

# CORE EQUITY STRATEGY

as of 12/31/2023

**Exencial**  
Wealth Advisors™

## OVERVIEW

For the fourth quarter we saw a global equity markets rally, taking most of the indices to near all time highs. Successive lower inflation prints were the catalyst for this price movement as investors grew in confidence that the Fed was finally done with raising rates.

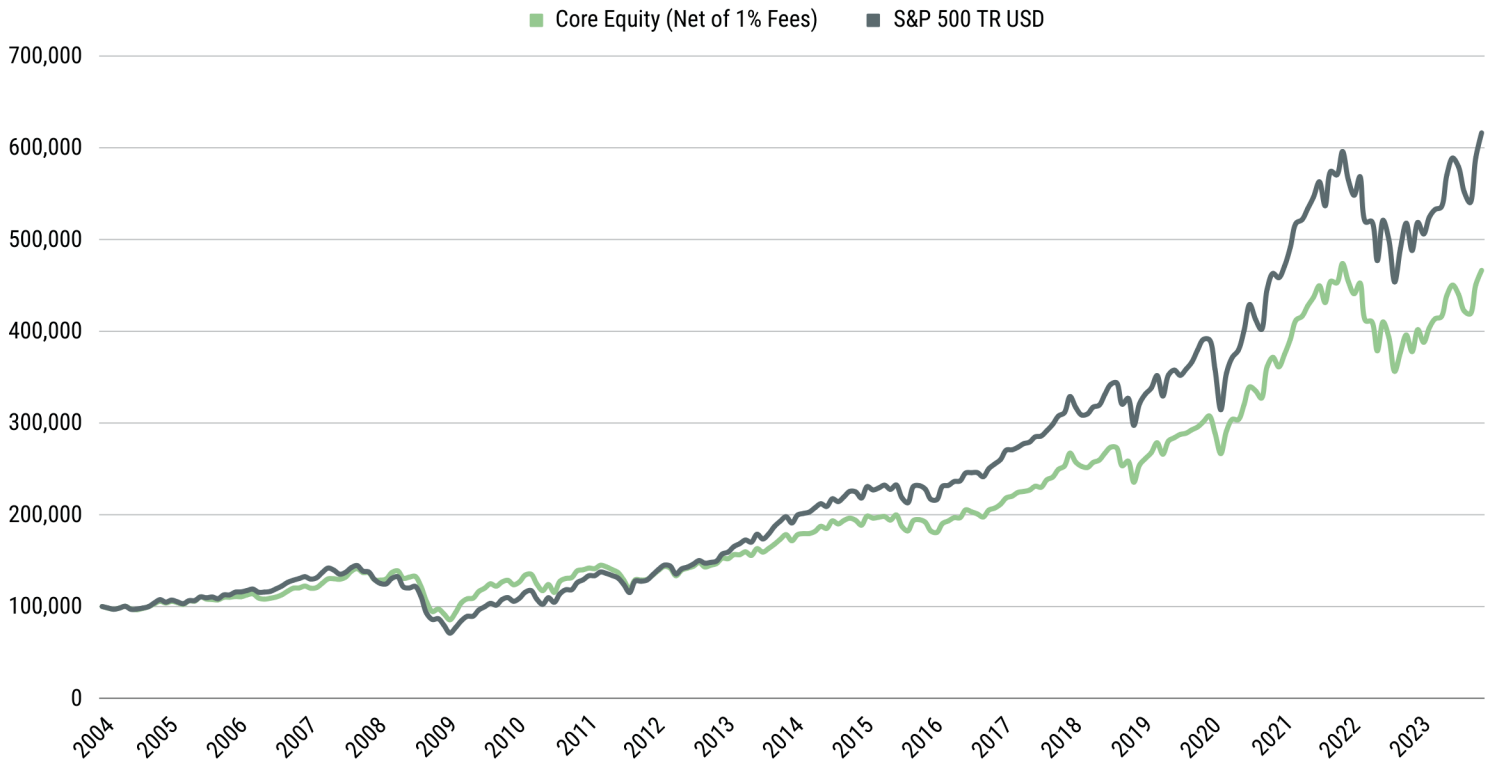
From an economic standpoint, the US economy continues to stand on solid ground. Employment remains robust and while we have seen certain pockets of weakness, we are not witnessing any widespread economic malaise. Consumers continue to spend, and employers continue to hoard labor. It would appear that despite the unfavorable odds, the Fed has managed to thread the needle of delivering lower inflation without hurting the economy.

That been said, it is perhaps too early to declare victory, but we can definitely say; so far, so good. From a portfolio standpoint, we added a few new names: ASML Holdings, Abbott Laboratories, Nestle and Diageo. We did not exit any existing positions in the quarter.

