

## Navigating through volatility – asset classes

Choosing from a wide variety of investment instruments can be overwhelming – leaving you to wonder if there's one asset class that consistently outperforms.

Considering historical calendar returns by asset class, it is clear that there is no particular asset class that has consistently outperformed. Rankings changed over time due to economic variables, with the top performing asset class in one year often falling to the middle or bottom of the table in the following year. This is even more relevant in the short-term, for example, local and global property went from being the worst performers in 2020, to the best performers in 2021.

Diversifying a portfolio with a variety of asset classes can be beneficial to take advantage of tailwinds in any period or defending against headwinds.

Markets move in cycles, but the basic principles of investing remain constant. Optimal investing comes down to aligning investment objectives with long-term goals, staying invested over the long-term and investing in a suitably diversified portfolio.

### Asset Class calendar year performance:

2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Global Property 37.6%	Gold 30.7%	Global Equities 23.7%	Global Cash 18.3%	SA Equities 21.0%	SA Bonds 15.4%	Global Property 35.1%	Global Property 27.2%	Global Equities 52.4%	SA Property 35.9%	Gold 34.5%	SA Property 29.6%
SA Property 36.9%	Global Equities 22.7%	Global Property 19.4%	Global Bonds 14.8%	SA Property 17.2%	SA Property 10.2%	Global Cash 34.0%	SA Property 26.6%	Global Property 30.7%	Global Property 35.5%	Global Bonds 28.9%	SA Equities 19.0%
Global Equities 29.3%	Global Bonds 14.7%	Gold 15.6%	Gold 13.7%	Global Equities 12.8%	SA Cash 7.4%	Global Equities 31.5%	Global Equities 15.7%	Global Cash 23.5%	SA Equities 26.7%	Global Cash 22.1%	Gold 16.5%
SA Equities 29.2%	SA Bonds 8.7%	SA Equities 12.0%	Global Property 9.2%	SA Bonds 10.2%	SA Equities 2.6%	Global Bonds 29.7%	Global Bonds 11.1%	SA Equities 21.4%	Global Equities 22.7%	Global Property 15.3%	SA Bonds 15.0%
Global Cash 8.7%	SA Equities 7.0%	SA Bonds 10.3%	SA Bonds 7.7%	SA Cash 7.5%	Gold -4.1%	Gold 19.9%	SA Equities 10.9%	Global Bonds 20.2%	SA Bonds 15.9%	Global Equities 13.7%	Global Property 9.2%
SA Bonds 8.4%	Global Cash 5.6%	SA Cash 7.3%	SA Cash 7.2%	Gold 2.9%	Global Equities -4.3%	SA Property 8.0%	Global Cash 10.5%	SA Property 8.4%	Gold 12.4%	SA Property 8.9%	SA Cash 6.9%
Gold 4.8%	SA Cash 5.4%	Global Bonds 3.9%	Global Equities 5.8%	Global Property 2.5%	Global Property -7.0%	SA Cash 6.5%	SA Bonds 10.1%	SA Cash 5.2%	Global Bonds 9.6%	SA Bonds 8.9%	Global Equities 1.7%
SA Cash 3.8%	Global Property -1.5%	SA Property 1.9%	SA Equities -8.5%	Global Bonds -2.8%	Global Bonds -9.9%	SA Equities 5.1%	Gold 8.8%	SA Bonds 0.6%	SA Cash 5.5%	SA Cash 5.7%	Global Bonds -5.2%
Global Bonds 3.5%	SA Property -34.5%	Global Cash -0.6%	SA Property -25.3%	Global Cash -8.7%	Global Cash -11.5%	SA Bonds -3.9%	SA Cash 5.9%	Gold -11.4%	Global Cash 5.2%	SA Equities 2.6%	Global Cash -10.0%

Data source: Factset & Morningstar Direct; data period: January 2010-December 2021; reporting currency ZAR

Maintain your course, stay invested.

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