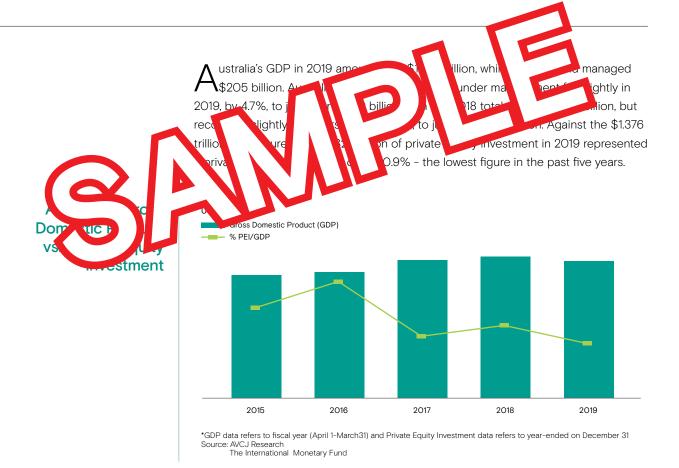




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Assets Under Management and M&A

Contrasting stories pre-COVID



New Zealand saw its private equity capital under management remain essentially constant between 2018 and 2019, at just around \$3.7 billion. In the first half of 2020, however, it rose to some \$4.16 billion. Private equity investment, at some \$2.5 billion in 2019, contributed 1.2% of its total GDP in 2019 - practically the same percentage as in 2018.

Fundraising

Fundraising frailty



Australasia's largest fund close by total amount in the period under review was the Pacific Equity Partners VI fund, with a final total close of \$1.743 billion. Second largest was the Australian Business Growth Fund, exactly on target at \$366.6 million, and third largest was the Quadrant Growth Fund, at \$283.4 million. Largest purely New Zealand fund was the Direct Capital VI buyout fund, closed on target at \$248.6 million. Largest funds in the market by target size were the aforementioned Australian Business Growth Fund, followed by the 5th Medical Research Commercialisation Fund (MRCF5), with a first close of \$147.8 million recorded against its \$323.8 million target, and New Zealand's Direct Capital VI fund.

Top three Australasian funds still in the market in the period under review were the Powering Australian Renewables Fund (PARF), launched July 2016 with a \$746.8 million first close recorded so far against its almost \$1.5 billion target, followed by

Investments

Remarkable resilience



New Zealand, meanwhile, saw a slight rise in 2019 of just 1.7% to the \$2.5 billion total from 29 deals, 20 disclosed, compared to 2018's just over \$2.46 billion from 43 deals, 25 disclosed. In the first half of 2020, though, Kiwi investment fell off massively, to just \$82 million from 10 deals, 6 disclosed, versus 1H2019's over \$2.45 billion from 19 deals, 14 disclosed.

Buyouts predominated in Australian investment by stage in the period under review, with almost \$10.6 billion invested or just under 86% of the total, from 45 buyouts, 19 disclosed, almost exactly the same percentage of the year's total as