

Cornerstone Strategic Index Balanced Managed Portfolio

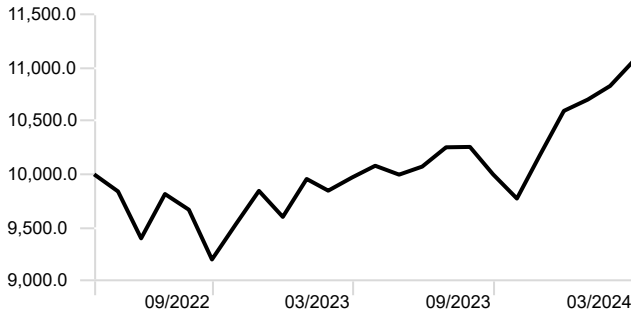
cornerstone

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The portfolio returned 4.46%[^] in the March quarter. Performance was mixed across the major asset classes.

Growth of \$10,000

Time Period: 30/04/2022 to 31/03/2024



Performance Review

As of Date: 31/03/2024

	Return
1 Month	2.21
3 Months	4.46
1 Year	10.98
2 Years	—
3 Years	—
YTD	4.46
Since Inception	5.42

Inception date: 30/04/2022

[^]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. 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

The portfolio aims to provide returns over the medium term, with moderate volatility, consistent with a diversified mix of defensive and growth-oriented assets. The portfolio aims to perform in line with the benchmark over the long term, after fees.

Main portfolio highlights

Both our global equities exposure and the direct Australian equity portfolio delivered positive absolute returns for the quarter. Emerging markets underperformed their developed counterparts over the period; though absolute returns were strong. Our exposure to Australian listed property also added value, driven largely by strong gains from index heavyweight Goodman Group. The portfolio's Australian fixed income, credit and emerging markets debt holdings added further value, while our global listed property and global bond exposures weighed on overall returns.

The direct Australian equity portfolio narrowly underperformed its benchmark, driven in part by a modest overweight to the materials space. This included overweights to iron ore majors BHP Group and Fortescue; both of which fell sharply on the back of weaker iron ore prices. Stock selection within the consumer staples sector also weighed on returns, including an overweight to Woolworths. Woolworths fell following the release of its financial results and the resignation of managing director and group CEO, Brad Banducci. In contrast, stock selection amongst real estate stocks added value over the period; notably an overweight to industrial property giant Goodman Group. Goodman Group rallied on a combination of solid financial results and a strong data centre pipeline.

More broadly, global share markets made strong gains in the March quarter. Stocks continued to be influenced in large part by the outlook for global interest rates. In the US, the Federal Reserve (Fed) maintained its benchmark fed funds rate at a target range of between 5.25% and 5.50% throughout the period. Speaking after the Bank's January gathering, chairman Jerome Powell acknowledged that it would be appropriate to start lowering interest rates sometime this year; though he wouldn't be drawn on specific timing. He did add, however, that a March rate cut was unlikely as the Bank had yet to reach a point where it was confident that inflation was coming down sustainably toward its 2.0% target. He also reiterated that the Fed sees just three interest rate cuts this year. At the time, the market was betting the Fed would cut rates six times in 2024; the first of which was pencilled in for March. Powell went on to say that whilst the Fed believes interest rates have peaked for this tightening cycle, policymakers remain wary of cutting rates too quickly as doing so could potentially cause inflation to reaccelerate. We saw a similar theme play out in the UK and Europe. Meanwhile, the Bank of Japan raised interest rates for the first time in 17 years in March. Australian shares also performed well. Much of the local market's gains came toward the end of the period after the Reserve Bank of Australia adopted a slightly less hawkish stance on interest rates following its March gathering. Stocks also benefited from a series of surprisingly robust earnings results and a strong lead from major overseas markets.

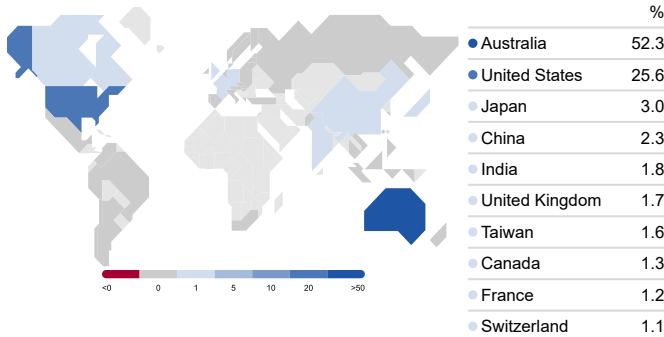
Global bonds were slightly weaker for the quarter, while Australian bonds recorded modest gains.

During the quarter, we rebalanced the direct Australian equity portfolio as part of the regular review cycle. We also reduced the portfolio's exposure to Australian listed property, which allowed us to take some profits off the table while reducing overall portfolio risk. We did this in favour of cash, which currently offers a relatively attractive yield.

