

Federated Hermes MDT Small Cap Core Fund

6/30/20

Fund facts

Performance inception date

9/15/05

Benchmark

Russell 2000® Index

Morningstar category

Small Blend

Lipper classification

Small-Cap Core Funds

Fund assets

\$719.9 million

Ticker symbols

R6 Shares - QLSCX

Institutional Shares - QISCX

A Shares - QASCX

C Shares - QCSCX

Key investment team

Daniel Mahr, CFA®

Frederick Konopka, CFA®

John Paul Lewicke

Damien Zhang, CFA®

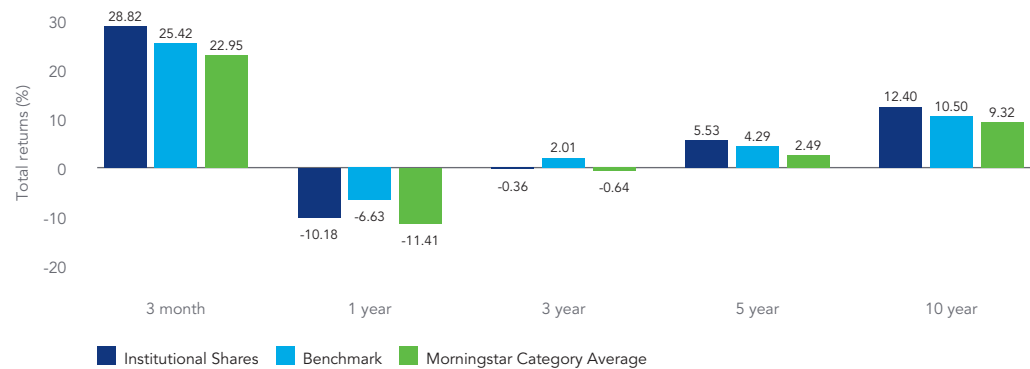
Fund description

The fund pursues long-term capital appreciation by investing in a diversified portfolio of U.S. small-cap companies from the Russell 2000 Index. Through a fundamentally based, bottom up, systematic approach, it seeks to remove subjective and emotional influences from the stock-selection process.

Average annual total returns (%)

Performance shown is before tax.

	3 month	YTD	1 year	3 year	5 year	10 year	Since inception	Expense ratio*	
								Before waivers	After waivers
R6 Shares	28.89	-13.84	-10.17	-0.34	5.47	11.53	3.56	0.96	0.88
Institutional Shares	28.82	-13.84	-10.18	-0.36	5.53	12.40	6.04	1.06	0.89
A Shares (NAV)	28.77	-13.95	-10.44	-0.61	5.27	12.12	5.79	1.31	1.14
A Shares (MOP)	21.71	-18.70	-15.35	-2.46	4.08	11.49	5.38	1.31	1.14
Benchmark	25.42	-12.98	-6.63	2.01	4.29	10.50	-	-	-



Calendar year returns (%)

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Institutional Shares	18.06	-11.58	15.58	35.23	-3.20	3.15	46.16	20.35	-1.84	24.97
Benchmark	25.53	-11.01	14.65	21.31	-4.41	4.89	38.82	16.35	-4.18	26.85
Morningstar Category Average	23.75	-12.72	12.28	20.78	-5.38	3.79	37.39	15.46	-4.07	25.61

Performance quoted represents past performance, which is no guarantee of future results. Investment return and principal value 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 what is stated. To view performance current to the most recent month-end, and for after-tax returns, contact us or visit FederatedInvestors.com. Maximum offering price figures reflect the maximum sales charge of 5.5% for A Shares. See the prospectus for other fees and expenses that apply to a continued investment in the fund. Total returns for periods of less than one year are cumulative.

* The fund's expense ratio is from the most recent prospectus. The expense ratio may reflect voluntary fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements determined by the fund's Advisor and its affiliates. The voluntary waivers and/or reimbursements, if applicable, are in effect up to but not including the later of 10/1/20 or the date of the fund's next effective prospectus.

Investment process

Fundamentally based research

Research identifies powerful combinations of classic fundamentals enhanced with behavioral signals that work across market environments.

