# Australian Ethical Balanced Fund

Fund Profile - 30 June 2024



Australian Ethical is one of Australia's leading ethical fund managers. By investing responsibly in well-managed ethical companies, we deliver competitive financial performance to our clients and positive change to society and the environment. Since our inception in 1986, our Ethical Charter has guided all investment decisions and underpinned our business practices. Every year 10 per cent of our profits\* are distributed to charitable organisations and social impact initiatives through The Australian Ethical Foundation.

### Investment objective

To provide investors with a balance between capital growth and a moderate level of income through a diversified portfolio of assets that meet our Ethical Criteria. The Retail Fund aims to achieve returns 3.00% above inflation after management costs over a 10 year period. The Wholesale Fund aims to achieve returns 3.50% above inflation after management costs over a 10 year period.

#### **Price information**

Pricing	Daily
frequency:	

**Buy/Sell spread:** 0.10%/0.10%

## **Fund facts**

Fund size:	\$90.16m
Benchmark:	Australian Ethical Balanced Composite
Asset class:	Mixed Asset
Inception date:	16/10/1989
Minimum investment timeframe:	5 years

# Identifiers

Risk level:

ISIN code:	AU60AUG00010
APIR code:	AUG0001AU

Medium-High

## **Distributions**

Frequency:

Dates:	30/06, 31/12
Fees	
Management costs - PDS:	1.55%
Minimum initial investment:	\$1,000 \$500 with a Regular investor

plan Additional 0.02%

transactional and operational costs:

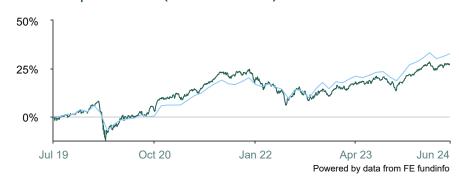
A full explanation of all the fees and costs that you may be charged for investing in the Fund is provided in the Fund's Product Disclosure Statements available from our website australianethical.com.au

\*(after tax, before bonus expense)

#### Investment strategy

The opportunity to invest in a diversified portfolio of asset types and markets to reduce the volatility of returns. Asset classes include, but are not limited to, Australian and international shares, property and fixed income securities.

## Cumulative performance (as at 30/06/2024)



- Australian Ethical Balanced
- Benchmark

## Performance (as at 30/06/2024)

	1m	3m	6m	1y	Зу	5у	10y	Since inception (ann.)
Fund	0.7%	-1.1%	4.1%	6.9%	2.6%	5.4%	6.4%	6.6%
Benchmark	1.0%	-0.4%	4.5%	9.2%	4.9%	6.2%	7.3%	7.3%

#### Calendar Performance (as at end 2023)

	CY2023	CY2022	CY2021	CY2020	CY2019
Fund	10.0%	-10.3%	13.2%	7.5%	17.3%
Benchmark	10.9%	-4.8%	13.4%	3.6%	17.4%

Source: FE fundinfo.

Total returns are calculated using the sell (exit) price, net of management fees and gross of tax as if distributions of income have been reinvested at the actual distribution reinvestment price. The actual returns received by an investor will depend on the timing, buy and exit prices of individual transactions. Return of capital and the performance of your investment in the fund are not guaranteed. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. Figures showing a period of less than one year have not been adjusted to show an annual total return. Figures for periods of greater than one year are on a per annum compound basis. The current benchmark may not have been the benchmark over all periods shown in the above chart and tables. The calculation of the benchmark performance links the performance of previous benchmarks and the current benchmark over the relevant time periods.

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Top 10	
DEXUS HEALTHCARE PROPERTY FUND ORDINARY UNITS	3.5%
BALANCED TM	2.2%
ICPF GROUP	2.2%
APPLE INC	1.4%
MICROSOFT CORP	1.4%
NVIDIA CORPORATION	1.3%
WESTPAC BANKING CORPORATION ORD F/PD SHARES	1.0%
ALPHABET INC-CL A	0.9%
NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK	0.9%
SUNCORP GROUP LIMITED	0.7%

## Ratings and awards

#### RIAA

Certification:



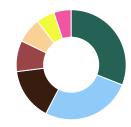
CERTIFIED BY RIAA

## Why invest ethically?

Portfolio diversification: Diversify your portfolio by investing in companies and sectors not well covered by other fund managers and brokers. Help build a better world: Invest in the new, low-carbon economy, fund medical and technology breakthroughs, efficient transport and more. Promote human rights: We strive to avoid any investment in companies involved in the poor treatment of asylum seekers or the exploitation of workers through poor working conditions.

#### Asset allocation

Australian & NZ Shares	31.0%
International Shares	26.6%
Australian Fixed Interest	15.4%
International Fixed Interest	9.1%
Property	7.4%
Alternative Assets	5.4%
Cash, FRN's and short duration fixed interest	5.1%



#### Commentary

On a gross basis, the Balanced Fund rose 8.4% in the financial year ended 30 June 2024, underperforming its benchmark which rose 9.2%. Net of fees, the Balanced Fund (Wholesale) rose 7.6% and the Balanced Fund (Retail) rose 6.9% underperforming the same benchmark over the same period.

The fund underperformed compared to its benchmark due to below-market returns on equity holdings, especially in Australian large-cap stocks. Being underweight in financials coupled with stock specific detraction within materials, hurt performance. However, underweight direct property was beneficial as market valuations continued to be revised lower over the period. Active global fixed income and cash allocations outperformed the benchmark.

Despite the lower-than-benchmark performance of our equity holdings, all asset classes except property contributed positively to the fund's total return. Equity markets saw strong double-digit returns for a second year, with the S&P 500 leading the S&P/ASX200, driven by large-cap momentum, particularly in the Al sector. Bond markets were mixed in terms of where they ended the year but overall delivered modest positive returns, helped by compression of credit spreads in the risk-positive environment.

## Need Help?

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