

## Putnam Investments U.S. Small Cap Growth Equity Composite



| Year | Gross of Fees Return (%) | Net of Fees Return (%) | Annual Benchmark Return (%) | Three year Standard Deviation of Composite (%) <sup>1</sup> | Three year Standard Deviation of Benchmark (%) <sup>1</sup> | Standard Deviation of Account Returns (%) <sup>2</sup> | Composite Assets (millions) | Total Firm Assets (millions) <sup>3</sup> | Number of Accounts |
|------|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 2017 | 21.68                    | 20.71                  | 22.17                       | 14.77   | 14.59   | N/A  | 172                         | 117,916                                   | ≤5                 |
| 2016 | 9.54                     | 8.66                   | 11.32                       | 16.26   | 16.67   | N/A  | 224                         | 109,728                                   | ≤5                 |
| 2015 | -1.95                    | -2.90                  | -1.38                       | 14.90   | 14.95   | 0.37   | 502                         | 110,621                                   | 20                 |
| 2014 | 3.21                     | 2.18                   | 5.60                        | 13.49   | 13.82   | 0.62   | 506                         | 120,093                                   | 21                 |
| 2013 | 49.43                    | 47.93                  | 43.30                       | 18.05   | 17.27   | 0.50   | 528                         | 110,816                                   | 21                 |
| 2012 | 15.69                    | 14.56                  | 14.59                       | 21.45   | 20.72   | 0.40   | 418                         | 98,926                                    | 21                 |
| 2011 | -2.37                    | -3.21                  | -2.91                       | 24.82   | 24.31   | 0.42   | 273                         | 95,033                                    | 20                 |
| 2010 | 27.82                    | 26.73                  | 29.09                       | 27.10   | 27.69   | 0.54   | 303                         | 102,320                                   | 20                 |
| 2009 | 32.48                    | 31.36                  | 34.47                       | 23.92   | 24.84   | 2.58   | 250                         | 96,570                                    | 20                 |
| 2008 | -34.93                   | -35.48                 | -38.54                      | 20.24   | 21.26   | 0.97   | 219                         | 90,084                                    | 18                 |

1 The three-year, annualized ex-post standard deviation of monthly composite and benchmark returns represents a measure of total investment risk (volatility) and calculates the variance of a distribution of returns. Data is not presented for periods with less than 36 months of composite returns.

2 The standard deviation of comparable performance over time is a measure of volatility. Composite dispersion is measured by the standard deviation across equal weighted portfolios represented within the composite for the full year. Standard deviation is N/A for composites with five or fewer accounts for the full year.

3 Total Firm Assets prior to 2011 do not include Guaranteed Investment Contract ("GIC") assets.

**Firm overview:** Putnam Investments claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. Putnam Investments has been independently verified from January 1, 2000, through December 31, 2017. The verification report(s) and performance examination report(s) is/are available upon request. Verification assesses whether (1) the firm has complied with all the composite construction requirements of the GIPS standards on a firm-wide basis and (2) the firm's policies and procedures are designed to calculate and present performance in compliance with the GIPS standards. The Putnam U.S. Small Cap Growth Equity Composite has been examined from January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2017. Putnam Investments (the "Firm") is defined as a broad-based investment management organization that provides financial services to institutions and individuals through separately managed accounts, pooled funds, and mutual funds. Except for a minority stake owned by employees, the Firm is a wholly owned subsidiary of Great-West Lifeco Inc. Investment management is provided by four wholly owned subsidiaries of the Firm: The Putnam Advisory Company, LLC; Putnam Investment Management, LLC; Putnam Fiduciary Trust Company; and Putnam Investments Limited. A list of the Firm's composite descriptions is available upon request.

**Composition of composite:** The Putnam Investments U.S. Small Cap Growth Equity Composite (the "Composite") seeks to outperform its benchmark, the Russell 2000 Growth Index, over a full market cycle. The process utilizes a bottom-up approach that integrates fundamental and quantitative techniques with risk management tools. The approach focuses on adding value in each investment sector at a reasonable level of risk to create returns in excess of the index over a full market cycle. The Composite comprises all discretionary U.S. dollar based institutional accounts and mutual funds managed by the Firm in this investment style. The Composite also includes all U.S. Small Cap Growth carve-out assets managed by Putnam in this style, separately with their own cash. A "carve-out" is a portion of a portfolio that is by itself representative of a distinct investment strategy. It is used to create a track record for a narrower mandate from a multiple-strategy portfolio managed to a broader mandate. The Composite creation date was October 18, 2000.

Leverage is not used in accounts in the Composite; however, accounts may use futures, forwards, swaps, and other derivative instruments on equity, fixed income, and commodity indices and currencies to gain exposure to various markets. Composites may include portfolios with certain existing investment restrictions that the Firm believes do not materially impact the investment strategy.

As of November 2008, the team management structure was replaced by a decision-making process that vests full authority and responsibility with individual portfolio managers. Effective March 31, 2017, there was a portfolio manager change for this strategy.