Stock selection

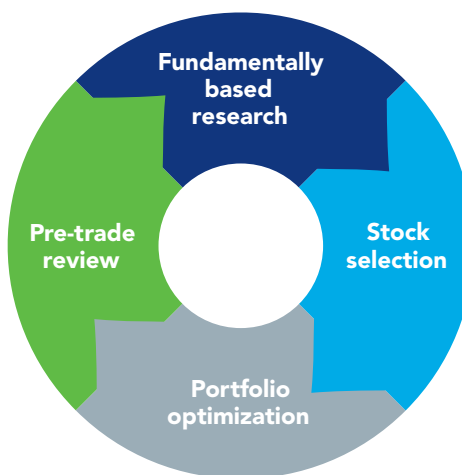
Stock alphas are forecasted based on each company's characteristics.

Portfolio optimization

Proprietary software is used to maximize portfolio alpha, net of trading costs, while managing risk.

Pre-trade review

All trades are reviewed to ensure they are based on the most recent and accurate information. Insights from pre-trade review provide important feedback to the team and inspire further research.



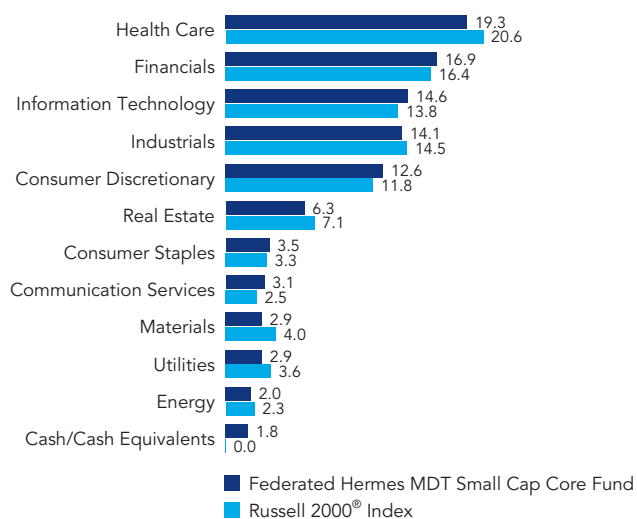
Portfolio statistics

Weighted median P/E (LTM)	16.9x
Weighted median P/E (NTM)	21.0x
Weighted median market cap	\$1.6 b
Weighted median price/book	1.9x
Number of securities	305

Top holdings (%)

Wingstop, Inc.	2.8
Inphi Corp.	2.6
Selective Insurance Group, Inc.	1.9
Portland General Electric Co	1.8
Five9, Inc.	1.5
QTS Realty Trust, Inc.	1.3
Granite Construction, Inc.	1.2
Medpace Holdings, Inc.	1.2
Easterly Government Properties, Inc.	1.1
Kinsale Capital Group, Inc.	1.1
Total % of Portfolio	16.5

Sector weightings (%)



Portfolio composition is based on net assets at the close of business on 6/30/20 and may not necessarily reflect adjustments that are routinely made when presenting net assets for formal financial statement purposes. Because this is a managed portfolio, the investment mix will change.

Highlights

- Small-cap growth stocks gained more than small-cap value stocks
- A significant overweight of and favorable stock selection among stocks with depressed prices and flat or improving earnings-to-price contributed most to outperformance
- Fund ended quarter roughly sector-neutral to benchmark

Looking back

During the second quarter of 2020, the domestic stock market appreciated substantially, even as the extent of the coronavirus pandemic was coming to light. The Russell 3000 returned 22.03% versus the prior quarter's loss of 20.90%, leaving its year-to-date return at -3.48%, a much smaller loss than at the end of the first quarter. Just as in the first quarter, growth stocks fared better than value stocks. The Russell 3000 Growth Index returned 27.99% while the Russell 3000 Value Index returned only 14.55%, and all other Russell Growth Indexes beat their Value counterparts by a similar margin.

While the mega-cap Russell Top 200 Index lost far less money last quarter than did the midcap and small-cap indexes, its second-quarter return of 20.91% trailed both the Russell Midcap Index's 24.61% and the small-cap Russell 2000 Index's 25.42%. Year-to-date, however, the Russell Top 200 Index has returned 11.20%, well ahead of the midcap index at -9.13% and the small-cap index at -12.98%.

Performance of all the MDT funds was strong during the second quarter, both in absolute terms and versus the benchmark. There were some gems to be had at the bottom of the market, stocks that took a severe hit to price in the first quarter but still had relatively strong fundamental characteristics. These are what we call our "deep value" picks (even though some of them are actually growth stocks), and they performed well this quarter.

