# NOMURA ASSET MANAGEMENT Nomura Asset Management U.S.A. Inc.

# Japan Smaller Capitalization Fund, Inc.

As of August 31, 2025

#### Fund Facts \_\_\_\_\_

NYSE Ticker	JOF		
CUSIP	47109U104		
NYSE Market Price	\$10.71		
Net Asset Value ("NAV") per share	\$11.89		
Net Assets	\$337,005,326.37		
Portfolio Holdings	96		
Inception Date	March 21, 1990		
Premium/Discount	-9.924%		
Shares Outstanding	28,333,893		
Benchmark Since inception to 8/31/04: Nikkei JASDAQ Stock Average Index. 9/1/04 onwards: Russell/Nomura Small Cap™ Index.			
Portfolio Managers Atsushi Katayama, Lead Portfolio Ma	nager		

### Fund Objectives \_\_\_\_

Japan Smaller Capitalization Fund, Inc. ("JOF" or the "Fund") is a closed-end management investment company listed on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"). The Fund operates as diversified as defined under the Investment Company Act of 1940. The Fund's investment objective is to provide shareholders with long-term capital appreciation and to invest, under normal circumstances, at least 80% of its total assets in smaller capitalization Japanese equity securities traded on the Tokyo and Nagoya Stock Exchanges, and other indices

or markets determined by the investment adviser to be appropriate indices or markets for smaller capitalization companies in Japan. Nomura Asset Management U.S.A. Inc. has served as the Fund's Manager since the Fund's inception in 1990. Nomura Asset Management Co., Ltd. has served as the Fund's Investment Adviser since the Fund's inception. The Manager and Investment Adviser are subsidiaries of Nomura Holdings, Inc. and affiliates of Nomura Securities Co., Ltd., Tokyo, Japan.

#### **Performance Overview**

Hiroaki Tanaka, Portfolio Manager

	JOF NAV <sup>(1)</sup>	JOF NYSE Market Price <sup>(2)</sup>	Russell/ Nomura Small Cap™ Index <sup>(3)</sup>
1 Month	8.20%	11.56%	7.42%
3 Month	13.71%	15.81%	10.96%
Calendar YTD	28.02%	42.08%	25.27%
1 Year	26.33%	41.28%	22.07%
3 Year	20.60%	23.25%	16.21%
5 Year	8.71%	10.24%	7.61%
10 Year	8.40%	8.96%	7.25%
Since Inception	3.83%	3.32%	2.62%
1 Year 3 Year 5 Year	26.33% 20.60% 8.71% 8.40%	41.28% 23.25% 10.24% 8.96%	22.07% 16.21% 7.61% 7.25%

Past performance is not indicative of future results. There is a risk of loss.

- (1) Based on NAV price, adjusted for reinvestment of income dividends, ordinary income distributions, and long-term capital gain distributions as per the dividend reinvestment policy of the Fund.
- <sup>(2)</sup>Based on the New York Stock Exchange's market price, adjusted for reinvestment of income dividends, ordinary income distributions, and long-term capital gain distributions as per the dividend reinvestment policy of the Fund. JOF's performance does not represent sales commissions.
- <sup>(3)</sup>From inception to 8/31/04, the benchmark was the Nikkei JASDAQ Stock Average Index, which is no longer in existence as a result of the Tokyo Stock Market reorganization of market segments on 4/4/2022. Since 9/1/04, the benchmark has been the Russell/Nomura Small Cap™ Index. All results are in U.S. dollars.

Performance in excess of one year is annualized.

Sources: Nomura Asset Management U.S.A. Inc. and Bloomberg L.P.

