## **AS OF 1Q19**

# GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY INDEX FUND

## **Investment Objective**

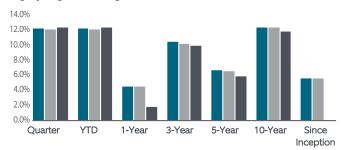
The Fund seeks to provide investment results approximating the overall performance of the securities included in the MSCI World ESG Leaders Index.

## **Investment Approach**

The Fund will invest substantially all (and at least 80%) of its net assets in equity securities included in the MSCI World ESG Leaders Index, in weightings that approximate the relative composition of the securities contained in the MSCI World ESG Leaders Index. The Index is a diversified, sector neutral global benchmark constructed using environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors.

## **INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE** % — AS OF 3/31/19

- Northern Funds Global Sustainability Index Fund
- MSCI World ESG Leaders Index¹
- Morningstar Category Avg World Large Stock



Average Annual Returns

					J. u.g. J		
■ Fund	12.12	12.12	4.48	10.39	6.64	12.32	5.56
■ Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	12.04	12.04	4.47	10.16	6.50	12.34	5.65
■ Morningstar	12.27	12.27	1.85	9.96	5.89	11.79	-

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 0.30%. The "Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Expense Reimbursement" may be higher than the contractual limitation as a result of the excepted expenses that are not reimbursed. This contractual limitation may not be terminated before July 31, 2019 without the approval of the Board of Trustees. In the absence of contractual expense reimbursements, 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	MSCI World ESG Leaders
	Index <sup>1</sup>
Morningstar Category	World Large Stock
Inception Date	3/5/08
Total Net Assets	\$636.9 Million
Symbol/CUSIP	NSRIX
Dividend Schedule	Annually
Redemption Fee	2% on shares sold or exchanged
Redemplionree	within 30 days of purchase
Expense Ratio - Gross (9	%) 0.34
Expense Ratio - Net (%)	0.30

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.

FUND CHARACTERISTICS	Fund	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>
Number of Holdings	833	829
Weighted Average Market Cap (\$M)	146,712.0	140,878.2
Return on Equity (%)	22.2	21.3
Trailing 12-month Price-to-Earnings Ratio	18.2	18.2
Price-to-Book (%)	2.8	2.8
Annual Portfolio Turnover as of 3/31/18 (%)	5.6	

PERFORMANCE AND RISK CHARACTERISTICS (3 YR)	Fund
Beta	1.00
Information Ratio	0.44
Upside Capture Ratio	100.46
Downside Capture Ratio	98.56

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

NOT FDIC INSURED	MAY LOSE VALUE	NO BANK GUARANTEE

Global Sustainability Index Fund As of March 31, 2019 / 1

# GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY INDEX FUND

CALENDAR YEAR RETURNS %	
Global Sustainability Index Fund	
Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	
Morningstar World Large Stock	

2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
-7.62	21.20	7.52	-0.87	4.56	27.28	15.15	-5.68	10.43	30.13
-7.78	20.98	7.25	-1.11	4.88	27.56	14.48	-5.42	10.67	32.43
-9.64	23.61	5.54	-1.69	2.79	25.19	15.84	-7.93	13.74	35.27

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

TOP HOLDINGS %	Fund
Microsoft Corporation	4.2
Johnson & Johnson	1.8
Alphabet Inc. Class C	1.8
Alphabet Inc. Class A	1.7
Visa Inc. Class A	1.3
Procter & Gamble Company	1.3
Intel Corporation	1.2
Verizon Communications Inc.	1.2
Cisco Systems, Inc.	1.2
Mastercard Incorporated Class A	1.0

	$\sim$	$\Gamma \cap$	D
ᅜ	C I	ı	к

ALLOCATION %	Fund	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>
Information Technology	18.5	18.5
Financials	15.0	14.9
Health Care	12.3	12.3
Industrials	10.8	10.8
Consumer Discretionary	9.4	9.4
Communication Services	8.9	8.9
Consumer Staples	8.4	8.4
Materials	5.1	5.1
Energy	5.0	4.9
Utilities	3.5	3.5
Real Estate	3.2	3.2

## TOP REGIONS/

COUNTRIES %	Fund	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>
United States	63.3	63.0
Japan	7.5	7.8
United Kingdom	4.1	4.1
France	3.8	3.6
Canada	3.5	3.7
Germany	3.5	3.4
Australia	3.3	3.2
Switzerland	2.4	2.5
Netherlands	1.8	1.8
Spain	1.4	1.4

ASSET ALLOCATION %	Fund
Stocks	96.2
Cash & Cash Equivalents	3.8





# PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

THOMAS E. O'BRIEN, CFA®

Began career in 1997 | With Northern Trust since 2004

Mr. O'Brien received a B.S. in finance from the University of Rhode Island and an MBA from Suffolk University. He is an active CFA® charterholder and a member of the CFA Society Chicago.

#### **DISCLOSURE AND RISKS**

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

**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.

International Risk: International investing involves increased risk and volatility.

### **DEFINITIONS**

<sup>1</sup> MSCI World ESG Leaders Index is a free float-adjusted, market capitalization-weighted index comprised of large- and mid-cap developed market companies in Asia Pacific, Europe and the Middle East, Canada and the United States. The Index holds a broad, diversified set of global companies, selected based on regional sector ranking of environmental, social and governance performance. 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.

© 2019 Northern Funds | Northern Funds are distributed by Northern Funds Distributors, LLC, not affiliated with Northern Trust.