

4TH QUARTER • 2020

UK FOUNDATIONS AND ENDOWMENTS

COMPARATIVE ASSET ALLOCATION AND TOTAL RETURN

NOTES ON THE DATA

DATA COLLECTION. Included in this analysis for the quarter ended 31 December 2020 are 28 UK-based foundations and endowments. The average market value of participating UK foundations and endowments was £284.5 million, and the median market value was £136.7 million for the quarter ended 31 December 2020.

The notation of n denotes the number of foundations and endowments included in each analysis. Returns are denominated in pounds sterling.

Asset allocation is generated using the investment manager structure for each client. Every investment product, fund, and vehicle that a client is invested in is assigned an asset class. Asset classes for a given investment product, fund, or vehicle are maintained across all clients to ensure comparability. The statistics throughout this analysis are calculated on an equal-weighted basis.

ASSET CLASSES. In Figures 1–3, global equity includes global ex UK equities (developed and emerging); hedge funds include long/short hedge funds and absolute return (ex distressed securities); private equity and venture capital include non-venture private equity, venture capital, and other private investments; real assets and inflation-linked bonds include public and private real estate, commodities, global inflation-linked bonds, private oil & gas/natural resources, timber, and public energy/natural resources; and bonds includes UK bonds, global ex UK bonds, and high-yield bonds. In Figure 3, global bonds includes global ex UK bonds (developed and emerging). One institution reported an allocation to ‘other’, which represents an allocation to investment managers with a balanced funds strategy.

PRIVATE INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE REPORTING METHODOLOGIES. Of the 18 foundations and endowments in this analysis with an allocation to private investments (approximately 1% of the total investment pool or greater), all 18 report private investment performance using a flat basis methodology. Total investment pool returns for fourth quarter 2020 includes marketable asset performance for 1 October 2020 to 31 December 2020. Private investment portion of the investment pool is represented by a flat return (0%) for 1 October 2020 to 31 December 2020.

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CALCULATION OF THE SHARPE RATIO. The Sharpe ratio is defined as the excess return, or the return over the risk-free rate, on a portfolio divided by the total volatility as measured by the standard deviation of the portfolio. The most common approach to measuring risk is by the Sharpe ratio, which shows how much return above the risk-free rate (UK three-month Libor) the investor has earned per unit of risk (defined as standard deviation of returns). The higher the Sharpe ratio, the more the investor has been compensated for each unit of risk taken. The ratio is a measure of reward relative to total volatility. The formula is:

$$\frac{R_p - R_f}{S_p} = \text{Sharpe Ratio}$$

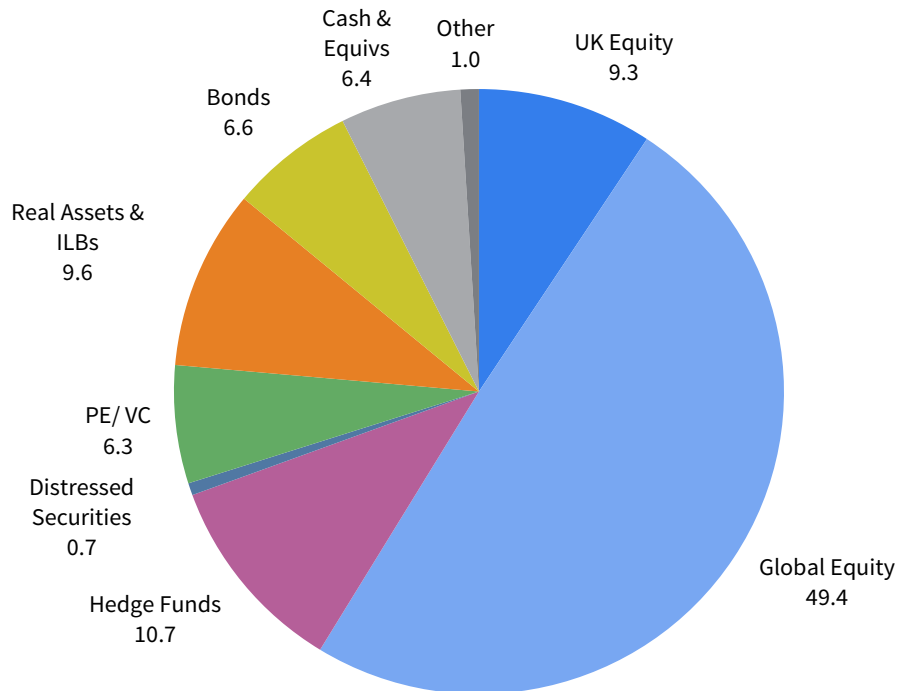
Where:

