



Annual Management Report of Fund Performance | As at December 31, 2016

# EMPIRE LIFE MUTUAL FUNDS<sup>®</sup>

**Empire Life Emblem Balanced Portfolio**

This annual management report of fund performance contains financial highlights, but does not contain either the complete interim or annual financial statements of the investment fund. You can get a copy of the interim or annual financial statements at your request, and at no cost, by calling the toll-free number 1 855 823-6883, by writing to us at 165 University Avenue, 9th Floor, Toronto, Ontario M5H 3B8 or by visiting our website at [www.empirelifeinvestments.ca](http://www.empirelifeinvestments.ca) or SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com). Unitholders may also contact us using one of these methods to request a copy of the investment fund's proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record, or quarterly portfolio disclosure.

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# Empire Life Emblem Balanced Portfolio

Annual Management Report of Fund Performance

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## Management Discussion of Fund Performance

### Investment objectives and strategies

Empire Life Emblem Balanced Portfolio (the "Fund") seeks a balance of growth and income. The Fund invests primarily in a broadly diversified mix of primarily Canadian fixed income securities and equities through a combination of strategic and tactical asset allocation and a value-oriented approach to security selection. The Fund's target asset mix is 50% fixed income securities and 50% equity investments. Tactical shifts in asset allocation may be made by the portfolio manager with the objective of adding incremental value and optimizing the Fund's risk-return profile.

### Risk

The overall level of risk of investing remains as discussed in the Simplified Prospectus. Any changes as a result of operations during the period have not affected the overall risk of the Fund. The Fund is suitable for the investor who seeks long-term capital growth, has a low to medium tolerance for risk and wishes to diversify their portfolio through fixed income and equity securities to potentially reduce volatility.

### Result of operations

For the twelve-month period ending December 31, 2016 (the "Period"), Empire Life Emblem Balanced Portfolio (the "Fund"), Series A, returned 4.15%. The net returns of other series of this Fund are provided under the section titled "Past Performance". The series have different returns due to the expenses charged to each series. The Fund's benchmark, the S&P/TSX Composite Index, broadly representative of the Canadian market, returned 21.08% for the same Period. The Fund's mandate is to invest in a diversified target asset mix of equity securities (50%) and fixed-income securities and cash (50%). Fund returns are reported net of all management fees and expenses for all series, unlike the returns of the Fund's benchmark, which are based on the performance of an index that does not pay fees or incur expenses.

The Fund's blended benchmark returned 9.31% for the Period. The blended benchmark is composed of 50% FTSE TMX Canada Universe Bond Index, 15% S&P/TSX Composite Index, 15% S&P/TSX 60 Index, 5% S&P/TSX Small Cap Index, 7.5% S&P 500 Index, and 7.5% MSCI EAFE Index. In the portfolio manager's view, this comparison more closely reflects the market sectors in which the Fund invests, to provide a more useful comparative to the performance of the Fund.

The Fund underperformed its benchmark over the Period. Equity allocations to U.S. and international markets as well as a strategic allocation to bonds detracted from the Fund's performance.

The Fund underperformed its blended benchmark over the Period as its security selection among Canadian equities detracted from performance. A tactical overweight allocation to Canadian large-capitalization equities and an underweight position in international equities contributed to the Fund's performance.

During the Period, macroeconomic surprises and uncertainty were abundant; financial markets, global economies and the political arena all took unexpected turns at different points during 2016. From the U.K.'s vote to leave the European Union ("Brexit") to the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries' (OPEC) oil supply deal to the late-Period election of Donald Trump as U.S. President, investors had no shortage of unexpected news to digest. Global equities posted gains and bond markets weakened following the U.S. election in response to expectations for higher inflation and gross domestic product growth. During the Period, industrial commodity prices also posted their first sustained increase since 2011, which contributed to strong Canadian equity market gains. European equity markets were also relatively strong despite some post-Brexit challenges, with improving manufacturing and global trade helping to reduce the probability of recession in that region. In Japan, a weak yen helped to boost export demand. Core fixed income did not perform as well over the Period, with interest rates moving upward as a result of expected higher inflation and economic growth.

