

# **AMP International Bond**

Quarterly Investment Option Update

31 March 2019

# **Aim and Strategy**

To provide total returns (income and capital growth) after costs and before tax, above the performance benchmark on a rolling 3-year basis. The benchmark is the Bloomberg Barclays Capital Global Aggregate Index in AUD (AUD Hedged). The portfolio provides investors with access to a diversified portfolio of short and long-term global fixed income securities. Generally, this portfolio is hedged to Australian dollars.

# **Investment Option Performance**

To view the latest investment performances please visit <u>www.amp.com.au</u>

# **Investment Option Overview**

Investment category	Global Fixed Interest
Suggested investment timeframe	2 to 3 years
Relative risk rating	Medium
Investment style	Active

Asset Allocation	Benchmark (%)
International fixed interest	100
Cash	0

Actual Allocation	%
International fixed interest	99.85
Cash	0.15

# **Market Review**

Global government bond yields fell in January amid a rebound in risk assets. Led by the US, market expectations pivoted to a pause in US Fed rate hikes after the central bank signalled a more dovish tone. Yields were largely rangebound in February, with geopolitical influences such as improved confidence of a positive resolution to the US-China trade conflict appearing to outweigh largely poor economic data releases and further economic growth forecast downgrades by central banks. March saw a significant bond market rally, with fears of a global growth slowdown gaining further traction as softer economic data releases on balance were accompanied by a shift to a more dovish tone from key central banks. Notably, markets saw an inversion of the 3-month to 10-year US Treasury yield curve late in the period, an event which can sometimes be a signal for recession. The US 10-year bond yield ended the quarter at 2.41%, while the German 10-year bond yield and its Japanese counterpart ended at -0.07% and -0.08% respectively.

# Outlook

Very low, though rising, sovereign bond yields point to low medium-term returns. The abatement of deflationary pressures, the gradual reduction in spare capacity and a shift in policy focus from monetary to fiscal stimulus, primarily in the US, indicate yields are likely to steadily trend higher, although the pace of change is likely to moderate in the shorter-term. Emerging market economies continue to experience some outflows.

### **Availability**

Product name	APIR
CustomSuper	AMP0344AU*
Flexible Lifetime - Allocated Pension	AMP0610AU*
Flexible Lifetime - Term Pension	AMP0900AU*
AMP Flexible Lifetime Super	AMP0344AU*

\* Closed to new investors

# **Contact Details**

Web: <u>www.amp.com.au</u> Email: askamp@amp.com.au Phone: 131 267 (Mon. to Fri. 8:30am to 6:00pm AEST)



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