

Emerging Markets Equity Fund

Fund Focus - January 2024



Investment Strategy

The investment team at Allspring Global Investments looks for companies with a sustainable high dividend yield backed by strong company financials and fundamentals, including above-average sales and earnings growth, overall financial strength, competitive advantages, and capable management. The investment strategy includes both a top-down strategy, which takes account of overall economic and market trends in each country, and a bottomup strategy, which employs fundame..

Portfolio Characteristics

Funds Under Managemem..	\$0.41m
Number of Holdings	94
Turnover Ratio %	117.8
Latest Distribution Date	30 June 2023
Latest Distribution Amount	0.0565
Benchmark	MSCI Emerging Markets Index in \$A (net dividends reinvested)

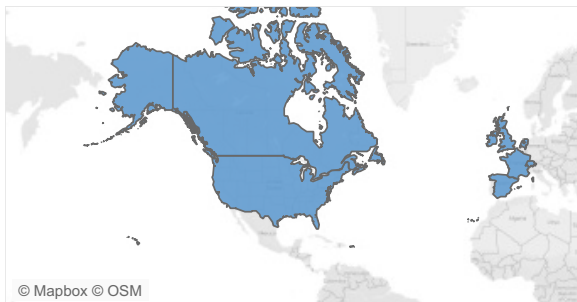
Fund Facts

APIR Code	ZUR0614AU
Inception Date	26 June 2014
Total Est. Management Cost %	1.56
Est. Transactional Op. Cost %	0
Buy/Sell Spread %	0.00
Distribution Frequency	Annually
Underlying Fund Manager	Allspring Global Investments

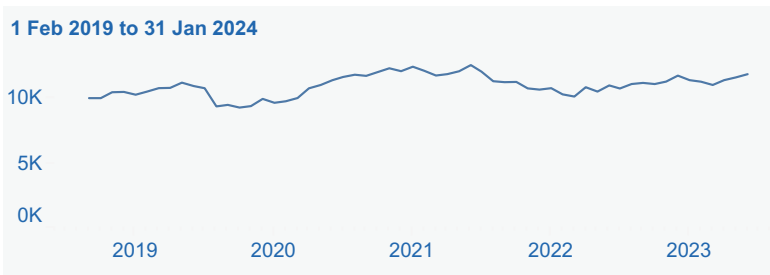
Fund Performance After Fees*

	1 Month	3 Months	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	Since Inception
Distribution	0.00	0.00	5.79	5.56	6.24	5.13
Growth	2.15	7.56	2.11	-4.22	-2.93	0.47
Total	2.15	7.56	7.90	1.34	3.31	5.60
Benchmark	-1.57	2.50	3.47	-2.80	2.99	5.60

Market Exposure

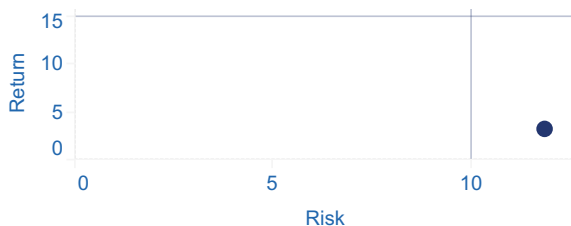


Investment Growth (\$10,000)

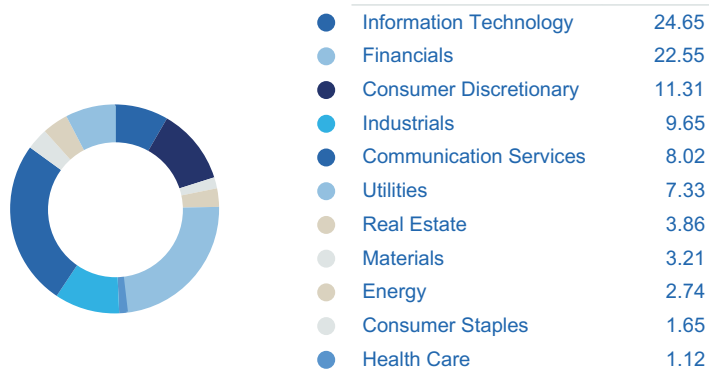


Risk Reward

1 Feb 2019 to 31 Jan 2024



Portfolio Equity Sectors (%)



