

DWMC

ADVISORSHARES DORSEY WRIGHT MICRO-CAP ETF

ADVISORSHARES DORSEY WRIGHT SHORT ETF

NASDAQ Ticker: DWMC NASDAQ Ticker: DWSH



Sub-advised by: Dorsey, Wright & Associates, LLC

# **ADVISORSHARES TRUST**

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Prospectus dated November 1, 2019

This Prospectus provides important information about the AdvisorShares Dorsey Wright Micro-Cap ETF and AdvisorShares Dorsey Wright Short ETF, each a series of AdvisorShares Trust. Before you invest, please read this Prospectus and the Funds' Statement of Additional Information carefully and keep them for future reference.

The shares of the Funds have not been approved or disapproved by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission nor has the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this Prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, paper copies of each Fund's shareholder reports will no longer be sent by mail, unless you specifically request paper copies of the reports from your financial intermediary, such as a broker-dealer or bank. Instead, the reports will be made available on a website, and you will be notified by mail each time a report is posted and provided with a website link to access the report. If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. Please contact your financial intermediary to elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications electronically. You may elect to receive all future reports in paper free of charge. Please contact your financial intermediary to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports and for information about whether your election to receive reports in paper will apply to all funds held with your financial intermediary.

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#### FUND SUMMARIES

# ADVISORSHARES DORSEY WRIGHT MICRO-CAP ETF NASDAQ Ticker: DWMC

# **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

The AdvisorShares Dorsey Wright Micro-Cap ETF (the "Fund") seeks long term capital appreciation.

# FUND FEES AND EXPENSES

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund. Most investors will incur customary brokerage commissions when buying or selling shares of the Fund, which are not reflected in the table below.

SHAREHOLDER FEES (fees paid directly from your investment)	None
ANNUAL FUND OPERATING EXPENSES (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)	
MANAGEMENT FEES	0.75%
DISTRIBUTION (12b-1) FEES	0.00%
OTHER EXPENSES	4.04%
TOTAL ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES	4.79%
FEE WAIVER/EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT <sup>(a)(b)</sup>	-3.54%
TOTAL ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES AFTER FEE WAIVER/EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT	1.25%

- (a) AdvisorShares Investments, LLC (the "Advisor") has contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or reimburse expenses to keep net expenses (excluding amounts payable pursuant to any plan adopted in accordance with Rule 12b-1, interest expense, taxes, brokerage commissions, acquired fund fees and expenses, other expenditures which are capitalized in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 1.25% of the Fund's average daily net assets for at least one year from the date of this Prospectus. The expense limitation agreement may be terminated without payment of any penalty (i) by the Trust for any reason and at any time and (ii) by the Advisor, for any reason, upon ninety (90) days' prior written notice to the Trust, such termination to be effective as of the close of business on the last day of the then-current one-year period. If it becomes unnecessary for the Advisor to waive fees or reimburse expenses limitation currently in effect, or, if lower, the expense limitation that was in effect at the time of the waiver and/or reimbursement, to recapture all or a portion of its prior fee waivers or expense reimbursements within three years of the date they were waived or reimbursed.
- (b) The amount of fee waiver/expense reimbursement has been restated to reflect the current expense limit of 1.25%. Prior to November 1, 2019, the expense limit was 0.99% and the amount waived/reimbursed for the most recent fiscal year was 3.80%.

# EXAMPLE

This Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the shares of the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds. This Example does not take into account creation or redemption transaction fees, or the brokerage commissions that you pay when purchasing or selling shares of the Fund. If these fees and commissions were included, your costs would be higher.

The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then sell all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

	1 YEAR	3 YEARS	5 YEARS	10 YEARS
AdvisorShares Dorsey Wright Micro-Cap ETF	\$127	\$1,123	\$2,124	\$4,642

## PORTFOLIO TURNOVER

The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in Total Annual Operating Expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund's performance. This rate excludes the value of portfolio securities received or delivered as a result of in-kind creations or redemptions of the Fund's shares. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 103% of the average value of its portfolio.

#### PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

The Fund is an actively-managed exchange-traded fund ("ETF") that seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing primarily in U.S.-traded equity securities consisting of common and preferred stock and American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs"). ADRs are securities traded on a local exchange stock exchange that represent interests in securities issued by a foreign publicly listed company. Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in micro-cap securities. The Fund's sub-advisor, Dorsey, Wright & Associates, LLC (the "Sub-Advisor"), generally defines a micro-cap company as one having a market capitalization under one billion dollars. In choosing micro-cap securities, the Sub-Advisor creates an investable universe of securities consisting of companies included in the lower half of the Russell 2000 Index based on market capitalization and an additional 1,000 companies with low market capitalizations that are not included in the Russell 2000 Index. This universe of investable securities is limited by certain liquidity screens such as a threshold based on a security's three-month average dollar volume traded.

The Fund's investment focus follows the Sub-Advisor's core philosophy of relative strength. Relative strength investing involves buying securities that have appreciated in price more than the other securities in the investment universe and holding those securities until they underperform. The strategy is entirely based on market movement of the securities and there is no company fundamental data involved in the analysis. The Sub-Advisor's process is systematic and removes emotion from the day-to-day decision making. In implementing the strategy, stock selection is strictly based on identifying the highest ranked securities as measured by the relative strength investment process. The Fund's strategy may frequently involve buying and selling securities, which may lead to relatively high portfolio turnover.

#### PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND

The Fund is subject to a number of risks, as described below, that may affect the value of its shares, including the possible loss of money. As with any fund, there is no guarantee that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

American Depositary Receipt Risk. ADRs have the same currency and economic risks as the underlying non-U.S. shares they represent. They are affected by the risks associated with non-U.S. securities, such as changes in political or economic conditions of other countries, changes in the exchange rates of, or exchange control regulations associated with, foreign currencies, and differing accounting, auditing, financial reporting and legal standards and practices. In addition, investments in ADRs may be less liquid than the underlying securities in their primary trading market.

Equity Risk. The prices of equity securities rise and fall daily. These price movements may result from factors affecting individual issuers, industries or the stock market as a whole. In addition, equity markets tend to move in cycles, which may cause stock prices to fall over short or extended periods of time.

**ETF Market Risk.** In stressed market conditions, the market for ETF shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the ETF's underlying portfolio holdings. This adverse effect on liquidity for the ETF's shares in turn can lead to differences between the market price of the ETF's shares and the underlying value of those shares.

**Management Risk.** The Sub-Advisor continuously evaluates the Fund's holdings, purchases and sales with a view to achieving the Fund's investment objective. However, achievement of the stated investment objective cannot be guaranteed. The Sub-Advisor's judgment about the markets, the economy, or companies may not anticipate actual market movements, economic conditions or company performance, and these judgments may affect the return on your investment.

Market Risk. Due to market conditions, the value of the Fund's investments may fluctuate significantly from day to day. Price fluctuations may be temporary or may last for extended periods. This volatility may cause the value of your investment in the Fund to decrease. Because of its link to the markets, an investment in the Fund may be more suitable for long-term investors who can bear the risk of short-term principal fluctuations, which at times may be significant.

**Micro-Capitalization Risk.** Stock prices of micro-cap companies are significantly more volatile, and more vulnerable to adverse business and economic developments, than those of larger companies. Micro-cap stocks may also be thinly traded, making it difficult for the Fund to buy and sell them.

Portfolio Turnover Risk. The Fund may experience relatively high portfolio turnover, which may result in increased transaction costs and performance that is lower than expected.

**Trading Risk.** Shares of the Fund may trade above or below their net asset value ("NAV"). The trading price of the Fund's shares may deviate significantly from their NAV during periods of market volatility and, in such instances, you may pay significantly more or receive significantly less than the underlying value of the Fund's shares. There can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Fund's shares will develop or be maintained. In addition, trading in shares of the Fund may be halted because of market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the NASDAQ Stock Market LLC (the "Exchange"), make trading in shares inadvisable.

