EQUITY INVESTMENT CORPORATION

All-Cap Value & Large-Cap Value

2023 Year End Commentary

January 2024

The fourth quarter capped a strong year for equity markets, rebounding from 2022, the worst year for stocks since 2008. Our All-Cap Value (ACV) and Large-Cap Value (LCV) SMA composites performed well, surpassing their benchmarks, the Russell 3000® Value Index (R3000V) and Russell 1000® Value Index (R1000V), respectively, on a gross basis over all periods shown below. For the quarter and the year, our value-added versus the R3000V and R1000V was attributable primarily to our stock selection.[1]

For the periods ended December 31, 2023	Q4	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
EIC ACV SMA Gross	12.3%	13.4%	14.7%	14.2%	10.0%
EIC ACV SMA Net	11.5%	10.1%	11.4%	10.9%	6.8%
Russell 3000® Value Index	9.8%	11.7%	8.8%	10.8%	8.3%
EIC LCV SMA Gross	12.0%	13.8%	15.2%	14.4%	10.0%
EIC LCV SMA Net	11.2%	10.4%	11.8%	11.0%	6.8%
Russell 1000® Value Index	9.5%	11.5%	8.9%	10.9%	8.4%
S&P 500® Index	11.7%	26.3%	10.0%	15.7%	12.0%

Table 1 Data Source: Morningstar Direct℠. Returns for periods greater than one year are annualized. Past performance does not guarantee future results. See footnote 2.

Investment Environment

Growth significantly outpaced value during 2023 in what could be described as a "worst to first" reversal from the prior year. After significant declines in 2022, growth stocks rebounded sharply — the Russell 3000® Growth Index (R3000G) gained 41.2%. Despite trailing growth in 2023 and a slight shortfall in 2021, however, value led growth over the last three years — the R3000V increased 8.8% annually versus an 8.1% advance for the R3000G — attributable to value's outperformance in 2022.[3]

Within the growth universe, performance remained highly concentrated, primarily driven by the "magnificent seven" mega-cap companies (Apple, Microsoft, Alphabet, Amazon, Tesla, Meta Platforms, and NVIDIA), which rose sharply. Without these seven, growth's performance was much more muted. For example, the Russell Midcap Growth Index and Russell 2000 Growth Index increased 25.9% and 18.7%, respectively, in 2023 but posted annualized returns of 1.3% and -3.5% for the last three years. In contrast, the Russell Midcap Value Index and Russell 2000 Value Index gained "only" 12.7% and 14.7%, respectively, in 2023 yet rose at annualized rates of 8.4% and 7.9% for the same three years.[4]

Such results are the sober math of outsized losses. For instance, an investor needs to gain nearly 43% to breakeven from a 30% drop, while a 10% loss can be recouped with only an 11% increase in value. We have always believed that the key to investment success is avoiding significant losses, and our investment process is built on this very premise, with its successful implementation driving our long-term pattern of less volatile returns.

Though the 2022 market decline worked off some COVID-era valuation excesses, 2023 brought us back to near-peak territory. The chart below shows that growth stocks remain extremely expensive compared to history, while value stocks are more reasonably priced.

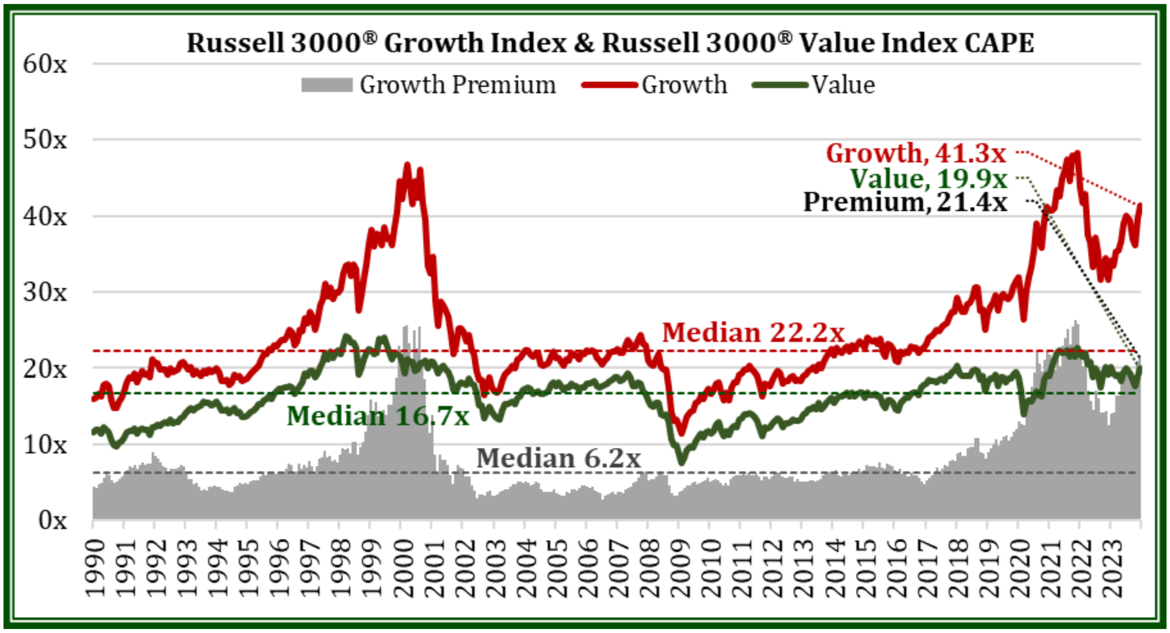

Chart 1 Data Source: S&P Capital IQ^PRO. See footnote 5.

While valuation tells us little about how stocks will do in the short run, it highly correlates with future longer-term returns. At current valuations, history suggests growth stocks are collectively priced for poor future returns, while value stocks offer reasonable return prospects. In fact, at current starting valuations, growth stocks have typically lost money annually over the subsequent decade, while value stocks have historically earned positive returns.[6] Accordingly, our portfolios remain heavily tilted toward value stocks.

