

# Global Fixed Interest Index (Hedged)

Quarterly Investment Option Update

31 December 2023

# **Aim and Strategy**

The strategy aims to provide returns that closely match the Bloomberg Global Aggregate Bond Index (hedged to Australian dollars) before fees and taxes. Exposure to the global fixed interest asset class will be attained through the use of low cost index-focused investment managers.

### **Investment Option Performance**

To view the latest investment performances for this product, please visit <a href="https://www.amp.com.au/performance">www.amp.com.au/performance</a>

# **Investment Option Overview**

Investment category	Global fixed interest
Suggested minimum investment timeframe	3 years
Standard Risk Measure	5/Medium to High
Investment style	Index
Manager style	Single

Asset Allocation	Benchmark (%)
Cash	0
Global fixed interest	100
Actual Allocation	%
Global Bonds	97.48
Australian Bonds	1.75
Cash	0.77

Top Holdings	%
US TREASURY N/B	16.59
Fannie Mae	5.34
CHINA GOVERNMENT BOND	4.69
JAPAN (10 YEAR ISSUE)	4.30
FRANCE (GOVT OF)	3.01
Freddie Mac	3.01
UNITED KINGDOM GILT	2.93
BUONI POLIENNALI DEL TES	2.65
JAPAN (20 YEAR ISSUE)	2.36
CHINA DEVELOPMENT BANK	2.22

Region Allocation	%
North America	43.59
Europe ex UK	25.27
Asia ex Japan	12.28
Japan	11.24
United Kingdom	4.27
Australasia	1.95
Cash	0.77
Others	0.63

#### **Fund Performance**

The Fund produced a strong positive return for the December quarter as yields fell and bond values rose.

#### **Market Review**

The December quarter was characterised by two distinct phases within global bond markets. In October, bonds were facing the prospect of another year of negative returns as strong economic momentum continued, leading to further, but more measured hawkish sentiment from developed central banks. This environment pushed bond prices lower and yields higher. However, encouraged by progress being made to bring inflation closer to target levels, the US Federal Reserve made a dovish pivot in November, leading to a sustained rally for the remainder of the quarter in fixed income markets.

In line with the rally in most risk assets, corporate bond spreads tightened by 21bps, with much of the movement occurring in November and December, bringing them back to levels not seen since the early stages of the Fed tightening cycle in 2022. Corporate balance sheets remained relatively strong, despite continued concerns about further increases in default rates and downgrades. Global bonds, as measured by the Bloomberg Global Aggregate Index (\$A hedged), returned 5.4% in Australian dollar terms. Global investment grade and high yield credit meanwhile returned 6.9%% and 7.1% respectively, as measured by the Bloomberg Global Aggregate Corporate Index (\$A hedged) and Bloomberg Global High Yield Index (\$A hedged).

#### Outlook

Global bond markets are likely to continue to focus on predicted paths for US interest rates. Large drawdowns in recent years, resulting in bonds available at significantly cheaper prices, lead us to believe returns going forward will likely be reasonable; perhaps around running yield or a little more, as inflation slows, and central banks cut rates. Furthermore, bonds may serve as a diversifier to growth assets in the event of further economic slowdown.

# **Availability**

Product Name	APIR
SignatureSuper	AMP1301AU
SignatureSuper Allocated Pension	AMP1308AU
SignatureSuper Term Pension	AMP1308AU*

<sup>\*</sup>Closed to new investors

#### **Contact Details**

Web: <a href="www.amp.com.au">www.amp.com.au</a> Email: askamp@amp.com.au

Phone: 131 267

# INSIGHTS IDEAS RESULTS

#### What you need to know

This publication has been prepared by AWM Services Pty Limited ABN 15 139 353 496, AFSL No. 366121 (AWM Services). 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 AMP Limited ABN 49 079 354 519 (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.

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). Before deciding to invest or make a decision about the investment options, you should read the current Product Disclosure Statement (PDS) for the relevant product, available from the issuer or your financial planner.

Any advice 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. In providing any general advice, AMP Group receives fees and charges and their employees and directors receive salaries, bonuses and other benefits.

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. 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, AWM Services, 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, unless expressly stated in the PDS. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. Any slight asset allocation deviations from 100% may be caused by rounding, asset categorisation and/or hedging.