

# Bendigo Managed Wholesale Funds

## Index Funds

### Quarterly fund update - June 2023

#### Investment approach

Each Fund invests via expert asset managers that specialise in index strategies that seek to track the performance of selected benchmarks as well as alternative assets and cash. Alternative assets and cash may or may not invest in index strategies. Sandhurst will invest each Fund's assets across a variety of asset classes in a manner that we believe will meet 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), where inflation is measured by the Australian Consumer Price Index (CPI).

#### Fund performance<sup>1</sup>

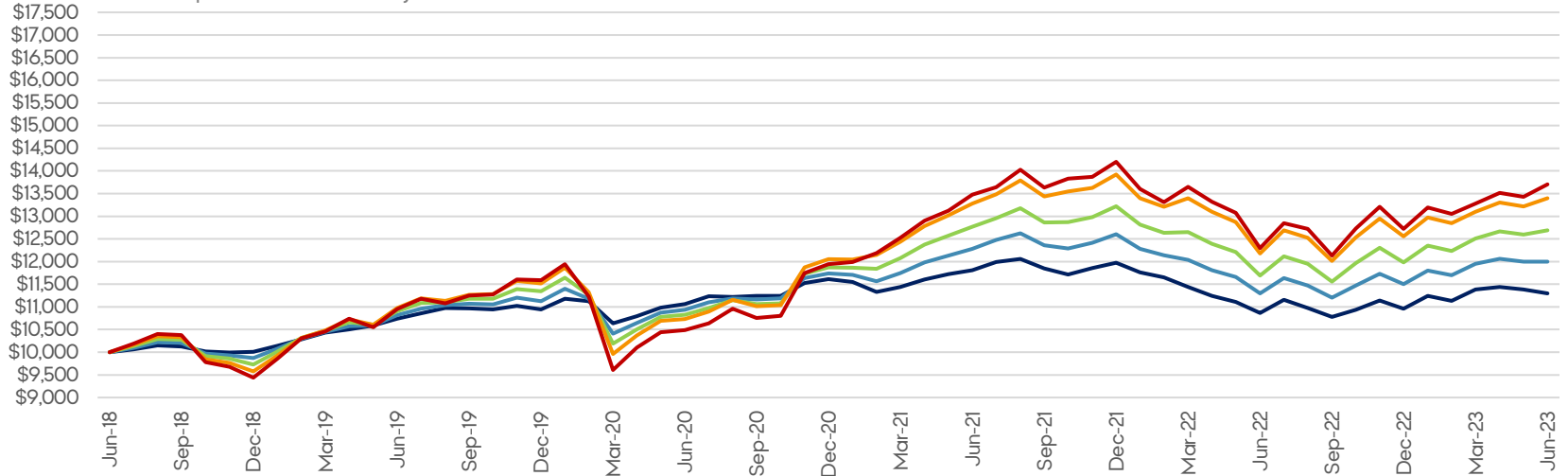
as at 30 June 2023

	Morningstar Rating™ Overall <sup>2</sup>	Morningstar Category Rank 5 Year <sup>2</sup>	Distribution (per unit)	3 months %	1 year %	3 years %p.a.	5 years %p.a.	Fund size \$m
<b>Bendigo Defensive Index Fund</b>	★★★★	2 / 16	\$0.01 46	-0.80	3.94	0.69	2.47	\$69.02
<i>Peer Comparison</i>				-0.46	2.78	0.34	1.33	
<b>Bendigo Conservative Index Fund</b>	★★★★★	5 / 95	\$0.01 71	0.39	6.20	3.12	3.70	\$367.40
<i>Peer Comparison</i>				0.32	4.41	2.16	2.32	
<b>Bendigo Balanced Index Fund</b>	★★★★★	5 / 98	\$0.0231	1.46	8.55	5.42	4.88	\$426.37
<i>Peer Comparison</i>				1.35	7.51	4.89	3.88	
<b>Bendigo Growth Index Fund</b>	★★★★★	15 / 164	\$0.0257	2.24	9.96	7.66	6.02	\$420.04
<i>Peer Comparison</i>				1.91	9.15	6.83	4.90	
<b>Bendigo High Growth Index Fund</b>	★★★★	41 / 113	\$0.0289	3.19	11.49	9.33	6.51	\$86.57
<i>Peer Comparison</i>				3.20	12.81	9.55	6.33	