#### FUND PERFORMANCE

A comparison of the Fund's performance with that of a broad measure of market performance may give some indication of the risks of an investment in the Fund; however, the Fund is new and, therefore, does not have a performance history for a full calendar year. Of course, once the Fund has performance, this past performance (before and after taxes) does not necessarily indicate how the Fund will perform in the future.

Updated performance information is available on the Fund's website at www.advisorshares.com.

# MANAGEMENT

Name	Title
AdvisorShares Investments, LLC	Advisor
Dorsey, Wright & Associates, LLC	Sub-Advisor
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## **PORTFOLIO MANAGER**

Name and Title	Length of Service with Sub-Advisor
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John G. Lewis, Senior Vice President & Senior Portfolio Manager

#### PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES

The Fund issues and redeems shares on a continuous basis at NAV only in a large specified number of shares called a "Creation Unit." The shares of the Fund that trade on the Exchange are "created" at their NAV by market makers, large investors and institutions only in block-size Creation Units of at least 25,000 shares. A "creator" enters into an authorized participant agreement ("Participant Agreement") with the Fund's distributor or uses a Depository Trust Company ("DTC") participant who has executed a Participant Agreement (an "Authorized Participant"), and deposits into the Fund a portfolio of securities closely approximating the holdings of the Fund and a specified amount of cash, together totaling the NAV of the Creation Unit(s), in exchange for at least 25,000 shares of the Fund (or multiples thereof).

since 2002

Individual Fund shares may only be purchased and sold in secondary market transactions through brokers. The shares of the Fund are listed on the Exchange and, because shares trade at market price rather than at NAV, shares may trade at a value greater than or less than their NAV.

# TAX INFORMATION

The Fund intends to make distributions that may be taxed as ordinary income, qualified dividend income or capital gains (or a combination thereof), unless you are investing through a tax-advantaged arrangement such as a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account ("IRA"), which may be taxed upon withdrawal.

## PAYMENTS TO BROKER-DEALERS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

Investors purchasing shares in the secondary market through a brokerage account or with the assistance of a broker may be subject to brokerage commissions and charges. If you purchase Fund shares through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank), the Fund, the Advisor or the Sub-Advisor may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing broker-dealers or other intermediaries and your salesperson to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

# ADVISORSHARES DORSEY WRIGHT SHORT ETF NASDAQ Ticker: DWSH

#### **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

The AdvisorShares Dorsey Wright Short ETF (the "Fund") seeks capital appreciation through short selling securities.

## FUND FEES AND EXPENSES

This table describes the fees and expenses that you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Fund. Most investors will incur customary brokerage commissions when buying or selling shares of the Fund, which are not reflected in the table below.

SHAREHOLDER FEES (fees paid directly from your investment)		None
ANNUAL FUND OPERATING EXPENSES (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)		
MANAGEMENT FEES		0.75%
DISTRIBUTION (12b-1) FEES		0.00%
OTHER EXPENSES		2.51%
Short Interest Expenses	1.71%	
Remaining Expenses	0.80%	
ACQUIRED FUND FEES AND EXPENSES <sup>(a)</sup>		0.11%
TOTAL ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES		3.37%
FEE WAIVER/EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT <sup>(b)(c)</sup>		-0.30%
TOTAL ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES AFTER FEE WAIVER/EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT		3.07%

(a) Total Annual Operating Expenses in this fee table may not correlate to the expense ratio in the Fund's financial highlights (and the Fund's financial statements) because the financial highlights include only the Fund's direct operating expenses and do not include Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses, which represent the Fund's pro rata share of the fees and expenses of the exchange-traded funds in which it invests.

- (b) AdvisorShares Investments, LLC (the "Advisor") has contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or reimburse expenses to keep net expenses (excluding amounts payable pursuant to any plan adopted in accordance with Rule 12b-1, interest expense, taxes, brokerage commissions, acquired fund fees and expenses, other expenditures which are capitalized in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 1.25% of the Fund's average daily net assets for at least one year from the date of this Prospectus. The expense limitation agreement may be terminated without payment of any penalty (i) by the Trust for any reason and at any time and (ii) by the Advisor, for any reason, upon ninety (90) days' prior written notice to the Trust, such termination to be effective as of the close of business on the last day of the then-current one-year period. If it becomes unnecessary for the Advisor to waive fees or reimburse expenses, the Trust's Board of Trustees may permit the Advisor to retain the difference between the Fund's total annual operating expenses and the expense limitation currently in effect, or, if lower, the expense limitation that was in effect at the time of the waiver and/or reimbursement, to recapture all or a portion of its prior fee waivers or expense reimbursements within three years of the date they were waived or reimbursed.
- (c) The amount of fee waiver/expense reimbursement has been restated to reflect the current expense limit of 1.25%. Prior to November 1, 2019, the expense limit was 0.99% and the amount waived/reimbursed for the most recent fiscal year was 0.56%.

# EXAMPLE

This Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the shares of the Fund with the cost of investing in other funds. This Example does not take into account creation or redemption transaction fees, or the brokerage commissions that you pay when purchasing or selling shares of the Fund. If these fees and commissions were included, your costs would be higher.



The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then sell all of your shares at the end of those periods. The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

	1 YEAR	3 YEARS	5 YEARS	10 YEARS
AdvisorShares Dorsey Wright Short ETF	\$310	\$1,008	\$1,729	\$3,638

# **PORTFOLIO TURNOVER**

The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when Fund shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in Total Annual Operating Expenses or in the Example, affect the Fund's performance. This rate excludes the value of portfolio securities received or delivered as a result of in-kind creations or redemptions of the Fund's shares. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 357% of the average value of its portfolio.

#### PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

Dorsey, Wright & Associates, LLC (the "Sub-Advisor"), the sub-advisor to the Fund, seeks to achieve the Fund's investment objective by obtaining short exposure to investment returns of the broad U.S. large-capitalization equity market by engaging in short sales of U.S.-traded equity securities and exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"). Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in investments that create or result in short exposure to U.S. equity securities.

The Fund is actively-managed with an investment focus that applies a shorting strategy to the Sub-Advisor's core philosophy of relative strength. Relative strength investing involves buying securities that have appreciated in price more than the other securities in the investment universe and holding those securities until they underperform. In applying the Fund's shorting strategy to its core philosophy of relative strength, the Sub-Advisor will identify and short those securities with the highest relative weakness within the universe of investable securities, which is primarily comprised of large-capitalization U.S.-traded equity securities and ETFs.

The Sub-Advisor's investment process seeks to identify market periods, typically after severe market corrections, where the stocks with the most relative weakness may subsequently outperform the broader market. The Sub-Advisor will utilize a quantitative investment process to seek to identify these periods, and will engage in short sales to seek to outperform the broader equity market. The strategy is entirely based on market movement of the securities and there is no company fundamental data involved in the analysis. The Sub-Advisor's process is systematic and removes emotion from the day-to-day decision making. In implementing the strategy, stock consideration is strictly based on identifying opportunities to provide short exposure to the lowest ranked securities as measured by the relative strength investment process. The Fund's strategy may frequently involve buying and selling securities, which may lead to relatively high portfolio turnover.

On a day-to-day basis, for investment purposes and to cover its short positions, the Fund may hold U.S. government securities, short-term high quality fixed income securities, money market instruments, overnight and fixed-term repurchase agreements, cash and cash equivalents with maturities of one year or less, and ETFs that invest in these types of instruments.



# PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUND

The Fund is subject to a number of risks, as described below, that may affect the value of its shares, including the possible loss of money. As with any fund, there is no guarantee that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

**Equity Risk.** The prices of equity securities rise and fall daily. These price movements may result from factors affecting individual issuers, industries or the stock market as a whole. In addition, equity markets tend to move in cycles which may cause stock prices to fall over short or extended periods of time.

