Fiducian Emerging Markets Strategy Monthly Report - May 2025



Fund description

The Fund provides investors with the opportunity to invest in companies that are listed on the stock exchanges of the less developed (emerging) markets. The Fund invests in developing countries and offers investors the opportunity to benefit from the significant growth potential inherent in many of these economies as they raise their standard of living.

The Fund utilises the Fiducian "Manage the Manager" process, selecting funds that provide diversification among different management styles, geographies and sectors.

It is recommended that investment in this Fund be undertaken for at least nine years. International share investment can be volatile over the short-term.

Fund facts Portfolio manager: Conrad Burge Style Approach Active Passive Manager Value Core Growth ARSN: 093 543 849 Fidelity APIR code: FDN6819AU Vanguard Emerging Benchmark: MSCI Emerging Markets Index (AUD) Fiducian India Current fund size: \$69 million (May 2025) Management cost: 1.14% Total management costs: 1.20% Application/Exit fee: Nil Inception Date: June 2024 Performance After fee returns as at 31 May 2025 3 Mth 10 Yrs 1 Mth 6 Mth 1 Yr 3 Yrs 5 Yrs 7yrs Fund 3.2% 5.0% 6.6% Index 3.7% 2.7% 9.9% Excess -0.5% 2.2% -3.3% 2000 1750 1500 1250 Fiducian Emerging 1000 **Markets Strategy** MSCI Emerging 750 Markets (AUD) 500 250 0 Jun 2024 Aug 2024 Oct 2024 Dec 2024 Feb 2025 Apr 2025

Geographic exposures and current manager weights



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Market Commentary and Outlook

The global economy is expected to slow marginally this year, according to the latest forecast provided by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). This year, global growth is forecast at 2.8% and 3.0% in 2026, which is below the IMF's previous forecast of 3.3% each year (around the long-term trend rate). In the IMF's words, this lowering of its growth forecasts is due to 'the swift escalation of trade tensions and extremely high levels of policy uncertainty', after 'a series of new tariff measures by the US and countermeasures by its trading partners'. The IMF adds that 'while the situation remains fluid, risks remain firmly tilted to the downside', although 'if countries de-escalate from their current tariff stance, the outlook could immediately brighten'.

Uncertainty surrounding US trade policies has caused market volatility in recent weeks, but the broad US stock market (S&P 500 Accumulation Index) rebounded by 6.3% over the month. The Australian market (ASX 200 Accumulation Index) rose 4.2% over the same period, benefiting from a de-escalation of trade conflict and a view that domestic interest rates are likely to be lowered. The Australian dollar gained 0.5% relative to the US dollar. Most commodity prices rose, with Thermal Coal (+6.0%) the standout.

Until recently, key global share markets had been 'pricing-in' a shift by central banks towards less restrictive monetary policy, which led to strong returns for equity investors. However, equity markets fell heavily in the lead up to and after the announcement in early April that the US would be implementing hefty tariffs on most imports. Share markets are likely to be volatile in this environment but could rebound as and when an improved balance in international trade relations can be achieved.

Fund Commentary

The Fund returned 3.2% in May, which was below the index return of 3.7%.

The MSCI Emerging Markets index gained 3.7% in May, underperforming the developed markets index, which gained 5.3% (both in Australian dollars, unhedged).

Korea (+5.5%) and Taiwan (+5.5%) were the best performing emerging markets during the month.

Emerging markets have lagged developed markets for some time, partly due to the strong performance of the 'Magnificent Seven' US mega-cap technology stocks that comprise a significant part of the developed world index. However, the technology sector has been highly volatile this year.

Fiducian Investment Management Services Limited

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The information has been compiled from sources considered reliable, but is not guaranteed. Past performance is not indicative of future performance and we do not guarantee the performance of the Fund or any specific rate of return. Potential investors should also obtain and consider the relevant Target Market Determination (TMD) and Product Disclosure Statement (PDS) (available from your financial adviser and via fiducian.com.au) before making a decision about whether to acquire or continue to hold any financial product.