The portfolio manager increased the Fund's fixed-income allocation in early 2016 in recognition of the potential for short-term financial market volatility. Also increased was the Fund's Canadian equity allocation in response to tighter commodity markets – stemming from the Alberta wildfires and output uncertainty from OPEC – as well as positive momentum for the Canadian dollar. The portfolio manager reduced the Fund's position in U.S. equities to take profit from what had been an overweight allocation. The Fund's U.S. equity position was increased slightly again after the U.S. election. The portfolio manager also reduced the Fund's international equity allocation over concerns about Brexit and a weak currency environment. At the end of the Period, the Fund had a neutral allocation to fixed income (including cash), an underweight position in international equities, a slightly overweight position in Canadian equities and an overweight allocation to U.S. equities. Despite financial market volatility early in the Period, an environment of low but positive economic growth and the continued accommodative monetary policies of global central banks, combined with a number of somewhat surprising political events, resulted in a return to an investor preference for "riskier" assets at the end of 2016.

# Empire Life Emblem Balanced Portfolio

## Annual Management Report of Fund Performance

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### Recent developments

Going into 2017, the portfolio manager expects that, as a close neighbour, Canada may benefit from strong U.S. economic growth (if it results in increased trade). However, there is still some uncertainty regarding the status of the North American Free Trade Agreement, as well as what parts of this agreement may be renegotiated. U.S. labour markets could continue to tighten, which could, in turn, boost consumer spending in 2017. The new U.S. administration may have positive near-term implications for U.S. economic growth through increased infrastructure spending, deregulation and tax cuts. A tighter monetary policy by the U.S. Federal Reserve Board could result in a stronger U.S. dollar, but may also challenge the credit cycle. Core inflation in the eurozone has been largely flat, and the portfolio manager expects the European Central Bank to maintain its accommodative monetary policy, after extending its bond-buying program near the end of the Period. The portfolio manager will be closely watching elections in the key markets of France and Germany in the coming Period, as much uncertainty remains in those markets heading into 2017.

### Future Accounting Changes

#### IFRS 9 *Financial Instruments*

In July 2014, the International Accounting Standards Board published the complete version of IFRS 9, which is effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2018, with retrospective application. The new standard includes requirements on the classification and measurement of financial assets and liabilities, an expected credit loss model that replaces the existing incurred loss impairment model and new hedge accounting guidance. The Manager is currently evaluating the impact of IFRS 9 on the Fund's financial statements.

### Related party transactions

Empire Life Investments Inc. is the Manager, Trustee and Portfolio Manager of the Fund. The Manager is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Empire Life Insurance Company.

The Manager provides or arranges for the provision of all the management and administrative services for the day-to-day operations of the Fund, including providing or arranging the provision of investment advice, record keeping and other administrative services, some of which are provided by an affiliate of the Manager. In consideration of the management and administrative services, the Fund pays the Manager a monthly management fee calculated as a percentage of daily net asset value of each series of the Fund. The rates for each series are disclosed under "*Management fees*".

During the Period, the Manager absorbed \$272,765 of total expenses otherwise payable by the Fund, as compared to \$191,112\* for the year ended December 31, 2015. The amount of expenses waived or absorbed is determined annually on a series by series basis at the discretion of the Manager and the Manager can terminate the waiver or absorption at any time.

\* The expenses absorbed by the Manager for the year ended December 31, 2015 of \$191,112 have been revised from the \$180,506 reported in the Annual Management Report of Fund Performance for the year ended December 31, 2015. This revision has been made to conform with the presentation used in the Fund's 2016 Annual Financial Statements, where Management fee rebates have been reclassified from Management fee expense to Expenses absorbed by Manager.

### Series description

The Fund offers the following series: A, T6, T8, F and I. Series A, T6 and T8 units are available to all investors. Series T6 and T8 are designed for investors seeking regular monthly cash flows from a Fund. Series F units are only available to investors who have a fee-based account with their dealer and whose dealer has signed an agreement with Empire Life Investments Inc. Management fees are payable by the Funds on all series except for series I. Series I units are available to institutional investors who meet a minimum investment threshold and who have entered into a Series I agreement. The management fee for Series I units is negotiated between Empire Life Investments Inc. and the investor and is payable directly to Empire Life Investments Inc. by the investor.

### Financial highlights

The following tables show selected key financial information about the Fund and are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the period and each of the other periods as shown below. This information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements for the period.

