

# DISCIPLINED U.S. SMALL CAP EQUITY

## QUARTERLY COMMENTARY

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Small Capitalization stocks (as represented by the Russell 2000 Index) rose +2.2% during the quarter.
- The Glenmede Disciplined U.S. Small Cap Equity strategy outperformed the Russell 2000 Index by +4.0% net of fees for the quarter.
- The strategy had stock selection outperformance in 7 of 11 sectors versus the index. The most positive relative contributions were in the Health Care and Information Technology sectors. The most negative relative contributions were in the Financials and Real Estate sectors.

The Glenmede Disciplined U.S. Small Cap Equity Composite had a total return for Fourth Quarter 2025 of +6.2% (net of fees). On a relative basis, the Disciplined U.S. Small Cap Equity Composite outperformed the Russell 2000 Index by +4.0%.

For the Fourth Quarter 2025, S&P 600 and Russell 2000 Indexes had total returns of +1.7% and +2.2%, respectively. The benchmark indexes reached new record highs, boosted by better-than-expected economic growth, strong corporate earnings, progress in tariff negotiations and two Fed rate cuts. About 65% of Russell 2000 companies reported positive earnings surprises for the Third Quarter. Stock market volatility as measured by the CBOE VIX decreased from about 16.3 to 15.0. The Russell 2000 Value Index (+3.3%) outperformed the Russell 2000 Growth Index (+1.2%) by about +2.0%. The best performing sectors in the Russell 2000 Index were Health Care (+18.5%) and Materials (+5.0%). The worst performing sectors were Consumer Staples (-4.6%) and Information Technology (4.5%).

For the Fourth Quarter, the strategy had net positive contributions from multi-factor stock selection models. Outperforming factors included earnings estimate revisions, EV/EBITDA, interest coverage and margin-related. Underperforming factors included price momentum, price/sales, dividend yield and trading volume/liquidity. For Third Quarter earnings, about 80% of the portfolio holdings reported positive EPS surprises. In the Fourth Quarter 2025, the strategy had stock selection outperformance in 7 of 11 sectors versus the index. The most positive relative contributions were in the Health Care and Information Technology sectors. The most negative relative contributions were in the Financials and Real Estate sectors. Industry group biases had net positive impacts on performance, including relative overweightings of Health Care and underweightings of Consumer Staples stocks.

The initial estimate of U.S. real GDP for Third Quarter was +4.3% versus +3.8% for the Second Quarter. The Fourth Quarter reflected gains in personal consumption expenditures (+3.5%), federal defense expenditures (+5.8%), exports (+8.8%) and

decline in imports (-4.7%). Detractors included gross investment (-0.3%) and federal nondefense spending (-1.1%). For 2026, many economists project real GDP growth of +1.5% to +2.5% and CPI of about 2.5% to 3.5%, respectively. We expect positive corporate profit growth supported by increased productivity, consumer spending, relatively stable inflation, and prudent Fed monetary policy. However, trade tariffs, another government shutdown, fiscal policies and geopolitical risks can have significant global economic and financial impacts. Currently, our leading industry group indicators target overweightings in Health Care, Real Estate, Energy and Materials, and underweightings in Communication Services, Financials and Consumer Discretionary. In comparison to last quarter, the relative performance of defensive sectors may benefit from weakness in industrial materials (FIBER index) and stagnating home prices. Consumer Staples improved from a modest underweight to neutral with relatively better call transcript sentiment, earnings estimate revisions and lower valuations, Communications Services improved from a strong to moderate underweight, benefitting from relatively lower capital expenditures for telecommunications companies, better earnings quality and profitability in media. Financials remained modestly underweight with banks weakening on lower building permits and inflating valuations (book/price with intangibles, dividend yield), while insurance improved based on better proprietors' income for private enterprises and relative dividend yield. We believe this strategy is well positioned with its multifactor approach favoring stocks with more attractive valuations, high cash flows, strong fundamentals, positive earnings/revenue estimate trends and favorable technicals.

### Disciplined U.S. Small Cap Equity Composite Performance (%)

As of 12/31/2025	QTD	YTD	1 YEAR	3 YEAR*	5 YEAR*	10 YEAR*	SINCE INCEPTION* (11/30/17)
Glenmede (Gross)	6.5	13.3	13.3	15.3	13.5	n/a	10.6
Glenmede (Net)	6.2	12.2	12.2	14.1	12.4	n/a	9.6
Russell 2000 Index	2.2	12.8	12.8	13.7	6.1	n/a	7.5

\*Annualized

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**Past performance is not indicative of future performance and may be lower or higher than the performance quoted.** All of the composites' valuations and returns are computed and stated in U.S. Dollars. Net numbers are net of max allowable management fee for this strategy. Additional information regarding the Firm's policies for valuing portfolios, calculating performance and preparing compliant presentations, is available upon request. A GIPS® compliant presentation, as well as a complete list of firm composites and performance, can be requested from GIM Client Service at [gimclientservices@glenmede.com](mailto:gimclientservices@glenmede.com). Please see the GIPS® presentation for further explanation.

The Glenmede Disciplined U.S. Small Cap Equity Composite objective is to provide maximum long-term return with reasonable risk to principal, by investing in domestic stocks of the Russell 2000 universe. The Russell 2000 Index is an unmanaged, market value weighted index, which measures performance of the 2,000 companies that are between the 1,000th and 3,000th largest in the market. One cannot invest directly in an index. Prior to 12/31/2024, the strategy was known as Glenmede Quantitative U.S. Small Cap Equity.

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