Bendigo Managed Wholesale Funds
Active Funds

Quarterly fund update - December 2023

Investment approach

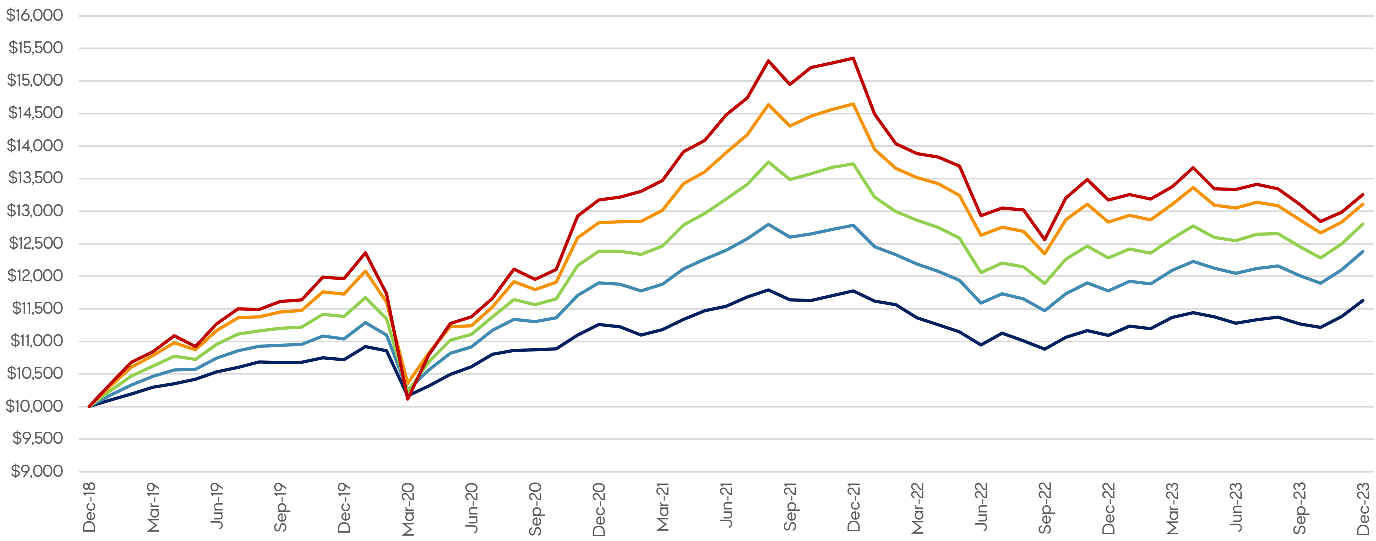
Each Fund invests via a selection of expert asset managers that specialise in managing specific asset classes. Sandhurst will invest the Fund's assets across a variety of asset classes. Together through the selection of expert asset managers and the asset allocation, Sandhurst will seek to meet or exceed the investment return objective of each Fund. Each Fund aims to provide a total return after fees in excess of a stated percentage above inflation over a full market cycle (typically 7 to 10 years).

Fund performance[1]
as at 31 December 2023

	Morningstar Rating™ Overall[2]	Morningstar Category Rank 5 Year[2]	Distribution (per unit)	3 months %	1 year %	3 years %p.a.	5 years %p.a.	Fund size $m
Bendigo Defensive Wholesale Fund	★★★★	2 / 15	$0.0039	3.19	4.86	1.07	3.06	$23.19
Peer Comparison				*3.97*	*5.88*	*0.33*	*2.13*	
Bendigo Conservative Wholesale Fund	★★★★★	8 / 92	$0.0076	3.04	5.09	1.33	4.36	$107.24
Peer Comparison				*4.20*	*7.04*	*1.91*	*3.40*	
Bendigo Balanced Wholesale Fund	★★★	62 / 96	$0.0044	2.76	4.28	1.11	5.07	$139.71
Peer Comparison				*4.88*	*9.25*	*3.76*	*5.35*	
Bendigo Growth Wholesale Fund	★★	133 / 157	$0.0033	1.82	2.15	0.73	5.56	$57.00
Peer Comparison				*5.63*	*10.83*	*5.10*	*6.76*	
Bendigo High Growth Wholesale Fund	★★	100 / 100	$0.0032	1.10	0.64	0.20	5.80	$29.13
Peer Comparison				*6.43*	*14.13*	*7.23*	*8.89*	

An example of how your investment grows

Growth of $10,000 over 5 years[1]
(Based on historic Fund performance over 5 years)