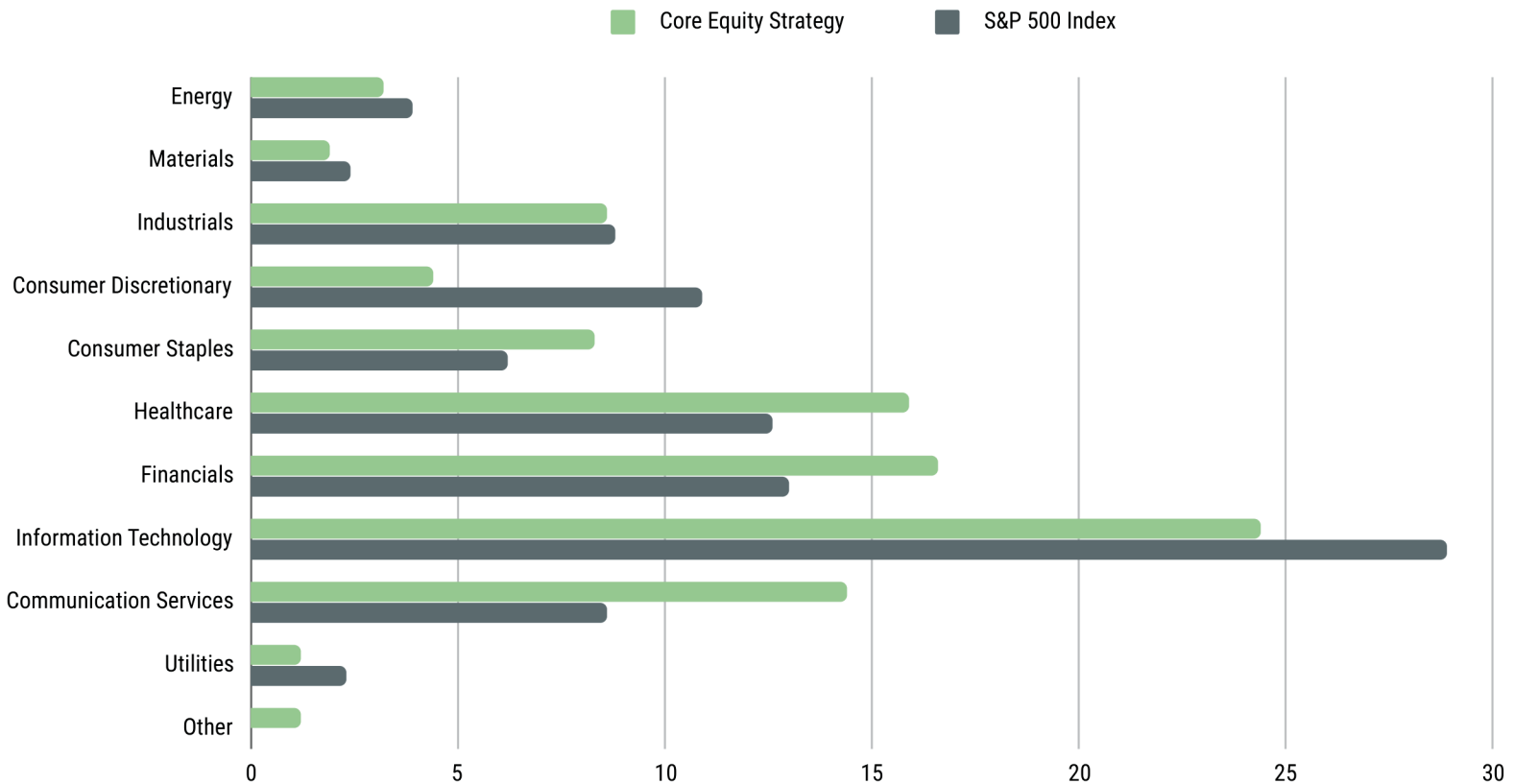


Fidelity® Government Cash Reserves	7.7	Berkshire Hathaway Inc Class B	2.7
Apple Inc	5.8	Visa Inc Class A	2.6
Microsoft Corp	5.0	Mastercard Inc Class A	2.5
Alphabet Inc Class C	4.7	Intercontinental Exchange Inc	2.5
Amazon.com Inc	4.0	Other	58.6
Meta Platforms Inc Class A	4.0		

## GROWTH OF \$100,000



## CORE EQUITY STRATEGY GICS SECTOR WEIGHTS



## MEET THE TEAM



### PETE TRONTIS, CFA **Sr. Portfolio Manager**

Pete joined Exencial Wealth Advisors as a portfolio manager for the Enhanced Yield strategy. Prior to joining Willingdon, he was a research analyst for Horizon Investments where he focused on global equity research and supported the firm's trading and performance reporting operations. Prior to Horizon Investments, Pete was a Market Risk analyst for Wells Fargo Securities. He began his career as an analyst for Liquid Credit Products at Bank of America.

