## Fund description and summary of investment policy

The Fund invests primarily in shares listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE). The Fund can invest a maximum of 45% offshore. The Fund invests the bulk of its foreign allowance in equity funds managed by Orbis Investment Management Limited, our offshore investment partner. The Fund is typically fully invested in shares. Returns are likely to be volatile, especially over short- and medium-term periods.

ASISA unit trust category: South African - Equity - General

## Fund objective and benchmark

The Fund aims to create long-term wealth for investors. It aims to outperform the average return of South African General Equity Funds over the long term, without taking on greater risk of loss. To pursue its objective the Fund's portfolio may differ materially from those of its peers. This will result in the Fund underperforming its benchmark materially at times. The Fund aims to compensate for these periods of underperformance by delivering outperformance over the long term. The Fund's benchmark is the market value-weighted average return of funds in the South African – Equity – General category (excluding Allan Gray funds).

## How we aim to achieve the Fund's objective

We seek to buy shares offering the best relative value while maintaining a diversified portfolio. We thoroughly research companies to assess their intrinsic value from a long-term perspective. This long-term perspective enables us to buy shares from sellers who over-react to short-term difficulties or undervalue long-term potential. We invest in a selection of shares across all sectors of the stock market, and across the range of large, mid and smaller cap shares.

#### Suitable for those investors who

- Seek exposure to listed equities to provide long-term capital growth
- Are comfortable with stock market fluctuation, i.e. short- to medium-term volatility
- Are prepared to accept the risk of capital loss
- Typically have an investment horizon of more than five years
- Wish to use the Fund as an equity 'building block' in a diversified multi-asset class portfolio

### Fund information on 30 April 2025

Fund size	R48.9bn
Number of units	46 533 770
Price (net asset value per unit)	R641.42
Class	А

- The market value-weighted average return of funds in the South African – Equity – General category, excluding Allan Gray funds. (Effective 1 October 2024, this category started excluding funds that can only invest in South African equities.) Source: Morningstar, performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 30 April 2025. From inception to 28 February 2015 the benchmark was the FTSE/JSE All Share Index including income. Source: IRESS.
- CPI inflation has been calculated based on the most recent rebased values from Stats SA, reflecting the data as at 31 March 2025 (source: IRESS).
- Maximum percentage decline over any period. The
  maximum drawdown occurred from 3 September 2018
  to 23 March 2020 and maximum benchmark drawdown
  occurred from 22 May 2008 to 20 November 2008.
  Drawdown is calculated on the total return of the
  Fund/benchmark (i.e. including income).
- 4. The percentage of calendar months in which the Fund produced a positive monthly return since inception.
- 5. The standard deviation of the Fund's monthly return.
  This is a measure of how much an investment's return varies from its average over time.
- 6. These are the highest or lowest consecutive 12-month returns since inception. This is a measure of how much the Fund and the benchmark returns have varied per rolling 12-month period. The Fund's highest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 30 September 1999 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 30 April 2006. The Fund's lowest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 March 2020 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 28 February 2009. All rolling 12-month figures for the Fund and the benchmark are available from our Client Service Centre on request.

## Performance net of all fees and expenses

Value of R10 invested at inception with all distributions reinvested



% Returns	Fund	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	CPI inflation <sup>2</sup>
Cumulative:		•	
Since inception (1 October 1998)	9994.9	3216.5	304.8
Annualised:			
Since inception (1 October 1998)	19.0	14.1	5.4
Latest 10 years	8.0	6.7	4.9
Latest 5 years	16.1	15.9	4.8
Latest 3 years	12.5	10.4	5.0
Latest 2 years	12.5	11.1	4.0
Latest 1 year	16.5	20.2	2.7
Year-to-date (not annualised)	6.9	4.7	1.7
Risk measures (since inception)			
Maximum drawdown <sup>3</sup>	-37.0	-45.4	n/a
Percentage positive months <sup>4</sup>	66.1	60.2	n/a
Annualised monthly volatility <sup>5</sup>	14.9	16.2	n/a
Highest annual return <sup>6</sup>	125.8	73.0	n/a
Lowest annual return <sup>6</sup>	-24.3	-37.6	n/a

30 April 2025

## Meeting the Fund objective

The Fund has created wealth for its long-term investors. Since inception and over the latest 10- and five-year periods, the Fund has outperformed its benchmark. The Fund experiences periods of underperformance in pursuit of its objective of creating long-term wealth for investors, without taking on greater risk of loss than the average equity fund. The maximum drawdown and lowest annual return numbers, in the 'Performance net of all fees and expenses' table, show that the Fund has successfully reduced downside risk in periods of negative market returns.

#### Income distributions for the last 12 months

To the extent that income earned in the form of dividends and interest exceeds expenses in the Fund, the Fund will distribute any surplus biannually.	30 Jun 2024	31 Dec 2024
Cents per unit	583.3035	635.7956

### Annual management fee

Allan Gray charges a fee based on the net asset value of the Fund excluding the portion invested in Orbis funds. The fee rate is calculated daily by comparing the Fund's total performance for the day to that of the benchmark.

Fee for performance equal to the Fund's benchmark: 1.00% p.a. excl. VAT

For each annualised percentage point above or below the benchmark we add or deduct 0.2%. The maximum fee is uncapped and if the fee would have been negative, 0% will be charged for the day and the negative fee will be carried forward to reduce the next day's fee (and all subsequent days until the underperformance is recovered).

This means that Allan Gray shares in approximately 20% of annualised performance relative to the benchmark.

A portion of the Fund may be invested in Orbis funds. Orbis charges performance-based fees within these funds that are calculated based on each Orbis fund's performance relative to its own benchmark. Orbis pays a marketing and distribution fee to Allan Gray.

## Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The annual management fees charged by both Allan Gray and Orbis are included in the TER. The TER is a measure of the actual expenses incurred by the Fund over a one and three-year period (annualised). Since Fund returns are quoted after deduction of these expenses, the TER should not be deducted from the published returns (refer to page 4 for further information). Transaction costs are disclosed separately.

# Top 10 share holdings on 31 March 2025 (SA and Foreign) (updated quarterly)<sup>7</sup>

Company	% of portfolio
Naspers & Prosus	5.3
AB InBev	5.3
British American Tobacco	5.2
Standard Bank	3.2
AngloGold Ashanti	2.5
The Walt Disney Company	2.5
Remgro	2.2
Woolworths	2.2
Nedbank	2.2
Mondi	2.0
Total (%)	32.6

- 7. Underlying holdings of foreign funds are included on a look-through basis.
- 8. Includes listed property.
- 9. FTSE/JSE All Share Index.

## Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs (updated quarterly)

TER and transaction costs breakdown for the 1- and 3-year period ending 31 March 2025	1yr %	3yr %
Total expense ratio	0.56	1.82
Fee for benchmark performance	1.02	1.05
Performance fees	-0.50	0.57
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.04	0.04
VAT	0.00	0.16
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.10	0.08
Total investment charge	0.66	1.90

## Sector allocation on 31 March 2025 (updated guarterly)<sup>7</sup>

Sector	% of equities8	% of ALSI <sup>9</sup>
Financials	23.0	28.6
Consumer staples	18.8	11.6
Basic materials	13.9	22.2
Consumer discretionary	13.3	7.0
Industrials	11.2	3.1
Technology	9.5	15.4
Healthcare	3.9	1.5
Energy	3.3	0.7
Telecommunications	1.4	5.0
Real estate	1.4	4.7
Utilities	0.4	0.0
Total (%)	100.0	100.0

## Asset allocation on 30 April 2025<sup>7</sup>

Asset class	Total	South Africa	Foreign
Net equities	93.7	52.8	40.8
Hedged equities	0.0	0.0	0.0
Property	1.3	0.3	1.1
Commodity-linked	0.4	0.4	0.0
Bonds	0.2	0.0	0.2
Money market and cash <sup>10</sup>	4.3	3.5	0.9
Total (%)	100.0	57.0	43.011

10. Including currency hedges.

<sup>11.</sup> The Fund can invest a maximum of 45% offshore. Market movements may periodically cause the Fund to move beyond these limits. This must be corrected within 12 months.

**Fund managers:** Duncan Artus, Jithen Pillay, Rory Kutisker–Jacobson, Tim Acker (Most foreign assets are invested in Orbis funds) **Inception date:** 1 October 1998

**Allan Gray Equity Fund** 

30 April 2025

2024 was a very strong year for local equities, and this positive momentum carried through into the first quarter of 2025. The FTSE/JSE All Share Index generated a return of 13% for the 2024 calendar year and 6% for the latest quarter. Global equity markets also performed well in 2024, although they started 2025 on a weaker note. The MSCI World Index finished up 19% in US dollars in 2024 but retracted 2% in the first quarter of 2025.

The Fund returned 3.7% for the quarter, outperforming its benchmark by 1.7%. Performance was driven by some of the larger multinational "rand-hedge" shares, such as AB InBev and British American Tobacco. This is a reversal of one of the dominant trends of 2024: Following the national elections and the formation of the government of national unity (GNU) in June 2024, domestically focused "SA Inc" shares strongly outperformed rand-hedge shares. In response, the Fund reduced its exposure to SA Inc names in the second half of 2024 and increased holdings in rand hedges like AB InBev. Favouring rand-hedge shares detracted from performance last year but has supported performance in the most recent quarter.

The formation of the GNU in June 2024 sparked a wave of optimism about South Africa's future, both locally and abroad. Some of this was driven by hopes of political reform and economic recovery, but it also reflected relative appeal – many emerging markets were in deeper turmoil, making South Africa look comparatively stable. While we acknowledge encouraging signs, such as improvements at Eskom, our research suggests that broader progress has been limited. State-owned enterprises continue to face deep structural issues, and the business environment remains difficult. Recent financial results from consumer-focused companies reinforce this view – many continue to report subdued earnings as household spending continues to come under pressure.

This illustrates the danger of paying a premium for optimism. When expectations shift quickly, share prices can get ahead of underlying fundamentals. Our approach, as always, is bottom-up focused, favouring companies priced well below their intrinsic value, across sectors and regions. There are certainly still areas of value among SA Inc stocks, but some valuations are too high and do not reflect the economic and political risks. The recent difficulty around passing a coalition budget and ongoing public tension between the South African government and the United States are good reminders of these risks. There is value in having a diversified portfolio containing both SA Inc and rand-hedge stocks. Fortunately, there are attractively priced shares available in both categories.

Stock selection in the offshore portion of the portfolio contributed to relative performance in the quarter. We remain underweight the US market and mega-cap tech – areas that have driven global market returns for several years but now appear increasingly crowded and expensive. There have been early signs of this trend shifting. For instance, European equities, which have long been out of favour, have recently begun to attract renewed interest. Emerging markets, too, outperformed the MSCI World Index this quarter. Japan, often overlooked in global portfolios, offers compelling opportunities for uncorrelated returns in a concentrated global market. The offshore portion of the Fund continues to look very different from the world index and many of our competitors, something we believe will benefit long-term returns.

During the quarter, the Fund purchased AB InBev and AngloGold Ashanti, and sold British American Tobacco and Sibanye-Stillwater.

Commentary contributed by Tim Acker

**Fund managers:** Duncan Artus, Jithen Pillay, Rory Kutisker–Jacobson, Tim Acker (Most foreign assets are invested in Orbis funds) **Inception date:** 1 October 1998

## **Allan Gray Equity Fund**

30 April 2025

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#### Management Company

Allan Gray Unit Trust Management (RF) (Pty) Ltd (the "Management Company") is registered as a management company under the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act 45 of 2002, in terms of which it operates unit trust portfolios under the Allan Gray Unit Trust Scheme, and is supervised by the Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA). The Management Company is incorporated under the laws of South Africa and has been approved by the regulatory authority of Botswana to market its unit trusts in Botswana, however, it is not supervised or licensed in Botswana. Allan Gray (Pty) Ltd (the "Investment Manager"), an authorised financial services provider, is the appointed investment manager of the Management Company and is a member of the Association for Savings & Investment South Africa (ASISA). The trustee/custodian of the Allan Gray Unit Trust Scheme is Rand Merchant Bank, a division of FirstRand Bank Limited. The trustee/custodian can be contacted at RMB Custody and Trustee Services: Tel: +27 (0)11 301 6335 or www.rmb.co.za.

#### Performance

Collective investment schemes in securities (unit trusts or funds) are generally medium- to long-term investments. The value of units may go down as well as up and past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Movements in exchange rates may also cause the value of underlying international investments to go up or down. The Management Company does not provide any guarantee regarding the capital or the performance of the Fund. Performance figures are provided by the Investment Manager and are for lump sum investments with income distributions reinvested. Actual investor performance may differ as a result of the investment date, the date of reinvestment and dividend withholding tax.

#### Fund mandate

Funds may be closed to new investments at any time in order to be managed according to their mandates. Unit trusts are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending. The funds may borrow up to 10% of their market value to bridge insufficient liquidity.

#### Unit price

Unit trust prices are calculated on a net asset value basis, which is the total market value of all assets in the Fund, including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions from the Fund, divided by the number of units in issue. Forward pricing is used and fund valuations take place at approximately 16:00 each business day. Purchase and redemption requests must be received by the Management Company by 14:00 each business day to receive that day's price. Unit trust prices are available daily on www.allangray.co.za.

#### Fees

Permissible deductions may include management fees, brokerage, securities transfer tax, auditor's fees, bank charges and trustee fees. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from Allan Gray. For more information about our annual management fees, refer to the <a href="frequently-asked questions">frequently-asked questions</a>, available via the Allan Gray website.

#### Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The total expense ratio (TER) is the annualised percentage of the Fund's average assets under management that has been used to pay the Fund's actual expenses over the past one- and three-year periods. The TER includes the annual management fees that have been charged (both the fee at benchmark and any performance component charged), VAT and other expenses like audit and trustee fees. Transaction costs (including brokerage, securities transfer tax, Share Transactions Totally Electronic (STRATE) and FSCA Investor Protection Levy and VAT thereon) are shown separately. Transaction costs are necessary costs in administering the Fund and impact Fund returns. They should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time, including market returns, the type of financial product, the investment decisions of the investment manager, and the TER. Since Fund returns are quoted after the deduction of these expenses, the TER and transaction costs should not be deducted again from published returns. As unit trust expenses vary, the current TER cannot be used as an indication of future TERs. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. Instead, when investing, the investment objective of the Fund should be aligned with the investor's objective and compared against the performance of the Fund. The TER and other funds' TERs should then be used to evaluate whether the Fund performance offers value for money. The sum of the TER and transaction costs is shown as the total investment charge (TIC).

## FTSE/JSE All Share Index, FTSE/JSE Financials Index, FTSE/JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted All Share Index and FTSE/JSE Mid Cap Index

The FTSE/JSE All Share Index, FTSE/JSE Financials Index, FTSE/JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted All Share Index and FTSE/JSE Mid Cap Index are calculated by FTSE International Limited ("FTSE") in conjunction with the JSE Limited ("JSE") in accordance with standard criteria. The FTSE/JSE All Share Index, FTSE/JSE Financials Index, FTSE/JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted All Share Index and FTSE/JSE Mid Cap Index are the proprietary information of FTSE and the JSE. All copyright subsisting in the values and constituent lists of the FTSE/JSE All Share Index, FTSE/JSE Financials Index, FTSE/ JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted All Share Index and FTSE/JSE Mid Cap Index vests in FTSE and the JSE jointly. All their rights are reserved.

#### **FTSE Russell Index**

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#### MSCI Index

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## Important information for investors

#### Need more information?



**Fund managers:** Duncan Artus, Rory Kutisker-Jacobson, Tim Acker (Most foreign assets are invested in Orbis funds) **Inception date:** 1 October 1999

## Fund description and summary of investment policy

The Fund invests in a mix of shares, bonds, property, commodities and cash. The Fund can invest a maximum of 45% offshore. The Fund typically invests the bulk of its foreign allowance in a mix of funds managed by Orbis Investment Management Limited, our offshore investment partner. The maximum net equity exposure of the Fund is 75% and we may use exchange-traded derivative contracts on stock market indices to reduce net equity exposure from time to time. The Fund is managed to comply with the investment limits governing retirement funds. Returns are likely to be less volatile than those of an equity-only fund.

ASISA unit trust category: South African - Multi Asset - High Equity

## Fund objective and benchmark

The Fund aims to create long-term wealth for investors within the constraints governing retirement funds. It aims to outperform the average return of similar funds without assuming any more risk. The Fund's benchmark is the market value-weighted average return of funds in the South African – Multi Asset – High Equity category (excluding Allan Gray funds).

## How we aim to achieve the Fund's objective

We seek to buy shares at a discount to their intrinsic value. We thoroughly research companies to assess their intrinsic value from a long-term perspective. This long-term perspective enables us to buy shares which are shunned by the stock market because of their unexciting or poor short-term prospects, but which are relatively attractively priced if one looks to the long term. If the stock market offers few attractive shares we may increase the Fund's weighting to alternative assets such as bonds, property, commodities and cash, or we may partially hedge the Fund's stock market exposure. By varying the Fund's exposure to these different asset classes over time, we seek to enhance the Fund's long-term returns and to manage its risk. The Fund's bond and money market investments are actively managed.

#### Suitable for those investors who

- Seek steady long-term capital growth
- Are comfortable with taking on some risk of market fluctuation and potential capital loss, but typically less than that of an equity fund
- Wish to invest in a unit trust that complies with retirement fund investment limits
- Typically have an investment horizon of more than three years

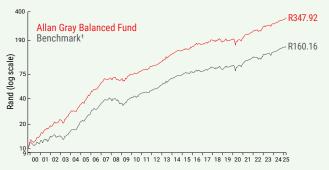
### Fund information on 30 April 2025

Fund size	R212.3bn
Number of units	592 716 272
Price (net asset value per unit)	R167.49
Class	А

- The market value-weighted average return of funds in the South African Multi Asset High Equity category (excluding Allan Gray funds). Source: Morningstar, performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 30 April 2025. From inception to 31 January 2013 the benchmark was the market value-weighted average return of the funds in both the Domestic Asset Allocation Medium Equity and Domestic Asset Allocation Variable Equity sectors of the previous ASISA Fund Classification Standard, excluding the Allan Gray Balanced Fund. Source: Morningstar.
- CPI inflation has been calculated based on the most recent rebased values from Stats SA, reflecting the data as at 31 March 2025 (source: IRESS).
- Maximum percentage decline over any period. The
  maximum drawdown occurred from 20 January 2020
  to 23 March 2020 and maximum benchmark drawdown
  occurred from 20 January 2020 to 23 March 2020.
  Drawdown is calculated on the total return of the
  Fund/benchmark (i.e. including income).
- 4. The percentage of calendar months in which the Fund produced a positive monthly return since inception.
- 5. The standard deviation of the Fund's monthly return.
  This is a measure of how much an investment's return varies from its average over time.
- 6. These are the highest or lowest consecutive 12-month returns since inception. This is a measure of how much the Fund and the benchmark returns have varied per rolling 12-month period. The Fund's highest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 30 April 2006 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 30 April 2006. The Fund's lowest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 March 2020 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 28 February 2009. All rolling 12-month figures for the Fund and the benchmark are available from our Client Service Centre on request.

## Performance net of all fees and expenses

Value of R10 invested at inception with all distributions reinvested



% Returns	Fund	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	CPI inflation <sup>2</sup>
Cumulative:			
Since inception (1 October 1999)	3379.2	1501.6	287.8
Annualised:			
Since inception (1 October 1999)	14.9	11.5	5.5
Latest 10 years	8.7	7.4	4.9
Latest 5 years	13.7	12.2	4.8
Latest 3 years	11.8	10.8	5.0
Latest 2 years	11.6	11.1	4.0
Latest 1 year	15.5	14.8	2.7
Year-to-date (not annualised)	6.7	3.9	1.7
Risk measures (since inception)			
Maximum drawdown <sup>3</sup>	-25.4	-23.3	n/a
Percentage positive months <sup>4</sup>	70.4	67.8	n/a
Annualised monthly volatility <sup>5</sup>	9.2	9.2	n/a
Highest annual return <sup>6</sup>	46.1	41.9	n/a
Lowest annual return <sup>6</sup>	-14.2	-16.7	n/a



**Fund managers:** Duncan Artus, Rory Kutisker-Jacobson, Tim Acker (Most foreign assets are invested in Orbis funds) **Inception date:** 1 October 1999

## Meeting the Fund objective

The Fund has created wealth for its long-term investors. Since inception and over the latest 10- and five-year periods, the Fund has outperformed its benchmark. The Fund experiences periods of underperformance in pursuit of its objective of creating long-term wealth for investors, without taking on greater risk of loss than the average balanced fund.

#### Income distributions for the last 12 months

To the extent that income earned in the form of dividends and interest exceeds expenses in the Fund, the Fund will distribute any surplus biannually.	30 Jun 2024	31 Dec 2024
Cents per unit	219.4385	172.6912

## Annual management fee

Allan Gray charges a fee based on the net asset value of the Fund excluding the portion invested in Orbis funds. The fee rate is calculated daily by comparing the Fund's total performance over the last two years, to that of the benchmark.