**Risk considerations:** The prices of stocks in a portfolio may fall or fail to rise over extended periods of time for a variety of reasons, including both general financial market conditions and factors related to a specific company or industry. These risks are generally greater for small and midsize companies. Small-cap performance may be more volatile than the performance of a strategy that invests primarily in stocks of large-cap companies. Small-cap companies may have more limited product lines, markets, and financial resources than large-cap companies. Small-cap companies may also have shorter operating histories and more volatile businesses. In addition, it may be harder to sell these stocks, particularly in large blocks, which can reduce their selling price. Growth stocks may be more susceptible to earnings disappointments, and the market may not favor growth-style investing. This strategy may not be suitable for all investors. It is important to understand that you can lose money by investing in this strategy.

**Calculation of composite:** Returns are presented in U.S. dollars ("USD"). Benchmark, Putnam account and Putnam mutual fund valuation sources and timing may sometimes differ, causing dispersion within the composite and between the composite and the benchmark. The results of the Composite for all periods shown include the reinvestment of dividends and other earnings. The Firm values securities using market quotations, fair value prices from pricing services and/or broker quotations. In limited circumstances, the Firm will value securities based solely on its own analysis, this may include using model prices based on third-party data or, for private equity securities, a fair valuation process whereby a special Valuation committee will review the nature of each deal, the model currently used to value each deal, and any critical

underlying assumptions in order to determine fair value. Fair valuations based on internal resources are made in accordance with the Putnam Funds Pricing Procedures and are subject to the oversight of the Firm's Valuation Committee. Please note that, in limited cases, the inputs used to value the security are unobservable and reflect the source's own assumptions. Policies for valuing portfolios, calculating performance, and preparing compliant presentations are available upon request.

**Benchmark disclosure:** The Russell 2000 Growth Index measures the performance of those Russell 2000 companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values. Index returns include the reinvestment of dividends and other earnings. Benchmarks are generally taken from published sources and may have different calculation methodologies, pricing times, and foreign exchange sources from the Composite. The effect of those differences is deemed to be immaterial. The securities holdings of the Composite may differ materially from those of the index used for comparative purposes. Indexes are unmanaged and do not incur expenses. You cannot invest directly in an index. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes. Russell® is a trademark of Frank Russell Company. Benchmark returns are not examined by the independent verifier. Benchmark returns are not covered by the report of independent verifiers.

**Gross and Net of fees disclosure:** Gross of Fee Returns are net of transactions costs but do not include the deduction of management fees and other expenses that may be incurred in managing an investment account. A portfolio's return will be reduced by management and other fees. The impact of management fees can be material. For instance, assume that \$1 million is invested in a Putnam Investments account, and this account achieves a 10% compounded annual return, gross of fees, for 10 years. If a management fee of 0.50% was charged each year for the 10-year period, the annual return would be 9.5% and the ending dollar value would be \$2,478,200, net of fees, as opposed to \$2,593,700, gross of fees. The actual fee rates are stated in advisory contracts with clients. For composites that contain U.S. mutual funds and UCITS funds, gross-of-fee performance is calculated by applying the prorated monthly percentage of the total net annual expense ratio (as published in the fund's annual report) to the monthly return on net asset value per share. Annual expense ratios for the current year may be based on the prior year's financial statements. Returns may be adjusted based upon each year's audited annual report.

Net of fee returns are calculated using a model fee ("Model Net Fee"). For the applicable time periods, net of fees returns reflect either the deduction of the highest management fee that is paid by a portfolio in the Composite during the performance period, applied on a monthly basis or the deduction of the highest applicable management fee in effect during the performance period that would be charged based on the fee schedule appropriate to this mandate, without the benefit of breakpoints, applied on a monthly basis, whichever is higher. Net of fee calculation methodology may change over time. For composites that include commingled funds that pay a performance fee and that calculate performance using the highest fee paid by an account in the composite, performance based fee adjustments are included in net of fee returns. For commingled funds, the fee is typically updated for the most recent fiscal year end after the portfolio has been audited. Returns may be adjusted based upon each year's audited annual report. Please be advised that the Composite may include other investment products or share classes of funds that are subject to management fees, including performance fees, that are inapplicable to you but that could have been in excess of the Model Net Fee. Therefore, the actual performance of all the portfolios in the composite on a net-of-fees basis will be different, and may be higher or lower, than the Model Net Fee performance. Composites that include certain commingled portfolios may also assess a performance fee to underlying investors which could result in the underlying investors paying a higher total management fee than the highest stated management fee below. However, Model Net Fee performance is intended to provide the most appropriate example of the impact management fees would have by applying management fees relevant to you to the gross performance of the Composite. Actual investment advisory fees incurred by clients are typically negotiated on an individual basis and may vary depending upon, among other things, the applicable fee schedule and portfolio size.

**Fee schedule:** The standard fee schedule is based on the market value of an account's assets under management and is stated on an annual basis. Separate account management fees are subject to change and are for investment management services only. Standard management fee is: 0.80% of assets on the first \$50 million, 0.70% of assets on the next \$50 million, 0.65% of assets on the next \$150 million, and 0.50% for assets over \$250 million.

**Past performance is not a guarantee of future performance. No assurance can be given as to future performance.**