# Empire Life Emblem Balanced Portfolio

## Annual Management Report of Fund Performance

### The Fund's net assets per unit<sup>(1)</sup>

Series A Units	For the year ended December 31, 2016	For the year ended December 31, 2015	For the year ended December 31, 2014	For the year ended December 31, 2013	For the year ended December 31, 2012
<b>Net Assets, beginning of period</b>	\$ 12.11	\$ 11.86	\$ 11.07	\$ 10.23	\$ 10.00 *
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations:</b>					
Total revenue	0.31	0.32	0.31	0.32	0.32
Total expenses	(0.28)	(0.30)	(0.29)	(0.26)	(0.23)
Realized gains (losses)	0.09	0.05	0.41	0.24	(0.12)
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.42	0.07	0.57	1.03	0.50
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>\$ 0.54</b>	<b>\$ 0.14</b>	<b>\$ 1.00</b>	<b>\$ 1.33</b>	<b>\$ 0.47</b>
<b>Distributions:</b>					
From income	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.13)	(0.15)
From dividends	–	–	–	–	–
From capital gains	(0.07)	(0.00)	(0.20)	(0.16)	(0.00)
Return of capital	–	–	–	–	–
<b>Total annual distributions<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>\$ (0.07)</b>	<b>\$ (0.00)</b>	<b>\$ (0.20)</b>	<b>\$ (0.29)</b>	<b>\$ (0.15)</b>
<b>Net Assets, end of period<sup>(4)</sup></b>	<b>\$ 12.54</b>	<b>\$ 12.11</b>	<b>\$ 11.86</b>	<b>\$ 11.07</b>	<b>\$ 10.22</b>

Series T6 Units	For the year ended December 31, 2016	For the year ended December 31, 2015	For the year ended December 31, 2014	For the year ended December 31, 2013	For the year ended December 31, 2012
<b>Net Assets, beginning of period</b>	\$ 9.52	\$ 9.91	\$ 9.84	\$ 9.59	\$ 10.00 *
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations:</b>					
Total revenue	0.24	0.26	0.27	0.29	0.31
Total expenses	(0.21)	(0.24)	(0.24)	(0.24)	(0.22)
Realized gains (losses)	0.07	0.03	0.31	0.21	(0.11)
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.31	0.04	0.51	1.02	0.65
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>\$ 0.41</b>	<b>\$ 0.09</b>	<b>\$ 0.85</b>	<b>\$ 1.28</b>	<b>\$ 0.63</b>
<b>Distributions:</b>					
From income	(0.00)	(0.01)	(0.03)	(0.07)	(0.17)
From dividends	–	–	–	–	–
From capital gains	(0.06)	(0.00)	(0.16)	(0.14)	(0.00)
Return of capital	(0.57)	(0.60)	(0.59)	(0.58)	(0.60)
<b>Total annual distributions<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>\$ (0.63)</b>	<b>\$ (0.61)</b>	<b>\$ (0.78)</b>	<b>\$ (0.79)</b>	<b>\$ (0.77)</b>
<b>Net Assets, end of period<sup>(4)</sup></b>	<b>\$ 9.27</b>	<b>\$ 9.52</b>	<b>\$ 9.91</b>	<b>\$ 9.84</b>	<b>\$ 9.59</b>

# Empire Life Emblem Balanced Portfolio

## Annual Management Report of Fund Performance

Series T8 Units	For the year ended December 31, 2016	For the year ended December 31, 2015	For the year ended December 31, 2014	For the year ended December 31, 2013	For the year ended December 31, 2012
<b>Net Assets, beginning of period</b>	\$ 8.70	\$ 9.31	\$ 9.40	\$ 9.36	\$ 10.00 *
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations:</b>					
Total revenue	0.21	0.24	0.26	0.28	0.31
Total expenses	(0.19)	(0.22)	(0.24)	(0.23)	(0.21)
Realized gains (losses)	0.06	(0.04)	0.39	0.22	(0.17)
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.31	0.12	0.39	0.78	0.46
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>\$ 0.39</b>	<b>\$ 0.10</b>	<b>\$ 0.80</b>	<b>\$ 1.05</b>	<b>\$ 0.39</b>
<b>Distributions:</b>					
From income	(0.00)	(0.06)	(0.00)	(0.07)	(0.20)
From dividends	—	—	—	—	—
From capital gains	(0.05)	(0.00)	(0.16)	(0.14)	(0.00)
Return of capital	(0.70)	(0.74)	(0.75)	(0.75)	(0.80)
<b>Total annual distributions<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>\$ (0.75)</b>	<b>\$ (0.80)</b>	<b>\$ (0.91)</b>	<b>\$ (0.96)</b>	<b>\$ (1.00)</b>
<b>Net Assets, end of period<sup>(4)</sup></b>	<b>\$ 8.30</b>	<b>\$ 8.70</b>	<b>\$ 9.31</b>	<b>\$ 9.40</b>	<b>\$ 9.36</b>

