# Cornerstone Growth Managed Portfolio – Core Model

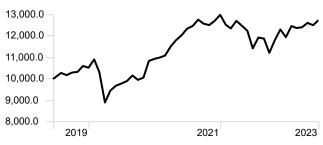




The portfolio returned 2.67% in the June quarter, underperforming the benchmark by 0.81%. Negative excess returns across global equities detracted from performance over the period. Exposure to value stocks and US small caps in particular weighed on returns. In contrast, the direct Australian equity portfolio contributed positively to benchmark-relative performance. Positioning amongst the portfolio's more defensive assets, including Metrics Credit, also added value.

# Growth of \$10,000

Time Period: 17/06/2019 to 30/06/2023



# **Performance Review**

As of Date: 30/06/2023

	Cornerstone	Morningstar
	Growth	AUS
	Managed	Agg
	Portfolio –	Tgt
	Core	Alloc
	Model	NR AUD
1 Month	1.89	2.47
3 Months	2.67	3.48
1 Year	11.53	14.03
2 Years	1.61	2.35
3 Years	9.21	9.98
YTD	6.64	8.76
Since Inception	6.19	6.97

Inception date: 17/06/2019

Benchmark: Morningstar Australia Aggressive Target Allocation NR

AUD Index

^This performance is net of management fees for both the Managed Portfolio and the underlying managers' fees and costs. It does not take into account any third party platform fees charged to individual investors or transaction costs (including buy/sell spreads and brokerage fees). It assumes income is reinvested without any tax deduction. It is for RIML's preferred model portfolio of holdings. A holding in the preferred model portfolio may be restricted or replaced with another similar asset in the Managed Portfolio on different platforms if the preferred holding is not available. Different platforms may also charge different management fees for the Managed Portfolio Portfolio. This can result in variances in performance of the Managed Portfolio between platforms. An individual investor's performance will differ, according to the investor's actual exposures to Managed Portfolio holdings and other factors (including transaction timing, transaction costs, actual underlying manager fees and costs and whether income is paid in cash). Platforms will have their own methodology for calculating performance, at both a platform level and an individual investor level. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

Please contact your platform or adviser for details of your performance or current holdings in the Managed Portfolio.

# Portfolio objective

To provide capital growth over the long term consistent with a portfolio focusing on growth assets, while accepting fluctuations in capital values in the short term.

# Portfolio strategy

The Portfolio typically invests in a diversified investment mix with exposure to growth investments of around 90% and defensive investments of around 10% over the long term, however the allocations will be actively managed within the allowable ranges depending on market conditions.

#### Main market highlights

Global share markets performed well in the June quarter. Contributing to the gains were increasing expectations the US Federal Reserve (Fed) would soon hit the pause button on interest rates, which it did; the Bank maintaining its benchmark fed funds rate at a target range of between 5.00% and 5.25% in June. In its press release accompanying the decision, the Fed said, "holding the target range steady...allows the Committee to assess additional information and its implications for monetary policy." However, a majority of officials still believe that high inflation, together with the enduring strength of the US economy, will likely warrant further rate increases this year. Stocks also benefited from fresh economic stimulus in China, an end to the standoff between Democrats and Republicans over the US government's debt ceiling and a series of mostly encouraging earnings updates; which is to say earnings were 'less bad' than the market had anticipated. Australian shares made more modest gains relative to their global counterparts; the local market benefiting from easing inflation toward the end of the period and increasing speculation the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) would leave interest rates on hold in July. [Note: the RBA did in fact leave rates on hold following its early July gathering.]

Global government bonds were slightly weaker for the quarter. Australian government bonds underperformed their global peers.

#### Main portfolio highlights

There were no material positional changes over the period. Overall, the managed portfolio is aligned with its long-term asset allocation as we wait patiently for opportunities.





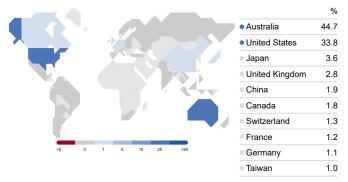
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# **Country Exposure**

Portfolio Date: 30/06/2023



# Long-term investing: Positioning for 5 years and beyond

The portfolio has a long-term asset allocation of 90% to return generating assets (including high yield debt and other extended fixed income). Growth asset valuations have decreased significantly year to date but are marginally higher than long-term averages in the US and similar to long-term averages across other developed markets, such as Australia. Long term forward looking return expectations for US shares and high-yield debt have improved during the year, but the economic outlook creates uncertainty in the near term. Given this, growth assets are still preferred due to superior returns relative to defensive assets over the medium term.

