



NORTH GROWTH
MANAGEMENT



AUGUST 2024 MONTHLY REPORT

SEPTEMBER 6, 2024

Market and Fund Performance Update

After suffering a steep sell-off at the beginning of the month, U.S. equities recovered to close August with gains. Consumer staples, real estate, and health care were the winning sectors as the markets waffled between an impending economic downturn versus a more sanguine outlook of lower inflation and economic growth.

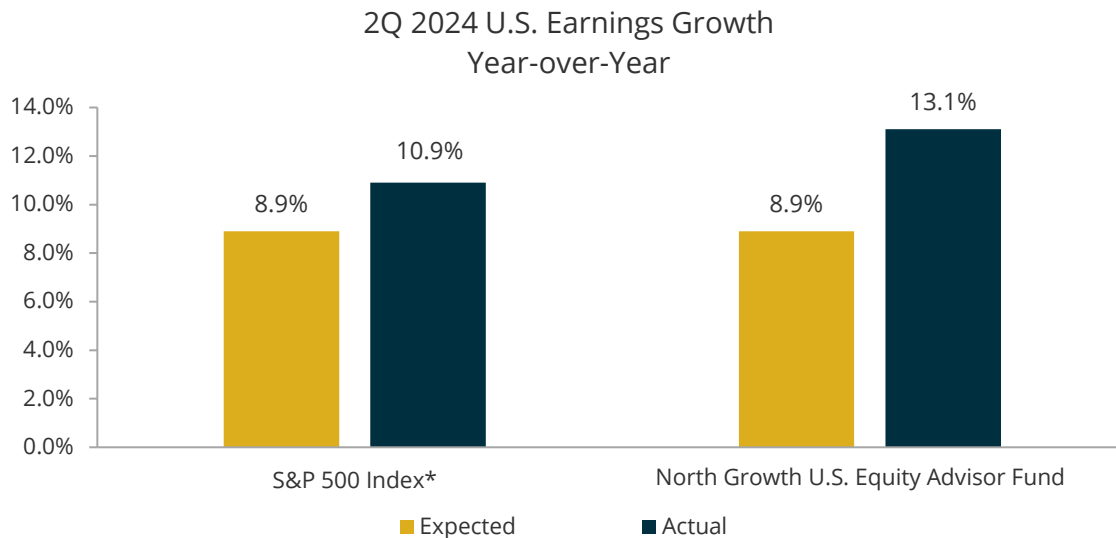
SECOND QUARTER EARNINGS

A strong second-quarter earnings reporting season is wrapping up. Corporate earnings for the S&P 500 during the period grew at the highest year-over-year rate since the fourth quarter of 2021. However, despite reporting better-than-expected earnings results, companies gave muted business outlooks, and in aggregate, earnings guidance has been underwhelming.

Mixed economic data, combined with the uncertainty of the upcoming U.S. presidential election and by extension government policy, form a murky backdrop. In addition to ongoing geopolitical conflicts, the overall business environment remains highly unclear.

The North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund delivered another solid quarter. With almost 95% of the portfolio having reported to date, earnings on a weighted-average basis expanded 13.1% over a year ago, beating estimates of 8.9% growth. Furthermore, 79% of the portfolio's earnings results so far have exceeded analysts' forecasts.

As of August 30th, with 93% of the companies in the S&P 500 having reported results, earnings during the quarter advanced 10.9% year-over-year while sales grew 5.2%. According to FactSet, 79% of reporting companies posted positive earnings surprises. Nine of the index's eleven sectors reported year-over-year earnings growth, led by Utilities, Information Technology and Financials. Conversely, two sectors reported a year-over-year decline in profits: Materials and Industrials.



**Source for S&P 500 Index: FactSet Earnings Insight*

The U.S. Equity Advisor Fund's earnings profile continues to compare favourably against that of the S&P 500. It is, however, also more macro-economically sensitive than that of the index. We are especially pleased that the Fund's higher earnings growth versus the S&P 500 coincides with its lower valuation multiple on a price/earnings (P/E) basis. Currently, the U.S. Fund trades at 19 times trailing 12-month earnings whereas the S&P 500 index is at a trailing P/E multiple of 24 (ref: Bloomberg).