Top 10 Holdings (%)

	Weight	Benchmark
Taiwan Semiconductor M..	7.86	6.74
Tencent Holdings Ltd.	4.28	3.55
Samsung Electronics Co...	3.60	4.12
Samsung Electronics Co ..	3.58	0.56
Infosys Limited Sponsore..	2.00	0.00
Alibaba Group Holding Li..	1.94	2.23
Power Grid Corporation o..	1.90	0.19
Lenovo Group Limited	1.79	0.14
Bajaj Auto Limited	1.74	0.08
NHPC Limited	1.66	0.00

Risk Statistics

1 Feb 2019 to 31 Jan 2024

Std Dev	11.84
Alpha	0.63
Beta	0.92
Sharpe Ratio (arith)	0.28
Up Capture Ratio	89.73
Down Capture Ratio	84.85
Currency Management %	0

Market Commentary

Emerging markets declined in January. Ten out of eleven sectors generated negative returns during the month including consumer discretionary, materials, and real estate. Energy was the only sector that advanced in January. At the country level, eight out of twenty-four countries advanced led by Egypt, Turkey, and Kuwait while Chile, China/Hong Kong, and Korea underperformed.

Fund Commentary

The Fund demonstrated a commendable performance in January, generating a solid return of 2.15%, surpassing the index return. Moreover, for the 12-month period ending 31 January 2024, the Fund has outperformed the index return by a considerable margin.

The Asian region underperformed the broader index in January. Inflation in India picked up marginally in December but remained within the central bank's target range. The January purchasing managers index (PMI) jumped further in the expansionary zone. Taiwan outperformed given strong growth guidance from the Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC), supporting a business recovery in the technology industry following a four-quarter semiconductor industry inventory correction. The trend indicates a stabilisation in demand from traditional technology products (smartphone, PC, consumer electronics), an end to the semiconductor inventory correction, and positive momentum for new AI project ramps. Korea was weak in January after strong market performance in December 2023, as investors dialed back expectations of an early US Federal Reserve rate cut. On the positive side, January exports resulted in the fourth consecutive month of gains, which has not occurred since October 2022. Strong memory recovery supported the export growth, and memory should continue to drive Korea's exports in 2024. China/Hong Kong reported gross domestic product (GDP) growth in 2023 that was slightly higher than the government target of 5%. However, the manufacturing PMI remained in contractionary territory in December and January while the non-manufacturing PMI remained expansionary. In January, the central bank announced a cut to the reserve requirement ratio (RRR). According to the central bank, the latest RRR cut will release a total of RMB1 trillion in long-term liquidity.

Latin America also underperformed the index in January. Colombia is projecting a higher fiscal deficit for 2024, citing lower revenue and a sluggish economy. In Mexico, President AMLO plans a constitutional reform that would mandate minimum wage hikes at least on par with inflation and a pension reform that would target pension income at 100% of final wages. Chile accelerated the pace of rate cuts to 100 bps, from 75 bps previously. Peru and Brazil also declined in January.

In January, the Emerging Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMEA) region marginally outperformed the index. In Turkey, inflation hit 64.8% in December, as expected. The central bank raised the interest rate by 250 basis points to 45% and indicated the end of the tightening cycle, as widely anticipated. Egypt, Kuwait, Greece, and Hungary also advanced. Poland reported preliminary GDP growth that was below consensus. Saudi Arabia's real GDP declined by 0.9% year-on-year in 2023, while South Africa maintained its policy rate at 8.25%. The United Arab Emirates, Qatar, and the Czech Republic declined during the month.

*Performance returns quoted are compound rates of return calculated on exit prices and assume reinvestment of distributions. Returns are calculated net of all ongoing fees and any taxes payable by the fund. Total return includes both growth and distribution returns. Growth return is the change in exit price over the relevant period. The benchmark return shown is a gross return. Please note that figures shown are rounded to one decimal place, therefore some rounding errors may occur. The Estimated Total Management Cost of 1.56% includes an Estimated Performance Fee of 0% and Estimated Indirect Costs of 0.16%.

^12 month turnover ratio as at 30 September 2023.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

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