

# **AMP Balanced Growth**

Quarterly Investment Option Update

31 December 2018

# **Aim and Strategy**

To provide moderate to high returns over the medium to long term through a portfolio diversified across the main asset classes, but with an emphasis on shares and property

# **Investment Option Performance**

To view the latest investment performances please visit <a href="www.amp.com.au">www.amp.com.au</a>

## **Investment Option Overview**

Investment category	Multi-Sector	
Suggested investment timeframe	5 years	
Relative risk rating	Medium - High	
Investment style	Active	

Asset Allocation	Benchmark (%)
Global shares	33
Australian shares	27
Listed property & infrastructure	11
Growth alternatives	6
Global fixed interest	8
Australian fixed interest	10
Defensive alternatives	2.5
Cash	2.5

Actual Allocation	%
Global shares	31.00
Australian shares	27.30
Listed property & infrastructure	3.13
Global fixed interest	5.22
Australian fixed interest	10.84
Cash	6.54
Others	15.97

#### **Portfolio Summary**

- The Fund posted a negative return over the December quarter.
- · Defensive assets outperformed growth assets, as share markets weakened.
- The Fund remains overweight international shares and cash, and underweight bonds and Australian shares

### **Investment Option Commentary**

The Fund posted a negative return over the December quarter, resulting in a negative return over the year. Shares were the main detractor from performance, with markets subject to significant selling pressure towards the end of 2018. This was due to uncertainty regarding the pace of future interest rate increases in the US, weakening economic data across developed markets, growing concern over the threat of a protracted US-China trade war, and a disorderly Brexit process in the UK.

Developed share markets returned -13.3% over the quarter, in local currency terms, and Australian shares returned -8.2%. Emerging markets, which struggled through much of 2018, outperformed their developed peers over the quarter. However they were still unable to escape the broader negativity prevailing towards shares. Listed property and infrastructure markets also followed broader share markets down.

In the meantime, concerns over the state of the global economy and suggestions that the US Federal Reserve might be less aggressive with rate hikes than previously anticipated, helped push bond yields down. Lower bond yields supported the Fund's allocations to fixed income. Both bonds and cash were diversifying, rising to partially offset the falls in share markets.

The weak end to 2018 added an air of uncertainty for investors heading into 2019. Volatility is likely to remain high in 2019, as concerns surrounding global economic conditions and geopolitical risks continue. However, economic indicators continue to show that underlying economic growth remains healthy. Company earnings, business confidence and employment across developed economies remain positive and monetary policy, while tighter, remains at historically accommodative levels. Given this, we continue to have a favourable view of global shares over the medium term. Our overall bond position remains underweight in favour of cash, as we expect bonds to remain vulnerable to inflationary pressure or monetary tightening.

**Availability** 

Product name	APIR
AMP Flexible Lifetime Super	AMP0165AU
AMP Flexible Super - Retirement account	AMP1321AU
AMP Flexible Super - Super account	AMP1451AU
AMP Growth Bond	AMP1190AU
CustomSuper	AMP0165AU
Flexible Lifetime - Allocated Pension	AMP0594AU
Flexible Lifetime - Term Pension	AMP0894AU
SignatureSuper	AMP0749AU*
SignatureSuper - Allocated Pension	AMP1130AU*
SuperLeader	AMP1883AU

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

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