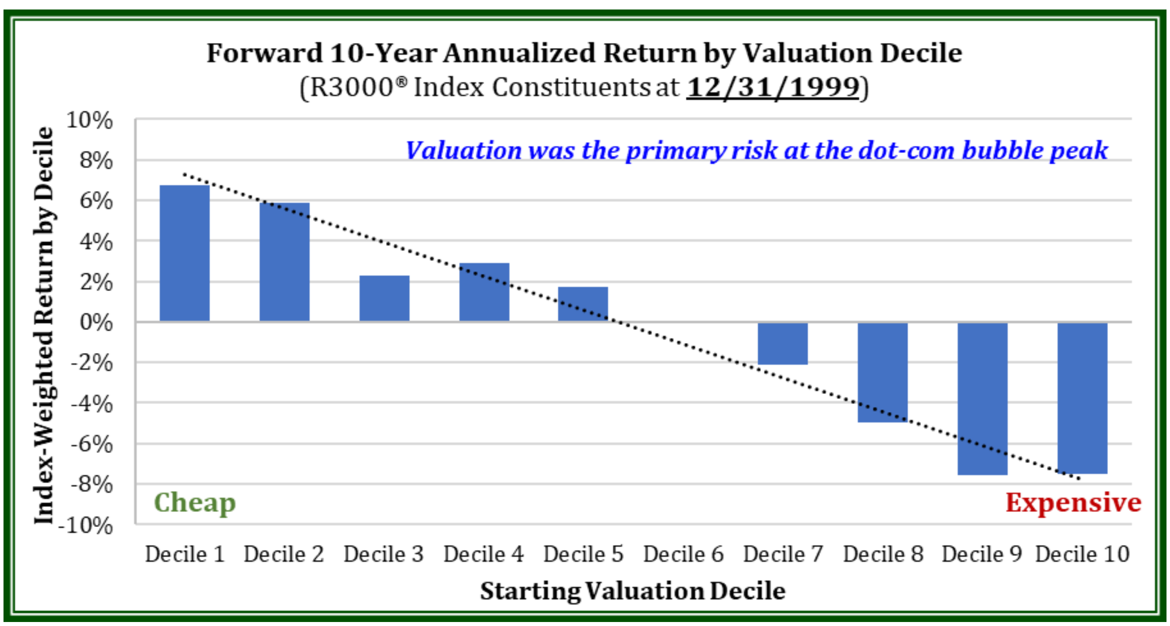

Chart 2 Data Source: S&P Capital IQ^PRO. See footnote 7.

The prior chart shows the market's 10-year returns from year-end 1999, when valuations were very high, like today's, grouped into valuation deciles. Cheap stocks did much better than expensive stocks, and there was a consistent relationship along the entire continuum — the more expensive a stock was, the worse it performed, and vice versa.

Besides valuation, growth stocks face additional headwinds. Concentration is now significantly higher than at the peak of the dot-com bubble — the "magnificent seven" accounts for 45% of the weight of the R3000G versus the top seven representing 33% of the index at its prior peak in mid-2001. The value index has no such concentration issues — the top seven names in the R3000V only comprise 13% of the index, well below long-term averages.[8]

Moreover, there are pockets of attractive opportunities within the value universe. For example, financials, which comprise a significant portion of the value index, generally benefit from higher interest rates. However, many financial stocks currently trade at prices lower than when the Federal Reserve started raising rates. Given their valuation levels, these stocks don't need higher rates to deliver adequate returns.

Portfolio Review[9]

During the fourth quarter, in addition to several tax trades and modest adds or trims, we increased our recently acquired Kenvue position from 1.5% to 3.0% in conjunction with the sale of Haleon. Kenvue is the consumer health spin-off from Johnson & Johnson and is a less expensive and higher-quality business than Haleon, the consumer health spin-off from GSK. We also sold our position in FedEx based on valuation.

For the year, portfolio turnover was 14.3% in our representative LCV portfolio and 16.5% in our representative ACV portfolio, well below our long-term averages of 26% and 32%, respectively. The following charts show the change in our active sector weights versus the R3000V and the trades driving their movement throughout the year.

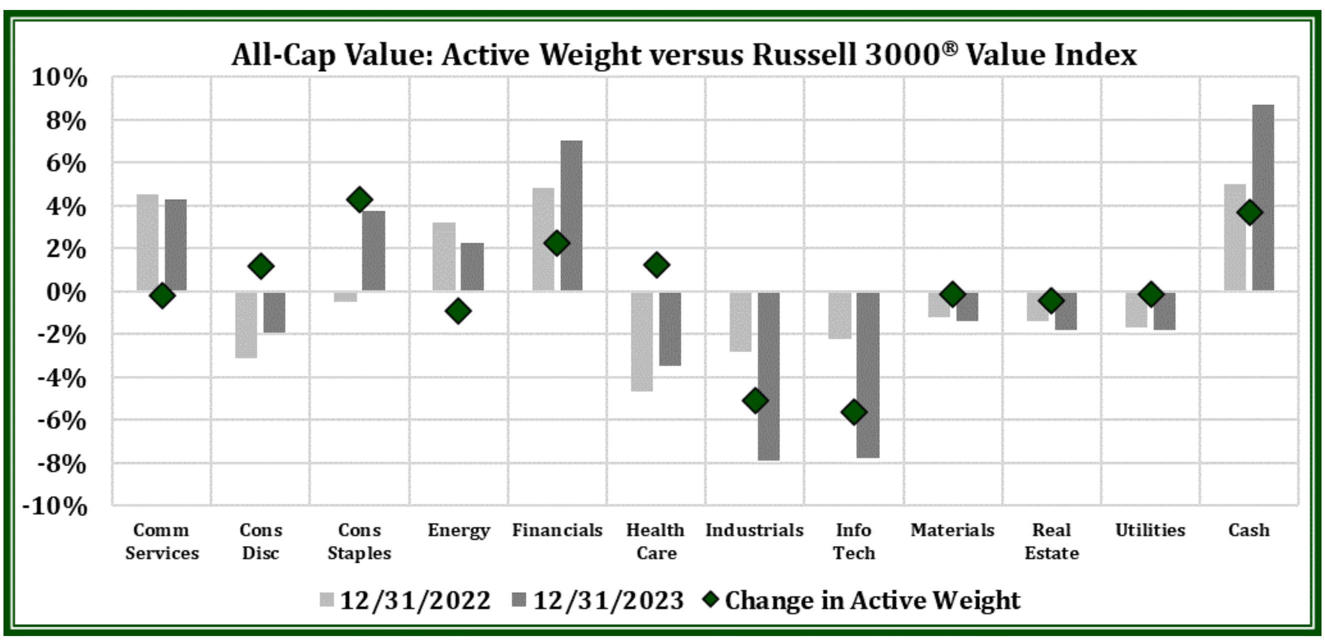

Chart 3 Data Source: Morningstar Direct℠. See footnote 10.