The extreme bifurcation of the equity markets continues to offer compelling long-term investment opportunities, and we remain laser-focused on individual stock analysis that adheres to our "Growth at a Reasonable Price" philosophy. As always, we engage in active stock selection as opposed to macro-driven investment decisions.

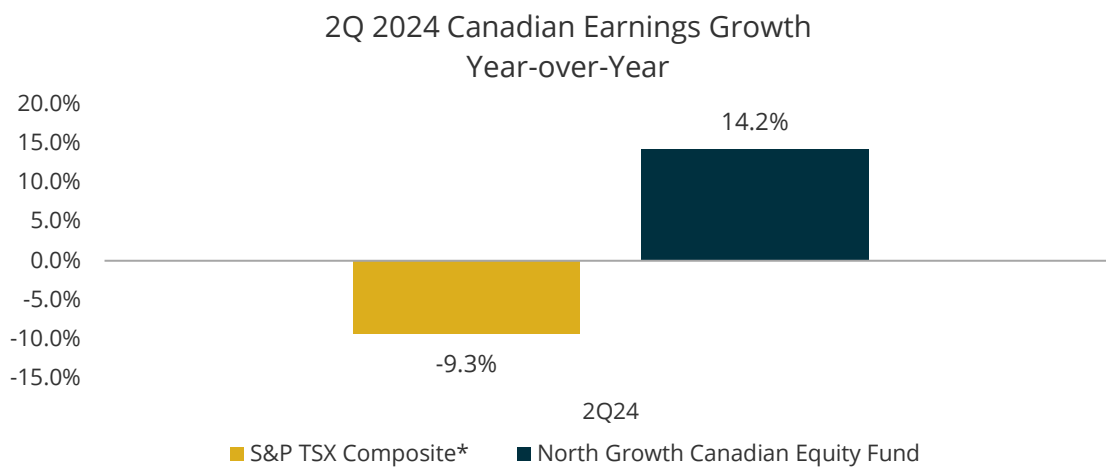
U.S. EQUITY ADVISOR FUND, SERIES F

In August, the North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund, Series F, gained 1.1%. The Fund underperformed the S&P 500 which increased 2.4%, but beat the NASDAQ Composite which was up 0.7% and the smaller-capitalization S&P 400 MidCap and S&P 600 SmallCap indices which declined -0.1% and -1.4% respectively. A strengthening of the Canadian currency against its U.S. counterpart last month lowered the Fund's return in Canadian dollars to -1.3% versus the S&P 500's 0.1% Canadian-dollar monthly return.

CANADIAN EQUITY FUND, SERIES F

The North Growth Canadian Equity Fund, Series F, declined -3.0% whereas the S&P/TSX Composite Index gained 1.2% during August.

With 93% of the portfolio having reported, second quarter earnings in the portfolio grew 14.2% compared to last year. In comparison, the S&P/TSX Composite earnings contracted -9.3% over the same period. A laser focus on our “Growth at a Reasonable Price” investment philosophy helps us take advantage of opportunities where we see a dislocation between fundamentals and valuations.



* Source for S&P TSX Composite Index: Bloomberg

North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund

SHORT TERM RATES OF RETURN (%) FOR PERIODS ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	YTD
North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$CDN (Series F)	-1.26	1.16	3.46	17.00
North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$CDN (Series D)	-1.28	1.09	3.30	16.76
S&P 500 in \$CDN	0.07	6.24	10.94	21.92
North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$U.S. (Series F)	1.07	2.26	4.06	14.70
North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$U.S. (Series D)	1.05	2.18	3.91	14.47
S&P 500 \$U.S.	2.43	7.39	11.59	19.53

ANNUALIZED RATES OF RETURN (%) FOR PERIODS ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

	1 Yr	3 Yrs	5 Yrs	10 Yrs	Since Inception*
North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$CDN (Series F)	17.75	4.76	12.72	12.31	13.70
North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$CDN (Series D)	17.40	4.45	12.38	11.96	13.29
S&P 500 \$CDN	26.76	11.85	16.26	15.44	15.87
North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$U.S. (Series F)	18.10	2.45	12.39	9.91	11.82
North Growth U.S. Equity Advisor Fund \$U.S. (Series D)	17.75	2.15	12.05	9.57	11.40
S&P 500 \$U.S.	27.14	9.38	15.92	12.98	13.95

Source: Bloomberg "Total Return Analysis" as of August 31, 2024

*Date of inception: October 23, 2009.