**ETF Market Risk.** In stressed market conditions, the market for ETF shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the ETF's underlying portfolio holdings. This adverse effect on liquidity for the ETF's shares in turn can lead to differences between the market price of the ETF's shares and the underlying value of those shares.

ETF Investment Risk. Through its investments in other ETFs, the Fund is subject to the risks associated with the ETFs' investments, including the possibility that the value of the securities held by an ETF could decrease. These risks include any combination of the risks described in this section.

Large-Capitalization Risk. Large-cap securities tend to go in and out of favor based on market and economic conditions. During a period when the demand for large-cap securities is less than for other types of investments — small-cap securities, for instance — the Fund's performance could be reduced.

**Management Risk.** The Sub-Advisor continuously evaluates the Fund's holdings, purchases and sales with a view to achieving the Fund's investment objective. However, achievement of the stated investment objective cannot be guaranteed. The Sub-Advisor's judgment about the markets, the economy, or companies may not anticipate actual market movements, economic conditions or company performance, and these judgments may affect the return on your investment.

Market Risk. Due to market conditions, the value of the Fund's investments may fluctuate significantly from day to day. Price fluctuations may be temporary or may last for extended periods. This volatility may cause the value of your investment in the Fund to decrease. Because of its link to the markets, an investment in the Fund may be more suitable for long-term investors who can bear the risk of short-term principal fluctuations, which at times may be significant.

**Portfolio Turnover Risk.** The Fund may experience relatively high portfolio turnover, which may result in increased transaction costs and performance that is lower than expected.

**Short Sales Risk.** Short sales are transactions in which the Fund sells a security it does not own. To complete the transaction, the Fund must borrow the security to make delivery to the buyer. The Fund is then obligated to replace the security borrowed by purchasing the security at the market price at the time of replacement. The price at such time may be higher or lower than the price at which the security was sold by the Fund. If the underlying security goes down in price between the time the Fund sells the security and buys it back, the Fund will realize a gain on the transaction. Conversely, if the underlying security goes up in price during the period, the Fund will realize a loss on the transaction. Any such loss is increased by the amount of premium or interest the Fund must pay to the lender of the security's price increases, the loss on a short sale is theoretically unlimited. Short sales involve leverage because the Fund borrows securities and then sells them, effectively leveraging its assets. The use of leverage may magnify gains or losses for the Fund.

**Trading Risk.** Shares of the Fund may trade above or below their net asset value ("NAV"). The trading price of the Fund's shares may deviate significantly from their NAV during periods of market volatility and, in such instances, you may pay significantly more or receive significantly less than the underlying value of the Fund's shares. There can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Fund's shares will develop or be maintained. In addition, trading in shares of the Fund may be halted because of market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the NASDAQ Stock Market LLC (the "Exchange"), make trading in shares inadvisable.

## FUND PERFORMANCE

A comparison of the Fund's performance with that of a broad measure of market performance may give some indication of the risks of an investment in the Fund; however, the Fund is new and, therefore, does not have a performance history for a full calendar year. Of course, once the Fund has performance, this past performance (before and after taxes) does not necessarily indicate how the Fund will perform in the future.

Updated performance information is available on the Fund's website at www.advisorshares.com.

#### MANAGEMENT

Name	Title
AdvisorShares Investments, LLC	Advisor
Dorsey, Wright & Associates, LLC	Sub-Advisor
PORTFOLIO MANAGER	
Name and Title	Length of Service with Sub-Advisor
John G. Lewis, Senior Vice President & Senior Portfolio Manager	since 2002

#### PURCHASE AND SALE OF FUND SHARES

The Fund issues and redeems shares on a continuous basis at NAV only in a large specified number of shares called a "Creation Unit." The shares of the Fund that trade on the Exchange are "created" at their NAV by market makers, large investors and institutions only in block-size Creation Units of at least 25,000 shares. A "creator" enters into an authorized participant agreement ("Participant Agreement") with the Fund's distributor or uses a Depository Trust Company ("DTC") participant who has executed a Participant Agreement (an "Authorized Participant") then receives at least 25,000 shares of the Fund (or multiples thereof) generally in exchange for a specified amount of cash totaling the NAV of the Creation Unit(s).

Individual Fund shares may only be purchased and sold in secondary market transactions through brokers. The shares of the Fund are listed on the Exchange and, because shares trade at market price rather than at NAV, shares may trade at a value greater than or less than their NAV.

#### TAX INFORMATION

The Fund intends to make distributions that may be taxed as ordinary income, qualified dividend income or capital gains (or a combination thereof), unless you are investing through a tax-advantaged arrangement such as a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account ("IRA"), which may be taxed upon withdrawal.

#### PAYMENTS TO BROKER-DEALERS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

Investors purchasing shares in the secondary market through a brokerage account or with the assistance of a broker may be subject to brokerage commissions and charges. If you purchase Fund shares through a broker-dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank), the Fund, the Advisor or the Sub-Advisor may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing broker-dealers or other intermediaries and your salesperson to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

# MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE TRUST AND THE FUNDS

AdvisorShares Trust (the "Trust") is a Delaware statutory trust offering a number of professionally managed investment portfolios or funds.

Section 12(d)(1) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "1940 Act") restricts investments by investment companies in the securities of other investment companies, including shares of a Fund or, with respect to the AdvisorShares Dorsey Wright Short ETF, another ETF. However, under certain circumstances and subject to certain terms and conditions, a registered investment company may invest in other investment companies ("underlying investment companies") beyond the limits set forth in Section 12(d)(1). In particular, if an underlying investment company has obtained a Section 12(d)(1) exemptive order from the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), a Fund may enter into an agreement with the underlying investment company pursuant to which the Fund may invest in the underlying investment company beyond the Section 12(d)(1) limits subject to the terms and conditions of the underlying investment company's exemptive order. The Fund may enter into such agreements with certain ETFs to permit the Fund to invest in the ETFs to an unlimited extent.

With respect to the AdvisorShares Dorsey Wright Micro-Cap ETF, Creation Units of the Fund are issued and redeemed principally in-kind for portfolio securities and a specific cash payment. With respect to the AdvisorShares Dorsey Wright Short ETF, Creation Units of the Fund generally are issued and redeemed in return for a specified amount of cash totaling the NAV of the Creation Units.

# EXCEPT WHEN AGGREGATED IN CREATION UNITS, SHARES OF EACH FUND ARE NOT REDEEMABLE SECURITIES.

# MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDS' INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES

The investment objective of each Fund is non-fundamental and may be changed by the Trust's Board of Trustees (the "Board") without a shareholder vote.

## MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDS' PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

Each Fund is an actively managed ETF and, thus, does not seek to replicate the performance of a specified passive index of securities. Instead, each Fund uses an active investment strategy in seeking to meet its investment objective. The Sub-Advisor, subject to the oversight of the Advisor and the Board, has discretion on a daily basis to manage each Fund's portfolio in accordance with the Fund's investment objective and investment policies. A Fund will not change the 80% investment policy included in its principal investment strategy without providing 60 days notice to shareholders.

## MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRINCIPAL RISKS OF INVESTING IN THE FUNDS

Each Fund is subject to a number of risks that may affect the value of its shares. This section provides additional information about the Funds' principal risks. The principal risks specific to each Fund are listed in the Fund's summary section above. The degree to which a risk applies to a Fund varies according to its investment allocation. Each investor should review the complete description of the principal risks before investing in a Fund. An investment in a Fund may not be appropriate for certain investors. As with investing in other securities whose prices increase and decrease in market value, you may lose money by investing in a Fund.