Comm Serv	Cons Disc	Cons Staples	Energy	Financials	Health Care	Industrials	Info Tech	Materials	Real Estate	Utilities	
	EXPE	DG KVUE		PYPL					NNN		BUY
T		DG KVUE	CTRA	FIS PNC PYPL SCHW TFC USB WFC	GSK MDT			GOLD		NFG*	ADD
META	EXPE	INGR	TTE	AGNC TRV USB	COR						TRIM
WBD		HLN		GPN		FDX			ESRT	CEG	SELL

*Chart 4 *All-Cap Value only. See footnote 11.*

We remain overweight in communication services, energy, and financials. All three sectors offer inexpensive, high-quality investment opportunities. The bulk of our trading activity in 2023 was in financials, where we completed opportunistic trades following the bank deposit crisis of the first quarter. In addition, we increased our exposure to consumer staples throughout the year, not based on a top-down bet, but as always, from the bottom up, one stock at a time. In this case, we bought two high-quality stocks, Dollar General and Kenvue, that were attractively priced. Our largest underweights remain in health care, industrials, and information technology.

At the end of 2023, our ACV and LCV portfolios traded at approximately 14x trailing and 11x forward earnings. Both portfolios had a return on equity of 17%, a dividend yield of 3.2%, and an estimated weighted average credit rating of A-.[12] We believe both portfolios are comprised of high-quality businesses, diversified against a range of economic outcomes, and priced to deliver reasonable investment returns in a world of stretched valuations.

As value managers, we would like to pay our respects to the recently departed Charlie Munger, the long-time business partner of Warren Buffett. The math behind our valuation models is based on the principles developed by Messrs. Buffett and Munger, as espoused in Buffett's 1977 article, "How Inflation Swindles the Equity Investor".[13] In this business, the best practices of successful investors are often emulated. Mr. Munger's focus on quality businesses at fair prices and his attention to the principles of simplicity, discipline, and rationality have long resonated with us, as have his aphorisms, including one of our favorites:

> *"It is remarkable how much long-term advantage people like us have gotten by trying to be consistently not stupid, instead of trying to be very intelligent. There must be some wisdom in the folk saying: 'It's the strong swimmers who drown.'"*[14]

We always strive to avoid the worst excesses of the market, be they valuation, poor earnings quality, leverage, or others, even when those themes are leading the market. Instead, we focus on the highest quality businesses available at valuations that give us good odds of reasonable investment returns. Over time, the consistent adherence to this approach, no matter what the environment, has delivered reliable results for our clients, with outperformance often clustered around periods when market excess is being realized and unwound. The attendant volatility of that reckoning can be the friend of the patient investor, as seen in the next chart, which shows our five-year rolling volatility versus the R3000V, along with our five-year rolling alpha. When market volatility increases, typically, so does our alpha.

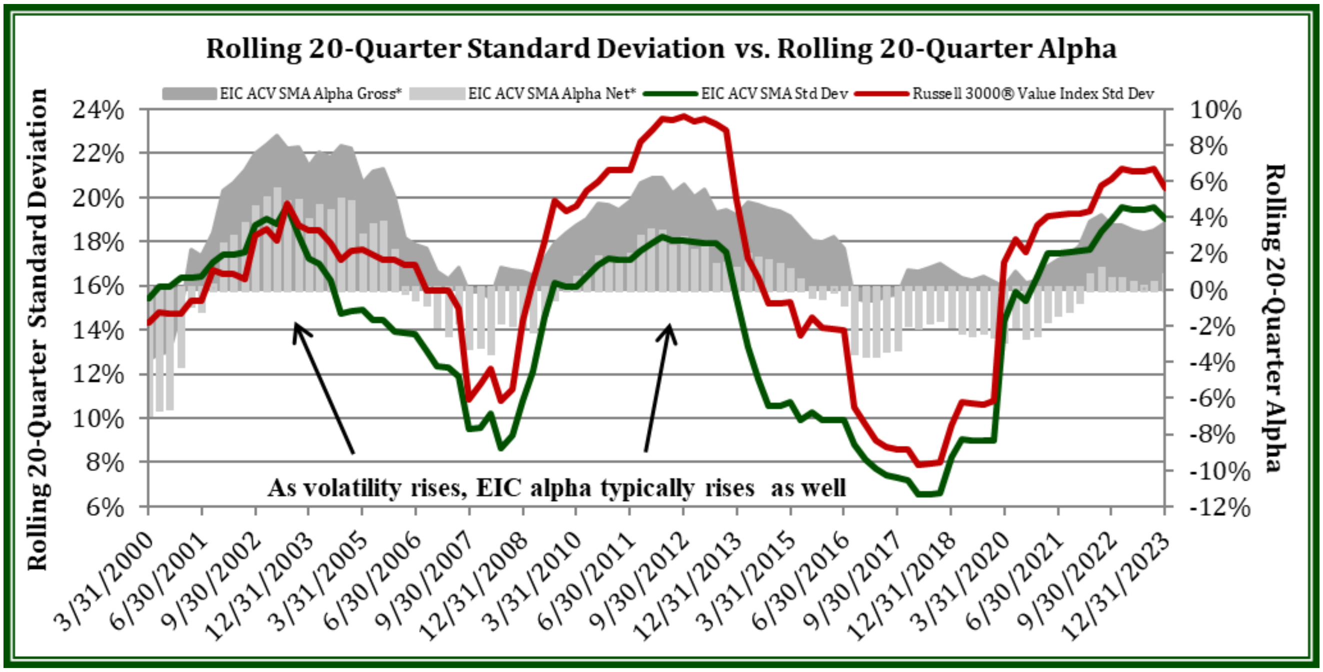

Chart 5 Data Source: Morningstar Direct[SM]. See footnote 15.