North Growth Canadian Equity Fund

SHORT TERM RATES OF RETURN (%) FOR PERIODS ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	YTD
North Growth Canadian Equity Fund Series F	-3.00	5.13	8.24	11.15
North Growth Canadian Equity Fund Series D	-3.02	5.05	8.08	10.93
S&P/TSX Composite Index	1.22	5.65	11.01	13.65

ANNUALIZED RATES OF RETURN (%) FOR PERIODS ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

	1 Yr	3 Yrs	5 Yrs	10 Yrs	Since Prospectus*
North Growth Canadian Equity Fund Series F	11.93	1.31	11.67	7.98	11.71
North Growth Canadian Equity Fund Series D	11.60	1.01	11.33	7.64	11.12
S&P/TSX Composite Index	18.77	7.58	10.63	7.32	9.22

Source: Bloomberg "Total Return Analysis" as of August 31, 2024

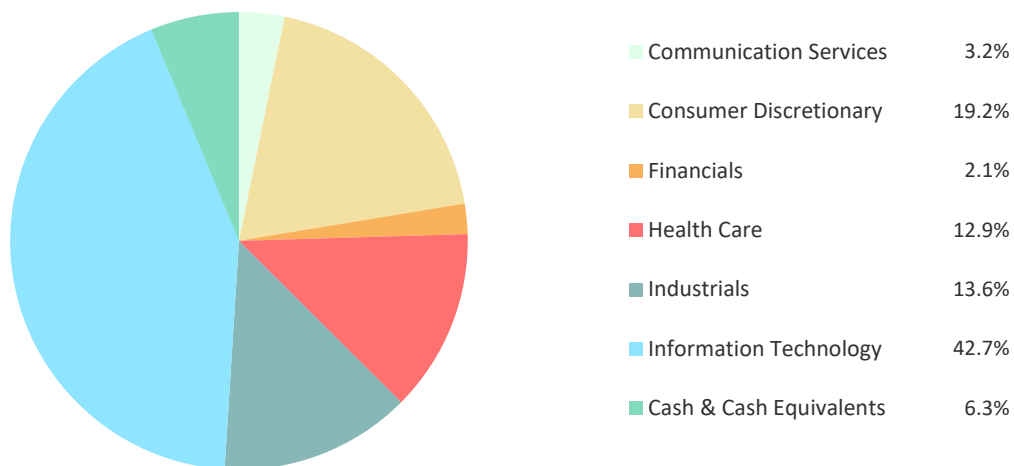
* The S&P/TSX Composite Index since Prospectus return is calculated from the Series F date of prospectus inception, June 15, 2012. The Series D date of prospectus inception is June 29, 2012

Equity Fund Holdings and Composition

U.S. EQUITY ADVISOR FUND — TOP 10 HOLDINGS AS AT AUGUST 31, 2024

Ranking	Security	% of Net Assets
1	Applied Materials Inc.	5.84
2	Jabil Inc.	5.72
3	Ciena Corp.	5.54
4	Motorola Solutions Inc.	4.56
5	Coherent Corp.	4.36
6	HP Inc.	3.15
7	Elevance Health, Inc.	2.84
8	Brinker International Inc.	2.75
9	Qualcomm Inc.	2.74
10	Jacobs Solutions Inc.	2.54
Top 10		40.04
Total Equities		93.74
Cash		6.26
Total Assets		100.00

