

## AIA S&P 500<sup>®</sup> (Large Cap) Strategy

## QUARTERLY PORTFOLIO COMMENTARY (CASH FUNDED AFTER-TAX COMPOSITE)

US equity markets moved higher in the first quarter as the Fed continued their holding pattern on overnight interest rates. Inflation continued to moderate although it remains a key watchpoint, along with a backdrop of greater geopolitical unease, heading into a fall US election. The US economy has exhibited resilience with robust unemployment levels and strong GDP growth. Investors have piled into risk assets as potential Fed rate cuts, combined with more stable economic data, suggest a soft landing scenario. Annual US inflation was 3.5% in March, up slightly from February. Unemployment moderated at 3.8% in March, maintaining historically robust levels. United States GDP rose by an annualized rate of 3.4% in the fourth quarter of 2023. The S&P 500® Index rose (+10.6%) for the quarter with broadly positive results. communication services (+15.8%), energy (+13.7%), information technology (+12.7%), financials (+12.5%), and industrials (+11.0%) were the top performers during the quarter. Real estate (-0.6%) was the only negative-returning sector during the quarter. Growth and large cap outperformed value and small cap during the quarter, although value rallied late in the period. The Russell 1000® Growth Index (+11.4%) outperformed the Russell 1000® Value Index (+9.0%), and the Russell 1000® Index (+10.3%) outperformed the Russell 2000® Index (+5.2%).

During the quarter, the AIA S&P 500® Strategy outperformed its benchmark before taxes and net of 0.30% fees by +0.93%. The strategy outperformed over the period on an after-tax and net of 0.30% fee basis by 1.24%. After-tax outperformance was relatively mild due to limited opportunities to harvest losses, with strong market performance in the first quarter. Tax alpha was positive and added +0.31% during the period.

The AIA S&P 500® Strategy seeks to provide a pre-tax return similar to the performance of the S&P 500® Index, and seeks to outperform the benchmark on an after-tax basis by proactively realizing losses. AIA's managers use a proprietary selection 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.

Markets have soared to new highs with better than expected economic growth and investor sentiment. Inflation, monetary policy, and the trajectory of the US economy are watchpoints for investors. While economic data and investor sentiment have been strong, uncertainties linger. Geopolitical and macroeconomic weakness may continue to drive market volatility and dispersion. The resulting market environment has increasingly proven challenging to navigate. We continue to believe that active fundamental research, combined with investment discipline, provides an attractive way to navigate market uncertainty.



## AIA S&P 500® (Large Cap) Strategy – Annualized Returns (as of 3/31/2024)

	Pre-Tax		
AIA S&P 500 <sup>®</sup> Cash Funded After-Tax Composite Pure Gross Returns	Composite Pure Gross Return	Benchmark Return (S&P 500®)	Difference
3 months	11.57%	10.56%	1.01%
1 year	30.40%	29.88%	0.52%
3 years	11.75%	11.49%	0.26%
5 years	14.92%	15.05%	-0.13%
10 years	12.88%	12.96%	-0.08%
Since inception 11/01/2002	10.95%	10.82%	0.13%

After-Tax				
Pu Gr	posite ure oss turn	Estimated Benchmark Return	Difference	Tax Alpha
11.5	51%	10.19%	1.32%	0.31%
30.1	18%	28.05%	2.13%	1.61%
14.8	30%	9.85%	4.96%	4.70%
18.1	10%	13.32%	4.78%	4.91%
15.	16%	11.39%	3.76%	3.85%
13.4	42%	9.70%	3.72%	3.59%

		Pre-Tax			
AIA S&P 500 <sup>®</sup> Cash Funded After-Tax Composite Net 0.30% Returns	Composite Net 0.30% Return	Benchmark Return (S&P 500 <sup>®</sup> )	Difference		
3 months	11.49%	10.56%	0.93%		
1 year	30.02%	29.88%	0.14%		
3 years	11.42%	11.49%	-0.08%		
5 years	14.58%	15.05%	-0.47%		
10 years	12.54%	12.96%	-0.42%		
Since inception 11/01/2002	10.62%	10.82%	-0.20%		

After-Tax			
Composite Net 0.30% Return	Estimated Benchmark Return	Difference	Tax Alpha
11.43%	10.19%	1.24%	0.31%
29.80%	28.05%	1.75%	1.61%
14.46%	9.85%	4.61%	4.69%
17.75%	13.32%	4.44%	4.90%
14.82%	11.39%	3.42%	3.84%
13.08%	9.70%	3.39%	3.59%

	Pre-Tax		
AIA S&P 500® Cash Funded After-Tax Composite Net Bundled Fee Returns¹	Composite Net Bundled Fee Return	Benchmark Return (S&P 500 <sup>®</sup> )	Difference
3 months	10.76%	10.56%	0.21%
1 year	26.62%	29.88%	-3.26%
3 years	8.47%	11.49%	-3.02%
5 years	11.56%	15.05%	-3.49%
10 years	9.57%	12.96%	-3.39%
Since inception 11/01/2002	7.69%	10.82%	-3.13%

After-Tax			
Composite Net Bundled Fee Return	Estimated Benchmark Return	Difference	Tax Alpha
10.70%	10.19%	0.52%	0.31%
26.41%	28.05%	-1.64%	1.62%
11.44%	9.85%	1.59%	4.62%
14.65%	13.32%	1.33%	4.83%
11.79%	11.39%	0.39%	3.79%
10.10%	9.70%	0.40%	3.53%

 $<sup>{\</sup>bf 1} \ {\bf The} \ {\bf assumed} \ {\bf model} \ {\bf bundled} \ {\bf fee} \ {\bf used} \ {\bf is} \ {\bf 3.0\%} \ {\bf and} \ {\bf has} \ {\bf been} \ {\bf retroactively} \ {\bf applied} \ {\bf since} \ {\bf inception}$ 

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The **S&P 500® Index** is a widely recognized measure of US stock market performance. It is an unmanaged index of 500 common stocks chosen for market size, liquidity, and industry group representation, among other factors. It also measures the performance of the large-cap segment of the US equities market. The **Dow Jones Industrial Average** is a price-weighted average of 30 significant stocks traded on the New York Stock Exchange and the Nasdaq. The **Russell 1000® Growth Index** is an unmanaged index that measures the performance of the large-cap growth segment of the US equity universe. It includes those Russell 1000® companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values. The **Russell 1000® Value Index** is an unmanaged index that measures the performance of the large-cap value segment of the US equity universe. It includes those Russell 1000® companies with lower price-to-book ratios and lower expected growth values. The **Russell 1000® Index** measures the performance of the large-cap segment of the US equity universe. It is a subset of the Russell 3000® Index and includes approximately 1000 for the largest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The Russell 1000® represents approximately 92% of the US market. The Russell 1000® Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive and unbiased barometer for the large-cap segment and is completely reconstituted



annually to ensure new and growing equities are reflected. The **Russell 2000® Index** is an unmanaged index that measures the performance of the small-cap segment of the US equity universe.

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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. Both after-tax calculations using the maximum federal tax rate and 0% state tax, and the maximum federal and state tax rates for dividends and capital gains are displayed.

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2419446.22.1 Exp. 8/15/24 P-AIA50003-0324