Defensive assets such as fixed income and cash have an allocation of 10% in the portfolio. A tilt toward credit further enhances the long-term return potential, but also increases the risk of losses. Credit spreads have widened, providing additional yield over Treasuries. Government bonds have recently begun to show signs of value across some markets and are now offering much higher yields than at the beginning of 2022.

Strategically, the portfolio has positions in cheaper and higher momentum securities as per our researched beliefs.

# **Asset Allocation**



# Dynamic positioning: Managing positions over the next 12-18 months

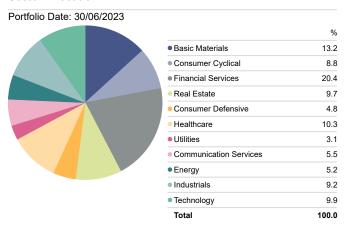
The direct Australian equity portfolio outperformed the benchmark, benefiting in part from positive stock selection within the materials space. This included overweights to James Hardie Industries and Lynas Rare Earths. Partly offsetting these positions was a small overweight to the sector. An overweight to industrials also added value; notably an overweight to Aurizon Holdings. Stock selection amongst consumer staples added further value over the period, including an overweight to Woolworths and an underweight to Treasury Wine Estates. In contrast, an underweight to the strong-performing information technology space weighed on overall returns.

In terms of global equity managers emerging markets specialist RWC Partners, UK equity specialist JO Hambro and Numeric's low-volatility strategy all underperformed. In contrast, both Sanders and global growth manager Wellington performed well; the latter benefiting from overweights to US names like Amazon.com, Eli Lilly & Co. and Uber Technologies.

Looking ahead, we expect higher levels of volatility to continue, with active management to play an important role in navigating through it. We expect to increase growth asset exposure on major market reversals and decrease growth asset exposure on market rallies. This is a very important time to remain flexible as there are competing forces related to inflation and growth.

We retain the same themes as recent months, i.e. a preference for emerging markets over developed markets and overweights to both global small caps and floating rate credit.

#### **Sector Allocation**





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# **Detailed Asset Allocation**

Portfolio Date: 30/06/2023	
	Portfolio
	Weighting %
Russell Inv Multi-Asset Growth StratPlus	23.88
Vanguard US Total Market Shares ETF	8.34
Vanguard MSCI Intl (Hdg) ETF	7.58
Russell Global Opportunities A	7.03
Vanguard All-World ex-US Shares ETF	6.12
Vanguard Global Infrastructure Index Hgd	2.42
Vanguard International Prpty Secs IdxHdg	2.41
Vanguard MSCI Australian Small Coms ETF	2.39
Vanguard Global Value Equity Active ETF	2.25
iShares Core Cash ETF	2.01
iShares S&P Small-Cap ETF	1.59
Vanguard Australian Property Secs ETF	1.51
Vanguard FTSE Emerging Markets Shrs ETF	1.39
Vanguard Global Aggregate Bd Hdg ETF	0.91
Russell Inv Australian Government Bd ETF	0.90
Vanguard Australian Shares ETF	0.02
BHP Group Ltd	3.54
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	2.67
CSL Ltd	2.16
National Australia Bank Ltd	1.45
Transurban Group	1.28
Westpac Banking Corp	1.28
ANZ Group Holdings Ltd	1.23
Macquarie Group Ltd	1.11
Woodside Energy Group Ltd	1.02
Woolworths Group Ltd	0.94
Rio Tinto Ltd	0.91
Wesfarmers Ltd	0.90
Telstra Group Ltd	0.83 0.70
Goodman Group Fortescue Metals Group Ltd	0.70
James Hardie Industries PLC	0.61
Cochlear Ltd	0.59
Aristocrat Leisure Ltd	0.57
Suncorp Group Ltd	0.55
Santos Ltd	0.49
Carsales.com Ltd	0.48
South32 Ltd	0.47
Sonic Healthcare Ltd	0.46
Aurizon Holdings Ltd	0.44
Computershare Ltd	0.44
Dexus	0.43
Mineral Resources Ltd	0.40
Mirvac Group	0.40
Harvey Norman Holdings Ltd	0.35
Lynas Rare Earths Ltd	0.32

Allocations may not equal 100% due to rounding. In order to manage a fund/portfolio to its investment objectives, Russell Investments retains the discretion to change the underlying investments at any time, without notice to investors. Please refer to the relevant Product Disclosure Statement for more information.





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For more information please visit our website:

russellinvestments.com.au/cornerstone or contact your Invest Blue representative:1300 346 837

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