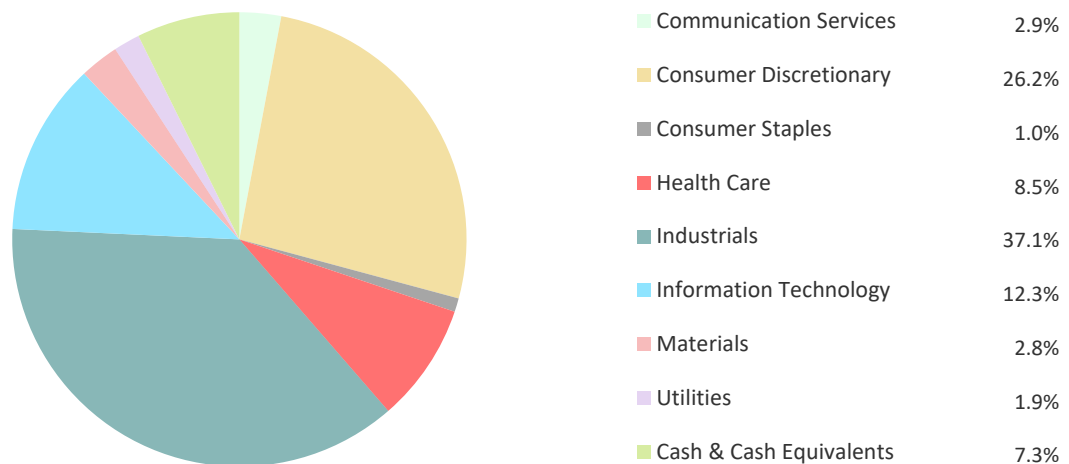
U.S. EQUITY ADVISOR FUND — SECTOR MIX AS AT AUGUST 31, 2024



CANADIAN EQUITY FUND — TOP 10 HOLDINGS AS AT AUGUST 31, 2024

Ranking	Security	% of Net Assets
1	Leon's Furniture Ltd.	9.52
2	Bombardier Inc., Class B	9.16
3	TFI International Inc.	7.30
4	Aritzia Inc.	5.83
5	ATS Corporation	4.83
6	Calian Group Ltd.	4.61
7	CAE Inc.	4.42
8	Open Text Corporation	4.41
9	Constellation Software Inc.	3.96
10	Zymeworks Inc.	3.27
Top 10		57.31
Total Equities		92.67
Cash		7.33
Total Assets		100.00

CANADIAN EQUITY FUND — SECTOR MIX AS AT AUGUST 31, 2024



Investing with Us

INVESTING WITH NORTH GROWTH MANAGEMENT:

North Growth Management is a focused firm. Our objective is to achieve consistent, superior, long term returns on our equity funds based on our “Growth at a Reasonable Price” investment philosophy.

FUND CODES

Canadian Equity Fund
(only Canadian dollar investments)

Series D reference Fund Code **NGM 272**
Series F reference Fund Code **NGM 270**

U.S. Equity Advisor Fund
(for investments in Canadian dollars)

Series D reference Fund Code **NGM 372**
Series F reference Fund Code **NGM 370**

U.S. Equity Advisor Fund
(for investments in U.S. dollars)

Series D reference Fund Code **NGM 373**
Series F reference Fund Code **NGM 371**

For any questions contact:

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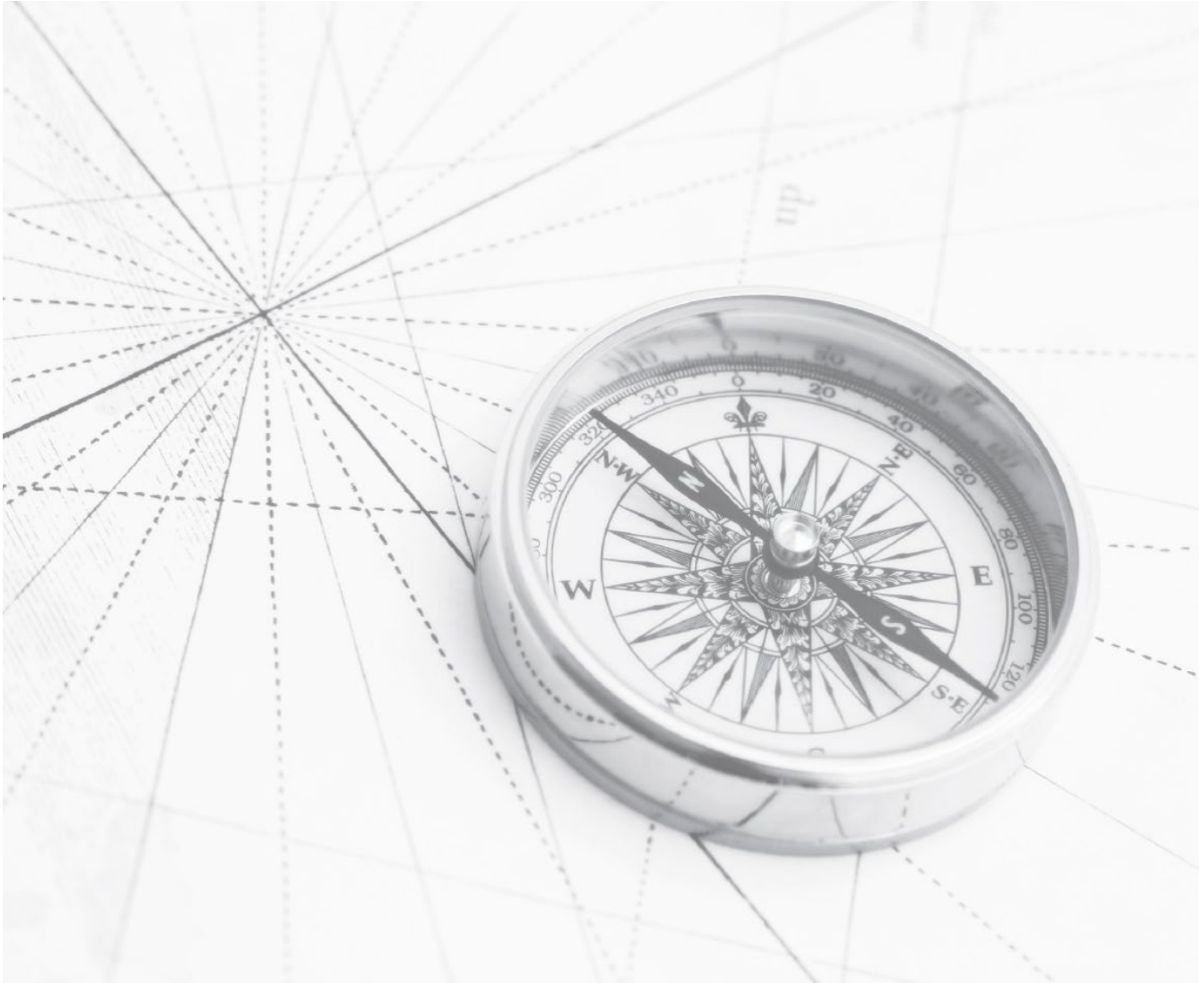
A NOTE ON FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This report may contain forward-looking statements that reflect our current expectations or forecasts of future events. Forward-looking statements are inherently subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions that could cause actual events, results, performance or prospects to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, these forward-looking statements. These risks, uncertainties and assumptions include general economic, political and market factors in North America and internationally, interest and foreign exchange rates, the volatility of global equity and capital markets, business competition, technological change, changes in government regulations, changes in tax laws, unexpected judicial or regulatory proceedings and catastrophic events. The foregoing list of important risks, uncertainties and assumptions is not exhaustive. Please consider these and other factors carefully and do not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Any forward-looking information contained in this report is current only as of the date of this report.

Commissions, trailing commissions, management fees and expenses all may be associated with mutual fund investments. Please read the prospectus before investing. The indicated rates of return are the historical annual compounded total returns including changes in unit value and reinvestment of all distributions and do not take into account sales, redemption, distribution or optional charges or income taxes payable by any unitholder that would have reduced returns. Mutual funds are not guaranteed, their values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated.



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