

Artemis UK Smaller Companies Fund

An Afternoon with Artemis 2025

Mark Niznik | William Tamworth

MARKETING COMMUNICATION: Refer to the fund prospectus and KIID/KID before making any final investment decisions. FOR PROFESSIONAL INVESTORS AND/OR QUALIFIED INVESTORS AND/OR FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES ONLY. NOT FOR USE WITH OR BY PRIVATE INVESTORS. CAPITAL AT RISK.

Fig. 1: A healthy
PROFIT. Or is it?



Fig. 2: A taut musculature,
the mark of a healthy PROFIT.



Fig. 3: A sturdy bone structure
with no hidden weaknesses.

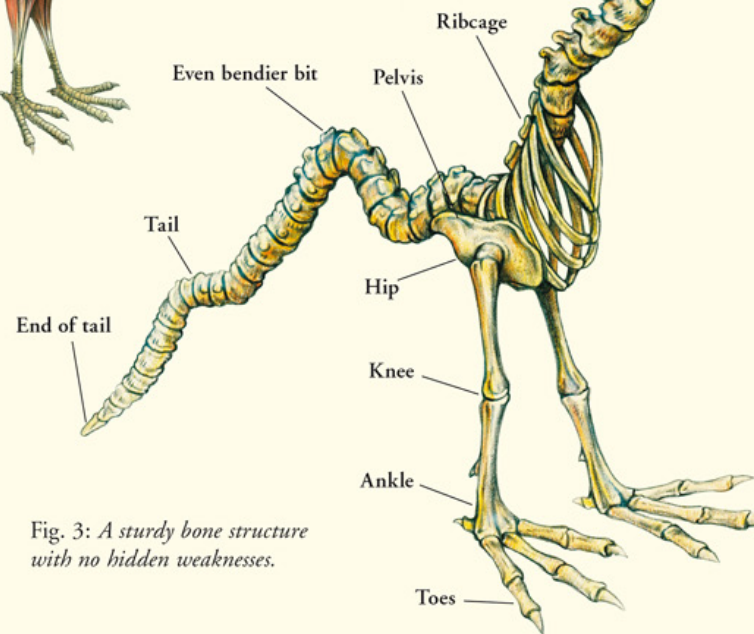


Fig. 4: Good vision
points to a bright future.

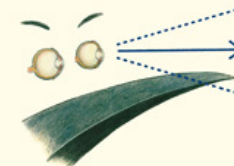


Fig. 5: A firm footing
for stability.



Artemis UK Smaller Companies Fund

A cash flow focused core small cap strategy

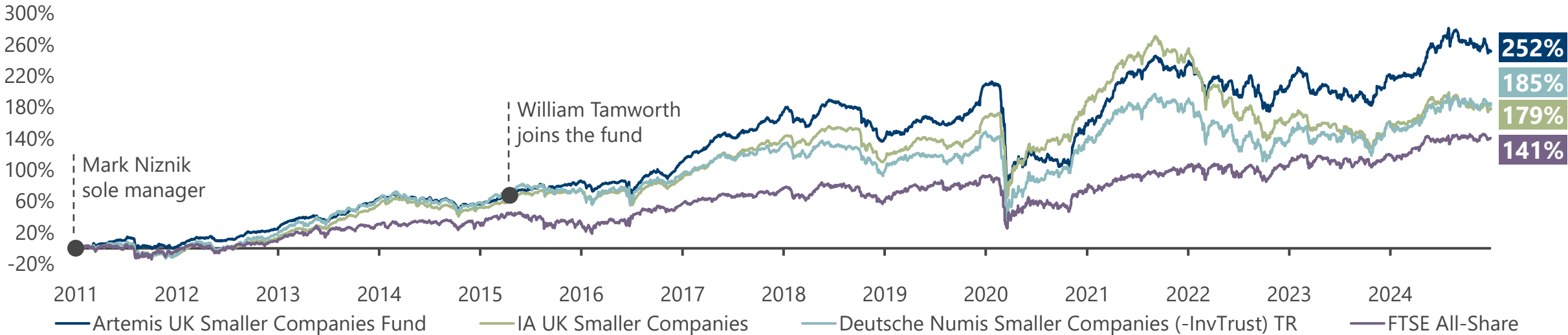
- A core **UK small cap strategy** designed to capture **small cap premium** and add **alpha through stock picking**
- Disciplined bottom up investment process focused on **sustainable, undervalued free cash flow**
- A **diversified, conservative** portfolio that produces **idiosyncratic returns**
- **25 year track record** of **2% annualised alpha**, proven in a **range of market environments**

Fund launch	April 1998	Number of holdings	60-90
Fund, Strategy AUM	£467m	Active share	85%
Benchmark	Deutsche Numis Smaller Companies (-InvTrust) TR	Average holding period	3-5+ years
Management team	Mark Niznik, William Tamworth	Median market cap	£540m
Performance quartile, 1/3/5/10 years	Q1/Q1/Q1/Q1	Alpha source	Stock selection

Past performance is not a guide to the future. Source: Artemis, Lipper Limited, class I accumulation units in GBP from 1 January 2011 to 31 January 2025. All figures show total returns with dividends and/or income reinvested, net of all charges. Performance does not take account of any costs incurred when investors buy or sell the fund.

Strong long term performance

	Mark's track record 1997-2024	Since Mark appointed sole manager 2011-2024	Mark and William working together 2015-2024
Fund manager	11.4%	9.4%	8.0%
Deutsche Numis Smaller Companies (-InvTrust) TR	9.3%	7.8%	5.4%
Relative	+1.9%	+1.5%	+2.4%
Quartile peer group ranking ¹		1	1



Past performance is not a guide to the future. Source: Lipper Limited. Invesco Perpetual Global Smaller Companies Fund (UK portion) in GBP from January 1997 to 31 December 2002. Standard Life In UK Opportunities R accumulation units, in GBP to 31 December 2006. Artemis UK Smaller Companies I accumulation units in GBP from 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2024 (data prior to 1 September 2010 reflects class R accumulation units in GBP). All figures show total returns with dividends and/or income reinvested, net of ongoing charges and portfolio costs. Performance does not take account of any costs incurred when investors buy or sell the fund. This class may have charges or a hedging approach different from those in the IA sector benchmark. ¹Peer group is IA UK Smaller Companies.

What sets us apart?

Fishing where the fish are

Valuation discipline – better long term returns

Why does it matter?

- Value has outperformed long term
- Avoids over hyped companies

Evidence

- 12x P/E for 13% EPS growth¹

Cash flow focus – helps avoid disasters

Why does it matter?

- Reduce accounting risk
- Outperformance in falling markets

Evidence

- 8% free cash flow yield¹
- Low leverage (0.1x ND/EBITDA)¹

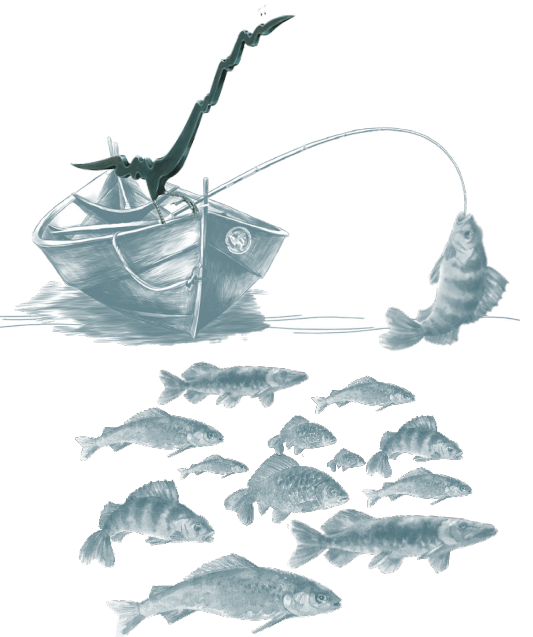
Long term approach – bigger opportunity set

Why does it matter?

