# Australian Ethical Balanced Fund (Wholesale)

Fund Profile - 31 March 2025



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 frequency: Daily

Buy/Sell spread: 0.10%/0.10%

#### **Fund facts**

Fund size:	\$412.12m
Benchmark:	Australian Ethical Balanced Composite
Asset class:	Mixed Asset
Inception date:	28/03/2018
Minimum investment timeframe:	8 Years
Risk level:	Medium-High

## Identifiers

ISIN code: AU60AUG00176
APIR code: AUG0017AU

## **Distributions**

Frequency: 2

Dates: 30/06, 31/12

## **Fees**

Management costs - PDS:

Minimum initial investment: \$25,000 minimum in the Fund and \$200,000 investment across Australian Ethical's managed funds.

Additional transactional and operational costs:

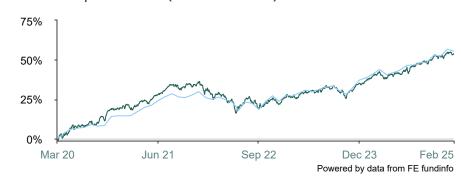
A full explanation of all the fees and costs that you may be charged for investing in the Fund is provided in the Fund's Product Disclosure Statements available from our website australianethical.com.au

\*(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 31/03/2025)



- Australian Ethical Balanced
- Benchmark

## Performance (as at 31/03/2025)

	1m	3m	6m	1y	Зу	5у	10y	Since inception (ann.)
Fund	-2.5%	-1.2%	1.7%	5.2%	5.2%	8.4%	-	7.3%
Benchmark	-	2.0%	4.9%	8.1%	7.2%	9.2%	-	7.7%

#### Calendar Performance (as at end 2024)

	CY2024	CY2023	CY2022	CY2021	CY2020
Fund	12.4%	10.8%	-9.8%	14.0%	8.5%
Benchmark	11.1%	10.9%	-4.8%	13.4%	3.6%

Source: FE fundinfo.

0.02%

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 UIT	3.3%
COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA	2.0%
APPLE INC	1.7%
INVESTA COMMERCIAL PROPERTY FD COMMON STOCK UNIT	1.7%
WESTPAC BANKING CORPORATION ORD F/PD SHARES	1.5%
MICROSOFT CORP	1.4%
NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK	1.4%
NVIDIA CORPORATION	1.4%
CSL LIMITED	1.3%
MACQUARIE GROUP LTD	1.1%

## Ratings and awards

#### **RIAA Certification:**



## Why invest ethically?

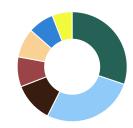
Portfolio diversification: Diversify your portfolio by investing in companies and sectors not well covered by other fund managers and brokers. Help build a better world: Invest in the new, low-carbon economy, fund medical and technology breakthroughs, efficient transport and more. Promote human rights: 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.

## Need Help?

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Sydney NSW 2001

#### Asset allocation





## Commentary

The Balanced Fund (Wholesale) fell -1.2% net of fees in the quarter ending 31 March 2025, underperforming its SAA benchmark return of -0.3%. The Retail Fund returned -1.4% net of fees over the same period.

In local currency terms, US equities—dominating global markets—were among the weakest performers (S&P 500 -4.4%) as 2024's optimism around US exceptionalism and tech resilience gave way to rising isolationism and the DeepSeek flashpoint. In contrast, European equities (MSCI Europe +6.2%) rallied on stronger economic data, hopes for peace in Ukraine, and expectations of increased government spending amid tensions with the US.

The Funds reduced US equity exposure, citing stretched valuations, and benefited from an active allocation to Hong Kong (MSCI Hong Kong +4.6%).

In Australia, equities lagged (S&P/ASX 300 -2.9%) amid global uncertainty and weak earnings. Investors rotated into defensive assets such as gold miners (All Ordinaries Gold Index +31.2%) and away from growth stocks like tech (All Technology Index -12.4%). The Funds' domestic equities allocation underperformed due to zero exposure to gold miners and an overweight in tech. However, current market dislocations have opened opportunities to buy quality companies at more attractive valuations.

Fixed income offered protection during the risk-off environment (Bloomberg Ausbond Composite +1.3%, Global Aggregate +1.1%), with bond rallies in most regions except Japan and Europe—where rising rates and spending drove yields higher. The Funds' underweight to European government bonds contributed to outperformance, while global investment grade credit slightly lagged its benchmark. Overall, fixed income allocations outperformed.

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