We believe we are in the early stages of such a period of heightened volatility. 2022 began a long overdue corrective action on valuations, but 2023 offered a respite, albeit a temporary one, in our opinion. Between lofty valuations, higher interest rates, and ever-present macro concerns, there remains an opportunity for active managers like us to distinguish themselves going forward.

As we enter the new year, we want to express our deep appreciation for our partnership. Thank you for your continued trust in our team and the services we provide.

Investment Team

W. Andrew Bruner, CFA, CPA R. Terrence Irrgang, CFA Ian Zabor, CFA

Robert Ladyman, CFA Thomas Knapp, CFA

Disclosures

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[1] Data Source: Morningstar Direct[SM]. Performance attribution for ACV and LCV versus Russell 3000 Value Index and Russell 1000 Value Index, respectively, for the quarter and year ended December 31, 2023.

[2] Gross returns for EIC SMA composites are "pure" gross returns, do not reflect the deduction of any expenses, including trading costs, and are presented as supplemental information to the GIPS® Composite Reports, which are considered an integral part of this commentary. Net returns are calculated by reducing gross returns with an assumed maximum annual SMA fee of 3.0%, applied monthly. SMA fees include transaction costs, portfolio management, custody, and other administrative fees. Platform sponsor fees may vary. SMA fee schedules are provided by independent SMA platform sponsors and are available upon request from the individual sponsor. All returns include reinvestment of dividends and interest. Indexes are unmanaged, do not incur management fees, costs, or expenses, and cannot be invested in directly. Performance data is historical. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. Individual client portfolio results may vary. Investing involves risk including possible loss of principal.

[3] Data Source: Morningstar Direct℠. 2023 and trailing 3-year returns of Russell 3000 Growth and Russell 3000 Value Indexes.

[4] Data Source: Morningstar Direct℠. 2023 and trailing 3-year returns of Russell Midcap Growth and Russell 2000 Growth Indexes versus Russell Midcap Value and Russell 2000 Value Indexes.

[5] Russell 3000 Growth Index modified CAPE (red line), Russell 3000 Value Index modified CAPE (green line), Russell 3000 Growth Index modified CAPE arithmetic premium over Russell 3000 Value Index modified CAPE (gray area) at each month-end January 31, 1990 to December 31, 2023. Modified CAPE (Cyclically Adjusted Price-to-Earnings) is the ratio of index prices to trailing 10-year index-level earnings before taxes (EBT) calculated on a time-weighted basis. Annual index level EBT is imputed by dividing the year-end index price by an aggregated price to EBT multiple of index constituents.

[6] Data Source: S&P Capital IQ[PRO] . Russell 3000 Value Index modified CAPE at each month-end January 31, 1990 to December 31, 2013, plotted against the subsequent annualized 10-year total return of the Russell 3000 Value for each month-end January 31, 2000 through December 31, 2023 and Russell 3000 Growth Index modified CAPE at each month-end from January 31, 1990 to December 31, 2013, plotted against the subsequent annualized 10-year total return of the Russell 3000 Growth for each month-end January 31, 2000 through December 31, 2023.

[7] Russell 3000 constituents sorted by starting earnings yield (peak trailing 3-year earnings per share divided by the share price) as of December 31, 1999. The constituents are grouped into deciles by valuation with the aggregate index weights of each decile roughly equal. 10-year total returns were calculated for each constituent over the December 31, 1999 to December 31, 2009 timeframe and weighted by index weight. If the constituent was not public on December 31, 2009, the last available trading date price was used in the total return calculation.

[8] Data Source: S&P Capital IQ[PRO].The weight of the largest 7 companies in the Russell 3000 Growth Index or Russell 3000 Value Index calculated monthly from December 31, 1979 to December 31, 2023. Multiple share class listings were combined into one weight for the entire company for the analysis.

[9] References to specific securities and their issuers are for illustrative purposes only and are not intended to be, and should not be interpreted as, recommendations to purchase or sell such securities. Any specific securities described herein do not represent all securities purchased, sold, or recommended for advisory clients. Actual portfolio holdings vary for each client, and there is no guarantee that a particular client's account, SMA, or advisory program will hold any, or all, of the securities identified. It should not be assumed that any of the securities or recommendations made will be profitable or will equal the performance of the listed securities.

[10] Active weights based on absolute sector weights relative to the Russell 3000 Value Index for EIC ACV representative portfolio on December 31, 2022 and 2023. Changes in active weights in the consumer discretionary, consumer staples, financials, and information technology sectors were impacted by the GICS® reclassification of DLTR from consumer discretionary to consumer staples and the reclassification of GPN and FIS from info technology to financials on March 17, 2023.

Sectors are determined using the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS). GICS® was developed by and is the exclusive property of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC (S&P) and MSCI Inc. (MSCI). GICS is the trademark of S&P and MSCI. Global Industry Classification Standard, GICS, and GICS Direct are service marks of S&P and MSCI.

[11] Trades in EIC ACV and LCV portfolios completed from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

[12] Data Source: Morningstar Direct℠ as of December 31, 2023. Weighted average trailing twelve-month P/E Ratio, forward P/E Ratio, and trailing twelve-month return on equity for EIC ACV and LCV representative portfolios, as calculated by Morningstar.

Data Source: APL Systems as of December 31, 2023. Dividend yield for EIC ACV and LCV representative portfolios.

Data Source: S&P Capital IQ[PRO]. Weighted average of S&P credit-quality ratings on underlying securities held in the representative ACV and LCV portfolio on December 31, 2023, and not the portfolios themselves. Credit-quality ratings represent Standard & Poor's (S&P) opinion as to the quality of the securities they rate. The ratings range from AAA (extremely strong capacity to meet its financial commitments) to D (in default). Ratings are relative and subjective and are not absolute standards of quality.

