

# NORTHERN FUNDS

## MID CAP INDEX FUND

EQUITY

MUTUAL FUND

AS OF 1Q18



Overall Morningstar Rating™

among 356 Mid-Cap Blend funds derived from a weighted average of the fund's 3- 5- and 10-year risk-adjusted returns as of 3/31/18.<sup>1</sup>

### Investment Objective

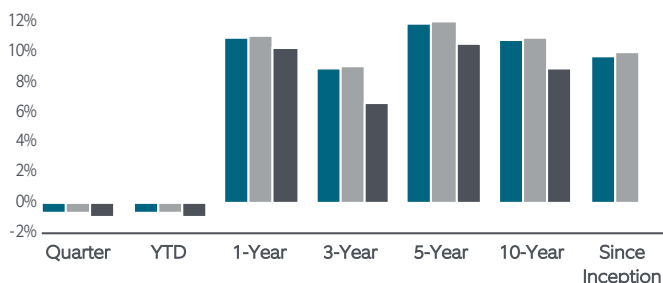
The Fund seeks to provide investment results approximating the overall performance of the common stocks included in the Standard & Poor's MidCap 400® Composite Stock Price Index (S&P MidCap 400 Index®).

### Investment Approach

The Fund will invest substantially all (and at least 80%) of its net assets in equity securities included in the S&P MidCap 400® Index, in weightings that approximate the relative composition of securities contained in the S&P MidCap 400® Index.

### INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE % — AS OF 3/31/18

- Northern Funds Mid Cap Index Fund
- S&P 400<sup>2</sup>
- Morningstar Category Avg Mid-Cap Blend



#### Average Annualized Returns

	Quarter	YTD	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	Since Inception
■ Fund	-0.78	-0.78	10.80	8.80	11.80	10.66	9.68
■ Benchmark <sup>2</sup>	-0.77	-0.77	10.97	8.96	11.97	10.90	9.98
■ Morningstar	-1.03	-1.03	10.13	6.51	10.43	8.88	—

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.

Northern Trust Investments, Inc. has contractually agreed to reimburse a portion of the operating expenses of the Fund (other than certain excepted expenses, i.e., acquired fund fees and expenses; the compensation paid to each Independent Trustee of the Trust; expenses of third party consultants engaged by the Board of Trustees; membership dues paid to the Investment Company Institute and Mutual Fund Directors Forum; expenses in connection with the negotiation and renewal of the revolving credit facility; and extraordinary expense and interest) to the extent the "Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses" exceed 0.15%. The "Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Expense Reimbursement" may be higher than the contractual limitation as a result of the excepted expenses, including but not limited to Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses, that are not reimbursed. This contractual limitation may not be terminated before July 31, 2018 without the approval of the Board of Trustees. In the absence of fee waivers, yield, total return, growth since inception and dividends would have been reduced. Total return is based on net change in NAV assuming reinvestment of distributions.

Please see back page for calendar year returns, index definitions and investment terms.

### FUND OVERVIEW

	Fund
Benchmark/Index	S&P 400 <sup>2</sup>
Morningstar Category	Mid-Cap Blend
Inception Date	3/22/05
Total Net Assets	\$2.3 Billion
Symbol/CUSIP	NOMIX
Dividend Schedule	Annually
Expense Ratio - Gross (%)	0.19
Expense Ratio - Net (%)	0.16

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, 2018.

### FUND CHARACTERISTICS

	Fund	Benchmark <sup>2</sup>
Number of Holdings	400	400
Weighted Average Market Cap (\$M)	5,876.0	5,770.8
Return on Equity (%)	13.8	13.5
Trailing 12-month Price-to-Earnings Ratio	22.5	22.5
Price-to-Book (%)	2.5	2.5
Annual Portfolio Turnover as of 3/31/17 (%)	19.7	

### PERFORMANCE AND RISK CHARACTERISTICS (3 YR)

	Fund
Beta	1.00
Information Ratio	-1.83
Upside Capture Ratio	99.41
Downside Capture Ratio	100.48

Above risk characteristics are based on 3-year time period.

NOT FDIC INSURED

MAY LOSE VALUE

NO BANK GUARANTEE

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CALENDAR YEAR RETURNS %

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Mid Cap Index Fund	16.04	20.58	-2.36	9.60	33.24	17.76	-2.05	26.26	37.15	-36.56
Benchmark <sup>2</sup>	16.24	20.74	-2.18	9.77	33.50	17.88	-1.73	26.64	37.38	-36.23
Morningstar Mid-Cap Blend	15.93	14.14	-4.75	7.80	34.10	16.15	-3.81	22.52	37.39	—

Performance quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results.