Performance

Federated Hermes MDT Small Cap Core Fund Institutional Shares returned 28.82% in the second quarter of 2020, outperforming the 25.42% return of its benchmark, the Russell 2000 Index.

Performance contributors

- Overweight of and favorable stock selection among stocks with depressed prices and flat or improving earnings-to-price
- Favorable stock selection among stocks with very low cash flow
- Security selection in Industrials, Information Technology and Consumer Discretionary sectors
- Strong performers overweighted by the fund: Wingstop, Inc., Aaron's, Inc., Five9, Inc. and Inphi Corporation

Performance detractors

- Security selection in Health Care sector
- Strong performers underweighted by the fund: Quidel Corporation and Immunomedics, Inc.

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How we are positioned

The fund ended the second quarter roughly sector-neutral to the benchmark, according to the GICS sectors. Within the sectors there was a significant overweight position in the insurance industry and underweight positions in the health care equipment & services, diversified financials and technology hardware & equipment industries. At the end of the period, the fund was tilted slightly toward value.

See disclosure section for important disclosures and definitions.

Risk statistics

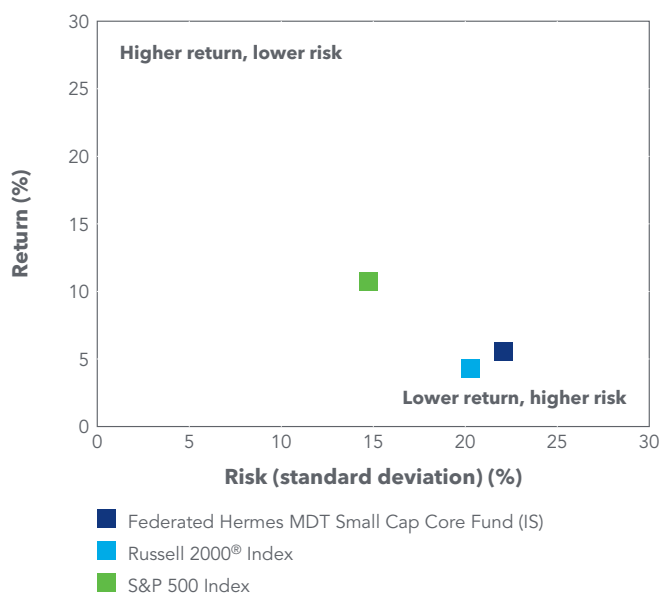
	3 year	5 year	7 year	10 year
Standard deviation	24.57	22.07	20.12	20.53
Alpha	-2.13	1.21	0.89	1.17
Beta	1.06	1.07	1.06	1.08
Correlation	0.99	0.98	0.98	0.98
R²	98.70	96.62	96.28	96.25
Up capture ratio	100.58	106.99	105.83	108.14
Down capture ratio	108.66	102.99	102.49	103.27
Sharpe ratio	-0.08	0.20	0.37	0.57
Tracking error	3.17	4.31	4.05	4.27

Sources: Federated Hermes, Morningstar, Inc.