- R_p is the arithmetic average of composite quarterly returns,
- R_f is the arithmetic average of T-bill (risk-free) quarterly returns, and
- S_p is the quarterly standard deviation of composite quarterly returns. ■

FIGURE 1 INVESTMENT POOL MEAN ASSET ALLOCATION AND TOTAL RETURN

Period Ended December 31, 2020 • Percent (%)

Mean Asset Allocation (n = 28)



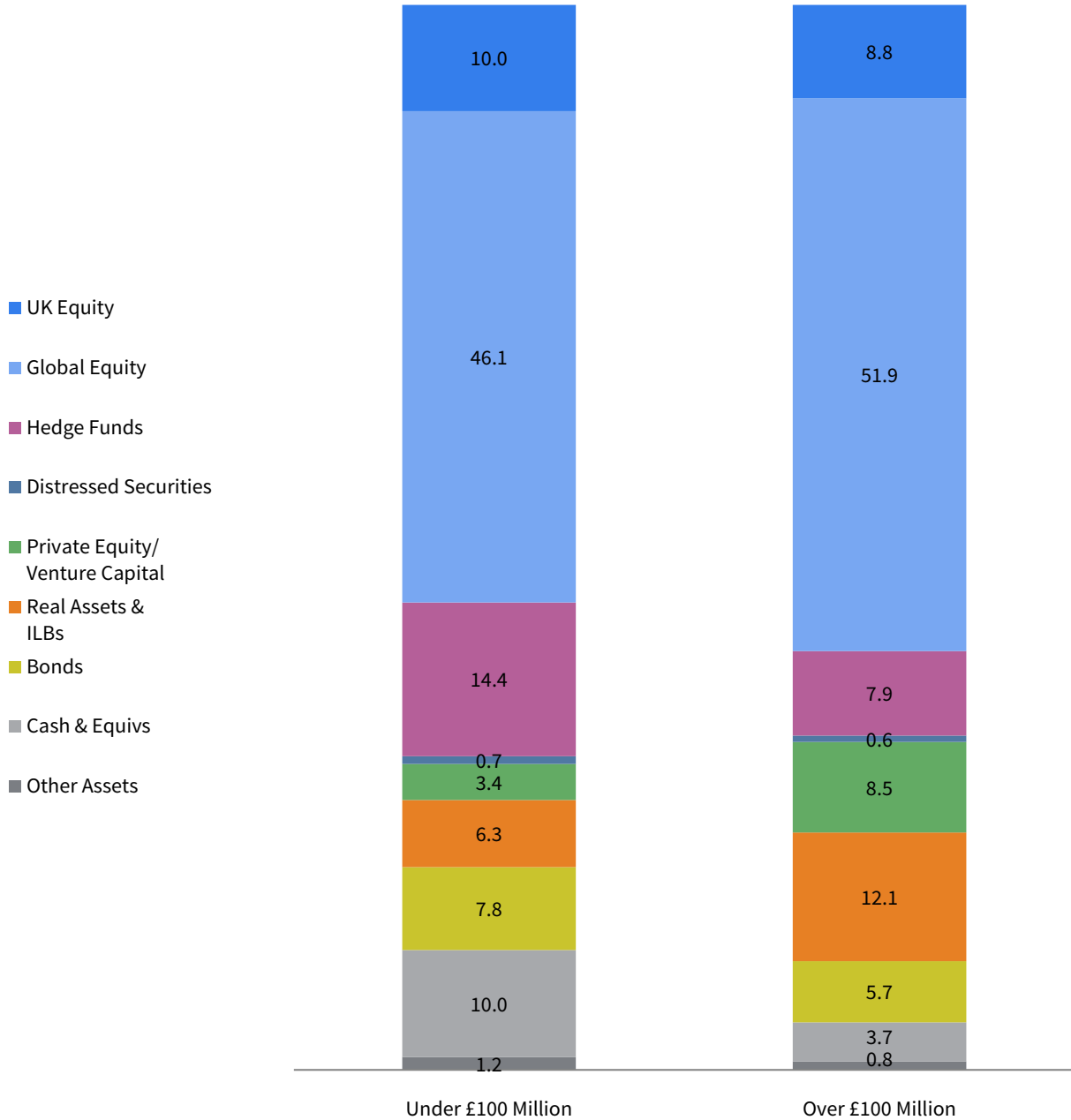
One-Year Nominal Mean Return and Relevant Benchmarks (n = 27)



Sources: UK foundation and endowment data as reported to Cambridge Associates LLC. Index data are provided by FTSE International Limited, Investment Property Databank (IPD), MSCI Inc., Thomson Reuters Datastream, and UK Office for National Statistics. IPD data provided “as is” without any express or implied warranties. MSCI data provided “as is” without any express or implied warranties.