American Depositary Receipt Risk. Depositary receipts have the same currency and economic risks as the underlying shares they represent. They are affected by the risks associated with the underlying non-U.S. securities, such as changes in political or economic conditions of other countries, changes in the exchange rates of, or exchange control regulations associated with, foreign currencies, and differing accounting, auditing, financial reporting and legal standards and practices. The value of depositary receipts will rise and fall in response to the activities of the non-U.S. entity that issued the securities represented by the depositary receipts, regulatory actions undertaken by a foreign government, and general market and/or economic conditions. Also, if there is a rise in demand for the underlying security and it becomes less available to the market, the price of the depositary receipt may rise, causing the AdvisorShares Dorsey Wright Micro-Cap ETF to pay a premium in order to obtain the desired depositary receipt. Conversely, changes in foreign market conditions or access to the underlying securities could result in a decline in the value of the depositary receipt.

Equity Risk. The prices of equity securities in which a Fund invests rise and fall daily. These price movements may result from factors affecting individual companies, industries or the securities market as a whole. Individual companies may report poor results or be negatively affected by industry and/or economic trends and developments. The prices of securities issued by such companies may decline in response. In addition, the equity market tends to move in cycles which may cause stock prices to fall over short or extended periods of time.

**ETF Investment Risk.** The AdvisorShares Dorsey Wright Short ETF may purchase shares of ETFs to gain exposure to the large-cap market. The Fund is subject to the same risks as the underlying ETFs, except the Fund may have the benefit of additional diversification. While the risks of owning shares of an ETF generally reflect the risks of owning the underlying securities of the ETF, lack of liquidity in an ETF can result in its value being more volatile than the underlying portfolio securities. ETFs also may trade below their NAV or at a discount, which may adversely affect the Fund's performance. In addition, certain of the underlying ETFs may hold common portfolio positions, thereby reducing the diversification benefits of an asset allocation style. Also, when the Fund invests in an ETF, in addition to directly bearing the expenses associated with the Fund's own operations, the Fund will bear a pro rata portion of the ETF's expenses, including operating costs and management fees. Consequently, an investment in the Fund entails more direct and indirect expenses than a direct investment in the underlying ETF. Under normal market conditions, the Fund will purchase shares of or interest in ETFs in the secondary market.

**ETF Market Risk.** In stressed market conditions, the market for ETF shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the ETF's underlying portfolio holdings. This adverse effect on liquidity for the ETF's shares in turn can lead to a difference between the market price of the ETF's shares and the underlying value of those shares. With respect to the Fund, this difference can be reflected as a spread between the bid and ask process quoted during the day or a premium or discount in the closing price from the Fund's NAV.

Large-Capitalization Risk. The large-cap segment of the market may underperform other segments of the equity market or the equity market as a whole. The underperformance of large-cap securities may cause the AdvisorShares Dorsey Wright Short ETF's performance to be less than expected.

**Management Risk.** The Sub-Advisor continuously evaluates a Fund's holdings, purchases and sales with a view to achieving the Fund's investment objective. However, achievement of the stated investment objective cannot be guaranteed. The Sub-Advisor's judgments about the markets, the economy, or companies may not anticipate actual market movements, economic conditions or company performance, and these judgments may affect the return on your investment. In fact, no matter how good a job the Sub-Advisor does, you could lose money on your investment in a Fund, just as you could with other investments. If the Sub-Advisor is incorrect in its assessment of the income, growth or price realization potential of a Fund's holdings or incorrect in its assessment of general market or economic conditions, then the value of the Fund's shares may decline.

**Market Risk.** Investments in securities, in general, are subject to market risks that may cause their prices to fluctuate over time. A Fund's investments may decline in value due to factors affecting securities or commodities markets generally, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions or changes in interest or currency rates, or particular countries, segments, economic sectors, industries or companies within those markets. The value of securities convertible into equity securities, such as warrants or convertible debt, is also affected by prevailing interest rates, the credit quality of the issuer and any call provision. Fluctuations in the value of securities and financial instruments in which a Fund invests will cause the NAV of the Fund to fluctuate. Historically, the markets have moved in cycles, and the value of a Fund's securities or reference asset may fluctuate drastically from day to day. Because of its link to the markets, an investment in a Fund may be more suitable for long-term investors who can bear the risk of short-term principal fluctuations, which at times may be significant.

**Micro-Capitalization Risk.** Micro-capitalization companies may have limited operational histories and new or unproven product lines or may have product lines that are still in development. These companies may be more vulnerable than larger companies to key personnel losses due to reliance on a smaller number of management personnel. Micro-capitalization companies may have limited financial resources and little or no access to additional credit and therefore may be more vulate than the downturns or rising credit costs than larger, more established companies. Share prices of micro-capitalization companies may be more volatile than those of larger companies and, therefore, the AdvisorShares Dorsey Wright Micro-Cap ETF's share price may be more volatile than the share prices of funds that invest a larger percentage of assets in shares issued by small-, mid-, or large-capitalization companies. The shares of micro-capitalization companies may be at risk for de-listing from a securities exchange, making it difficult for the Fund to buy and sell shares of a particular micro-capitalization company. In addition, there may be less public information available about these companies.

**Portfolio Turnover Risk.** Higher portfolio turnover may result in a Fund paying increased transaction costs and generating greater tax liabilities for shareholders. Portfolio turnover also may cause a Fund's performance to be less than you expect.

Short Sales Risk. Short sales are transactions in which the AdvisorShares Dorsey Wright Short ETF sells a security it does not own. To complete the transaction, the Fund must borrow the security to make delivery to the buyer. The Fund is then obligated to replace the security borrowed by purchasing the security at the market price at the time of replacement. The price at such time may be higher or lower than the price at which the security was sold by the Fund. If the underlying security goes down in price between the time the Fund sells the security and buys it back, the Fund will realize a gain on the transaction. Conversely, if the underlying security goes up in price during the period, the Fund will realize a loss on the transaction. Any such loss is increased by the amount of premium or interest the Fund must pay to the lender of the security. Likewise, any gain will be decreased by the amount of premium or interest the Fund must pay to the lender of the security. A Fund is required to segregate other assets on its books to cover its obligation to return the security to the lender, which means that those other assets may not be available to meet the Fund's needs for immediate cash or other liquidity. The Fund's investment performance may suffer if the Fund is required to close out a short position earlier than it had intended. This would occur if the securities lender required the Fund to deliver the securities the Fund borrowed at the commencement of the short sale and the Fund was unable to borrow the securities from another securities lender or otherwise obtain the security by other means. In addition, a Fund may be subject to expenses related to short sales that are not typically associated with investing in securities directly, such as costs of borrowing and margin account maintenance costs associated with the Fund's open short positions. These expenses negatively impact the performance of the Fund. For example, when the Fund short sells an interest-bearing security, such as a bond, it is obligated to pay the interest on the security it has sold. This cost is partially offset by the interest earned by the Fund on the investment of the cash generated by the short sale. When a Fund sells short an equity security that pays a dividend, the Fund must pay out the dividend rate of the equity security to the lender and records this as an expense of the Fund and reflects the expense in the financial statements. However, a dividend paid on a security sold short generally has the effect of reducing the market value of the shorted security and thus, increases the Fund's unrealized gain or reduces the Fund's unrealized loss on its short sale transaction. To the extent that the interest rate and/or dividend that the Fund is obligated to pay is greater than the interest earned by the Fund on investments, the performance of the Fund will be negatively impacted. These types of short sales expenses are sometimes referred to as the "negative cost of carry," and will tend to cause a Fund to lose money on a short sale even in instances where the price of the underlying security sold short does not change over the duration of the short sale. Regulatory bans on certain short selling activities may prevent a Fund from fully implementing its strategy.

