

# **Conservative Index**

Quarterly Investment Option Update

30 June 2024

# **Aim and Strategy**

The strategy aims to closely match the index returns of the asset classes in which it invests (before fees and taxes). It has a bias towards defensive assets (cash and bonds) but also holds some growth assets (shares and property). Exposure to individual asset classes will be attained through the use of low cost, index-focused investment managers. Global shares may be partially or fully hedged back to Australian dollars.

# **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	Multi-Sector
Suggested minimum investment timeframe	3 years
Standard Risk Measure	4/Medium
Investment style	Index
Manager style	Multi-manager

Asset Allocation	Benchmark (%)
Australian shares	11
Global Shares	13
Property	5
Infrastructure	7
Alternatives	0
Fixed Income	39
Cash	25

Actual Allocation	%
Fixed Income	39.29
Global Shares	13.55
Australian Shares	11.14
Infrastructure	7.23
Property	5.19
Cash	23.60

#### **Fund Performance**

The Fund produced a modest positive return for the June quarter, as global shares rose while other major asset classes pulled back. Over the full financial year however the return was much stronger, as major asset classes made solid gains.

#### **Market Review**

The June quarter in many ways was a close reflection of recent quarters and indeed much of the 2024 financial year. Further gains in global growth asset markets were seen, as familiar themes remained dominant in economic news flow. Deflation also generally continued around the globe, though some spikes in inflation again caused some angst in interest rate-sensitive markets. Services, rather than goods, were generally the culprit of these inflationary spikes, particularly in the US. Global central banks meanwhile continued their slow shift towards cutting rates, with a number of rate cuts in Europe and the Americas, though this didn't eventuate in the US or Australia over the period. Outside of inflation, US economic data, while still somewhat resilient, weakened slightly, which again drove positive market sentiment via hopes of bringing Fed rate cuts closer, despite the central bank indicating fewer hikes were likely this year than markets were predicting.

#### Outlook

Global bond markets are likely to continue to focus on the expected paths for US interest rates. Large drawdowns in recent years, resulting in bonds being available at significantly cheaper prices, continue to lead us to believe returns going forward will likely be reasonable; perhaps around current running yield or a little more, as inflation slows, and central banks cut rates. Furthermore, bonds will likely serve as a diversifier to growth assets, particularly during economic slowdown. Stickier than expected inflation remains a risk, as this could cause further delays to interest rate cuts.

In regard to global shares, interest rates have begun falling in a number of regions on the back of significantly decreased levels of inflation and low economic growth. The corporate environment remains tough, though strong businesses, as always, will likely move forward with increased market dominance. We believe a diverse basket of businesses bought at reasonable prices, particularly those with strong competitive advantage that generate high amounts of cash from their shareholders' capital, will serve investors well over the long-term.

# **Availability**

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Product Name	APIR
Flexible Lifetime - Investments (Series 1)	AMP1051AU**
Flexible Lifetime - Investments (Series 2)	AMP1393AU**
SignatureSuper	AMP0793AU
SignatureSuper - Allocated Pension	AMP1146AU
SignatureSuper - Term Pension	AMP1146AU*

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

#### **Contact Details**

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