## Nations<sup>®</sup> Small Cap Core Index

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## **Index Description**

The Nations Small Cap Core Index is the benchmark for small cap option strategy investments. It replicates a portfolio of small cap stocks then generates excess return by harvesting the volatility risk premium contained in small cap index options. The Nations Small Cap Core Index is completely rules-based and attractive over a range of market return regimes. It never generates leverage.

Nations Core Indexes use an enhanced covered call strategy which maximizes the volatility risk premium harvested and thus increases both absolute and risk-adjusted returns while also reducing the volatility of those returns. Given its superior absolute and risk-adjusted returns, the Nations Small Cap Core Index should replace traditional small cap indexes in investors' portfolios.

The Nations Core Index's superiority relies on the advantage of alternative risk premia which are economically robust and persistent.

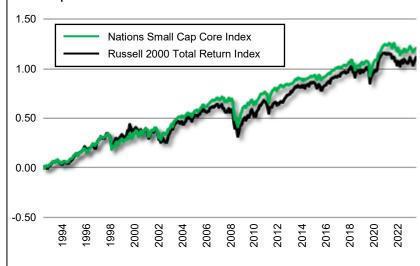
Nations Indexes is the world's leading independent developer of volatility and option strategy indexes.

## Give Yourself Options®

Performance of an index is not illustrative of any particular investment. Index returns quoted represent past performance, which is no guarantee of future results.

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## **Comparative Historical Performance**



|                              | Nations Small Cap<br>Core Index | Russell 2000 Tota<br>Return Index |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Compound Annual Return       |                                 |                                   |
| 2023                         | 10.61%                          | 16.93%                            |
| 3 Year                       | 3.97%                           | 2.22%                             |
| 5 Year                       | 10.56%                          | 9.97%                             |
| 10 Year                      | 7.44%                           | 7.16%                             |
| Since Inception (12/31/1992) | 9.44%                           | 8.71%                             |
| Average Annualized Standard  | Deviation of Monthly Retur      | ns                                |
| 2023                         | 16.93%                          | 24.22%                            |
| 3 Year                       | 17.28%                          | 20.48%                            |
| 5 Year                       | 19.90%                          | 23.14%                            |
| 10 Year                      | 16.09%                          | 19.11%                            |
| Since Inception (12/31/1992) | 16.18%                          | 18.53%                            |
| Average Annual Sharpe Ratio  |                                 |                                   |
| 2023                         | 0.34                            | 0.50                              |
| 3 Year                       | 0.47                            | 0.30                              |
| 5 Year                       | 0.71                            | 0.55                              |
| 10 Year                      | 0.69                            | 0.50                              |
| Since Inception (12/31/1992) | 0.79                            | 0.62                              |

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