[13] Buffett, Warren E. "How Inflation Swindles the Equity Investor." Fortune, May 1977: 250-257.

[14] Munger, Charlie. Wesco Financial Corporation, 1989 Annual Report, Letter to Shareholders, 5 March 1990: 69. Retrieved from https://rememberingtheobvious.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/wesco-charlie-munger-letters-1983-2009-collection.pdf. 10 January 2024.

[15] Standard deviation of rolling 20-quarter returns ending March 31, 2000, through December 31, 2023, for ACV SMA Composite relative to its alpha for the rolling 20-quarter periods. Alpha is a measure of the difference between a strategy's actual returns and its expected performance, given its beta relative to its benchmark (Russell 3000 Value Index). Standard Deviation (Std Dev) is a statistical measure describing the degree of variability (+/-) around the return over the period calculated. EIC ACV SMA standard deviation is calculated using gross numbers.

Equity Investment Corporation
All-Cap Value SMA Composite Report

As of 12/31/2023	1 Year	5 Year (annualized)	10 Year (annualized)	Since Inception** (annualized)
Gross Rate of Return[1] (Supplemental)	13.4%	14.2%	10.0%	11.8%
Assumed 3% Annual Fee Net Rate of Return[1]	10.1%	10.9%	6.8%	8.5%
Benchmark Return of Russell 3000® Value Index	11.7%	10.8%	8.3%	10.2%

Table Notes:
[1] Gross returns, presented as supplemental information, are "pure" gross and do not reflect the deduction of any expenses, including trading costs, for SMA accounts. Net returns are calculated by reducing gross returns with an assumed maximum annual SMA fee of 3.0%, applied monthly.
**Inception Date: January 1, 1986

Disclosures:
Equity Investment Corporation (EIC) is an SEC-registered, independent investment adviser incorporated in the state of Georgia. EIC has been providing investment advisory services to clients since 1986.

From January 1, 1986, through December 31, 1999, Jim Barksdale was primarily responsible for creating and achieving the performance results. Over that time period, the All-Cap Value SMA composite gained 14.4% (annualized) (11.1% net of an assumed maximum annual 3% fee), while the Russell 3000® Value Index rose 15.6% (annualized).

Andrew Bruner joined as the second member of EIC's investment team in December 1999. From that point through the present day, portfolios have been managed using a team-based approach. Terry Irrgang became the third member of our investment team in April of 2003. Ian Zabor became the fourth member of our team, joining EIC in July of 2005. From January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2023, our investment team was responsible for the All-Cap Value SMA composite increasing by 10.2% (annualized) (7.0% net of an assumed maximum annual 3% fee); the Russell 3000 Value Index gained 7.2% (annualized).

Effective September 30, 2016, we implemented a succession plan to ensure the continuity and stability of our firm. In a transaction that closed on that date, a new investment adviser entity formed by Messrs. Bruner, Irrgang, and Zabor purchased substantially all of the assets and assumed all of the liabilities necessary for EIC's continuous operation from Mr. Barksdale. That new registrant succeeded to all of EIC's business. As planned, Mr. Barksdale's tenure at EIC ended in August of 2019 when his transitional employment agreement expired. From the date of the succession through December 31, 2023, our investment team was responsible for the All-Cap Value SMA composite advancing by 11.4% (annualized) (8.2% net of an assumed maximum annual 3% fee), versus an 8.9% (annualized) increase for the Russell 3000 Value Index.

During all times after 1999, our investment team has been responsible for achieving the performance results shown in the tables.

Performance numbers (beginning July 1, 1995) are the value-weighted, time-weighted, total return composite results of fully discretionary All-Cap Value equity wrap fee (SMA) accounts. The strategy employs a flexible framework (not constrained by any cap size limitations) of investing in high-quality, well-managed companies, while at the same time avoiding those that look inexpensive relative to their historical record but are actually in structural decline. Prior to January 1, 2013, the composite was called the All-Cap Value Wrap Composite. Returns are generally presented net of foreign withholding taxes on dividends, interest income, and capital gains; however, returns for some accounts are presented gross of foreign taxes depending on the treatment by their custodian. Prior to July 1, 1995, the returns are that of the All-Cap Value composite. Results for the period January 1, 1989, through July 1, 1995, include both SMA and non-SMA accounts. During this period, SMA accounts represent on average 24% of the composite. Since July 1, 1995, SMA accounts comprise 100% of the composite. The composite creation date is July 1, 1995, and the inception date is January 1, 1986. All accounts included in the composite are managed according to similar investment guidelines. The benchmark index is the Russell 3000 Value Index (which excludes an advisory fee), and was chosen because it is representative of the composite's investment style. The Russell 3000 Value Index measures the performance of the largest 3000 US companies in the value segment of the US equity universe. The Russell 3000 Value Index is based on the Russell 3000® Index, a market-capitalization weighted equity index representing approximately 98% of the investable US equity market.

