION



Source: Bloomberg, WestEnd Advisors

## INVESTMENT PROCESS

We begin the investment process by aggregating more than 200 domestic and international economic measures into a proprietary database. We then evaluate the data to identify areas of economic strength and weakness in the economy and U.S. equity markets, and invest in approximately 20 large-cap stocks poised to benefit from economic trends.

\* Based on Large-Cap Core Equity Composite as of 12/31/2023. Net performance reflects the deduction of an assumed 3.00% annual fee. See Footnotes and Disclosures on page 4 for additional information.

\*\*Based on 5 years ended 12/31/23.

## PORTFOLIO POSITIONING as of 12/31/2023

- In our view, this evolving economic environment warrants a balance of exposures to defensive areas of the market as well as areas that should benefit if economic growth persists.
- We are emphasizing both mid- and late-phase sectors that we expect will see less deceleration in earnings as economic growth slows, including overweights of Communication Services, Health Care, Consumer Staples, and Utilities.
- We are avoiding most early-phase cyclical sectors, which we believe face the greatest risk to earnings amid slowing economic growth and given our view that a sustained reacceleration of growth is unlikely in the near-to-intermediate term.

## Q4 2023 ATTRIBUTION

### Positive Contributors

<b>Overweight</b>	Communication Services
<b>Underweight</b>	Energy Information Technology

### Negative Contributors

<b>Overweight</b>	Health Care Consumer Staples
<b>Underweight</b>	Financials

Source: Bloomberg, WestEnd Advisors

## HISTORICAL RETURNS\*

	Large-Cap Core Equity Composite		S&P 500
	Gross	Net	
2023	27.02%	23.33%	26.29%
2022	-22.11%	-24.47%	-18.11%
2021	23.36%	19.77%	28.71%
2020	29.28%	25.53%	18.40%
2019	26.92%	23.24%	31.49%
2018	-0.36%	-3.31%	-4.38%
2017	19.25%	15.77%	21.83%
2016	-4.75%	-7.58%	11.96%
2015	0.97%	-2.02%	1.38%
2014	17.15%	13.73%	13.69%
2013	29.55%	25.80%	32.39%
2012	15.64%	12.26%	16.00%
2011	0.00%	-2.96%	2.11%
2010	16.90%	13.48%	15.06%
2009	30.60%	26.81%	26.46%
2008	-36.21%	-38.18%	-37.00%
2007	9.69%	6.47%	5.49%
2006	14.71%	11.35%	15.80%
2005	10.47%	7.23%	4.91%
2004	18.28%	14.83%	10.88%
2003	42.36%	38.26%	28.68%
2002	-16.99%	-19.49%	-22.10%
2001	-0.21%	-3.17%	-11.89%
2000	6.38%	3.24%	-9.10%
1999	18.57%	15.10%	21.04%
1998	52.41%	48.05%	28.58%
1997	21.96%	18.40%	33.36%
1996	41.73%	37.65%	22.96%

Source: Archer IMS, IDC, WestEnd Advisors

## CURRENT HOLDINGS

### Communication Services

Alphabet Inc. (GOOGL)	T-Mobile US, Inc. (TMUS)
Meta Platforms, Inc. (META)	

### Consumer Discretionary

Amazon.com, Inc. (AMZN)	TJX Cos., Inc. (TJX)
NIKE, Inc. (NKE)	

### Consumer Staples

PepsiCo Inc. (PEP)	Walmart Inc. (WMT)
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### Financials

Mastercard Inc. (MA)	Visa Inc. (V)
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### Health Care

Johnson & Johnson (JNJ)	Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc. (TMO)
Medtronic plc (MDT)	UnitedHealth Group Inc. (UNH)

Merck & Co. Inc. (MRK)

### Information Technology

Apple Inc. (AAPL)	NVIDIA Corp. (NVDA)
Micron Technology, Inc. (MU)	Qualcomm Inc. (QCOM)
Microsoft Corp. (MSFT)	Salesforce.com, Inc. (CRM)

### Utilities

Duke Energy Corp. (DUK)

## INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT TEAM

**Fritz Porter, CFA** CIO, Portfolio Manager  
24 years of experience  
15 years at WestEnd Advisors

**Ned Durden** CIS, Portfolio Manager  
26 years of experience  
17 years at WestEnd Advisors

**Ty Peebles, CFA, CPA** Portfolio Manager  
13 years of experience  
10 years at WestEnd Advisors

**Jacob Buchanan, CFA** Portfolio Manager†  
7 years of experience  
6 years at WestEnd Advisors

### Outlook → Allocation Decisions → Implementation



For illustrative purposes only.