#### An example of how your investment grows

##### Growth of \$10,000 over 5 years<sup>1</sup>

(Based on historic Fund performance over 5 years)

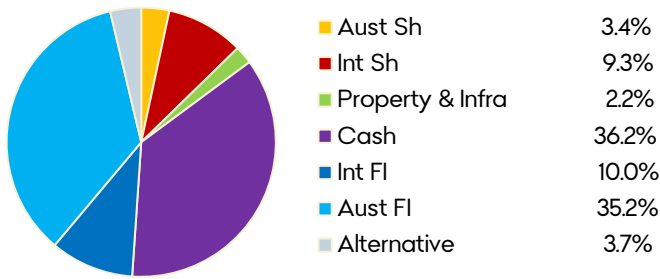


#### Fund Facts

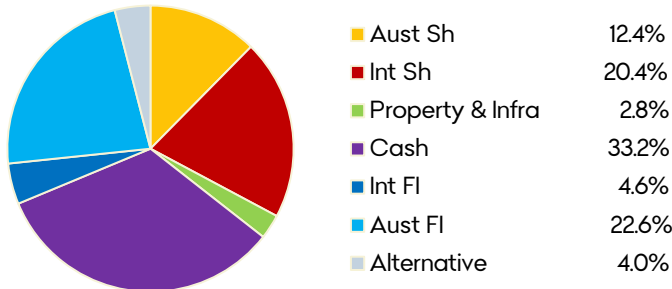
	APIR Code	Fund inception date	Distribution frequency	Return objective	Recommended investment timeframe	Risk level	Management fees & costs <sup>3</sup>	Buy / Sell spread <sup>3</sup>
<b>Bendigo Defensive Index Fund</b>	STL0031 AU	30 Sept 2011	Half yearly	CPI + 1%	2 years +	Low	0.40% p.a.	+0.10%/-0.10%
<b>Bendigo Conservative Index Fund</b>	STL0032AU	30 Sept 2011	Half yearly	CPI + 2%	3 years +	Low to medium	0.42% p.a.	+0.09%/-0.09%
<b>Bendigo Balanced Index Fund</b>	STL0033AU	30 Sept 2011	Half yearly	CPI + 3%	4 years +	Medium	0.44% p.a.	+0.09%/-0.09%
<b>Bendigo Growth Index Fund</b>	STL0034AU	30 Sept 2011	Half yearly	CPI + 4%	5 years +	Medium to high	0.46% p.a.	+0.09%/-0.09%
<b>Bendigo High Growth Index Fund</b>	STL0035AU	30 Sept 2011	Half yearly	CPI + 5%	7 years +	High	0.47% p.a.	+0.09%/-0.09%