- Reduced costs
- Higher capacity

Evidence

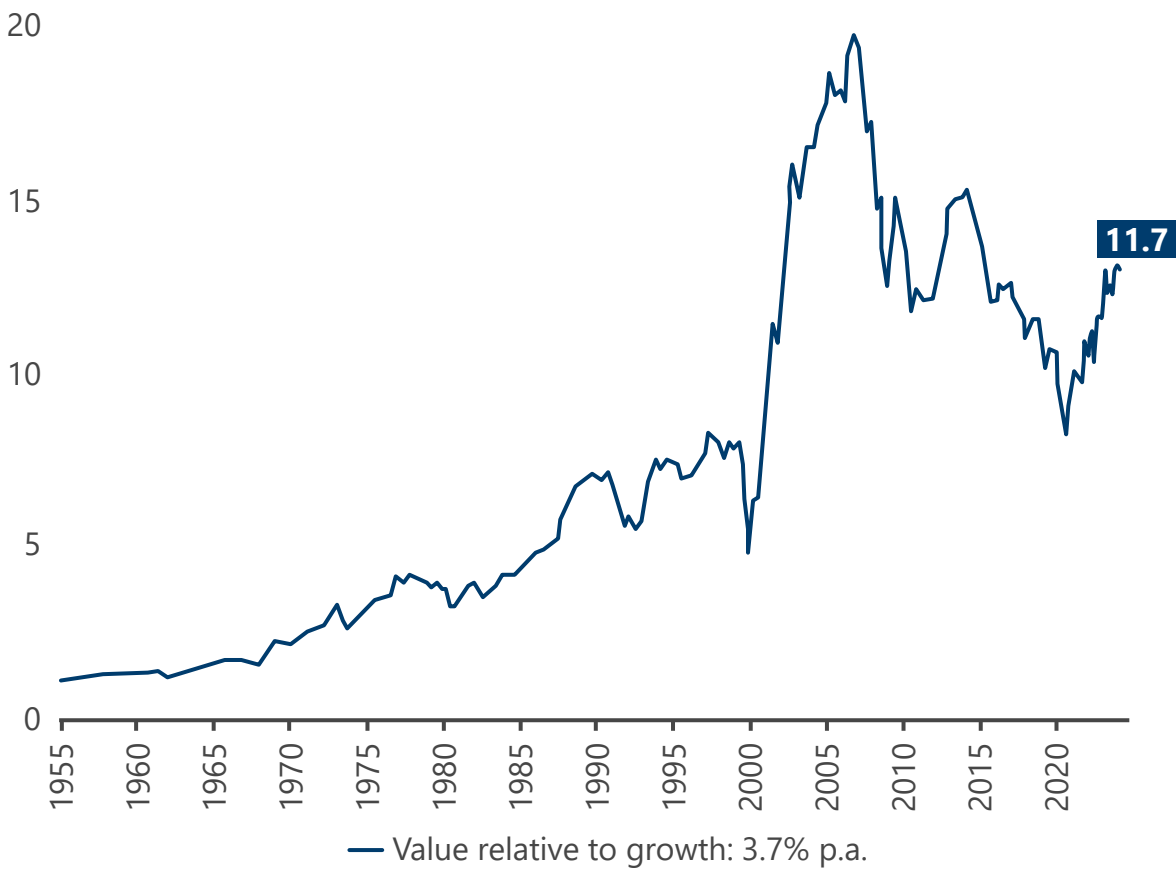
- 6 year average holding period



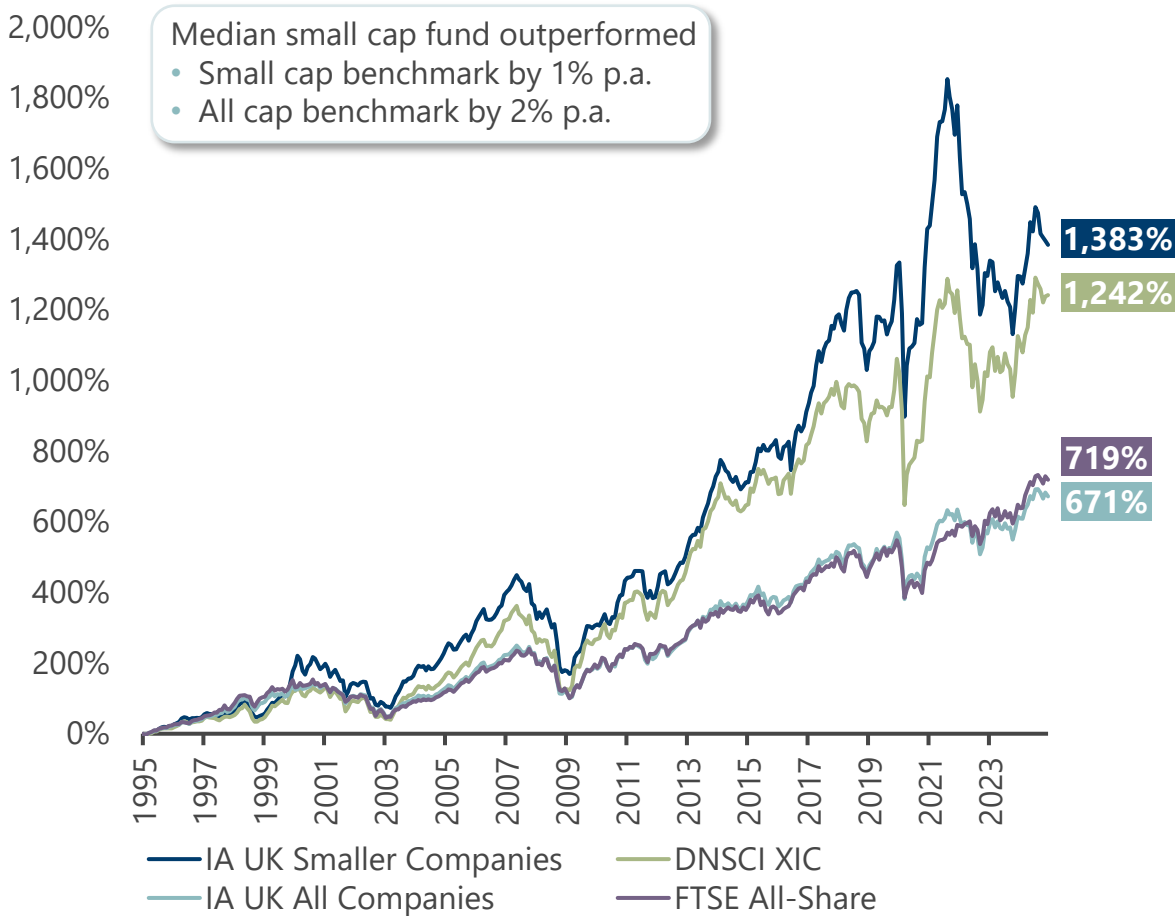
Source: Artemis, Bloomberg as at 31 December 2024.
Note: ¹CY 2025 weighted median.

Small cap value shares have beaten growth over the long term

Cumulative performance of value relative to growth within DnSCI XIC¹

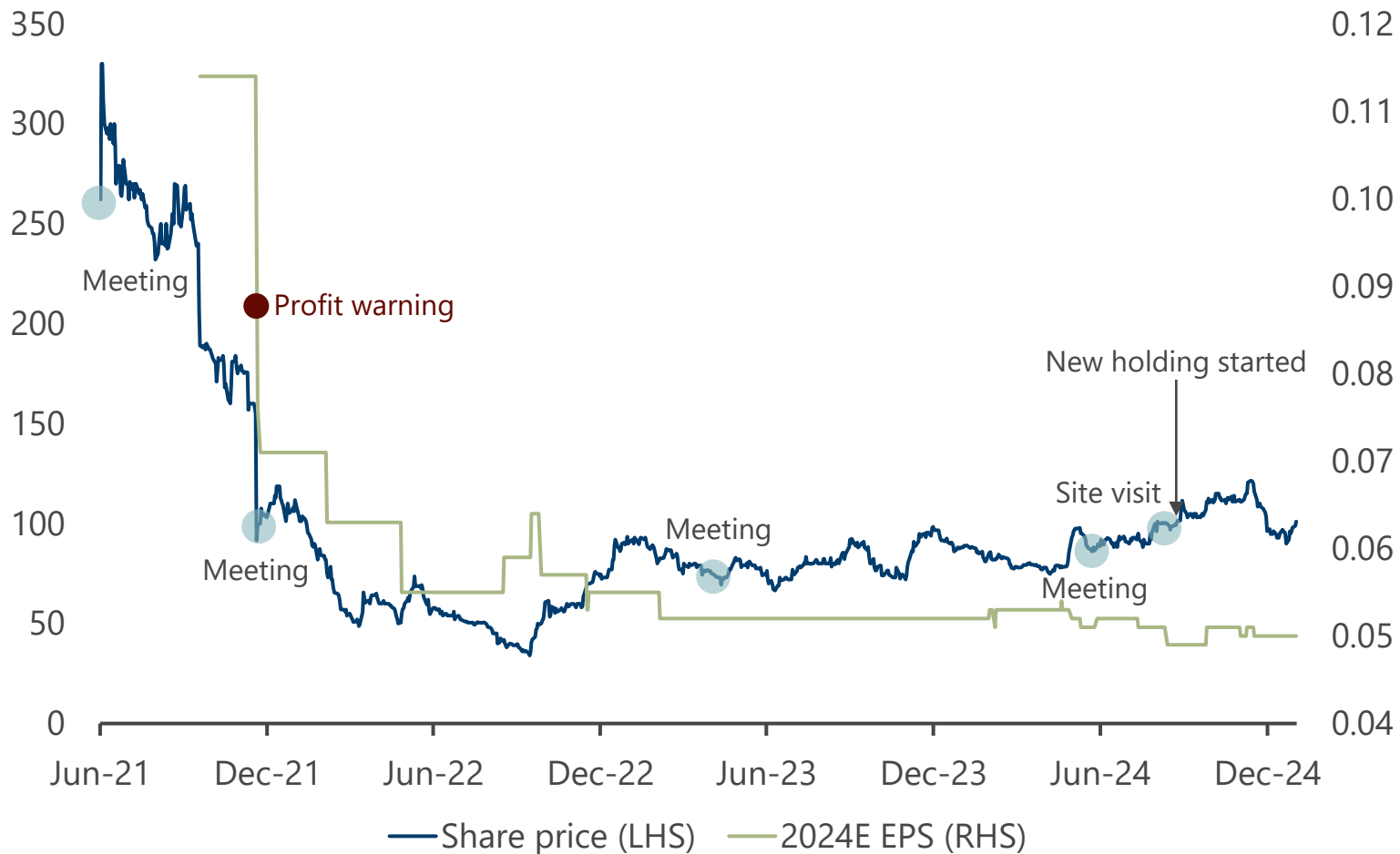


The small cap effect



Source: ¹Deutsche Numis as at 31 December 2023. ²Morningstar as at 31 December 2024.
Note: DnSCI XIC is the Deutsche Numis Smaller Companies (-InvTrust).

