



The fund received a 5-star Overall Morningstar Rating as of 3/31/21 among 697 funds in the Diversified Emerging Mkts category (R6 shares, based on risk-adjusted returns)



Brian S. Freiwald, CFA
Portfolio Manager
(industry since 2004)

Objective

The fund seeks long-term capital appreciation.

Morningstar category

Diversified Emerging Mkts

Lipper category

Emerging Markets

Benchmark

MSCI Emerging Markets Index (ND)

Fund symbols

Class A	PEMMX
Class B	PEMBX
Class C	PEMZK
Class R	PEMLX
Class R6	PEMQX
Class Y	PEMYX

Net assets

\$601.55M

Number of holdings

48

Turnover

127%

Putnam Emerging Markets Equity Fund

Pursuing growth opportunities in developing economies

Growth potential

Emerging markets offer the potential for continued growth due to attractive demographics, rising wealth, and increased investment in infrastructure in developing countries.

A disciplined process

By integrating multiple perspectives into portfolio construction, the fund manager is able to better evaluate individual companies within the context of changing local and global influences.

Rigorous research

The manager leverages Putnam's global research platform to identify opportunities across emerging and select frontier markets.

Top ten holdings

Tencent	8.65%
Taiwan Semiconductor	8.04
Alibaba	7.39
Samsung Electronics	4.83
SK Hynix	3.33
Reliance Industries	3.26
HDFC Bank	3.01
JD.com	2.96
Meituan	2.82
MediaTek	2.42

Holdings represent 46.71% of the portfolio and will vary over time.

Country weightings

Country	Underweight	Overweight	Portfolio	Benchmark
Hong Kong		4.8	4.9	0.1
India		4.2	13.9	9.7
Argentina		1.6	1.7	0.1
China	0.6		38.5	37.9
Taiwan	0.6		14.3	13.7
South Korea	0.4		13.7	13.3
Mexico		0.0	1.7	1.7
Brazil	-0.1		4.4	4.5
Russia	-0.2		2.8	3.0
Thailand	-0.4		1.5	1.9
Other countries			2.0	14.1

Cash and net other assets represent 0.6% of the portfolio. Due to rounding, percentages may not equal 100%.

Risk

	Beta	Tracking error	Up capture ratio	Down capture ratio
R6 share (as of 3/31/21)	0.93	4.85%	102.74%	84.75%

**Not FDIC insured
May lose value
No bank guarantee**

The MSCI Emerging Markets Index (ND) is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure equity market performance in the global emerging markets. You cannot invest directly in an index.

Capture ratios are used to evaluate how well an investment manager performed relative to an index during specific periods (periods of positive return in the case of up capture, negative return in the case of down capture). The ratio is calculated by dividing the manager's returns by the returns of the index during the period and multiplying that factor by 100. **Turnover** is the rate at which the fund buys and sells securities each year. For example, if a fund's assets total \$100 million and the fund bought and sold \$100 million of securities that year, its portfolio turnover rate would be 100%. **Beta** is defined as a fund's sensitivity to market movements and is used to evaluate market related, or systematic, risk. It is a historical measure of the variability of return earned by an investment portfolio. Risk statistics are measured using a 5-year regression analysis. For funds with shorter track records, Since Inception analysis is used. **Tracking error** assesses how closely a fund's performance tracks that of the fund's benchmark by calculating the standard deviation of the difference between the fund's returns and its benchmark returns over a given time period, typically 5 years.

Not all share classes are available on all platforms.

Morningstar rankings

(R6 shares, based on total return)
1 year 27% (237/800)

Expense ratio

(R6 shares)
Total expense ratio 1.27%
What you pay 0.91%

“What you pay” reflects Putnam Management’s decision to contractually limit expenses through 2/28/22.

Adjustable management fee examples

Based on performance versus benchmark

Base fee 0.91%
Higher fee after 1% outperformance 0.94%
Lower fee after 1% underperformance 0.88%
Maximum performance adjustment +/-0.21%

Market-cap breakdown

Over \$20B 80.16%
\$4.3B–\$20B 14.56%
Less than \$4.3B 4.44%
Cash and other assets 0.84%

“Cash and other assets” includes cash, short-term securities, ETFs, bonds excluding convertible bonds, and other securities not able to be classified by market capitalization.

Morningstar rankings for class R6 shares are based on total return without sales charge relative to all share classes of funds with similar objectives as determined by Morningstar. Morningstar rankings may differ significantly from Morningstar’s risk-adjusted star ratings. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

For informational purposes only. Not an investment recommendation.

