

Future Directions Extended Markets International Share

Quarterly Investment Option Update

31 December 2020

Aim and Strategy

To provide a total return (income and capital growth) after costs and before tax, above the Fund's performance benchmark on a rolling 3 year basis. The Fund is designed to blend specialist investment managers from around the world, with the aim of maximising returns and managing levels of risk. In structuring the Fund, we take a four-stage investment approach: setting objectives and asset allocation; targeted manager selection; portfolio construction and implementation; and ongoing portfolio and manager review. The Fund is normally invested in international shares, with a focus on small companies and emerging markets.

Investment Option Performance

To view the latest investment performances for each product, please visit www.amp.com.au/performance

Investment Option Overview

Investment category	Global Shares
Suggested minimum investment timeframe	7 years
Relative risk rating	Very High
Investment style	Active
Manager style	Multi-manager
Asset Allocation	Benchmark (%)
International Shares	100
Cash	0

Market Review

International shares produced a very strong performance over the December quarter, rising by 12.33% as measured by the MSCI World ex Australia index. Shares fell early in the quarter as COVID-19 numbers continued to rise in many parts of Europe and the US, leading some countries to reintroduce social distancing restrictions, which in many cases have been shown to be devastating to economies and businesses. Mid-quarter however, the market received a huge boost from announcements of successful COVID-19 vaccine trials from Moderna, Pfizer and Oxford-AstraZeneca. These vaccines were shown to be around 95% effective in preliminary results. Approval and initial rollout have now already occurred in some countries, with markets closely watching for medical results and data. The other major story over the quarter was the US election, with a Biden win finally confirmed in very early January 2021, as was a Democrat victory in both the Senate and the House. Markets broadly reacted positively as results increased in clarity through the period. In other positive news for markets, the UK and Europe also finally agreed on a Brexit deal at year-end, over 4 years after the referendum, allowing markets to put much of the related uncertainty into the rear-view mirror. (All indices are quoted in local currency terms and on a total-return basis, unless otherwise stated.)

Outlook

The medium-term outlook for earnings remains difficult to predict; and varies greatly depending on company specifics. There is also the potential for shorter-term volatility as the market digests the implications of a Biden administration. We continue to believe investors should exercise caution, particularly where prices have risen quickly, and where valuations look stretched. Amid changing consumer dynamics, many companies will likely face challenging conditions for some time, while stronger businesses are likely to emerge from the COVID-19 crisis with gained market share. Risks of further pandemic breakouts and, indeed, the manner in which governments choose to respond, remain a risk until vaccines are fully implemented. Governments generally continue to implement supportive monetary and fiscal programmes to ease shorter-term burdens and keep economies more resilient, though some concern is growing around the sustainability of some programmes. Despite this, we believe the longer-term market trend will remain to the upside. As always, while the near-term direction of markets is impossible to accurately predict, we believe that those with a diversified portfolio of quality businesses, bought at a reasonable price, are likely to do well over the long term.

Availability

Product Name	APIR
AMP Flexible Super - Super	AMP1480AU*
CustomSuper	AMP0864AU*
Flexible Lifetime - Super	AMP0864AU*
SignatureSuper	AMP0952AU*

*Closed to new investors

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