**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

31 October 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 31 October 2025

Fund size	R4.6bn
Number of units	199 430 775
Price (net asset value per unit)	R20.02
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 31 October 2025.
- CPI inflation has been calculated based on the most recent rebased values from Stats SA, reflecting the data as at 30 September 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 <sup>2</sup>
Cumulative:			
Since inception (1 February 2016)	150.7	131.4	57.9
Annualised:			
Since inception (1 February 2016)	9.9	9.0	4.8
Latest 5 years	16.2	14.5	5.0
Latest 3 years	15.7	15.4	4.2
Latest 2 years	19.4	20.2	3.6
Latest 1 year	22.6	20.2	3.4
Year-to-date (not annualised)	20.5	17.2	3.5
Risk measures (since inception)			
Maximum drawdown <sup>3</sup>	-24.6	-23.3	n/a
Percentage positive months <sup>4</sup>	70.1	67.5	n/a
Annualised monthly volatility <sup>5</sup>	8.8	8.7	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

31 October 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.	31 Dec 2024	30 Jun 2025
Cents per unit	17.6520	21.6692

## 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 30 September 2025 (SA and Foreign) (updated quarterly)<sup>7</sup>

Company	% of portfolio
Naspers & Prosus	4.2
AB InBev	3.8
AngloGold Ashanti	2.9
British American Tobacco	2.6
Glencore	2.4
Standard Bank	2.0
The Walt Disney Company	1.9
Nedbank	1.7
Woolworths	1.6
Remgro	1.4
Total (%)	24.5

<sup>7.</sup> Underlying holdings of foreign funds are included on a look-through basis.

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

TER and transaction costs breakdown for the 1- and 3-year period ending 30 September 2025	1yr %	3уг %
Total expense ratio	1.49	1.48
Fee for benchmark performance	1.32	1.31
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.04	0.03
VAT	0.14	0.14
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.08	0.07
Total investment charge	1.58	1.55

## Asset allocation on 31 October 20257

Asset class	Total	South Africa	Foreign
Net equities	64.9	37.5	27.4
Hedged equities	9.1	3.3	5.8
Property	1.1	0.1	0.9
Commodity-linked	3.2	2.8	0.4
Bonds	16.1	11.6	4.5
Money market and cash <sup>8</sup>	5.6	4.2	1.4
Total (%)	100.0	59.5	40.59

<sup>8.</sup> Includes the impact of any currency hedging.

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

## 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)

<sup>9.</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, 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

31 October 2025

The Fund has delivered 19% year to date, outperforming its benchmark by 4%. Over the last three years, the Fund has achieved an annualised return of 17%, compared to inflation of 4%. While the performance is pleasing, we recognise that the level of real returns generated is higher than what we would expect the Fund to sustain over the long term.

The Fund has benefited from the tailwinds of strong local and global markets. Locally, the FTSE/JSE All Share Index (ALSI) reached an all-time high, surpassing the 100 000 level for the first time and delivering a 32% year-to-date return. However, the strength of the index has been narrow, driven largely by gains in Naspers/Prosus and precious metal shares. Much of the broader market has lagged. Many domestically focused companies (SA Inc shares) have surrendered the gains made in 2024, as initial optimism around the government of national unity has not yet translated into materially stronger economic growth. We are finding more bargains among local shares where valuations have become more attractive. On a relative basis, our positioning in local equities has detracted from year-to-date performance. This includes an underweight position in precious metal shares, as well as underperformance from some of the Fund's multinational shares, such as brewer AB InBev and paper and packaging group Mondi.

Local fixed income has continued to perform well, supported by declining global interest rates, expectations of lower inflation and a lower repo rate in South Africa, and a reduction in the risk premium demanded by foreign investors. Despite this, we remain cautious, given our longer-term concerns about South Africa's fiscal position, and therefore maintain conservative positioning. Cash remains an attractive alternative and provides valuable optionality. The Fund has benefited from its preference for equities over bonds.

Gold shares have delivered exceptional recent returns and now account for 16% of the index. While each company has its own idiosyncratic fundamentals, the dominant driver has been the rising gold price. Gold and shares of gold mining companies can offer valuation diversification benefits in a portfolio. At the current gold price, valuations for gold shares are not high, which adds to their appeal.

However, forecasting the gold price with confidence is notoriously difficult, so some humility in this area is advised. History reminds us that most gold mining companies have been poor businesses over the long term, often destroying value through acquisitions or overspending on new projects. We balance these factors by carefully considering the Fund's total exposure to the sector, without blindly anchoring to the weight in the Index. We encourage readers who are interested in finding out more about our view of gold and gold mining shares to read our article on gold in our Q2 2025 Quarterly Commentary and to listen to episode 28 of The Allan Gray Podcast.

Global markets have extended their strong run, with a 17% year-to-date return for the MSCI World Index. The Fund's offshore allocation has produced strong relative returns, making a meaningful contribution to overall outperformance of its benchmark. This may be surprising given our significant underweight to the US and mega-cap technology shares. Noteworthy contributors have included defence companies, critical energy infrastructure and select idiosyncratic opportunities, such as Al infrastructure company Nebius Group. We continue to view global markets as fully valued, with prices reflecting high expectations. This suggests an environment that calls for caution. The Fund's global holdings continue to look very different from the World Index.

During the quarter, we added to Glencore and reduced exposure to British American Tobacco.

Commentary contributed by Tim Acker

Fund manager quarterly commentary as at 30 September 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

31 October 2025

© 2025 Allan Gray Proprietary Limited. All rights reserved. The content and information may not be reproduced or distributed without the prior written consent of Allan Gray Proprietary Limited ("Allan Gray").