Pete holds a BS in Finance and a BS in Economics from DePaul University where he graduated cum laude. He also holds an MBA from Duke University where he graduated in the top 10 percent of his class and was designated a Fuqua scholar. He is a CFA charterholder and a member of the CFA society of North Carolina.



### RANDY FARINA, CFA **Sr. Portfolio Manager**

Randy joined Exencial as a Senior Portfolio Manager for the Core and International Strategies. Randy has an extensive background in global equities with over 20 years' experience as an analyst and portfolio manager. Randy also has experience in client service partnering with both institutional and retail relationship managers. Before Exencial, Randy was a Portfolio Manager and Analyst for 16 years on the Global Small Cap Team for Putnam Investments. Randy helped implement a structured investment process focusing on intrinsic value. During his tenure at Putnam Randy also developed and managed an apprentice program to train and develop junior analysts. Randy most recently comes from Westwood Global in Boston where he was a Senior Research Analyst focusing on an International Large Cap Strategy.

Randy has a Master of Science in Finance from Boston College and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell. Randy is a CFA charterholder.

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## DISCLOSURE

### For Internal Fidelity Use Only - Not for Client Distribution

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Past Performance is no guarantee of future results. The information contained herein should not be construed as personalized investment advice. Performance results prior to July 2020 occurred under the management of another investment advisor, Willingdon Wealth Management ("WWM"). That portfolio manager was solely responsible for selecting the securities to be bought and sold and was affiliated with an investment advisor other than Exencial. WWM and its strategies were acquired in July 2020 and at that time became part of Exencial and its investment strategies. The investment results prior to July 2020 are based on the performance of the Core Equity Strategy in WWM accounts. Exencial now has access to and maintains the records supporting the performance of these accounts from inception to July 2020 and thereafter. From 03/01/2004 through the current month performance is based on the composite return net of fees of accounts invested in the Core Equity Strategy. Accounts where the portfolio managers do not have full discretion to manage the updates from either the client or advisor are excluded from the composite.

All performance returns reflect the reinvestment of dividends and other earnings and the deduction of Exencial's investment advisory fee. Exencial's investment advisory fees are described in Part 2A of its Form ADV. Clients may also incur other transactions costs such as brokerage commissions, custodial costs, and other expenses which are not reflected in the performance returns. Actual client accounts utilizing the Core Equity Strategy may experience different weightings and allocation and as such the performance of a specific individual client account may vary substantially from the Core Equity Strategy results. Exencial may depart from its strategic asset class allocations for particular strategies and allocate more or less to any asset class, or to other asset classes, in an attempt to add to the portfolios' overall returns. Exencial makes no representations that the results presented herein reflect the typical experience of an Exencial client nor that current or prospective clients will experience similar results in comparable situations. The Core Equity Strategy holdings listed herein do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold, or recommended for clients during the reflected time period. Information on the methodology used to calculate the performance and a list reflecting the contribution of each holding in the Core Equity Strategy Composite's overall performance during the time period, is available upon request. Different types of investments involve varying degrees of risk, and there can be no assurance that any specific investment or investment strategy will be profitable or equal the results portrayed herein. Information presented herein is subject to change without notice and should not be considered as a solicitation to buy or sell any security. Comparison of the Core Equity Strategy to the various indexes or benchmarks set forth above is for illustrative purposes only and the benchmarks have not been selected to represent the most appropriate or comparable benchmark with which to compare the Core Equity Strategy performance, but rather to allow for comparison of the Core Equity Strategy's performance with well-known and widely recognized benchmark indexes. It is not possible to directly invest in an index, as indices are unmanaged, hypothetical vehicles that serve as market indicators and do not account for the deduction of investment management fees or transaction costs generally associated with investable products, which otherwise have the effect of reducing the performance of an actual investment portfolio. The securities held in clients' accounts following a particular strategy and the Core Equity Strategy may differ significantly from the securities included in a benchmark index, and the volatility of the securities may differ significantly from that of the benchmark index. A description of each index is available from us upon request. References to specific securities are presented principally to illustrate the firm's investment methodology or approach and are not being referenced to demonstrate Exencial's performance or investment results. Exencial is under no obligation to hold any equity position for any time period and Exencial's current recommendations are subject to change at any time without notice. A complete list of portfolio holdings and specific securities transactions for the preceding 12 months is available upon request. The information contained herein, while not guaranteed as to the accuracy or completeness, has been obtained from sources we believe to be reliable.

The S&P 500® is widely regarded as the best single gauge of large cap U.S. equities. This index includes the 500 leading U.S. companies and covers approximately 80% of the available equities market cap in the U.S.