Series F Units	For the year ended December 31, 2016	For the year ended December 31, 2015	For the year ended December 31, 2014	For the year ended December 31, 2013†
<b>Net Assets, beginning of period</b>	\$ 11.98	\$ 11.70	\$ 10.88	\$ 10.00 *
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations:</b>				
Total revenue	0.31	0.32	0.31	0.30
Total expenses	(0.13)	(0.16)	(0.15)	(0.13)
Realized gains (losses)	0.08	0.02	0.37	0.24
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.41	0.08	0.33	0.72
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>\$ 0.67</b>	<b>\$ 0.26</b>	<b>\$ 0.86</b>	<b>\$ 1.13</b>
<b>Distributions:</b>				
From income	(0.06)	(0.11)	(0.09)	(0.13)
From dividends	(0.04)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
From capital gains	(0.07)	(0.00)	(0.20)	(0.16)
Return of capital	—	—	—	—
<b>Total annual distributions<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>\$ (0.17)</b>	<b>\$ (0.11)</b>	<b>\$ (0.29)</b>	<b>\$ (0.29)</b>
<b>Net Assets, end of period<sup>(4)</sup></b>	<b>\$ 12.44</b>	<b>\$ 11.98</b>	<b>\$ 11.70</b>	<b>\$ 10.88</b>

Series I Units	For the year ended December 31, 2016	For the year ended December 31, 2015	For the year ended December 31, 2014	For the year ended December 31, 2013	For the year ended December 31, 2012
<b>Net Assets, beginning of period</b>	\$ 12.64	\$ 12.30	\$ 11.36	\$ 10.34	\$ 10.00 *
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations:</b>					
Total revenue	0.33	0.34	0.33	0.33	0.32
Total expenses	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.03)	(0.02)	—
Realized gains (losses)	0.11	(0.03)	0.46	0.27	(0.09)
Unrealized gains (losses)	0.46	(0.02)	0.64	0.82	0.40
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>\$ 0.88</b>	<b>\$ 0.27</b>	<b>\$ 1.40</b>	<b>\$ 1.40</b>	<b>\$ 0.63</b>
<b>Distributions:</b>					
From income	(0.15)	(0.20)	(0.14)	(0.22)	(0.26)
From dividends	(0.10)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)	(0.00)
From capital gains	(0.08)	(0.00)	(0.21)	(0.17)	(0.00)
Return of capital	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total annual distributions<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>\$ (0.33)</b>	<b>\$ (0.20)</b>	<b>\$ (0.35)</b>	<b>\$ (0.39)</b>	<b>\$ (0.26)</b>
<b>Net Assets, end of period<sup>(4)</sup></b>	<b>\$ 13.13</b>	<b>\$ 12.64</b>	<b>\$ 12.30</b>	<b>\$ 11.36</b>	<b>\$ 10.34</b>

# Empire Life Emblem Balanced Portfolio

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### Ratios and supplemental data

Series A Units	For the year ended December 31, 2016	For the year ended December 31, 2015	For the year ended December 31, 2014	For the year ended December 31, 2013	For the year ended December 31, 2012
<b>Total Net Asset Value</b>	\$ 18,432,361	\$ 16,059,675	\$ 9,066,333	\$ 1,740,143	\$ 120,377
<b>Number of units outstanding</b>	1,469,590	1,325,737	764,190	157,195	11,770
Management expense ratio <sup>(5)</sup>	2.25%	2.25%	2.24%	2.25%	2.25%
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions	2.57%	2.73%	3.87%	10.33%	76.21%
Trading expense ratio <sup>(6)</sup>	0.07%	0.12%	0.16%	0.14%	0.19%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(7)</sup>	138.74%	141.44%	169.77%	95.58%	85.24%
<b>Net Asset Value per unit</b>	<b>\$ 12.54</b>	<b>\$ 12.11</b>	<b>\$ 11.86</b>	<b>\$ 11.07</b>	<b>\$ 10.23</b>