FIGURE 2 INVESTMENT POOL MEAN ASSET ALLOCATION BY ASSET SIZE

As at 31 December 2020 • Percent (%)



UK Equity	10.0	8.8
Global Equity	46.1	51.9
Hedge Funds	14.4	7.9
Distressed Securities	0.7	0.6
Private Equity/Venture Capital	3.4	8.5
Real Assets & Infl-Linked Bonds	6.3	12.1
Bonds	7.8	5.7
Cash & Equivs	10.0	3.7
Other Assets	1.2	0.8
<i>n</i>	12	16

Source: UK foundation and endowment data as reported to Cambridge Associates LLC.

FIGURE 3 DETAILED ASSET ALLOCATION BY ASSET SIZE

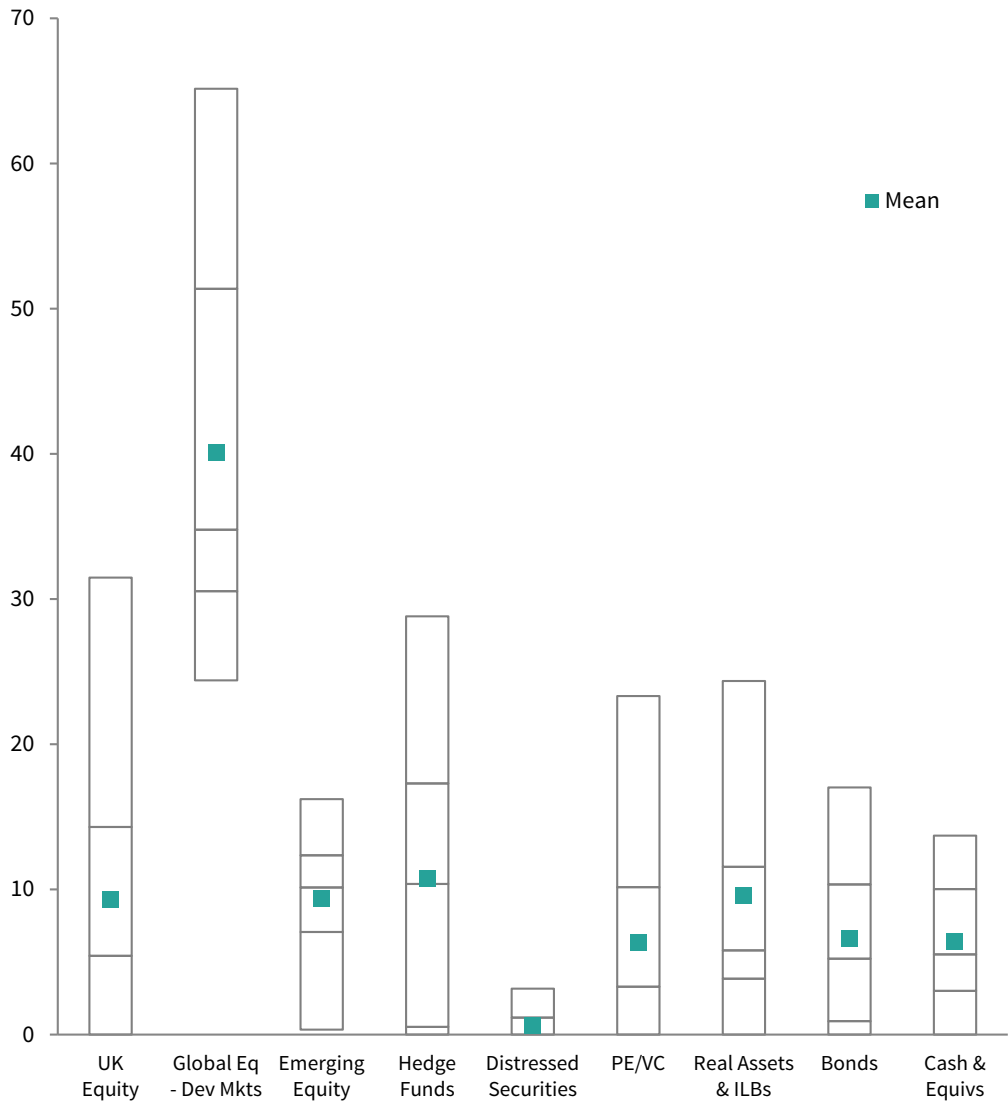
As at 31 December 2020 • Percent (%)