## Asset allocation

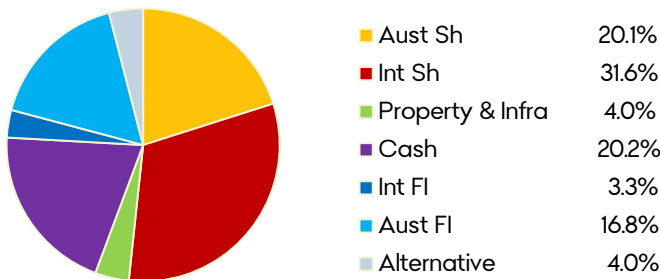
### Bendigo Defensive Index Fund



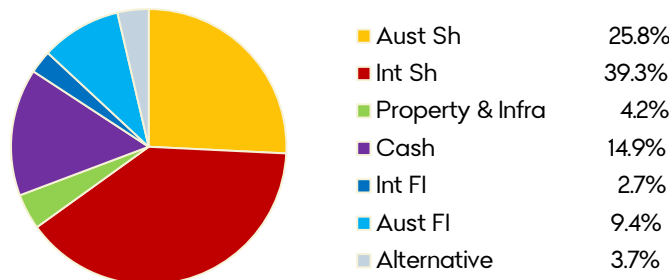
### Bendigo Conservative Index Fund



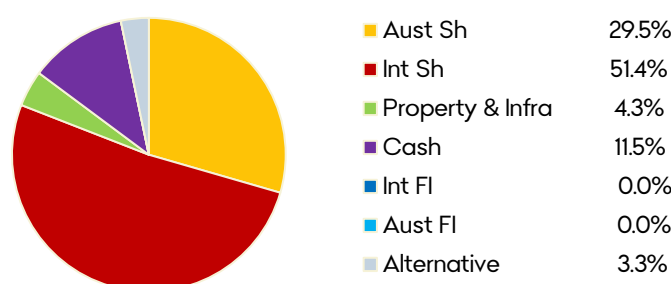
### Bendigo Balanced Index Fund



### Bendigo Growth Index Fund



### Bendigo High Growth Index Fund



## Unit prices

	Application price	Withdrawal price
<b>Bendigo Defensive Index Fund</b>	\$1.07875	\$1.07659
<b>Bendigo Conservative Index Fund</b>	\$1.24650	\$1.24426
<b>Bendigo Balanced Index Fund</b>	\$1.39439	\$1.39188
<b>Bendigo Growth Index Fund</b>	\$1.60353	\$1.60065
<b>Bendigo High Growth Index Fund</b>	\$1.63471	\$1.63177

## Quarterly commentary

### Performance

Returns relative the benchmark were mixed over the period. Aiding performance was the underweight to global fixed income with preference to Australian inflation linked bonds and cash. Detracting from performance was the underweight exposure to global equities with a preference for cash yielding investments. We believe equity markets are not an attractive proposition at this point given the headwinds to earnings, high valuations and an attractive alternative in fixed income and cash. Whilst we acknowledge equity markets may move higher over the shorter term, we believe a sustained move higher in prices requires robust earnings growth, in which this ingredient is missing from the market.

### Economic

Returns for the quarter were mixed across asset classes, with Australian and European equity markets relatively flat, UK lower, while the US share market rose strongly. Positioning within equities globally has been well below historical averages, with the threat of a global recession driven by rising interest rates holding investors on the sideline. Over the period investors were drawn into large technology stocks of the likes of Apple, Nvidia, Tesla, Microsoft and Meta as the allure of artificial intelligence coupled with safe balance sheets gave the green light for investors starved of good ideas, despite the high valuations of this segment of the market.

We believe equity markets to be particularly challenging. The mechanism of central banks raising interest rates to reduce inflation, is via the demand function. Rising interest costs result in companies scaling back future investments due to the higher cost of capital, and consumer demand falling as interest burdens gain a higher proportion of the household budget. Whilst we have seen some softening in economic conditions, the consumer has been surprisingly resilient, particularly in the US.

Generally, equity markets are expensive relative to historical averages, particularly US technology companies, which we believe do not reflect the headwinds facing the market. Buoying valuations is the large amount of global wealth that was accumulated through the ultra-stimulatory conditions following the pandemic. Whilst there are cheap areas of the market, these are in areas of the market more sensitive to slowing economic conditions such as resources, energy and global banks. Outside of equities, there are good opportunities in debt markets with high interest rates offering attractive yields.

## Do you have any questions?

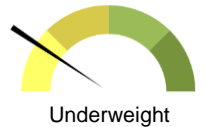
For further information contact us on 1800 634 969 or visit our website: [www.bendigobank.com.au/managedfunds](http://www.bendigobank.com.au/managedfunds)

## Asset positioning commentary

The Funds have maintained tilts away from interest rate sensitive investments with lighter holdings in global government bonds and REITs. We continue to prefer our growth exposure in global equities due to our perception of greater earnings growth potential in comparison to domestic equities. Due to our underweight position in equity risk offsetting government bonds, we prefer a bias to unhedged exposure, with the aim to reduce overall portfolio volatility.

### Australian Shares

We hold an underweight to Australian equities. Driving the exposure is the challenging outlook on the economy. Sticky inflation is impacting consumer demand and rapidly rising mortgage rates combined with high private debt levels raises downside risks. With the cash rate expected to remain over 4% for some time, we expect discretionary spending to slow significantly. The unemployment will be key for bad debt provisioning at the banks and China's lacklustre growth is also important for domestic commodity exposures.

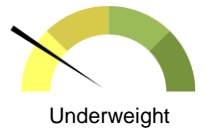


### International Shares

We hold an underweight to global equities. We believe the growth is slowing, and as a result earnings are expected to be negatively affected over the upcoming year. Additionally with quantitative tightening and rising interest rates expected to reduce liquidity, uncertainties remain over valuations which are elevated relative to cash yields and historical averages.