**Trading Risk.** Shares of a Fund may trade above or below their NAV. The NAV of shares will fluctuate with changes in the market value of a Fund's holdings. The trading prices of shares will fluctuate in accordance with changes in NAV, as well as market supply and demand. When the market price of a Fund's shares deviates significantly from NAV, you may pay significantly more or receive significantly less than the underlying value of the Fund's shares. However, given that shares can be created and redeemed only in Creation Units at NAV, the Advisor does not believe that large discounts or premiums to NAV will exist for extended periods of time. Although each Fund's shares are currently listed on the Exchange, there can be no assurance that an active trading market for shares will develop or be maintained. In addition, trading in shares of a Fund may be halted because of market conditions or for reasons that, in the view of the Exchange, make trading in shares inadvisable. Furthermore, there are a limited number of financial institutions that may act as authorized participants that post collateral for certain trades on an agency basis (*i.e.*, on behalf of other market participants) and, to the extent that those authorized participants exit the business or are unable to process creation and/or redemption orders and no other authorized participant is able to step forward to do so, there may be a significantly diminished trading market for a Fund's shares. This could in turn lead to differences between the market price of a Fund's shares and the underlying value of those shares.

# OTHER INVESTMENT PRACTICES AND STRATEGIES

**Temporary Defensive Positions.** To respond to adverse market, economic, political or other conditions, a Fund may invest up to 100% of its total assets, without limitation, in high-quality, short-term debt securities and money market instruments. A Fund may be invested in this manner for extended periods, depending on the Sub-Advisor's assessment of market conditions. Debt securities and money market instruments include shares of other mutual funds, commercial paper, certificates of deposit, bankers' acceptances, U.S. government securities, repurchase agreements, and bonds that are rated BBB or higher. While a Fund is in a defensive position, the Fund may not achieve its investment objective. Furthermore, to the extent that a Fund invests in money market funds, the Fund would bear its pro rata portion of each such money market fund's advisory fees and operational expenses.

Lending of Portfolio Securities. A Fund may lend portfolio securities to brokers, dealers and other financial organizations that meet capital and other credit requirements or other criteria established by the Fund's Board. These loans, if and when made, may not exceed  $33^{1}/_{3}^{\circ}$ % of the total asset value of the Fund (including the loan collateral). Such loans may be terminated at any time. Any such loans must be continuously secured by collateral maintained on a current basis in an amount at least equal to the market value of the securities loaned by the Fund. In a loan transaction, as compensation for lending its securities, a Fund will receive a portion of the dividends or interest accrued on the securities held as collateral or, in the case of cash collateral, a portion of the income from the investment of such cash. In addition, the Fund will receive the amount of all dividends, interest and other distributions on the loaned securities. However, the borrower has the right to vote the loaned securities. A Fund will call loans to vote proxies if a material issue affecting the investment is to be voted upon. Loans are made only to borrowers that are deemed by the securities or exercising its rights in the collateral. In a loan transaction, a Fund will also bear the risk of any decline in value of securities acquired with cash collateral. Each Fund will attempt to minimize this risk by limiting the investment of cash collateral to high quality instruments of short maturity.

Please see the Funds' Statement of Additional Information ("SAI") for a more complete list of portfolio investment strategies, permitted investments and related risks.

#### **PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS**

A description of the Funds' policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of Fund portfolio securities is available (i) in the SAI and (ii) on the Trust's website at www.advisorshares.com. Each Fund's portfolio holdings will be disclosed on the Trust's website daily after the close of trading on the Exchange and prior to the opening of trading on the Exchange the following day.

# MANAGEMENT OF THE FUNDS

#### INVESTMENT ADVISOR

AdvisorShares Investments, LLC, located at 4800 Montgomery Lane, Suite 150, Bethesda, Maryland 20814, serves as investment advisor of the Funds. As of September 30, 2019, the Advisor had approximately \$690 million in assets under management.



The Advisor continuously reviews, supervises, and administers the Funds' investment program. In particular, the Advisor provides investment and operational oversight of the Sub-Advisor. The Board supervises the Advisor and establishes policies that the Advisor must follow in its day-to-day management activities. Pursuant to an investment advisory agreement between the Trust and the Advisor, the Advisor is entitled to receive an annual advisory fee of 0.75% based on each Fund's average daily net assets. The Advisor pays the Sub-Advisor out of the advisory fee it receives from each Fund. For the most recent fiscal year, the AdvisorShares Dorsey Wright Micro-Cap ETF paid the Advisor 0% after waivers based on its average daily net assets and AdvisorShares Dorsey Wright Short ETF paid the Advisor 0.18% after waivers based on its average daily net assets.

The Advisor bears all of its own costs associated with providing these advisory services and the expenses of the members of the Board who are affiliated with the Advisor. The Advisor may make payments from its own resources to broker-dealers and other financial institutions in connection with the sale of Fund shares.

The Advisor has contractually agreed to waive its fees and/or reimburse expenses in order to keep net expenses (excluding amounts payable pursuant to any plan adopted in accordance with Rule 12b-1, interest expense, taxes, brokerage commissions, acquired fund fees and expenses, other expenditures which are capitalized in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and extraordinary expenses) from exceeding 1.25% of each Fund's average daily net assets for at least one year from the date of this Prospectus. Prior to November 1, 2019, the expense cap was 0.99% of each Fund's average daily net assets. The expense limitation agreement may be terminated without payment of any penalty (i) by the Trust for any reason and at any time and (ii) by the Advisor, for any reason, upon ninety (90) days' prior written notice to the Trust, such termination to be effective as of the close of business on the last day of the thencurrent one-year period. If at any point it becomes unnecessary for the Advisor to waive fees or make expense reimbursements, the Board may permit the Advisor to retain the difference between a Fund's total annual operating expenses and the expense limitation currently in effect, or, if lower, the expense limitation that was in effect at the time of the waiver and/or reimbursement, to recapture all or a portion of its prior fee waivers or expense reimbursements within three years of the date they were waived or reimbursed.

Pursuant to an exemptive order from the SEC, the Advisor, subject to certain conditions, has the right, without shareholder approval, to hire a new unaffiliated sub-advisor or materially amend the terms of a sub-advisory agreement with an unaffiliated sub-advisor when the Board and the Advisor believe that a change would benefit a Fund. The Prospectus will be supplemented when there is a significant change in a Fund's sub-advisory arrangement.

A discussion regarding the basis for the Board's approval of the Funds' investment advisory agreement is available in the Trust's Annual Report to Shareholders dated June 30, 2019.

## INVESTMENT SUB-ADVISOR

Dorsey, Wright & Associates, LLC, a Nasdaq, Inc. company, is a registered investment advisory firm located at 3300 W. Leigh Street, Richmond, Virginia 23230. Since 1987, the Sub-Advisor has been an advisor to financial professionals on Wall Street and investment managers worldwide. The Sub-Advisor offers comprehensive investment research and analysis through its Global Technical Research Platform and provides research, modeling and indexes that apply the Sub-Advisor's core philosophy of relative strength to various financial products, including ETFs, mutual funds, UITs, structured products, and separately managed accounts. The Sub-Advisor's expertise is technical analysis. The Sub-Advisor uses Point & Figure Charting, Relative Strength Analysis, and numerous other tools to analyze market data and deliver actionable insights. In 2015, the Sub-Advisor was acquired by Nasdaq, Inc. allowing it to work towards even greater innovative solutions for its clients. As of September 30, 2019, the Sub-Advisor had approximately \$440 million in assets under management.

The Sub-Advisor is responsible for selecting the Funds' investments in accordance with the Funds' investment objective, policies and restrictions. A discussion regarding the basis for the Board's approval of the Funds' investment sub-advisory agreement is available in the Trust's Semi-Annual Report to Shareholders dated December 31, 2018.

# PORTFOLIO MANAGER

The following portfolio manager is primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Funds.

#### John G. Lewis, Senior Vice President & Senior Portfolio Manager

Mr. Lewis joined the Sub-Advisor in 2002. As Senior Portfolio Manager, he is responsible for investment strategy across the Sub-Advisor's funds, ETFs, UITs and SMA accounts. He has worked in the investment industry since 1994. Mr. Lewis has conducted extensive research on relative strength and has authored several original research papers on the subject and works closely with the investment team on new product development. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of San Diego and an MBA from the University of Southern California.