Asset Class	CA UK Foundations & Endowments (n = 28)		Under £100 Million (n = 12)		Over £100 Million (n = 16)	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
UK Equity	9.3	5.4	10.0	13.3	8.8	3.8
Global Equity	49.4	46.6	46.1	46.0	51.9	47.1
Developed Markets	40.1	34.8	36.8	34.9	42.5	34.6
Emerging Markets	9.4	10.1	9.3	10.7	9.4	9.9
Hedge Funds	10.7	10.4	14.4	13.5	7.9	5.6
Long/Short Hedge Funds	4.8	0.0	5.5	0.0	4.2	2.3
Absolute Return (ex Distressed)	5.9	3.6	8.9	10.0	3.7	2.3
Distressed Securities	0.7	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.6	0.0
Hedge Fund Structure	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0
Private Equity Structure	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.5	0.0
Private Equity/Venture Capital	6.3	3.3	3.4	1.9	8.5	4.4
Non-Venture Private Equity	3.3	2.5	2.6	1.1	3.9	2.8
Venture Capital	2.3	0.0	0.4	0.0	3.7	0.0
Other Private Investments	0.7	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.9	0.1
Real Assets & ILBs	9.6	5.8	6.3	5.3	12.1	5.8
Private Real Estate	3.9	0.0	0.3	0.0	6.5	0.0
<i>Private Partnerships</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.0</i>
<i>Direct Property Holdings</i>	<i>3.6</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>6.3</i>	<i>0.0</i>
Public Real Estate	2.6	0.0	3.3	0.0	2.0	0.0
Commodities	0.7	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.3	0.0
Inflation-Linked Bonds (UK)	0.3	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.2	0.0
Inflation-Linked Bonds (ex UK)	1.4	0.0	0.9	0.0	1.8	1.6
Private Oil & Gas/Natural Resources	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Timber	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0
Public Energy/Natural Resources	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0
Bonds	6.6	5.2	7.8	7.7	5.7	4.5
UK Bonds	0.9	0.0	0.4	0.0	1.3	0.0
Global Bonds	5.6	3.8	7.4	7.7	4.2	3.5
<i>Developed Markets</i>	<i>4.8</i>	<i>3.4</i>	<i>6.5</i>	<i>7.1</i>	<i>3.4</i>	<i>3.0</i>
<i>Emerging Markets</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.9</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>0.0</i>
High-Yield Bonds	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
Cash & Equivs	6.4	4.8	10.0	8.8	3.7	3.2
Other Assets	1.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.8	0.0

Source: UK foundation and endowment data as reported to Cambridge Associates LLC.

FIGURE 4 ASSET ALLOCATION DISTRIBUTION

As at 31 December 2020 • Percent (%)



	UK Equity	Global Eq - Dev Mkts	Emerging Equity	Hedge Funds	Distressed Securities	PE/VC	Real Assets & ILBs	Bonds	Cash & Equivs
5th Percentile	31.5	65.2	16.2	28.8	3.2	23.3	24.4	17.0	13.0
25th Percentile	14.3	51.4	12.3	17.3	1.2	10.1	11.5	10.3	9.3
Median	5.4	34.8	10.1	10.4	0.0	3.3	5.8	5.2	4.8
75th Percentile	0.0	30.5	7.1	0.5	0.0	0.0	3.8	0.9	2.3
95th Percentile	0.0	24.4	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.7
Mean	9.3	40.1	9.4	10.7	0.7	6.3	9.6	6.6	6.4
<i>n</i> = 28									

Source: UK foundation and endowment data as reported to Cambridge Associates LLC.