Putnam Retail Management
FS065_R6 325790 4/21

Annual performance (all distributions reinvested)

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 YTD
R6 shares at net asset value	19.0%	1.8%	-1.2%	-11.0%	6.1%	42.7%	-17.3%	23.0%	37.3%	-0.1%
Benchmark	18.2	-2.6	-2.2	-14.9	11.2	37.3	-14.6	18.4	18.3	2.3

Annualized total return performance

	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	Life of fund
R6 shares (Inception 5/22/18)	68.04%	10.50%	15.88%	5.07%	7.11%
Benchmark	58.39	6.53	12.07	3.65	6.81

Current performance may be lower or higher than the quoted past performance, which cannot guarantee future results. Share price, principal value, and return will vary, and you may have a gain or a loss when you sell your shares. Performance of class R6 shares assumes reinvestment of distributions and does not account for taxes. Class R6 shares, available to qualified employee-benefit plans only, are sold without an initial sales charge and have no CDSC. Performance for class R6 shares prior to their inception is derived from the historical performance of class Y shares (inception 9/29/08), and has not been adjusted for the lower investor servicing fees applicable to class R6 shares; had it, returns would have been higher. For the most recent month-end performance, please visit putnam.com.

Highlights of five-year performance periods (9/29/08–3/31/21)*

	Best 5-year return	Best period end date	Worst 5-year return	Worst period end date	Average 5-year return	% of 5-year periods with positive returns	Number of positive 5-year periods	Number of negative 5-year periods
R6 shares	16.17%	12/31/20	-4.72%	3/31/16	4.77%	87%	27	4

* Based on annualized returns for quarterly rolling periods.

Because the dollar amount of the monthly performance fee adjustment is based on the fund’s average assets during the rolling performance period, the amount of any dollar adjustment as a percentage of a fund’s current assets could exceed the “maximum annualized performance adjustment rates.” Performance fee adjustments will not commence until a fund has been operating under a shareholder-approved management contract with a performance fee adjustment for at least 12 months.

The Morningstar Rating™ for funds, or “star rating,” is calculated for managed products (including mutual funds, variable annuity and variable life subaccounts, exchange-traded funds, closed-end funds, and separate accounts) with at least a three-year history. Exchange-traded funds and open-ended mutual funds are considered a single population for comparative purposes. It is calculated based on a Morningstar Risk-Adjusted Return measure that accounts for variation in a managed product’s monthly excess performance, placing more emphasis on downward variations and rewarding consistent performance. The top 10% of products in each product category receive 5 stars, the next 22.5% receive 4 stars, the next 35% receive 3 stars, the next 22.5% receive 2 stars, and the bottom 10% receive 1 star. The Overall Morningstar Rating for a managed product is derived from a weighted average of the performance figures associated with its three-, five-, and 10-year (if applicable) Morningstar Rating metrics. The weights are: 100% three-year rating for 36-59 months of total returns, 60% five-year rating/40% three-year rating for 60-119 months of total returns, and 50% 10-year rating/30% five-year rating/20% three-year rating for 120 or more months of total returns. While the 10-year overall star rating formula seems to give the most weight to the 10-year period, the most recent three-year period actually has the greatest impact because it is included in all three rating periods. Ratings do not take into account the effects of sales charges and loads. Putnam Emerging Markets Equity Fund received 5, 5, and 4 stars for the 3-, 5-, and 10-year periods among 697, 596, and 292 Diversified Emerging Mkts funds, respectively.

Consider these risks before investing: International investing involves currency, economic, and political risks. Emerging-market securities carry illiquidity and volatility risks. Investments in small and/or midsize companies increase the risk of greater price fluctuations. From time to time, the fund may invest a significant portion of its assets in companies in one or more related industries or sectors, which would make the fund more vulnerable to adverse developments affecting those industries or sectors. Growth stocks may be more susceptible to earnings disappointments, and value stocks may fail to rebound. Risks associated with derivatives include increased investment exposure (which may be considered leverage) and, in the case of over-the-counter instruments, the potential inability to terminate or sell derivatives positions and the potential failure of the other party to the instrument to meet its obligations. The value of investments in the fund’s portfolio may fall or fail to rise over extended periods of time for a variety of reasons, including general economic, political, or financial market conditions; investor sentiment and market perceptions; government actions; geopolitical events or changes; and factors related to a specific issuer, geography, industry, or sector. These and other factors may lead to increased volatility and reduced liquidity in the fund’s portfolio holdings. Our investment techniques, analyses, and judgments may not produce the outcome we intend. The investments we select for the fund may not perform as well as other securities that we do not select for the fund. We, or the fund’s other service providers, may experience disruptions or operating errors that could have a negative effect on the fund. You can lose money by investing in the fund.

Request a prospectus or a summary prospectus, if available, from your financial representative or by calling Putnam at 1-800-225-1581. These prospectuses include investment objectives, risks, fees, expenses, and other information that you should read and consider carefully before investing.

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