New position case study



What?

- Online sales of bathroom products

Why we like it?

- Market leader: 70% share of online
- Structural growth in online (1/3 total)
- Strengthening competitive position
- New warehouse: efficiency + capacity to 2x sales
- Strong balance sheet (net cash)

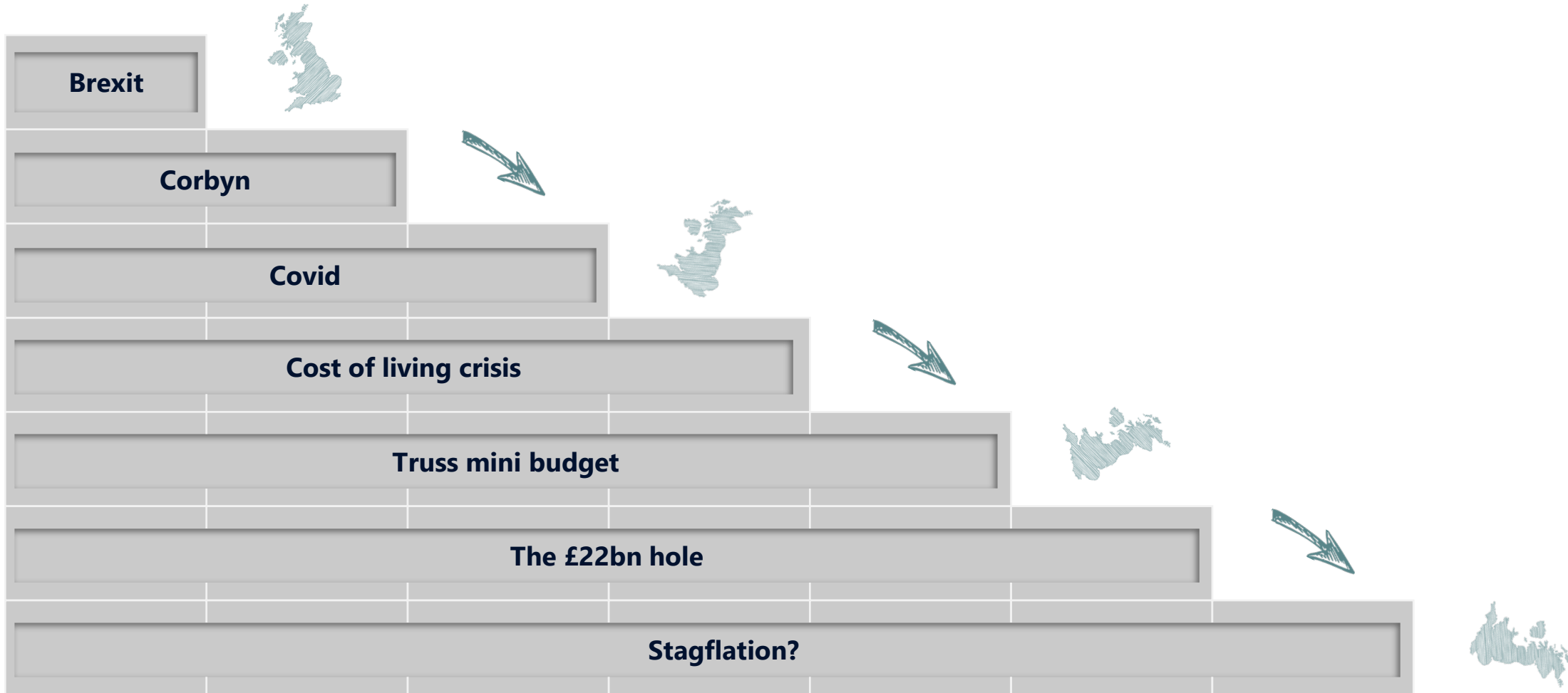
Valuation

- 7% 2026E FCF yield
- £600m sales at 12.5% margin → 16% FCF yield

Source: Bloomberg, Artemis as at 21 January 2025. Image source: brandsoftheworld.com.

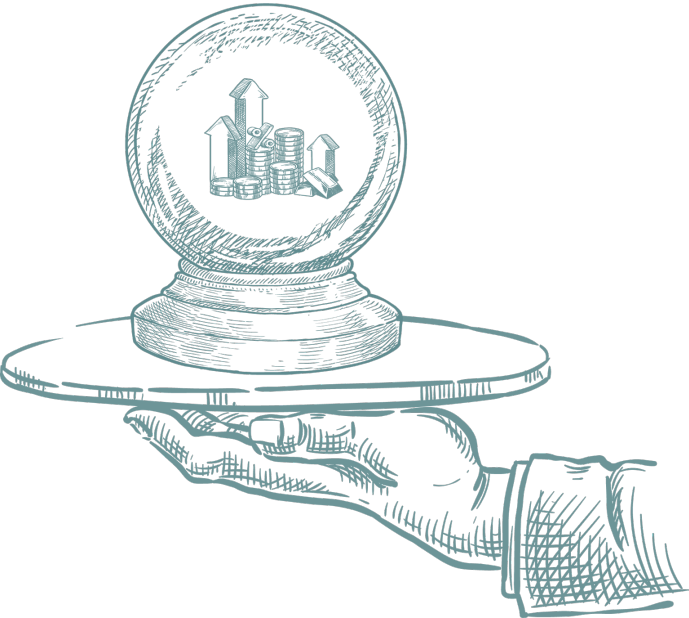
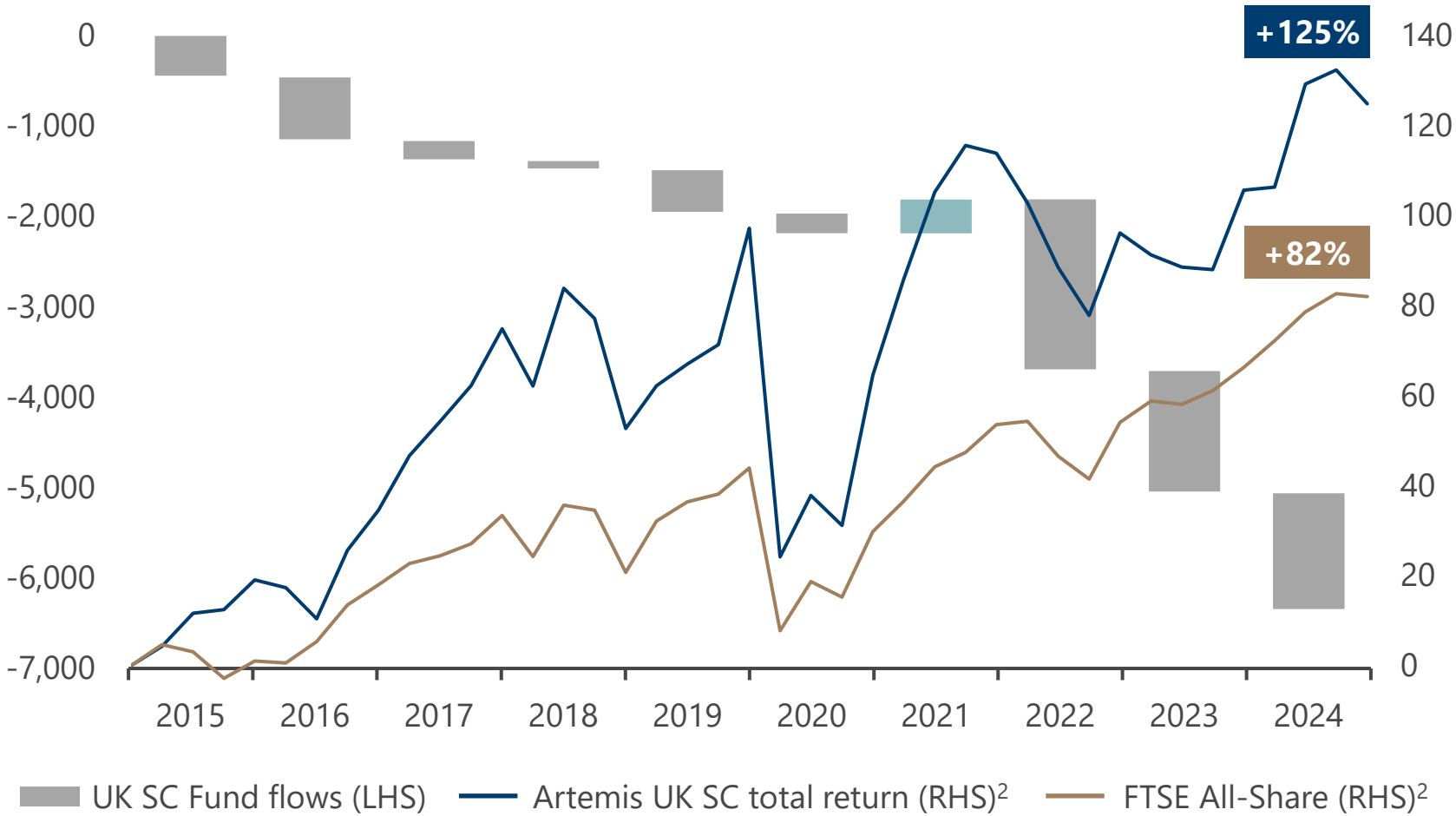
Note: reference to specific stocks should not be taken as advice or a recommendation to invest in them.