Equity Investment Corporation
All-Cap Value SMA Composite Report

								Advisory-Only (UMA) and Managed Assets		
Year Ended Dec - 31	Gross* Rate of Return[1] (Supplemental)	Assumed 3% Annual Fee Net Rate of Return[1]	Benchmark Return of Russell 3000® Value Index	Composite 3-Yr St Dev	Benchmark 3-Yr St Dev	Dispersion[2] of Annual Returns (St Dev)	Number of Portfolios[3]	Composite Assets ($ Millions)	UMA Assets[4] ($ Millions) (Supplemental)	GIPS® Firm Assets ($ Millions)	Total Assets[4] ($ Millions) (Supplemental)
2023	13.4%	10.1%	11.7%	15.9%	16.7%	0.8%	2243	$1,231.0	$2,818.0	$2,654.4	$5,472.4
2022	1.6%	-1.4%	-8.0%	19.3%	21.5%	0.6%	1841	$1,021.8	$2,392.5	$2,267.8	$4,660.4
2021	31.0%	27.2%	25.4%	17.1%	19.3%	0.8%	1565	$937.9	$2,108.2	$2,027.4	$4,135.6
2020	5.0%	1.9%	2.9%	17.3%	20.0%	1.0%	1574	$784.3	$1,694.6	$1,607.6	$3,302.2
2019	22.7%	19.1%	26.3%	10.6%	12.0%	0.6%	2065	$1,151.4	$1,942.4	$2,245.1	$4,187.5
2018	-6.4%	-9.2%	-8.6%	9.3%	11.1%	0.3%	2341	$1,064.9	$1,721.0	$2,219.9	$3,940.9
2017	15.6%	12.2%	13.2%	8.0%	10.3%	0.4%	2486	$1,264.8	$2,044.9	$2,790.7	$4,835.6
2016	12.2%	8.9%	18.4%	8.6%	11.0%	0.5%	2893	$1,406.1	$2,044.5	$2,994.4	$5,038.9
2015	-4.4%	-7.2%	-4.1%	8.9%	10.7%	0.5%	4727	$1,964.8	$1,590.0	$3,658.9	$5,248.9
2014	14.9%	11.5%	12.7%	8.1%	9.4%	0.5%	5272	$2,259.6	$1,657.7	$3,862.6	$5,520.3
2013	24.7%	21.1%	32.7%	9.2%	12.9%	0.6%	4290	$1,703.6	$1,009.2	$3,286.3	$4,295.5
2012	10.0%	6.7%	17.6%	11.5%	15.8%	0.4%	2742	$1,016.1	$665.6	$2,301.1	$2,966.7
2011	7.4%	4.2%	-0.1%	16.3%	21.0%	0.6%	1398	$556.0	$314.5	$1,127.9	$1,442.5
2010	18.2%	14.7%	16.2%	18.7%	23.5%	0.5%	937	$432.6	$77.9	$836.9	$914.8
2009	26.9%	23.2%	19.8%	17.3%	21.3%	1.3%	743	$282.7	$10.5	$541.2	$551.8
2008	-22.9%	-25.2%	-36.3%	11.7%	15.5%	1.0%	946	$220.2	$0.0	$362.6	$362.6
2007	3.3%	0.3%	-1.0%	7.0%	8.3%	0.8%	935	$283.5	$0.0	$448.1	$448.1
2006	16.6%	13.1%	22.3%	6.2%	7.0%	0.8%	758	$252.7	$0.0	$487.2	$487.2
2005	2.8%	-0.3%	6.9%	8.8%	9.7%	0.7%	675	$195.5	$0.0	$463.6	$463.6
2004	13.9%	10.6%	16.9%	11.4%	14.8%	0.8%	531	$137.4	$0.0	$388.1	$388.1
2003	25.2%	21.6%	31.1%	13.6%	16.0%	0.8%	289	$70.0	$0.0	$231.0	$231.0
2002	-4.1%	-6.9%	-15.2%	15.9%	16.6%	1.5%	59	$14.6	$0.0	$110.7	$110.7
2001	16.9%	13.5%	-4.3%	15.7%	14.1%	0.8%	13	$5.4	$0.0	$82.2	$82.2
2000	18.6%	15.2%	8.0%	18.0%	16.8%	0.8%	16	$6.5	$0.0	$62.3	$62.3
1999	2.1%	-0.9%	6.6%	15.7%	15.9%	1.0%	27	$13.0	$0.0	$64.1	$64.1
1998	16.2%	12.8%	13.5%	14.5%	14.9%	0.9%	11	$2.8	$0.0	$35.2	$35.2
1997	30.1%	26.4%	34.8%	8.8%	9.5%	0.8%	12	$4.9	$0.0	$38.8	$38.8
1996	8.0%	4.8%	21.6%	7.7%	9.2%	0.6%	19	$16.6	$0.0	$69.7	$69.7
1995	19.7%	16.2%	37.0%	6.2%	8.3%	0.6%	42	$23.0	$0.0	$93.4	$93.4
1994	0.2%	-2.8%	-1.9%	5.7%	8.2%	0.8%	65	$32.7	$0.0	$92.6	$92.6
1993	11.3%	8.0%	18.7%	8.0%	9.5%	0.7%	72	$44.0	$0.0	$84.5	$84.5
1992	10.6%	7.4%	14.9%	12.5%	13.7%	0.9%	69	$53.3	$0.0	$84.1	$84.1
1991	37.0%	33.0%	25.4%	13.3%	14.5%	1.3%	58	$35.6	$0.0	$48.9	$48.9
1990	-8.0%	-10.7%	-8.8%	13.2%	13.5%	0.7%	59	$25.8	$0.0	$30.4	$30.4
1989	20.8%	17.3%	24.2%	18.0%	17.6%	1.6%	51	$21.4	$0.0	$27.8	$27.8
1988	27.4%	23.7%	23.6%	19.9%	18.9%	1.7%	14	$6.0	$0.0	$8.0	$8.0
1987	10.6%	7.4%	-0.1%	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	$0.5	$0.0	$0.6	$0.6
1986	25.0%	21.3%	18.8%	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	$0.2	$0.0	$0.2	$0.2

Table Notes:

[1] *Gross returns, presented as supplemental information, are "pure" gross and do not reflect the deduction of any expenses, including trading costs, for SMA accounts. "Pure" gross returns from 10/1/02 through 12/31/06, reflect the deduction of trading costs but not any additional expenses. For the period 1/1/89 through 7/1/95, SMA accounts represent on average 24% of the composite assets. Prior to 7/1/95 and for the periods 10/1/02 through 12/31/06, the returns are that of EIC's All-Cap Value composite. For all other periods, SMA accounts represent 100% of the composite assets. Net returns are calculated by reducing gross returns with an assumed maximum annual SMA fee of 3.0%, applied monthly.

[2] Dispersion is an asset-weighted standard deviation for the accounts in the composite for the entire year (or year-to-date) and is calculated using gross returns. "N/A" represents when dispersion is not statistically meaningful due to an insufficient number of portfolios in the composite for the entire year. For 1986 through 1995 dispersion represents EIC's All-Cap Value composite, which contains both SMA and non-SMA accounts. For 1996 through 2005, dispersion represents EIC's internally administered SMA accounts.

