

# Gold and Precious Metals Fund (USERX)

**Symbol:** USERX **CUSIP:** 911478-10-5  
**Inception Date:** 07/01/1974  
**Lipper Category:** Precious Metals Equity

## About the Fund

The Gold and Precious Metals Fund is the first no-load gold fund in the U.S. We have a history as pioneers in portfolio management in this specialized sector. Our team brings valuable background in geology and mining finance, important to understanding the technical side of the business. The fund focuses on producers, companies currently pulling gold or other precious minerals out of the ground. These companies, often called "seniors," generally have the largest market caps in the mining sector.

## Fund Objective

The Gold and Precious Metals Fund seeks capital appreciation while protecting against inflation and monetary instability. The fund also pursues current income as a secondary objective.

## Fund Strategy

Under normal market conditions, the Gold and Precious Metals Fund will invest at least 80 percent of its net assets in equity securities of companies predominately involved in the mining, fabrication, processing, marketing, or distribution of metals including gold, silver, platinum group, palladium and diamonds. Gold companies include mining companies that exploit gold deposits that are supported by by-products and co-products such as copper, silver, lead and zinc, and also have diversified mining companies which produce a meaningful amount of gold. The fund focuses on selecting companies with established producing mines.

## Portfolio Team

**Frank Holmes, Chief Investment Officer**  
 Years of Experience: 30+

**Ralph Aldis, CFA**  
 Years of Experience: 30+

## Potential Risk/Reward

Low  High



7900 Callaghan Road  
 San Antonio, TX  
 78229-2327  
 1-800-US-FUNDS  
 (1-800-873-8637)  
[www.usfunds.com](http://www.usfunds.com)  
[info@usfunds.com](mailto:info@usfunds.com)

## March 2017 Fund Fact Sheet

### Growth of \$10,000 from 3/31/2007 to 3/31/2017



The chart illustrates the performance of a hypothetical \$10,000 investment made in the fund during the depicted time frame. Figures include reinvestment of capital gains and dividends, but the performance does not include the effect of any direct fees described in the fund's prospectus (e.g., short-term trading fees) which, if applicable, would lower your total returns.

## Risk Measures & Statistics (3-Year)

Sharpe Ratio	0.30	R-squared vs. Benchmark	91.41
Alpha vs. Benchmark	2.03	Standard Deviation	40.03
Beta vs. Benchmark	0.84	Benchmark Standard Deviation	45.41

## Returns

	Average Annual						Expense Ratio	
	1 Month	Year to Date	1-year	3-year	5-year	10-year	Since Inception (7/1/74) Gross	
Gold and Precious Metals Fund (as of 3/31/2017)	-6.63%	8.10%	17.85%	4.79%	-8.96%	-2.01%	-0.09%	2.20%
FTSE Gold Mines Index (as of 3/31/2017)	-0.88%	8.85%	14.35%	2.22%	-12.36%	-3.03%	n/a	n/a

Expense ratios as stated in the most recent prospectus. The Adviser of the Gold and Precious Metals Fund has voluntarily limited total fund operating expenses (exclusive of acquired fund fees and expenses of 0.07%, extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage commissions and interest, and advisory fee performance adjustments) to not exceed 1.90%. With the voluntary expense waiver amount of 0.08%, total annual expenses after reimbursement were 2.05%. U.S. Global Investors, Inc. can modify or terminate the voluntary limit at any time, which may lower a fund's yield or return.

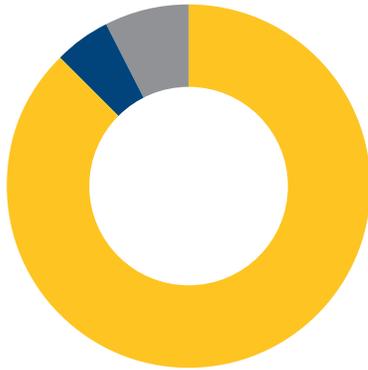
Performance data quoted above is historical. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Results reflect the reinvestment of dividends and other earnings. For a portion of periods, the fund had expense limitations, without which returns would have been lower. Current performance may be higher or lower than the performance data quoted. The principal value and investment return of an investment will fluctuate so that your shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Performance does not include the effect of any direct fees described in the fund's prospectus (e.g., short-term trading fees of 0.05%) which, if applicable, would lower your total returns. Performance quoted for periods of one year or less is cumulative and not annualized. Obtain performance data current to the most recent month-end at [www.usfunds.com](http://www.usfunds.com) or 1-800-US-FUNDS. High double-digit returns are attributable, in part, to unusually favorable market conditions and may not be repeated or consistently achieved in the future.

Gold, precious metals, and precious minerals funds may be susceptible to adverse economic, political or regulatory developments due to concentrating in a single theme. The prices of gold, precious metals, and precious minerals are subject to substantial price fluctuations over short periods of time and may be affected by unpredicted international monetary and political policies. We suggest investing no more than 5% to 10% of your portfolio in these sectors.