FIGURE 5 SUMMARY OF INVESTMENT POOL RETURNS

Periods Ended 31 December 2020 • Percent (%)

Nominal Total Returns

	Latest	FYTD	Average Annual Compound Nominal Return			
	Quarter		One Year	Three Years	Five Years	Ten Years
CA UK Foundations & Endowments						
Mean	6.3	8.4	7.4	6.2	9.3	7.9
Median	6.4	8.4	6.9	5.6	8.6	7.6
High	10.9	13.6	19.9	11.7	15.7	11.4
5th Percentile	9.6	12.6	12.0	9.5	12.0	11.3
25th Percentile	8.1	9.9	10.3	8.4	10.6	8.9
75th Percentile	4.5	6.4	4.0	4.1	7.9	6.9
95th Percentile	2.6	5.3	1.7	3.1	7.2	6.4
Low	2.1	5.0	0.3	2.9	6.6	5.9
<i>n</i>	27	27	27	27	24	21
Benchmarks						
FTSE® 100	10.9	6.4	-11.5	-1.8	4.8	4.8
FTSE® All-Share	12.6	9.3	-9.8	-0.9	5.1	5.6
MSCI ACWI	8.5	12.1	12.7	9.7	14.0	10.6
FTSE® All Stocks Gilts	0.6	-0.6	8.3	5.2	5.5	5.5
IPD UK Pooled Property	2.3	4.4	6.0	9.5	9.0	2.2
UK 3-Month Libor	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.6