[3] Number of Portfolios/Composite Assets significantly decreased in 2016 due to transitioning of a major SMA program to a model based (UMA) program during Q416.

[4] "Total Assets" include our regulatory assets under management ("GIPS® Firm Assets") and our advisory-only "UMA Assets". EIC has no trading discretion for UMA accounts and provides a model portfolio to the program sponsor or overlay manager. The "UMA Assets" and "Total Assets" amounts are shown as supplemental information.

Additional Notes: The three year annualized standard deviation measures variability of the composite (gross of fees) and the benchmark returns over the preceding 36-month period.

Disclosures *(cont.)*:

Performance has been measured on a monthly basis from January 1, 1986, to present. Periods are geometrically linked to obtain the quarterly and annual results. Eligible new accounts are added to the composite at the beginning of the first full quarter under EIC management. Trade-date accounting with monthly valuations and adjustments for large cash flows are used. Results are based on fully discretionary accounts under management, including those accounts no longer with the firm. The US Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Returns include the reinvestment of all income. Economic and market conditions have differed over the time period displayed, and likewise will be different in the future. Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance and preparing GIPS Composite Reports are available upon request.

EIC claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. EIC has been independently verified for the periods January 1, 1986, through September 30, 2023. A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to the composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. Verification does not provide assurance on the accuracy of any specific performance report. The verification reports, as well as a complete list and description of all the firm's composites, are available upon request by contacting Equity Investment Corporation, 1776 Peachtree Street NW, Suite 600S, Atlanta, GA 30309. The firm's list of broad distribution pooled funds is available upon request. Prospective clients should be aware that results are historical and do not imply future rates of return or volatility for EIC or the indices, which may be materially different from the past and from each other.

Investment management fees are based on market values of the assets under management. In addition to a management fee, some accounts pay an all-inclusive fee based on a percentage of assets under management. Other than brokerage commissions, this fee includes portfolio monitoring, consulting services, and in some cases, custodial services provided by a program sponsor. The assumed maximum fees for SMA accounts (charged quarterly) are 0.75%. Total fees charged may equal 3% per year (which is assumed to be equal to or higher than the highest actual SMA fee charged by a program sponsor). SMA schedules are provided by independent SMA sponsors and are available upon request from the individual sponsor. Further information about fees and compensation is discussed in EIC's form ADV Part 2 (www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

London Stock Exchange Group plc ("LSE Group") is the source and owner of FTSE Russell index data. FTSE Russell is a trading name of certain of the LSE Group companies. "Russell®" is a trade mark of the relevant LSE Group companies and is used by any other LSE Group company under license. All rights in the FTSE Russell indexes or data vest in the relevant LSE Group company which owns the index or the data. Neither LSE Group nor its licensors accept any liability for any errors or omissions in the indexes or data and no party may rely on any indexes or data contained in this communication. No further distribution of data from the LSE Group is permitted without the relevant LSE Group company's express written consent. The LSE Group does not promote, sponsor or endorse the content of this communication. FTSE Russell Index information is sourced via S&P Capital IQ PRO.

Equity Investment Corporation
Large-Cap Value SMA Composite Report

As of 12/31/2023	1 Year	5 Year (annualized)	10 Year (annualized)	Since Inception** (annualized)
Gross Rate of Return[1] (Supplemental)	13.8%	14.4%	10.0%	9.5%
Assumed 3% Annual Fee Net Rate of Return[1]	10.4%	11.0%	6.8%	6.3%
Benchmark Return of Russell 1000® Value Index	11.5%	10.9%	8.4%	7.1%

Table Notes:
[1] Gross returns, presented as supplemental information, are "pure" gross and do not reflect the deduction of any expenses, including trading costs, for SMA accounts. Net returns are calculated by reducing gross returns by an assumed maximum annual SMA fee of 3.0% (0.75%/quarter during 2001 and 0.25%/month thereafter).
**Inception Date: January 1, 2001

Disclosures:
Equity Investment Corporation (EIC) is an SEC-registered, independent investment adviser incorporated in the state of Georgia. EIC has been providing investment advisory services to clients since 1986.

From January 1, 1986, through December 31, 1999, Jim Barksdale was primarily responsible for creating and achieving the performance results. Andrew Bruner joined as the second member of EIC's investment team in December 1999. From that point through the present day, portfolios have been managed using a team-based approach. Terry Irrgang became the third member of our investment team in April of 2003. Ian Zabor became the fourth member of our team, joining EIC in July of 2005.

Effective September 30, 2016, we implemented a succession plan to ensure the continuity and stability of our firm. In a transaction that closed on that date, a new investment adviser entity formed by Messrs. Bruner, Irrgang, and Zabor purchased substantially all of the assets and assumed all of the liabilities necessary for EIC's continuous operation from Mr. Barksdale. That new registrant succeeded to all of EIC's business. As planned, Mr. Barksdale's tenure at EIC ended in August of 2019 when his transitional employment agreement expired.

Our investment team has been responsible for achieving the performance results shown in the tables.

Performance numbers are the value-weighted, time-weighted, total return composite results of fully discretionary Large-Cap Value equity wrap fee (SMA) accounts managed in the style of the firm's traditional value methodology with a large-cap bias. The strategy employs a flexible framework of investing in high-quality, well-managed companies, while at the same time avoiding those that look inexpensive relative to their historical record but are actually in structural decline. Prior to January 1, 2013, the composite was called the Large-Cap Value Wrap Composite. Returns are generally presented net of foreign withholding taxes on dividends, interest income, and capital gains; however, returns for some accounts are presented gross of foreign taxes depending on the treatment by their custodian. The composite creation and inception date is January 1, 2001, and SMA accounts comprise 100% of the composite. The benchmark index is the Russell 1000® Value Index (which excludes an advisory fee), and was chosen because it is representative of the composite's investment style. The Russell 1000 Value Index measures the performance of the large-cap value segment of the US equity universe. It is a subset of the Russell 3000® Value Index and includes those Russell 1000® companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower expected long-term mean earnings growth rates. The Russell 1000 represents approximately 90% of the investable US equity market.

