



The fund received a 5-star Overall Morningstar Rating as of 9/30/20 among 695 funds in the Diversified Emerging Mkts category (R6 shares, based on risk-adjusted returns)



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



Andrew J. Yoon, CFA
Assistant Portfolio Manager
(industry since 2011)

Objective

The fund seeks long-term capital appreciation.

Morningstar category

Diversified Emerging Mkts

Lipper category

Emerging Markets

Fund symbols

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

Number of holdings

63

Net assets

\$389.29M

Dividend frequency

Annually

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

Putnam Emerging Markets Equity Fund (PEMQX)

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.

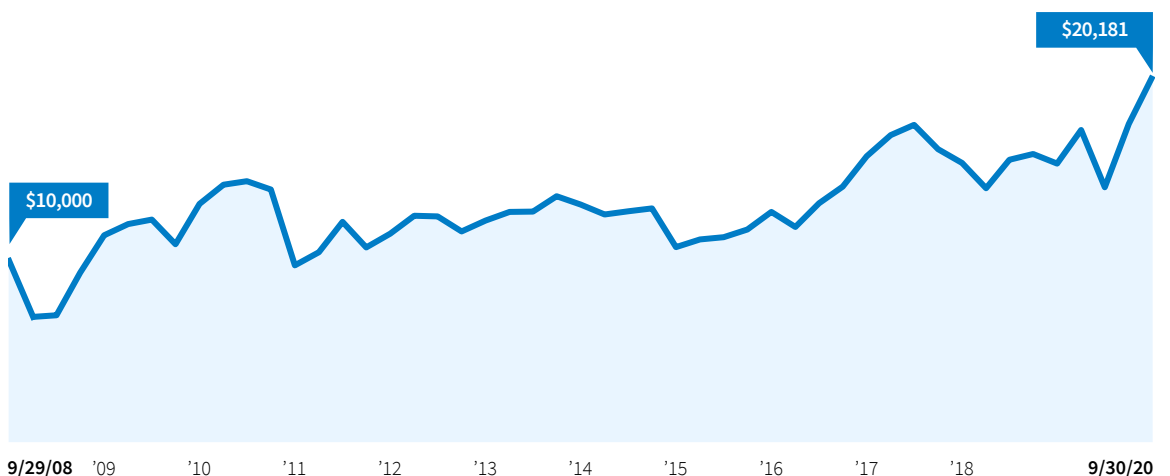
Fundamental investment research determines top holdings and country weightings

Top ten holdings		Country		● Fund	● MSCI Emerging Markets Index (ND)
Alibaba	11.35%	China	41.5%	42.0%	
Tencent	8.92	Taiwan	12.4	12.7	
Taiwan Semiconductor	6.78	South Korea	11.9	12.1	
Samsung Electronics	5.37	India	10.6	8.2	
Reliance Industries	3.63	Brazil	5.1	4.6	
Meituan Dianping	2.35	Russia	3.2	3.0	
China Mobile	2.32	Hong Kong	2.6	0.1	
SK Hynix	2.26	Mexico	2.2	1.6	
Wal-Mart Mexico SAB CV	2.20	Netherlands	1.7	0.0	
Tata Consultancy Services	2.03	South Africa	1.2	3.5	
Holdings represent 47.21% of the portfolio and will vary over time.		Other countries	7.1	12.3	

Cash and net other assets represent 0.5% of the portfolio.
Due to rounding, percentages may not equal 100%.

Growth of a \$10,000 investment

The fund has returned an average of 6.0% annually since inception.



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.

Morningstar rankings

(R6 shares, based on total return)
1 year 5% (31/790)

Expense ratio

(R6 shares)

Total expense ratio
1.30%

What you pay
0.85%

"What you pay" reflects Putnam Management's decision to contractually limit expenses through 12/30/20.

Adjustable management fee examples

Based on performance versus benchmark

Base fee 0.92%

Higher fee after 1% outperformance 0.95%

Lower fee after 1% underperformance 0.89%

Maximum performance adjustment +/-0.21%

Market-cap breakdown

Over \$20B 71.86%
\$4.3B-\$20B 10.99%
Less than \$4.3B 15.53%
Cash and other assets 1.62%

"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.

Beta

0.92

Price to earnings

19.74

Projected 5-yr EPS growth

17.78

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.

Not all share classes are available on all platforms.

For informational purposes only. Not an investment recommendation.

Putnam Retail Management
FS065_R6 323499 10/20

Annual performance at net asset value (all distributions reinvested)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 YTD
R6 shares	-26.2%	19.0%	1.8%	-1.2%	-11.0%	6.1%	42.7%	-17.3%	23.0%	17.3%
MSCI Emerging Markets Index (ND)	-18.4	18.2	-2.6	-2.2	-14.9	11.2	37.3	-14.6	18.4	-1.2

Annualized total return performance

Inception 5/22/18	Class R6 shares	MSCI Emerging Markets Index (ND)
1 year	31.48%	10.54%
3 years	8.61	2.42
5 years	13.42	8.97
10 years	4.40	2.50
Life of fund	6.02	5.31

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Highlights of five-year performance periods (9/29/08-9/30/20)*

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
13.42%	9/30/20	-4.72%	3/31/16	4.00%	86%	25	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 695, 590, and 264 Diversified Emerging Mkts funds, respectively.

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.

Beta measures volatility in relation to the fund's benchmark. A beta of less than 1.0 indicates lower volatility; a beta of more than 1.0, higher volatility than the benchmark. **Earnings per share (EPS)** is found by taking the net income and dividing it by the basic or diluted number of shares outstanding, as reported. You can also take "expected" earnings for the current year or for future years to calculate other P/E ratios. The **price-earnings ratio** of a firm's common stock is calculated as the current stock price divided by projected earnings per share for the coming year. The projections used are based on street consensus estimates provided by IBES.

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.