RPI - UK	0.4	0.9	1.2	2.0	2.5	2.6

Real Total Returns

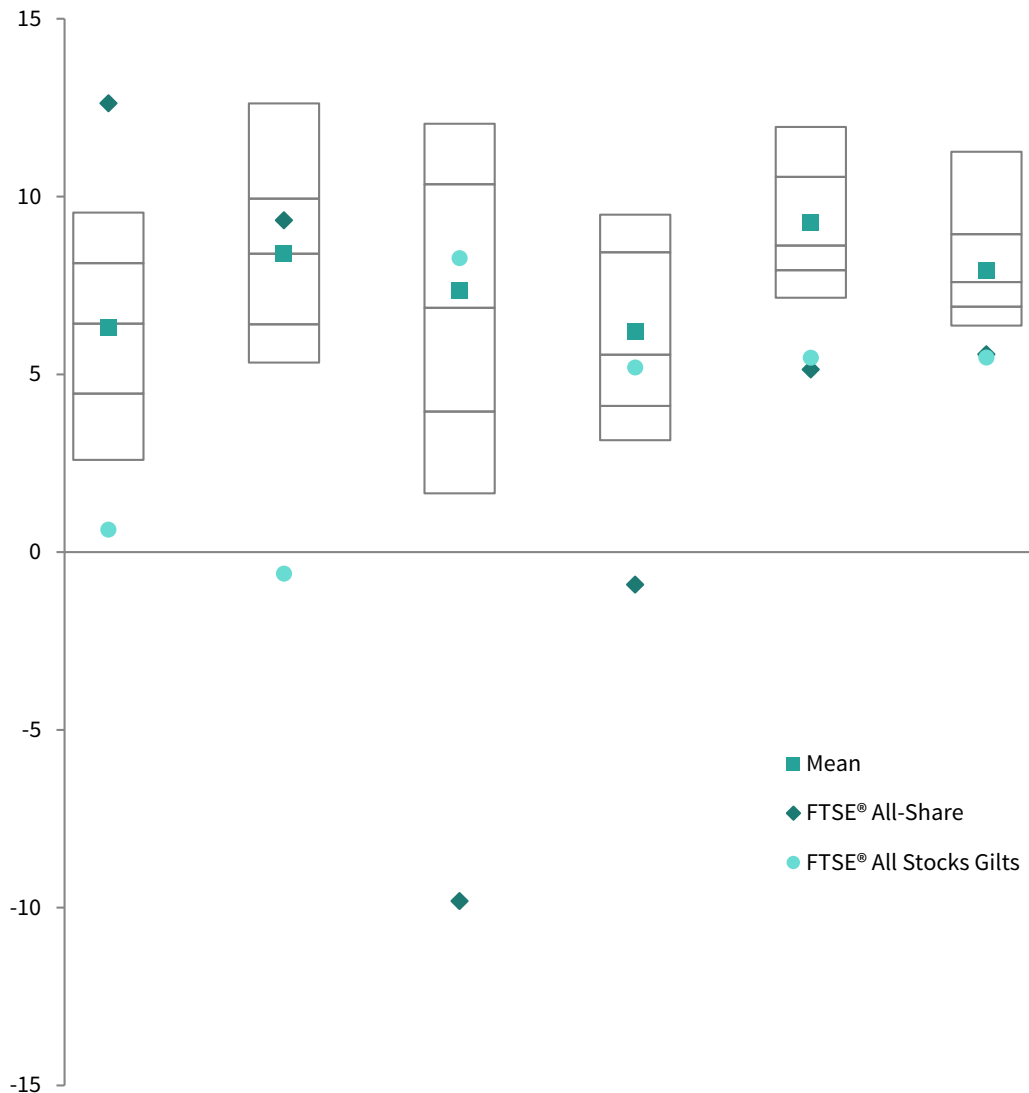
	Latest	FYTD	Average Annual Compound Real Return			
	Quarter		One Year	Three Years	Five Years	Ten Years
CA UK Foundations & Endowments						
Mean	5.9	7.4	6.1	4.1	6.6	5.2
Median	6.0	7.4	5.6	3.4	5.9	4.9
High	10.5	12.5	18.4	9.5	12.8	8.6
5th Percentile	9.1	11.6	10.7	7.3	9.2	8.4
25th Percentile	7.7	8.9	9.0	6.3	7.8	6.2
75th Percentile	4.1	5.4	2.7	2.0	5.3	4.2
95th Percentile	2.2	4.4	0.4	1.1	4.5	3.7
Low	1.7	4.0	-0.8	0.8	4.0	3.3
<i>n</i>	27	27	27	27	24	21
Benchmarks						
FTSE® 100	10.4	5.4	-12.6	-3.8	2.2	2.2
FTSE® All-Share	12.2	8.3	-10.9	-2.9	2.5	2.9
MSCI ACWI	8.1	11.1	11.3	7.5	11.1	7.8
FTSE® All Stocks Gilts	0.3	-1.5	7.0	3.1	2.9	2.8
IPD UK Pooled Property	1.9	3.4	4.7	7.3	6.3	-0.4
UK 3-Month Libor	-0.4	-0.9	-0.8	-1.4	-1.9	-1.9

