

# Calvert US Small-Cap Strategy

#### **Investment Overview**

The Strategy offers exposure to a broadly diversified portfolio of quality, U.S. small-cap companies judged to be adequately managing their material ESG risks and opportunities.

## Portfolio Construction

- 60-90 holdings
- Quality/core bias
- Expect resilience in down markets
- Alpha driven by bottom-up stock selection
- Clearly defined risk parameters

#### **Benchmark**

#### Russell 2000® Index

#### **About Calvert**

Calvert Research and Management (Calvert) is a global leader in responsible investing. Calvert sponsors one of the largest and most diversified families of responsibly invested mutual funds, encompassing active and passively managed equity, income, alternative and multi-asset strategies. With roots in responsible investing back to 1982, the firm seeks to generate favorable investment returns for clients by allocating capital consistent with environmental, social and governance best practices and through structured engagement with portfolio companies. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., Calvert manages assets on behalf of funds, individual and institutional separate account clients, and their advisors. For more information, visit calvert.com.

#### **Investment Philosophy**

We focus on three definable inputs: Quality, Valuation and Time (QVT). Our focus on quality drives a preference for well-entrenched franchises with durable and scalable business models, typically benefiting from either structural growth (compounders) or structural change (improvers). We believe a disciplined combination of quality in a reward-to-risk framework with a long-term mindset can uncover sources of alpha in the broad and inefficient small-cap universe.

#### **Calvert Integration**

The Calvert Principles for Responsible Investment (Calvert Principles) provide a framework for the evaluation of ESG factors and guide our active engagement efforts with company management teams.

#### People

- Dedicated seven-person investment team drawing on 12 ESG analysts
- Supported by the broader Calvert equity group, with over 50\* investment professionals
- Analyst-driven process with collaborative culture
- High levels of accountability, with distinct lines of responsibility

#### Process

- Structured to implement our philosophy in a disciplined and repeatable reward-to-risk framework
- Designed to maximize the impact of fundamental bottom-up stock selection
- Portfolio exercises ensure team ownership, encourage collaboration and test biases
- +1,000 company meetings per annum
- ESG research informs active engagement efforts

#### Composite Performance (% as of 06/30/2025)



Gross	2.45	-1.77	8.58	9.30	10.87	8.92
■ Net	1.70	-3.22	5.43	6.13	7.65	5.76
Benchmark	8.50	-1.79	7.68	10.00	10.04	7.14
_						

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results. Performance returns reflect the average annual rates of return. Periods less than 1 year are not annualized. The composite results shown are GROSS and NET of investment advisory/management fees, which include performance fees if applicable, are quoted in USD and include the reinvestment of dividends and income. Each portfolio may differ due to specific investment guidelines and restrictions. Accordingly, individual results will vary.

This represents how the portfolio management team generally implements its investment process under normal market conditions. There is no assurance a portfolio's investment objectives will be achieved. Investing involves risks.

\*Portfolio managers, analysts and traders including US and global/international equity team members.

Certain statements made herein reflect the subjective views and opinions of Eaton Vance and its personnel. Such statements cannot be independently verified and are subject to change.

This information is supplemental to the Global Investment Performance Standards GIPS® Report contained herein.

#### **Investment Team**

#### **Griff Noble, CFA**

Managing Director, Co-Head of US Small/Mid Cap 29 years of industry experience 8 years managing strategy B.S., University of Vermont MBA, Babson College

#### Top 10 Holdings¹ (% of assets)²

	Representative Account
Commerce Bancshares, Inc	3.32
Core & Main Inc	2.96
CBIZ Inc	2.89
AptarGroup Inc	2.86
Community Financial System Inc	2.67
SouthState Corp	2.51
Aramark	2.43
White Mountains Insurance Group Ltd	2.40
Stifel Financial Corp	2.36
Essential Properties Realty Trust Inc	2.32

#### Portfolio Composition (as of 06/30/2025)

Sectors (% of portfolio)	Representative Account	Benchmark
Industrials	25.85	17.06
Financials	24.31	19.33
Consumer Discretionary	14.13	10.07
Information Technology	10.48	14.69
Health Care	8.60	15.95
Materials	5.41	3.79
Real Estate	5.39	6.13
Consumer Staples	2.22	2.27
Utilities	1.84	3.22
Communications Services	0.84	2.63
Cash	0.93	_

#### Michael D. McLean, CFA

Managing Director, Co-Head of US Small/Mid Cap 24 years of industry experience 8 years managing strategy B.S., Providence College