Additional information about the portfolio manager's compensation, other accounts managed by the portfolio manager, and the portfolio manager's ownership of securities in each Fund is available in the SAI.

## **OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS**

Foreside Fund Services, LLC (the "Distributor") is the principal underwriter and distributor of the Funds' shares. The Distributor's principal address is Three Canal Plaza, Suite 100, Portland, Maine 04101. The Distributor will not distribute shares in less than whole Creation Units, and it does not maintain a secondary market in the shares. The Distributor is a broker-dealer registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA"). The Distributor is not affiliated with the Advisor, Sub-Advisor, The Bank of New York Mellon or any of their respective affiliates.

The Bank of New York Mellon, located at 240 Greenwich Street, New York, New York 10286, serves as the administrator, custodian, transfer agent and fund accounting agent for the Funds.

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, located at 1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004, serves as legal counsel to the Trust.

Tait, Weller & Baker LLP, located at Two Liberty Place, 50 South 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 2900, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102, serves as the Funds' independent registered public accounting firm. The independent registered public accounting firm is responsible for auditing the annual financial statements of the Funds.

#### SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION

## CALCULATING NET ASSET VALUE

Each Fund calculates NAV by (i) taking the current market value of its total assets, (ii) subtracting any liabilities, and (iii) dividing that amount by the total number of shares owned by shareholders.

Each Fund calculates NAV once each business day as of the regularly scheduled close of normal trading on the New York Stock Exchange, LLC (the "NYSE") (normally 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time). The NYSE is typically closed on weekends and most national holidays.

In calculating NAV, each Fund generally values its portfolio investments at market prices. If market prices are unavailable or a Fund thinks that they are unreliable, or when the value of a security has been materially affected by events occurring after the relevant market closes, the Fund will price those securities at fair value as determined in good faith using methods approved by the Board. With respect to investments in U.S.-traded securities with readily available pricing, it is expected that there would be limited circumstances in which a Fund would use fair value pricing – for example, if the exchange on which a portfolio security is principally traded closed early or if trading in a particular security was halted during the day and did not resume prior to the time the Fund calculated its NAV.

The use of fair valuation in pricing a security involves the consideration of a number of subjective factors and, therefore, is susceptible to the unavoidable risk that the valuation may be higher or lower than the price at which the security might actually trade if a reliable market price were readily available.

More information about the valuation of each Fund's holdings can be found in the SAI.



#### SHARE TRADING PRICES

The price of each Fund's shares is based on market price, which may differ from the Fund's daily NAV per share and can be affected by market forces of supply and demand, economic conditions and other factors. The NYSE intends to disseminate the approximate value (also known as the "indicative optimized portfolio value" or IOPV) of the portfolio underlying a share of a Fund every fifteen seconds. This approximate value should not be viewed as a "real-time" update of the NAV per share of a Fund because the approximate value is not calculated in the same manner as the NAV per share, which is computed once per day. The approximate value generally is determined every fifteen seconds by using last sale prices of the securities and instruments held by a Fund, as reflected in that day's basket for a Creation Unit. Further, the approximate value will only reflect expense accruals (e.g., management fees) through the previous day. If applicable, each approximate value also reflects changes in currency exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and the applicable currency. The approximate value is based on applicable quotes or closing prices from the securities' local market and may not reflect events that occur subsequent to the local market's close. The approximate value may not necessarily reflect the precise composition of the current portfolio of securities held by a Fund at a particular point in time (*e.g.*, the securities in the basket for a Creation Unit may include securities that are not part of the Fund's portfolio) or the precise valuation of the current portfolio. The Funds are not involved in, or responsible for, the calculation or dissemination of such values and makes no warranty as to their accuracy.

#### PREMIUM/DISCOUNT INFORMATION

Information showing the number of days that the market price of a Fund's shares was greater than the Fund's NAV per share (*i.e.*, at a premium) and the number of days it was less than the Fund's NAV per share (*i.e.*, at a discount) for various time periods is available by visiting the Funds' website at www.advisorshares.com.

#### **DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS**

Each Fund pays out dividends and distributes its net capital gains, if any, to shareholders at least annually.

#### ACTIVE INVESTORS AND MARKET TIMING

Shares of the Funds are listed for trading on the Exchange, which allows retail investors to purchase and sell individual shares at market prices throughout the trading day similar to other publicly traded securities. Because these secondary market trades do not involve a Fund directly, it is unlikely that secondary market trading would cause any harmful effects of market timing, such as dilution, disruption of portfolio management, increases in the Fund's trading costs or realization of capital gains. The Board has determined not to adopt policies and procedures designed to prevent or monitor for frequent purchases and redemptions of a Fund's shares because the Fund sells and redeems its shares at NAV only in Creation Units pursuant to the terms of a Participant Agreement between the Distributor and an Authorized Participant, principally in exchange for (i) a basket of securities that mirrors the composition of the Fund's portfolio and a specified amount of cash totaling the NAV of the Creation Units. The Funds also impose transaction fees on such Creation Unit transactions that are designed to offset the Funds' transfer and other transaction costs associated with the issuance and redemption of the Creation Unit shares. Direct trading by Authorized Participants is critical to ensuring that a Fund's shares trade at or close to NAV. However, market makers are not obligated to make a market in a Fund's shares nor are Authorized Participants obligated to execute purchase or redemption orders for Creation Units and, in times of market stress, circumstances could develop that could cause them to refrain from these activities or reduce their role. Any absence of an active market could lead to a heightened risk of differences between the market price of a Fund's shares and the underlying value of those shares.

#### **BOOK-ENTRY**

Shares of each Fund are held in book-entry form, which means that no stock certificates are issued. DTC, or its nominee, is the record owner of all outstanding shares of the Funds and is recognized as the owner of all shares.



Investors owning shares of a Fund are beneficial owners as shown on the records of DTC or its participants. DTC serves as the securities depository for all shares. Participants in DTC include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and other institutions that directly or indirectly maintain a custodial relationship with DTC. As a beneficial owner of shares, you are not entitled to receive physical delivery of stock certificates or to have shares registered in your name, and you are not considered a registered owner of shares. Therefore, to exercise any right as an owner of shares, you must rely upon the procedures of DTC and its participants (*e.g.*, broker-dealers, banks, trust companies, or clearing companies). These procedures are the same as those that apply to any stocks that you hold in book-entry or "street name" through your brokerage account.

#### **INVESTING IN A FUND**

For more information on how to buy and sell shares of a Fund, call the Trust at 877.843.3831 or visit the Funds' website at www.advisorshares.com.

### DISTRIBUTION PLAN

The Funds have adopted a Distribution Plan pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act that allows each Fund to pay distribution fees to the Distributor and other firms that provide distribution services. A Fund will pay distribution fees to the Distributor at an annual rate not to exceed 0.25% of its average daily net assets. If a service provider provides distribution services, the Distributor will pay the service provider out of its distribution fees.

No distribution fees are currently charged to each Fund; there are no plans to impose distribution fees, and no distribution fees will be charged for at least one year from the date of this Prospectus. However, to the extent distribution fees are charged in the future, because a Fund would pay these fees out of assets on an ongoing basis, over time these fees may cost you more than other types of sales charges and would increase the cost of your investment. At such time as distribution fees are charged, a Fund will notify investors by adding disclosure to the Fund's website and in the Fund's Prospectus. Any distribution fees will be approved by the Board.

