BARON GROWTH FUND

September 30, 2020 | Institutional Shares (BGRIX)

Portfolio Managers

Ron Baron is Baron Capital's founder, chairman, and CEO. He has 50 years of research and investment experience.

Neal Rosenberg joined Baron in 2006 as a research analyst and was named co-portfolio manager of Baron Growth Fund in 2018. He has 17 years of research experience.

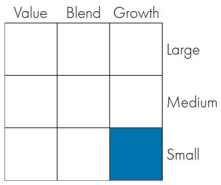
Please visit our website for details on their experience and education.

Investment Principles

- Long-term perspective allows us to think like an owner of a business
- Independent and exhaustive research is essential to understanding the long-term fundamental growth prospects of a business
- We seek appropriately capitalized open-ended growth opportunities, exceptional leadership, and sustainable competitive advantages
- Purchase price and risk management are integral to our investment process

Investment Strategy

The Fund invests in small-sized U.S. companies with significant growth potential. Diversified.



Portfolio Facts and Characteristics

Inception Date	December 31, 1994
Net Assets	$7.31 billion
# of Equity Securities / % of Net Assets	52 / 100.1%
Turnover (3 Year Average)	2.16%
Active Share	97.2%
Median Market Cap[2]	$4.48 billion
Weighted Average Market Cap[2]	$15.04 billion
As of FYE 9/30/2019	**Institutional Shares**
CUSIP	068278704
Expense Ratio	1.04%

Retail and R6 Shares are also available for this Fund.

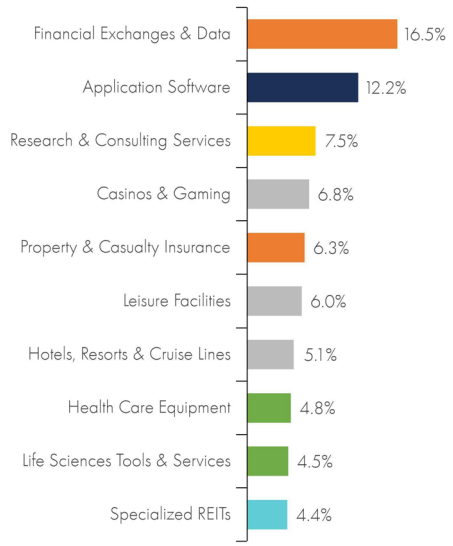
Top 10 Holdings

	% of Net Assets
MSCI, Inc.	8.5
CoStar Group, Inc.	7.5
ANSYS, Inc.	6.2
Penn National Gaming, Inc.	6.2
Vail Resorts, Inc.	6.0
FactSet Research Systems, Inc.	5.6
IDEXX Laboratories, Inc.	4.8
Arch Capital Group Ltd.	3.7
Choice Hotels International, Inc.	3.5
Iridium Communications Inc.	3.1
Total	**55.1**

GICS Sector Breakdown[1]

- Financials 28.8%
- Consumer Discretionary 20.8%
- Information Technology 16.3%
- Health Care 13.5%
- Industrials 10.5%
- Real Estate 5.8%
- Communication Services 4.0%
- Materials 0.2%
- Unclassified 0.1%

Top GICS Sub-Industry Breakdown[1]



Colors of Sub-Industry bars correspond to sector chart above.

Risks

Risks: Specific risks associated with investing in smaller companies include that the securities may be thinly traded and more difficult to sell during market downturns. Even though the Fund is diversified, it may establish significant positions where the Adviser has the greatest conviction. This could increase volatility of the Fund's returns.

BARON FUNDS

BARON GROWTH FUND

September 30, 2020

Historical Performance (Calendar Year %)

Year	BGRIX	Russell 2000 Growth Index	S&P 500 Index
2011	1.51	-2.91	2.11
2012	16.74	14.59	16.00
2013	38.69	43.30	32.39
2014	4.66	5.60	13.69
2015	-4.06	-1.38	1.38
2016	6.31	11.32	11.96
2017	27.35	22.17	21.83
2018	-2.67	-9.31	-4.38
2019	40.50	28.48	31.49

Performance Based Characteristics[3]

	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	Since Inception
Std. Dev. (%) - Annualized	22.35	18.56	16.08	17.79
Sharpe Ratio	0.67	0.78	0.87	0.63
Alpha (%) - Annualized	8.38	5.30	4.11	7.24
Beta	0.93	0.86	0.81	0.71
R-Squared (%)	93.15	87.71	87.59	80.06
Tracking Error (%)	6.05	7.06	6.64	10.35
Information Ratio	1.38	0.59	0.33	0.52
Upside Capture (%)	106.49	94.11	86.85	84.42
Downside Capture (%)	79.95	73.79	69.65	62.76

Performance

	Total Return (%)				Annualized Returns (%)					Cumulative Returns (%)
	3rd Q 2020	2nd Q 2020	1st Q 2020	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	Since Inception 12/31/1994	Since Inception 12/31/1994
BGRIX-Institutional Shares	10.95	27.46	-22.30	9.87	19.38	16.54	15.58	14.51	13.46	2483.58
Russell 2000 Growth Index	7.16	30.58	-25.76	3.88	15.71	8.18	11.42	12.34	8.04	632.84
S&P 500 Index	8.93	20.54	-19.60	5.57	15.15	12.28	14.15	13.74	10.14	1101.80
Morningstar Mid-Cap Growth Category Average	10.20	30.27	-20.64	15.01	24.49	14.68	14.28	13.22	N/A	N/A

Top Contributors/Detractors to Performance[2]

BY SUB-INDUSTRIES[1]

