

SALT

Salt Select Global Shares Fund Fact Sheet – April 2026

Manager Profile

Salt Funds Management is a boutique investment management firm wholly owned by its employees which specialises in actively seeking to maximise returns while managing the risks of the investment.

Fund Name Change

As of 13 June, the Salt Sustainable Global Shares Fund was renamed the Salt Select Global Shares Fund. There is no change to investment disciplines or approach; however, this aligns the Fund better with current global regulatory and market trends.*

Investment Strategy

To achieve the Fund's investment objectives, the Fund targets a portfolio of global companies with high total return potential and high Quality & Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factor scores.

The strategy seeks to provide attractive long-term returns with less long-term volatility than the broader market.

Fund Facts at 30 April 2026

Fund Assets	\$100.03 million
Inception Date	12 July 2021
Underlying Manager	Morgan Stanley Investment Management * Effective 28 April 2025 the underlying Morgan Stanley Global Sustain Strategy was renamed the Global Quality Select Strategy. There is no change to the Strategy's investment philosophy and process.

Unit Price at 30 April 2026

Application	1.3867
Redemption	1.3811

Investment Guidelines

The guidelines for the Sustainable Global Shares Fund are:

Global Equities	95% – 100%
Cash	0% – 5%

Target investment Mix

The target investment mix for the Salt Sustainable Global Shares Fund:

Global equities	100%
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Fund Allocations at 30 April 2026

Global equities	98%
Cash & sundry items	2%

Fund Performance to 30 April 2026

Period	Fund Return	Benchmark Return
1 month	5.19%	6.19%
3 months	1.97%	6.20%
1 year	0.77%	30.20%
2 year p.a.	7.39%	20.67%
3 year p.a.	10.86%	21.63%
Since inception p.a.	8.37%	14.82%

Performance is before fees and tax and adjusted for imputation credits. Benchmark (MSCI World Index in NZD) performance is gross.

Fund holdings

Top 10 holdings

Taiwan Semiconductor (TW)	Coca Cola (US)
Alphabet (US)	ASML (NL)
Keyence (JP)	Amazon (US)
VISA (US)	Intercontinental Exchange (US)
Netflix (US)	L'Oreal (FR)

Source: MSIM, data as at 30 April 2026.

The Top 10 Holdings represented 43.5% of the total portfolio.

The Portfolio's carbon footprint, measured as weighted average carbon intensity (WACI) was 76% lower than MSCI AC World Index.^A

Market Review

- Share markets largely chose to look through the turbulent geopolitical environment in April, even as US-Iran tensions made daily news, the Strait of Hormuz remained blocked, and the price of Brent crude pushed through \$110 pb by the end of the period. Developed market equities were up +9.6% (in USD).
- The wall of worry weighed more on bond market returns over the month as yields rose in the face of higher oil prices, concerns about inflation and how central banks will respond, and ongoing concerns about fiscal sustainability. The global aggregate bond index was up +1.2% (in USD) over the month.
- April reinforced the narrative of a still-resilient US economy, with corporate earnings broadly holding up despite ongoing policy uncertainty and geopolitical noise. However, a firmer inflation pulse, helped in part by higher energy costs linked to the Iran conflict, saw bond yields push higher, suggesting markets are increasingly uneasy about the medium-term policy and fiscal outlook.
- In Europe, the data flow was softer at the margin, with survey indicators pointing to sluggish growth and a fragile industrial backdrop. The region remains particularly exposed to energy market volatility, leaving policymakers balancing weak activity against renewed upside risks to inflation.