Series T6 Units	For the year ended December 31, 2016	For the year ended December 31, 2015	For the year ended December 31, 2014	For the year ended December 31, 2013	For the year ended December 31, 2012
<b>Total Net Asset Value</b>	\$ 7,824,422	\$ 6,070,494	\$ 1,499,090	\$ 180,930	\$ 31,933
<b>Number of units outstanding</b>	843,881	637,884	151,252	18,394	3,329
Management expense ratio <sup>(5)</sup>	2.25%	2.24%	2.24%	2.25%	2.25%
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions	2.57%	2.61%	3.15%	6.91%	118.77%
Trading expense ratio <sup>(6)</sup>	0.07%	0.12%	0.16%	0.14%	0.19%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(7)</sup>	138.74%	141.44%	169.77%	95.58%	85.24%
<b>Net Asset Value per unit</b>	<b>\$ 9.27</b>	<b>\$ 9.52</b>	<b>\$ 9.91</b>	<b>\$ 9.84</b>	<b>\$ 9.59</b>

Series T8 Units	For the year ended December 31, 2016	For the year ended December 31, 2015	For the year ended December 31, 2014	For the year ended December 31, 2013	For the year ended December 31, 2012
<b>Total Net Asset Value</b>	\$ 423,552	\$ 403,207	\$ 71,431	\$ 21,109	\$ 10,060
<b>Number of units outstanding</b>	51,020	46,333	7,676	2,246	1,074
Management expense ratio <sup>(5)</sup>	2.25%	2.24%	2.24%	2.25%	2.25%
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions	2.48%	2.69%	5.00%	15.94%	400.35%
Trading expense ratio <sup>(6)</sup>	0.07%	0.12%	0.16%	0.14%	0.19%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(7)</sup>	138.74%	141.44%	169.77%	95.58%	85.24%
<b>Net Asset Value per unit</b>	<b>\$ 8.30</b>	<b>\$ 8.70</b>	<b>\$ 9.31</b>	<b>\$ 9.40</b>	<b>\$ 9.36</b>

Series F Units	For the year ended December 31, 2016	For the year ended December 31, 2015	For the year ended December 31, 2014	For the year ended December 31, 2013
<b>Total Net Asset Value</b>	\$ 2,383,437	\$ 2,040,598	\$ 709,488	\$ 64,923
<b>Number of units outstanding</b>	191,530	170,354	60,633	5,965
Management expense ratio <sup>(5)</sup>	1.10%	1.10%	1.09%	1.10%
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions	1.11%	1.25%	1.82%	6.97%
Trading expense ratio <sup>(6)</sup>	0.07%	0.12%	0.16%	0.14%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(7)</sup>	138.74%	141.44%	169.77%	95.58%
<b>Net Asset Value per unit</b>	<b>\$ 12.44</b>	<b>\$ 11.98</b>	<b>\$ 11.70</b>	<b>\$ 10.88</b>

# Empire Life Emblem Balanced Portfolio

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Series I Units	For the year ended December 31, 2016	For the year ended December 31, 2015	For the year ended December 31, 2014	For the year ended December 31, 2013	For the year ended December 31, 2012
<b>Total Net Asset Value</b>	\$ 137,977,364	\$ 76,841,249	\$ 10,487,125	\$ 3,111,767	\$ 2,240,118
<b>Number of units outstanding</b>	10,508,071	6,080,725	852,809	273,985	216,597
Management expense ratio <sup>(5)</sup>	–	–	–	–	–
Management expense ratio before waivers or absorptions	0.16%	0.27%	1.51%	4.62%	5.64% **
Trading expense ratio <sup>(6)</sup>	0.07%	0.12%	0.16%	0.14%	0.19% **
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>(7)</sup>	138.74%	141.44%	169.77%	95.58%	85.24%
<b>Net Asset Value per unit</b>	<b>\$ 13.13</b>	<b>\$ 12.64</b>	<b>\$ 12.30</b>	<b>\$ 11.36</b>	<b>\$ 10.34</b>

\* Initial offering price.

\*\* Annualized.

† From January 15, 2013 to December 31, 2013.