Fee for performance equal to the Fund's benchmark: 1.00% p.a. excl. VAT

For each percentage of two-year performance above or below the benchmark we add or deduct 0.1%, subject to the following limits:

Maximum fee: 1.50% p.a. excl. VAT Minimum fee: 0.50% p.a. excl. VAT

This means that Allan Gray shares in approximately 20% of annualised performance relative to the benchmark

A portion of the Fund may be invested in Orbis funds. Orbis charges performance-based fees within these funds that are calculated based on each Orbis fund's performance relative to its own benchmark. Orbis pays a marketing and distribution fee to Allan Gray.

## Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The annual management fees charged by both Allan Gray and Orbis are included in the TER. The TER is a measure of the actual expenses incurred by the Fund over a one and three-year period (annualised). Since Fund returns are quoted after deduction of these expenses, the TER should not be deducted from the published returns (refer to page 4 for further information). Transaction costs are disclosed separately.

## Top 10 share holdings on 31 March 2025 (SA and Foreign)

(updated quarterly)7

Company	% of portfolio
AB InBev	4.3
Naspers & Prosus	4.1
British American Tobacco	3.7
Standard Bank	2.1
AngloGold Ashanti	2.1
Nedbank	1.9
The Walt Disney Company	1.9
Woolworths	1.7
Remgro	1.6
Glencore	1.4
Total (%)	24.7

## Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs (updated quarterly)

TER and transaction costs breakdown for the 1- and 3-year period ending 31 March 2025	1yr %	3yr %
Total expense ratio	1.42	1.67
Fee for benchmark performance	1.02	1.02
Performance fees	0.24	0.46
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.04	0.04
VAT	0.12	0.15
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.06	0.06
Total investment charge	1.48	1.73

## Asset allocation on 30 April 20257

Asset class	Total	South Africa	Foreign
Net equities	63.5	36.8	26.7
Hedged equities	9.1	3.0	6.1
Property	1.0	0.2	0.9
Commodity-linked	3.3	2.7	0.6
Bonds	16.0	11.0	5.0
Money market and cash <sup>8</sup>	7.1	8.7	-1.7
Total (%)	100.0	62.4	37.6°

- 7. Underlying holdings of foreign funds are included on a look-through basis.
- 8. Including currency hedges.
- 9. The Fund can invest a maximum of 45% offshore. Market movements may periodically cause the Fund to move beyond these limits. This must be corrected within 12 months.

## Since inception, the Fund's month-end net equity exposure has varied as follows:

Minimum	49.3% (February 2000)	
Average	63.3%	
Maximum	72.9% (May 2021)	

**ALLANGRAY** 

Fund managers: Duncan Artus, Rory Kutisker-Jacobson, Tim Acker (Most foreign assets are invested in Orbis funds) Inception date: 1 October 1999

2024 was a strong year for local assets, and this positive momentum carried through into the first quarter of 2025. The FTSE/JSE All Share Index generated a return of 13% in 2024 and 6% in the latest quarter, while the FTSE/JSE All Bond Index returned 17% in 2024 and 1% for the guarter. Global equity markets also performed well in 2024 but have had a softer start to 2025. The MSCI World Index ended up 19% in US dollars in 2024 but fell 2% in the first guarter of 2025.

The Fund returned 3.9% for the guarter, outperforming its benchmark by 2.6%. Local performance was driven by large multinational "rand-hedge" shares, such as AB InBev and British American Tobacco. This is a reversal of one of the dominant trends of 2024: Following the national elections and the formation of the government of national unity (GNU) in June 2024, domestically focused "SA Inc" shares strongly outperformed rand-hedge shares. The Fund responded by reducing its SA Inc exposure in the second half of 2024 and adding to its rand-hedge positions. SA bonds also had a strong 2024 but have come under pressure in the last six months. A conservative bond stance and favouring rand-hedge shares detracted from performance last year, but supported performance in the most recent guarter.

The formation of the GNU in June 2024 sparked a wave of optimism about South Africa's future, both locally and abroad. Some of this was driven by hopes of political reform and economic recovery, but it also reflected relative appeal - many emerging markets were in deeper turmoil, making South Africa look comparatively stable. While we acknowledge encouraging signs, such as improvements at Eskom, our research suggests that broader progress has been limited. State-owned enterprises continue to face deep structural issues. and the business environment remains difficult. Recent financial results from consumer-focused companies reinforce this view – many continue to report subdued earnings as household spending remains under pressure.

This highlights the danger of paying a premium for optimism. When expectations run ahead of fundamentals, prices can detach from reality. Our approach remains rooted in bottom-up analysis, favouring companies priced well below their

intrinsic value, across sectors and regions. While there are still undervalued SA Inc shares, many are now priced for perfection in an economy still facing major headwinds. The difficulty in passing the first coalition budget and ongoing public tension between our government and the United States are good reminders of the economic and political risks.

There is value in having a diversified portfolio containing both SA Inc and rand-hedge stocks. The portfolio reflects that there are attractive opportunities available in both categories. SA bonds offer high yields that appear very attractive at first glance, but we remain concerned about the fiscal challenges facing the SA government. Despite a steepening yield curve, the Fund maintains a conservative duration position, preferring shorter-dated bonds.

Offshore stock selection contributed to relative performance in the quarter. We remain underweight the US market and mega-cap tech – areas that have driven global market returns for several years but now appear increasingly crowded and expensive. There have been early signs of this trend shifting. European equities, long neglected by investors, have attracted fresh interest. Emerging markets, too, outperformed the MSCI World Index this quarter. Japan, often overlooked in global portfolios, offers compelling opportunities for uncorrelated returns in a concentrated global market. The majority of the Fund's 38% foreign allocation is in equities, with the remainder mostly in hedged equities and short-dated bonds. This positioning reflects our view that the overall global stock market remains expensive and longer-dated global government bonds don't offer compelling value either. The offshore portion of the Fund continues to look very different from the world index and many of our competitors, a divergence we believe will benefit long-term returns.

During the guarter, the Fund purchased AngloGold Ashanti and AB InBev, and sold British American Tobacco and Gold Fields.

Commentary contributed by Tim Acker

**Fund managers:** Duncan Artus, Rory Kutisker–Jacobson, Tim Acker (Most foreign assets are invested in Orbis funds) **Inception date:** 1 October 1999

30 April 2025

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#### Performance

Collective investment schemes in securities (unit trusts or funds) are generally medium- to long-term investments. The value of units may go down as well as up and past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Movements in exchange rates may also cause the value of underlying international investments to go up or down. The Management Company does not provide any guarantee regarding the capital or the performance of the Fund. Performance figures are provided by the Investment Manager and are for lump sum investments with income distributions reinvested. Actual investor performance may differ as a result of the investment date, the date of reinvestment and dividend withholding tax.

#### Fund mandate

Funds may be closed to new investments at any time in order to be managed according to their mandates. Unit trusts are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending. The funds may borrow up to 10% of their market value to bridge insufficient liquidity.

#### Unit price

Unit trust prices are calculated on a net asset value basis, which is the total market value of all assets in the Fund, including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions from the Fund, divided by the number of units in issue. Forward pricing is used and fund valuations take place at approximately 16:00 each business day. Purchase and redemption requests must be received by the Management Company by 14:00 each business day to receive that day's price. Unit trust prices are available daily on www.allangray.co.za.

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Permissible deductions may include management fees, brokerage, securities transfer tax, auditor's fees, bank charges and trustee fees. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from Allan Gray. For more information about our annual management fees, refer to the <u>frequently asked questions</u>, available via the Allan Gray website.

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## FTSE/JSE All Share Index, FTSE/JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted All Share Index and FTSE/JSE All Bond Index

The FTSE/JSE All Share Index, FTSE/JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted All Share Index and FTSE/JSE All Bond Index are calculated by FTSE International Limited ("FTSE") in conjunction with the JSE Limited ("JSE") in accordance with standard criteria. The FTSE/JSE All Share Index, FTSE/JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted All Share Index and FTSE/JSE All Bond Index are the proprietary information of FTSE and the JSE. All copyright subsisting in the values and constituent lists of the FTSE/JSE All Share Index, FTSE/JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted All Share Index and FTSE/JSE All Bond Index vests in FTSE and the JSE jointly, All their rights are reserved.

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## Important information for investors

#### Need more information?

30 April 2025



Fund managers: Duncan Artus, Sean Munsie, Tim Acker (Most foreign assets are invested in Orbis funds) Inception date: 1 July 2000

## Fund description and summary of investment policy

The Fund invests in a mix of shares, bonds, property, commodities and cash. The Fund can invest a maximum of 45% offshore. The Fund typically invests the bulk of its foreign allowance in a mix of funds managed by Orbis Investment Management Limited, our offshore investment partner. The maximum net equity exposure of the Fund is 40%. The Fund's net equity exposure may be reduced from time to time using exchange-traded derivative contracts on stock market indices. The Fund is managed to comply with the investment limits governing retirement funds. Returns are likely to be less volatile than those of an equity-only fund or a balanced fund.

ASISA unit trust category: South African - Multi Asset - Low Equity

## Fund objective and benchmark

The Fund aims to provide a high degree of capital stability and to minimise the risk of loss over any two-year period, while producing long-term returns that are superior to bank deposits. The Fund's benchmark is the daily interest rate, as supplied by FirstRand Bank Limited, plus 2%.

## How we aim to achieve the Fund's objective

A major portion of the Fund is typically invested in money market instruments. We seek to deploy the Fund's cash by investing in shares when they can be bought at a significant discount to their intrinsic value. We thoroughly research companies to assess their intrinsic value from a long-term perspective. This long-term perspective enables us to buy shares which are shunned by the stock market because of their unexciting or poor short-term prospects, but which are relatively attractively priced if one looks to the long term. If the stock market offers few attractive shares, we may allocate a low weight to shares or partially hedge the Fund's stock market exposure in consideration of the Fund's capital preservation objectives. The Fund may also invest in bonds, property and commodities. The Fund's bond and money market investments are actively managed.

#### Suitable for those investors who

- Are risk-averse and require a high degree of capital stability
- Seek both above-inflation returns over the long term, and capital preservation over any two-year period
- Require some income but also some capital growth
- Wish to invest in a unit trust that complies with retirement fund investment limits

### Fund information on 30 April 2025

Fund size	R55.5bn
Number of units	563 316 445
Price (net asset value per unit)	R48.51
Class	А

## R140.53 Allan Gray Stable Fund Benchmark<sup>1</sup> R76.63 Rand (log scale)

01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

Performance net of all fees and expenses Value of R10 invested at inception with all distributions reinvested

- 1. The Fund's benchmark is the daily interest rate, as supplied by FirstRand Bank, plus 2%, performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 30 April 2025.
- 2. CPI inflation has been calculated based on the most recent rebased values from Stats SA, reflecting the data as at 31 March 2025 (source: IRESS).
- 3. Maximum percentage decline over any period. The maximum drawdown occurred from 20 January 2020 to 23 March 2020. Drawdown is calculated on the total return of the Fund (i.e. including income).
- 4. The percentage of calendar months in which the Fund produced a positive monthly return since inception.
- 5. The standard deviation of the Fund's monthly return. This is a measure of how much an investment's return varies from its average over time.
- 6. These are the highest or lowest consecutive 12-month returns since inception. This is a measure of how much the Fund and the benchmark returns have varied per rolling 12-month period. The Fund's highest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 30 April 2006 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 30 June 2003. The Fund's lowest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 March 2020 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 31 August 2021. All rolling 12-month figures for the Fund and the benchmark are available from our Client Service Centre on request.

	1	
Fund	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	CPI inflation <sup>2</sup>
1305.3	666.3	268.1
11.2	8.5	5.4
8.7	7.5	4.9
11.0	7.2	4.8
10.2	8.8	5.0
10.6	9.5	4.0
13.8	9.3	2.7
5.3	2.9	1.7
-16.7	n/a	n/a
78.5	100.0	n/a
5.1	0.7	n/a
23.3	14.6	n/a
-7.4	4.6	n/a
	1305.3 11.2 8.7 11.0 10.2 10.6 13.8 5.3 -16.7 78.5 5.1 23.3	1305.3 666.3  11.2 8.5  8.7 7.5  11.0 7.2  10.2 8.8  10.6 9.5  13.8 9.3  5.3 2.9  -16.7 n/a  78.5 100.0  5.1 0.7  23.3 14.6

## Meeting the Fund objective

Since inception and over the latest 10- and five-year periods, the Fund has outperformed its benchmark. The Fund has provided returns in excess of CPI inflation for all three periods. The Fund aims to minimise the risk of loss over any two-year period.

#### Income distributions for the last 12 months

To the extent that income earned in the form of dividends and interest exceeds expenses in the Fund, the Fund will distribute any surplus quarterly.	30 Jun 2024	30 Sep 2024	31 Dec 2024	31 Mar 2025
Cents per unit	51.1499	42.4069	37.6557	38.9637

### Annual management fee

Allan Gray charges a fee based on the net asset value of the Fund excluding the portion invested in Orbis funds. The fee rate is calculated daily by comparing the Fund's total performance over the last two years, to that of the benchmark. If the Fund's return over two years is equal to or less than 0%, Allan Gray will not charge a fee.

Fee for performance equal to the Fund's benchmark: 1.00% p.a. excl. VAT

For each percentage of two-year performance above or below the benchmark we add or deduct 0.1%, subject to the following limits:

Maximum fee: 1.50% p.a. excl. VAT Minimum fee: 0.50% p.a. excl. VAT

This means that Allan Gray shares in approximately 20% of annualised performance relative to the benchmark.

A portion of the Fund may be invested in Orbis funds. Orbis charges performance-based fees within these funds that are calculated based on each Orbis fund's performance relative to its own benchmark. Orbis pays a marketing and distribution fee to Allan Gray.

## Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The annual management fees charged by both Allan Gray and Orbis are included in the TER. The TER is a measure of the actual expenses incurred by the Fund over a one and three-year period (annualised). Since Fund returns are quoted after deduction of these expenses, the TER should not be deducted from the published returns (refer to page 4 for further information). Transaction costs are disclosed separately.

# Top 10 share holdings on 31 March 2025 (SA and Foreign) (updated quarterly)<sup>7</sup>

Company	% of portfolio
AB InBev	3.3
British American Tobacco	2.6
AngloGold Ashanti	1.9
Gold Fields	1.5
Woolworths	1.3
Standard Bank	1.3
Nedbank	1.2
Remgro	1.2
Marriott International Inc	1.0
Unilever Plc	0.8
Total (%)	16.1

- 7. Underlying holdings of foreign funds are included on a look-through basis.
- 8. Exposures representing 1% or more of the portfolio.
- 9. Excludes accrued fees and cash accounts.

## Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs (updated quarterly)

TER and transaction costs breakdown for the 1- and 3-year period ending 31 March 2025	1yr %	3yr %
Total expense ratio	1.48	1.60
Fee for benchmark performance	1.01	1.01
Performance fees	0.29	0.40
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.03	0.03
VAT	0.15	0.16
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.04	0.04
Total investment charge	1.52	1.64

## **Top debt issuers on 31 March 2025 (SA and Foreign)** (updated quarterly)<sup>7,8,9</sup>

Issuer	% of portfolio
Republic of South Africa	14.1
Standard Bank	8.5
FirstRand Bank	5.8
Absa	4.3
Investec Bank	2.8
Nedbank	2.6
United States Treasury	1.7
JPMorgan Chase & Co	1.2
Total (%)	41.1

## Asset allocation on 30 April 20257

Asset class	Total	South Africa	Foreign
Net equities	25.2	11.9	13.3
Hedged equities	22.6	11.9	10.7
Property	0.9	0.1	0.8
Commodity-linked	2.0	1.4	0.6
Bonds	33.7	26.1	7.6
Money market and cash <sup>10</sup>	15.6	18.9	-3.3
Total (%)	100.0	70.3	29.711

<sup>10.</sup> Including currency hedges

## Since inception, the Fund's month-end net equity exposure has varied as follows:

Minimum	12.4% (January 2010)	
Average	26.4%	
Maximum	39.6% (December 2018)	

<sup>11.</sup> The Fund can invest a maximum of 45% offshore. Market movements may periodically cause the Fund to move beyond these limits. This must be corrected within 12 months.



30 April 2025

The first quarter of 2025 saw the local equity market add to the strong gains posted in the preceding year, with the FTSE/JSE All Share Index returning 5.9%. Among the largest contributors to returns at the index level were precious metal miners, telecommunications providers and the dual-listed consumer goods companies, including AB InBev, British American Tobacco and Richemont. Gains for the local banks, insurers and retailers have either begun to stall or go backwards, while the diversified miners and other cyclical rand hedges Sasol and Mondi have continued to struggle in the new year. The FTSE/JSE All Bond Index eked out a 0.7% gain for the quarter, as the risk premium ascribed to local government bonds increased, particularly on longer-dated instruments. The faltering US market contributed to declines in the MSCI World Index and the S&P 500, which returned -1.8% and -4.4% in US dollars respectively over the quarter.

Against this backdrop, the Fund returned 3.1% for the quarter – 1.0% ahead of its benchmark.

Fund holdings in AB InBev and gold miners were among the largest contributors to performance. Gains for AngloGold Ashanti, Gold Fields and DRDGOLD have been particularly strong, with share prices more than 50% higher year to date in rands – this as the gold price breached US\$3 000 per ounce for the first time and continued to set new highs. Predominant trends, including diversification away from the US dollar with increased interest in gold as a reserve asset, fears of stagflation in developed economies as growth slows, and political and trade uncertainties, remain more relevant than ever. Despite this, equity investors remain sceptical of the trajectory of the gold price, with valuations of the miners, including those mentioned above, screening as very compelling at the spot price.

The offshore component of the Fund was a contributor to overall returns, primarily driven by stock selection. Defence-related holdings were among the leading contributors, having benefited from increased global defence spending and European government commitments to future defence investment. US dollar weakness also aided returns, given the Fund's underweight exposure. The offshore component has been positioned against the narrative of American exceptionalism for some time and continues to have limited US exposure.

It is worthwhile noting that events occurring immediately post quarter end pose a possible threat to wider risk asset returns – namely, the sustainability of the government of national unity locally following the conflict-ridden Budget process and the ratcheting up of global trade tensions after President Donald Trump's "Liberation Day" tariff announcements. Last quarter, we wrote about our concerns regarding unsustainable valuation levels both locally and globally, and what this may mean for future returns. This, coupled with geopolitical pressures and elevated uncertainty, makes for increased market volatility ahead.

In our opinion, the Fund's current defensive positioning in terms of stock selection, a 25% net equity weight (which is below the 40% maximum), its sizeable asset allocation towards hedged equities, and its lower-duration bond holdings ensure that we are well placed to navigate these challenges.

During the quarter, the Fund added to its existing AB InBev holding, initiated a new position in Aspen Pharmacare and trimmed its exposure to British American Tobacco

Commentary contributed by Sean Munsie

**Fund managers:** Duncan Artus, Sean Munsie, Tim Acker (Most foreign assets are invested in Orbis funds) **Inception date:** 1 July 2000

**Allan Gray Stable Fund** 

30 April 2025

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#### FTSE Russell Index

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## Important information for investors

#### Need more information?



### Fund description and summary of investment policy

The Fund invests in a mix of South African interest-bearing securities. These securities can be issued by government, parastatals, corporates and banks. The Fund's weighted average modified duration is limited to a maximum of two. Returns are likely to be less volatile than those of traditional income and bond funds, but more volatile than those of money market funds. The Fund is managed to comply with the investment limits governing retirement funds.

ASISA unit trust category: South African – Interest Bearing – Short Term

## Fund objective and benchmark

The Fund aims to generate returns higher than bank deposits and traditional money market funds, while maintaining capital stability and low volatility. The Fund's benchmark is the Alexander Forbes Short Term Fixed Interest (STeFI) Composite Index.

## How we aim to achieve the Fund's objective

The Fund invests in select South African interest-bearing securities providing an income yield and a high degree of capital stability. We formulate an interest rate outlook, which is influenced by our inflation outlook and expectations of the resulting Reserve Bank policy response. Based on this analysis, we select securities for the Fund. These will primarily be floating-rate notes, money market instruments and fixed interest paper with a low duration. We take a conservative approach to credit risk, liquidity risk and duration risk.

#### Suitable for those investors who

- Are risk-averse but seek returns higher than bank deposits and traditional money market funds
- Need a short-term investment account
- Seek a domestic-only interest-bearing 'building block'
- Require monthly income distributions

## Fund information on 30 April 2025

Fund size	R1.7bn
Number of units	51 585 986
Price (net asset value per unit)	R10.21
Modified duration	0.7
Gross yield (i.e. before fees)	8.9
Net yield (i.e. after fees)	8.1
Fund weighted average maturity (years)	5.0
Class	A

## Income distributions for the last 12 months

Actual payout (cents per unit), the Fund distributes monthly

May 2024	Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Aug 2024
6.59	6.57	8.11	7.40
Sep 2024	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2024
7.76	7.58	7.09	7.68
Jan 2025	Feb 2025	Mar 2025	Apr 2025
7.32	6.56	7.12	6.89

- The Fund's benchmark is the Alexander Forbes Short Term Fixed Interest (STeFI) Composite Index. Performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 30 April 2025. Source: Bloomberg.
- CPI inflation has been calculated based on the most recent rebased values from Stats SA, reflecting the data as at 31 March 2025 (source: IRESS).
- Maximum percentage decline over any period. The maximum drawdown occurred from 7 October 2024 to 8 October 2024. Drawdown is calculated on the total return of the Fund (i.e. including income).
- 4. The percentage of calendar months in which the Fund produced a positive monthly return since inception.
- The standard deviation of the Fund's monthly return. This
  is a measure of how much an investment's return varies
  from its average over time.
- 6. These are the highest or lowest consecutive 12-month returns since inception. This is a measure of how much the Fund and the benchmark returns have varied per rolling 12-month period. The Fund's highest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 30 April 2025 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 30 April 2025. The Fund's lowest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 30 April 2025 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 30 April 2025. All rolling 12-month figures for the Fund and the benchmark are available from our Client Service Centre on request.

