

BASF UK Group Pension Scheme

Pension Investment Fund Performance to 31 May 2024

Fund	3 Months	1 Year	2 Years
Adventurous	2.58%	13.04%	13.58%
Moderate	2.32%	10.96%	9.12%
Cautious	1.75%	9.00%	5.67%
Ethical	4.21%	20.27%	26.54%
Islamic	4.31%	24.55%	36.51%
Pre-Retirement Annuity	-0.07%	4.90%	-14.58%
Liquidity Environmentally Aware Fund (LEAF Cash)*	1.19%	5.29%	4.04%

*This fund was added to the Scheme in 2024, and therefore longer-term performance is for the underlying pooled fund, supplied by BlackRock. Cumulative performance is measured over the previous 3 months, 1 year and 2 years, net of fees, taken from Scottish Widows.

Understanding the performance

- Most funds delivered positive returns over the 3 month period, with the exception of the Pre-Retirement Annuity Fund.
- Equity market returns were strong over the period. This led to good growth from the Adventurous, Islamic, and Ethical Funds, which are fully invested in equities.
- Continuing the theme from the last update, there was again variation between equity regions and sectors. For example, US equities did well whereas emerging market equity returns were lower. Because the Adventurous Fund has more exposure to emerging markets than other equity funds such as the Ethical and Islamic Funds, the return was lower.
- The Ethical and Islamic Funds have very high exposure to technology companies, which have performed strongly over recent periods, contributing to the returns this fund produced. For example, 30% of the Islamic Fund (as at 31 May 2023) is invested in its top 5 holdings, all of which are US technology companies.
- Bond returns were slightly negative over 3 months. This had a particular impact on the Pre-Retirement Annuity Fund, which only invests in bonds. However, this Fund has continued to meet its objective of broadly matching changes in annuity prices.
- The new LEAF Fund fund produced a small positive return, as the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee has increased UK bank base interest rates over recent periods.

Remember, past performance is not a guide to the future and markets can be volatile.