The UK has an image problem



A decade of sector outflows

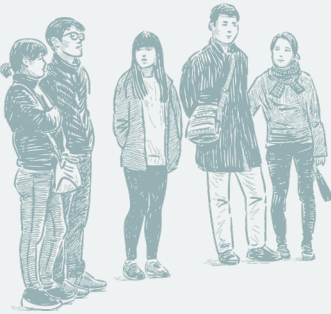
UK Smaller Companies sector net fund flows (£m)¹



Source: ¹Investment Association (2015-2023) and Morningstar (2024) as at 31 December 2024. ²Bloomberg as at 31 December 2024.

The outlook is better than it seems

Consumer



Rising real incomes

Business



Resilient

Politics



Shift to growth

What are we hearing from our investee companies?

Top 10 stocks

	↑	FY 24 revenue +23%; "Confident in the outlook" – <i>January 2025</i>
	→	"The outlook for 2025 is positive" – <i>December 2024</i>
	→	"Confidence in full year outlook" – <i>October 2024</i>
	↑	"Recommended 62.5p cash bid from DBAY – a 41% premium" – <i>January 2025</i>
	→	"Trading in line" – <i>December 2024</i>
	↓	"Lengthening of sales cycles" – <i>December 2024</i>
	↑	"Summer '25 will be significantly ahead of Summer '24" – <i>December 2024</i>
	↑	"Momentum into the next year and beyond" – <i>October 2024</i>
	→	"High single-digit growth in profit" – <i>November 2024</i>
	→	"Revenues and profits in line with expectation" – <i>September 2024</i>

Portfolio statistics (2025E)¹

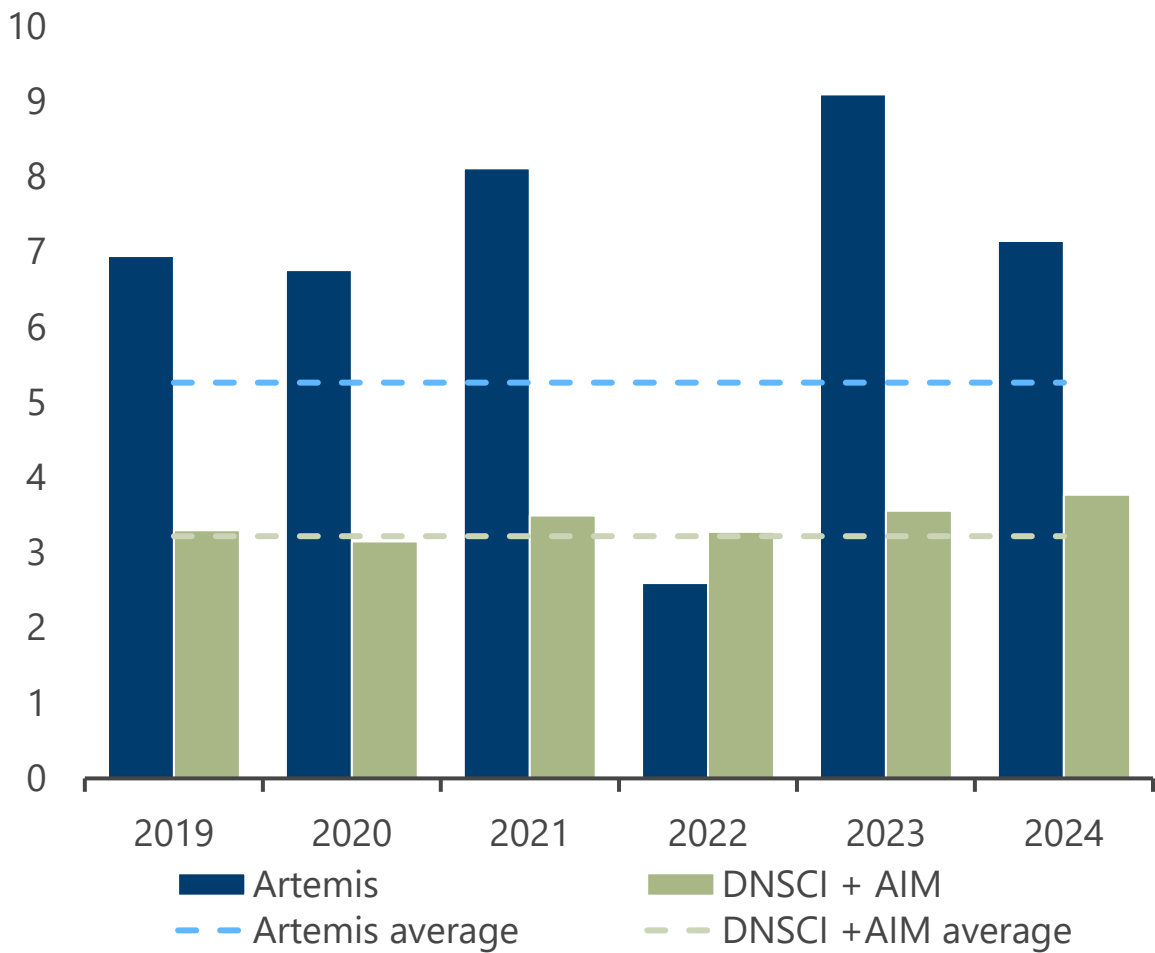
P/E	12x
Dividend yield	3%
EV/EBIT	9x
FCF yield	8%
ROCE	18%
Op margin	12%
Sales growth	7%
EPS growth	13%
Net debt/EBITDA	0x

Source: Artemis, Bloomberg as at 31 December 2024. ¹Weighted median. Image source: brandsoftheworld.com.
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M&A as a catalyst

Average takeover premium approaching 50%

Takeovers – % of constituents¹



Artemis UK Smaller Companies takeovers²

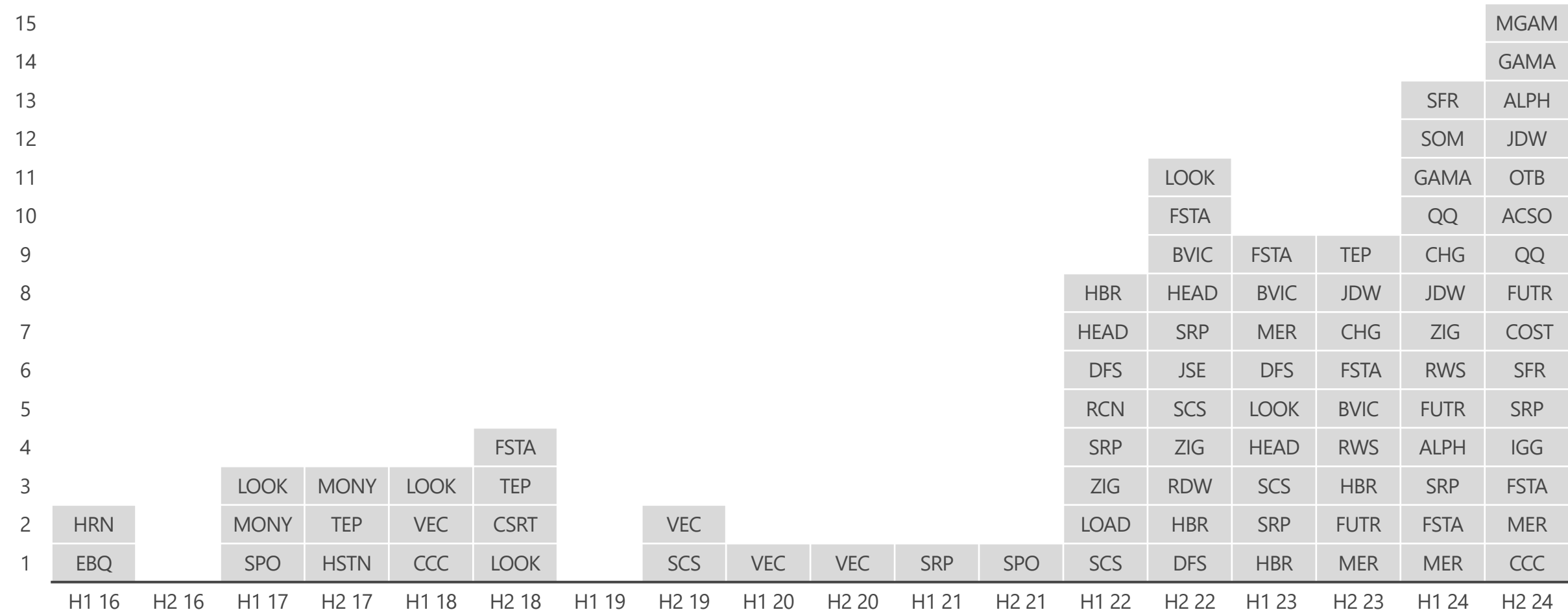
	Average premium (%)	Bids (#)
2019	54	7
2020	47	6
2021	56	3
2022	50	7
2023	50	4
2024	33	5
Total	47	32