#### **Engagement**

#### Climate change<sup>2</sup>

Percentage of proxy votes for climate change initiatives



100%

### Gender pay equality<sup>2</sup>

Percentage of proxy votes for gender pay equality



100%

#### Portfolio Characteristics (as of 06/30/2025)

	Representative Account	Benchmark
# of Securities	69	1,989
Market Capitalization Weighted Average	\$6.0B	\$3.4B
Price-to-Earnings using FY1 Est	19.0x	30.5x
ROE	14.08%	3.96%
Total Debt/EBITDA	2.42	3.99

Portfolio characteristics and composition are based upon the total assets of Representative Accounts, which are included in the Composite for the periods shown. This account was chosen because it is unrestricted and fairly represents the overall style of the manager as described. Each portfolio may differ due to specific investment guidelines and restrictions. Accordingly, individual results will vary.

#### **Composite Report** (Calvert U.S. Small-Cap Wrap Fee Composite as of 12/31/2024)

Period	Gross Returns	Net Returns	Benchmark Return	Number of Accounts	Internal Dispersion High	Internal Dispersion Low	Total Composite Assets \$(000)	Total Firm Assets \$(000)	Composite Assets as % of Firm Assets	Composite 3-Yr External Dispersion	Benchmark 3-Yr External Dispersion
2017	14.73	11.42	14.65	≤ 5	NA	NA	319,137	13,325,200	2.39	NA	NA
2018	-5.65	-8.42	-11.01	≤ 5	NA	NA	374,196	14,238,699	2.63	NA	NA
2019	27.60	23.94	25.53	≤ 5	NA	NA	861,848	21,385,203	4.03	13.65	15.71
2020	16.05	12.69	19.96	≤ 5	NA	NA	2,041,438	31,261,243	6.53	20.29	25.27
2021	21.11	17.63	14.82	≤ 5	NA	NA	3,059,468	39,403,335	7.76	18.57	23.35
2022	-15.10	-17.62	-20.44	≤ 5	NA	NA	2,585,343	32,492,285	7.96	21.35	26.02
2023	12.78	9.51	16.93	≤ 5	NA	NA	3,017,436	37,238,338	8.10	18.72	21.11
2024	13.27	9.99	11.54	≤ 5	NA	NA	2,760,180	38,357,931	7.20	20.26	23.30

#### **Annualized Returns for Periods Ending 12/31/2024**

	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	7 Year	10 Year	Since Inception**
Composite Gross	13.27	13.27	2.74	8.79	9.06	_	9.75
Composite Net	9.99	9.99	-0.26	5.63	5.89	_	6.57
Benchmark	11.54	11.54	1.24	7.40	6.91	_	7.85

<sup>\*\*</sup>Inception Date: 01/01/2017

Composite net returns are shown after the deduction of a maximum managed-account fee of 300 basis points to illustrate for potential SMA clients the effect of a wrap-fee on performance. Since inception there are no SMA accounts managed in this style. The returns experienced by a particular client will be different from those shown above and in the historical composite performance. Past performance does not predict or guarantee future results.

Calvert Research and Management (the Firm) claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. The Firm has been independently verified for the periods January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2024. The verification reports are available upon request. A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. Verification does not provide assurance on the accuracy of any specific performance report.

GIPS® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein.

Please see Notes to Schedule accompanying these returns

#### Notes to Schedule

Organization - Calvert Research and Management (CRM or the Company) is an SEC registered investment adviser with its headquarters located in Washington, D.C. Effective close of business on December 30, 2016, Calvert Research and Management ("CRM"), a wholly owned subsidiary of Eaton Vance Management ("EVM"), acquired substantially all the business assets of Calvert Investment Management, Inc. ("CIM"). The Company serving financial advisors and their clients, as well as a wide array of institutional investors, CRM's investment strategies feature integrated environmental, social, and governance (ESG) research and corporate engagement. On March 1, 2021, Calvert Research and Management became a wholly-owned, independently managed subsidiary of Morgan Stanley. The firm continues to operate as Calvert Research and Management.

Performance Returns - Unless otherwise stated, composite returns and market values are reported in U.S. dollars. All performance returns are presented as total returns, which include the reinvestment of all income and distributions. Returns for periods less than one year are not annualized.

Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS Reports are available upon request.