TOP HOLDINGS %

	Fund
MSCI Inc. Class A	0.8
Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc.	0.7
ABIOMED, Inc.	0.7
Teleflex Incorporated	0.7
IDEX Corporation	0.6
Steel Dynamics, Inc.	0.6
Copart, Inc.	0.6
Domino's Pizza, Inc.	0.6
Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc.	0.6
Keysight Technologies Inc	0.6

SECTOR

ALLOCATION %	Fund	Benchmark <sup>2</sup>
Financials	17.8	17.8
Information Technology	17.5	17.5
Industrials	15.5	15.5
Consumer Discretionary	12.0	12.0
Real Estate	8.8	8.8
Health Care	8.1	8.1
Materials	7.0	7.0
Utilities	5.4	5.4
Energy	4.3	4.3
Consumer Staples	3.4	3.4
Telecommunication Services	0.2	0.2

ASSET ALLOCATION %

	Fund
Stocks	98.4
Cash	1.6

PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

BRENT REEDER

Began career in 1993 | With Northern Trust since 1993

Mr. Reeder received a B.A. in economics from DePauw University and an MBA in finance from DePaul University. He is an Associated Person with the National Futures Association.

DISCLOSURE AND RISKS

All data is as of date indicated and subject to change.

<sup>1</sup> Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Ratings reflect fee waivers in effect; in their absence, ratings may have been lower.

The Morningstar Rating™ for funds, or “star rating,” is calculated for managed products (including mutual funds, variable annuity and variable life subaccounts, exchange-traded funds, closed-end funds, and separate accounts) with at least a three-year history. Exchange-traded funds and open-ended mutual funds are considered a single population for comparative purposes. It is calculated based on a Morningstar Risk-Adjusted Return measure that accounts for variation in a managed products monthly excess performance, placing more emphasis on downward variations and rewarding consistent performance. The top 10% of products in each product category receive 5 stars, the next 22.5% receive 4 stars, the next 35% receive 3 stars, the next 22.5% receive 2 stars, and the bottom 10% receive 1 star. The Overall Morningstar Rating for a managed product is derived from a weighted average of the performance figures associated with its three-, five-, and 10-year (if applicable) Morningstar Rating metrics. The weights are: 100% three-year rating for 36-59 months of total returns, 60% five-year rating/40% three-year rating for 60-119 months of total returns, and 50% 10-year rating/30% five-year rating/20% three-year rating for 120 or more months of total returns. While the 10-year overall star rating formula seems to give the most weight to the 10-year period, the most recent three-year period actually has the greatest impact because it is included in all three rating periods. The Mid Cap Index Fund received 4 stars for the 3-year rating among 356 Mid-Cap Blend funds, 4 stars for the 5-year rating among 322 funds and 4 stars for the 10-year rating among 223 funds.

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**Equity Risk:** Equity securities (stocks) are more volatile and carry more risk than other forms of investments, including investments in high-grade fixed-income securities. The net asset value per share of this Fund will fluctuate as the value of the securities in the portfolio changes.

**Index Fund Risk:** The performance of the Fund is expected to be lower than that of the Index because of Fund fees and expenses. It is important to remember that there are risks associated with index investing, including the potential risk of market decline, as well as the risks associated with investing in specific companies.

**Mid-Cap Risk:** Mid-capitalization stocks typically carry additional risk, since smaller companies generally have higher risk of failure and, historically, their stocks have experienced a greater degree of volatility.

DEFINITIONS

<sup>2</sup> S&P MidCap 400® Index is an unmanaged index consisting of 400 mid-cap stocks. The S&P MidCap 400 Index covers over 7% of the U.S. equities market. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

**Beta:** Beta represents the systematic risk of a portfolio and measures its sensitivity to a benchmark.

**Down Market Capture:** A measure of a managers performance in down markets relative to the market.

**Information Ratio:** A measure of risk-adjusted relative return.

**Price-to-Book Ratio:** A ratio used to compare a stocks market value to its book value. It is calculated by dividing the current price of the stock by the latest quarters book value per share.

**Return on Equity:** Amount of net income returned as a percentage of shareholders equity.

**Trailing 12-month Price-to-Earnings Ratio:** The sum of a companys price-to-earnings. Calculated by taking the current stock price and dividing it by the current earnings per share for the past 12 months.

**Up Market Capture:** A measure of a managers performance in up markets relative to the market.

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



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