- (1) This information is derived from the Fund's interim and annual audited financial statements. The 2016, 2015, 2014 and 2013 numbers are determined using International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), while the 2012 numbers are determined using previous Canadian generally accepted accounting principles (CGAAP). Closing amounts for 2012 may therefore vary slightly from opening balances for 2013. The term Net Asset Value per Unit used under CGAAP has been changed under IFRS to Net Assets Attributable to Holders of Redeemable Units per Unit.
- (2) Net assets and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase/decrease from operations is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding over the financial period.
- (3) Distributions were paid in cash or reinvested in additional units of the Fund, or both.
- (4) This is not a reconciliation of the beginning and ending Net Assets per unit.
- (5) The management expense ratio (MER) is based on total expenses (excluding withholding tax and other transaction costs) as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the Period.
- (6) The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the Period.
- (7) The Fund's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Fund's portfolio advisor manages its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the year. The higher a fund's portfolio turnover rate in a year, the greater the trading costs payable by the fund in the year, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the year. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a fund. Portfolio turnover rate is calculated based on the lesser of the cumulative cost of purchases or cumulative proceeds of sales divided by the average market value of the portfolio, excluding short-term investments.

## Management fees

The management fee for Series A, T6, T8 and F units is an annualized rate calculated as a percentage of net assets of the applicable series of the Fund and accrued daily and paid monthly to Empire Life Investments Inc. The management fee for Series I units is negotiated and paid directly by the investor, not by the Fund.

The Fund's management fees were used by Empire Life Investments Inc. to pay for the costs of the overall business and affairs of the Fund including activities related to making units of the Fund available to investors, and providing or arranging for the provision of investment advisory services and marketing services to the Fund.

	As percentage of management fees		
	Management fee rates	Dealer compensation	General administration, investment advice and profit
Series A	1.95%	56.61%	43.39%
Series T6	1.95%	117.21%	-17.21%
Series T8	1.95%	48.38%	51.62%
Series F	0.80%	-	100.00%



# Empire Life Emblem Balanced Portfolio

## Annual Management Report of Fund Performance

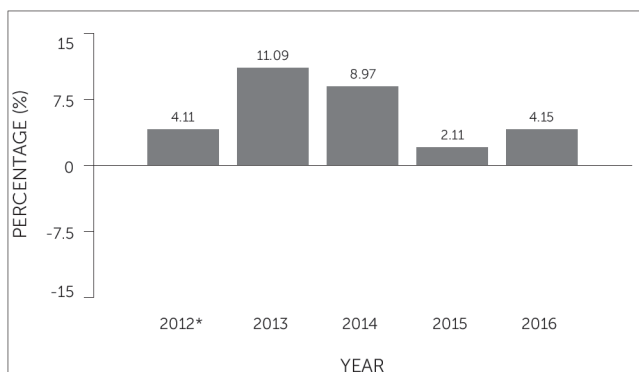
### Past performance

The indicated rates of return assume reinvestment of all distributions. They do not take into account sales, redemption, distribution or optional sales charges that would have reduced returns. The past performance of the Fund is not necessarily an indication of how it will perform in the future.

### Year-by-year returns

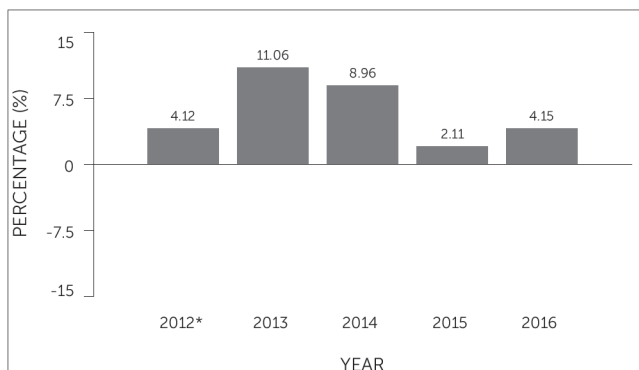
The following bar charts show the annual performance for each series of the Fund and illustrate how that series' performance has varied from year to year. The charts show, in percentage terms, how much an investment made on the first day of each financial year would have increased or decreased by the end of the period. For the first year of a series, the percentage shown is the actual return of the series from its commencement of operations.

