# PUTNAM LARGE CAP GROWTH FUND

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Average annual total returns and fund expenses (%)							
as of March 31, 2024							
					Expenses		
Class A	3-mo	1-yr	5-yr	10-yr	Gross	Net	
Excluding sales charges	12.36	42.06	17.44	15.48	0.90	0.90	
Including effects of maximum sales charges	5.90	33.89	16.06	14.80	0.90	0.90	
Class Y	12.44	42.40	17.73	15.77	0.65	0.65	
Russell 1000 Growth Index	11.41	39.00	18.52	15.98	-	-	

#### Maximum initial sales charge -- Class A: 5.75%

Performance data quoted represents past performance, which does not guarantee future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the figures shown. Principal value and investment returns will fluctuate, and investors' shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than the original cost. Performance would have been lower if fees had not been waived in various periods. Total returns assume the reinvestment of all distributions and the deduction of all fund expenses. Returns for class Y shares prior to their inception are derived from the historical performance of class A shares, which have not been adjusted for their lower expenses; had they, returns would have been higher. Class Y shares, available to investors through an asset-based fee program or for institutional clients, are sold without an initial sales charge and have no CDSC. Returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized. All classes of shares may not be available to all investors or through all distribution channels. For current month-end performance, please visit www.putnam.com. Gross expenses are the fund's total annual operating expenses as of the fund's prospectus available at the time of publication. Net expenses are capped under a contractual agreement, which cannot be terminated prior to 11/30/2024 without Board consent. Actual expenses may be higher and may impact portfolio returns.

The **Russell 1000 Growth Index** measures the performance of the large-cap growth segment of the U.S. equity universe. Source: FTSE. Important data provider notices and terms available at

<u>www.franklintempletondatasources.com</u>. Investors cannot invest directly in an index, and unmanaged index returns do not reflect any fees, expenses or sales charges.

#### **Market review**

The first quarter of 2024 showcased the remarkable resilience of equities amid various challenges. Despite concerns such as higher interest rates and geopolitical tensions, the major U.S. indexes surged. Technology stocks led the charge, but we also saw an increase in market breadth.

## Portfolio performance

For the quarter, the fund outperformed its benchmark, the Russell 1000 Growth Index. Also, as of March 31, 2024, the fund ranks in the top quartile across longer time periods and received a 5-star Overall Morningstar Rating among 1,111 funds in the Large Growth category (Y shares, based on riskadjusted returns). Its percentile rankings as of 3/31/24 are 24th for 1 year (277/1191), 17th for 3 years (135/1111), 15th for 5 years (120/1037), and 11th for 10 years (69/807).

Stock selection, particularly within information technology, industrials, health care, and consumer discretionary contributed most to the strong results. Positions within financials detracted modestly. Top contributors to relative outperformance included NVIDIA (information technology), Lonza (health care), Advanced Micro Devices (information technology), Amazon (consumer discretionary), Chipotle (consumer discretionary), and Trade Technologies (industrials). Underweight exposure to Apple and Tesla also added to relative outperformance. Overweight positions in Lululemon (consumer discretionary), American Tower (real estate), and Palo Alto Networks (information technology) were among the top relative detractors.

#### **Outlook and positioning**

So far this year, technology continues to lead the way, although there has been a notable increase in breadth within

the market, which we expect to continue. Looking ahead, we believe market leadership will widen as a result of earnings growth outside of mega-cap technology names. For our holdings, this includes, but is not limited to, Boston Scientific (health care), Trane Technologies (industrials), Uber (industrials), and Live Nation (communication services).

Changes in the relative positioning of the strategy are primarily a result of our fundamental, bottom-up process of evaluating the opportunity and risk of individual stocks. As always, sector active weights remain reasonably tight in order to reduce unintended factor risks and accentuate stock-specific risk. Currently, we remain within +/-3% of benchmark weight in all sectors. Our largest absolute position is information technology (in line with the Russell 1000 Growth Index), followed by consumer discretionary. Consumer staples is our largest underweight as of quarter-end. The portfolio has no exposure to the energy or utilities sectors, and over 95% of the portfolio is invested in U.S.-listed securities.

New positions added during the quarter were S&P Global (financials), DraftKings (consumer discretionary), and Equifax (industrials). Top eliminated positions were MSCI (financials) and Nike (consumer discretionary).

The Morningstar Rating for funds, or "star rating," is calculated for managed products (including mutual funds, variable annuity and variable life subaccounts. exchange-traded funds, closed-end funds, and separate accounts) with at least a 3-year history. Exchange-traded funds and open-ended mutual funds are considered a single population for comparative purposes. It is calculated based on a Morningstar Risk-Adjusted Return measure that accounts for variation in a managed product's monthly excess performance, placing more emphasis on downward variations and rewarding consistent performance. The top 10% of products in each product category receive 5 stars, the next 22.5% receive 4 stars, the next 35% receive 3 stars, the next 22.5% receive 2 stars, and the bottom 10% receive 1 star. The Overall Morningstar Rating for a managed product is derived from a weighted average of the performance figures associated with its 3-, 5-, and 10-year (if applicable) Morningstar Rating metrics. The weights are: 100% 3-year rating for 36-59 months of total returns, 60% 5-year rating/40% 3-year rating for 60-119 months of total returns, and 50% 10-year rating/30% 5-year rating/20% 3-year rating for 120 or more months of total returns. While the 10-year overall star rating formula seems to give the most weight to the 10-year period, the most recent 3-year period actually has the greatest impact because it is included in all three rating periods. Ratings do not take into account the effects of sales charges and loads. Putnam Large Cap Growth Fund (Y shares) received 4, 4, and 5 stars for the 3-, 5-, and 10-year periods among 1111, 1037, and 807 Large Growth funds, respectively.

Morningstar rankings for class Y shares are based on total return without sales charge relative to all share classes of funds with similar objectives as determined by Morningstar. Morningstar rankings may differ significantly from Morningstar's risk-adjusted star ratings. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

Top 10 holdings (%)	
Microsoft	12.55
NVIDIA	8.89
Apple	8.18
Amazon	7.79
Alphabet	5.43
Meta Platforms	3.52
Broadcom	3.38
Eli Lilly	2.88
Mastercard	2.84
Visa	2.25

Sector allocation (9/)	
Sector allocation (%)	
Information Technology	44.5
Consumer Discretionary	14.9
Communication Services	11.9
Health Care	11.4
Industrials	6.0
Financials	5.8
Real Estate	1.8
Consumer Staples	1.5
Materials	0.9
Utilities	0.0
Cash/Other	1.4

Percentages are based on total portfolio as of quarter end and are subject to change at any time. For informational purposes only and not to be considered a recommendation to purchase or sell any security.





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### What should I know before investing?

All investments involve risks, including possible loss of principal. Small- and midcap stocks involve greater risks and volatility than large-cap stocks. The investment style may become out of favor, which may have a negative impact on performance. To the extent the portfolio invests in a concentration of certain securities, regions or industries, it is subject to increased volatility. The portfolio is non-diversified and may invest in a relatively small number of issuers, which may negatively impact the performance and result in greater fluctuation in value. Active management does not ensure gains or protect against market declines. The manager may consider environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria in the research or investment process; however, ESG considerations may not be a determinative factor in security selection. In addition, the manager may not assess every investment for ESG criteria, and not every ESG factor may be identified or evaluated. These and other risks are discussed in the fund's prospectus.

Putnam funds are not exchangeable for funds distributed by Franklin Distributors, LLC.

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Portfolio holdings and sector allocations may not be representative of the portfolio manager's current or future investment and are subject to change at any time.

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