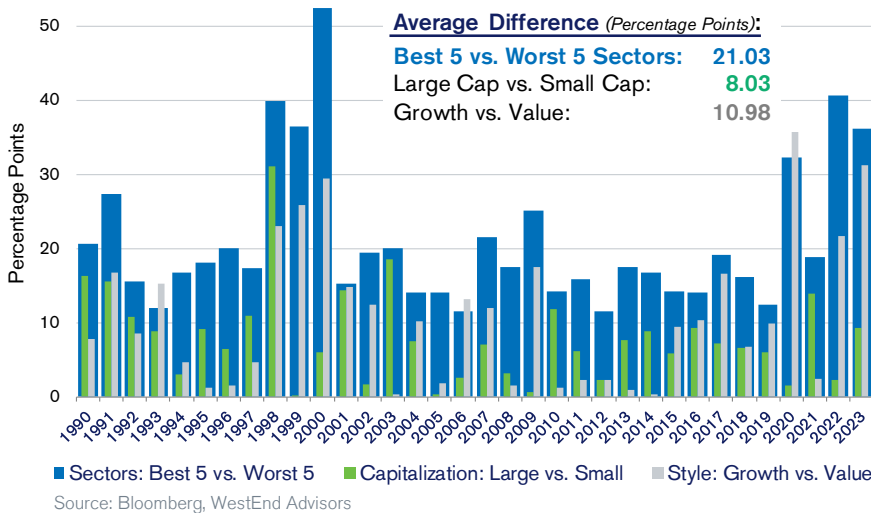
\* Based on Large-Cap Core Equity Composite as of 12/31/2023. Net performance reflects the deduction of an assumed 3.00% annual fee. See Footnotes and Disclosures on page 4 for additional information.

† Effective 1/1/2024

## THE IMPORTANCE OF SECTOR ALLOCATION

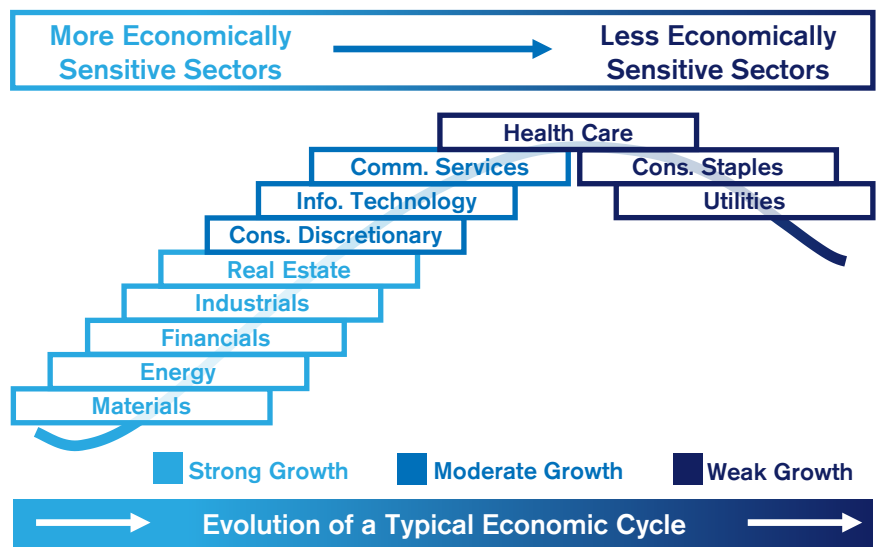
The path of economic growth is a key driver of U.S. equity sector performance. The investment team analyzes recurring cyclical trends and identifies the characteristics particular to the current economic cycle. Portfolios are typically invested in four to six large-cap U.S. sectors at any one time based on our macroeconomic outlook, but may be invested in more or fewer sectors as conditions warrant.

## RANGE OF RETURNS BY SECTOR, CAPITALIZATION, AND STYLE \*



Owning the right sectors at the right time and avoiding those not in their ideal economic environment offers significantly more opportunity for outperformance, in our view, than allocating to the right equity style or market capitalization range.

WestEnd actively positions client portfolios in more economically-sensitive sectors when it expects strong growth, and transitions to less economically-sensitive sectors as growth expectations wane.



For illustrative purposes only.

\* Sector performance is represented by sectors of the S&P 500® Index. "Large Cap" is represented by the S&P 500® Index. "Small Cap" is represented by the Russell 2000® Index. "Growth" is represented by the Russell 1000® Growth Index. "Value" is represented by the Russell 1000® Value Index. Data for 2016 excludes Real Estate as a stand-alone sector, which was included in Financials until September 16, 2016. Data for 2018 replaces the Telecommunication Services Sector with the new Communication Services Sector after September 21, 2018, using geometrically-linked total returns to produce a single full-year return, and treats the linked returns as a single sector, due to changes in GICS sector classifications and index rebalancing that occurred as of market close on September 21, 2018.