Series A



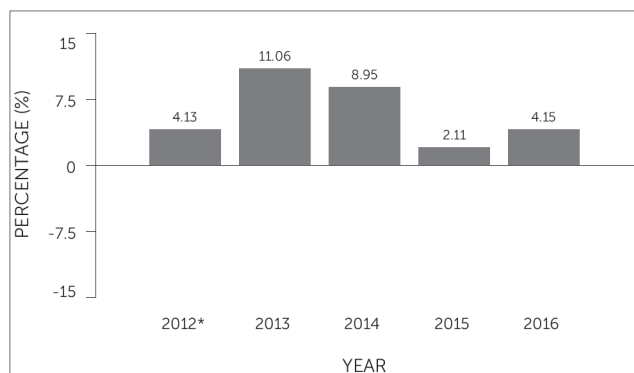
\*From January 9, 2012 to December 31, 2012 (not annualized)

Series T6



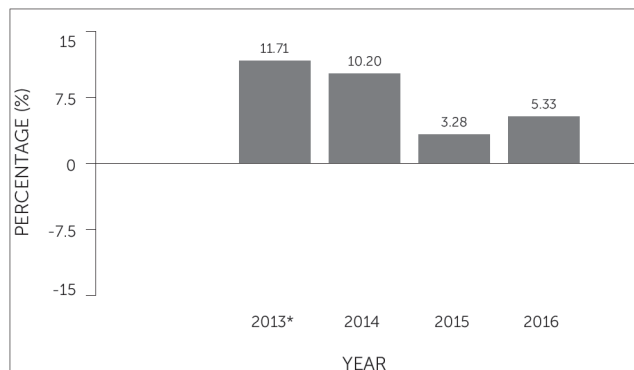
\*From January 9, 2012 to December 31, 2012 (not annualized)

Series T8



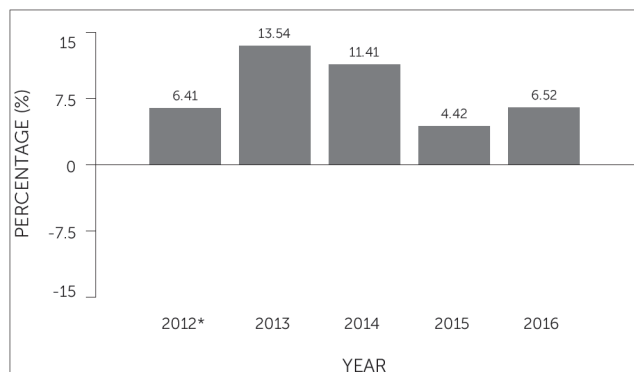
\*From January 9, 2012 to December 31, 2012 (not annualized)

Series F



\*From January 15, 2013 to December 31, 2013 (not annualized)

Series I



\*From January 9, 2012 to December 31, 2012 (not annualized)

### Annual compound returns

The Annual Compound Returns table shows the Fund's historical annual compound returns for each series of the Fund for the periods indicated. The annual compound returns are also compared to a broad based index and the Fund's blended index, as described below.

# Empire Life Emblem Balanced Portfolio

## Annual Management Report of Fund Performance

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	Since Inception*	Inception Date
Series A units <sup>1</sup>	4.1%	5.0%	N/A	6.1%	January 9, 2012
Series I units <sup>1</sup>	6.5%	7.4%	N/A	8.4%	January 9, 2012
Series T6 units <sup>1</sup>	4.2%	5.0%	N/A	6.1%	January 9, 2012
Series T8 units <sup>1</sup>	4.2%	5.0%	N/A	6.1%	January 9, 2012
Series F units <sup>1</sup>	5.3%	6.2%	N/A	7.7%	January 15, 2013
S&P/TSX Composite TR Index <sup>2</sup>	21.1%	7.1%		8.2%	(5 year return)
Blended Benchmark <sup>3</sup>	9.3%	6.8%		7.0%	(5 year return)

(1) Net of all fees and expenses paid by the Fund.

(2) The S&P/TSX Composite Index is broadly representative of the Canadian equity market. The S&P/TSX Composite Index tracks the performance of some of the largest and most widely held stocks listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

(3) The blended index is composed of 50% FTSE TMX Canada Universe Bond Index, 15% S&P/TSX Composite Index, 15% S&P/TSX 60 Index, 5% S&P/TSX Small Cap Index, 7.5% S&P 500 Index and 7.5% MSCI EAFE Index.

### Summary of investment portfolio

The summary of investment portfolio may have changed since December 31, 2016, due to ongoing portfolio transactions of the Fund. Quarterly updates are available within 60 days after quarter-end, except for December 31st, the Fund's fiscal year-end, when they are available within 90 days.