## Performance net of all fees and expenses

errormance her or an rees and expenses							
% Returns	Fund	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	CPI inflation <sup>2</sup>				
Cumulative:							
Since inception (1 May 2024)	10.5	8.2	2.5				
Annualised:							
Since inception (1 May 2024)	10.5	8.2	n/a				
Latest 1 year	10.5	8.2	2.7				
Year-to-date (not annualised)	3.0	2.5	1.7				
Risk measures (since inception)							
Maximum drawdown <sup>3</sup>	-1.2	n/a	n/a				
Percentage positive months <sup>4</sup>	100.0	100.0	n/a				
Annualised monthly volatility <sup>5</sup>	0.7	0.1	n/a				
Highest annual return <sup>6</sup>	10.5	8.2	n/a				
Lowest annual return <sup>6</sup>	10.5	8.2	n/a				



## Annual management fee

A fixed fee of 0.65% p.a. excl. VAT

## Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs (updated quarterly)

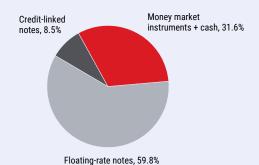
The annual management fee is included in the TER. The TER is a measure of the actual expenses incurred by the Fund over a one-year period (annualised). Transaction costs are disclosed separately. Complete and accurate data is only available after 12 months. The TER and transaction costs are therefore based on actual data, where available, and best estimates.

TER and transaction costs breakdown for the 1-year period ending 31 March 2025	1yr %
Total expense ratio	0.76
Fee for benchmark performance	0.65
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.01
VAT	0.10
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.00
Total investment charge	0.76

## Top credit exposures on 30 April 2025



## Asset allocation on 30 April 2025



## Maturity profile on 30 April 2025





To start the year from an interest rate standpoint, the theme of "uncertainty" was prevalent at both the US Federal Reserve (the Fed) and South African Reserve Bank (SARB) meetings, with Fed Chair Jerome Powell and SARB Governor Lesetja Kganyago separately echoing that rate policy caution is warranted in these uncertain times. A dramatic shift in US fiscal, trade and military policy has ramifications for developed and emerging countries alike. A topic of much debate this year has been whether US President Donald Trump will impose higher tariffs upon key trading partners on a sustained basis. Such actions would result in higher US inflation and therefore higher interest rates. Alternatively, Trump's actions at times suggest that he simply wishes to use the threat of these tariffs as a negotiating tool of statecraft to achieve other policy aims. These include more secure US borders, a commitment from the likes of Europe and China to raise their own imports from the US, and a fairer dispersion of military spending across the US, Europe and the UK that does not place unfair burden on the US when enacting North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) peacekeeping duties and disbursing foreign aid. In a similar vein, the degree to which US government spending will be cut is also unclear - keeping in mind that such expenditure has acted as a key driver of US gross domestic product (GDP) growth and a steady source of US job listings.

Markets hate such uncertainty and so do businesses. The weakening of the S&P 500 index, which has lost 9% of its value in US dollars since its year-to-date highs, risks unwinding some of the wealth effect that has spurred consumer spending on both basic and discretionary goods, as well as luxury items and travel. Several US fast food and beverage companies have begun reporting faltering sales on the back of consumer economic anxiety while prices are simultaneously rising amid tariff-related price hikes from suppliers. If one extrapolates such stock market and business activity to indicate a coming recession, this implies that tariff-related inflationary threats will be watered down by depressed economic activity that ultimately lowers both consumer demand and prices. Therein lies the set of uncertain paths: Will US policy shifts raise inflation, or could they squash prices by bringing about a recession? The Fed is waiting for greater clarity.

Turning to domestic interest rates, many in the market have questioned why the SARB has not cut rates by more, given a reporate of 7.5% as at end-March (close to its highest levels in 16 years) versus a consumer price inflation (CPI) rate of 3.2% as at end-February (levels last seen during the COVID-19 pandemic-related slump in economic activity). The answer may be that the SARB does not set interest rates in a vacuum. On the one hand, the expectation of softer US growth and the weaker US dollar observed this year lowers our local inflation trajectory. On the other hand, Governor Kganyago also highlights that the imposition of tariffs on South Africa or the loss of our African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) preferential trade status with the US should mean lower growth domestically, with the SARB modelling up to a -0.7% hit to GDP in such a scenario as South Africa's automotive and fruit exports decline. This analysis was done prior to the 30% tariff on South African imports announced by the Trump administration on 2 April 2025, which nullifies many AGOA benefits and will likely represent a shock to growth. This, combined with a local market confidence shock, could weaken the rand and raise our CPI trajectory materially. It is the job of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) to weigh the balance of such future risks when setting rates now. A recent win for South Africa's administered price inflation trajectory is the reduced electricity tariff hikes granted to Eskom by the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) of 12.7%, 5.4% and 6.2% for each of the next three years. That said, in its place, the SARB must now contemplate a new risk and weigh up the potential impact of a higher value-added tax (VAT) rate on consumer prices going forward.

During the quarter, the Fund added to five-year fixed-rate money market instruments. The Fund ended the quarter on an annual yield of 9%, with the market pricing for one more interest rate cut this year.

Commentary contributed by Thalia Petousis

Fund manager commentary as at 31 March 2025



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#### **Management Company**

Allan Gray Unit Trust Management (RF) (Pty) Ltd (the "Management Company") is registered as a management company under the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act 45 of 2002, in terms of which it operates unit trust portfolios under the Allan Gray Unit Trust Scheme, and is supervised by the Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA). The Management Company is incorporated under the laws of South Africa and has been approved by the regulatory authority of Botswana to market its unit trusts in Botswana, however, it is not supervised or licensed in Botswana. Allan Gray (Pty) Ltd (the "Investment Manager"), an authorised financial services provider, is the appointed investment manager of the Management Company and is a member of the Association for Savings & Investment South Africa (ASISA). The trustee/custodian of the Allan Gray Unit Trust Scheme is Rand Merchant Bank, a division of FirstRand Bank Limited. The trustee/custodian can be contacted at RMB Custody and Trustee Services: Tel: +27 (0)11 301 6335 or www.rmb.co.za.

#### Performance

Collective investment schemes in securities (unit trusts or funds) are generally medium- to long-term investments. The value of units may go down as well as up and past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The Management Company does not provide any guarantee regarding the capital or the performance of the Fund. Performance figures are provided by the Investment Manager and are for lump sum investments with income distributions reinvested. Actual investor performance may differ as a result of the investment date, the date of reinvestment and applicable taxes.

#### Fund mandate

Funds may be closed to new investments at any time in order to be managed according to their mandates. Unit trusts are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending. The funds may borrow up to 10% of their market value to bridge insufficient liquidity.

#### Unit price

Unit trust prices are calculated on a net asset value basis, which is the total market value of all assets in the Fund, including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions from the Fund, divided by the number of units in issue. Forward pricing is used and fund valuations take place at approximately 16:00 each business day. Purchase and redemption requests must be received by the Management Company by 14:00 each business day to receive that day's price. Unit trust prices are available daily on www.allangray.co.za.

#### Yield

The Fund's gross yield is the estimated weighted average yield-to-maturity of all underlying interestbearing instruments as at the last day of the month. The one-year TER is deducted from the gross yield to derive a yield net of fund expenses. Actual returns may differ based on changes in market values, interest rates and market factors during the investment period.

#### Fees

Permissible deductions may include management fees, brokerage, securities transfer tax, auditor's fees, bank charges and trustee fees. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from Allan Gray.

#### Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The total expense ratio (TER) is the annualised percentage of the Fund's average assets under management that has been used to pay the Fund's actual expenses over the past one- and threeyear periods. The TER includes the annual management fees that have been charged (both the fee at benchmark and any performance component charged), VAT and other expenses like audit and trustee fees. Transaction costs (including brokerage, securities transfer tax, Share Transactions Totally Electronic (STRATE) and FSCA Investor Protection Levy and VAT thereon) are shown separately. Transaction costs are necessary costs in administering the Fund and impact Fund returns. They should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time, including market returns, the type of financial product, the investment decisions of the investment manager, and the TER. Since Fund returns are quoted after the deduction of these expenses, the TER and transaction costs should not be deducted again from published returns. As unit trust expenses vary, the current TER cannot be used as an indication of future TERs. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. Instead, when investing, the investment objective of the Fund should be aligned with the investor's objective and compared against the performance of the Fund. The TER and other funds' TERs should then be used to evaluate whether the Fund performance offers value for money. The sum of the TER and transaction costs is shown as the total investment charge (TIC).

#### Compliance with Regulation 28

The Fund is managed to comply with Regulation 28 of the Pension Funds Act 24 of 1956 (the "Pension Funds Act"). Exposures in excess of the limits will be corrected immediately, except where due to a change in the fair value or characteristic of an asset, e.g. market value fluctuations, in which case they will be corrected within the prescribed regulatory time period. The Management Company does not monitor compliance by retirement funds with section 19(4) of the Pension Funds Act (item 6 of Table 1 to Regulation 28).

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## Important information for investors

#### Need more information?



**Fund managers:** This Fund invests solely into the Orbis Global Equity Fund, managed by Orbis Investment Management Limited **Inception date:** 1 April 2005

## Fund description and summary of investment policy

The Fund is a feeder fund and invests only in the Orbis Global Equity Fund, managed by Allan Gray's offshore investment partner, Orbis Investment Management Limited. The Orbis Global Equity Fund is designed to be exposed to all of the risks and rewards of selected global shares. Returns are likely to be volatile, especially over short- and medium-term periods. Although the Fund's investment universe is global, the units in the Fund are priced and traded daily in rands.

ASISA unit trust category: Global - Equity - General

## Fund objective and benchmark

The Fund aims to outperform global stock markets over the long term, without taking on greater risk. Its benchmark is the MSCI World Index, including income, after withholding taxes.

## How we aim to achieve the Fund's objective

The Fund invests only in the Orbis Global Equity Fund. The Orbis Global Equity Fund is designed to be exposed to all of the risks and rewards of selected global shares. Orbis uses in-house research to identify companies around the world whose shares can be purchased for less than Orbis' assessment of their long-term intrinsic value. This long-term perspective enables Orbis to buy shares which are shunned by the stock market because of their unexciting or poor short-term prospects, but which are relatively attractively priced if one looks to the long term. This is the same approach as that used by Allan Gray to invest in South African equities, except that Orbis is able to choose from many more shares, listed internationally.

## Suitable for those investors who

- Seek exposure to diversified international equities to provide long-term capital growth
- Wish to invest in international assets through a rand-denominated fund
- Are comfortable with global stock market and currency fluctuation and risk of capital loss
- Typically have an investment horizon of more than five years
- Wish to use the Fund as a global equity 'building block' in a diversified multi-asset class portfolio

**Fund availability:** Subject to offshore capacity constraints. Please visit our website or contact our Client Service Centre for further information about any constraints that may apply.

### Fund information on 30 April 2025

Fund size	R32.3bn
Number of units	226 133 031
Price (net asset value per unit)	R143.06
Class	А

- MSCI World Index, including income, after withholding taxes (source: Bloomberg), performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 30 April 2025. From inception to 15 May 2023, the benchmark was the FTSE World Index, including income.
- This data reflects the latest available inflation numbers for South Africa and the United States of America, as at 31 March 2025 (Source: IRESS). South African CPI inflation has been calculated based on the most recent rebased values from Stats SA.
- Maximum percentage decline over any period. The
  maximum rand drawdown occurred from 6 June 2008
  to 10 March 2009 and maximum benchmark drawdown
  occurred from 5 June 2008 to 6 March 2009. Drawdown
  is calculated on the total return of the Fund/benchmark
  (i.e. including income).
- The percentage of calendar months in which the Fund produced a positive monthly return since inception.
- 5. The standard deviation of the Fund's monthly return.
  This is a measure of how much an investment's return varies from its average over time.
- 6. These are the highest or lowest consecutive 12-month returns since inception. This is a measure of how much the Fund and the benchmark returns have varied per rolling 12-month period. The Fund's highest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 December 2013 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 31 December 2013. The Fund's lowest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 March 2009 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 31 March 2009. All rolling 12-month figures for the Fund and the benchmark are available from our Client Service Centre on request.

## Performance net of all fees and expenses

Value of R10 invested at inception with all distributions reinvested



% Returns	Fu	nd	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>		CPI inflation	
Cumulative:	ZAR	US\$	ZAR	US\$	ZAR	US\$
Since inception (1 April 2005)	1338.1	380.9	1421.5	408.8	190.3	65.5
Annualised:						
Since inception (1 April 2005)	14.2	8.1	14.5	8.4	5.5	2.6
Latest 10 years	12.3	7.4	14.6	9.6	4.9	3.1
Latest 5 years	13.4	13.0	14.6	14.2	4.8	4.4
Latest 3 years	17.6	11.2	17.5	11.2	5.0	3.6
Latest 2 years	16.9	16.0	16.1	15.3	4.0	2.9
Latest 1 year	8.8	9.8	11.2	12.2	2.7	2.4
Year-to-date (not annualised)	3.2	4.3	-2.0	-0.9	1.7	1.0
Risk measures (since inception)						
Maximum drawdown <sup>3</sup>	-34.1	-52.8	-38.0	-57.6	n/a	n/a
Percentage positive months <sup>4</sup>	62.7	58.5	61.0	63.5	n/a	n/a
Annualised monthly volatility <sup>5</sup>	15.1	17.0	14.2	15.7	n/a	n/a
Highest annual return <sup>6</sup>	78.2	64.1	54.2	58.4	n/a	n/a
Lowest annual return <sup>6</sup>	-29.7	-44.8	-32.7	-47.3	n/a	n/a



## Meeting the Fund objective

Since inception and over the latest 10- and five-year periods, the Fund has underperformed its benchmark. The Fund has provided returns in excess of CPI inflation for all three periods. The Fund experiences periods of underperformance in pursuit of its objective of creating long-term wealth for investors, without taking on greater risk of loss than the global stock market. The maximum drawdown and lowest annual return numbers, in the 'Performance net of all fees and expenses' table, show that the Fund has successfully reduced downside risk in periods of negative market returns.

#### Income distributions for the last 12 months

To the extent that income earned in the form of dividends and interest exceeds expenses in the Fund, the Fund will distribute any surplus annually.	31 Dec 2024
Cents per unit	3.0952

## Annual management fee

Allan Gray does not charge an annual management fee but is paid a marketing and distribution fee by Orbis.

Orbis charges an annual management fee within the underlying Orbis Global Equity Fund. The fee rate is calculated based on the Orbis fund's performance relative to its benchmark. For more information please refer to the Orbis Global Equity Fund factsheet and prospectus, which can be found at <a href="https://www.orbis.com">www.orbis.com</a>.

## Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs (updated quarterly)

The annual management fee charged by Orbis is included in the TER. The TER is a measure of the actual expenses incurred by the Fund over a one and three-year period (annualised). Since Fund returns are quoted after deduction of these expenses, the TER should not be deducted from the published returns (refer to page 4 for further information). Transaction costs are disclosed separately.

TER and transaction costs breakdown for the 1- and 3-year period ending 31 March 2025	1yr %	3yr %
Total expense ratio	0.83	1.26
Fee for benchmark performance	1.10	1.25
Performance fees	-0.33	-0.05
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.06	0.06
VAT	0.00	0.00
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.11	0.10
Total investment charge	0.94	1.36

## Top 10 share holdings on 30 April 2025

Company	% of portfolio
QXO	5.9
Corpay	5.1
Nintendo	4.9
Elevance Health	4.8
British American Tobacco	3.3
Taiwan Semiconductor Mfg	2.6
BAE Systems	2.5
Hanwha Aerospace	2.3
Rolls-Royce Holdings	2.2
Interactive Brokers Group	2.1
Total (%)	35.7

## Asset allocation on 30 April 2025

This fund invests solely into the Orbis Global Equity Fund

	Total	United States	UK	Europe ex-UK <sup>7</sup>	Japan	Other <sup>7</sup>	Emerging markets
Net equities	94.3	38.0	13.8	10.7	6.8	4.1	21.0
Property	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.0
Money market and cash	4.1	3.8	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total (%)	100.0	41.8	13.8	10.8	8.4	4.1	21.0
Currency exposure	100.0	41.4	8.8	12.8	16.5	8.0	12.4
Benchmark	100.0	71.0	3.8	13.3	5.7	6.2	0.0

<sup>7.</sup> Refers to developed markets only.



30 April 2025

It has not been a great decade to be a value-oriented contrarian investor.

When compared against a soaring and increasingly concentrated global stock market, the opportunity for investors like us to deliver enhanced returns has been relatively bleak. To be sure, scoring a few own goals along the way hasn't helped. Our mission is to generate superior returns versus our benchmark with no greater risk of loss. And, while our net returns over the last decade have been strong in absolute terms, they've fallen short of the benchmark's returns. We recognise that we have tested your patience.

Looking back, there have been two big factors at work. The first is our own internal processes and structure. With the benefit of all the data we have collected and analysed on our own decisions, we have identified several opportunities for improvement and made changes.

Over the last three years, we have combined two of our London-based investment teams, changed our portfolio management structure to improve capital flow across regions and enhanced our risk management, both at a stock-specific and portfolio level. Notably, we have also formed a Decision Analytics team to analyse our individual behavioural patterns as investors, akin to a golf coach videoing a player's swing. Although hard to measure with precision, we believe these initiatives are already bearing fruit. For example, by comparing our analyst team's recommendations with the global opportunity set, we can see that the output of our "stockpicking engine" is significantly outperforming the typical global stock.

The other big factor is the market environment. We have written at length previously about how concentrated and skewed the global stock market benchmark has become, driven in large part by a very small number of shares which have pushed markets to extremes. Even if we had been at the top of our game, the environment of the last decade would have been a tough one in which to excel. But one thing we have repeatedly observed is that when change happens, it can happen all at once – as this most recent quarter has demonstrated.

One minute, the stock market is in a state of euphoric ecstasy, convinced by the notion of American exceptionalism and giddy on expectations for the unshackling of that country's animal spirits under a decisive, business-friendly, red-tape-cutting administration. Investors pour in. The next minute, despondency reigns. Tariff inflation will hurt consumers, and tariff uncertainty will hurt businesses. Cutting waste will mean cutting jobs, which means rising unemployment, which may mean recession. It's just the other side of the same coin. But that's the nature of economics and investing. There are two sides to everything. What drives market prices is often determined by which side of the coin investors are choosing to look at.

We find there's usually more to be gained by carefully examining the dark side of the coin. Looking from the other side can feel lonely and adversarial and comes with long periods of looking stupid. But when the market environment flips, it can do so quickly, without warning and without an intermission to let investors reposition. For example, our long-standing underweight to the US, a relative performance drag for so long, has all-of-a-sudden flipped into a contributor. If predicting the timing of such changes in market mood can look easy with hindsight, it's anything but simple in real time – and that's exactly why we don't do it.

Instead, we're guided by how share prices deviate from our assessment of intrinsic value. While our disciplined approach can often mean we end up sitting out periods of extraordinary temporary returns as certain shares go from expensive to even more so, it's usually worth it in the end. Share prices can only fight for so long against the gravitational pull of fair value.

The first sign that share prices have gone too far is often that even extraordinary results fail to meet lofty market expectations. In late February, Nvidia reported 78% growth for its most recent quarter, yet its stock was down the next day. And it has not been alone. While the S&P 500 is down 8% from late February, the tech-heavy Nasdaq is down 13%, and the Magnificent Seven are collectively down 17%.

Does that mean those shares now provide good value again? Is the reset over? Not necessarily. When one considers just how stretched and skewed markets had become, it's possible there is further to go. On a headline basis, the US still commands a 45% valuation premium. Indeed, our research continues to suggest there is much better value elsewhere. Whether it's the likes of SK Square trading at a fraction of the value of its listed stakes, Genmab trading below the value of its existing drugs (with no value credited to future development) or the solid Elevance Health at just 13 times next year's earnings with no discernible tariff risk, we continue to find shares priced at very reasonable levels with attractive margins of safety to the downside.

On previous occasions when markets have become as dislocated as they still are today, we have typically found that shares neglected in the euphoria don't just protect downside in a market sell-off — they can actually go up as investors remove their blinders. So it is that amid the declines in the Nasdaq, European stocks are actually up year to date. In US dollars, Japanese shares are up. Global value stocks are up. In terms of pattern recognition, that's an encouraging sign for value-oriented contrarian investors like us. Looking forward, we hope and expect that our discipline — and your patience — will finally turn out to be well rewarded.