#### JOF NAV versus NYSE Market Price



Top Ten Holdings Holdings may vary over time. \_\_\_

Security	% of Net Assets	% of Benchmark <sup>(1)</sup>
Sakata Inx Corporation	6.39%	0.07%
Daishi Hokuetsu Financial Group, Inc.	3.45%	0.23%
Shikoku Electric Power Company	3.11%	0.19%
Ryoden Corporation	2.48%	0.03%
Yondenko Corporation	2.45%	0.03%
Nippon Seiki Co., Ltd.	2.16%	0.05%
Future Corporation	2.12%	0.08%
BuySell Technologies Co., Ltd.	2.07%	0.02%
The Musashino Bank, Ltd.	2.02%	0.08%
Mizuho Leasing Company, Limited	1.93%	0.14%

The ten largest holdings by fair value reflect the Fund's investments on the date indicated and may not be representative of the Fund's current or future holdings. Holdings may combine more than one security from the issuer.

**Market Commentary** 

# (1) Russell/Nomura Small Cap™ Index.

The agreed settlement on "reciprocal" tariffs with the US has resulted in less disruption than initially feared, helping to alleviate the immediate concerns for Japan's exportoriented industries. While global trade policy uncertainty remains a recurring theme, the reduction in tariff rates from 25% to 15% for Japan has offered some reassurance to the markets that Japan will not face a disproportionate tariff burden relative to other US trading partners.

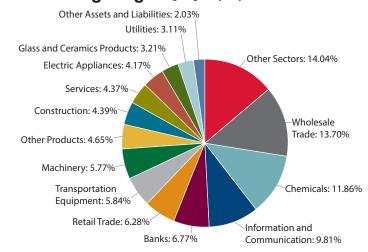
In domestic data, the latest Consumer Price Index release showed persistent inflation, reinforcing expectations of a mild and sustained inflation scenario in Japan. Although recent price increases have largely been driven by costpush factors, we anticipate that as cost pressures ease, rising wages and eventual increases in real incomes will support a virtuous cycle, ultimately leading the Bank of Japan toward monetary policy normalization.

Earnings results released for the April-June quarter indicate that many Japanese companies have already incorporated conservative assumptions regarding the impact of tariffs, appreciation of the yen, and softening global demand. This management prudence is likely to reduce the risk of negative surprises; it also leaves potential upside scope for earnings surprises over the coming quarters if external conditions stabilize.

From a valuation perspective, Japanese equities remain attractively positioned. Despite recent new highs in both the TOPIX and Nikkei 225 indices over the past month, the TOPIX is currently trading at a forward price-to-earnings ("P/E") ratio of approximately 15 based on 12-month consensus earnings per share estimates. This level remains within the historically reasonable range. Relative undervaluation, combined with ongoing corporate governance reforms that extend beyond improving returns on equity, suggests upside potential for Japanese

Source: Nomura Asset Management Co., Ltd.

## Sector Weightings Weightings may vary over time. \_



The industry diversification reflects the Fund's investments on the date indicated and may not be representative of the Fund's current or future holdings.

In August, small-cap stocks outperformed the large-cap market by a small margin. Quarterly earnings results were broadly solid. Although earnings revisions were more favorable for large-cap companies, investor attention increasingly shifted toward small caps, likely due to their relative valuation discounts. With initiatives to improve capital efficiency now firmly embedded, the connection between earnings growth and stronger shareholder returns has become more apparent. This trend continues to be reinforced by the presence of activist investors. Many small-cap companies still have substantial room to enhance shareholder returns, making the segment an appealing investment universe.

Year to date, small-cap stocks have outperformed the TOPIX by more than four percentage points, and we believe further outperformance is likely. According to the latest forecasts, small-cap companies are expected to achieve ordinary profit growth of 5.0% in fiscal year 2025 (ending March 2026), in stark contrast to the anticipated earnings contraction among large-cap names. Valuations also remain attractive, as the Russell/Nomura Small Cap Index trades at a P/E ratio of approximately 14 based on 12-month forward earnings, maintaining a discount relative to large caps. Technical conditions in the market also remain favorable, as rates of foreign and institutional ownership of small-cap stocks are well below pre-Abenomics levels. Consequently, even modest capital inflows can generate meaningful upside in this segment.