Source: ¹Deutsche Numis as at 31 December 2024. ²Artemis as at 31 December 2024.

Unprecedented levels of small cap buybacks

...a result of attractive valuations, strong balance sheets and confident outlooks

Holdings with more than 0.5% reduction in shares outstanding



Source: Artemis, Bloomberg as at 31 December 2024. Note: reference to specific stocks should not be taken as advice or a recommendation to invest in them.

New investment trust mandate

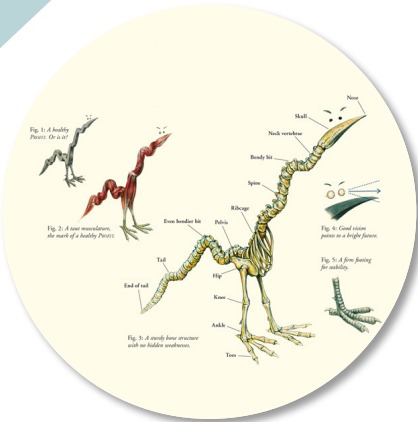
	Invesco Perpetual UK Smaller Companies plc	Artemis UK Smaller Companies
Aims	1. Capture small cap premium 2. Add value through stock picking 3. Reduce risk	
Investment approach	1. Valuation discipline 2. Cash flow focus 3. Long term 4. No unquoted holdings	
Structure	Investment trust	Unit trust
Assets under management	£140m	£480m
Market cap focus	Small / micro cap	Small cap
Gearing	Yes (current max 9%)	No
Number of holdings	50-70	60-90

Source: Artemis as at 31 December 2024.
 Note: the indicative information above reflects the current view of the fund manager and may change over time. For information about formal investment restrictions relevant to this fund please refer to the prospectus.

Artemis UK Smaller Companies

Reasons why

Core UK small cap fund with a different approach: long term, valuation discipline, cash flow focus



Reasons to be pessimistic on UK are being ticked off one by one

Periods of depressed sentiment usually followed by high returns

Value has outperformed in the small cap sector – QE period was anomalous

Performance – outperformed in 7 of the last 10 years

	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years
Artemis UK Smaller Companies	+9.1%	+7.4%	+12.5%	+118.9%
Position in sector ¹	10/40	3/40	9/38	6/33
Quartile ¹	1	1	1	1

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Appendix

Fig. 1: A healthy
PROFIT. Or is it?



Fig. 2: A taut musculature,
the mark of a healthy PROFIT.

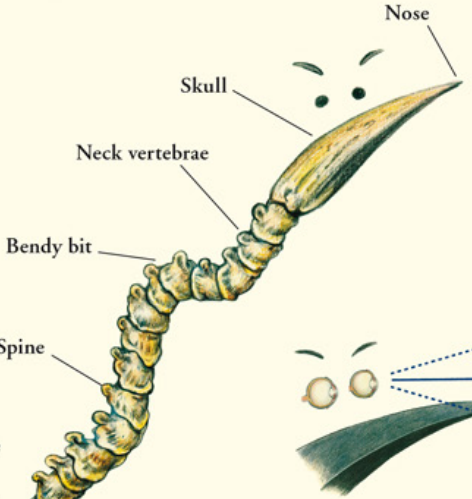


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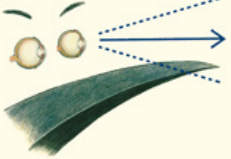
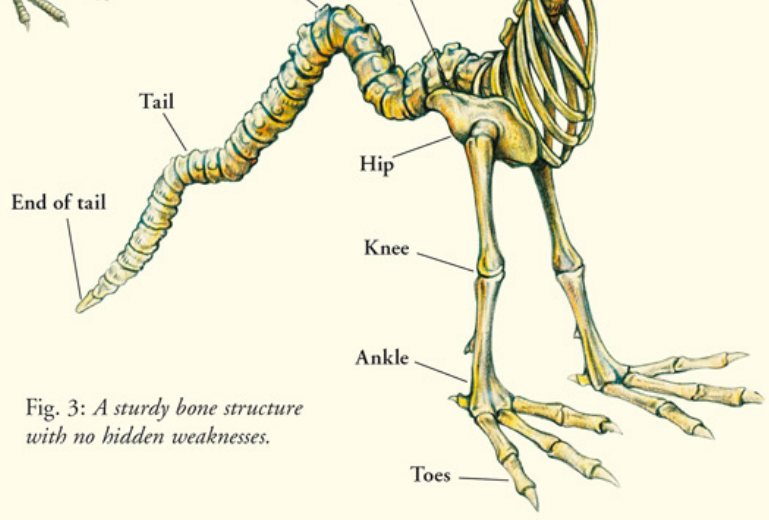


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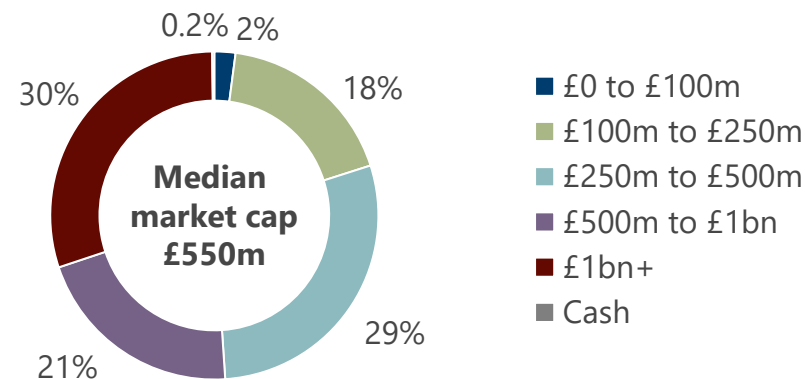


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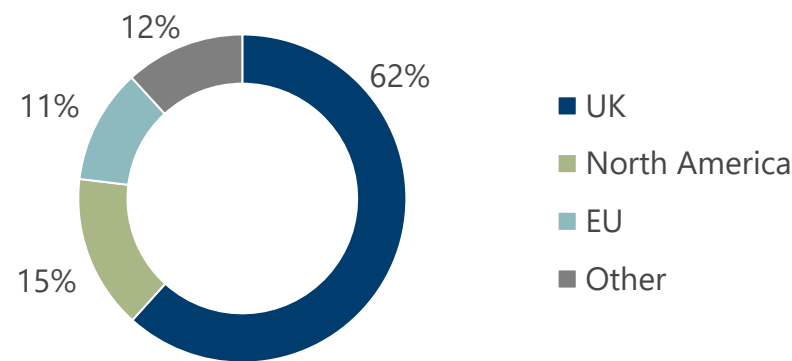