We established a new position in Microchip Technology, a US-based semiconductor manufacturer of microcontrollers and analogue chips, and established a new position in a UK-based grocery retailer. These purchases were funded by meaningfully reducing the Fund's position in Alphabet, Google's parent company, and US-based managed care organisation UnitedHealth Group.

Adapted from a commentary contributed by Ben Preston, Orbis Portfolio Management (Europe) LLP, London

**Fund managers:** This Fund invests solely into the Orbis Global Equity Fund, managed by Orbis Investment Management Limited **Inception date:** 1 April 2005

## Allan Gray-Orbis Global Equity Feeder Fund

30 April 2025

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## Important information for investors

## Need more information?



**Fund managers:** This Fund invests solely into the Orbis SICAV Global Balanced Fund, managed by Orbis Investment Management Limited. **Inception date:** 3 February 2004

### Fund description and summary of investment policy1

The Fund is a feeder fund and invests only in the Orbis SICAV Global Balanced Fund ('Orbis Global Balanced'), managed by Allan Gray's offshore investment partner, Orbis Investment Management Limited. Orbis Global Balanced invests in a diversified global portfolio of equities, fixed income, and commodity-linked instruments. The typical net equity exposure of Orbis Global Balanced is between 40% and 75%. Orbis Global Balanced aims to balance investment returns and risk of loss. Returns are likely to be less volatile than those of a global equity-only fund. Although Orbis Global Balanced's investment universe is global, the units of the Fund are priced and traded daily in rands.

ASISA unit trust category: Global - Multi Asset - High Equity

## Fund objective and benchmark1

The Fund aims to create long-term wealth for investors and to outperform its designated combined equity and bond performance benchmark, which comprises 60% the MSCI World Index with net dividends reinvested and 40% the J.P. Morgan Global Government Bond Index.

### How we aim to achieve the Fund's objective

The Fund invests only in Orbis Global Balanced. Orbis Global Balanced is actively managed and invests in a diversified global portfolio of equities, fixed income, and commodity-linked instruments. Orbis Global Balanced targets an exposure of 40% to 90% of net asset value ('NAV') in equities, 10% to 50% in fixed income and 0% to 10% in commodity-linked instruments. The overall exposure to equities after hedging is intended to be limited to 75% of NAV. The weighting among the asset classes is driven by Orbis' bottom-up approach in selecting securities across asset classes and therefore may deviate substantially compared to the benchmark. Like Allan Gray, Orbis uses in-house research to identify companies whose shares can be purchased for less than Orbis' assessment of their longterm intrinsic value. This long-term perspective enables them to buy shares which are shunned by the stock market because of their unexciting or poor short-term prospects, but which are relatively attractively priced if one looks to the long term. A similar approach is applied in selecting fixed income instruments, which may consist of cash, cash equivalents, government bonds and investment-grade and high-yield corporate bonds and, at times, distressed corporate bonds. They are selected with the aim of increasing the overall risk-adjusted return. When Orbis' research suggests that stock or bond markets are overvalued. Orbis may reduce exposure to those asset classes or hedge market risk using exchange-traded derivatives. Hedged equities may also be used as an alternative to holding fixed-income instruments and reduce overall portfolio risks. Commodity-linked instruments are included if Orbis' research identifies certain commodities as being more attractive on a risk-adjusted basis than overall equity or fixed-income opportunities. Currency exposure is actively managed to control exposure to currencies less likely to hold their long-term value in US dollars.

#### Suitable for those investors who

- Seek to balance investment returns and risk of loss, by investing in a diversified global multi-asset class portfolio
- Wish to invest in international assets through a rand-denominated fund
- Are comfortable that the investment approach is likely to result in volatility and potential capital loss, but typically less volatility than that of a global equity-only fund
- Typically have an investment horizon of at least three to five years

**Fund availability:** Subject to offshore capacity constraints. Please visit our website or contact our Client Service Centre for further information about any constraints that may apply.

### Fund information on 30 April 2025

Fund size	R20.1bn
Number of units	228 648 233
Price (net asset value per unit)	R88.09
Class	А

- The Fund was converted from a fund of funds structure to a feeder fund structure and its name and benchmark were amended on 1 June 2021. For more information, please read 'Ballot underway for Allan Gray-Orbis Global Fund of Funds', available via the Latest insights section of our website.
- 2. 60% of the MSCI World Index with net dividends reinvested and 40% of the J.P. Morgan Global Government Bond Index (source: Bloomberg), performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 30 April 2025. From inception to 31 May 2021, the benchmark was 60% of the FTSE World Index including income and 40% of the J.P. Morgan Global Government Bond Index.
- This data reflects the latest available inflation numbers for South Africa and the United States of America, as at 31 March 2025 (Source: IRESS). South African CPI inflation has been calculated based on the most recent rebased values from Stats SA.
- Maximum percentage decline over any period. The maximum rand drawdown occurred from 23 October 2008 to 14 October 2010 and maximum benchmark drawdown occurred from 23 October 2008 to 30 June 2009. Drawdown is calculated on the total return of the Fund/benchmark (i.e. including income).
- 5. The percentage of calendar months in which the Fund produced a positive monthly return since inception.
- The standard deviation of the Fund's monthly return. This is a measure of how much an investment's return varies from its average over time.
- 7. These are the highest or lowest consecutive 12-month returns since inception. This is a measure of how much the Fund and the benchmark returns have varied per rolling 12-month period. The Fund's highest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 December 2013 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 31 December 2013. The Fund's lowest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 October 2010 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 30 June 2009. All rolling 12-month figures for the Fund and the benchmark are available from our Client Service Centre on request.

## Performance net of all fees and expenses

Value of R10 invested at inception with all distributions reinvested



% Returns	Fui	nd¹	Benchmark <sup>1,2</sup>		k <sup>1,2</sup> CPI inflat	
Cumulative:	ZAR	US\$	ZAR	US\$	ZAR	US\$
Since inception (3 February 2004)	941.5	293.4	850.1	258.9	202.4	71.6
Annualised:						
Since inception (3 February 2004)	11.7	6.7	11.2	6.2	5.4	2.6
Latest 10 years	12.0	7.2	10.8	6.0	4.9	3.1
Latest 5 years	14.6	14.2	7.7	7.3	4.8	4.4
Latest 3 years	18.1	11.7	12.7	6.6	5.0	3.6
Latest 2 years	17.1	16.3	10.5	9.7	4.0	2.9
Latest 1 year	18.8	19.8	9.8	10.7	2.7	2.4
Year-to-date (not annualised)	10.5	11.6	0.9	2.0	1.7	1.0
Risk measures (since inception)						
Maximum drawdown <sup>4</sup>	-24.0	-37.0	-25.1	-37.5	n/a	n/a
Percentage positive months <sup>5</sup>	59.2	61.2	57.6	63.5	n/a	n/a
Annualised monthly volatility <sup>6</sup>	13.3	11.6	12.7	10.3	n/a	n/a
Highest annual return <sup>7</sup>	55.6	43.8	38.8	37.6	n/a	n/a
Lowest annual return <sup>7</sup>	-13.7	-27.3	-17.0	-31.7	n/a	n/a

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## Meeting the Fund objective

Since inception and over the latest 10- and five-year periods, the Fund has outperformed its benchmark. The Fund has provided returns in excess of CPI inflation for all three periods. The Fund experiences periods of underperformance in pursuit of its objective of creating long-term wealth for investors, without taking on greater risk of loss than similar funds in the Global – Multi Asset – High Equity sector.

#### Income distributions for the last 12 months

To the extent that income earned in the form of dividends and interest exceeds expenses in the Fund, the Fund will distribute any surplus annually.	31 Dec 2024
Cents per unit	1.5499

### Annual management fee

Allan Gray does not charge an annual management fee but is paid a marketing and distribution fee by Orbis.

Orbis charges an annual management fee within the underlying Orbis SICAV Global Balanced Fund. The fee rate is calculated based on the Orbis fund's performance relative to its benchmark. For more information please refer to the Orbis SICAV Global Balanced Fund factsheet and prospectus, which can be found at <a href="https://www.orbis.com">www.orbis.com</a>.

## Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs (updated quarterly)

The annual management fee charged by Orbis is included in the TER. The TER is a measure of the actual expenses incurred by the Fund over a one and three-year period (annualised). Since Fund returns are quoted after deduction of these expenses, the TER should not be deducted from the published returns (refer to page 4 for further information). Transaction costs are disclosed separately.

TER and transaction costs breakdown for the 1- and 3-year period ending 31 March 2025	1yr %	3yr %
Total expense ratio	3.96	2.94
Fee for benchmark performance	1.10	1.15
Performance fees	2.79	1.72
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.07	0.07
VAT	0.00	0.00
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.06	0.07
Total investment charge	4.02	3.01

## Top 10 holdings on 30 April 2025

Company	% of portfolio
US TIPS >10 Years	5.7
SPDR Gold Trust	5.2
Kinder Morgan	3.7
Siemens Energy	3.6
Nintendo	3.1
Samsung Electronics	2.7
Taiwan Semiconductor Mfg	2.5
Leonardo	2.1
Newmont	2.1
Burford Capital	2.1
Total (%)	32.8

## Asset allocation on 30 April 2025

This fund invests solely into the Orbis SICAV Global Balanced Fund

	Total	United States	UK	Europe ex-UK <sup>8</sup>	Japan	Other <sup>8</sup>	Emerging markets
Net equities	55.2	8.8	12.6	9.5	7.5	5.7	11.0
Hedged equities	17.7	10.2	1.0	4.1	0.4	0.6	1.5
Property	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0
Commodity-linked	5.2	5.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bonds	18.6	12.4	0.7	1.4	0.0	0.0	4.2
Money market and cash	2.6	1.6	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.2
Total (%)	100.0	38.2	14.4	15.4	8.6	6.4	17.0
Currency exposure	100.0	21.3	13.4	28.1	18.0	10.1	8.9
Benchmark	100.0	62.6	4.7	17.6	10.1	5.0	0.0

<sup>8.</sup> Refers to developed markets only.

30 April 2025

Uncertainty is the order of the day in the US, and that is not what markets were expecting in January. Coming into the year, the US stock market traded at sky-high valuations, having notched two consecutive years of 20% plus returns. Strong equity returns, strong profit growth, strong economic growth and a market-friendly Trump were all priced as virtual certainties.

That made us cautious. When prices are high, expectations are high, and when expectations are high, so is risk. We were positioned against the consensus narrative of American exceptionalism, and we are still positioned that way, because prices haven't changed all that much.

Net of hedging, we have less exposure to stock market risk than the 60/40 index benchmark, and our fixed income holdings are longer-term than they have ever been. In addition to valuations, we have concerns about the US economy's dependence on the stock market.

Two-thirds of US gross domestic product (GDP) is consumer spending. Over half of that spending, and all of the spending growth over the last two years, has been driven by the top 20% of households by income, who have been happy to keep splurging because they own lots of stocks, which have been up. As the stock market has soared, it has grown larger versus the US economy. Today, the S&P 500 is valued at about 160% of US GDP.

Said another way, the US economy has become more dependent on the stock market. Researchers from Moody's estimate that for every extra dollar in household wealth, households spend an extra two or three cents. Over the past few years, this has been a boon for the economy. But now, the economy depends on consumer spending, the only consumers spending are the rich ones, and their spending depends on rising stock markets. The market, for the moment anyway, has stopped going up. What does that spell for the economy?

This time, the government doesn't seem inclined to help. The American poet Maya Angelou said, "When someone shows you who they are, believe them the first time." Investors would do well to heed that advice, particularly regarding President Donald Trump and Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent. A selection of quotes from Trump:

"There is a period of transition."

And from Bessent:

Normally, it would then fall to the central bank to support the economy, but the Federal Reserve (the Fed) is stuck between its dual goals of limiting inflation and limiting unemployment. If the Fed raises interest rates to fight inflation, it risks crushing the economy, but if it cuts rates to support the economy, inflation expectations could rise rapidly.

Both scenarios would be reasonable for US Treasury Inflation Protected Securities (TIPS). As a reminder, TIPS are Treasury bonds where the repayment amount is adjusted for inflation. If interest rates and bond yields decline, TIPS should benefit, as bond prices go up when bond yields go down. If rates stay high or rise, the most likely reason would be high inflation, and TIPS should benefit from adjustments to their repayment amount.

Over the past quarter, we have meaningfully increased our positions in long-term TIPS, and they are now among the Fund's top holdings. The 2.3% inflation-protected yield on 30-year TIPS is both above average versus historical bond returns and, in our view, unsustainably high given America's government debt problem.

If we can lock in a 2.3% real return on a fairly safe asset, this raises the bar for everything else in the Fund. With equity valuations still reasonable outside the US, we've found plenty of opportunities, but the biggest competition for capital in the Fund today is between TIPS and hedged equity.

Hedged equity lets us buy stocks we like in markets we don't. We buy individual stocks that we believe are undervalued, then hedge out some of the associated stock market risk, leaving us with the difference between the relative return of our stock versus its local market, plus a cash-like return. Today, the riskiest-looking market – the US – is also the market with the highest interest rates, so US hedged equity offers a cash return of about 4%, plus the relative return of our stock selections. That makes hedged equity a very competitive option for the lower-risk part of the Fund.

With little exposure to the US stock market and the US dollar, defensive positioning in TIPS and hedged equity, and a collection of attractively valued shares, we believe the Fund is well positioned to both handle market volatility and deliver pleasing long-term returns.

We exited the position in US-based managed care organisation (MCO) UnitedHealth Group on concerns that it may face increased regulatory scrutiny and reallocated capital to another US MCO, Elevance Health. In addition, we established a new position in Microchip Technology, a US-based semiconductor manufacturer of microcontrollers and analogue chips.

Adapted from a commentary contributed by Alec Cutler, Orbis Investment Management Limited, Bermuda, and Rob Perrone, Orbis Portfolio Management (Europe) LLP, London

<sup>&</sup>quot;I hate to predict things like that [recessions]."

<sup>&</sup>quot;Look, we're going to have disruption, but we're okay with that."

<sup>&</sup>quot;There'll always be a little short-term interruption."

<sup>&</sup>quot;I'm not even looking at the stock market."

<sup>&</sup>quot;There is no [Trump] put."

<sup>&</sup>quot;There's going to be a detox period."

<sup>&</sup>quot;We'll see whether there's pain."

<sup>&</sup>quot;Could we be seeing this economy that we inherited starting to roll a bit? Sure."
"Can you guarantee there is not going to be a recession? I can't guarantee anything."

If the president and Treasury secretary are willing to stomach a recession in pursuit of their longer-term policy goals, who are we to argue? Both are explicit in their desire to bring down the 10-year US Treasury yield, and allowing a short-term recession would be one way to do that.

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## Allan Gray-Orbis Global Balanced Feeder Fund

30 April 2025

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## Important information for investors

#### Need more information?



**Fund managers:** Duncan Artus, Pieter Koornhof, Rory Kutisker–Jacobson, Siphesihle Zwane, Tim Acker **Inception date:** 13 March 2015

## Fund description and summary of investment policy

The Fund invests in shares listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE). The Fund is typically fully invested in shares. Returns are likely to be volatile, especially over short- and medium-term periods.

ASISA unit trust category: South African - Equity - SA General

## Fund objective and benchmark

The Fund aims to create long-term wealth for investors. It aims to outperform the South African equity market over the long term, without taking on greater risk. To pursue its objective the Fund's portfolio may differ materially from its benchmark. This will result in the Fund underperforming its benchmark materially at times. The Fund aims to compensate for these periods of underperformance by delivering outperformance over the long term. The Fund's benchmark is the FTSE/JSE All Share Index including income.

## How we aim to achieve the Fund's objective

We seek to buy shares offering the best relative value while maintaining a diversified portfolio. We thoroughly research companies to assess their intrinsic value from a long-term perspective. This long-term perspective enables us to buy shares which are shunned by the stock market because of their unexciting or poor short-term prospects, but which are relatively attractively priced if one looks to the long term. We invest in a selection of shares across all sectors of the JSE, and across the range of large, mid and smaller cap shares.

#### Suitable for those investors who

- Seek exposure to JSE-listed equities to provide long-term capital growth
- Are comfortable with stock market fluctuation, i.e. short- to medium-term volatility
- Are prepared to accept the risk of capital loss
- Typically have an investment horizon of more than five years
- Wish to use the Fund as an equity 'building block' in a diversified multi asset class portfolio

### Fund information on 30 April 2025

Fund size	R4.5bn
Number of units	1 066 896
Price (net asset value per unit)	R505.68
Class	А

- FTSE/JSE All Share Index including income (source: IRESS), performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 30 April 2025.
- CPI inflation has been calculated based on the most recent rebased values from Stats SA, reflecting the data as at 31 March 2025 (source: IRESS).
- Maximum percentage decline over any period. The maximum drawdown for the Fund occurred from 25 January 2018 to 23 March 2020 and maximum benchmark drawdown occurred from 17 January 2020 to 19 March 2020. Drawdown is calculated on the total return of the Fund/benchmark (i.e. including income).
- The percentage of calendar months in which the Fund produced a positive monthly return since inception.
- 5. The standard deviation of monthly return. This is a measure of how much an investment's return varies from its average over time.
- 6. These are the highest or lowest consecutive 12-month returns since inception of the Fund. This is a measure of how much the Fund and the benchmark returns have varied per rolling 12-month period. The Fund's highest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 March 2021 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 31 March 2021. The Fund's lowest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 March 2020 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 31 March 2020. All rolling 12-month figures for the Fund and the benchmark are available from our Client Service Centre on request.

## Performance net of all fees and expenses

Value of R10 invested at inception with all distributions reinvested



% Returns	Fund	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	CPI inflation <sup>2</sup>
Cumulative:			
Since inception (13 March 2015)	107.9	149.1	63.9
Annualised:			
Since inception (13 March 2015)	7.5	9.4	5.0
Latest 10 years	7.1	9.0	4.9
Latest 5 years	16.7	17.0	4.8
Latest 3 years	9.7	12.4	5.0
Latest 2 years	10.5	12.2	4.0
Latest 1 year	17.8	24.6	2.7
Year-to-date (not annualised)	6.8	10.5	1.7
Risk measures (since inception)			
Maximum drawdown <sup>3</sup>	-44.3	-35.2	n/a
Percentage positive months <sup>4</sup>	59.0	56.6	n/a
Annualised monthly volatility <sup>5</sup>	14.2	14.3	n/a
Highest annual return <sup>6</sup>	57.3	54.0	n/a
Lowest annual return <sup>6</sup>	-32.0	-18.4	n/a



**Fund managers:** Duncan Artus, Pieter Koornhof, Rory Kutisker–Jacobson, Siphesihle Zwane, Tim Acker **Inception date:** 13 March 2015

## **Fund history**

The Allan Gray Equity Fund was managed in exactly the same way as this Fund from the inception of the Allan Gray Equity Fund on 1 October 1998, until March 2015, when the Allan Gray Equity Fund changed its mandate to include the ability to invest offshore. A combined history of the two funds since inception of the Allan Gray Equity Fund can be viewed here.

## Meeting the Fund objective

The Fund aims to outperform the South African equity market over the long term, without taking on greater risk. The Fund experiences periods of underperformance in pursuit of this objective. Since inception and over the latest 10- and five-year periods, the Fund has underperformed its benchmark.

#### Income distributions for the last 12 months

To the extent that income earned in the form of dividends and interest exceeds expenses in the Fund, the Fund will distribute any surplus biannually.	30 Jun 2024	31 Dec 2024
Cents per unit	1187.0242	799.5876

## Annual management fee

Allan Gray charges a fee based on the net asset value of the Fund. The fee rate is calculated daily by comparing the Fund's total performance for the day to that of the benchmark.

Fee for performance equal to the Fund's benchmark: 1.00% p.a. excl. VAT

For each annualised percentage point above or below the benchmark we add or deduct 0.2%. The maximum fee is uncapped and if the fee would have been negative, 0% will be charged for the day and the negative fee will be carried forward to reduce the next day's fee (and all subsequent days until the underperformance is recovered).

This means that Allan Gray shares in 20% of annualised performance relative to the benchmark.

## Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The annual management fee is included in the TER. The TER is a measure of the actual expenses incurred by the Fund over a one and three-year period (annualised). Since Fund returns are quoted after deduction of these expenses, the TER should not be deducted from the published returns (refer to page 4 for further information). Transaction costs are disclosed separately.

## Top 10 share holdings on 31 March 2025 (updated quarterly)

Company	% of portfolio	
Naspers & Prosus	10.0	
AB InBev	8.5	
British American Tobacco	7.2	
Standard Bank	5.2	
Mondi	4.0	
Nedbank	3.9	
AngloGold Ashanti	3.7	
FirstRand	3.6	
Woolworths	3.2	
Glencore	3.1	
Total (%)	52.3	

## Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs (updated quarterly)

TER and transaction costs breakdown for the 1- and 3-year period ending 31 March 2025	1yr %	3yr %
Total expense ratio	0.23	0.90
Fee for benchmark performance	1.00	1.00
Performance fees	-0.81	-0.23
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.01	0.01
VAT	0.03	0.12
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.10	0.10
Total investment charge	0.33	1.00

## Sector allocation on 31 March 2025

(updated quarterly)

Sector	% of equities <sup>7</sup>	% of ALSI <sup>8</sup>
Financials	26.6	28.6
Consumer staples	21.9	11.6
Basic materials	20.9	22.2
Technology	10.4	15.4
Consumer discretionary	8.3	7.0
Industrials	5.6	3.1
Energy	2.2	0.7
Telecommunications	1.7	5.0
Healthcare	1.6	1.5
Real estate	0.8	4.7
Total (%)	100.0	100.0

- 7. Includes listed property.
- 8. FTSE/JSE All Share Index.