Top Contributors	Average Weight(%)	Contribution(%)
Casinos & Gaming	4.67	3.86
Research & Consulting Services	7.62	1.40
Financial Exchanges & Data	17.19	1.32
Application Software	12.42	1.15
Health Care Equipment	4.89	0.92

Top Detractors	Average Weight(%)	Contribution(%)
Health Care Technology	0.93	-0.48
Asset Management & Custody Banks	2.55	-0.42
Office REITs	1.47	-0.28
Movies & Entertainment	0.94	-0.09
Life & Health Insurance	3.02	-0.06

BY HOLDINGS

Top Contributors	Average Weight(%)	Contribution(%)
Penn National Gaming, Inc.	4.15	3.65
CoStar Group, Inc.	7.62	1.40
IDEXX Laboratories, Inc.	4.89	0.92
Vail Resorts, Inc.	5.79	0.92
MSCI, Inc.	8.86	0.76

Top Detractors	Average Weight(%)	Contribution(%)
Schrodinger, Inc.	0.90	-0.56
Cohen & Steers, Inc.	1.72	-0.34
Douglas Emmett, Inc.	1.47	-0.28
Bio-Techne Corporation	3.06	-0.16
Manchester United plc	0.94	-0.09

The performance data quoted represents past performance. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate; an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. The Fund's transfer agency expenses may be reduced by expense offsets from an unaffiliated transfer agent, without which performance would have been lower. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. For performance information current to the most recent month end, visit www.BaronFunds.com or call 1-800-99BARON.

Investors consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of the Fund carefully before investing. The prospectus and summary prospectus contain this and other information about the Fund and can be obtained from the Fund's distributor, Baron Capital, Inc., by calling 1-800-99BARON or visiting www.BaronFunds.com. Please read them carefully before investing.

1 - Industry sector or sub-industry group levels are provided from the Global Industry Classification Standard ("GICS"), developed and exclusively owned by MSCI, Inc. ("MSCI") and Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC ("S&P"). All GICS data is provided "as is" with no warranties. The Adviser may have reclassified/classified certain securities in or out of a sub-industry. Such reclassifications are not supported by S&P or MSCI.

2 - Source: FactSet PA and BAMCO.

3 - Source: FactSet SPAR. Except for Standard Deviation and Sharpe Ratio, the performance based characteristics above were calculated relative to the Fund's benchmark.

The Fund may not achieve its objectives. Portfolio holdings may change over time.

Performance for the Institutional Shares prior to 5/29/2009 is based on the performance of the Retail Shares, which have a distribution fee. The Institutional Shares do not have a distribution fee. If the annual returns for the Institutional Shares prior to 5/29/2009 did not reflect this fee, the returns would be higher.

Definitions (provided by BAMCO, Inc.): The indexes are unmanaged. The **Russell 2000® Growth Index** measures the performance of small-sized U.S. companies that are classified as growth and the **S&P 500 Index** of 500 widely held large-cap U.S. companies. The indexes and the Fund are with dividends, which positively impact the performance results. Russell Investment Group is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes. Russell is a trademark of Russell Investment Group. Morningstar moved Baron Growth Fund from the **Small Growth Category** effective 5/31/2011 to the **Mid-Cap Growth Category**. The Fund's investment mandate has been, and continues to be, to invest in small-cap growth stocks for the long term. Because of its long-term approach, the Fund could have a significant percentage of its assets invested in securities that have appreciated beyond their market capitalization at the time of the Fund's initial investment. Morningstar calculates the **Morningstar Mid-Cap Growth Category Average** using its Fractional Weighting methodology. © 2020 Morningstar, Inc. All Rights Reserved. The Morningstar information contained herein: (1) is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its content providers; (2) may not be copied or distributed; and (3) is not warranted to be accurate, complete or timely. Neither Morningstar nor its content providers are responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. **Standard Deviation (Std. Dev.):** measures the degree to which a fund's performance has varied from its average performance over a particular time period. The greater the standard deviation, the greater a fund's volatility (risk). **Sharpe Ratio:** is a risk-adjusted performance statistic that measures reward per unit of risk. The higher the Sharpe ratio, the better a fund's risk adjusted performance. **Alpha:** measures the difference between a fund's actual returns and its expected performance, given its level of risk as measured by beta. **Beta:** measures a fund's sensitivity to market movements. The beta of the market is 1.00 by definition. **R-Squared:** measures how closely a fund's performance correlates to the performance of the benchmark index, and thus is a measurement of what portion of its performance can be explained by the performance of the index. Values for R-Squared range from 0 to 100, where 0 indicates no correlation and 100 indicates perfect correlation. **Tracking Error:** measures how closely a fund's return follows the benchmark index returns. It is calculated as the annualized standard deviation of the difference between the fund and the index returns. **Information Ratio:** measures the excess return of a fund divided by the amount of risk the fund takes relative to the benchmark index. The higher the information ratio, the higher the excess return expected of the fund, given the amount of risk involved. **Upside Capture:** explains how well a fund performs in time periods where the benchmark's returns are greater than zero. **Downside Capture:** explains how well a fund performs in time periods where the benchmark's returns are less than zero. **Active Share:** a term used to describe the share of a portfolio's holdings that differ from that portfolio's benchmark index. It is calculated by comparing the weight of each holding in the Fund to that holding's weight in the benchmark. Positions with either a positive or negative weighting versus the benchmark have Active Share. An Active Share of 100% implies zero overlap with the benchmark. Active Share was introduced in 2006 in a study by Yale academics, M. Cremers and A. Petajisto, as a measure of active portfolio management.

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