Sources: UK foundation and endowment data as reported to Cambridge Associates LLC. Index data are provided by FTSE International Limited, Investment Property Databank (IPD), MSCI Inc., Thomson Reuters Datastream, and UK Office for National Statistics. IPD data provided "as is" without any express or implied warranties. MSCI data provided "as is" without any express or implied warranties.

Note: Real returns are adjusted for inflation as measured by the UK Retail Price Index.

FIGURE 6 INVESTMENT POOL NOMINAL RETURN PERCENTILES

Periods Ended 31 December 2020 • Percent (%)



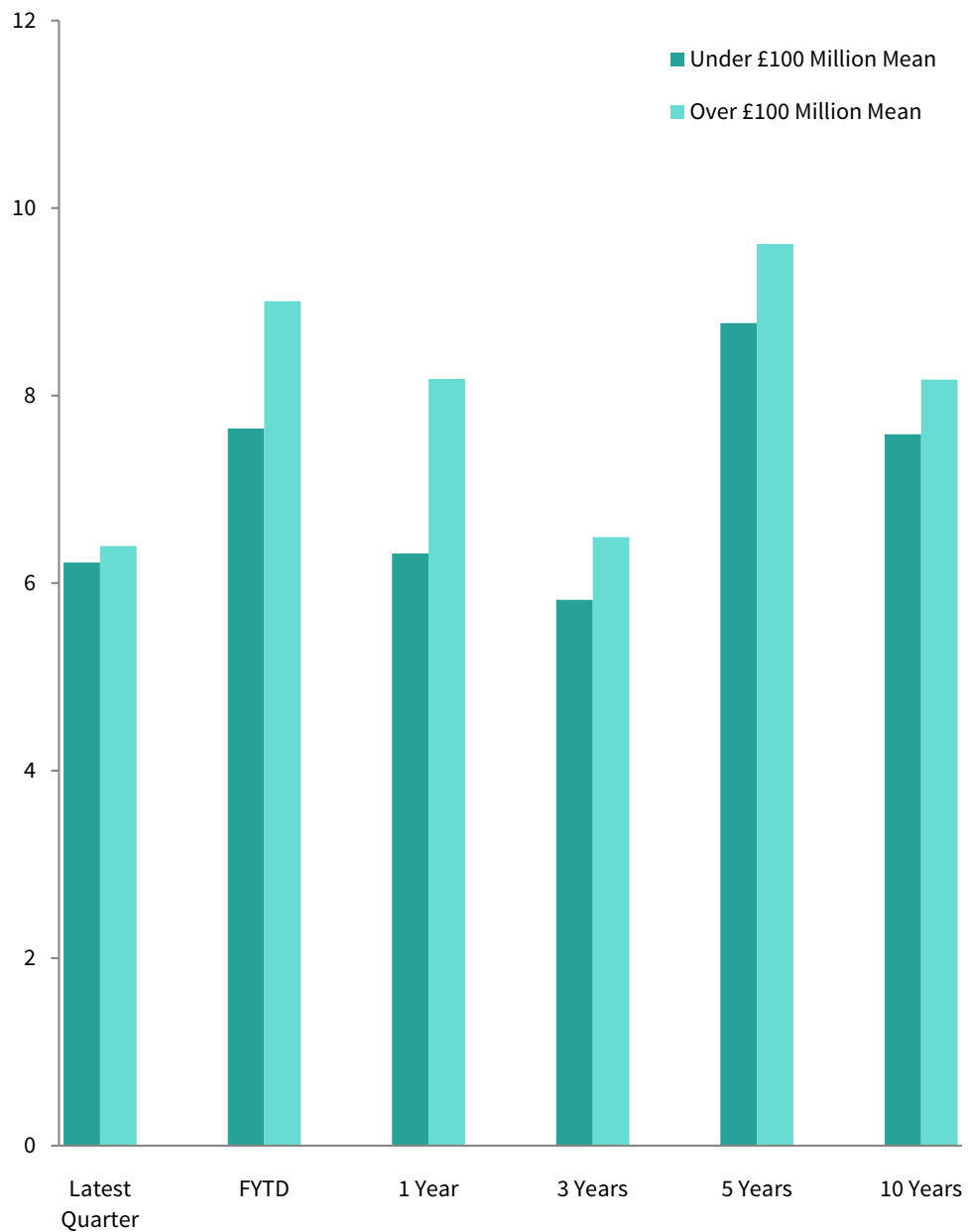
	Latest Quarter	FYTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
5th Percentile	9.6	12.6	12.0	9.5	12.0	11.3
25th Percentile	8.1	9.9	10.3	8.4	10.6	8.9
Median	6.4	8.4	6.9	5.6	8.6	7.6
75th Percentile	4.5	6.4	4.0	4.1	7.9	6.9
95th Percentile	2.6	5.3	1.7	3.1	7.2	6.4
Mean	6.3	8.4	7.4	6.2	9.3	7.9
<i>n</i>	27	27	27	27	24	21
FTSE® All-Share	12.6	9.3	-9.8	-0.9	5.1	5.6
FTSE® All Stocks Gilts	0.6	-0.6	8.3	5.2	5.5	5.5

Sources: UK foundation and endowment data as reported to Cambridge Associates LLC. Index data are provided by FTSE International Limited.

Note: Three-, five-, and ten-year returns are annualised.

FIGURE 7 NOMINAL TOTAL RETURN SUMMARY BY ASSET SIZE

Periods Ended 31 December 2020 • Percent (%)



Under £100 Million

Mean	6.2	7.6	6.3	5.8	8.8	7.6
Median	6.6	8.2	6.2	5.6	8.3	7.3
<i>n</i>	12	12	12	12	10	9