#### ADDITIONAL TAX INFORMATION

The following is a summary of some important tax issues that affect each Fund and its shareholders. The summary is based on current tax law, which may be changed by legislative, judicial or administrative action. The summary is very general, and does not address investors subject to special rules, such as investors who hold shares through an IRA, 401(k) or other tax-advantaged account. More information about taxes is located in the SAI. You are urged to consult your tax advisor regarding specific questions as to U.S. federal, state and local income taxes.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (the "Tax Act") made significant changes to the U.S. federal income tax rules for taxation of individuals and corporations, generally effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017. Many of the changes applicable to individuals are temporary and would only apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017 and before January 1, 2026. There are only minor changes with respect to the specific rules applicable to regulated investment companies ("RICs"), such as the Funds. The Tax Act, however, made numerous other changes to the tax rules that may affect shareholders and the Funds. You are urged to consult your own tax advisor regarding how the Tax Act affects your investment in the Funds.

#### Tax Status of the Funds

Each Fund is treated as a separate entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes and intends to qualify for the special tax treatment afforded to RICs under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"). As long as a Fund qualifies for treatment as a RIC, it pays no federal income tax on the earnings it timely distributes to shareholders. However, a Fund's failure to qualify as a RIC or to meet minimum distribution requirements would result (if certain relief provisions were not available) in fund-level taxation and, consequently, a reduction in income available for distribution to shareholders.

Unless you are a tax-exempt entity or your investment in Fund shares is made through a tax-deferred retirement account, such as an individual retirement account, you need to be aware of the possible tax consequences when:

- a Fund makes distributions;
- you sell Fund shares; and
- you purchase or redeem Creation Units (institutional investors only).



#### **Tax Status of Distributions**

- Each Fund intends to distribute, at least annually, substantially all of its net investment income and net capital gains income.
- Each Fund's income distributions will generally be taxed to you as ordinary income or qualified dividend income. For non-corporate shareholders, dividends reported by the Fund as qualified dividend income are generally eligible for reduced tax rates applicable to long-term capital gains, provided holding period and other requirements are met. Qualified dividend income generally is income derived from dividends paid by U.S. corporations or certain foreign corporations. In general, dividends received by the Fund from another ETF taxable as a RIC may be distributed and reported as qualified dividend income by the Fund to the extent the dividend distributions are distributed and reported as qualified dividend income by the Suspended for these purposes for stock that is hedged. A Fund's investment strategies may limit its ability to distribute dividends eligible to be treated as qualified dividend income.
- Corporate shareholders may be entitled to a dividends-received deduction for the portion of dividends they receive that are attributable to dividends received by a Fund (directly or in some cases indirectly) from U.S. corporations, subject to certain limitations. A Fund's trading strategies may limit its ability to distribute dividends eligible for the dividends-received deduction for corporate shareholders.
- Distributions from a Fund's short-term capital gains are generally taxable as ordinary income. Any distributions of net capital gain (the excess of a Fund's net long-term capital gains over its net short-term capital losses) that you receive from a Fund generally are taxable as long-term capital gains regardless of how long you have owned your shares. Long-term capital gains are taxed to non-corporate shareholders at reduced tax rates.
- Dividends and distributions are generally taxable to you whether you receive them in cash or reinvest them in additional shares.
- Distributions paid in January but declared by a Fund in October, November or December of the previous year may be taxable to you in the previous year.
- Shortly after the close of each calendar year, the Funds (or your broker) will inform you of the amount of your ordinary income dividends, qualified dividend income, foreign tax credits, and net capital gain distributions received from the Fund.
- You may wish to avoid investing in a Fund shortly before a dividend or other distribution, because such a distribution will generally be taxable even though it may economically represent a return of a portion of your investment.

## Taxes on Exchange-Listed Share Sales

Any capital gain or loss realized upon a sale of shares is generally treated as long-term capital gain or loss if the shares have been held for more than one year and as short-term capital gain or loss if the shares have been held for one year or less, except that any capital loss on the sale of shares held for six months or less is treated as long-term capital loss to the extent of amounts treated as distributions of long-term capital gains to the shareholder with respect to such shares.

#### **Investment in Foreign Securities**

Each Fund may be subject to withholding and other taxes imposed by foreign countries on dividends, interest, and other income it may earn from investing in foreign securities which may reduce the return on such investments. The U.S. has entered into tax treaties with certain foreign countries that may entitle the Fund to a reduced rate of, or exemption from, foreign taxes on certain income it receives. The Fund may need to file special claims for refunds to secure the benefits of a reduced rate. The effective rate of foreign tax cannot be determined in advance because the amount of the Fund's assets to be invested within various countries is not known. In addition, the Fund's investments in foreign currencies may increase or accelerate the Fund's recognition of ordinary income and may affect the timing or amount of the Fund's distributions. If as of the close of a taxable year more than 50% of the Fund's assets is represented by stock or securities of foreign corporations, the Fund intends to elect to permit shareholders to claim a foreign tax credit or deduction (but not both) on their U.S. income tax returns for their pro rata portion of qualified taxes paid by the Fund to foreign tax credit, each such shareholder would include in gross income from foreign sources its pro rata share of such taxes. Certain limitations imposed by the Internal Revenue Code may prevent shareholders from receiving a full foreign tax credit or deduction for their allocable amount of such taxes.

#### **Medicare Tax**

U.S. individuals with income exceeding certain thresholds are subject to a 3.8% Medicare contribution tax on all or a portion of their "net investment income," including interest, dividends, and certain capital gains (generally including capital gain distributions and capital gains realized on the sale or exchange of shares). This 3.8% tax also applies to all or a portion of the undistributed net investment income of certain shareholders that are estates and trusts.

#### Non-U.S. Investors

If you are a nonresident alien individual or a foreign corporation, trust or estate, (i) a Fund's ordinary income dividends will generally be subject to a 30% U.S. withholding tax, unless a lower treaty rate applies or unless such income is effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business, but (ii) gains from the sale or other disposition of shares of a Fund generally are not subject to U.S. taxation, unless you are a nonresident alien individual who is physically present in the U.S. for 183 days or more per year. The 30% withholding tax generally will not apply to distributions of net capital gain. Each Fund may, under certain circumstances, report all or a portion of a dividend as an "interest-related dividend" or a "short-term capital gain dividend," which would generally be exempt from this 30% U.S. withholding tax, provided certain other requirements are met. Different tax consequences may result if you are a foreign shareholder entitled to claim the benefits of a tax treaty.

## **Backup Withholding**

Each Fund will be required in certain cases to withhold (as "backup withholding") on amounts payable to any shareholder who (1) has provided the Fund either an incorrect tax identification number or no number at all, (2) is subject to backup withholding by the Internal Revenue Service for failure to properly report payments of interest or dividends, (3) has failed to certify to the Fund that such shareholder is not subject to backup withholding, or (4) has not certified that such shareholder is a U.S. person (including a U.S. resident alien). The backup withholding rate is 24%. Backup withholding will not, however, be applied to payments that have been subject to the 30% withholding tax applicable to shareholders who are neither citizens nor residents of the United States.

#### **Taxes on Creation and Redemption of Creation Units**

An Authorized Participant who purchases a Creation Unit by exchanging securities in-kind generally will recognize a gain or loss equal to the difference between (a) the sum of the market value of the Creation Units at the time and any net cash received, and (b) the sum of the purchaser's aggregate basis in the securities surrendered and any net cash paid for the Creation Units. An Authorized Participant who redeems Creation Units will generally recognize a gain or loss equal to the difference between (x) the sum of the redeemer's basis in the Creation Units and any net cash paid, and (y) the sum of the aggregate market value of the securities received and any net cash received. The Internal Revenue Service, however, may assert that a loss that is realized upon an exchange of securities for Creation Units may not be currently deducted under the rules governing "wash sales" (for a person who does not mark-to-market their holdings), or on the basis that there has been no significant change in economic position. Each Fund has the right to reject an order for Creation Units if the purchaser (or a group of purchasers) would, upon obtaining the shares so ordered, own 80% or more of the outstanding shares of the Fund and if, pursuant to section 351 of the Internal Revenue Code, the Fund would have a basis in the deposit securities different from the market value of such securities on the date of deposit. The Fund also has the right to require information necessary to determine beneficial share ownership for purposes of the 80% determination.

