

Investment objective

Aims to outperform the S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index (**Index**) over the medium to long term (before fees). It aims to provide capital growth and some income.

Key information

Fund details	
APIR code	MAQ0443AU
Inception date	29 November 2005
Fund size	\$227.7m
Distribution frequency	Quarterly
Management fee*	0.60% pa
Minimum investment (Direct)	\$20,000
Unit prices and spreads	macquarie.com.au/unit_prices

*Read the Product Disclosure Statement for more details on fees and costs.

Fund performance to 30 April 2021

	Total Fund return (gross)	Total Fund return (net)	Benchmark return	Total excess return (net)
1 month (%)	2.96	2.91	3.47	-0.56
3 months (%)	7.23	7.07	7.54	-0.47
1 year (%)	34.27	33.47	30.76	2.71
3 years (% pa)	11.50	10.84	9.49	1.35
5 years (% pa)	14.55	13.48	10.27	3.21
Since inception (% pa)	12.30	10.83	7.19	3.64

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

Total returns are calculated based on changes in net asset values and assumes the reinvestment of distributions.

Total net Fund returns are quoted after the deduction of fees and expenses. Due to individual circumstances, your net returns may differ from the net returns quoted above.

Top 3 stock attribution (alphabetical)

[Redacted]
Evolution Mining Limited
Uniti Group Ltd
<i>Woodside Petroleum</i>

Italics denote underweight

Top 5 overweight positions (alphabetical)

[Redacted]
Aristocrat Leisure Limited
Charter Hall Group
Santos
Scentre Group Ltd
Seven Group Holdings

Bottom 3 stock attribution (alphabetical)

[Redacted]
Beach Energy Limited
<i>Rio Tinto</i>
Scentre Group Ltd

Italics denote underweight

Macquarie Australian Shares Fund

Monthly report – 30 April 2021

Fund highlights

The Fund finished the month up 2.91% (post-fees), underperforming the benchmark by 0.56%.

The largest contributors to relative performance for the month included overweight positions in Uniti Group (UWL) and Evolution Mining (EVN), and an underweight position in Woodside Petroleum.

Gold producer Evolution Mining (EVN) outperformed after releasing its results for the quarter to 31 March 2021. Evolution also announced an agreement to acquire Battle North, a Canadian gold miner, which is now awaiting a vote from Battle North's shareholders. The 4.5% rise in the gold price during April was also a tailwind for the company.

The greatest detractors from relative performance included overweight positions in Beach Energy (BPT) and Scentre Group (SCG), and an underweight position in Rio Tinto (RIO).

Oil producer Beach Energy (BPT) plunged after releasing its results for the quarter ending 31 March 2021. The update noted a 15% drop in production compared to the previous corresponding quarter, driven by reduced reservoir performance. The update also included a net downgrade to its estimated oil and gas reserves, reducing Beach Energy's estimated reserves by approximately 5%. As a result, the company withdrew its five-year outlook and revised down its FY21 production guidance.

As 30 April 2021, the largest overweight positions in the Fund were Aristocrat Leisure (ALL), Scentre Group (SCG) and Seven Group (SVW).

Market overview

The Australian market rose during April, with the S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index and the S&P/ASX 300 Accumulation Index up 3.47% and 3.70% respectively.

The Australian market lagged the US (+5.3%) and Developed Markets (+4.1%) again throughout April. In the domestic market, the unbroken streak of positive monthly returns for 2021 continued as better-than-expected employment data and rising commodity prices pushed markets higher. Positive announcements and commentary regarding the upcoming Federal Budget, due to be handed down in mid-May, also buoyed sentiment. In COVID-19 news, global vaccination programs progressed however an extreme spike of cases in India continued to grow. The local vaccination effort continued, albeit at a slower than expected rate due to concerns regarding the AstraZeneca shot.

Following Brisbane's 3 day snap lockdown in March, Perth followed suit in late-April after a cluster developed within the hotel quarantine system and resulted in positive cases amidst the community for a number of days. Whilst the situation continues to develop, the outbreak appears to be under control at present and additional restrictions have been put in place.

The Technology sector (+9.7%) was the best performer for the month, driven by Afterpay (APT, 15.9%), Xero (XRO, 11.9%) and Altium (ALU, 12.0%). Materials (+6.8%) were also strong, pushed higher by Fortescue Metals (FMG, 13.0%) and Rio Tinto (RIO, 9.4%). Energy (-4.9%) was the worst performing sector, driven by falls in Origin Energy (ORG, -11.3%), AGL Energy (AGL, -7.5%) and Woodside Petroleum (WPL, -4.7%).

Commodity prices rose in April, with Brent oil prices up 5.8% to US\$67.25/bbl, Iron ore up 13.4% and gold rising 4.5%.

Global bond yields fell throughout April, with the US 10 year government bond yield down 0.10% to 1.63% and the Australian 10 year government bond yield also down 0.10%, to 1.69%.

The AUD appreciated 1.1c against the USD during April to US\$0.77. In the domestic economy, the RBA maintained the cash rate at 0.15%.

Outlook

The COVID-19 recovery in Australia continues to progress, with the vaccine rollout slowly gaining momentum and a trans-Tasman travel bubble with New Zealand now in place. Investors will be closely watching the delivery of the Federal Budget on 11th May, which will outline the Government's plan for the next phase of Australia's economic recovery. Looking further ahead, key factors influencing market sentiment will include movements in bond yields, the success of the global vaccine rollout and the impact of the unwind of domestic stimulus measures on the local economy.

Macquarie Australian Shares Fund

Monthly report – 30 April 2021

For more information speak to your financial adviser, call us on 1800 814 523, email mim.clientservice@macquarie.com or visit macquarie.com

Important information

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