

Universal Balanced Collection (Flexible Target) (ARC)

Fund information

Fund provider	Aegon/Scottish Equitable plc
Fund launch date	27 Jan 2016
Benchmark	ABI Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares
Fund charge*	0.12%
Aegon fund size	£797.70m
ABI sector	ABI Unclassified
Fund type	Pension
ISIN	GB00BYQ5V141
SEDOL	BYQ5V14
Aegon mnemonic	ZOF
CitiCode	MVTM

*This is on top of any product or adviser charge you pay and includes a fixed management fee plus expenses that vary with the day to day costs of running the fund. Expenses can include costs paid by Aegon to third parties. The fund charges may differ for Retireadly (RR) or Aegon One Retirement (AOR).

About fund performance

Investors should always consider performance in relation to the objective of the fund and over periods of at least five years. If a fund has risen in value, it doesn't mean it is meeting its objective – especially if the fund is aiming to outperform a particular benchmark or meet a risk target. The same applies if the fund has fallen in value.

Our risk rating



Average risk

Average risk funds will generally invest in a broad range of investment types and will typically hold a significant proportion in equities (shares). Their daily price movements will therefore vary from day-to-day, both up and down, although not usually as much as for funds investing entirely in equities. These movements can lead to lengthy periods where their value goes down depending on market conditions. However, over the longer term these funds would be expected to deliver significantly better growth prospects than a cash deposit.

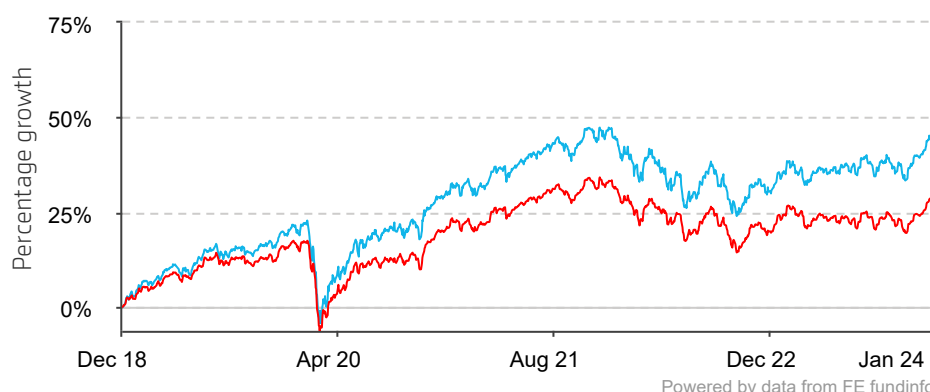
Fund objective

This fund is aimed at those who want to keep their options open at retirement. It uses a two-stage investment process. In the early years (the growth stage) it aims to grow savings over the long term by investing mainly in a well-diversified mix of international equities with the remainder in bonds and cash. It invests in a mix of different funds, from different fund managers, offering a mix of active and passive fund management, which means it doesn't rely on the performance of one manager or management style alone. In the six years before your target retirement year (the flexible target stage), we'll progressively move you into less risky investments. We'll also move part of your investment into cash in the final two years to cater for your maximum tax-free cash entitlement, currently 25% of your pension pot. We review our workplace target funds regularly and may change them if we believe it's in the best interests of investors.

Fund performance

The following graph and tables show the performance of the fund over various time periods compared to the fund's benchmark (if there is one). All performance information is as at 31 Dec 2023 unless otherwise stated.

In the graph, performance is shown since launch if the fund is less than five years old.



- Universal Balanced Collection (Flexible Target) (ARC)
- ABI Mixed Investment 40-85% Shares


	1yr	3yrs	5yrs	10yrs
Fund	11.5%	4.0%	7.8%	-
Benchmark	7.9%	2.3%	5.3%	-

	Dec 22 to Dec 23	Dec 21 to Dec 22	Dec 20 to Dec 21	Dec 19 to Dec 20	Dec 18 to Dec 19
Fund	11.5%	-11.0%	13.5%	8.9%	18.9%
Benchmark	7.9%	-10.0%	10.3%	4.8%	15.3%

Source: FE fundinfo. The performance information has been calculated in pounds on a bid-to-bid basis and is net of charges with gross income reinvested. Performance for periods over a year is annualised (% per year). Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance. The value of an investment can fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed. Investors could get back less than they invested.

