# JPMorgan Funds - Global Select Equity Fund

For available share classes, please check the prospectus.

## **Topline**

Markets – The economic momentum of the first quarter of 2024 continued into the second as global equities delivered contributions to investors. Market returns were again quite concentrated in a handful of larger companies exposed to artificial intelligence and coupled with a strong earnings season for US tech companies, global growth stocks were again the top performing asset class, delivering 6.4% over the quarter.

**Helped** – Stock selection and an overweight position in technology, particularly semiconductors & hardware, and stock selection in pharmaceuticals/medical technology.

**Hurt** – Stock selection and an overweight position in retail and financial services.

**Outlook** – The global growth environment is becoming more benign. As we look to the next 12 months, we expect global growth to remain robust, although its geographical composition is changing. International economic data has begun to inflect upwards, with further room to run given consumption that is still below trend and lower inflation.

# **Ratings and Awards**

Morningstar rating™ ★★★★

Morningstar category™ Global Large-Cap Blend Equity

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## **Fund Overview**

## Investment objective

To achieve a return in excess of the global equity markets by investing primarily in companies, globally.

### Month in Review

- Our overweight position in TSMC contributed to relative returns over the quarter. TSMC beat revenue and profit expectations in the first quarter of 2024 due to strong chip demand related to artificial intelligence. The company reported net revenue that rose 16.5% from a year ago, which helped boost investor sentiment. Furthermore, TSMC announced plans to grow its capital expenditure next year on the heels of strong demand for its two-nanometre next-generation semiconductor technology.
- Not holding a US-based multinational technology company, contributed to returns over the quarter. Despite a decent quarter for the company, the stock trended down due to lower-than-expected reported revenues and revenue guidance moving forward, particularly versus its peers.
- Not holding the US-based parent company of a technology company, detracted from results over the quarter. Shares rose after the company delivered its first-quarter earnings report, where it showcased a 15% increase in revenues and a 32% increase in operating margins compared to the same quarter last year. Additionally, the company announced both its first-ever dividend of USD 0.20/share as well as a USD 70 billion stock buyback programme.
- An overweight position in Vinci, a French concessions and construction company, detracted from returns over the quarter. The stock declined as French stocks were hit after President Emmanuel Macron announced a snap election, leading to a political upheaval in the country. Investors are wary of potential higher infrastructure and corporation tax squeezing out margins, but we continue to have a positive outlook on the stock.

## **Looking Ahead**

- An improved nominal growth outlook has historically translated to stronger corporate earnings. Earnings growth expectations for 2024 have seen steady improvement since late 2023.
- Taking factors such as elections, trade policies and extreme weather
  events into account, investors need to acknowledge the limitations in
  preparing for uncertainties with a portfolio that is concentrated in a few
  geographical markets.
- Stock-market concentration is increasingly under scrutiny. While US concentration within global equities is extreme, other markets have begun to catch up.
- An improving growth outlook in Europe and Japan, as well as equity
  markets that trade at lower multiples closer to long-run averages, opens
  the door to broader diversification opportunities in global equity markets.

Provided for portfolio update and reporting purposes only to report on portfolio positioning, not to be construed as offer, research or investment advice. Diversification does not guarantee positive returns or eliminates risks of loss.

Source: Fund related information and market commentary – J.P. Morgan Asset Management, other market data – various public sources. Data is as of date of the commentary unless stated otherwise.

The Fund seeks to achieve its investment objectives stated in the offering document, there is no guarantee the objectives will be met.

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### **NEXT STEPS**

For further information, please visit: www.jpmorgan.com/sg/am/per/

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Refer to Risk Factors in the Prospectus for further information on risks of the product.

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