# KZN MONEY MARKET FUND

**APRIL 2025** 

The KZN Money Market Fund is a low risk fund that aims to achieve above average money market returns that perform in line with or slightly better than inflation over time.

The fund invests only in money market instruments and cash. Specialist asset managers are appointed to select the best money market instruments to investment in and the fund maintains a high degree of liquidity and capital preservation.

The fund has little or no chance of capital loss and is not expected to achieve any significant real growth of capital over the long-term. As a result, the fund is best suited to members who have a very short term (1 year or less) investment horizon. This fund is not appropriate for long term investing.

The portfolio complies with the prudential investment guidelines set out in Regulation 28 of the Pensions Funds Act.

#### MONTHLY COMMENTARY

President Trump's sweeping 2 April Liberation Day reciprocal tariffs triggered a global market rollercoaster and unprecedented backlash. The tariffs - ranging from 10% to 50% on most US trading partners, with some rates on China reaching as high as 125% - sparked immediate turmoil in global markets.

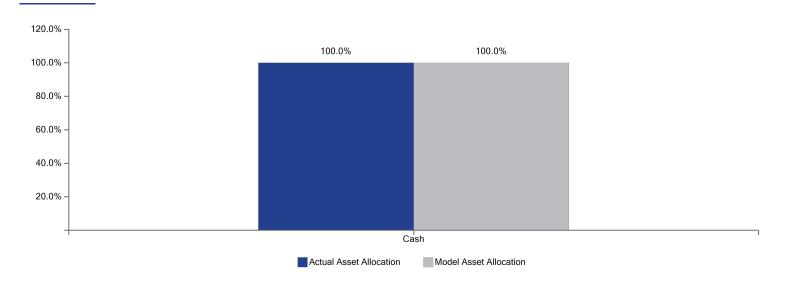
Trump subsequently suspended tariffs on nearly all countries but China. This "blink" announcement came after US stock markets suffered historic losses, US technology stocks fell more than 20% and \$6.6 trillion was wiped out in two days. Trump's reversal appears most influenced by turmoil in the US bond market, and his blink triggered a sharp rebound. More than 50 countries are now in trade talks with the US, but even a retreat to 60% tariffs on China and the current 10% universal tariff is estimated to slow global GDP by 0.7%.

The International Monetary Fund cut its projection for global growth this year by 0.5% to 2.8%. The latest economic data remain strong and show no signs of a global recession. In the short term, several factors support ongoing economic momentum: companies are accelerating shipments to get ahead of potential tariff hikes, fiscal policy is set to become more supportive in the US, Germany and China, and falling energy prices are helping offset some of the inflationary impact from tariffs. This is all backward-looking, however, and the future hinges almost entirely on the outcome of tariff negotiations.

There should be little political appetite for draconian new tariffs, as Trump's disapproval rating among independents has soared to 56%, and he cannot afford to trigger a recession or a market crash ahead of the 2026 midterms. That said, forecasting Trump's actions is near impossible, and the risk of damaging protectionism remains elevated. If a swift resolution to the tariff war is not reached, the current economic momentum will dissipate rapidly. Even if a resolution is found, Q2 growth will slow as the global trade frontrunning tariffs comes to an end. Bookings for shipping containers from China to the US were down 45% in April year-on-year, and the effects of a slowdown in investment and hiring due to the current uncertainty will soon be evident. While the year may end higher, we expect a soft patch in the middle. We have further reduced exposure to equities and remain cautious.

The FTSE/JSE Capped SWIX Index improved by 4.2%, while Industrials and Financials rose by 5.3% and 4.7%. The JSE All Bond Index increased by 0.8% and the Rand weakened 1.2% against the Dollar.

### ACTUAL ASSET ALLOCATION





## FUND SUMMARY AS AT 30 APRIL 2025

STATISTIC	FUND	BENCHMARK
% Positive Months	100.0%	100.0%
% Negative Months	0.0%	0.0%
Worst Month	0.3%	0.3%
Best Month	0.9%	0.7%
Average Return	0.6%	0.5%
Median Return	0.6%	0.5%
Maximum Drawdown	0.0%	0.0%

# PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS TO 30 APRIL 2025

PERIOD	FUND	BENCHMARK
1 Month	0.8%	0.6%
3 Months	2.2%	1.9%
6 Months	4.5%	3.9%
Year to Date	2.9%	2.5%
1 Year	9.6%	8.2%
3 Years	8.8%	7.6%
5 Years	7.2%	6.2%
Since Inception	7.9%	7.0%

Inception Date: 01 July 2007. Returns prior to inception are backtested. Returns are net of the TIC.

# **FEES**

	PERCENTAGE
Total Expense Ratio (TER)	0.20% (Dec 2024)
Transaction Costs (TC)	0.00% (Dec 2024)
Total Investment Charge (TIC)	0.20% (Dec 2024)

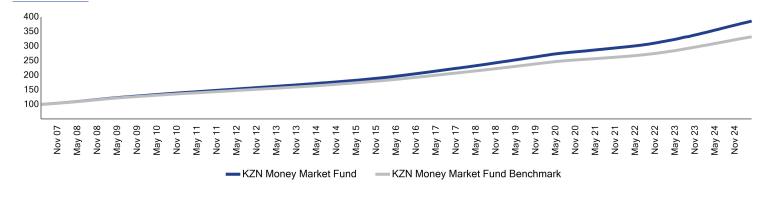
#### BENCHMARK COMPOSITION

KZN Money Market Fund Benchmark

# HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YEAR
2020	0.7%	0.6%	0.7%	0.7%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	6.2%
2021	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	4.8%
2022	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.6%	0.5%	0.6%	0.6%	0.7%	6.0%
2023	0.7%	0.6%	0.7%	0.6%	0.7%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.4%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	9.0%
2024	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%	0.8%	0.7%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%	0.8%	10.0%
2025	0.8%	0.7%	0.7%	0.8%									2.9%

## **CUMULATIVE INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE**



# DISCLAIMER

The information and commentary contained in this document is of a general nature and is not intended to address the circumstances of a particular individual or entity. It does not in any way constitute a solicitation, recommendation, guidance or proposal, nor does it constitute financial, investment, tax, legal or other advice. Whilstreasonable care was taken in ensuring that the information is accurate, Sygnia Asset Management does not warrant its accuracy, correctness or completeness and accepts no liability in respect of any damages and/or loss suffered as a result of reliance on the information in this document. No one should act upon the information contained in this document without having obtained appropriate and professional financial, investment, legal, tax and such other relevant advice as may be required in each instance. Sygnia Asset Management is a licensed financial services provider (FSP 873): 7th Floor, the Foundry, Cardiff Street, Green Point, 8001 Tel: (021) 446 4940/Fax: (021) 446 4950

## **CALENDAR YEAR RETURNS**

FUND	BENCHMARK
6.2%	5.4%
4.8%	3.8%
6.0%	5.2%
9.0%	8.0%
10.0%	8.5%
	6.2% 4.8% 6.0% 9.0%

# MANAGER ALLOCATION 30 APRIL 2025

MANAGER	PERCENTAGE
Taquanta Core Cash - KZN Municipal Pension Fund	49.9%
Coronation - SA Cash	49.9%
Cash	0.2%