## Industry Breakdown

Gold, Precious Metals and Minerals	86.90%
Other	5.15%
Cash Equivalents	7.23%



## Top 10 Equity Holdings

Klondex Mines Ltd	16.65%
Kirkland Lake Gold Ltd	8.88%
Wesdome Gold Mines Ltd	5.26%
St Barbara Ltd	5.18%
Leagold Mining Corp	4.88%
Westgold Resources Ltd	4.11%
Jaguar Mining Inc	3.13%
Silver Wheaton Corp	2.96%
AuRico Metals Inc	2.50%
Rye Patch Gold Corp	2.44%

<b>Percentage of total net assets in Top 20 holdings</b>	<b>80.84%</b>
<b>Total number of holdings</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$105.51 Million</b>
<b>P/E Ratio</b>	<b>24.50</b>

## Country Breakdown

Canada	66.66%
Australia	15.88%
United States	8.06%
Other	1.45%
Cash Equivalents	7.23%

## Market Capitalization Breakdown

Large Cap (over \$10 Billion)	4.00%
Mid Cap (\$1–\$10 Billion)	28.89%
Small Cap (under \$1 Billion)	67.11%
<b>Average Weighted Market Capitalization</b>	<b>\$1.9 Billion</b>



★★★★★	Overall/71
★★★★★	3-Year/71
★★★★★	5-Year/67
★★★★★	10-Year/46

Morningstar ratings based on risk-adjusted return and number of funds  
 Category: Equity Precious Metals funds Through 3/31/2017

### Thomson Reuters Lipper Fund Award Winner 2017 Best Precious Metals Equity Fund

Three-Year Period out of 62 Funds  
 Five-Year Period out of 58 Funds  
 Recognizing Consistently Strong Risk-Adjusted Performance Relative to Peers

Please consider carefully a fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses. For this and other important information, obtain a fund prospectus by visiting [www.usfunds.com](http://www.usfunds.com) or by calling 1-800-US-FUNDS (1-800-873-8637). Read it carefully before investing. Foreside Fund Services, LLC, Distributor. U.S. Global Investors is the investment adviser.

There is no guarantee that the investment objectives will be met. The FTSE Gold Mines Index Series encompasses all gold mining companies that have a sustainable and attributable gold production of at least 300,000 ounces a year, and that derive 75% or more of their revenue from mined gold. All information is unaudited and, unless otherwise indicated, is as of 3/31/2017. Fund composition data provided is calculated as a percentage of net assets. Sharpe ratio is a measure of risk-adjusted performance calculated by subtracting the risk-free rate from the rate of return for a portfolio and dividing the result by the standard deviation of the portfolio returns. Alpha is a measure of performance on a risk-adjusted basis. Alpha takes the volatility (price risk) of a mutual fund and compares its risk-adjusted performance to a benchmark index. The excess return of the fund relative to the return of the benchmark index is a fund's alpha. Beta is a measure of the volatility, or systematic risk, of a security or a portfolio in comparison to the market as a whole. R-squared is a statistical measure that represents the percentage of a fund or security's movements that can be explained by movements in a benchmark index. R-squared values range from 0 to 100. An R-squared of 100 means that all movements of a security are completely explained by movements in the index. Standard deviation is a measure of the dispersion of a set of data from its mean. The more spread apart the data, the higher the deviation. Standard deviation is also known as historical volatility. Morningstar Ratings are based on risk-adjusted return. The Morningstar Rating for a fund is derived from a weighted-average of the performance figures associated with its three-, five- and ten-year (if applicable) Morningstar Rating metrics. Past performance does not guarantee future results. For each fund with at least a three-year history, Morningstar calculates a Morningstar Rating™ based on a Morningstar Risk-Adjusted Return measure that accounts for variation in a fund's monthly performance (including the effects of sales charges, loads, and redemption fees), placing more emphasis on downward variations and rewarding consistent performance. The top 10% of funds in each 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. (Each share class is counted as a fraction of one fund within this scale and rated separately, which may cause slight variations in the distribution percentages.) The Lipper Fund Awards were earned for the fund's consistent performance over the three-year and five-year periods ending 11/30/16. The award selection process began with Lipper calculating a Consistent Return score for each fund for the three-year and five-year time periods as of 11/30/16. Consistent Return is a quantitative metric that incorporates two characteristics: risk-adjusted return, and the strength of the fund's performance trend. The top-scoring Consistent Return fund within each classification received the awards. Although Lipper makes reasonable efforts to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the data contained herein, the accuracy is not guaranteed by Lipper. Users acknowledge that they have not relied upon any warranty, condition, guarantee, or representation made by Lipper. Any use of the data for analyzing, managing, or trading financial instruments is at the user's own risk. This is not an offer to buy or sell securities.