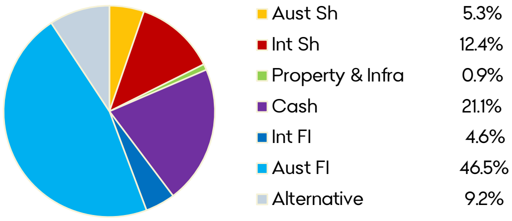


Fund Facts

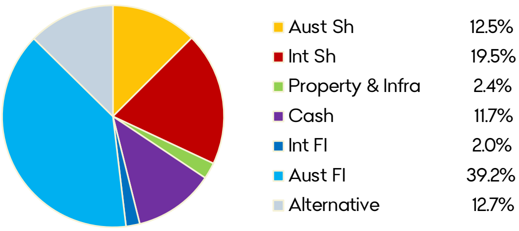
	APIR Code	Fund inception date	Distribution frequency	Return objective	Recommended investment timeframe	Risk level	Management fees & costs[3]	Buy / Sell spread[3]
Bendigo Defensive Wholesale Fund	STL0029AU	30 Sept 2011	Half yearly	CPI + 1%	2 years +	Low	0.61% p.a.	+0.10%/-0.12%
Bendigo Conservative Wholesale Fund	STL0012AU	6 June 2002	Half yearly	CPI + 2%	3 years +	Low to medium	0.73% p.a.	+0.14%/-0.15%
Bendigo Balanced Wholesale Fund	STL0013AU	6 June 2002	Half yearly	CPI + 3%	4 years +	Medium	0.83% p.a.	+0.17%/-0.17%
Bendigo Growth Wholesale Fund	STL0014AU	6 June 2002	Half yearly	CPI + 4%	5 years +	Medium to high	0.93% p.a.	+0.20%/-0.19%
Bendigo High Growth Wholesale Fund	STL0030AU	30 Sept 2011	Half yearly	CPI + 5%	7 years +	High	1.00% p.a.	+0.22%/-0.20%

Asset allocation

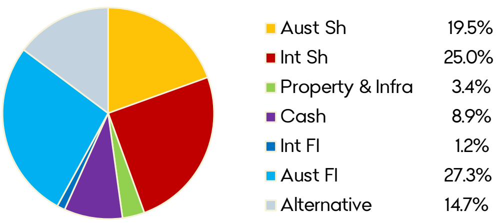
Bendigo Defensive Wholesale Fund



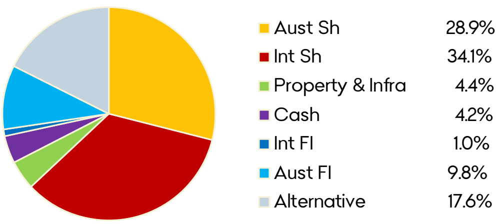
Bendigo Conservative Wholesale Fund



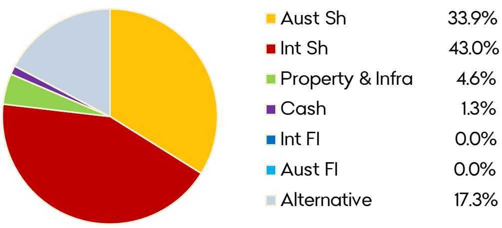
Bendigo Balanced Wholesale Fund



Bendigo Growth Wholesale Fund



Bendigo High Growth Wholesale Fund



Unit prices

as at 31 December 2023

	Application price	Withdrawal price
Bendigo Defensive Wholesale Fund	$1.05722	$1.05490
Bendigo Conservative Wholesale Fund	$1.01645	$1.01350
Bendigo Balanced Wholesale Fund	$0.95159	$0.94836
Bendigo Growth Wholesale Fund	$0.87763	$0.87422
Bendigo High Growth Wholesale Fund	$1.26182	$1.25654

Quarterly commentary

Performance

Performance varied over the quarter, with strong absolute performance from the defensive risk exposures and softer but still positive absolute performance from the growth exposures. Against our peers, all funds lagged on a relative return basis. The growth exposures and managers preference for larger cash flow resilient companies didn't participate fully in the 'Santa Claus rally' which saw a strong risk-on rally amongst lower quality corners of the equity market.

Looking forward, the Funds are well setup with defensive equities to withstand equity market volatility while producing good income that has historically been absent from the portfolios. The Funds continue to hold strong diversifiers that will support returns in an uncertain and challenged market regime.