## Asset allocation on 30 April 2025

Asset class	Total
Net equity	94.7
Hedged equity	0.0
Property	0.8
Commodity-linked	0.7
Bonds	0.0
Money market and cash	3.8
Total (%)	100.0



30 April 2025

**ALLANGRAY** 

**Fund managers:** Duncan Artus, Pieter Koornhof, Rory Kutisker–Jacobson, Siphesihle Zwane, Tim Acker **Inception date:** 13 March 2015

2024 was a very strong year for local equities, and this positive momentum carried through into the first quarter of 2025. The FTSE/JSE All Share Index generated a return of 13% for the 2024 calendar year and 6% for the latest quarter.

The Fund returned 4.3% for the quarter, underperforming its benchmark by 1.6%. Performance was driven by some of the larger multinational "rand-hedge" shares, such as AB InBev and British American Tobacco. This is a reversal of one of the dominant trends of 2024: Following the national elections and the formation of the government of national unity (GNU) in June 2024, domestically focused "SA Inc" shares strongly outperformed rand-hedge shares. In response, the Fund reduced its exposure to SA Inc names in the second half of 2024 and increased holdings in rand hedges like AB InBev. Favouring rand-hedge shares detracted from performance last year but has supported performance in the most recent quarter.

The formation of the GNU in June 2024 sparked a wave of optimism about South Africa's future, both locally and abroad. Some of this was driven by hopes of political reform and economic recovery, but it also reflected relative appeal – many emerging markets were in deeper turmoil, making South Africa look comparatively stable. While we acknowledge encouraging signs, such as improvements at Eskom, our research suggests that broader progress has been limited. State-owned enterprises continue to face deep structural issues,

and the business environment remains difficult. Recent financial results from consumer-focused companies reinforce this view – many continue to report subdued earnings as household spending continues to come under pressure.

This illustrates the danger of paying a premium for optimism. When expectations shift quickly, share prices can get ahead of underlying fundamentals. Our approach, as always, is bottom-up focused, favouring companies priced well below their intrinsic value, across sectors and regions. There are certainly still areas of value among SA Inc stocks, but some valuations are too high and do not reflect the economic and political risks. The recent difficulty around passing a coalition budget and ongoing public tension between the South African government and the United States are good reminders of these risks. There is value in having a diversified portfolio containing both SA Inc and rand-hedge stocks. Fortunately, there are attractively priced shares available in both categories.

During the quarter, the Fund purchased AB InBev and Glencore, and sold British American Tobacco and Sibanye-Stillwater.

Commentary contributed by Tim Acker

30 April 2025

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#### Performance

Collective investment schemes in securities (unit trusts or funds) are generally medium- to long-term investments. The value of units may go down as well as up and past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Movements in exchange rates may also cause the value of underlying international investments to go up or down. The Management Company does not provide any guarantee regarding the capital or the performance of the Fund. Performance figures are provided by the Investment Manager and are for lump sum investments with income distributions reinvested. Actual investor performance may differ as a result of the investment date, the date of reinvestment and dividend withholding tax.

#### Fund mandate

Funds may be closed to new investments at any time in order to be managed according to their mandates. Unit trusts are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending. The funds may borrow up to 10% of their market value to bridge insufficient liquidity.

#### Unit price

Unit trust prices are calculated on a net asset value basis, which is the total market value of all assets in the Fund, including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions from the Fund, divided by the number of units in issue. Forward pricing is used and fund valuations take place at approximately 16:00 each business day. Purchase and redemption requests must be received by the Management Company by 14:00 each business day to receive that day's price. Unit trust prices are available daily on www.allangray.co.za.

#### Fees

Permissible deductions may include management fees, brokerage, securities transfer tax, auditor's fees, bank charges and trustee fees. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from Allan Gray. For more information about our annual management fees, refer to the <u>frequently asked questions</u>, available via the Allan Gray website.

#### Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The total expense ratio (TER) is the annualised percentage of the Fund's average assets under management that has been used to pay the Fund's actual expenses over the past one- and three-year periods. The TER includes the annual management fees that have been charged (both the fee at benchmark and any performance component charged), VAT and other expenses like audit and trustee fees. Transaction costs (including brokerage, securities transfer tax, Share Transactions Totally Electronic (STRATE) and FSCA Investor Protection Levy and VAT thereon) are shown separately. Transaction costs are necessary costs in administering the Fund and impact Fund returns. They should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time, including market returns, the type of financial product, the investment decisions of the investment manager, and the TER. Since Fund returns are quoted after the deduction of these expenses, the TER and transaction costs should not be deducted again from published returns. As unit trust expenses vary, the current TER cannot be used as an indication of future TERs. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. Instead, when investing, the investment objective of the Fund should be aligned with the investor's objective and compared against the performance of the Fund. The TER and other funds' TERs should then be used to evaluate whether the Fund performance offers value for money. The sum of the TER and transaction costs is shown as the total investment charge (TIC).

## FTSE/JSE All Share Index, FTSE/JSE Financials Index, FTSE/JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted All Share Index and FTSE/JSE Mid Cap Index

The FTSE/JSE All Share Index, FTSE/JSE Financials Index, FTSE/JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted All Share Index and FTSE/JSE Mid Cap Index are calculated by FTSE International Limited ("FTSE") in conjunction with the JSE Limited ("JSE") in accordance with standard criteria. The FTSE/JSE All Share Index, FTSE/JSE Financials Index, FTSE/JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted All Share Index and FTSE/JSE Mid Cap Index are the proprietary information of FTSE and the JSE. All copyright subsisting in the values and constituent lists of the FTSE/JSE All Share Index, FTSE/JSE Financials Index, FTSE/ JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted All Share Index and FTSE/JSE Mid Cap Index vests in FTSE and the JSE jointly. All their rights are reserved.

#### FTSE Russell Index

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## **Important information** for investors

#### Need more information?



Fund manager: Sean Munsie Inception date: 1 October 2002

## Fund description and summary of investment policy

The Fund invests mainly in selected shares and it uses exchange-traded derivative contracts on stock market indices to substantially reduce its net equity exposure to within a range of 0-20%. As a result, the Fund's return depends on the level of short-term interest rates (implicit in the pricing of the sold futures contracts) and the performance of the Fund's selected shares relative to the stock market index. The Fund's return is therefore unlikely to be correlated with equity market returns. In addition, a portion of the Fund is typically invested in cash and margin deposits.

ASISA unit trust category: South African - Multi Asset - Low Equity

## Fund objective and benchmark

The Fund aims to provide investors with long-term positive returns higher than those available in the money market sector, irrespective of stock market returns. The Fund's benchmark is the daily interest rate as supplied by FirstRand Bank Limited.

## How we aim to achieve the Fund's objective

The Fund invests in selected shares and seeks to substantially reduce stock market risk by selling exchange-traded equity index derivatives. The selected share portfolio is derived from our thorough research process, but the selection of equities in this Fund may differ from that in the other Allan Gray funds. The deviation of the Fund's selected share portfolio from the composition of the underlying benchmark indices (on which the derivative contracts are based) is restricted and closely monitored. This does not eliminate the risk of capital loss should the selected equities underperform.

#### Suitable for those investors who

- Seek absolute (i.e. positive) returns regardless of stock market trends
- Require a high degree of capital stability over a 3-year time horizon
- Wish to invest in a product that offers uncorrelated returns relative to shares or bonds as a 'building block' in a diversified multi-asset class portfolio

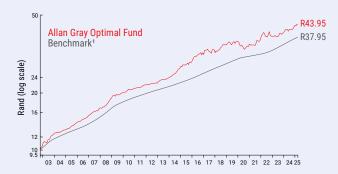
## Fund information on 30 April 2025

Fund size	R0.9bn
Number of units	24 356 143
Price (net asset value per unit)	R24.27
Class	А

- The Fund's benchmark is the daily interest rate, as supplied by FirstRand Bank, performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 30 April 2025.
- CPI inflation has been calculated based on the most recent rebased values from Stats SA, reflecting the data as at 31 March 2025 (source: IRESS).
- Maximum percentage decline over any period. The maximum drawdown occurred from 6 February 2020 to 15 September 2020. Drawdown is calculated on the total return of the Fund (i.e. including income).
- 4. The percentage of calendar months in which the Fund produced a positive monthly return since inception.
- 5. The standard deviation of the Fund's monthly return. This is a measure of how much an investment's return varies from its average over time.
- 6. These are the highest or lowest consecutive 12-month returns since inception. This is a measure of how much the Fund and the benchmark returns have varied per rolling 12-month period. The Fund's highest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 30 September 2003 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 30 September 2003. The Fund's lowest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 August 2020 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 30 November 2021. All rolling 12-month figures for the Fund and the benchmark are available from our Client Service Centre on request.

## Performance net of all fees and expenses

Value of R10 invested at inception with all distributions reinvested



% Returns	Fund	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	CPI inflation <sup>2</sup>
Cumulative:			
Since inception (1 October 2002)	339.5	279.5	211.7
Annualised:			
Since inception (1 October 2002)	6.8	6.1	5.2
Latest 10 years	4.9	5.4	4.9
Latest 5 years	5.2	5.0	4.8
Latest 3 years	3.1	6.7	5.0
Latest 2 years	6.6	7.3	4.0
Latest 1 year	6.2	7.2	2.7
Year-to-date (not annualised)	2.6	2.2	1.7
Risk measures (since inception)			
Maximum drawdown <sup>3</sup>	-10.2	n/a	n/a
Percentage positive months <sup>4</sup>	72.3	100.0	n/a
Annualised monthly volatility <sup>5</sup>	4.4	0.6	n/a
Highest annual return <sup>6</sup>	18.1	11.9	n/a
Lowest annual return <sup>6</sup>	-8.2	2.5	n/a



Fund manager: Sean Munsie Inception date: 1 October 2002

## Meeting the Fund objective

Since inception and over the latest five-year period, the Fund has outperformed its benchmark. Over the latest 10-year period, the Fund has underperformed its benchmark, which is the daily interest rate supplied by FirstRand Bank Limited. The Fund aims to deliver long-term positive returns, irrespective of stock market returns.

#### Income distributions for the last 12 months

To the extent that income earned in the form of dividends and interest exceeds expenses in the Fund, the Fund will distribute any surplus biannually.	30 Jun 2024	31 Dec 2024
Cents per unit	59.0784	37.8455

## Annual management fee

The fee rate is calculated daily by comparing the Fund's total performance to that of the benchmark.

Fee for performance equal to the Fund's benchmark: 1.00% p.a. excl. VAT

The Fund is first required to recover any underperformance before a fee higher than the fee for performance equal to the benchmark can be charged. This is known as a high watermark. If the Fund's performance is above its previous high watermark, we add 0.2% to the fee for each percentage of performance above the high watermark. The fee is uncapped.

## Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The annual management fee is included in the TER. The TER is a measure of the actual expenses incurred by the Fund over a one and three-year period (annualised). Since Fund returns are quoted after deduction of these expenses, the TER should not be deducted from the published returns (refer to page 4 for further information). Transaction costs are disclosed separately.

## Top 10 share holdings on 31 March 2025 (updated quarterly)

Company	% of portfolio
British American Tobacco	8.4
Naspers & Prosus	7.8
AB InBev	7.8
Gold Fields	7.3
AngloGold Ashanti	6.8
FirstRand	4.4
Aspen	3.9
Mondi	3.8
Premier Group	3.5
Sasol	3.0
Total (%)	56.6

## Asset allocation on 30 April 2025

Asset class	Total
Net equities	1.7
Hedged equities	80.8
Property	0.0
Commodity-linked	0.0
Bonds	0.0
Money market and cash	17.5
Total (%)	100.0

## Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs (updated quarterly)

TER and transaction costs breakdown for the 1- and 3-year period ending 31 March 2025	1yr %	3yr %
Total expense ratio	1.17	1.17
Fee for benchmark performance	1.00	1.00
Performance fees	0.00	0.00
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.02	0.02
VAT	0.15	0.15
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.11	0.11
Total investment charge	1.28	1.28

## Since inception, the Fund's month-end net equity exposure has varied as follows:

Minimum	-3.6% <sup>7</sup> (September 2016)
Average	4.5%
Maximum	15.4% (November 2018)

7. The negative net equity exposure as at 30 September 2016 is due to the cash acquisition of SABMiller by Anheuser-Busch In-Bev. This was corrected and the Fund had a positive net equity exposure by 4 October 2016.

## **Allan Gray Optimal Fund**

30 April 2025



Fund manager: Sean Munsie Inception date: 1 October 2002

The first quarter of 2025 saw the local market add to the strong gains posted in the preceding year, with the FTSE/JSE All Share Index returning 5.9%. Among the largest contributors to returns at an index level were precious metal miners, telecommunications providers and the dual-listed consumer goods companies, including AB InBev, British American Tobacco and Richemont. Gains for the local banks, insurers and retailers have either begun to stall or go backwards, while the diversified miners and other cyclical rand hedges Sasol and Mondi have continued to struggle in the new year.

Against this backdrop, the Fund returned 3.0% for the quarter, 1.3% ahead of its benchmark. While the recent period has been a welcome boost for local investors, it does not necessarily imply greater returns for the Fund. Rather, it is the performance of the Fund's underlying shares relative to the stock market index together with the level of short-term interest rates that determines the return. Local cash and bonds returned 1.8% and 0.7% respectively.

The Fund's exposure to gold miners has aided performance. Gains for AngloGold Ashanti, Gold Fields and DRDGOLD have been particularly strong, with share prices more than 50% higher year to date – this as the gold price breached US\$3 000 per ounce for the first time and continued to set new highs.

Predominant trends, including diversification away from the US dollar with increased interest in gold as a reserve asset, fears of stagflation in developed economies as growth slows, and political and trade uncertainties, remain more relevant than ever. Despite this, equity investors remain sceptical of the trajectory of the gold price, with valuations of the miners, including those mentioned above, screening as very compelling at the spot price.

It is worthwhile noting that events occurring immediately post quarter end pose a possible threat to wider risk asset returns – namely, the sustainability of South Africa's government of national unity following the conflict-ridden Budget process and the ratcheting up of global trade tensions after Trump's "Liberation Day" tariff announcements. As a reminder, we wrote about the susceptibility of stocks exposed to the domestic economy in our Q4 2024 commentary, given gains had mostly been driven by a sentiment-based upward rerating rather than notable earnings growth following last year's national elections. In our opinion, the Fund's current defensive positioning places it in a decent position to navigate the challenges that may lie ahead.

During the quarter, we added to the Fund's existing Aspen Pharmacare and AB InBev holdings, and we reduced its exposure to Absa and British American Tobacco.

Commentary contributed by Sean Munsie



Fund manager: Sean Munsie Inception date: 1 October 2002

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#### Performance

Collective investment schemes in securities (unit trusts or funds) are generally medium- to long-term investments. The value of units may go down as well as up and past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The Management Company does not provide any guarantee regarding the capital or the performance of the Fund. Performance figures are provided by the Investment Manager and are for lump sum investments with income distributions reinvested. Actual investor performance may differ as a result of the investment date, the date of reinvestment and applicable taxes.

#### Fund mandate

Funds may be closed to new investments at any time in order to be managed according to their mandates. Unit trusts are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending. The funds may borrow up to 10% of their market value to bridge insufficient liquidity.

#### Unit price

Unit trust prices are calculated on a net asset value basis, which is the total market value of all assets in the Fund, including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions from the Fund, divided by the number of units in issue. Forward pricing is used and fund valuations take place at approximately 16:00 each business day. Purchase and redemption requests must be received by the Management Company by 14:00 each business day to receive that day's price. Unit trust prices are available daily on www.allangray.co.za.

#### Fees

Permissible deductions may include management fees, brokerage, securities transfer tax, auditor's fees, bank charges and trustee fees. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from Allan Gray. For more information about our annual management fees, refer to the <u>frequently asked questions</u>, available via the Allan Gray website.

#### Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The total expense ratio (TER) is the annualised percentage of the Fund's average assets under management that has been used to pay the Fund's actual expenses over the past one- and threeyear periods. The TER includes the annual management fees that have been charged (both the fee at benchmark and any performance component charged). VAT and other expenses like audit and trustee fees. Transaction costs (including brokerage, securities transfer tax, Share Transactions Totally Electronic (STRATE) and FSCA Investor Protection Levy and VAT thereon) are shown separately. Transaction costs are necessary costs in administering the Fund and impact Fund returns. They should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time, including market returns, the type of financial product, the investment decisions of the investment manager, and the TER. Since Fund returns are quoted after the deduction of these expenses, the TER and transaction costs should not be deducted again from published returns. As unit trust expenses vary, the current TER cannot be used as an indication of future TERs. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. Instead, when investing, the investment objective of the Fund should be aligned with the investor's objective and compared against the performance of the Fund. The TER and other funds' TERs should then be used to evaluate whether the Fund performance offers value for money. The sum of the TER and transaction costs is shown as the total investment charge (TIC).

## FTSE/JSE All Share Index, FTSE/JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted All Share Index, FTSE/JSE All Bond Index, FTSE/JSE Financials Index and FTSE/JSE Resources Index

The FTSE/JSE All Share Index, FTSE/JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted All Share Index, FTSE/JSE All Bond Index, FTSE/JSE Financials Index and FTSE/JSE Resources Index are calculated by FTSE International Limited ("FTSE") in conjunction with the JSE Limited ("JSE") in accordance with standard criteria. The FTSE/JSE All Share Index, FTSE/JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted All Share Index, FTSE/JSE Financials Index and FTSE/JSE Resources Index are the proprietary information of FTSE and the JSE. All copyright subsisting in the values and constituent lists of the FTSE/JSE All Share Index, FTSE/JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted All Share Index, FTSE/JSE All Bond Index, FTSE/JSE Resources Index vests in FTSE and the JSE jointly. All their rights are reserved.

# Important information for investors

#### Need more information?



## Fund description and summary of investment policy

The Fund invests in South African interest bearing securities. Securities include national government, parastatal, municipal, corporate bonds and money market instruments. The Fund price is sensitive to interest rate movements because of the long-term nature of the Fund's investments. The duration of the Fund may differ materially from the benchmark. The Fund is managed to comply with investment limits governing retirement funds.

ASISA unit trust category: South African - Interest Bearing - Variable Term

### Fund objective and benchmark

The Bond Fund's goal is to deliver returns that exceed inflation and cash over the long term, without taking on undue risk. The Fund's benchmark is the FTSE/JSE All Bond Index.

## How we aim to achieve the Fund's objective

We try to balance credit risk, duration risk and liquidity risk when selecting investments. We target total returns for investors rather than trying to mirror the returns of the FTSE/JSE All Bond Index. When we cannot find value in the bond markets, our portfolio will be weighted towards cash to achieve better returns.

#### Suitable for those investors who

- Seek a bond 'building block' for a diversified multi-asset class portfolio
- Are looking for returns in excess of those provided by money market or cash investments
- Are prepared to accept more risk of capital depreciation than in a money market or cash investment

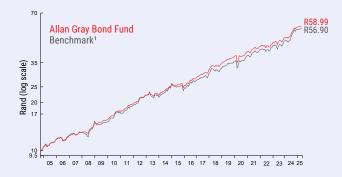
### Fund information on 30 April 2025

Fund size	R9.3bn
Number of units	578 630 099
Price (net asset value per unit)	R10.60
Modified duration	4.4
Gross yield (before fees)	10.4
Class	А

- 1. FTSE/JSE All Bond Index (source: IRESS), performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 30 April 2025.
- CPI inflation has been calculated based on the most recent rebased values from Stats SA, reflecting the data as at 31 March 2025 (source: IRESS).
- Maximum percentage decline over any period. The maximum drawdown occurred from 27 February 2020 to 24 March 2020 and maximum benchmark drawdown occurred from 26 February 2020 to 23 March 2020. Drawdown is calculated on the total return of the Fund/benchmark (i.e. including income).
- 4. The percentage of calendar months in which the Fund produced a positive monthly return since inception.
- 5. The standard deviation of the Fund's monthly return.
  This is a measure of how much an investment's return varies from its average over time.
- 6. These are the highest or lowest consecutive 12-month returns since inception. This is a measure of how much the Fund and the benchmark returns have varied per rolling 12-month period. The Fund's highest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 30 September 2024 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 30 September 2024. The Fund's lowest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 January 2016 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 31 January 2016. All rolling 12-month figures for the Fund and the benchmark are available from our Client Service Centre on request.