Artemis UK Smaller Companies Fund – positioning

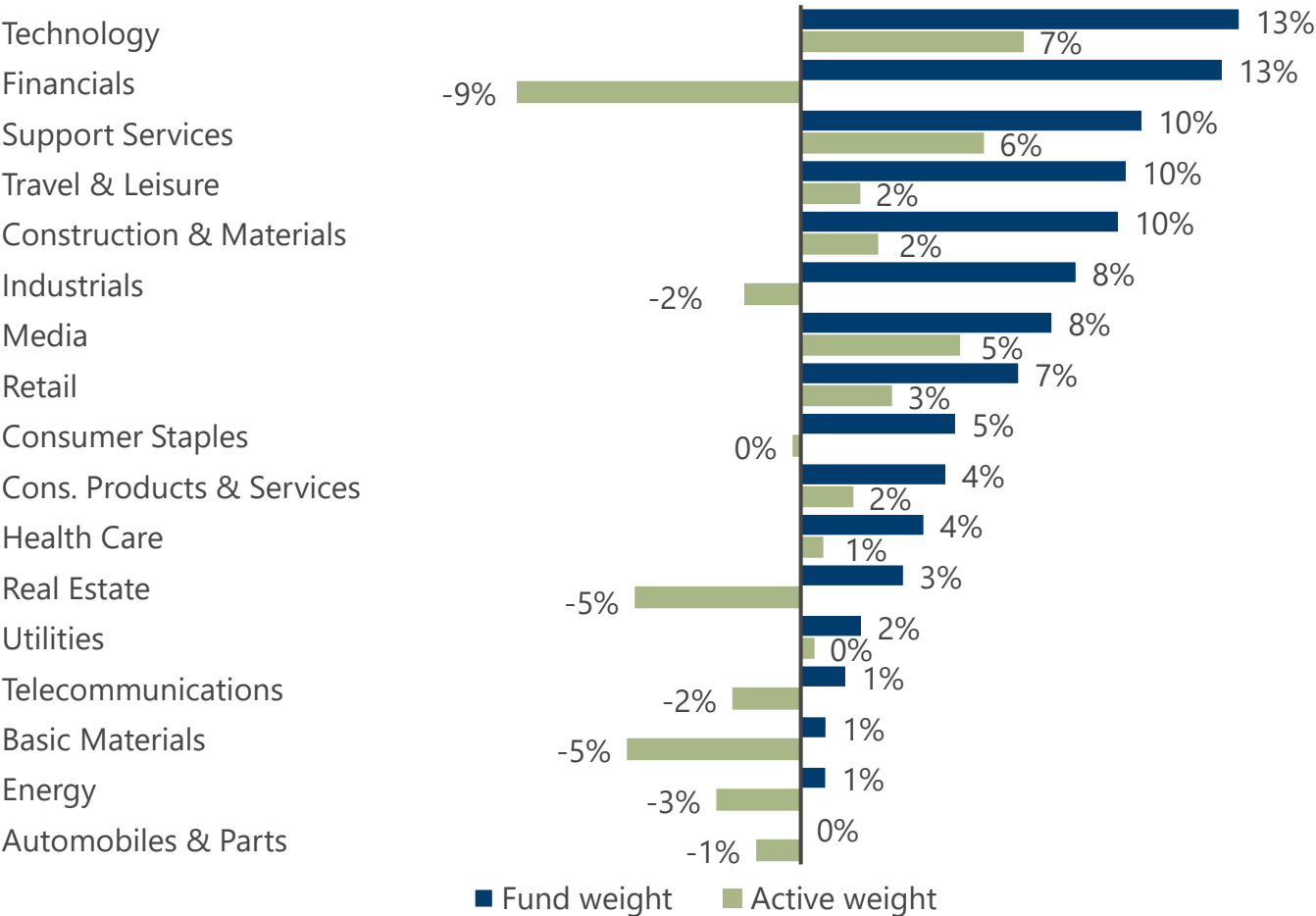
Market cap breakdown



Geographic revenue exposure



Sector breakdown



Source: Artemis as at 31 December 2024.
 Note: Sector breakdown (absolute and relative to Deutsche Numis Smaller Companies (-InvTrust) TR).

Attribution 2024

Fund: 9.3%	Benchmark: 9.5%	Peer group average: 6.3%	2nd quartile (13/40)
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What’s working...

	Return	Contribution
Beeks Financial Cloud	157.3	1.7
On The Beach	33.7	0.8
Britvic	42.8	0.7
Alpha	25.5	0.6
Close Brothers	-72.8	0.6
Keller	54.8	0.6
John Wood	-65.2	0.6
Bakkavor	74.4	0.6
LBG Media	45.3	0.5
Moonpig	24.4	0.4

...and what’s not

	Return	Contribution
Next 15	-56.4	-1.1
Zegona Communications	106.4	-1.0
Mony	-34.2	-0.7
Videndum	-62.0	-0.7
Plus500	59.9	-0.6
Secure Trust Bank	-50.2	-0.6
Vanquis Banking	-68.5	-0.6
TT Electronics	-35.5	-0.5
Just Group	76.0	-0.5
RWS	-30.7	-0.5

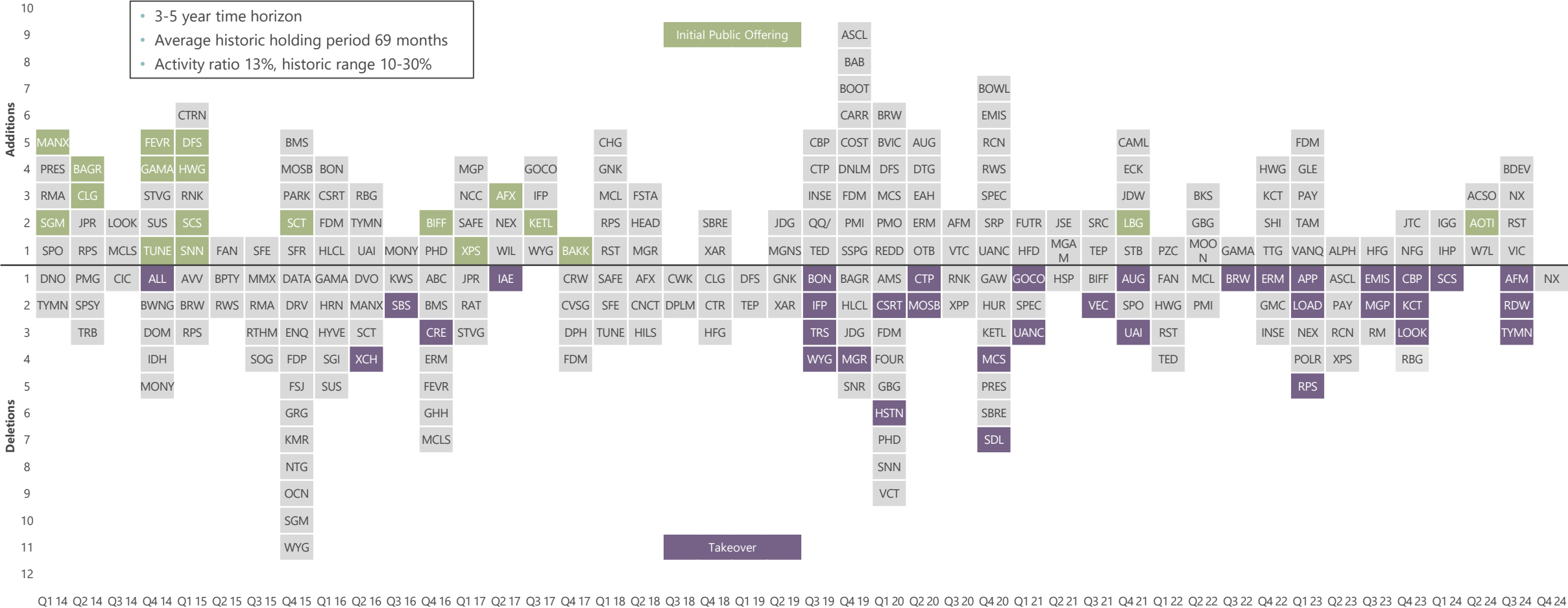
- Generally **resilient trading**, upgrades at **Keller** and **Bakkavor**
- **Buybacks** (On The Beach, Alpha, Moonpig) and continued **M&A** (Britvic) continue to be supportive
- Potentially **transformational contract win** at **Beeks Financial** with major exchange
- Stock specific: **Next 15** (contract loss), **Videndum** (recovery post writers strike) and **MONEY** (car insurance premiums)
- Customer complaints/Motor Finance impacted **Vanquis** and **Secure Trust Bank**

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Long-term investment horizon

Seeking opportunities where others fear lack of short-term catalysts

New holdings and complete sales



Source: Artemis as at 31 December 2024.