Economic

The December quarter of 2023 saw a reversal of economic trends observed over the preceding quarter. In the third quarter US 10-year government bond yields increased nearly 1% on stronger economic data and a hawkish Federal Reserve expectation of two more rate hikes in 2024 than previously assumed. The fourth quarter saw this completely reverse with the 10-year yields back to where they started the financial year at 3.8%. This was caused by softer inflation data and a clear and sudden Federal Reserve dovish pivot. They removed those two additional hikes and signalled clearly that the committee is comfortable reducing interest rates in-line with declining inflation, thus keeping real rates at the same positive level.

Markets cheered this December announcement and by the end of calendar 2023 expectations were for the Federal Reserve to cut six times in 2024. With employment holding firm the 'soft-landing' outcome was coming to the fore and this saw a strong 'Santa Claus rally' across capital markets. In equities the rally extended to lower quality segments of the market with small-caps, and the most shorted companies extending gains - a dynamic commonly seen in 'risk-on' rallies.

Within Australia, on Melbourne Cup day, the Reserve Bank decided to raise interest rates again in response to stickier inflation which caused the Australian Dollar to rally. Key commodity prices slid during the quarter with the exception of Iron Ore which continues to defy the weakness in the Chinese housing market.

Looking forward economic conditions appear mixed. China and Europe are challenged with the US and Australia muddling through. The key question for markets is whether the soft-landing eventuates or not. Historically every major slowdown looks like a soft landing at first, and now markets are priced for it.

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Do you have any questions?

For further information contact us on 1800 634 969 or visit our website: www.bendigobankcom.au/managedfunds

Asset positioning commentary

The Funds overall are cautiously positioned due to our perception that equity markets are expensive relative to historical price to earnings and relative to bond and cash rates as they have fully priced in a 'soft-landing' with declining interest rates and stable growth. We prefer income generating investments and have a material exposure to credit and cash investments.

Australian Shares

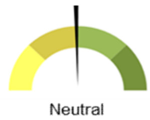
We hold a slight underweight to Australian equities. Driving the exposure is the challenging outlook on the economy. Sticky inflation is necessitating tight monetary conditions which will invariably impact the consumer through reducing discretionary income. Housing is a key driver for the Australian economy which continues to hold up against the mixed forces of the softer consumer and stronger immigration.

The economic performance of our major trading partner – China – is becoming more difficult to assess as independent data sources are increasingly limited, however their housing markets and equity markets continue to suggest significant weakness. The opportunity remains for the Chinese Government to respond – as they have in the past – with massive stimulus which feeds through to additional demand for Australia's bulk commodities.

International Shares

We are close to neutral exposure on global equities. Although economic growth continues and prices have strong momentum we are concerned that valuations are high and any slowing of earnings growth could harm returns. In the US, markets are pricing in above average earnings growth of 11%, along with six rate cuts - expectations are high and there is potential for underperformance.

Over the period we continued to hold a balanced hedged position to the Australian Dollar.

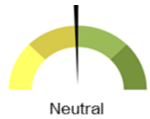


Property & Infrastructure

We continue to hold a neutral position to listed infrastructure. Listed infrastructure possesses defensive characteristics with strong consistent cashflows with inflation protection embedded.

We have no dedicated exposure to property and believe this asset class to be challenged going forward. Future cash flows are less predictable than historically as COVID has permanently changed work, shopping and usage patterns. The flow on effect of lower occupancy on pricing and cash flows is a significant area of uncertainty.

Additionally, current pricing - cap rates - are yet to fully reflect the higher government bond yields and therefore could see prices fall. Current bid-ask spreads in commercial property are elevated highlighting the uncertainty.



Fixed Income

Overall we hold a slight underweight to fixed income.

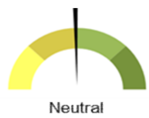
We prefer Australian fixed interest over global due to the higher hedged backed yields on offer and we find Australian inflation linked bonds favourable given they offer returns of inflation plus 1.7%.

Further we favour short maturity investment grade credit, due to the attractive yields on offer and low risk, in which we have a sizable position within the Australian market.

We hold little international fixed interest exposure, due to the flatter yield curves, lower hedged back yields and wider risk characteristics.

Alternatives

We maintained gold exposures over the period. Gold exposures provide a valuable hedge in various destabilising events such as war or excessive inflation. We also hold exposures to water, agriculture and distressed debt opportunities, which provide meaningful diversification away from interest rates and equity markets and we believe have strong structural tailwinds. Within the Funds we continue to hold a meaningful exposure to Australian private credit, which offers yields near 10%.



Cash

Cash is providing strong yields and offers the liquidity to be deployed if we see any assets drop in value. We continue to believe cash is an attractive alternative given the risk we perceive in equity and government bonds.