Composite Dispersion - Annual internal return dispersion is represented by the highest and lowest gross returns of all portfolios within a composite. Internal dispersion is shown only for composites that held at least six accounts for the full year. Internal dispersion is shown as not applicable, "N/A", for composites that held five or fewer accounts for the full year. External composite and benchmark dispersion are shown to demonstrate the variability of returns over time, and is represented by the three-year ex-post standard deviation of gross monthly returns. External dispersion is not shown for composite inception through December 2010, as it is not required for periods prior to 2011.

Other Matters - A complete list of all composites and limited distributed pooled funds (LDPF) maintained by CRM with descriptions and related performance results for each is available upon request. To receive a complete list and description of the Company's composites and/or a GIPS Report that adheres to the GIPS®, contact the Performance Department at (800) 225-6265 ext. 26733 or write to Calvert Research and Management, One Post Office Square, Boston, MA 02109, Attention GIPS Performance Department, 18th floor. A list of the firm's broad distribution pooled funds is available on the firm's website.

Composite Definition - The US Small-Cap Composite seeks to provide long-term capital appreciation through investment primarily in small-cap common stocks of U.S. companies that meet the composite's investment criteria, including financial, sustainability, and social responsibility factors and that, at the time of purchase, are considered by the Advisor to be attractively valued. Derivative instruments such as futures, options, swaps and foreign currency forward exchange contracts may be used for a variety of purposes, including hedging, risk management, portfolio management, or to earn income and reduce costs. Using derivatives involves specific risks, including those related to counterparty, liquidity, valuation, correlation, and market risks. Individual accounts in the composite may contain account specific investment restrictions or features that may lead to differences in the holdings and performance of each account but are still eligible for inclusion in the composite.

New accounts to the Composite are included at the beginning of the first full month under management after all initial investments are completed to achieve the style, and closed accounts are included through the last full month under management. No selective periods of performance have been used.

Risk Considerations - The value of investments held by the strategy may increase or decrease in response to economic, and financial events (whether real, expected or perceived) in the U.S. and global markets. The value of equity securities is sensitive to stock market volatility. Smaller companies are generally subject to greater price fluctuations, limited liquidity, higher transaction costs and higher investment risk than larger, more established companies. Investing primarily in responsible investments carries the risk that, under certain market conditions, the strategy may underperform strategies that do not utilize a responsible investment strategy. The strategy is exposed to liquidity risk when trading volume, lack of a market maker or trading partner, large position size, market conditions, or legal restrictions impair its ability to sell particular investments or to sell them at advantageous market prices. Using derivatives involves specific risks, including those related to counterparty, liquidity, valuation, correlation, and market risks.

Benchmark - The Composite's benchmark is the Russell 2000® Index. It is an unmanaged index of small-cap stocks of U.S. companies.

Gross and Net Returns - Composite gross returns are after transaction costs, any foreign withholding taxes and other direct expenses, but before management fees, custody charges and other indirect expenses.

Composite net returns are after the maximum managed-account fee of 3.00%. This fee may include any combination of management, transaction, custody and other administrative fees.

Notes to Composite - The creation date of this composite is January 2017, and the inception date is January 2017. Clients or prospective clients should not assume that they will have an investment experience similar to that indicated by past performance results, as shown on the Schedule. Effective January 1, 2017, the account minimum of \$5 Million required for composite inclusion was eliminated.

The Russell 2000° Index is an index that measures the performance of the 2,000 smallest companies in the Russell 3000° Index.

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

#### RISK CONSIDERATIONS

This material is presented for informational and illustrative purposes only and should not be construed as investment advice, a recommendation to purchase or sell specific securities, or to adopt any particular investment strategy. This material has been prepared on the basis of publicly available information, internally developed data and other third-party sources believed to be reliable, however, no assurances are provided and Eaton Vance has not sought to independently verify information taken from public and third-party sources. Information contained in this material is current as of the date indicated and is subject to change at any time without notice. Future results may differ significantly from those stated, depending on factors such as changes in securities or financial markets or general economic conditions. Forecasts and estimates and certain information contained herein are based upon proprietary research and not be to relied upon as advice or interpreted as a recommendation. This information is not to be construed as an estimate or promise of the experience or results a client may achieve. Specific securities, sectors and portfolio characteristics mentioned are included only to provide a snapshot illustrative sample based upon the manager's current investment strategy as of the date indicated.