## Performance net of all fees and expenses

Value of R10 invested at inception with all distributions reinvested



% Returns	Fund	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	CPI inflation <sup>2</sup>
Cumulative:			
Since inception (1 October 2004)	489.9	469.0	196.2
Annualised:			
Since inception (1 October 2004)	9.0	8.8	5.4
Latest 10 years	8.7	8.5	4.9
Latest 5 years	10.3	11.0	4.8
Latest 3 years	10.0	10.7	5.0
Latest 2 years	12.0	12.9	4.0
Latest 1 year	16.9	19.4	2.7
Year-to-date (not annualised)	1.8	1.5	1.7
Risk measures (since inception)			
Maximum drawdown <sup>3</sup>	-18.9	-19.3	n/a
Percentage positive months <sup>4</sup>	72.1	68.8	n/a
Annualised monthly volatility <sup>5</sup>	5.9	7.5	n/a
Highest annual return <sup>6</sup>	22.0	26.1	n/a
Lowest annual return <sup>6</sup>	-2.6	-5.6	n/a

## Meeting the Fund objective

Since inception and over the latest 10-year period, the Fund has outperformed its benchmark. Over the latest five-year period, the Fund has underperformed its benchmark. The Fund has provided returns in excess of CPI inflation for all three periods. The Fund aims to take no greater risk than its benchmark. The maximum drawdown and lowest annual return numbers, in the 'Performance net of all fees and expenses' table, show that the Fund has successfully reduced downside risk in periods of negative market returns.

### Income distributions for the last 12 months

Actual payout, the Fund distributes quarterly	30 Jun 2024	30 Sep 2024	31 Dec 2024	31 Mar 2025
Cents per unit	27.2485	26.5758	26.1592	25.4437

## Annual management fee

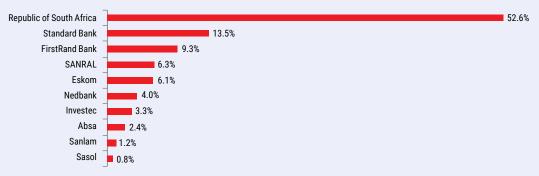
A fixed fee of 0.5% p.a. excl. VAT

## Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs (updated quarterly)

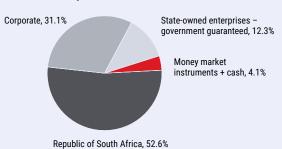
The annual management fee is included in the TER. The TER is a measure of the actual expenses incurred by the Fund over a one and three-year period (annualised). Since Fund returns are quoted after deduction of these expenses, the TER should not be deducted from the published returns (refer to page 4 for further information). Transaction costs are disclosed separately.

TER and transaction costs breakdown for the 1- and 3-year period ending 31 March 2025	1yr %	3yr %
Total expense ratio	0.59	0.59
Fee for benchmark performance	0.50	0.50
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.01	0.01
VAT	0.08	0.08
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.00	0.00
Total investment charge	0.59	0.59

## Top 10 credit exposures on 30 April 2025



## Asset allocation on 30 April 2025



## Maturity profile on 30 April 2025





Since the September 2024 yield lows in the SA 20-year government bond, clean prices have fallen by 7%. The SA 20-year credit spread relative to US Treasuries has also widened from a low of 614 basis points (bps) to 700 bps year to date. Not only had absolute and relative SA valuations become stretched, but the market also digested uncomfortable truths this year regarding the unfunded nature of the SA government's revised expenditure trajectory.

National Treasury has pulled a lot of levers in the last 18 months in order to meet expenditure commitments – they have monetised R150bn of South Africa's Gold and Foreign Exchange Contingency Reserve Account (GFECRA), frozen personal income tax brackets for two years in a row, raised an additional US\$3.5bn of offshore Eurobonds and attempted a 2% increase in value-added tax (VAT) that was rejected by the Democratic Alliance (DA). If one accepts that they are out of levers to pull, then one should also accept that their primary surplus projections will fall short of targets, and therefore debt may not stabilise at 76% of gross domestic product (GDP) as laid out in the Budget presented in March 2025. Alternatively, spending may be scaled back on the items added to the Budget more recently, such as the extra allocation for infrastructure, early childhood development and doctors' salaries.

Although the DA has suggested a review of all government spending with the aim of rooting out inefficiencies, National Treasury already embarked on such an exercise two years ago and made a raft of recommendations regarding redundant government programmes and departments to be cut.

These recommendations lacked the political willpower to be implemented, and the present Budget in fact *increases* the allocation to South Africa's Democratic Republic of Congo peacekeeping mission that Treasury had advised should be scrapped entirely under the previous review.

Market indigestion towards SA government bonds was also caused by the perilous state of the diplomatic relations both within the government of national unity itself and between South Africa and the United States. The SA government's policies, foreign relations with the likes of Iran and views on the Middle East have caught the ire of US President Donald Trump and many of his aides. In this regard, the South African Reserve Bank estimates that the loss of access to the preferential African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) US-SA trade relationship and subsequent decline in SA automotive and fruit exports to the US could shave 0.7% off South Africa's GDP. This analysis was done prior to the 30% tariff on South African imports announced by the Trump administration on 2 April 2025, which nullifies many AGOA benefits and will likely represent a shock to growth. A silver lining for South Africa's economic growth is that it should still rebound off the low base of prior years, given reduced loadshedding and the allocated increase towards infrastructure spending.

In the last quarter, the Fund maintained its low duration relative to peers and reinvested coupons into short-dated RSA nominal bonds as it waited for a larger correction in SA government debt to unfold.

Commentary contributed by Thalia Petousis



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#### Management Company

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#### Performance

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#### Fund mandate

Funds may be closed to new investments at any time in order to be managed according to their mandates. Unit trusts are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending. The funds may borrow up to 10% of their market value to bridge insufficient liquidity.

#### Unit price

Unit trust prices are calculated on a net asset value basis, which is the total market value of all assets in the Fund, including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions from the Fund, divided by the number of units in issue. Forward pricing is used and fund valuations take place at approximately 16:00 each business day. Purchase and redemption requests must be received by the Management Company by 14:00 each business day to receive that day's price. Unit trust prices are available daily on www.allangray.co.za.

#### Yield

The Allan Gray Bond Fund's gross yield is the estimated weighted average yield-to-maturity of all underlying interest-bearing instruments as at the last day of the month. Actual returns may differ, based on changes in market values, interest rates and market factors during the investment period.

#### Fees

Permissible deductions may include management fees, brokerage, securities transfer tax, auditor's fees, bank charges and trustee fees. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from Allan Gray.

#### Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The total expense ratio (TER) is the annualised percentage of the Fund's average assets under management that has been used to pay the Fund's actual expenses over the past one- and threeyear periods. The TER includes the annual management fees that have been charged (both the fee at benchmark and any performance component charged), VAT and other expenses like audit and trustee fees. Transaction costs (including brokerage, securities transfer tax, Share Transactions Totally Electronic (STRATE) and FSCA Investor Protection Levy and VAT thereon) are shown separately. Transaction costs are necessary costs in administering the Fund and impact Fund returns. They should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time, including market returns, the type of financial product, the investment decisions of the investment manager, and the TER. Since Fund returns are quoted after the deduction of these expenses, the TER and transaction costs should not be deducted again from published returns. As unit trust expenses vary, the current TER cannot be used as an indication of future TERs. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. Instead, when investing, the investment objective of the Fund should be aligned with the investor's objective and compared against the performance of the Fund. The TER and other funds' TERs should then be used to evaluate whether the Fund performance offers value for money. The sum of the TER and transaction costs is shown as the total investment charge (TIC).

#### Compliance with Regulation 28

The Fund is managed to comply with Regulation 28 of the Pension Funds Act 24 of 1956 (the "Pension Funds Act"). Exposures in excess of the limits will be corrected immediately, except where due to a change in the fair value or characteristic of an asset, e.g. market value fluctuations, in which case they will be corrected within the prescribed regulatory time period. The Management Company does not monitor compliance by retirement funds with section 19(4) of the Pension Funds Act (item 6 of Table 1 to Regulation 28).

#### FTSE/JSE All Bond Index, FTSE/JSE All Share Index

The FTSE/JSE All Bond Index and FTSE/JSE All Share Index are calculated by FTSE International Limited ("FTSE") in conjunction with the JSE Limited ("JSE") in accordance with standard criteria. The FTSE/JSE All Bond Index and FTSE/JSE All Share Index are the proprietary information of FTSE and the JSE. All copyright subsisting in the values and constituent lists of the FTSE/JSE All Bond Index and FTSE/JSE All Share Index vests in FTSE and the JSE jointly. All their rights are reserved.

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## Important information for investors

#### Need more information?



# Fund description and summary of investment policy

The Fund invests primarily in a mix of South African interest-bearing securities, with limited exposure to offshore interest-bearing securities. Returns are likely to be less volatile than those of a bond-only fund. The Fund is managed to comply with the investment limits governing retirement funds.

ASISA unit trust category: South African - Multi Asset - Income

# Fund objective and benchmark

The Fund aims to generate income and produce returns that are superior to traditional money market funds, while preserving capital and minimising the risk of loss over any one- to two-year period. The Fund's benchmark is the Alexander Forbes Short Term Fixed Interest (STeFI) Composite Index.

# How we aim to achieve the Fund's objective

The Fund invests in a broad range of South African interest-bearing securities, such as floating-rate notes, inflation-linked bonds, fixed-rate instruments and money market securities, with limited exposure to offshore interest-bearing securities. It provides investors with income and a high degree of capital stability. We formulate an interest rate outlook, which is influenced by our inflation outlook and expectations of the resulting Reserve Bank policy response. Based on this analysis, we select securities for the Fund. While the Fund can have limited exposure to equities and property, we expect this to occur infrequently and to typically coincide with unusual or extreme points in the valuation cycle. We take a conservative approach to managing the Fund, balancing credit risk, duration risk and liquidity risk when selecting securities.

## Suitable for those investors who

- Are risk-averse and require capital preservation over any one- to two-year period
- Seek returns higher than traditional money market funds
- Seek a unit trust that provides an income
- Seek a prudently managed income 'building block'
- Wish to invest in a unit trust that complies with retirement fund investment limits

## Income distributions for the last 12 months

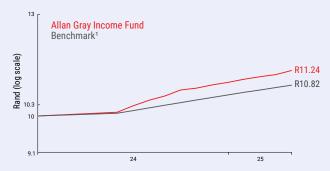
Actual payout, the Fund distributes quarterly	30 Jun 2024	30 Sep 2024	31 Dec 2024	31 Mar 2025
Cents per unit	13.7849	24.6096	23.6333	22.3434

# Fund information on 30 April 2025

Fund size	R1.4bn
Number of units	47 775 033
Price (net asset value per unit)	R10.36
Modified duration	1.0
Gross yield (i.e. before fees)	9.3
Net yield (i.e. after fees)	8.3
Fund weighted average maturity (years)	4.7
Class	Α

# Performance net of all fees and expenses

Value of R10 invested at inception with all distributions reinvested



- The Fund's benchmark is the Alexander Forbes Short Term Fixed Interest (STeFI) Composite Index. Performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 30 April 2025. Source: Bloomberg.
- CPI inflation has been calculated based on the most recent rebased values from Stats SA, reflecting the data as at 31 March 2025 (source: IRESS).
- Maximum percentage decline over any period. The maximum drawdown occurred from 1 October 2024 to 8 October 2024. Drawdown is calculated on the total return of the Fund (i.e. including income).
- The percentage of calendar months in which the Fund produced a positive monthly return since inception.
- 5. The standard deviation of the Fund's monthly return. This is a measure of how much an investment's return varies from its average over time.
- 6. These are the highest or lowest consecutive 12-month returns since inception. This is a measure of how much the Fund and the benchmark returns have varied per rolling 12-month period. The Fund's highest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 30 April 2025 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 30 April 2025. The Fund's lowest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 30 April 2025 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 30 April 2025. All rolling 12-month figures for the Fund and the benchmark are available from our Client Service Centre on request.

% Returns	Fund	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	CPI inflation <sup>2</sup>
Cumulative:			
Since inception (1 May 2024)	12.4	8.2	2.5
Annualised:			
Since inception (1 May 2024)	12.4	8.2	n/a
Latest 1 year	12.4	8.2	2.7
Year-to-date (not annualised)	3.1	2.5	1.7
Risk measures (since inception)			
Maximum drawdown <sup>3</sup>	-0.9	n/a	n/a
Percentage positive months <sup>4</sup>	100.0	100.0	n/a
Annualised monthly volatility <sup>5</sup>	1.4	0.1	n/a
Highest annual return <sup>6</sup>	12.4	8.2	n/a
Lowest annual return <sup>6</sup>	12.4	8.2	n/a



# Annual management fee

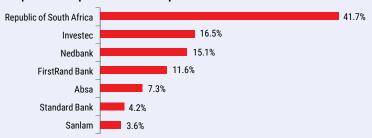
A fixed fee of 0.75% p.a. excl. VAT

# Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs (updated quarterly)

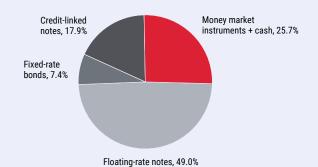
The annual management fee is included in the TER. The TER is a measure of the actual expenses incurred by the Fund over a one-year period (annualised). Transaction costs are disclosed separately. Complete and accurate data is only available after 12 months. The TER and transaction costs are therefore based on actual data, where available, and best estimates.

TER and transaction costs breakdown for the 1-year period ending 31 March 2025	
Total expense ratio	0.87
Fee for benchmark performance	0.75
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.01
VAT	0.11
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.00
Total investment charge	0.87

# Top credit exposures on 30 April 2025



# Asset allocation on 30 April 2025<sup>5</sup>



5. Foreign exposure on 30 April 2025: 0.0% is invested in foreign investments.

# Maturity profile on 30 April 2025



Note: There may be slight discrepancies in the totals due to rounding.



A key question when allocating cash to an income fund is how the bond versus cash and income asset classes will perform. After the large SA government bond rally of 2024, the tide has arguably turned in income's favour. Since the September 2024 yield lows in the SA 20-year government bond, clean prices have fallen by 7%. The SA 20-year credit spread relative to US Treasuries has also widened from a low of 614 basis points (bps) to 700 bps year to date. Not only had absolute and relative SA bond valuations become stretched, but the market also digested uncomfortable truths this year regarding the unfunded nature of the SA government's revised expenditure trajectory.

National Treasury has pulled a lot of levers in the last 18 months in order to meet expenditure commitments. They have monetised R150bn of the Gold and Foreign Exchange Contingency Reserve Account (GFECRA), frozen personal income tax brackets for two years in a row, raised an additional US\$3.5bn of offshore Eurobonds, and attempted a 2% increase in value-added tax (VAT) that was rejected by the Democratic Alliance (DA). If one accepts that they are out of levers to pull, then one should also accept that their primary surplus projections will fall short of targets, and therefore debt may not stabilise at 76% of gross domestic product (GDP) as laid out in the Budget presented in March 2025. Alternatively, spending may be scaled back on the items added to the Budget more recently, such as the extra allocation for infrastructure, early childhood development and doctors' salaries.

Although the DA has suggested a review of all government spending with the aim of rooting out inefficiencies, National Treasury already embarked on such an exercise two years ago and made a raft of recommendations regarding redundant government programmes and departments to be cut.

These recommendations lacked the political willpower to be implemented, and the present Budget in fact *increases* the allocation to South Africa's Democratic Republic of Congo peacekeeping mission that Treasury had advised should be scrapped entirely under the previous review.

Market indigestion towards SA government bonds was also caused by the perilous state of the diplomatic relations both within the government of national unity itself and between South Africa and the United States. The SA government's policies, foreign relations with the likes of Iran and views on the Middle East have caught the ire of US President Donald Trump and many of his aides. In this regard, the South African Reserve Bank estimates that the loss of access to the preferential African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) US-SA trade relationship and subsequent decline in SA automotive and fruit exports to the US could shave 0.7% off SA GDP. This analysis was done prior to the 30% tariff on South African imports announced by the Trump administration on 2 April 2025, which nullifies many AGOA benefits and will likely represent a shock to growth. A silver lining for SA growth is that it should still rebound off the low base of prior years given reduced loadshedding and the allocated increase towards infrastructure spending.

In the last quarter, the Fund added to short-dated RSA nominal bonds as the market began to sell off and yields surpassed those on the equivalent-tenor money market. The Fund also added to longer-dated bonds with an interest rate swap hedge overlay to offset the modified duration risk. The Fund ended the quarter on an annual yield of 9.4%, with the market pricing for one more SA interest rate cut this year.

Commentary contributed by Thalia Petousis

Fund manager commentary as at 31 March 2025



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#### Management Company

Allan Gray Unit Trust Management (RF) (Pty) Ltd (the "Management Company") is registered as a management company under the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act 45 of 2002, in terms of which it operates unit trust portfolios under the Allan Gray Unit Trust Scheme, and is supervised by the Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA). The Management Company is incorporated under the laws of South Africa and has been approved by the regulatory authority of Botswana to market its unit trusts in Botswana, however, it is not supervised or licensed in Botswana. Allan Gray (Pty) Ltd (the "Investment Manager"), an authorised financial services provider, is the appointed investment manager of the Management Company and is a member of the Association for Savings & Investment South Africa (ASISA). The trustee/custodian of the Allan Gray Unit Trust Scheme is Rand Merchant Bank, a division of FirstRand Bank Limited. The trustee/custodian can be contacted at RMB Custody and Trustee Services: Tel: +27 (0)11 301 6335 or www.rmb.co.za.

#### Performance

Collective investment schemes in securities (unit trusts or funds) are generally medium- to long-term investments. The value of units may go down as well as up and past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The Management Company does not provide any guarantee regarding the capital or the performance of the Fund. Performance figures are provided by the Investment Manager and are for lump sum investments with income distributions reinvested. Actual investor performance may differ as a result of the investment date, the date of reinvestment and dividend withholding tax.

#### Fund mandate

Funds may be closed to new investments at any time in order to be managed according to their mandates. Unit trusts are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending. The funds may borrow up to 10% of their market value to bridge insufficient liquidity.

## Unit price

Unit trust prices are calculated on a net asset value basis, which is the total market value of all assets in the Fund, including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions from the Fund, divided by the number of units in issue. Forward pricing is used and fund valuations take place at approximately 16:00 each business day. Purchase and redemption requests must be received by the Management Company by 14:00 each business day to receive that day's price. Unit trust prices are available daily on <a href="https://www.allangray.co.za">www.allangray.co.za</a>.

#### Yield

The Fund's gross yield is the estimated weighted average yield-to-maturity of all underlying interestbearing instruments as at the last day of the month. The one-year TER is deducted from the gross yield to derive a yield net of fund expenses. Actual returns may differ based on changes in market values, interest rates and market factors during the investment period.

#### Fees

Permissible deductions may include management fees, brokerage, securities transfer tax, auditor's fees, bank charges and trustee fees. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from Allan Gray.

#### Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The total expense ratio (TER) is the annualised percentage of the Fund's average assets under management that has been used to pay the Fund's actual expenses over the past one- and three-year periods. The TER includes the annual management fees that have been charged (both the fee at benchmark and any performance component charged), VAT and other expenses like audit and trustee fees. Transaction costs (including brokerage, securities transfer tax, Share Transactions Totally Electronic (STRATE) and FSCA Investor Protection Levy and VAT thereon) are shown separately. Transaction costs are necessary costs in administering the Fund and impact Fund returns. They should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time, including market returns, the type of financial product. the investment decisions of the investment manager, and the TER. Since Fund returns are quoted after the deduction of these expenses, the TER and transaction costs should not be deducted again from published returns. As unit trust expenses vary, the current TER cannot be used as an indication of future TERs. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. Instead, when investing, the investment objective of the Fund should be aligned with the investor's objective and compared against the performance of the Fund. The TER and other funds' TERs should then be used to evaluate whether the Fund performance offers value for money. The sum of the TER and transaction costs is shown as the total investment charge (TIC).

#### Compliance with Regulation 28

The Fund is managed to comply with Regulation 28 of the Pension Funds Act 24 of 1956 (the "Pension Funds Act"). Exposures in excess of the limits will be corrected immediately, except where due to a change in the fair value or characteristic of an asset, e.g. market value fluctuations, in which case they will be corrected within the prescribed regulatory time period. The Management Company does not monitor compliance by retirement funds with section 19(4) of the Pension Funds Act (item 6 of Table 1 to Regulation 28).

### FTSE/JSE All Share Index, FTSE/JSE All Bond Index

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# Important information for investors

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You can obtain additional information about your proposed investment from Allan Gray free of charge either via our website www.allangray.co.za or via our Client Service Centre on 0860 000 654.



# Fund description and summary of investment policy

The Fund invests in South African money market instruments with a term shorter than 13 months. These instruments can be issued by government, parastatals, corporates and banks. The Fund is managed to comply with regulations governing retirement funds.

While capital losses are unlikely, they can occur if, for example, one of the issuers of an instrument held by the Fund defaults. In this event losses will be borne by the Fund and its investors.

ASISA unit trust category: South African - Interest Bearing - SA Money Market

# Fund objective and benchmark

The Fund aims to preserve capital, maintain liquidity and generate a sound level of income. The Fund's benchmark is the Alexander Forbes Short Term Fixed Interest (STeFl) 3-month Index.

# How we aim to achieve the Fund's objective

The Fund invests in selected money market instruments providing an income yield and a high degree of capital stability. We formulate an interest rate outlook, which is influenced by our inflation outlook and expectations of the resulting Reserve Bank policy response. Based on this analysis, we select investments for the Fund. These assets are typically held to maturity. We take a conservative approach to credit risk.

