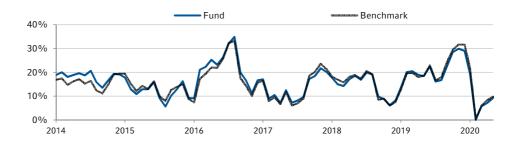


Russell Investments NZ Shares Fund

Rolling 1 year performance history



Performance review

Period ending 30/06/2020	1 month %	3 months %	1 year %	3 years %p.a.	5 years %p.a.	Since inception %p.a.
Gross fund performance	5.5	17.0	9.3	15.3	16.3	16.1
Benchmark return*	5.3	16.9	9.9	15.7	16.1	15.9
Excess return	0.2	0.0	-0.6	-0.4	0.2	0.1

*From 1 July 2016 this is S&P/NZX 50 Index (gross and including imputation credits). Prior to 30 June 2016 this was the Russell New Zealand Domestic Index including imputation credits (previously known as the Russell NZ Tradable Gross Index). Prior to 1 December 2014 the benchmark was the NZX50 Index including imputation credits. Performance is calculated on the exit price.

Fund commentary

The Russell Investments New Zealand Shares Fund outperformed the benchmark for the June quarter.

Gains were driven by expectations that economic activity would pick up as the government reduced the COVID-19 restrictions. Stocks also benefited from reports that a vaccine may be close (though an effective vaccine ultimately failed to materialise) as well as continued fiscal and monetary policy support. This included the government's decision to change the criteria for the virus wage subsidy scheme to allow more businesses to claim and the Reserve Bank of New Zealand's announcement that it would almost double its bond-buying program to \$60 billion. Sentiment was further buoyed by a surge in retail spending and improved business confidence; though both are well below pre-pandemic levels. Stocks were also well supported by the strong gains for the quarter in the US, Japan and Europe.

Limiting the market's gains was a disappointing first-quarter growth and rising unemployment, with the local economy shrinking 1.6%. This being the worst reading in 29 years. With growth certain to decline further in the second quarter, the economy looks set to enter recession for the first time since the global financial crisis over a decade ago. Stocks were also impacted by Sino-US tensions after Washington began the process of eliminating Hong Kong's special trade status in response to Beijing's move to impose a new national security law on the former British colony. However, the Trump Administration stressed that the phase 1 trade deal between the two countries, signed earlier this year, remained intact. Sentiment was further impacted by growing concerns a potential second wave of coronavirus infections could derail the global recovery.

Moving forward, the major risks to our outlook include a second wave of virus infections and the US elections in November. The other risk is a re-escalation of the US-China trade war.

In New Zealand, expectations are that the economy can recover as government restrictions are lifted. The key travel and tourism sectors will remain challenged for some time, but the broader recovery should continue through the second half of the year. Importantly, New Zealand remains relatively well placed to benefit from continued demand from China and the broader Asia region for our key commodities and products.

Fund facts

Inception date

14 February 2013

Benchmark

S&P/NZX 50 Index (gross) and including imputation credits

Currency

NZD



Russell Investments NZ Shares Fund

implemented investment solutions

The following information provides the investment and exposures within the underlying investment portfolio. Please note that this information is indicative only and is provided for general purposes only.

Portfolio information

	Fund	Benchmark
Number of equity issuers	54	50
Migrant investor - eligibility	Foreign investment variable rate PIE	

Fund structure

	Strategic weight %
Devon Funds Management	40
Harbour Asset Management	40
Russell Investments	20

Top 10 holdings

	Fund %	Index %
a2 Milk Company Ltd.	15.8%	12.6%
Fisher & Paykel Healthcare Corporation	14.9%	17.3%
Spark New Zealand Limited	9.4%	7.1%
Contact Energy Limited	6.0%	3.8%
Meridian Energy Limited	5.6%	5.1%
Auckland International Airport Limited	4.8%	6.6%
Mainfreight Limited	4.8%	2.8%
Metlifecare Limited	2.6%	0.7%
EBOS Group Limited	2.6%	2.4%
Fletcher Building Limited	2.5%	2.6%

Investment performance and positions

The performance in this fact sheet is gross of fees and tax. Investors should also refer to the quarterly Fund Update, which is available on www.iisolutions.co.nz and www.business.govt.nz/disclose

Important Information

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