There is no assurance that a Portfolio will achieve its investment objective. Portfolios are subject to market risk, which is the possibility that the market values of securities owned by the Portfolio will decline and may therefore be less than what you paid for them. Market values can change daily due to economic and other events (e.g. natural disasters, health crises, terrorism, conflicts and social unrest) that affect markets, countries, companies or governments. It is difficult to predict the timing, duration, and potential adverse effects (e.g. portfolio liquidity) of events. Accordingly, you can lose money investing in this Portfolio. Please be aware that this Portfolio may be subject to certain additional risks. In general, equities securities' values also fluctuate in response to activities specific to a company. There is no assurance strategies that incorporate **ESG factors** will result in more favorable investment performance. **Investors should be aware that** this strategy may be subject to additional risks, which should be carefully considered prior to any investment decision.

There is no guarantee that any investment strategy will work under all market conditions, and each investor should evaluate their ability to invest for the long-term, especially during periods of downturn in the market.

A separately managed account may not be appropriate for all investors. Separate accounts managed according to the Strategy include a number of securities and will not necessarily track the performance of any index. Please consider the investment objectives, risks and fees of the Strategy carefully before investing. A minimum asset level is required.

### For important information about the investment managers, please refer to Form ADV Part 2.

The views and opinions and/or analysis expressed are those of the investment team as of the date of preparation of this material and are subject to change at any time without notice due to market or economic conditions and may not necessarily come to pass. Furthermore, the views will not be updated or otherwise revised to reflect information that subsequently becomes available or circumstances existing, or changes occurring, after the date of publication. The views expressed do not reflect the opinions of all investment personnel at Morgan Stanley Investment Management (MSIM) and its subsidiaries and affiliates (collecively "the Firm"), and may not be reflected in all the strategies and products that the Firm offers.

Forecasts and/or estimates provided herein are subject to change and may not actually come to pass. These conclusions are speculative in nature, may not come to pass and are not intended to predict the future performance of any specific strategy or product the Firm offers. Future results may differ significantly depending on factors such as changes in securities or financial markets or general economic conditions.

This material has been prepared on the basis of publicly available information, internally developed data and other third-party sources believed to be reliable. However, no assurances are provided regarding the reliability of such information and the Firm has not sought to independently verify information taken from public and third-party sources.

This material is a general communication, which is not impartial and all information provided has been prepared solely for informational and educational purposes and does not constitute an offer or a recommendation to buy or sell any particular security or to adopt any specific investment strategy. The information herein has not been based on a consideration of any individual investor circumstances and is not investment advice, nor should it be construed in any way as tax, accounting, legal or regulatory advice. To that end, investors should seek independent legal and financial advice, including advice as to tax consequences, before making any investment decision.

Charts and graphs provided herein are for illustrative purposes only. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

The indexes are unmanaged and do not include any expenses, fees or sales charges. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Any index referred to herein is the intellectual property (including registered trademarks) of the applicable licensor. Any product based on an index is in no way sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by the applicable licensor and it shall not have any liability with respect thereto.

The Firm has not authorised financial intermediaries to use and to distribute this material, unless such use and distribution is made in accordance with applicable law and regulation. Additionally, financial intermediaries are required to satisfy themselves that the information in this material is appropriate for any person to whom they provide this material in view of that person's circumstances and purpose. The Firm shall not be liable for, and accepts no liability for, the use or misuse of this material by any such financial intermediary.

This material may be translated into other languages. Where such a translation is made this English version remains definitive. If there are any discrepancies between the English version and any version of this material in another language, the English version shall prevail.

The whole or any part of this material may not be directly or indirectly reproduced, copied, modified, used to create a derivative work, performed, displayed, published, posted, licensed, framed, distributed or transmitted or any of its contents disclosed to third parties without the Firm's express written consent. This material may not be linked to unless such hyperlink is for personal and non-commercial use. All information contained herein is proprietary and is protected under copyright and other applicable law.

Calvert is part of Morgan Stanley Investment Management. Morgan Stanley Investment Management is the asset management division of Morgan Stanley.

#### DISTRIBUTION

This material is only intended for and will be only distributed to persons resident in jurisdictions where such distribution or availability would not be contrary to local laws or regulations.

MSIM, the asset management division of Morgan Stanley (NYSE: MS), and its affiliates have arrangements in place to market each other's products and services. Each MSIM affiliate is regulated as appropriate in the jurisdiction it operates. MSIM's affiliates are: Eaton Vance Management (International) Limited, Eaton Vance Advisers International Ltd, Calvert Research and Management, Eaton Vance Management, Parametric Portfolio Associates LLC, and Atlanta Capital Management LLC.