Within our portfolio, we have maintained a value-oriented stance while selectively increasing our allocation to domestic demand-focused growth stocks. This strategy has so far proven effective, allowing us to keep pace with the ongoing market rotation without compromising downside protection. We continue to favor domestic demand driven companies in the consumer and service industries. We are also selectively investing in digital

platform providers and other structurally advantaged

Governance reform among small-cap companies is also gaining momentum. Stricter listing-maintenance requirements for the TSE Growth market—including a new 10 billion minimum market-cap rule-and the forthcoming TOPIX re-selection slated for October 2026 are encouraging management teams to enhance capital efficiency. This has led to more robust dividend policies, increased share buybacks, and even management-buyout discussions in some cases. We intend to reinforce this trend through active engagement with issuers that possess strong balance sheets and underutilized cash reserves.

We will continue to maintain a balanced, value-oriented approach, prioritizing companies with robust balance sheets, clear catalysts for enhanced shareholder returns, and measurable progress in governance. Our bottom-up research will focus on businesses that are less vulnerable to tariff policy changes, those capable of sustaining high earnings visibility amid macroeconomic uncertainty, and under-researched companies where internal reforms are beginning to translate into tangible performance improvements. This positions the portfolio to benefit from both the cyclical tailwinds and structural re-rating opportunities.

## Additional Information

Comparisons between changes in the Fund's net asset value or market price per share and changes in the Fund's benchmark should be considered in light of the Fund's investment policy and objective, the characteristics and quality of the Fund's investments, the size of the Fund, and variations in the Japanese Yen/U.S. Dollar

This report is for informational purposes only. The financial information is taken from the records of the Fund without examination by independent accountants. The portfolio information found in this report is as of the date of this brochure and is subject to change at any time without notice. This report is not a prospectus, circular or representation intended for use in the sale of shares of the Fund or of any securities mentioned in this report. Past performance is not indicative of future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance presented. Investment products offered are not FDIC insured, may lose value, and are not bank guaranteed.

The Russell/Nomura Small Cap™ Index represents approximately 15% of the total market capitalization of the Russell/Nomura Total Market™ Index. It measures the performance of the smallest Japanese equity securities in the Russell/Nomura Total Market™

Index. The Nikkei JASDAQ Stock Average Index is a capitalizationweighted index of all Japanese over-the-counter stocks. The TOPIX is a market capitalization-weighted index of all companies listed on the First Section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange. Any performance quoted should not be viewed as a representation of future investment performance. There is a risk of loss. One cannot invest directly in a pidex. invest directly in an index.

This material contains the current opinions of the Fund's manager, which are subject to change without notice. It should not be considered investment advice. Statements concerning financial market trends are based on current market conditions, which will fluctuate. There is no guarantee that these investment strategies will work under all market conditions, and each investor should evaluate their ability to invest for the long term.

Forward Looking Statements. Certain information discussed in this rollward booking statements. Certain information incluses an information factsheet may constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the U.S. federal securities laws. Although the Investment Manager of the Fund believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, it can give no assurance that its expectations will be achieved. Forward-looking information is subject to certain risks, trends, and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected.

The Fund may participate in new issuances of securities ("New Issues"), and a portion of the Fund's returns consequently may be attributable to its investment in New Issues. The market value of New Issues may fluctuate considerably due to factors such as the absence of a prior public market, unseasoned trading, and the limited availability for trading and limited information about the issuer. When a fund's asset base is small, New Issues may the issuer. When a fund's asset Dase is small, New Issues may have a magnified impact on the Fund's performance. As a fund's assets grow, it is probable that the effect of the fund's investment in New Issues on its total returns may not be as significant, which could reduce the Fund's performance. There is no guarantee that the availability or economic attractiveness of New Issues will be consistent from year to year. The Fund is a closed-end fund whose shares of common stock trade on the NYSE. Vision 4 Fund Distributors, LLC ("Vision 4") is a member of FINRA and has filed this material with FINRA on behalf of the Fund. Vision 4 does not serve as a distributor or as an underwriter to the Fund. Unlike openend funds, shares are not continually offered. Vision 4 is contracted by NAM-USA to promote the Fund and provide secondary market by NAM-USA to promote the Fund and provide secondary market support services