Footnotes

1. Fund performance figures are calculated before tax and after fees and costs; using withdrawal prices and assumes distributions are reinvested. Past performance is not an indication of future performance.

2. Morningstar rates mutual funds from one to five stars based on how well they've performed (after adjusting for risk) in comparison to similar funds. Within each Morningstar Category, the top 10% of funds receive five stars, the next 22.5% four stars, the middle 35% three stars, the next 22.5% two stars, and the bottom 10% receive one star. Funds are rated for up to three time periods— three-, five-, and 10 years—and these ratings are combined to produce an overall rating. Funds with less than three years of history are not rated. Ratings are objective, based entirely on a mathematical evaluation of past performance. They're a useful tool for identifying funds worthy of further research, but shouldn't be considered buy or sell recommendations.

   Bendigo Defensive Wholesale Fund received a 4-Star Overall Morningstar Rating™ out of 17 Multisector Conservative funds as of 31 December 2023. The Bendigo Defensive Wholesale Fund returns were ranked 2 out of 15 Morningstar Multisector Conservative funds for 5 years to 31 December 2023. Source: www.morningstar.com.au/Funds/FundReport/19293

   Bendigo Conservative Wholesale Fund received a 5-Star Overall Morningstar Rating™ out of 104 Multisector Moderate funds as of 31 December 2023. The Bendigo Conservative Wholesale Fund returns were ranked 8 out of 92 Morningstar Multisector Moderate funds for 5 years to 31 December 2023. Source: www.morningstar.com.au/Funds/FundReport/13196

   Bendigo Balanced Wholesale Fund received a 3-Star Overall Morningstar Rating™ out of 105 Multisector Balanced funds as of 31 December 2023. The Bendigo Balanced Wholesale Fund returns were ranked 62 out of 96 Morningstar Multisector Balanced funds for 5 years to 31 December 2023. Source: www.morningstar.com.au/Funds/FundReport/13195

   Bendigo Growth Wholesale Fund received a 2-Star Overall Morningstar Rating™ out of 167 Multisector Growth funds as of 31 December 2023. The Bendigo Growth Wholesale Fund returns were ranked 133 out of 157 Morningstar Multisector Growth funds for 5 years to 31 December 2023. Source: www.morningstar.com.au/Funds/FundReport/13197

   Bendigo High Growth Wholesale Fund received a 2-Star Overall Morningstar Rating™ out of 110 Multisector Aggressive funds as of 31 December 2023. The Bendigo High Growth Wholesale Fund returns were ranked 100 out of 100 Morningstar Multisector Aggressive funds for 5 years to 31 December 2023. Source: www.morningstar.com.au/Funds/FundReport/19294

   'Peer Comparison' performance refers to the performance of the relevant 'Morningstar Category' for the stated period. Investments are placed into Morningstar Categories based on their compositions and portfolio statistics so that investors can make meaningful comparisons. 'Morningstar Category Rank' is the Fund's performance rank relative to all funds in the same Morningstar Category.

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   The Morningstar Rating is an assessment of a fund's past performance—based on both return and risk—which shows how similar investments compare with their competitors. A high rating alone is insufficient basis for an investment decision.

3. Management fees & costs are based on fees and costs incurred by the Fund in the past financial year and may be different in the current and future financial years. Other fees and costs may apply. See the Product Disclosure Statement for full details.

The managed funds detailed in this update (individually referred to as 'Fund' or collectively as 'Funds') are issued by Sandhurst Trustees Limited (Sandhurst) ABN 16 004 030 737 AFSL 237906 a subsidiary of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited (the Bank) ABN 11 068 049 178 AFSL 237879. Sandhurst and the Bank receive remuneration on the issue of the Funds or the service they provide, full details of which are contained in the relevant Product Disclosure Statement (PDS). Investments in the Funds are not deposits with, guaranteed by, or liabilities of the Bank or any of its related entities. Economic and outlook forecasts are not guaranteed to occur. Sandhurst has prepared this document based on information available to it. The information and opinions provided in this document have not been verified and Sandhurst has no obligation to notify you in the event that any information or opinions change. No representation is made to the fairness and accuracy of the information, opinions and conclusions contained in this document. This update is provided by Sandhurst and contains general advice only. Please consider your situation and read the relevant PDS available at www.bendigobank.com.au/managedfundsforms, any Bendigo Bank branch or by phoning 1800 634 969 before making an investment decision.

For target market determination: www.bendigobank.com.au/TMD

The information is current as at 31 December 2023 (unless stated otherwise) and is subject to change without notice.

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