## Suitable for those investors who

- Require monthly income distributions
- Are highly risk-averse but seek returns higher than bank deposits
- Need a short-term investment account

# Fund information on 30 April 2025

Fund size	R28.8bn
Number of units	25 753 713 527
Price (net asset value per unit)	R1.00
Monthly yield at month end	0.65
Fund weighted average coupon (days)	82.69
Fund weighted average maturity (days)	111.23
Class	A

- 1. The current benchmark is the Alexander Forbes Short Term Fixed Interest (STeFI) 3-month Index. From inception to 31 March 2003, the benchmark was the Alexander Forbes 3-Month Deposit Index. From 1 April 2003 to 31 October 2011, the benchmark was the Domestic Fixed Interest Money Market Collective Investment Scheme sector excluding the Allan Gray Money Market Fund. From 1 November 2011 to 19 August 2024, the benchmark was the Alexander Forbes Short Term Fixed Interest (STeFI) Composite Index. Performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 30 April 2025. Source: Bloombera.
- CPI inflation has been calculated based on the most recent rebased values from Stats SA, reflecting the data as at 31 March 2025 (source: IRESS).
- 3. The percentage of calendar months in which the Fund produced a positive monthly return since inception.
- 4. The standard deviation of the Fund's monthly return. This is a measure of how much an investment's return varies from its average over time.
- 5. These are the highest or lowest consecutive 12-month returns since inception. This is a measure of how much the Fund and the benchmark returns have varied per rolling 12-month period. The Fund's highest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 July 2003 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 31 July 2003. The Fund's lowest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 October 2021 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 31 October 2021. All rolling 12-month figures for the Fund and the benchmark are available from our Client Service Centre on request.

# Income distribution for the last 12 months

Actual payout (cents per unit), the Fund distributes monthly

May 2024	Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Aug 2024
0.74	0.72	0.74	0.73
Sep 2024	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2024
0.71	0.72	0.68	0.68
<b>0.71</b> Jan 2025	<b>0.72</b> Feb 2025	0.68 Mar 2025	<b>0.68</b> Apr 2025

# Performance net of all fees and expenses

% Returns	Fund	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	CPI inflation <sup>2</sup>
Cumulative:			
Since inception (1 July 2001)	487.5	459.8	246.8
Annualised:			
Since inception (1 July 2001)	7.7	7.5	5.4
Latest 10 years	7.1	6.7	4.9
Latest 5 years	6.7	6.2	4.8
Latest 3 years	8.0	7.6	5.0
Latest 2 years	8.8	8.2	4.0
Latest 1 year	8.7	8.0	2.7
Year-to-date (not annualised)	2.6	2.4	1.7
Risk measures (since inception)			
Percentage positive months <sup>3</sup>	100.0	100.0	n/a
Annualised monthly volatility <sup>4</sup>	0.6	0.6	n/a
Highest annual return <sup>5</sup>	12.8	13.3	n/a
Lowest annual return <sup>5</sup>	4.3	3.8	n/a



# Meeting the Fund objective

The Fund has preserved capital, maintained liquidity and generated a sound level of income.

# Annual management fee

A fixed fee of 0.25% p.a. excl. VAT

# Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs (updated quarterly)

The annual management fee is included in the TER. The TER is a measure of the actual expenses incurred by the Fund over a one and three-year period (annualised). Since Fund returns are quoted after deduction of these expenses, the TER should not be deducted from the published returns (refer to page 4 for further information). Transaction costs are disclosed separately.

TER and transaction costs breakdown for the 1- and 3-year period ending 31 March 2025	1yr %	3yr %
Total expense ratio	0.29	0.29
Fee for benchmark performance	0.25	0.25
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.00	0.00
VAT	0.04	0.04
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.00	0.00
Total investment charge	0.29	0.29

# Top credit exposures as at 30 April 20256

	% of portfolio
Governments	41.2
Republic of South Africa	41.2
Banks <sup>7</sup>	52.8
Nedbank	18.5
Standard Bank	14.0
Investec Bank	10.2
FirstRand Bank	9.0
Absa	1.1
Corporates	6.0
Shoprite	2.6
Sanlam	2.5
Daimler Truck	0.9
Total (%)	100.0

Excludes accrued fees.

Note: There may be slight discrepancies in the totals due to rounding.

Banks include negotiable certificates of deposit (NCDs), floating-rate notes, fixed-rate notes, and call deposits.



To start the year from an interest rate standpoint, the theme of "uncertainty" was prevalent at both the US Federal Reserve (the Fed) and South African Reserve Bank (SARB) meetings, with Fed Chair Jerome Powell and SARB Governor Lesetja Kganyago separately echoing that rate policy caution is warranted in these uncertain times. A dramatic shift in US fiscal, trade and military policy has ramifications for developed and emerging countries alike. A topic of much debate this year has been whether US President Donald Trump will impose higher tariffs upon key trading partners on a sustained basis. Such actions would result in higher US inflation and therefore higher interest rates. Alternatively, Trump's actions at times suggest that he simply wishes to use the threat of these tariffs as a negotiating tool of statecraft to achieve other policy aims. These include more secure US borders, a commitment from the likes of Europe and China to raise their own imports from the US, and a fairer dispersion of military spending across the US, Europe and the UK that does not place unfair burden on the US when enacting North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) peacekeeping duties and disbursing foreign aid. In a similar vein, the degree to which US government spending will be cut is also unclear - keeping in mind that such expenditure has acted as a key driver of US gross domestic product (GDP) growth and a steady source of US job listings.

Markets hate such uncertainty and so do businesses. The weakening of the S&P 500 index, which has lost 9% of its value in US dollars since its year-to-date highs, risks unwinding some of the wealth effect that has spurred consumer spending on both basic and discretionary goods, as well as luxury items and travel. Several US fast food and beverage companies have begun reporting faltering sales on the back of consumer economic anxiety, while prices are simultaneously rising amid tariff-related price hikes from suppliers. If one extrapolates such stock market and business activity to indicate a coming recession, this implies that tariff-related inflationary threats will be watered down by depressed economic activity that ultimately lowers both consumer demand and prices. Therein lies the set of uncertain paths: Will US policy shifts raise inflation, or could they squash prices by bringing about a recession? The Fed is waiting for greater clarity.

Turning to domestic interest rates, many in the market have guestioned why the SARB has not cut rates by more, given a reporate of 7.5% as at end-March (close to its highest levels in 16 years) versus a consumer price inflation (CPI) rate of 3.2% as at end-February (levels last seen during the COVID-19 pandemic-related slump in economic activity). The answer may be that the SARB does not set interest rates in a vacuum. On the one hand, the expectation of softer US growth and the weaker US dollar observed this year lowers our local inflation trajectory. On the other hand, Governor Kganyago also highlights that the imposition of tariffs on South Africa or the loss of our African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) preferential trade status with the US should mean lower growth domestically, with the SARB modelling up to a -0.7% hit to GDP in such a scenario as South Africa's automotive and fruit exports decline. This analysis was done prior to the 30% tariff on South African imports announced by the Trump administration on 2 April 2025, which nullifies many AGOA benefits and will likely represent a shock to growth. This, combined with a local market confidence shock, could weaken the rand and raise our CPI trajectory materially. It is the job of the Monetary Policy Committee to weigh the balance of such future risks when setting rates now. A recent win for South Africa's administered price inflation trajectory is the reduced electricity tariff hikes granted to Eskom by the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) of 12.7%, 5.4% and 6.2% for each of the next three years. That said, in its place, the SARB must now contemplate a new risk and weigh up the potential impact of a higher value-added tax (VAT) rate on consumer prices going forward.

During the quarter, the Fund added to RSA government Treasury bill exposure given that 6-month government bills traded to 50 basis points wider than the equivalent term bank deposits. Given that the funding demands of government continue to outstrip that of South Africa's commercial banks, this dynamic emerges in the competition for investor capital. The Fund ended the quarter on annual and effective yields of 8.19% and 8.50% respectively, with the market pricing for one more interest rate cut this year.

Commentary contributed by Thalia Petousis

Fund manager quarterly commentary as at 31 March 2025



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#### Performance

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### Fund mandate

Funds may be closed to new investments at any time in order to be managed according to their mandates. Unit trusts are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending. The funds may borrow up to 10% of their market value to bridge insufficient liquidity.

#### The Allan Gray Money Market Fund is not a bank deposit account

The Fund aims to maintain a constant price of 100 cents per unit. The total return an investor receives is made up of interest received and any gain or loss made on instruments held by the Fund. While capital losses are unlikely, they can occur if, for example, one of the issuers of an instrument defaults. In this event, investors may lose some of their capital. To maintain a constant price of 100 cents per unit, investors' unit holdings will be reduced to the extent of such losses. The yield is calculated according to applicable ASISA standards. Excessive withdrawals from the Fund may place it under liquidity pressure; if this happens, withdrawals may be ring-fenced and managed over a period of time.

Purchase and redemption requests must be received by the Management Company by 11:00 each business day to receive that day's price. Unit trust prices are available daily on www.allangray.co.za.

#### Fees

Permissible deductions may include management fees, brokerage, securities transfer tax, auditor's fees, bank charges and trustee fees. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from Allan Gray.

#### Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The total expense ratio (TER) is the annualised percentage of the Fund's average assets under management that has been used to pay the Fund's actual expenses over the past one- and three-year periods. The TER includes the annual management fees that have been charged (both the fee at benchmark and any performance component charged), VAT and other expenses like audit and trustee fees. Transaction costs (including brokerage, securities transfer tax, Share Transactions Totally Electronic (STRATE) and FSCA Investor Protection Levy and VAT thereon) are shown separately. Transaction costs are necessary costs in administering the Fund and impact Fund returns. They should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time, including market returns, the type of financial product. the investment decisions of the investment manager, and the TER. Since Fund returns are quoted after the deduction of these expenses, the TER and transaction costs should not be deducted again from published returns. As unit trust expenses vary, the current TER cannot be used as an indication of future TERs. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. Instead, when investing, the investment objective of the Fund should be aligned with the investor's objective and compared against the performance of the Fund. The TER and other funds' TERs should then be used to evaluate whether the Fund performance offers value for money. The sum of the TER and transaction costs is shown as the total investment charge (TIC).

#### Compliance with Regulation 28

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**Fund manager:** Duncan Artus (The underlying Orbis funds are managed by Orbis) **Inception date:** 2 March 2010

# Fund description and summary of investment policy

The Fund may invest in a mix of absolute return funds managed by Allan Gray's offshore investment partner, Orbis Investment Management Limited, and currently invests in the Orbis Optimal SA Fund (US dollar and euro classes). The Orbis Optimal SA Fund invests in a portfolio of global shares and uses exchange-traded derivative contracts on stock market indices to reduce net equity exposure, which typically varies between 0% and 20%. The Fund's returns, when measured in US dollars or euros, are driven mainly by Orbis' stock selection and not by the overall direction of equity markets. Returns are likely to be less volatile than those of a global equity or global balanced fund, but more volatile than those of a global fixed income fund. Although the Fund's investment universe is global, the units in the Fund are priced and traded daily in rands. Given the Fund's global investment universe, rand returns are likely to be more volatile than those of local funds with similar equity constraints.

ASISA unit trust category: Global - Multi Asset - Low Equity

# Fund objective and benchmark

The Fund aims to provide investors with long-term positive returns (when measured in US dollars or euros) from a low-risk global investment portfolio. The Fund's returns are intended to be largely independent of the major asset classes such as cash, bonds or equities. The Fund's benchmark is the simple average of the benchmarks of the underlying Orbis Optimal SA Fund classes, namely US dollar and euro bank deposits.

# How we aim to achieve the Fund's objective

The Fund invests in the Orbis Optimal SA Fund (US dollar and euro classes). The Orbis Optimal SA Fund is actively managed, invests in a global portfolio of shares and uses hedging to reduce overall exposure to global stock markets. Orbis uses in-house research to identify companies around the world whose shares can be purchased for less than Orbis' assessment of their long-term intrinsic value. This long-term perspective enables them to buy shares which are shunned by the stock market because of their unexciting or poor short-term prospects, but which are relatively attractively priced if one looks to the long term. This is the same approach as that used by Allan Gray to invest in South African equities. The main risk of investing in shares is that prices will decline if stock markets fall significantly. The Orbis Optimal SA Fund therefore maintains a substantial level of hedging to reduce this risk. The net equity exposure of the Fund typically varies between 0% and 20%. The Fund can therefore retain limited exposure to global stock markets, depending on Orbis' assessment of global stock market valuations. Currency exposure is actively managed, both within the underlying Orbis Optimal SA Fund and through the allocation to the US dollar and euro classes of the Orbis Optimal SA Fund. The Fund's returns are driven mainly by Orbis' ability to select shares which outperform. A portion of the returns are also derived from the low exposure to stock markets and foreign currency cash-equivalent returns earned from hedging. The Fund is therefore able to aim for positive returns (when measured in foreign currency), irrespective of the direction of global stock markets.

#### Suitable for those investors who

- Seek positive long-term returns, when measured in foreign currency
- Wish to invest in international assets through a rand-denominated fund
- Have a long-term investment horizon and are comfortable with periods of underperformance which may result in capital loss
- Wish to use the Fund as a 'building block' in a diversified multi-asset class portfolio
- Understand that the Fund's returns are largely independent of cash, bonds and equities

**Fund availability:** Subject to offshore capacity constraints. Please visit our website or contact our Client Service Centre for further information about any constraints that may apply.

# Fund information on 30 April 2025

Fund size	R1.0bn
Number of units	31 218 070
Price (net asset value per unit)	R31.93
Class	А

- The simple average of the benchmarks of the underlying funds, performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 30 April 2025.
- This data reflects the latest available inflation numbers for South Africa and the United States of America, as at 31 March 2025 (Source: IRESS). South African CPI inflation has been calculated based on the most recent rebased values from Stats SA.
- Maximum percentage decline over any period. The maximum rand drawdown occurred from 18 May 2016 to 24 March 2017 and maximum benchmark drawdown occurred from 18 January 2016 to 23 February 2018. Drawdown is calculated on the total return of the Fund/benchmark (i.e. including income).
- 4. The percentage of calendar months in which the Fund produced a positive monthly return since inception.
- 5. The standard deviation of the Fund's monthly return.
  This is a measure of how much an investment's return varies from its average over time.
- 6. These are the highest or lowest consecutive 12-month returns since inception. This is a measure of how much the Fund and the benchmark returns have varied per rolling 12-month period. The Fund's highest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 December 2013 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 31 January 2016. The Fund's lowest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 May 2017 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 28 February 2017. All rolling 12-month figures for the Fund and the benchmark are available from our Client Service Centre on request.

# Performance net of all fees and expenses

Value of R10 invested at inception with all distributions reinvested



% Returns	Fu	nd	Bench	mark <sup>1</sup>	CPI inf	lation <sup>2</sup>
Cumulative:	ZAR	US\$	ZAR	US\$	ZAR	US\$
Since inception (2 March 2010)	219.8	32.1	160.6	7.6	109.9	47.1
Annualised:						
Since inception (2 March 2010)	8.0	1.9	6.5	0.5	5.0	2.6
Latest 10 years	7.0	2.4	6.1	1.5	4.9	3.1
Latest 5 years	8.2	7.8	3.1	2.7	4.8	4.4
Latest 3 years	13.8	7.7	11.1	5.1	5.0	3.6
Latest 2 years	7.5	6.7	6.1	5.4	4.0	2.9
Latest 1 year	9.9	10.8	6.5	7.4	2.7	2.4
Year-to-date (not annualised)	6.9	8.1	4.7	5.8	1.7	1.0
Risk measures (since inception)						
Maximum drawdown <sup>3</sup>	-18.9	-31.3	-26.6	-16.1	n/a	n/a
Percentage positive months <sup>4</sup>	52.7	56.0	48.4	50.0	n/a	n/a
Annualised monthly volatility <sup>5</sup>	13.0	7.3	13.4	4.3	n/a	n/a
Highest annual return <sup>6</sup>	39.6	14.4	35.6	9.4	n/a	n/a
Lowest annual return <sup>6</sup>	-12.4	-15.3	-19.1	-11.6	n/a	n/a



**Fund manager:** Duncan Artus (The underlying Orbis funds are managed by Orbis) **Inception date:** 2 March 2010

# Meeting the Fund objective

Since inception and over the latest 10- and five-year periods, the Fund has outperformed its benchmark. There has been some volatility in the Fund's returns. The underlying funds' maximum drawdowns to date, in their reporting currencies, are 23% for the Orbis Optimal SA Dollar class and 28% for the Orbis Optimal SA Euro class.

## Income distributions for the last 12 months

To the extent that income earned in the form of dividends and interest exceeds expenses in the Fund, the Fund will distribute any surplus annually.	31 Dec 2024
Cents per unit	0.0000

# Annual management fee

Allan Gray does not charge an annual management fee but is paid a marketing and distribution fee by Orbis.

Orbis charges annual management fees within the underlying Orbis funds. Each fund's fee rate is calculated based on the fund's performance relative to its own benchmark. For more information please refer to the Orbis Optimal SA Fund factsheets and prospectus, which can be found at <a href="https://www.orbis.com">www.orbis.com</a>.

# Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs (updated quarterly)

The annual management fees charged by Orbis are included in the TER. The TER is a measure of the actual expenses incurred by the Fund over a one and three-year period (annualised). Since Fund returns are quoted after deduction of these expenses, the TER should not be deducted from the published returns (refer to page 4 for further information). Transaction costs are disclosed separately.

TER and transaction costs breakdown for the 1- and 3-year period ending 31 March 2025	1yr %	3yr %
Total expense ratio	1.08	1.06
Fee for benchmark performance	0.99	0.99
Performance fees	0.00	-0.01
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.09	0.08
VAT	0.00	0.00
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.11	0.12
Total investment charge	1.19	1.18

# Top 10 share holdings on 30 April 2025

Company	% of portfolio
Corpay	4.3
Elevance Health	4.2
QXO	3.6
FirstService	3.4
Mitsubishi Estate	2.9
Taiwan Semiconductor Mfg	2.8
Smurfit WestRock	2.4
Leonardo	2.4
British American Tobacco	2.4
Motorola Solutions	2.4
Total (%)	30.6

# Fund allocation on 30 April 2025

Foreign absolute return funds	%
Orbis Optimal SA (US\$)	61.2
Orbis Optimal SA (Euro)	38.8
Total (%)	100.0

# Asset allocation on 30 April 2025

	Total	United States	UK	Europe ex-UK <sup>7</sup>	Japan	Other <sup>7</sup>	Emerging markets
Net equities	4.1	-3.1	4.9	-1.6	0.8	2.4	0.8
Hedged equities	82.0	36.9	4.8	12.7	19.9	4.1	3.5
Property	6.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.9	3.4	0.0
Money market and cash	7.6	4.0	0.5	0.7	1.8	0.5	0.1
Total (%)	100.0	37.8	10.2	11.7	25.5	10.4	4.4
Currency exposure	100.0	52.8	0.2	38.2	6.1	2.3	0.4

<sup>7.</sup> Refers to developed markets only.

Note: There may be slight discrepancies in the totals due to rounding.



# **Allan Gray-Orbis Global Optimal Fund of Funds**

**Fund manager:** Duncan Artus (The underlying Orbis funds are managed by Orbis) **Inception date:** 2 March 2010

30 April 2025

It would be an understatement to say we are living in eventful and interesting times. In just five years, we have seen a global pandemic bring economic and social activity to a halt, Cold War fears reignited following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, a simmering conflict between China and the US, and a dramatic escalation in the decades-old feud between Israel and Palestine. Donald Trump survived an assassination attempt, became president for the second time and has brought in a group of billionaires to rip up the old Washington DC rule book. Interest rates reversed a four-decade decline, inflation spiked after a dormant decade, oil prices briefly went negative, housing prices surged, Bitcoin ranged roughly between US\$5 000 and US\$100 000, and China began a long-overdue debt and property correction. Artificial intelligence has gone from science fiction to daily reality – and is only getting started.

In short, the world today bears little resemblance to the world five years ago. The sheer magnitude of change has created enormous uncertainty for businesses. High levels of uncertainty generally have a negative impact on asset prices. Asset prices are based on discounted future cash flows, using a discount rate which is the sum of the risk-free rate (often approximated by the yield on 3-month US Treasury bills) and a risk premium. The higher the discount rate, the lower the price – or, more accurately, the lower the present value of future earnings and, therefore, the valuation multiple.

One would expect today's discount rate to be higher than it was five years ago. For starters, the 3-month Treasury bill rate has increased from 1.5% to 4.2%. Likewise, one should be paid more to take on risk in an uncertain world; the risk premium should be higher. The sum of both should clearly be higher, meaning asset valuations should be lower – at least in theory.

While valuations are lower in some markets – particularly in some emerging markets – they are higher for US equities, the biggest and most influential investment market. The trailing 12-month price-to-earnings (PE) ratio for the S&P 500 was more than 20% higher at the start of 2025 than it was at the start of 2020. In absolute terms, the PE was 25 for the S&P 500, meaning that the earnings yield (the inverse of PE) of US equities was lower than the risk-free rate. This hasn't happened since the dotcom bubble of the late 90s.