Over £100 Million

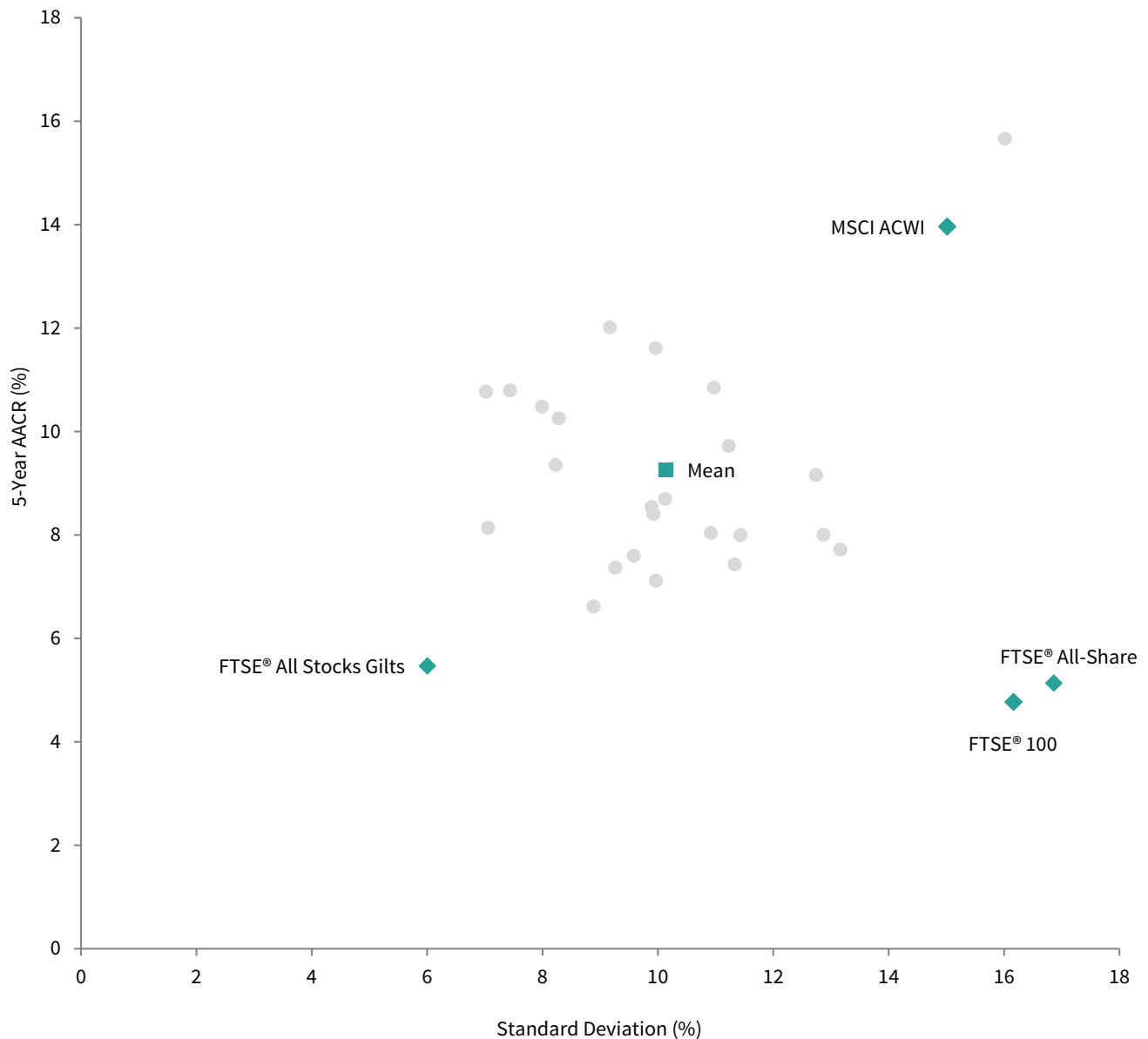
Mean	6.4	9.0	8.2	6.5	9.6	8.2
Median	6.0	9.2	9.1	5.6	9.3	7.9
<i>n</i>	15	15	15	15	14	12

Source: UK foundation and endowment data as reported to Cambridge Associates LLC.

Note: Three-, five-, and ten-year returns are annualised.

FIGURE 8 STANDARD DEVIATION AND SHARPE RATIO

Five Years Ended 31 December 2020



	5-Year AACR ¹	Standard Deviation ²	Sharpe Ratio ³
Mean <i>n</i> = 24	9.3	10.1	0.91
FTSE® 100	4.8	16.2	0.34
FTSE® All-Share	5.1	16.9	0.35
MSCI ACWI	14.0	15.0	0.92
FTSE® All Stocks Gilts	5.5	6.0	0.83

Sources: UK foundation and endowment data as reported to Cambridge Associates LLC. Index data are provided by FTSE International Limited and MSCI Inc. MSCI data provided “as is” without any express or implied warranties.

¹ Five-year geometric average annual compound returns.

² Annualised standard deviations are based on last five years of quarterly returns.

³ Sharpe Ratio = (Composite Performance - Risk-Free Rate) ÷ Annualised Standard Deviation. The risk-free rate is the UK three-month Libor.

PARTICIPANTS

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Big Win Philanthropy UK
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Chelsea and Westminster Health Charity
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Comic Relief
Council for World Mission
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The Nuffield Foundation
The Pilgrim Trust
The Society of Merchant Venturers
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Note: Two participating institutions wish to remain anonymous.

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