## FOOTNOTES AND DISCLOSURES

WestEnd Advisors, LLC ("WestEnd"), an SEC-registered investment adviser, operates as an autonomous Victory Capital® Investment Franchise. WestEnd's active principals are responsible for managing the firm and its day-to-day operations. Registration of an investment adviser does not imply any level of skill or training. WestEnd manages equity securities for individual, institutional and wrap clients.

WestEnd Advisors' Large-Cap Core Equity Composite is invested solely in U.S. Equity securities and/or high-grade money market instruments. Returns are achieved without the use of options, derivatives, or leverage of any kind. Results are calculated daily using the aggregate method, use trade date valuations, and include cash as well as the reinvestment of dividends, interest income, and other earnings, if applicable. Portfolio returns are weighted using beginning of period values plus weighted cash flows. Portfolios and composites are valued daily, are denominated in U.S. dollars only, and include discretionary non-wrap accounts with a minimum of \$500,000 invested in the Large-Cap Core Equity Model. The Composite excludes broadly distributed fund accounts. Prior to January 1, 2017, the Composite minimum was \$1,000,000 and excluded taxable accounts.

Composite performance results and the percentage of firm assets from December 31, 1995 to December 31, 2002 were realized under WestEnd Advisors' predecessor firm Providence Capital Management, Inc. in the Large-Cap Core Equity Composite. The Large-Cap Core Equity Composite creation and inception date is December 31, 1995.

Gross returns reflect the deduction of direct trading costs. Net performance reflects the deduction of an assumed 3.00% annual fee rate which is intended to equal or exceed the combined maximum advisory program fees and maximum investment management fees charged to advisory platform clients. This combined fee will normally include all charges for trading costs, portfolio management fees, custody and other administrative fees. Composite net returns are calculated by subtracting 1/12th of the highest applicable annual fee rate (3.00%) from the monthly gross return. Due to compounding of returns, full year net returns will typically not equal the gross return less 3%. Actual fees may vary depending on the individual sponsor's fee. Investment management fees are negotiated directly with advisory program sponsors. Fees are negotiable where circumstances warrant. Additional information on fees is provided in WestEnd Advisors' SEC Form ADV Part 2.

Past performance is not indicative of future results. It should not be assumed that recommendations made in the future will be profitable. The information contained herein is not intended to be an offer to provide investment advisory services. Such an offer may only be made if accompanied by WestEnd Advisors' SEC Form ADV Part 2.

The S&P 500® is used for comparative purposes only. The S&P 500®, our primary benchmark, includes approximately 500 stocks and is a common measure of the performance of the overall U.S. stock market. The S&P 500® Index measures the performance of 500 leading companies in the U.S. economy. The S&P 500® Index focuses on the large-cap segment of the market, with approximately 75% coverage of U.S. equities. The S&P 500® Index is designed to be an indicator of U.S. equities and is meant to reflect

the risk/return characteristics of the large-cap universe. The S&P 500® Index is a market capitalization-weighted index - each stock's weight in the index is proportionate to its market capitalization. Benchmark returns are not covered by the report of independent verifiers.

A complete list and description of all WestEnd Advisors' composites, as well as a GIPS® Report, is available upon request by phone (888-500-9025) or email (info@westendadvisors.com). Additional information regarding policies for valuing portfolios, calculating performance, and preparing compliant presentations is available upon request. GIPS® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein.

Strategy Advisory-Only assets include assets in Unified Managed Account (UMA) programs for which WestEnd provides Model Portfolios but has no discretion to effect trades, and no supervisory responsibility over the assets in the program.

Attribution Analysis is relative to the S&P 500® benchmark and was current as of the quarter specified in this presentation. A complete attribution report is available upon request.

Any portfolio characteristics, including position sizes and sector allocations among others, are generally averages and are for illustrative purposes only and do not reflect the investments of an actual portfolio unless otherwise noted. The investment guidelines of an actual portfolio may permit or restrict investments that are materially different in size, nature, and risk from those shown. The investment processes, research processes, or risk processes shown herein are for informational purposes to demonstrate an overview of the process. Such processes may differ by product, client mandate, or market conditions. Portfolios that are concentrated in a specific sector or industry may be subject to a higher degree of market risk than a portfolio whose investments are more diversified.

Holdings, Sector Weightings, and Portfolio Characteristics were current as of the date specified in this presentation. The listing of particular securities should not be considered a recommendation to purchase or sell these securities. While these securities were among WestEnd Advisors' Large-Cap Core Equity holdings at the time this material was assembled, holdings will change over time. There can be no assurance that the securities remain in the portfolio or that other securities have not been purchased. It should not be assumed that recommendations made in the future will be profitable or will equal the performance of the securities presently in the portfolio. Individual clients' portfolios may vary. Upon request, WestEnd Advisors will provide a list of all recommendations for the prior year.

As of December 31, 2023 WestEnd Advisors had \$21.9 million of assets in the Large-Cap Core Equity Composite. This information is included as supplemental information only.

January 2024