

Fund description

The Fund invests in a diversified group of specialist Australian Share managers, utilising the Fiducian “Manage the Manager” process, to carefully select best of breed managers with different styles to provide diversification with the aim of achieving superior returns with reduced risk.

The Fund gives investors an opportunity to participate in Australia’s economic growth and enables Australian resident investors to benefit from favourable tax treatment of franked dividends.

Share investment can be volatile over the short term, and the recommended holding period is at least 8 years.

Fund facts

Portfolio manager: Conrad Burge

ARSN: 093 542 271

APIR code: FPS0006AU

Benchmark: ASX 300 Accumulation Index

Current fund size: \$801 million (March 2024)

Management cost: 0.96%

Total management costs: 1.03%

Application/Exit fee: Nil

Inception Date: March 1997

Manager	Style			Size	
	Value	Core	Growth	Large	Small
Ausbil		●		●	
Bennelong			●	●	
Pendal Group		●		●	
Fidelity		●		●	
L1 Capital		●		●	
Solaris	●			●	

Performance and Risk

After fee returns as at 31 March 2024

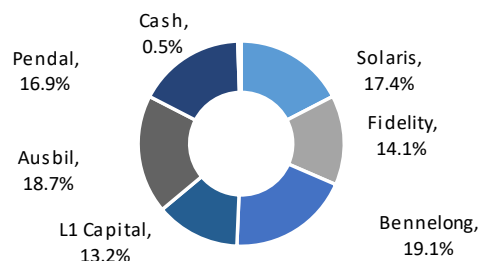
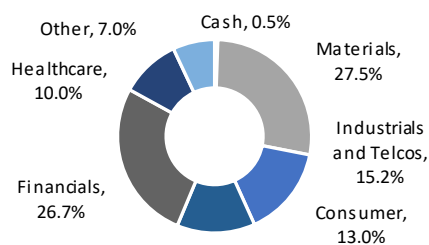
	1 Mth	3 Mth	6 Mth	1 Yr	3 Yrs	5 Yrs	7yrs	10 Yrs
Fund	3.2%	5.5%	13.2%	13.0%	7.9%	8.9%	8.4%	8.5%
Index	3.3%	5.4%	14.2%	14.4%	9.4%	9.2%	8.6%	8.3%
Excess	0.0%	0.1%	-1.0%	-1.4%	-1.6%	-0.3%	-0.2%	0.2%

Risk Exposure

	1 Yr	3 Yrs	5 Yrs	10 Yrs
Fund Volatility (Std Dev %)	11.0%	13.1%	16.6%	14.1%
Benchmark (Std Dev %)	10.9%	13.5%	16.4%	14.0%
Beta	0.91	0.93	0.98	0.98
Tracking Error (% pa)	1.5%	2.0%	2.4%	2.2%



Sector exposures and current manager weights



Market Commentary and Outlook

The global economy has held steady in recent months, although growth in some of the advanced economies, particularly in Europe and Japan, remains weak. However, inflation has continued to decline, and in the words of the International Monetary Fund (IMF April report) most indicators point to a ‘soft landing’, although interest rates are likely to stay ‘higher for longer’ than previously anticipated.

Global equity markets had another positive month in March. In the US, the broad market (S&P 500 index) rose by 3.1%, and the Australian stock market (ASX 200 index) gained 3.3%. Other global markets, including Japan, the UK and Germany also recorded gains of between 3% and 4%. Bond returns were positive for the month, whilst commodity price performance was mixed.

Looking ahead, monetary policy could begin to become less restrictive before the end of this year, which could help to sustain markets. However, geopolitical risks represent potential headwinds. Despite this, the IMF is now forecasting global growth to be 3.2% in 2024, which is close to the long-term trend rate for growth. In broad terms, share markets continue to appear more attractive than most other investment opportunities.

Fund Commentary

The Fiducian Australian Shares Fund rose by 3.2% in March, which was in line with the 3.3% return by the index. L1 Capital (+4.8%) was the best performer for the month, with Solaris and Pental both returning 3.7%. Over the last 12 months, Bennelong (+19.4%) was the best performer followed by Solaris (+15.5%).

The broad Australian share market (ASX200 index) gained 3.3% in March, which was broadly in line with the returns seen in other global equity markets.

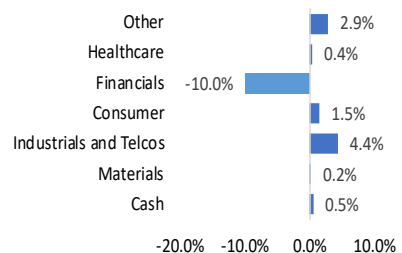
For the first quarter of 2024, the Australian market returned +5.3%. This was below the performance of many other global markets as weakness in the materials sector (-6.2%) limited overall index returns

The best performing sectors during March were Property (+9.7%), Energy (+5.3%) and Utilities (+4.8%). Telecommunications (-0.8%) was the only major sector to record a decline.

At an aggregate level, the largest sectoral tilts in the Fund are an underweight to Financials, primarily in Listed Property Trusts, and an overweight position in the Industrials sector.

Top stock holdings and sector tilts

Stock	Industry	Weight
BHP Group	Mining	8.1%
CSL Limited	Biotechnology	7.4%
Commonwealth Bank	Banks	5.3%
Goodman Group	REITS	4.7%
Santos Ltd	Oil & Gas	3.7%
National Australia Bank	Banks	3.6%
Macquarie Group	Banks	3.1%
QBE Insurance Group	Insurance	2.9%
James Hardie Industries	Building Materials	2.8%
Aristocrat Leisure	Entertainment	2.3%



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The information has been compiled from sources considered reliable, but is not guaranteed. Past performance is not indicative of future performance and we do not guarantee the performance of the Fund or any specific rate of return. Potential investors should also obtain and consider the relevant Target Market Determination (TMD) and Product Disclosure Statement (PDS) (available from your financial adviser and via fiducian.com.au) before making a decision about whether to acquire or continue to hold any financial product.