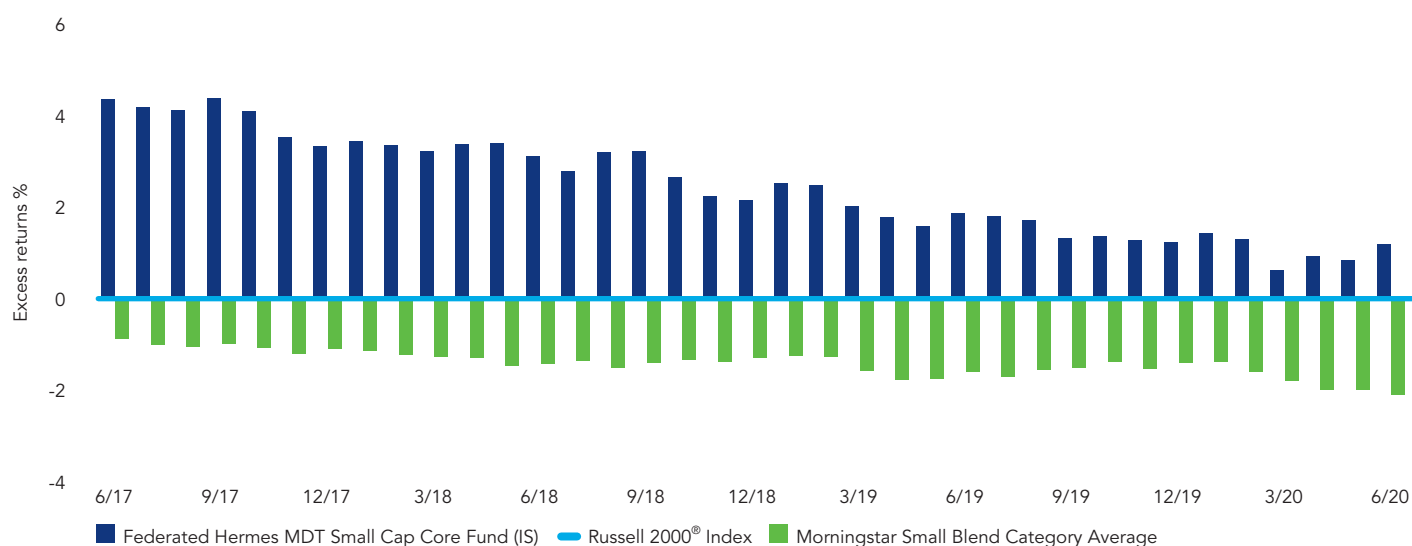
Fund vs. Russell 2000® Index

See disclosure section for important definitions.

5 year risk/return



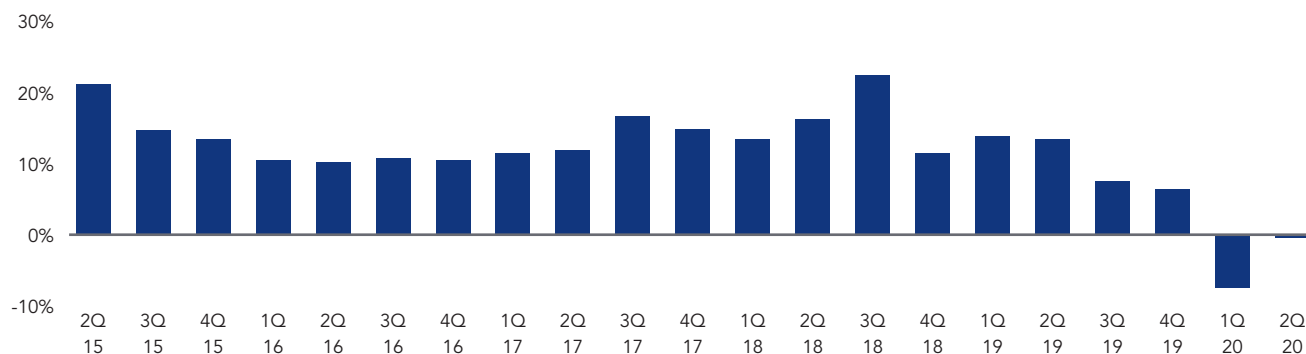
5 year rolling excess performance vs. Russell 2000® Index



Source: Morningstar, Inc. Performance for 5 year periods (1-month step) from 7/1/15 - 6/30/20. Returns are for IS Shares. Other classes of shares are available whose performance will vary due to different charges and expenses.

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3 year rolling returns (IS)



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Category rankings

Morningstar Small Blend Category

	1 year	3 year	5 year	10 year
R6 Shares				
Morningstar Category % Rank	40	48	6	1
Morningstar Category Rank	263 of 669 Funds	297 of 615 Funds	–	–
IS Shares				
Morningstar Category % Rank	40	48	6	1
Morningstar Category Rank	264 of 669 Funds	300 of 615 Funds	23 of 495 Funds	3 of 359 Funds
A Shares				
Morningstar Category % Rank	42	52	7	1
Morningstar Category Rank	281 of 669 Funds	326 of 615 Funds	33 of 495 Funds	5 of 359 Funds

Lipper Small-Cap Core Funds

	1 year	3 year	5 year	10 year
R6 Shares				
Lipper Classification % Rank	33	40	–	–
Lipper Classification Rank	301 of 914 Funds	332 of 847 Funds	–	–
IS Shares				
Lipper Classification % Rank	34	40	6	2
Lipper Classification Rank	302 of 914 Funds	334 of 847 Funds	38 of 709 Funds	9 of 498 Funds
A Shares				
Lipper Classification % Rank	36	43	7	3
Lipper Classification Rank	321 of 914 Funds	363 of 847 Funds	46 of 709 Funds	12 of 498 Funds

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Rankings are based on total return and do not take sales charges into account.