Activity

Top purchases (last 6 months)

	%
Restore	+1.4
Victorian Plumbing	+1.4
Accesso Technology	+1.1
Next 15	+1.1
Barratt Redrow	+1.1
Serco	+0.9
SSP	+0.9
Chemring	+0.9
RWS	+0.8
Mony	+0.8

Top sales (last 6 months)

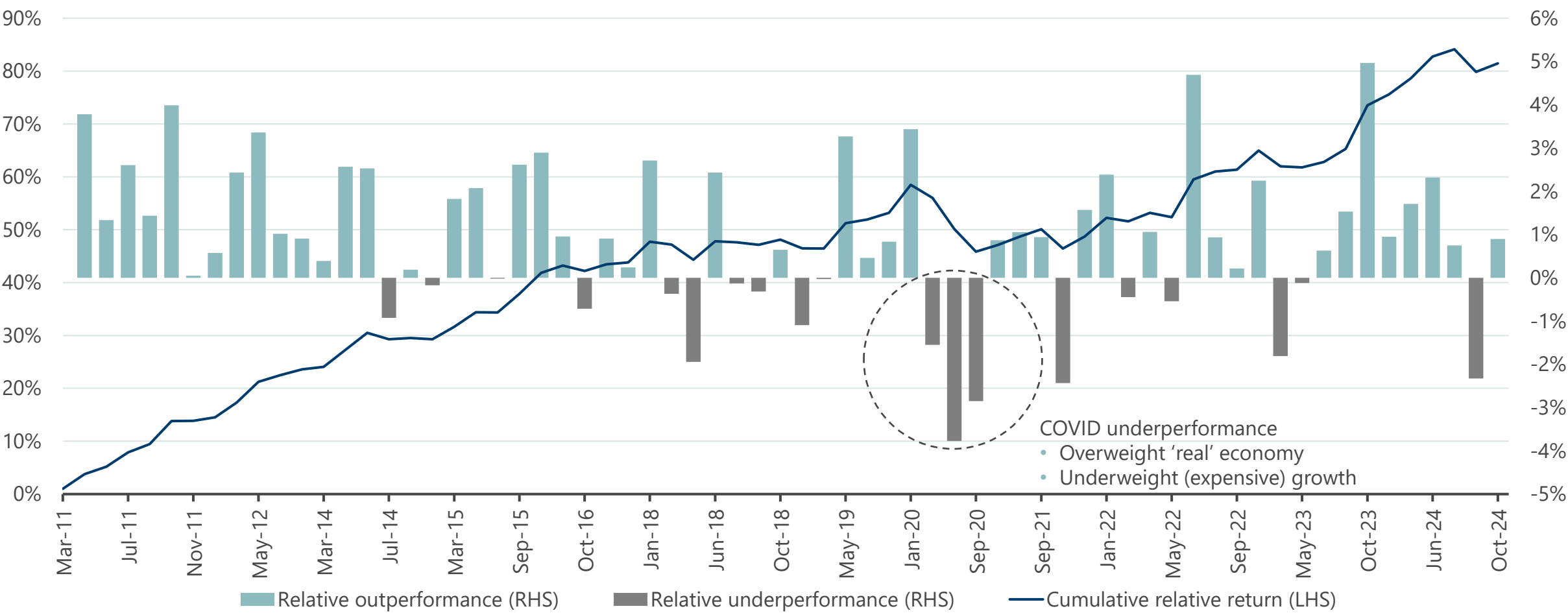
	%
Britvic	-1.1
Redrow	-1.1
Alpha Financial Markets	-1.1
On The Beach	-0.5
Morgan Sindall	-0.3
Tyman	-0.3
Beeks Financial Cloud	-0.2
JTC	-0.2
Carr's	-0.1
MyCelx Technologies	0.0

Source: Artemis as at 31 December 2024.

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Down months: 71% outperformed, 81% relative return

Cumulative and monthly fund relative returns in a downmarket



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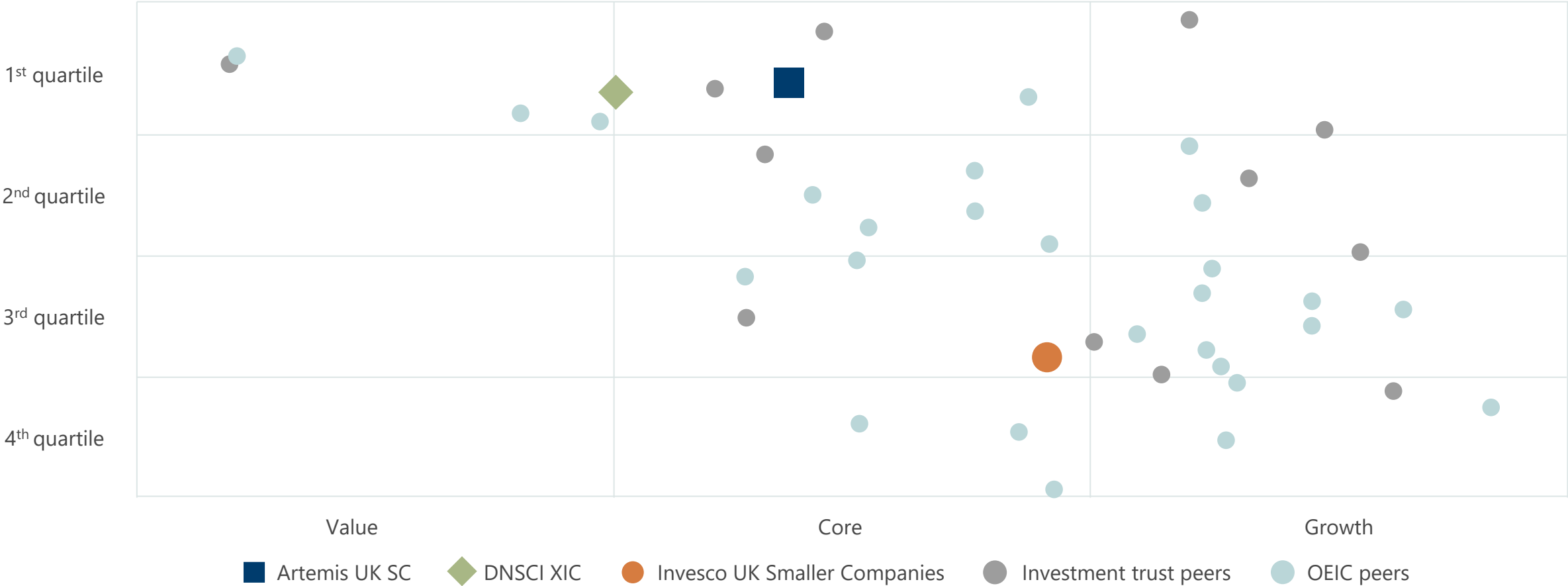
Annual performance

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Artemis UK Smaller Companies	19.0	12.9	30.1	-12.7	29.1	-16.6	30.0	-8.3	4.9	9.3
Deutsche Numis Smaller Companies (-InvTrust) TR	10.6	11.1	19.5	-15.4	25.2	-4.3	21.9	-17.9	10.1	9.5
Excess versus Deutsche Numis	8.4	1.8	10.6	2.7	4.0	-12.3	8.0	9.6	-5.3	-0.1
FTSE All-Share TR	1.0	16.8	13.1	-9.5	19.2	-9.8	18.3	0.3	7.9	9.5
Excess versus FTSE All Share	18.1	-3.8	17.0	-3.2	10.0	-6.7	11.6	-8.6	-3.1	-0.1
IA UK Smaller Companies NR	14.7	8.5	26.7	-11.8	26.2	7.3	22.9	-25.7	0.0	6.3
IA UK Smaller Companies Percentile	35	24	37	53	46	98	13	5	19	33

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Small cap value shares have beaten growth over the long term

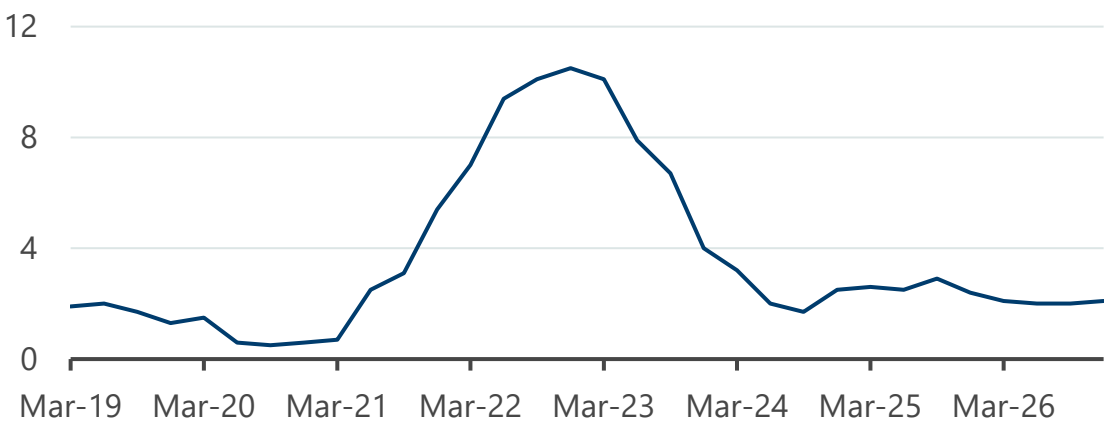
3 year performance percentile versus style