The US market is therefore being priced as if uncertainty is lower and forecasting the future is easier than usual, despite the numerous challenges mentioned at the start of this commentary. If one is sceptical that this makes sense, it would be sensible to minimise overall market risk, or beta. Generally, a favourable time to embrace beta is when either valuations or uncertainty are low. Both are unusually high today, suggesting the need for caution.

There are, nonetheless, opportunities to earn reasonable returns in today's environment. The Fund invests in a basket of shares that we believe offer attractive prospective returns, while hedging out the local market exposure. This allows our clients to earn the yield on cash plus the excess return that our stock selections generate above the market, or alpha. Since inception, the Fund has generated returns after fees ahead of its benchmark, with similarly strong relative performance over the last five years. We believe today's environment is well suited to allow us to achieve similar or better returns than these.

Periods of high valuation disparity provide greater opportunities to find and earn alpha. Disparity cannot be measured definitively, but most metrics show it being elevated today, albeit down from the extremes seen in the 2021 "Everything Bubble". A simple way to look at valuation disparity is to compare valuations across major global markets. At the start of this year, the PE ratio of the S&P 500 was roughly 2.5 times higher than that of Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index, twice as high as the United Kingdom's FTSE 100 and 1.5 times higher than Germany's DAX. This trend repeats in other markets, suggesting the US is unusually expensive relative to the rest of the world. While there are valid reasons for a US premium, it is seldom wise to bet on extremes continuing to remain dislocated. We believe some reversion to historical norms is likely, which presents attractive alpha opportunities for fundamental stockpickers such as ourselves.

In a sense, we could argue that the change we have seen in recent years is actually nothing new for investors. The world is always in flux – and it is our job to capitalise on the opportunities that change creates. Investors with a longer time horizon, and a deeper understanding of history's lessons, should take heed of the current dislocation between price and reality. This Fund allows such investors to continue to earn a reasonable absolute return while limiting market exposure. We believe now is an opportune time to do so.

The Fund's overall net equity exposure rose over the quarter. Among individual positions, we initiated a position in a US transportation and logistics service provider. We exited the position in Richemont in order to rotate capital into higher-conviction ideas.

Commentary contributed by Mark Dunley-Owen, Orbis Investment Management Limited, Bermuda

Fund manager quarterly commentary as at 31 March 2025



**Allan Gray-Orbis Global Optimal Fund of Funds** 

**Fund manager:** Duncan Artus (The underlying Orbis funds are managed by Orbis) **Inception date:** 2 March 2010

30 April 2025

The availability of the Fund is subject to offshore capacity constraints. Please contact our Client Service Centre for further information about any constraints that may apply.

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#### Management Company

Allan Gray Unit Trust Management (RF) (Pty) Ltd (the "Management Company") is registered as a management company under the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act 45 of 2002, in terms of which it operates unit trust portfolios under the Allan Gray Unit Trust Scheme, and is supervised by the Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA). The Management Company is incorporated under the laws of South Africa and has been approved by the regulatory authority of Botswana to market its unit trusts in Botswana, however, it is not supervised or licensed in Botswana. Allan Gray (Pty) Ltd (the "Investment Manager"), an authorised financial services provider, is the appointed investment manager of the Management Company and is a member of the Association for Savings & Investment South Africa (ASISA). The trustee/custodian of the Allan Gray Unit Trust Scheme is Rand Merchant Bank, a division of FirstRand Bank Limited. The trustee/custodian can be contacted at RMB Custody and Trustee Services: Tel: +27 (0)11 301 6335 or www.rmb.co.za.

#### Performance

Collective investment schemes in securities (unit trusts or funds) are generally medium- to long-term investments. The value of units may go down as well as up and past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Movements in exchange rates may also cause the value of underlying international investments to go up or down. The Management Company does not provide any guarantee regarding the capital or the performance of the Fund. Performance figures are provided by the Investment Manager and are for lump sum investments with income distributions reinvested. Actual investor performance may differ as a result of the investment date, the date of reinvestment and dividend withholding tax.

## Fund mandate

Funds may be closed to new investments at any time in order to be managed according to their mandates. Unit trusts are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending. The funds may borrow up to 10% of their market value to bridge insufficient liquidity.

#### Unit price

Unit trust prices are calculated on a net asset value basis, which is the total market value of all assets in the Fund, including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions from the Fund, divided by the number of units in issue. Forward pricing is used and fund valuations take place at approximately 16:00 each business day. Purchase and redemption requests must be received by the Management Company by 14:00 each business day to receive that day's price. Unit trust prices are available daily on www.allangrav.co.za.

#### Fees

Permissible deductions may include management fees, brokerage, securities transfer tax, auditor's fees, bank charges and trustee fees. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from Allan Gray. For more information about our annual management fees, refer to the frequently asked questions, available via the Allan Gray website.

#### Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The total expense ratio (TER) is the annualised percentage of the Fund's average assets under management that has been used to pay the Fund's actual expenses over the past one- and threeyear periods. The TER includes the annual management fees that have been charged (both the fee at benchmark and any performance component charged), VAT and other expenses like audit and trustee fees. Transaction costs (including brokerage, securities transfer tax, Share Transactions Totally Electronic (STRATE) and FSCA Investor Protection Levy and VAT thereon) are shown separately. Transaction costs are necessary costs in administering the Fund and impact Fund returns. They should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time, including market returns, the type of financial product, the investment decisions of the investment manager, and the TER. Since Fund returns are quoted after the deduction of these expenses, the TER and transaction costs should not be deducted again from published returns. As unit trust expenses vary, the current TER cannot be used as an indication of future TERs. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. Instead, when investing, the investment objective of the Fund should be aligned with the investor's objective and compared against the performance of the Fund. The TER and other funds' TERs should then be used to evaluate whether the Fund performance offers value for money. The sum of the TER and transaction costs is shown as the total investment charge (TIC).

#### Fund of funds

A fund of funds is a unit trust that invests in other unit trusts, which charge their own fees. Allan Gray does not charge any additional fees in its funds of funds.

## FTSE Russell Index

Source: London Stock Exchange Group plc and its group undertakings (collectively, the "LSE Group").

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#### MSCI Index

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# Important information for investors

#### Need more information?

You can obtain additional information about your proposed investment from Allan Gray free of charge either via our website www.allangray.co.za or via our Client Service Centre on 0860 000 654 **Fund managers:** Duncan Artus, Rory Kutisker–Jacobson, Tim Acker (Most foreign assets are invested in Orbis funds) **Inception date:** 1 February 2016 **Only available through tax-free investment accounts.** 

# Allan Gray Tax-Free Balanced Fund

30 April 2025

# Fund description and summary of investment policy

The Fund is managed in broadly the same way as the Allan Gray Balanced Fund. It was created specifically for use in tax-free accounts and can only be accessed through these products. The Fund invests in a mix of shares, bonds, property, commodities and cash. The Fund can invest a maximum of 45% offshore. The Fund typically invests the bulk of its foreign allowance in a mix of funds managed by Orbis Investment Management Limited, our offshore investment partner. The maximum net equity exposure of the Fund is 75% and we may use exchange-traded derivative contracts on stock market indices to reduce net equity exposure from time to time. The Fund is managed to comply with the investment limits governing retirement funds. Returns are likely to be less volatile than those of an equity-only fund.

ASISA unit trust category: South African - Multi Asset - High Equity

# Fund objective and benchmark

The Fund aims to create long-term wealth for investors within the constraints governing retirement funds. It aims to outperform the average return of similar funds without assuming any more risk. The Fund's benchmark is the market value-weighted average return of funds in the South African – Multi Asset – High Equity category (excluding Allan Gray funds).

# How we aim to achieve the Fund's objective

We seek to buy shares at a discount to their intrinsic value. We thoroughly research companies to assess their intrinsic value from a long-term perspective. This long-term perspective enables us to buy shares which are shunned by the stock market because of their unexciting or poor short-term prospects, but which are relatively attractively priced if one looks to the long term. If the stock market offers few attractive shares we may increase the Fund's weighting to alternative assets such as bonds, property, commodities and cash, or we may partially hedge the Fund's stock market exposure. By varying the Fund's exposure to these different asset classes over time, we seek to enhance the Fund's long-term returns and to manage its risk. The Fund's bond and money market investments are actively managed.

#### Suitable for those investors who

- Seek steady long-term capital growth
- Are comfortable with taking on some risk of market fluctuation and potential capital loss, but typically less than that of an equity fund
- Wish to invest in a tax-free investment account
- Typically have an investment horizon of at least three years

#### Maximum investment amounts

Maximum lump sum per investor account	R36 000
Lifetime maximum	R500 000
Maximum debit order*	R3 000

<sup>\*</sup>Only available to investors with a South African bank account.

## Fund information on 30 April 2025

Fund size	R3.9bn
Number of units	187 935 341
Price (net asset value per unit)	R17.93
Class	А

- The market value-weighted average return of funds in the South African – Multi Asset – High Equity category (excluding Allan Gray funds). Source: Morningstar, performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 30 April 2025.
- CPI inflation has been calculated based on the most recent rebased values from Stats SA, reflecting the data as at 31 March 2025 (source: IRESS).
- Maximum percentage decline over any period. The maximum drawdown occurred from 20 January 2020 to 23 March 2020 and maximum benchmark drawdown occurred from 20 January 2020 to 23 March 2020. Drawdown is calculated on the total return of the Fund/benchmark (i.e. including income).
- 4. The percentage of calendar months in which the Fund produced a positive monthly return since inception.
- 5. The standard deviation of the Fund's monthly return. This is a measure of how much an investment's return varies from its average over time.
- 6. These are the highest or lowest consecutive 12-month returns since inception. This is a measure of how much the Fund and the benchmark returns have varied per rolling 12-month period. The Fund's highest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 March 2021 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 31 March 2021. The Fund's lowest annual return occurred during the 12 months ended 31 March 2020 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 31 March 2020. All rolling 12-month figures for the Fund and the benchmark are available from our Client Service Centre on request.

# Performance net of all fees and expenses

Value of R10 invested at inception with all distributions reinvested



% Returns	Fund	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	CPI inflation
Cumulative:			
Since inception (1 February 2016)	122.0	105.2	55.1
Annualised:			
Since inception (1 February 2016)	9.0	8.1	4.9
Latest 5 years	13.5	12.2	4.8
Latest 3 years	12.0	10.8	5.0
Latest 2 years	11.6	11.1	4.0
Latest 1 year	15.3	14.8	2.7
Year-to-date (not annualised)	6.7	3.9	1.7
Risk measures (since inception)			
Maximum drawdown <sup>3</sup>	-24.6	-23.3	n/a
Percentage positive months <sup>4</sup>	68.5	65.8	n/a
Annualised monthly volatility <sup>5</sup>	9.0	8.9	n/a
Highest annual return <sup>6</sup>	31.7	30.7	n/a
Lowest annual return <sup>6</sup>	-13.4	-10.3	n/a

**Fund managers:** Duncan Artus, Rory Kutisker-Jacobson, Tim Acker (Most foreign assets are invested in Orbis funds) **Inception date:** 1 February 2016 **Only available through tax-free investment accounts.** 

# Allan Gray Tax-Free Balanced Fund

30 April 2025

# **Fund history**

This Fund is managed in broadly the same way as the Allan Gray Balanced Fund. It was created specifically for use in tax-free accounts. Refer to the Allan Gray Balanced Fund factsheet for a history of the Allan Gray Balanced Fund since its inception on 1 October 1999.

# Meeting the Fund objective

The Fund aims to create long-term wealth for investors within the constraints governing retirement funds. It aims to outperform the average return of similar funds without assuming any more risk. The Fund experiences periods of underperformance in pursuit of this objective. Since inception and over the latest five-year period, the Fund has outperformed its benchmark.

## Income distributions for the last 12 months

To the extent that income earned in the form of dividends and interest exceeds expenses in the Fund, the Fund will distribute any surplus biannually.	30 Jun 2024	31 Dec 2024
Cents per unit	24.3788	17.6520

# Annual management fee

A fixed fee of 1.25% p.a. excl. VAT.

Allan Gray charges this fee based on the net asset value of the Fund excluding the portion invested in Orbis funds. Orbis charges fixed fees within the Orbis funds that the Fund invests in. Orbis pays a marketing and distribution fee to Allan Gray.

# Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The annual management fees charged by both Allan Gray and Orbis are included in the TER. The TER is a measure of the actual expenses incurred by the Fund over a one and three-year period (annualised). Since Fund returns are quoted after deduction of these expenses, the TER should not be deducted from the published returns (refer to page 4 for further information). Transaction costs are disclosed separately.

# Top 10 share holdings on 31 March 2025 (SA and Foreign)

(updated quarterly)7

Company	% of portfolio
AB InBev	4.3
Naspers & Prosus	4.1
British American Tobacco	3.7
Standard Bank	2.1
AngloGold Ashanti	2.0
Nedbank	1.9
The Walt Disney Company	1.9
Woolworths	1.6
Remgro	1.6
Glencore	1.4
Total (%)	24.5

# Asset allocation on 30 April 20257

Asset class	Total	South Africa	Foreign
Net equities	62.5	36.1	26.4
Hedged equities	9.2	3.0	6.2
Property	1.0	0.1	0.9
Commodity-linked	3.1	2.5	0.6
Bonds	16.6	11.6	5.0
Money market and cash <sup>8</sup>	7.5	9.2	-1.7
Total (%)	100.0	62.6	37.49

- 7. Underlying holdings of foreign funds are included on a look-through basis.
- 8. Including currency hedges.
- 9. The Fund can invest a maximum of 45% offshore. Market movements may periodically cause the Fund to move beyond these limits. This must be corrected within 12 months.

Note: There may be slight discrepancies in the totals due to rounding.

# Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs (updated quarterly)

TER and transaction costs breakdown for the 1- and 3-year period ending 31 March 2025	1yr %	3yr %
Total expense ratio	1.50	1.49
Fee for benchmark performance	1.32	1.31
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.04	0.04
VAT	0.14	0.14
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.07	0.07
Total investment charge	1.57	1.56

# Since inception, the Fund's month-end net equity exposure has varied as follows:

Minimum	57.5% (February 2016)
Average	64.3%
Maximum	72.5% (May 2021)



**Fund managers:** Duncan Artus, Rory Kutisker–Jacobson, Tim Acker (Most foreign assets are invested in Orbis funds) **Inception date:** 1 February 2016 **Only available through tax–free investment accounts.** 

# **Allan Gray Tax-Free Balanced Fund**

30 April 2025

2024 was a strong year for local assets, and this positive momentum carried through into the first quarter of 2025. The FTSE/JSE All Share Index generated a return of 13% in 2024 and 6% in the latest quarter, while the FTSE/JSE All Bond Index returned 17% in 2024 and 1% for the quarter. Global equity markets also performed well in 2024 but have had a softer start to 2025. The MSCI World Index ended up 19% in US dollars in 2024 but fell 2% in the first quarter of 2025.

The Fund returned 3.8% for the quarter, outperforming its benchmark by 2.5%. Local performance was driven by large multinational "rand-hedge" shares, such as AB InBev and British American Tobacco. This is a reversal of one of the dominant trends of 2024: Following the national elections and the formation of the government of national unity (GNU) in June 2024, domestically focused "SA Inc" shares strongly outperformed rand-hedge shares. The Fund responded by reducing its SA Inc exposure in the second half of 2024 and adding to its rand-hedge positions. SA bonds also had a strong 2024 but have come under pressure in the last six months. A conservative bond stance and favouring rand-hedge shares detracted from performance last year, but supported performance in the most recent quarter.

The formation of the GNU in June 2024 sparked a wave of optimism about South Africa's future, both locally and abroad. Some of this was driven by hopes of political reform and economic recovery, but it also reflected relative appeal – many emerging markets were in deeper turmoil, making South Africa look comparatively stable. While we acknowledge encouraging signs, such as improvements at Eskom, our research suggests that broader progress has been limited. State-owned enterprises continue to face deep structural issues, and the business environment remains difficult. Recent financial results from consumer-focused companies reinforce this view – many continue to report subdued earnings as household spending remains under pressure.

This highlights the danger of paying a premium for optimism. When expectations run ahead of fundamentals, prices can detach from reality. Our approach remains rooted in bottom-up analysis, favouring companies priced well below their

intrinsic value, across sectors and regions. While there are still undervalued SA Inc shares, many are now priced for perfection in an economy still facing major headwinds. The difficulty in passing the first coalition budget and ongoing public tension between our government and the United States are good reminders of the economic and political risks.

There is value in having a diversified portfolio containing both SA Inc and rand-hedge stocks. The portfolio reflects that there are attractive opportunities available in both categories. SA bonds offer high yields that appear very attractive at first glance, but we remain concerned about the fiscal challenges facing the SA government. Despite a steepening yield curve, the Fund maintains a conservative duration position, preferring shorter-dated bonds.

Offshore stock selection contributed to relative performance in the quarter. We remain underweight the US market and mega-cap tech – areas that have driven global market returns for several years but now appear increasingly crowded and expensive. There have been early signs of this trend shifting. European equities, long neglected by investors, have attracted fresh interest. Emerging markets, too, outperformed the MSCI World Index this quarter. Japan, often overlooked in global portfolios, offers compelling opportunities for uncorrelated returns in a concentrated global market. The majority of the Fund's roughly 37% foreign allocation is in equities, with the remainder mostly in hedged equities and short-dated bonds. This positioning reflects our view that the overall global stock market remains expensive and longer-dated global government bonds don't offer compelling value either. The offshore portion of the Fund continues to look very different from the world index and many of our competitors, a divergence we believe will benefit long-term returns.

During the quarter, the Fund purchased AngloGold Ashanti and AB InBev, and sold British American Tobacco and Gold Fields.

Commentary contributed by Tim Acker

Fund manager quarterly commentary as at 31 March 2025 **Fund managers:** Duncan Artus, Rory Kutisker–Jacobson, Tim Acker (Most foreign assets are invested in Orbis funds) **Inception date:** 1 February 2016 **Only available through tax–free investment accounts.** 

# **Allan Gray Tax-Free Balanced Fund**

30 April 2025

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#### **Management Company**

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#### Performance

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#### Fund mandate

Funds may be closed to new investments at any time in order to be managed according to their mandates. Unit trusts are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing and scrip lending. The funds may borrow up to 10% of their market value to bridge insufficient liquidity.

### Unit price

Unit trust prices are calculated on a net asset value basis, which is the total market value of all assets in the Fund, including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions from the Fund, divided by the number of units in issue. Forward pricing is used and fund valuations take place at approximately 16:00 each business day. Purchase and redemption requests must be received by the Management Company by 14:00 each business day to receive that day's price. Unit trust prices are available daily on www.allangray.co.za.

#### Fees

Permissible deductions may include management fees, brokerage, securities transfer tax, auditor's fees, bank charges and trustee fees. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from Allan Gray. For more information about our annual management fees, refer to the <u>frequently asked questions</u>, available via the Allan Gray website.

## Compliance with Regulation 28

The Fund is managed to comply with Regulation 28 of the Pension Funds Act 24 of 1956 (the "Pension Funds Act"). Exposures in excess of the limits will be corrected immediately, except where due to a change in the fair value or characteristic of an asset, e.g. market value fluctuations, in which case they will be corrected within the prescribed regulatory time period. The Management Company does not monitor compliance by retirement funds with section 19(4) of the Pension Funds Act (item 6 of Table 1 to Regulation 28).

#### Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs

The total expense ratio (TER) is the annualised percentage of the Fund's average assets under management that has been used to pay the Fund's actual expenses over the past one- and three-year periods.

The TER includes the annual management fees that have been charged (both the fee at benchmark and any performance component charged), VAT and other expenses like audit and trustee fees. Transaction costs (including brokerage, securities transfer tax, Share Transactions Totally Electronic (STRATE) and FSCA Investor Protection Levy and VAT thereon) are shown separately. Transaction costs are necessary costs in administering the Fund and impact Fund returns. They should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time, including market returns, the type of financial product, the investment decisions of the investment manager, and the TER. Since Fund returns are quoted after the deduction of these expenses, the TER and transaction costs should not be deducted again from published returns. As unit trust expenses vary, the current TER cannot be used as an indication of future TERs. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. Instead, when investing, the investment objective of the Fund should be aligned with the investor's objective and compared against the performance of the Fund. The TER and other funds' TERs should then be used to evaluate whether the Fund performance offers value for money. The sum of the TER and transaction costs is shown as the total investment charge (TIC).

#### Information for investors in the tax-free investment account

The Allan Gray Tax-Free Investment Account is administered by Allan Gray Investment Services (Pty) Ltd, an authorised administrative financial services provider, and underwritten by Allan Gray Life Ltd, an insurer liensed to conduct investment-linked life insurance business as defined in the Insurance Act 18 of 2017. The underlying investment options of the Allan Gray individual products are portfolios of collective investment schemes in securities (unit trusts or funds).

# FTSE/JSE All Share Index, FTSE/JSE Capped Shareholder Weighted All Share Index and FTSE/JSE All Bond Index

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# Important information for investors

#### Need more information?

You can obtain additional information about your proposed investment from Allan Gray free of charge either via our website www.allangray.co.za or via our Client Service Centre on 0860 000 654