

# Professional Growth

## Quarterly Investment Option Update

30 June 2020

### Aim and Strategy

To provide moderate to high investment returns over the long term, with the likelihood of significant fluctuations in the value of the investment from year to year. The portfolio will primarily invest in a diversified mix of defensive and growth assets managed by professional asset managers.

### Investment Option Performance

To view the latest investment performances for each product, please visit [www.amp.com.au](http://www.amp.com.au)

### Investment Option Overview

<b>Investment category</b>	Multi-Sector
<b>Suggested minimum investment timeframe</b>	6 years
<b>Relative risk rating</b>	High
<b>Investment style</b>	Active
<b>Manager style</b>	Multi-manager

Asset Allocation	Benchmark (%)
International shares	40
Australian Shares	35
Listed and Unlisted Property and Infrastructure	7
Australian and International Fixed Interest	7
Cash	5
Defensive Alternatives	3
Growth Alternatives	3

Actual Allocation	%
International Shares	42.06
Australian Shares	35.58
Listed Property and Infrastructure	6.70
Growth Alternatives	5.33
International Fixed Interest	5.91
Defensive Alternatives	3.10
Cash	1.32

## Fund Performance

Global shares surged back from their March lows over the June quarter, with the MSCI World ex Australia index finishing the period up by 18.5%. This came as virus-related market panic progressively dissipated and lockdowns began to be lifted. Death rates, while high, were also far below previous 'worst-case' scenario estimates. As businesses reopened, most governments maintained (and in some case even increased) their stimulus programmes on offer, leading to continued support for share prices. Various economic indicators also appeared to confirm a global economic recovery was indeed underway, reflected in sharp rises in business confidence and falling rates of unemployment. Contrary to the markets' bullish sentiment, the list of concerns on many investors' radars however only appeared to grow, with issues such as civil unrest in the US, the upcoming US election, Chinese tensions (with Hong Kong, the US, India and even Australia) and an apparently rising risk of a 'second wave' of COVID-19 infections (particularly in the US) leading to a growing sense of unease. Perhaps most pressingly for shares, corporate earnings visibility remains low, resulting in many businesses being hard to value, particularly over the short-term. Emerging markets meanwhile were also very strong, driven by the same trends as broader developed markets to return 16.7% over the quarter as measured by the MSCI Emerging Markets index.

In line with broader global markets, Australian shares recorded an extremely strong June quarter, as stocks rebounded from their lows experienced at the height of the COVID-19 related market panic in late March. The market finished the quarter up by 16.5%, as measured by the S&P/ASX 200 index on a total return basis. The relative success of Australia's COVID-19 containment measures, which saw authorities begin lifting mandatory lockdowns, combined with unprecedented fiscal stimulus drove the market's surge. Later in the quarter, economic indicators, such as business confidence, retail sales and trade figures, appeared to confirm the Australian economy was indeed in recovery mode. Amid all the bullishness, concerns of recent months however remained - and in some cases actually grew - such as tensions with China, potential second waves of infections (particularly in Melbourne), a rising Australian dollar and still most pressingly, COVID-19's effect on company earnings.

Global government bond yields moved higher in early April despite the US Federal Reserve only slightly slowing its pace of US government bond purchases, which had capped upward pressure on yields over prior weeks. Favourable US economic data provided renewed upward momentum towards the end of the quarter; however, yields subsequently reversed course as economic sentiment deteriorated amid fears of a 'second wave' of the pandemic.

(Indices quoted in local currency terms and on a total-return basis, unless otherwise stated.)

## Market Review

As expected, global markets were heavily impacted by COVID-19 government restrictions and the flow-on effects of lockdown. Equities were volatile as shifting sentiment created swings between a risk-on and risk-off bias. Despite this, there was a net sharp rally over the quarter in equity markets as some COVID-19 lockdown measures started to be unwound. This leaves equity markets open to the risk of a correction. COVID-19 impacts were aggravated by increasingly acrimonious relations between the US and China. In addition, there is the risk of further waves of COVID-19, especially in the more densely populated countries, and the potential for economies to fall back once working capital supplied by government policies peters out and companies review their strategies and demand. The World Bank, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and the International Monetary Fund all indicate they expect the worst global recession since the Great Depression.

In the US, the Federal Reserve (Fed) significantly increased its COVID-19-related lending programmes. Fed Chairman Jerome Powell suggested the central bank will use its "full range of tools" and act "forcefully, proactively and aggressively until it is confident the economy is on the road to recovery". He also said the central bank still had plenty of options available, with the expectation that monthly bond purchases will increase.

## Availability

Product Name	APIR
AMP Flexible Super	AMP1970AU
AMP Flexible Super - Retirement	AMP1963AU
Flexible Lifetime - Allocated Pension	AMP1949AU
Flexible Lifetime - Investments (Series 2)	AMP1981AU
Flexible Lifetime - Super	AMP1956AU
Flexible Lifetime - Term Pension	AMP1949AU
SignatureSuper	AMP1731AU#

#Restricted. Please see your Product Disclosure Statement if this option is available to you.

## Contact Details

**Web:** [www.amp.com.au](http://www.amp.com.au)

**Email:** [askamp@amp.com.au](mailto:askamp@amp.com.au)

**Phone:** 131 267



### What you need to know

This publication has been prepared by AMP Limited ABN 49 079 354 519. The information contained in this publication has been derived from sources believed to be accurate and reliable as at the date of this document. Information provided in this investment option update are views of the underlying Investment Manager only and not necessarily the views of the AMP Group. No representation is given in relation to the accuracy or completeness of any statement contained in it. Whilst care has been taken in the preparation of this publication, to the extent permitted by law, no liability is accepted for any loss or damage as a result of reliance on this information. AMP Life is part of the AMP Group. In providing the general advice, AMP Group and AMP Life Limited ABN 84 079 300 379, AFSL 233671 (AMP Life) receives fees and charges and their employees and directors receive salaries, bonuses and other benefits.

The information in this document is of a general nature only and does not take into account your financial situation, objectives and needs. Before you make any investment decision based on the information contained in this document you should consider how it applies to your personal objectives, financial situation and needs, or speak to a financial planner.

The investment option referred to in this publication is available through products issued by N.M. Superannuation Proprietary Ltd ABN 31 008 428 322, AFSL 234654 (NM Super), AMP Capital Funds Management Limited ABN 15 159 557 721, AFSL 426455 (AMPCFM), ipac asset management limited ABN 22 003 257 225, AFSL 234655 (ipac) and/or AMP Life. Before deciding to invest or make a decision about the investment options, you should read the current Product Disclosure Statement for the relevant product, available from the issuer or your financial planner.

Any references to the "Fund", strategies, asset allocations or exposures are references to the underlying managed fund that the investment option either directly or indirectly invests in (Professional Growth). The investment option's aim and strategy mirrors the objective and investment approach of the underlying fund. An investment in the investment option is not a direct investment in the underlying fund.

Neither NM Super, AMPCFM, ipac, AMP Life, any other company in the AMP Group nor the underlying fund manager guarantees the repayment of capital or the performance of any product or particular rate of return referred to in this document. Past Performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.