Performance has been measured on a monthly basis from January 1, 2001, to present. Periods are geometrically linked to obtain the quarterly and annual results. Eligible new accounts are added to the composite at the beginning of the first full quarter under EIC management. Trade-date accounting with monthly valuations and adjustments for large cash flows are used. Results are based on fully discretionary accounts under management, including those accounts no longer with the firm. The US Dollar is the currency used to express performance. Returns include the reinvestment of all income. During 2002, 2% of the assets are non-fee paying accounts. There are no non-fee paying accounts during any other period. Economic and market conditions have differed over the time period displayed, and likewise will be different in the future. Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance and preparing GIPS Composite Reports are available upon request.

Equity Investment Corporation
Large-Cap Value SMA Composite Report

Year Ended Dec - 31	Gross* Rate of Return[1] (Supplemental)	Assumed 3% Annual Fee Net Rate of Return[1]	Benchmark Return of Russell 1000® Value Index	Composite 3-Yr St Dev	Benchmark 3-Yr St Dev	Dispersion[2] of Annual Returns (St Dev)	Number of Portfolios[3]	Composite Assets ($ Millions)	Advisory-Only (UMA) and Managed Assets: UMA Assets[4] ($ Millions) (Supplemental)	GIPS® Firm Assets ($ Millions)	Total[4] ($ Millions) (Supplemental)
2023	13.8%	10.4%	11.5%	15.4%	16.5%	0.7%	938	$365.5	$2,818.0	$2,654.4	$5,472.4
2022	2.6%	-0.4%	-7.5%	19.0%	21.3%	0.6%	689	$258.5	$2,392.5	$2,267.8	$4,660.4
2021	30.9%	27.1%	25.2%	17.1%	19.1%	0.8%	548	$235.1	$2,108.2	$2,027.4	$4,135.6
2020	4.3%	1.2%	2.8%	17.3%	19.6%	0.8%	590	$206.6	$1,694.6	$1,607.6	$3,302.2
2019	22.6%	19.1%	26.5%	10.6%	11.8%	0.6%	786	$279.4	$1,942.4	$2,245.1	$4,187.5
2018	-6.4%	-9.2%	-8.3%	9.1%	10.8%	0.4%	898	$262.8	$1,721.0	$2,219.9	$3,940.9
2017	15.6%	12.3%	13.7%	7.8%	10.2%	0.7%	902	$301.6	$2,044.9	$2,790.7	$4,835.6
2016	11.9%	8.6%	17.3%	8.5%	10.8%	0.5%	938	$289.0	$2,044.5	$2,994.4	$5,038.9
2015	-4.5%	-7.3%	-3.8%	8.9%	10.7%	0.4%	1146	$318.5	$1,590.0	$3,658.9	$5,248.9
2014	15.0%	11.6%	13.5%	8.1%	9.2%	0.5%	361	$159.4	$1,657.7	$3,862.6	$5,520.3
2013	24.8%	21.2%	32.5%	9.4%	12.7%	0.5%	863	$328.7	$1,009.2	$3,286.3	$4,295.5
2012	10.0%	6.8%	17.5%	11.5%	15.5%	0.3%	658	$197.2	$665.6	$2,301.1	$2,966.7
2011	8.2%	5.0%	0.4%	15.9%	20.7%	0.3%	465	$130.1	$314.5	$1,127.9	$1,442.5
2010	16.8%	13.4%	15.5%	18.5%	23.2%	0.4%	409	$98.2	$77.9	$836.9	$914.8
2009	25.0%	21.4%	19.7%	17.2%	21.1%	1.0%	386	$80.0	$10.5	$541.2	$551.8
2008	-22.8%	-25.2%	-36.9%	12.1%	15.4%	N/A	3	$0.9	$0.0	$362.6	$362.6
2007	2.1%	-0.9%	-0.2%	6.9%	8.1%	N/A	3	$1.1	$0.0	$448.1	$448.1
2006	17.7%	14.3%	22.3%	6.0%	6.7%	N/A	3	$1.0	$0.0	$487.2	$487.2
2005	5.7%	2.6%	7.1%	8.7%	9.5%	0.4%	18	$9.3	$0.0	$463.6	$463.6
2004	13.1%	9.8%	16.5%	12.7%	14.8%	0.4%	18	$8.9	$0.0	$388.1	$388.1
2003	23.3%	19.7%	30.0%	14.2%	16.0%	1.1%	21	$8.5	$0.0	$231.0	$231.0
2002	-9.0%	-11.7%	-15.5%	N/A	N/A	0.5%	42	$11.0	$0.0	$110.7	$110.7
2001	14.6%	11.3%	-5.6%	N/A	N/A	1.2%	45	$12.4	$0.0	$82.2	$82.2

Table Notes:

[1] *Gross returns, presented as supplemental information, are "pure" gross and do not reflect the deduction of any expenses, including trading costs, for SMA accounts. Net returns are calculated by reducing gross returns by an assumed maximum annual SMA fee of 3.0% (0.75%/quarter during 2001 and 0.25%/month thereafter).

[2] Dispersion is an asset-weighted standard deviation for the accounts in the composite the entire year (or year-to-date) and is calculated using gross returns. "N/A" represents when dispersion is not statistically meaningful due to an insufficient number of portfolios in the composite for the entire year.

[3] Number of Portfolios/Composite Assets significantly decreased in Q4 2014 and Q4 2016 due to transitioning of two major SMA programs to model based (UMA) programs.

[4] "Total Assets" include our regulatory assets under management ("GIPS® Firm Assets") and our advisory-only "UMA Assets". EIC has no trading discretion for UMA accounts and provides a model portfolio to the program sponsor or overlay manager. The "UMA Assets" and "Total Assets " amounts are shown as supplemental information.

Additional Note: The three year annualized standard deviation measures variability of the composite (gross of fees) and the benchmark returns over the preceding 36-month period.

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