

NORTHERN FUNDS

MID CAP INDEX FUND (NOMIX)

As of 03/31/19

FUND COMMENTARY

In the first quarter of 2019, the S&P 400 MidCap Index (Fund Index) returned 14.49%. Mid-cap equities outperformed large-cap equities, as measured by the S&P 500 Index which returned 13.65% in the fourth quarter.

Within the Fund Index, the top-performing sectors over this time period were information technology and energy, returning 21.30% and 19.82%, respectively. Consumer staples and utilities were the worst-performing sectors for the quarter, with returns of 8.74% and 10.77%, respectively.

The Mid Cap Index Fund posted a total return of 14.40% for the quarter compared to the 14.49% return of the Fund's benchmark, the S&P Midcap 400 Index. After a dovish pivot from the US Federal Reserve, the S&P 500 index reversed course in the first quarter leading to a strong start for the market in 2019. Expectations of forward rate hikes in the coming year diminished, which investors viewed as supportive of risk assets such as equities. As focus has shifted back to fundamentals and the business cycle, investors will continue to monitor macro events such as developments in global trade as well as Brexit. The cyclical sectors of information technology and real estate were the best performing sectors, on a relative basis, while the sectors of health care and financials were the lowest performers.

Please carefully read the summary prospectus or prospectus and consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses of Northern Funds before investing. Call 800-595-9111 to obtain a summary prospectus or prospectus, which contains this and other information about the funds.

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Performance as of 03/31/19				Annualized Returns					
FUND	QTR	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	Since Inception*	Gross Expense Ratio	Net Expense Ratio
Mid Cap Index Fund	14.40%	14.40%	2.38%	11.04%	8.10%	16.05%	9.14%	0.18%	0.15%
S&P MidCap 400 Index	14.49%	14.49%	2.59%	11.24%	8.29%	16.28%	9.44%		

*Inception Date- 03/22/05

Performance quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than that shown here. Performance data current to the most recent month end is available by calling 800-595-9111.

The Gross and Net Expense Ratios are as of the most recent prospectus. The Net Expense Ratio includes contractual expense reimbursements that, if not extended, will end on July 31, 2019.

Not FDIC insured | May lose value | No bank guarantee

Please remember that all investments carry some level of risk, including the potential loss of principal invested. They do not typically grow at an even rate of return and may experience negative growth. As with any type of portfolio structuring, attempting to reduce risk and increase return could, at certain times, unintentionally reduce returns.

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