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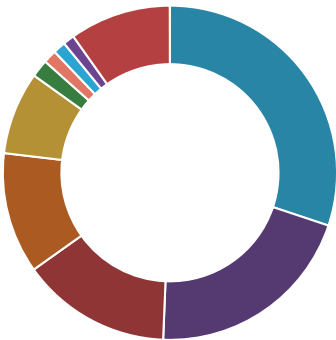
Underlying fund

Fund mgmt group	Aegon/Scottish Equitable plc
Fund name	Universal Balanced Collection Pn
Launch date	29 Jun 2001
Fund size	£12,225.50m as at 31 Dec 2023
Sedol code:	3065664
ISIN	GB0030656648
Crown rating	

Fund manager information

This fund is an Aegon Solution. This means it is a pre-built fund Aegon have created to offer whole investment strategies in a single fund with the aim of making investing easier. We reserve the right to add, remove and replace the underlying funds within this solution with the aim of making sure the fund continues to meet its aims and objectives. Sometimes we work with external fund managers and they select and manage the underlying funds on our behalf. The additional charges/expenses may change when underlying funds are replaced, added or removed from the portfolio or when weightings between the underlying funds are changed. Please note, there's no guarantee the fund will meet its objective.

Asset allocation as at 31 Dec 2023



US Equities	30.1%
Global Fixed Interest	20.5%
UK Equities	14.5%
International Equities	11.7%
Europe ex UK Equities	8.0%
North American Equities	1.7%
UK Fixed Interest	1.3%
Cash & Cash Equivalents	1.2%
US Government Fixed Interest	1.1%
Other	9.8%
Total	99.9%

Top holdings as at 31 Dec 2023

Holding	%
Aegon Diversified Fund	70.1%
Aegon AM Asset Allocator	19.2%
Aegon BNY Mellon Multi-Asset Balanced	3.6%
Scottish Equitable BlackRock Balanced Managed	3.4%
Scottish Equitable Baillie Gifford Balanced Managed	3.0%
Aegon AM Global Sustainable Sovereign Bond	0.7%
Total	100.0%

Source of fund breakdown and holdings: Fund mgmt group

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Risks specific to this fund

There is no guarantee the fund will meet its objective. The value of an investment can fall as well as rise and investors could get back less than they originally invested. All funds carry a level of risk and the information below outlines the key risks for this fund.

Currency risk - this fund invests overseas so its value will go up and down in line with changes in currency exchange rates. This could be good for the fund or bad, particularly if exchange rates are volatile.

Flexible target risk - this strategy aims to reduce the risk your fund is exposed to as you near retirement by moving into lower risk investments. By de-risking, there's a chance you may end up worse off than if you'd stayed in the growth fund.

Post retirement risk (Flexible target) - although this fund aims to reduce risk as you approach retirement, it will still have a significant proportion invested in riskier investments like equities on your selected retirement date, so there's still a risk it may fall in value.

Third party risk - in the event that the underlying investments which the fund invests in suspend trading, Aegon may defer trading and/or payment to investors. The value ultimately payable will depend on the amount Aegon receives or expects to receive from the underlying investments.

Credit risk - this fund invests in bonds or other types of debt. Bonds are essentially loans to companies, governments or local authorities so there's a risk that these companies or government bodies may default on the loan. Bonds are rated in terms of quality, usually from AAA down to B and below. AAA is the highest quality and therefore the least likely to default and B or lower the most likely to default. Where we have it we show the credit quality of the loans held by this fund.

Derivative risk - this fund will use derivatives in a number of ways to achieve its objectives. Holdings may add up to over 100% because derivatives offer a way to gain exposure to the returns of a specified equity or bond market without having to directly own it. These negative figures are not shown within the top holdings section. Derivatives allow a manager to buy or sell an investment at a specified future date for a specified price. However, this means the fund could be exposed to additional risks if the market moves up when the manager expected it to go down or vice versa.

Interest rate risk - interest rate changes could affect the value of bond investments. Where long term interest rates rise, the value of bonds is likely to fall, and vice versa.

Lifestyle performance information - this factsheet contains information and performance for the 'Growth stage' of the lifestyle fund. The information and performance for your fund will be different if you're within the 'Retirement target / lifestyle stage', which normally starts seven years before your selected retirement date.