We currently have a bias to unhedged exposure over hedged, on an expected interest rate differential basis. We believe the variable nature of the Australian mortgage market, coupled with high debt levels and house prices, means that we are more sensitive to higher interest rates than the US. The US is likely to be able to raise interest rates higher than in Australia. Further, we are concerned with the fallout from China, in which the property pullback appears to be broadening weakness with that economy.

We currently hold a 30% hedged position on our offshore global equity exposures.



### Property & Infrastructure

We continue to hold an overweight to listed infrastructure. Listed infrastructure possess defensive characteristics with strong consistent cashflows with inflation protection embed.

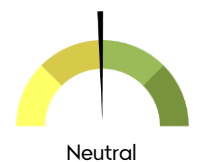
We hold minimal exposure to property and believe this asset class to be challenged going forward. Property is highly sensitive to interest rates, in which the current pricing requires interest rates to fall to justify the yields on offer within this market. Additionally, the gradual decline in office space as corporates allow working from home, creates questions regarding the structural demand for this asset class.



### Fixed Income

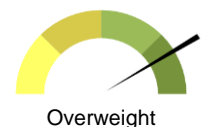
Overall we hold a slight underweight to fixed income. Most of our duration exposure sits within inflation Australian linked bonds. We like the double-sided hedge this exposure provides, with the market pricing 5 year inflation at around 2.6%. This indicates there is potential upside if inflation becomes sticky. Conversely if central banks are required to cut interest rates, this investment will also provide some benefit through declining yields.

We hold little international fixed interest exposure, in which we believe US bonds are expensive relative to where the Federal Reserve is indicating interest rates will move to, while Japan and Europe offer a poor risk to return dynamic.



### Cash

Cash is used as a balancing item based on views of other asset classes. Over the period we added to cash investments through NCDs and term deposits. We have been able to attract rates of return around 5% over the quarter with maturities ranging from 3 to 12 months.



## 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 Index Fund received a 4-Star Overall Morningstar Rating™ out of 17 Multisector Conservative funds as of 30 June 2023. The Bendigo Defensive Index Fund returns were ranked 2 out of 16 Morningstar Multisector Conservative funds for 5 years to 30 June 2023. Source: [www.morningstar.com.au/Funds/FundReport/19288](http://www.morningstar.com.au/Funds/FundReport/19288)

Bendigo Conservative Index Fund received a 5-Star Overall Morningstar Rating™ out of 104 Multisector Moderate funds as of 30 June 2023. The Bendigo Conservative Index Fund returns were ranked 5 out of 95 Morningstar Multisector Moderate funds for 5 years to 30 June 2023. Source: [www.morningstar.com.au/Funds/FundReport/19289](http://www.morningstar.com.au/Funds/FundReport/19289)

Bendigo Balanced Index Fund received a 5-Star Overall Morningstar Rating™ out of 107 Multisector Balanced funds as of 30 June 2023. The Bendigo Balanced Index Fund returns were ranked 5 out of 98 Morningstar Multisector Balanced funds for 5 years to 30 June 2023. Source: [www.morningstar.com.au/Funds/FundReport/19290](http://www.morningstar.com.au/Funds/FundReport/19290)

Bendigo Growth Index Fund received a 5-Star Overall Morningstar Rating™ out of 170 Multisector Growth funds as of 30 June 2023. The Bendigo Growth Index Fund returns were ranked 15 out of 164 Morningstar Multisector Growth funds for 5 years to 30 June 2023. Source: [www.morningstar.com.au/Funds/FundReport/19291](http://www.morningstar.com.au/Funds/FundReport/19291)

Bendigo High Growth Index Fund received a 4-Star Overall Morningstar Rating™ out of 119 Multisector Aggressive funds as of 30 June 2023. The Bendigo High Growth Index Fund returns were ranked 41 out of 113 Morningstar Multisector Aggressive funds for 5 years to 30 June 2023. Source: [www.morningstar.com.au/Funds/FundReport/19292](http://www.morningstar.com.au/Funds/FundReport/19292)

'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](http://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](http://www.bendigobank.com.au/TMD)

The information is current as at 30 June 2023 (unless stated otherwise) and is subject to change without notice.