- Japan continued to edge away from its long-standing ultra-easy policy settings, with inflation dynamics keeping pressure on the Bank of Japan to normalise further. At the same time, currency weakness persisted as a key theme, reflecting the still-wide interest rate differentials versus the US.
- China's recovery remained uneven through April, with pockets of strength in industrial production offset by ongoing weakness in the property sector and subdued domestic demand. Policymakers signalled a willingness to provide targeted support but stopped short of the kind of large-scale stimulus that would materially shift the growth trajectory at first blush.
- In Australia, core inflation continued to print at uncomfortably high levels. Trimmed mean inflation came in at +3.3% y/y in March. This has markets assuming a third interest rate hike was likely in early May. Attention was also starting to turn to the May Federal Budget.
- In New Zealand March quarter CPI came in stronger than expected with a headline rate of +3.1% y/y. Only a fraction of the recent fuel price increase came through in this data with the bulk coming through in the June quarter. At that point we see the annual headline rate printing over 4%. The focus is on second round effects but it's too early to make any assessment yet, though most core measures are already in the top-half of the target range. There is a wide range of views on the RBNZ's next move. Some expect the RBNZ to be hiking in May, though we think that's too early.

Portfolio Review

- In April, the Portfolio returned +5.19% (Gross/NZD) while the MSCI World Net Index returned +6.19%. For the year to date, the Portfolio returned -3.27% versus 3.22% for the index.

What drove returns in April?

The top absolute monthly contributors were largely results-driven:

- **Alphabet** (+130 bps): Strength in Search and accelerating Google Cloud growth with improving margins and early signs of AI monetisation.
- **Texas Instruments** (+117 bps): Revenue beat and optimistic guidance driven by cyclical recovery and data centre demand.
- **Keyence** (+99 bps): Record results signalled a cyclical upswing in factory automation and improved capital return outlook.
- **TSMC** (+81 bps): Raised full year guidance following strong Q1 results and robust AI processor demand.
- **Amazon** (+70 bps): Reaccelerating AWS growth, strength in custom silicon and improving retail profitability.

The top absolute monthly detractors – driven by a defensives lag, in an upward momentum-dominated market, while data-rich businesses continue to be punished:

- **Haleon** (-23 bps): Weaker volumes from mild cold and flu season and soft discretionary wellness demand.
- **Netflix** (-23 bps): Expectations for revenue and margin growth moderated amid normalising engagement.
- **Aon** (-23 bps): Profit taking and integration complexity from the NFP acquisition.
- **CME Group** (-16 bps): Trading volumes eased from elevated Q1 levels.
- **Thermo Fisher** (-14 bps): Disappointing organic growth and uncertainty around biopharma capex.
- In relative terms, sector allocation was neutral. Not owning Energy and Materials was a tailwind, offset by overweights in Consumer Staples and Health Care, which lagged.
- Stock selection in IT helped, but sub-sector positioning in Financials and Industrials continued to weigh on relative returns.

Portfolio Activity

Initiated a new position in **Hermès International** following a pullback, attracted by its brand strength and pricing power.

Reduced **Microsoft** and **AJ Gallagher** to fund the **Hermès** purchase, reflecting capex demands and competitive considerations, and reduced **Texas Instruments**, taking profits after strong share price performance.

MSIM Market Outlook

Global equity markets rebounded sharply in April, recovering March's geopolitically-driven sell off.

- AI related earnings strength reinforced confidence in enterprise AI adoption and infrastructure investment.
- Volatility declined despite ongoing geopolitical, inflationary and valuation risks.
- Markets may be pricing a relatively benign macro outcome across multiple unresolved risks. Elevated valuations in parts of the market warrant continued selectivity.
- AI disruption continues to create dispersion across sectors and business models, and offering opportunities for active managers.
- Quality characteristics remain important amid geopolitical and technological uncertainty.
- Within the portfolio, focus remains on businesses with durable competitive advantages.
- The fund continues to emphasise valuation disciplines and fundamental analysis.

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Notes

- A. Source: Trucost. As of March 31st, 2026, the Portfolio's weighted average carbon intensity (WACI) was 76% lower than the MSCI AC World Index.

WACI is calculated using Scope 1 & 2 emissions per \$m of company revenue. The term carbon refers to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, measured in metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) emissions. Our data provider's methodology follows the GHG protocol and includes carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) and Nitrogen Trifluoride (NF₃), calculated in metric tonnes of CO₂ equivalent. Some carbon/carbon equivalents data may be estimated by the data provider. Data excludes cash.

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