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Country Exposure

Portfolio Date: 31/03/2024



Long-term investing: Positioning for 5 years and beyond

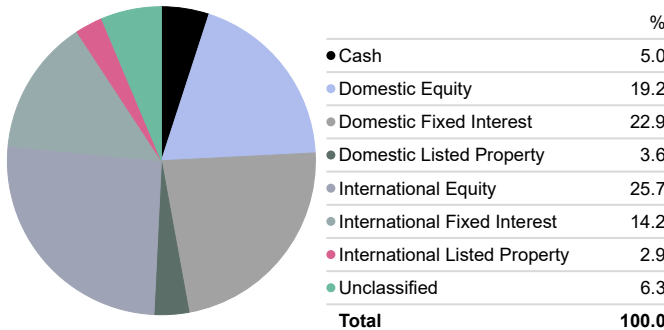
The portfolio has a long-term asset allocation of 50% to growth assets. Growth asset valuations have increased year to date but are below pre-pandemic levels. Long-term, forward-looking return expectations for US shares and high-yield debt have moderated. The economic outlook creates uncertainty in the near term, however in the long term, growth assets are still preferred due to superior returns relative to defensive assets.

Defensive assets such as fixed income and cash have an allocation of 50% in the portfolio. A tilt toward credit further enhances the long-term return potential, but also increases the risk of losses. Credit spreads have narrowed and are near their long-term averages. Government bonds are cheap 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 per our research.

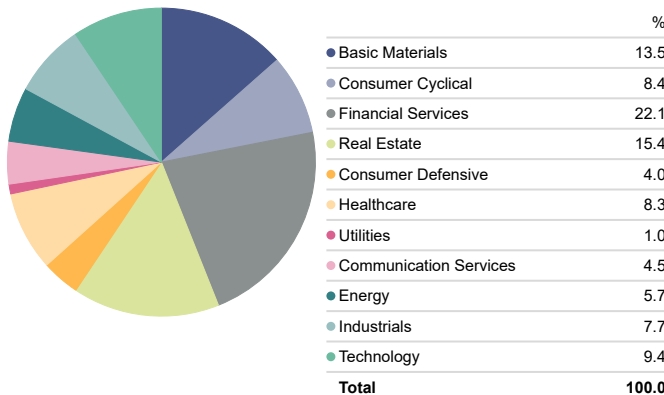
Asset Allocation

Portfolio Date: 31/03/2024



Sector Allocation

Portfolio Date: 31/03/2024



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Detailed Asset Allocation

Portfolio Date: 31/03/2024

	Portfolio Weighting %
Russell Inv Australian Government Bd ETF	13.68
AMP International Fixed Intst Idx Hdg	11.90
Vanguard MSCI Intl (Hdg) ETF	9.06
AMP International Equity Index	8.57
Russell Inv Australian Semi-Govt Bd ETF	6.64
Macquarie Cash Fund - Class M Units	6.35
iShares Core Cash ETF	3.27
Vanguard FTSE Emerging Markets Shrs ETF	2.88
Vanguard All-World ex-US Shares ETF	2.78
iShares Core S&P/ASX 200 ETF	2.77
AMP Australian Property Index	2.64
AMP International Property Index Hdg	2.47
Russell Inv Australian Select CorpBd ETF	2.39
iShares S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries ETF	2.33
Vanguard Intl Credit Secs (Hdg) ETF	1.80
Vanguard Global Value Equity Active ETF	1.21
iShares S&P Small-Cap ETF	1.13
iShares JP Morgan USD EmMkts Bd AUDH ETF	0.94
BHP Group Ltd	1.89
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	1.56
CSL Ltd	1.04
National Australia Bank Ltd	0.90
Westpac Banking Corp	0.78
ANZ Group Holdings Ltd	0.69
Wesfarmers Ltd	0.68
Goodman Group	0.63
Macquarie Group Ltd	0.59
Rio Tinto Ltd	0.54
Telstra Group Ltd	0.54
Woolworths Group Ltd	0.48
Woodside Energy Group Ltd	0.46
Fortescue Ltd	0.45
Transurban Group	0.43
James Hardie Industries PLC	0.39
WiseTech Global Ltd	0.39
Aristocrat Leisure Ltd	0.36
Suncorp Group Ltd	0.30
Medibank Private Ltd	0.28
Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Ltd	0.27
Cleanaway Waste Management Ltd	0.27
Ampol Ltd	0.26
Seven Group Holdings Ltd	0.26
Origin Energy Ltd	0.25
Incitec Pivot Ltd	0.25
Fisher & Paykel Healthcare Corp Ltd	0.24
Santos Ltd	0.24
Ansell Ltd	0.23
Newmont Corp Chess Depository Interest	0.22

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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