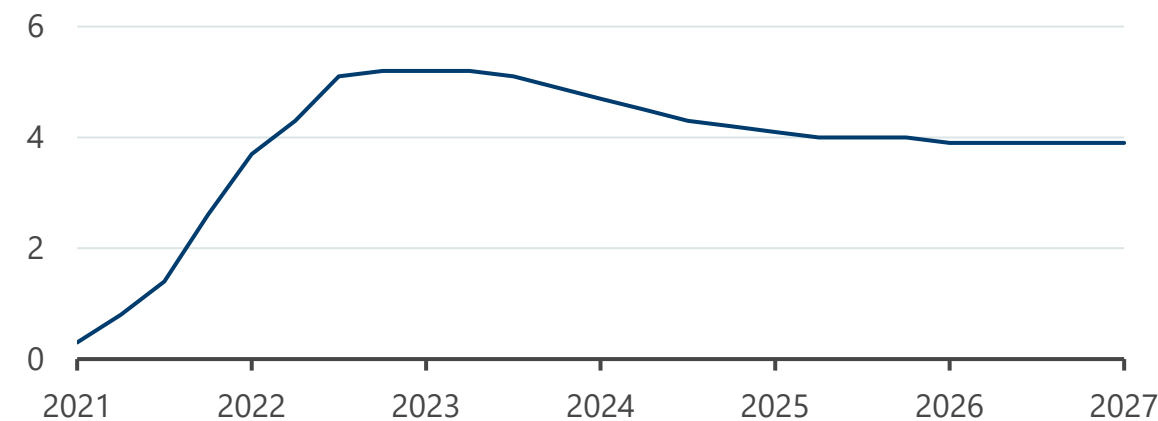
Source: Morningstar as at 31 December 2024.
Note: DNSCI XIC is the Deutsche Numis Smaller Companies (-InvTrust). Artemis UK SC is Artemis UK Smaller Companies. Peer group is IA UK Smaller Companies (>£50m assets).

Macro charts

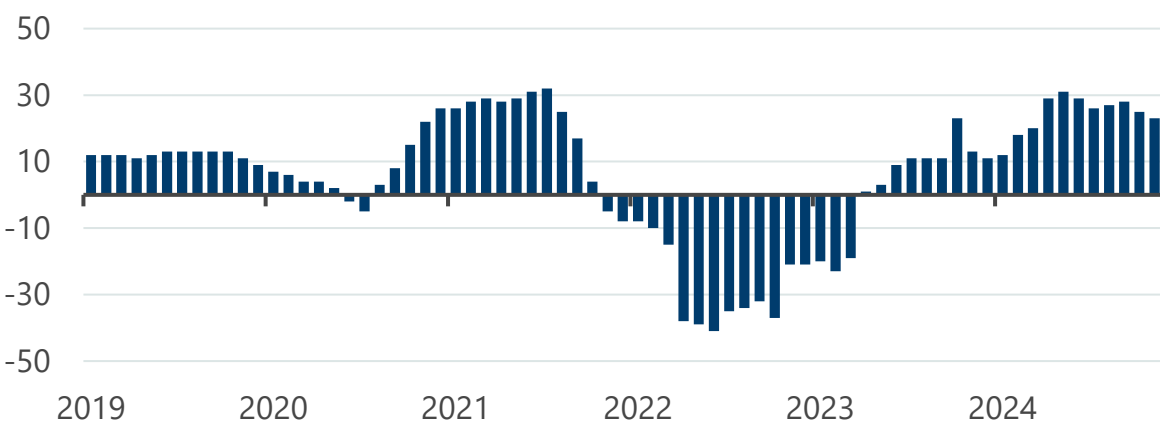
CPI inflation projections (% change on year earlier)¹



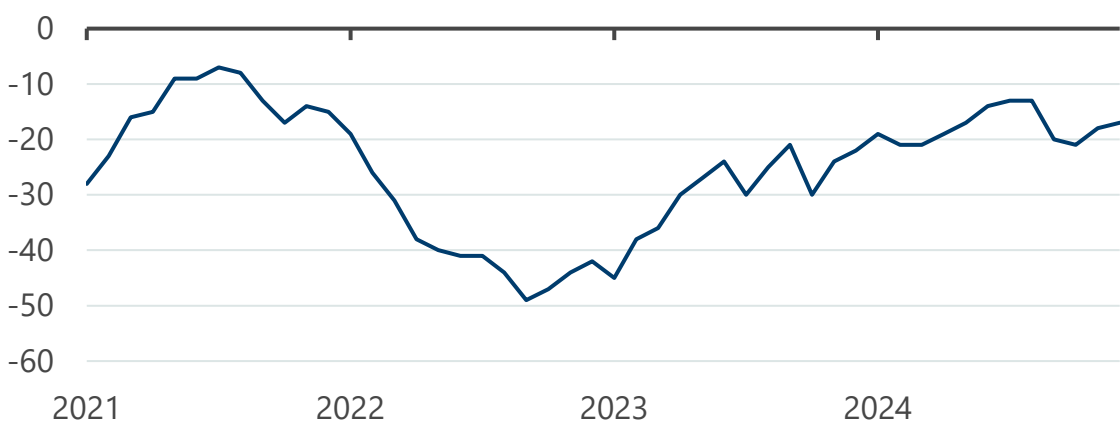
Market interest rate expectations (%)¹



Year-on-year change in Asda income tracker (£)²



UK consumer confidence is recovering¹



Source: ¹Lazarus as at 31 December 2024. ²Asda as at 30 November 2024.

Attractive valuations

UK index median 12m forward P/E (x)¹

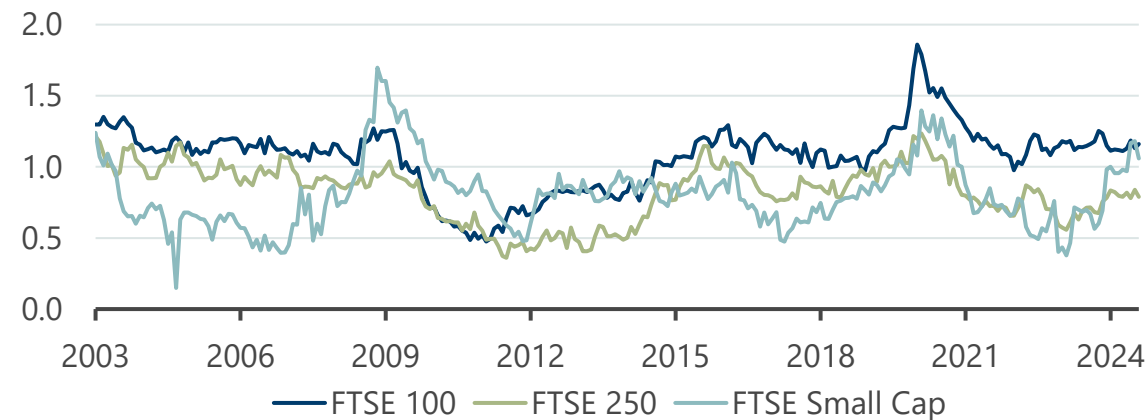


Fund valuation below historic average (x)²

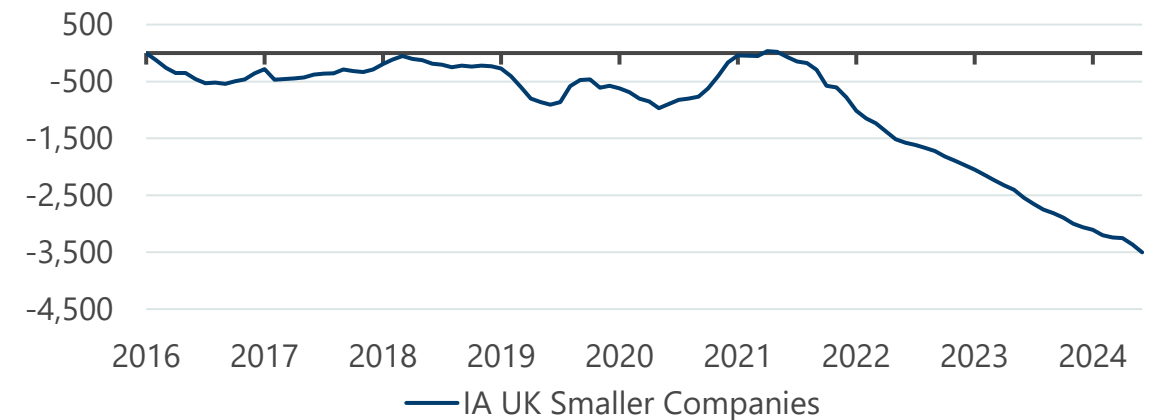
Artemis UK Smaller Companies – 12m forward P/E (weighted median)



Leverage by index – median ND/EBITDA¹



Cumulative fund flows from June 2016 (£m)³



Source: ¹Datastream, Liberum as at 31 December 2024. ²Artemis as at 31 December 2024. ³The Investment Association as at 31 October 2024.

Important information

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Investment in a fund concerns the acquisition of units/shares in the fund and not in the underlying assets of the fund.

Reference to specific shares or companies should not be taken as advice or a recommendation to invest in them.

For information on sustainability-related aspects of a fund, visit www.artemisfunds.com.

The fund is an authorised unit trust scheme. For further information, visit www.artemisfunds.com/unittrusts.

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