Top 25 Holdings	Percentage of Net Asset Value (%)
Government of Canada 0.500% Nov 1, 2018*	4.5
Government of Canada 1.500% Jun 1, 2026*	4.4
HSBC Bank Canada 0.821% Jan 3, 2017*	3.6
Government of Canada 3.500% Dec 1, 2045*	2.5
Toronto-Dominion Bank	1.8
Canada Housing Trust 2.350% Dec 15, 2018*	1.8
Royal Bank of Canada	1.8
Government of Canada 1.500% Jun 1, 2023*	1.6
Bank of Nova Scotia	1.6
Canadian National Railway Company	1.4
Bank of Montreal	1.2
Province of Ontario 2.800% Jun 2, 2048*	1.2
Province of Ontario 2.900% Dec 2, 2046*	1.2
Constellation Software Inc.	1.1
PrairieSky Royalty Limited	1.1
Suncor Energy Inc.	1.1
iShares S&P/TSX 60 Index ETF	1.0
Brookfield Asset Management Inc. 'A'	1.0
Alimentation Couche-Tard Inc. 'B'	0.9
CGI Group Inc. 'A'	0.9
Province of Ontario 2.400% Jun 2, 2026*	0.9
Enbridge Inc.	0.9
Bank of Montreal 1.610% Oct 28, 2021*	0.8
Wells Fargo & Company	0.8
407 International Inc. 2.430% May 4, 2027*	0.8
	<b>39.9</b>

\* Debt Instruments

### Portfolio by Category

Asset Type	Percentage of Net Asset Value (%)
Equities	48.7
Fixed Income	46.6
Short Term	3.6
Other Net Assets (Liabilities)	0.8
Cash & Cash Equivalents	0.3
	<b>100.0</b>

Sector	Percentage of Net Asset Value (%)
Canadian Corporate Bonds	20.8
Government Bonds	15.8
Financials	13.1
Energy	7.6
Provincial Bonds	7.5
Industrials	5.2
Information Technology	4.8
Consumer Staples	4.3
Bankers' Acceptances	3.6
Consumer Discretionary	3.0
Telecommunication Services	2.7
Health Care	2.7
U.S. Corporate Bonds	2.3
Materials	1.9
Exchange Traded Funds	1.6
Utilities	1.1
Other Net Assets (Liabilities)	0.8
Real Estate	0.7
Cash & Cash Equivalents	0.3
Municipal Bonds	0.2
	<b>100.0</b>

Country	Percentage of Net Asset Value (%)
Canada	80.2
United States	14.5
United Kingdom	1.0
Other Net Assets (Liabilities)	0.8
Japan	0.5
Ireland	0.4
Bermuda	0.4
Cash & Cash Equivalents	0.3
Netherlands	0.3
Germany	0.3
Denmark	0.2
Australia	0.2
Switzerland	0.2
Finland	0.1
Norway	0.1
France	0.1
Spain	0.1
Belgium	0.1
Jersey	0.1
Italy	0.1
Sweden	0.0
Luxembourg	0.0
Cayman Islands	0.0
India	0.0
Hong Kong	0.0
	<b>100.0</b>

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#### A NOTE ON FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This report may contain forward-looking statements about the Fund, including its strategy, expected performance and condition. Forward-looking statements include statements that are predictive in nature, that depend upon or refer to future events or conditions, or that include words such as "expects," "anticipates," "intends," "plans," "believes," "estimates" or negative versions thereof and similar expressions. In addition, any statement that may be made concerning future performance, strategies or prospects, and possible future Fund action, is also a forward-looking statement.

Forward-looking statements are the opinions and views of Empire Life Investments Inc. Inc. based on current expectations and projections about future events and are inherently subject to, among other things, risks, uncertainties and assumptions about the Fund and economic factors and are subject to change without notice. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance, and actual events and results could differ materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements made by the Fund. Any number of important factors could contribute to these digressions, including, but not limited to, general economic, political and market factors in North America and internationally, interest and foreign exchange rates, global equity and capital markets, business competition, technological change, changes in government regulations, unexpected judicial or regulatory proceedings, and catastrophic events.

The above-mentioned list of important factors is not exhaustive. You should consider these and other factors carefully before making any investment decisions and avoid placing undue reliance on forward-looking statements. The Fund has no specific intention of updating any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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