A Fund may include cash when paying the redemption price for Creation Units in addition to, or in place of, the delivery of a basket of securities. A Fund may be required to sell portfolio securities in order to obtain the cash needed to distribute redemption proceeds. This may cause a Fund to recognize investment income and/or capital gains or losses that it might not have recognized if it had completely satisfied the redemption in-kind. As a result, a Fund may be less tax efficient if it includes such a cash payment than if the in-kind redemption process was used.

Persons exchanging securities or non-U.S. currency for Creation Units should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the tax treatment of any creation or redemption transaction. If you purchase or redeem Creation Units, you will be sent a confirmation statement showing how many Fund shares you purchased or redeemed and at what price.

The foregoing discussion summarizes some of the consequences under current federal tax law of an investment in a Fund. It is not a substitute for personal tax advice. Consult your personal tax advisor about the potential tax consequences to you of an investment in a Fund under all tax laws applicable to you.

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The financial highlights table is intended to help you understand the Funds' financial performance since the Funds commenced operations. Certain information reflects financial results for a single Fund share. The total returns in the table represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the Funds (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). This information has been derived from the financial statements audited by Tait, Weller & Baker LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, whose report, along with each Fund's financial statements, are included in the Fund's Annual Report, which is available upon request.

# ADVISORSHARES TRUST — ADVISORSHARES DORSEY WRIGHT MICRO-CAP ETF

# **Financial Highlights**

	July 1	e period 0, 2018* e 30, 2019
Selected Data for a Share of Capital Stock Outstanding		
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Year/Period	<u>\$</u>	24.71
Investment Operations		
Net Investment Income (Loss) <sup>(1)</sup>		(0.02)
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)		(1.65)
Distributions of Net Realized Gains by other investment companies		
Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Investment Operations <sup>(2)</sup>		(1.67)
Distributions from Net Investment Income		
Distributions from Realized Capital Gains		
Total Distributions		
Net Asset Value, End of Year/Period	\$	23.04
Market Value, End of Year/Period	\$	23.02
Total Return		
Total Investment Return Based on Net Asset Value <sup>(3)</sup>		(6.79)%
Total Investment Return Based on Market Value <sup>(3)</sup>		(6.86)%
Ratios/ Supplemental Data		()
Net Assets, End of Year/Period (000's omitted)	\$	2,304
Ratio to Average Net Assets of:		
Expenses, net of expense waivers and reimbursements <sup>(4)</sup>		0.99%
Expenses, prior to expense waivers and reimbursements <sup>(4)</sup>		4.79%
r , r		
Net Investment Income (Loss) <sup>(4)</sup>		(0.11)%
Portfolio Turnover Rate <sup>(5)</sup>		103%

\* Commencement of operations.

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

(2) The amount shown for a share distribution throughout the period may not correlate with the Statement of Operations for the period due to the timing of sales and repurchases of Fund Shares in relation to income earned and/or fluctuating fair value of the investments of the Fund.

(3) Net asset value total investment return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the net asset value at the beginning of the period, reinvestment of all dividends and distributions on ex-date, if any, at net asset value during the period, and redemption on the last day of the period. Periods less than one year are not annualized. Market value total return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the market value at the beginning of the period, reinvestment of all dividends and distributions at market value during the period on pay date, and sale at the market value on the last day of the period.

<sup>(4)</sup> Ratios of periods of less than one year have been annualized. Excludes expenses incurred by the underlying investments in other funds.

(5) Portfolio turnover rate is not annualized and excludes the value of portfolio securities received or delivered as in-kind creations or redemptions of the Fund's capital shares.

# ADVISORSHARES TRUST — ADVISORSHARES DORSEY WRIGHT SHORT ETF

#### **Financial Highlights**

	July	the period 10, 2018* ne 30, 2019
Selected Data for a Share of Capital Stock Outstanding		
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Year/Period	<u>\$</u>	25.00
Investment Operations		
Net Investment Income (Loss) <sup>(1)</sup>		0.13
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)		(0.19)
Distributions of Net Realized Gains by other investment companies		
Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Investment Operations <sup>(2)</sup>		(0.06)
Distributions from Net Investment Income		(0.04)
Distributions from Realized Capital Gains		
Total Distributions		(0.04)
Net Asset Value, End of Year/Period	\$	24.90
Market Value, End of Year/Period	\$	24.93
Total Return		
Total Investment Return Based on Net Asset Value <sup>(3)</sup>		(0.27)%
Total Investment Return Based on Market Value <sup>(3)</sup>		(0.18)%
Ratios/ Supplemental Data		
Net Assets, End of Year/Period (000's omitted)	\$	24,281
Ratio to Average Net Assets of:		<b>a</b> = aa ((6)
Expenses, net of expense waivers and reimbursements <sup>(4)</sup>		2.70% <sup>(6)</sup>
Expenses, prior to expense waivers and reimbursements <sup>(4)</sup>		3.26% <sup>(6)</sup>
Net Investment Income (Loss) <sup>(4)</sup>		0.53%
Portfolio Turnover Rate <sup>(5)</sup>		357%

\* Commencement of operations.

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

(2) The amount shown for a share distribution throughout the period may not correlate with the Statement of Operations for the period due to the timing of sales and repurchases of Fund Shares in relation to income earned and/or fluctuating fair value of the investments of the Fund.

(3) Net asset value total investment return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the net asset value at the beginning of the period, reinvestment of all dividends and distributions on ex-date, if any, at net asset value during the period, and redemption on the last day of the period. Periods less than one year are not annualized. Market value total return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the market value at the beginning of the period, reinvestment of all dividends and distributions at market value during the period on pay date, and sale at the market value on the last day of the period.

<sup>(4)</sup> Excludes expenses incurred by the underlying investments in other funds.

(5) Portfolio turnover rate is not annualized and excludes the value of portfolio securities received or delivered as in-kind creations or redemptions of the Fund's capital shares.

<sup>(6)</sup> The expense ratio includes dividend expense on short sales of 1.71% for the year ended June 30, 2019.

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## ADVISORSHARES DORSEY WRIGHT MICRO-CAP ETF ADVISORSHARES DORSEY WRIGHT SHORT ETF

Advisor	AdvisorShares Investments, LLC 4800 Montgomery Lane, Suite 150 Bethesda, Maryland 20814
Sub-Advisor	<b>Dorsey, Wright &amp; Associates, LLC</b> 3300 W. Leigh Street Richmond, Virginia 23230
Distributor	Foreside Fund Services, LLC Three Canal Plaza, Suite 100 Portland, Maine 04101
Legal Counsel	Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP 1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20004
Administrator, Custodian & Transfer Agent	The Bank of New York Mellon 240 Greenwich Street New York, New York 10286

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional and more detailed information about each Fund is included in the Funds' SAI. The SAI has been filed with the SEC and is incorporated by reference into this Prospectus and, therefore, legally forms a part of this Prospectus. The SEC maintains the EDGAR database on its website (http://www.sec.gov), which contains the SAI, material incorporated by reference, and other information about the Funds. You may request documents from the SEC, upon payment of a duplication fee, by emailing the SEC at publicinfo@sec.gov.

You may obtain a copy of the SAI and the Annual and Semi-Annual Reports without charge by calling 877.843.3831, visiting the website at www.advisorshares.com, or writing to the Trust at 4800 Montgomery Lane, Suite 150, Bethesda, Maryland 20814. Additional information about each Fund's investments will be available in the Fund's Annual and Semi-Annual Reports. Also in the Funds' Annual Report is a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected each Fund's performance during the last fiscal year.

No one has been authorized to give any information or to make any representations not contained in this Prospectus or in the SAI in connection with the offering of Fund shares. Do not rely on any such information or representations as having been authorized by a Fund. This Prospectus does not constitute an offering by the Funds in any jurisdiction where such an offering is not lawful.

The Trust's SEC Investment Company Act File Number is 811-22110.

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