

EPP

iShares MSCI Pacific ex Japan ETF

Analyst Report

This ETF offers a way to tap into the Asia Pacific region while avoiding potential return drag Japan. This strategy might have appeal to investors concerned that the Japanese economy will continue to struggle thanks to intensifying competition from emerging markets and staggering public debt burdens. Investors looking to fine tune their international equity exposure may find EPP to be a useful tool in building a long-term portfolio, though those looking to cast a wider net and include all major Asian economies might want to consider VPL instead. This ETF can also have appeal over a much shorter-time horizon; EPP can be a useful tactical tool that gives investors a way to bet on short-term strength from Asian economies.

Several elements of the EPP portfolio are worth noting. Investors should be aware that EPP is dominated by developed market stocks--this ETF won't give you much in the way of exposure to China or Malaysia, and is instead dominated by Australian equities. And like many international equity ETFs, there are certain biases in the portfolio; EPP is skewed towards large cap and mega cap stocks, and certain sectors receive hefty allocations (in particular, there's a big weight to banks). Those looking to focus more on emerging Asian economies should take a look at GMF, which features a very unique risk/return profile. EPP is a nice tool for investors looking to fine tune their international equity exposure, avoiding Japan in favor of more promising developed Asia Pacific economies. But the nuances of the exposure should be recognized and understood before establishing a position.

ESG Themes and Scores

7.39/10

ESG Rate

86.15%

Global Percentile

94.38%

Peer Percentile

Performance Data

	EPP	ETF Database Category Average	Factset Segment Average
1 Month	0.59%	0.23%	1.35%
3 Month	10.63%	10.69%	14.68%
YTD Return	14.62%	12.33%	20.50%
1 Year Return	17.02%	10.62%	20.18%
3 Year Return	8.44%	7.73%	10.00%
5 Year Return	7.91%	6.63%	8.98%

Top 5 Holdings

Symbol	Holding	% Assets
CBA	Commonwealth Bank of Australia	9.18%
BHP	BHP Group Ltd	6.22%
1299	AIA Group Limited	4.85%
CSL	CSL Limited	4.08%
D05	DBS Group Holdings Ltd	3.85%

Vitals

Issuer	BlackRock, Inc.
Brand	iShares
Structure	ETF
Expense Ratio	0.48%
Inception	Oct 25, 2001
Index Tracked	MSCI Pacific ex-Japan Index

ETF Database Themes

Category	Asia Pacific Equities
Asset Class	Equity
Asset Class Size	Large-Cap
Asset Class Style	Blend
Region (General)	Developed Asia Pacific
Region (Specific)	Pacific ex-Japan

FactSet Classifications

Segment	Equity: Developed Asia-Pacific Ex-Japan - Total Market
Category	Size and Style
Focus	Total Market
Niche	Broad-based
Strategy	Vanilla
Weighting	Market Cap