Federated Hermes MDT Small Cap Core Fund

Investors should carefully consider the fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses before investing. To obtain a summary prospectus or a prospectus containing this and other information, contact us or visit FederatedInvestors.com. Please carefully read the summary prospectus or the prospectus before investing.

As of June 29, 2020, the fund was renamed Federated Hermes MDT Small Cap Core Fund.

The fund is the successor to MDT Small Cap Core Fund pursuant to a reorganization that took place on December 8, 2006. Prior to that date, the fund had no investment operations. Accordingly, the performance information shown for periods prior to that date is that of MDT Small Cap Core Fund.

The fund's R6 Shares commenced operations on June 30, 2016. For the period prior to the commencement of operations of the R6 Shares, the performance information shown is for the fund's Institutional Shares. The performance of the Institutional Shares has not been adjusted to reflect the expenses applicable to the R6 Shares since the R6 Shares have a lower expense ratio than the expense ratio of the Institutional Shares. The performance of the Institutional Shares have been adjusted to remove any voluntary waiver of the fund expenses related to the Institutional Shares that may have occurred during the period prior to the commencement of operations of the R6 Shares.

A word about risk

Mutual funds are subject to risks and fluctuate in value.

Small company stocks may be less liquid and subject to greater price volatility than large capitalization stocks.

The quantitative models and analysis used by the fund may perform differently than expected and negatively affect fund performance.

Definitions

Russell 2000® Index measures the performance of the small-cap segment of the U.S. equity universe. The Russell 2000 is a subset of the Russell 3000® Index representing approximately 10% of the total market capitalization of that index. It includes approximately 2000 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The Russell 2000® Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive and unbiased small-cap barometer and is completely reconstituted annually to ensure larger stocks do not distort the performance and characteristics of the true small-cap opportunity set.

S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged capitalization-weighted index of 500 stocks designated to measure performance of the broad domestic economy through changes in the aggregate market value of 500 stocks representing all major industries.

Indexes are unmanaged and cannot be invested in directly.

Alpha shows how much or how little return is generated, given the risk a portfolio takes. A portfolio with an alpha greater than 0 has earned more than expected given its beta—meaning the portfolio has generated excess return without increasing risk. A portfolio with a negative alpha is producing a lower return than would be expected given its risk.

Beta measures a portfolio's volatility relative to the market. A beta greater than 1.00 suggests the portfolio has historically been more volatile than the market as measured by the fund's benchmark. A beta less than 1.00 suggests the portfolio has historically had less volatility relative to the market.

Correlation is the degree to which one variable (here, the fund's returns) fluctuates relative to another (the returns of the fund's benchmark). Correlation ranges from 1.00, when two variables move identically in the same direction, to -1.00, when two variables move identically in the opposite direction.

R-squared indicates what percentage of a portfolio's movement in performance is explained by movement in performance of the market. R-squared ranges from 0 to 100, and a score of 100 suggests that all movements of a portfolio's performance are completely explained by movements in the market as measured by the fund's benchmark.

Sharpe ratio is calculated by dividing a fund's annualized excess return by the fund's annualized standard deviation. The higher the Sharpe ratio, the better the fund's historical risk adjusted performance.

Standard deviation is a historical measure of the variability of returns relative to the average annual return. A higher number indicates higher overall volatility.

Tracking error is the difference between a portfolio's returns and the benchmark or index it was meant to mimic or beat.

Up capture ratio/down capture ratio is a measure of how well a manager was able to replicate or improve on periods of positive benchmark returns and how badly the manager was affected by periods of negative benchmark returns. The up-market capture ratio is a measure of a manager's performance in up markets relative to the index during the same period. For example, a ratio value of 115 indicates that the manager has outperformed the market index by 15% in periods when the index has risen. The down-market capture ratio is the direct opposite of the up-market capture ratio, gauging performance of the manager relative to the index in down markets. A ratio value of 80 would indicate the manager had declined on 80% as much as the declining overall market, indicating relative outperformance.

Weighted median market cap is the calculation representing the median market capitalization of the stocks in the portfolio, weighted by the amount of each stock.

Weighted median price/book is a ratio comparing share price to book value or assets minus liabilities.

Weighted median P/E (LTM—latest 12 months) is a ratio comparing share price to earnings per share using data from the previous 12 months.

Weighted median P/E (NTM—next 12 months) is a ratio comparing share price to earnings per share using estimated data for the next 12 months.

Ratings and rating agencies

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