



Navigator Fund Commentary  
December 2020

For the month of December, the Navigator fund gained +1.6%.

#### Market Review

December saw a continuation of the rally that began in late October, spurred by the rollout of multiple COVID-19 vaccines and the signing of a new fiscal relief bill. Small cap stocks enjoyed a second month of outperformance, while growth stocks outlasted value-oriented names. Interest rates rose slightly, and the U.S. dollar continued its slide against the other major currencies.

Looking back on the last twelve months, 2020 was certainly one of the most challenging periods in modern history. Australian bushfires welcomed the new year, destroying an area larger than the size of Cuba. California's wildfire season was the worst on record, oil traded below zero for the first time ever, and racial divisiveness erupted across the country on an unprecedented scale. And not to forget, a global pandemic killed nearly 2 million people and caused financial destruction on a scale not seen since the 1920s.

Short-term trading opportunities remained muted as the volatility index (VIX) remained in a range between 21 and 26 while realized volatility was under 10%. At some point, implied volatility and realized volatility will converge again. What's important is whether that is on the high end or low end of the volatility spectrum. While our strategy converted profitably on the month, our trades were typically small. This is usually an indication of less appealing risk/reward pay outs expectations.

Most notably, the SKEW index continued to climb which is one measure of the potential risk of large downside moves. The SKEW index simply indicates concern among investors and traders of a black swan move. In short, it indicates strong demand for out-of-the-money puts versus out-of-the-money calls.

In recent periods when SKEW was at current levels, the market reaction was as follows:

- Late October 2017: equities continued to rally for three months until January marked the start of the February 2018 mini flash-crash.
- August 2018: equities rallied for two months before the 2018 Q4 sell-off.
- December 2020: equities rallied for another two months before the historic February/March sell-off.
- August 2020: equities sold off one month later in September.

While our strategy is designed to perform positively over longer periods of time independent of equity markets, we suspect the coming twelve months will offer many asymmetric trade set ups that the model seeks.

Sincerely yours,

Ben Warwick

Paul Strehle

**Past performance does not guarantee future results. The performance data quoted represents past performance and current returns may be lower or higher. Share prices and investment returns fluctuate and an investor's shares may be worth more or less than original cost upon redemption. For performance data as of the most recent month-end please call 1-866-264-8783.**



[www.usamutuals.com](http://www.usamutuals.com)  
1-800-MUTUALS  
[FA.sales@usamutuals.com](mailto:FA.sales@usamutuals.com)



### **Fund Objective**

The Navigator Fund seeks capital appreciation and preservation with lower volatility throughout market cycles. The resulting portfolio targets a high correlation to the S&P 500 in bull markets and a lower, or negative, correlation in bear markets.

Standardized performance as of (12/31/2020) Fund Inception (02/01/2002)

	1 Year	5 Year	10 Year	Since Inception
UNAVX	-8.37%	6.86%	7.29%	10.80%
S&P 500 Index	18.40%	15.22%	13.88%	8.72%

**Performance data quoted represents past performance; past performance does not guarantee future results. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance of the fund may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. Performance data current to the most recent month end may be obtained by calling 1-866-264-8783. Returns over one year are annualized.**

**The Gross and Net expense 2.36% and 2.01%. The advisor has contractually agreed to limit expenses to 1.99% of the average net assets of the Fund through 7/31/2021.**

### **Important Disclosures**

Fund holdings and/or sector allocations are subject to change at any time and are not recommendations to buy or sell any security.

The USA Mutuals Funds are distributed by Compass Distributors, LLC.

Simultaneous with the commencement of the Fund's investment operations on October 13, 2017, the Goldman Navigator Fund, L.P., a limited partnership managed by Mr. Steven Goldman, the Fund's portfolio manager (the "Predecessor Partnership"), converted into the Institutional Class shares of the Fund by contributing all its assets to the Fund in exchange for Institutional Class shares of the Fund.

Performance data quoted prior to October 13, 2017, represents the past performance of the Goldman Navigator Fund, L.P., a limited partnership managed by Mr. Steven Goldman, the Fund's portfolio manager (the "Predecessor Partnership"). From its inception in 2002 through 2012, the Predecessor Partnership was managed as a proprietary account of the portfolio manager and was converted to a limited partnership in 2012. From its inception on February 1, 2002, through October 13, 2017, the Predecessor Partnership maintained investment policies, objectives, guidelines, and restrictions that were, in all material respects, equivalent to those of the Fund, and at the time of the conversion, the Predecessor Partnership was managed by the same portfolio manager as the Fund.

Such portfolio manager managed the Predecessor Partnership since its inception in a manner that, in all material respects, complied with the investment guidelines and restrictions of the Fund. The Fund's performance for periods before October 13, 2017, is that of the Predecessor Partnership and includes the expenses of the Predecessor Partnership. The performance includes gains or losses plus income and the reinvestment of all dividends and interest. All returns reflect the deduction of all actual fees and expenses, paid by the Predecessor Partnership, without provision for state or local taxes. If the Predecessor Partnership's performance was adjusted to reflect the projected first-year expenses of the Fund, the performance for all periods would have been lower than that stated. The Predecessor Partnership was not registered under the 1940 Act and was not subject to certain investment limitations, diversification requirements, and other restrictions imposed by the 1940 Act and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), which, if applicable, may have adversely affected its performance. On a going forward basis after October 13, 2017, the Fund's performance will be calculated using the standard formula set forth in rules promulgated by the SEC, which differs in certain respects from the methods used to compute total returns for the Predecessor Partnership. Please refer to the Financial Statements section of the Fund's SAI to review additional information regarding the Predecessor Partnership. [Click here](#) for a prospectus.



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FA.sales@usamutuals.com



*Mutual fund investing involves risk; principal loss is possible. Leveraging may exaggerate the effect on net asset value of any increase or decrease in the market value of a Fund's portfolio. Investing in derivatives may subject the Fund to losses if the derivatives do not perform as expected. Short sales involve selling a security that a Fund borrows and does not own. Short sales carry significant risk, including the risk of loss if the value of a security sold short increases prior to the scheduled delivery date since a Fund must pay more for the security than it has received from the purchaser in the short sale. Futures contracts are subject to the same risks as the underlying investments that they represent, but also may involve risks different from, and possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in the underlying investments. The Funds may invest in foreign securities which involve greater volatility and political, economic and currency risks and differences in accounting methods. This risk increases with emerging markets. Small and mid-size companies involve additional risks such as limited liquidity and greater volatility. Investments in futures may result in a substantial loss in a short period. The loss may be more than the original investment. One cannot invest directly in an index.*

***Investors should consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. For a prospectus or summary prospectus with this and other information about the Fund, please call 1-800-MUTUALS or visit our website at [www.usamutuals.com](http://www.usamutuals.com). Read the prospectus or summary prospectus carefully before investing.***



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