

## AIA S&P 600<sup>®</sup> Strategy (Small Cap)



QUARTERLY PORTFOLIO COMMENTARY (CASH FUNDED AFTER-TAX COMPOSITE)

US equity markets rose during the quarter as investors focused on additional government stimulus, the coronavirus vaccine rollout, and improving employment and US GDP, amid rising coronavirus cases and tightening of restrictions. The S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Index, NASDAQ Composite, and Dow Jones Industrial Average Index all set new record milestones during the period. United States GDP rose by an annual rate of 33.4% in the third quarter of 2020, compared to a decline of -31.4% in the second quarter. The Federal Reserve continued to implement accommodative monetary policy measures and the US government continued to support the economy through fiscal policy by passing a \$900 billion stimulus package in a coordinated effort to minimize the long-term negative impacts of the economic slowdown. The US unemployment rate declined to 6.7% in December, which is down from 7.9% in September and below the peak seen during the 2008–2009 Great Recession. The S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Index rose 12.2% for the quarter, with all sectors in positive territory. Energy (+27.8%), financials (+23.2%), industrials (+15.7%), materials (+14.5%), communication services (+13.8%), and information technology (+11.8%) were among the strongest performing sectors in the index. Real estate (+4.9%), consumer staples (+6.4%), utilities (+6.5%), healthcare (+8.0%), and consumer discretionary (+8.0%) rose but were among the weakest performers relative to the overall index. Value and small-cap outpaced growth and large-cap on a relative basis. The Russell 1000<sup>®</sup> Value Index rose by 16.3% compared to an increase of 11.4% in the Russell 1000<sup>®</sup> Growth Index, and the Russell 2000<sup>®</sup> Index rose by 31.4% compared to an increase of 13.7% in the Russell 1000<sup>®</sup> Index.

During the quarter, the AIA S&P 600<sup>®</sup> Strategy underperformed its benchmark before taxes and net of 0.30% fees by -4.42%. The strategy underperformed over the period on an after-tax basis by -6.39%. After-tax returns were negatively impacted as opportunities to harvest losses were reduced during the strong upmarket in the fourth quarter. Tax alpha was negative and removed value (-1.97%) during the period.

Year to date, the AIA S&P 600<sup>®</sup> Strategy underperformed its benchmark before taxes and net of 0.30% fees by -3.29%. The strategy outperformed over the period on an after-tax basis by 15.39%. Tax alpha contributed value (+18.68%) for the period.

The AIA S&P 600<sup>®</sup> Strategy seeks to provide a pre-tax return similar to the performance of the S&P 600<sup>®</sup> Index and seeks to outperform the benchmark on an after-tax basis by proactively realizing losses. AIA's managers use a stratified sampling methodology to select a subset of stocks from the index while seeking sector-neutral weights and diversification across market capitalization. Individual account performance may vary due to restrictions at the account level such as security exclusions, capital gain budgets and other restrictions.

Coronavirus pandemic concerns along with monetary and fiscal policy stimulus are likely to remain a focus for markets during the next quarter, as investors evaluate economic and global health uncertainties in their growth forecasts. These uncertainties along with fourth quarter earnings results may lead to market volatility. Rigorous fundamental research and investment discipline may be the winning recipe in the time to come, as global economic and health uncertainties continue.

## AIA S&P 600<sup>®</sup> Strategy (Small Cap) – Annualized Returns (as of 12/31/2020)

AIA S&P 600 <sup>®</sup> Cash Funded After-Tax Composite Pure Gross Returns	Pre-Tax			After-Tax			Tax Alpha
	Composite Pure Gross Return	Benchmark Return (S&P 600 <sup>®</sup> )	Difference	Composite Pure Gross Return	Estimated Benchmark Return	Difference	
3 months	27.00%	31.31%	-4.31%	24.04%	30.33%	-6.29%	-1.97%
1 year	8.38%	11.29%	-2.91%	24.52%	8.70%	15.82%	18.73%
3 years annualized	7.53%	7.74%	-0.20%	15.76%	4.66%	11.09%	11.29%
Since inception 05/01/2016	11.24%	12.40%	-1.16%	16.69%	9.42%	7.27%	8.44%

AIA S&P 600 <sup>®</sup> Cash Funded After-Tax Composite Net 0.35% Returns	Pre-Tax			After-Tax			Tax Alpha
	Composite Net 0.35% Return	Benchmark Return (S&P 600 <sup>®</sup> )	Difference	Composite Net 0.35% Return	Estimated Benchmark Return	Difference	
3 months	26.89%	31.31%	-4.42%	23.94%	30.33%	-6.39%	-1.97%
1 year	8.00%	11.29%	-3.29%	24.09%	8.70%	15.39%	18.68%
3 years annualized	7.16%	7.74%	-0.58%	15.36%	4.66%	10.69%	11.27%
Since inception 05/01/2016	10.85%	12.40%	-1.55%	16.29%	9.42%	6.87%	8.42%

AIA S&P 600 <sup>®</sup> Cash Funded After-Tax Composite Net Bundled Fee Returns <sup>1</sup>	Pre-Tax			After-Tax			Tax Alpha
	Composite Net Bundled Fee Return	Benchmark Return (S&P 600 <sup>®</sup> )	Difference	Composite Net Bundled Fee Return	Estimated Benchmark Return	Difference	
3 months	26.12%	31.31%	-5.19%	23.18%	30.33%	-7.15%	-1.96%
1 year	5.17%	11.29%	-6.11%	20.89%	8.70%	12.19%	18.31%
3 years annualized	5.06%	7.74%	-2.68%	13.11%	4.66%	8.45%	11.13%
Since inception 05/01/2016	8.81%	12.40%	-3.59%	14.16%	9.42%	4.74%	8.33%

<sup>1</sup> Prior to 1/1/2020 net-of-fees performance reflects a deduction of a 2% annual model bundled fee, and 3% thereafter.

## AIA S&P 600<sup>®</sup> Strategy (Small Cap) – Market Cap Allocations % (as of 12/31/2020)

Market cap size	Percentage of total portfolio	S&P 600 <sup>®</sup> Index
Large (>10B)	0.00	0.00
Mid (2.5B to 10B)	49.77	40.41
Small (<2.5B)	50.23	59.59

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The S&P SmallCap 600 covers approximately 3% of the domestic equities market. Measuring the small-cap segment of the market that is typically renowned for poor trading liquidity and financial instability, the index is designed to be an efficient portfolio of companies that meet specific inclusion criteria to ensure that they are investable and financially viable.

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Tax alpha is the benefit of loss harvesting, which is assumed to be used to offset gains inside or outside the portfolio in the period they are incurred, and thus credited to the portfolio returns. The after-tax benchmark is an estimate based upon the average capital gain realization rate and dividend yield of the index. The maximum federal and state tax rates for dividends and capital gains are utilized in the after-tax calculations.

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