#### Information and content

The information in and content of this publication are provided by Allan Gray as general information about the company and its products and services. Allan Gray does not guarantee the suitability or potential value of any information or particular investment source. The information provided is not intended to, nor does it constitute financial, tax, legal, investment or other advice. Before making any decision or taking any action regarding your finances, you should consult a qualified financial adviser. Nothing contained in this publication constitutes a solicitation, recommendation, endorsement or offer by Allan Gray; it is merely an invitation to do business. Allan Gray has taken and will continue to take care that all information provided, in so far as this is under its control, is true and correct. However, Allan Gray shall not be responsible for and therefore disclaims any liability for any loss, liability, damage (whether direct or consequential) or expense of any nature whatsoever which may be suffered as a result of or which may be attributable, directly or indirectly, to the use of or reliance on any information provided. Allan Gray is an authorised financial services provider.

#### 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 Sctor 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 <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 licensed 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).

#### Foreign securities

The Fund invests in foreign securities. Depending on their markets, trading in those securities may carry risks relating to, among others, macroeconomic and political circumstances, constraints on liquidity or the repatriation of funds, foreign exchange rate fluctuations, taxation and trade settlement.

## 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 ("SE") 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.

#### **Bloomberg Index Services Limited**

Bloomberg® and the indices referenced herein (the "Indices", and each such index, an "Index") are service marks of Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates (collectively "Bloomberg") and/or one or more third-party providers (each such provider, a "Third-Party Provider,") and have been licensed for use for certain purposes to Allan Gray Proprietary Limited (the "Licensee"). To the extent a Third-Party Provider contributes intellectual property in connection with the Index, such third-party products, company names and logos are trademarks or service marks, and remain the property, of such Third-Party Provider, Bloomberg or Bloomberg's licensors own all proprietary rights in the Bloomberg Indices. Neither Bloomberg nor Bloomberg's licensors, including a Third-Party Provider, approves or endorses this material, or guarantees the accuracy or completeness of any information herein, or makes any warranty, express or implied, as to the results to be obtained therefrom and, to the maximum extent allowed by law, neither Bloomberg nor Bloomberg's licensors, including a Third-Party Provider, shall have any liability or responsibility for injury or damages arising in connection therewith.

#### © 2025 Morningstar

All Rights Reserved. The information, data, analyses and opinions ("Information") contained herein: (1) include the proprietary information of Morningstar and Morningstar's content providers; (2) may not be copied or redistributed except as specifically authorised; (3) do not constitute investment advice; (4) are provided solely for informational purposes; (5) are not warranted to be complete, accurate or timely; and (6) may be drawn from fund data published on various dates. Morningstar is not responsible for any trading decisions, damages or other losses related to the Information or its use. Please verify all of the Information before using it and don't make any investment decision except upon the advice of a professional financial adviser. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. The value and income derived from investments may go down as well as up.

#### MSCI Inde

Source: MSCI. MSCI makes no express or implied warranties or representations and shall have no liability whatsoever with respect to any MSCI data contained herein. The MSCI data may not be further redistributed or used as a basis for other indexes or any securities or financial products. This report is not approved, endorsed, reviewed or produced by MSCI. None of the MSCI data is intended to constitute investment advice or a recommendation to make (or refrain from making) any kind of investment decision and may not be relied on as such.

# 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 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 Alexforbes 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 31 October 2025

Fund size	R2.3br
Number of units	117 591 813
Price (net asset value per unit)	R10.40
Modified duration	1.1
Gross yield (i.e. before fees)	8.3
Net yield (i.e. after fees)	7.4
Fund weighted average maturity (years)	4.7
Class	A

- The Fund's benchmark is the Alexforbes Short Term Fixed Interest (STeFI) Composite Index. Performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 31 October 2025. Source: Bloomberg.
- CPI inflation has been calculated based on the most recent rebased values from Stats SA, reflecting the data as at 30 September 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.
- 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 October 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 31 October 2025. All rolling 12-month figures for the Fund and the benchmark are available from our Client Service Centre on request.

## Income distributions for the last 12 months

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

Nov 2024	Dec 2024	Jan 2025	Feb 2025
7.09	7.68	7.32	6.56
Mar 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	Jun 2025
7.12	6.90	6.93	7.07
Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025
7.00	6.49	7.12	6.83

## Performance net of all fees and expenses

Fund	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	CPI inflation <sup>2</sup>
17.1	12.2	4.3
11.1	8.0	3.0
10.9	7.7	3.4
9.1	6.3	3.5
-1.2	n/a	n/a
100.0	100.0	n/a
0.7	0.1	n/a
10.9	8.2	n/a
10.5	7.7	n/a
	17.1 11.1 10.9 9.1 -1.2 100.0 0.7 10.9	17.1 12.2  11.1 8.0  10.9 7.7  9.1 6.3  -1.2 n/a  100.0 100.0  0.7 0.1  10.9 8.2



## Meeting the Fund objective

Since inception the Fund has outperformed its benchmark and provided returns in excess of CPI inflation. The Fund aims to minimise risk by maintaining capital stability and low volatility.

## Annual management fee

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

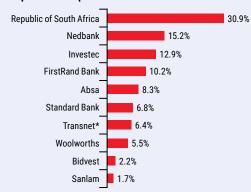
## Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs (updated guarterly)

The annual management fee is included in the TER. The TER is the percentage of the value of the Fund that was incurred as expenses relating to the administration of the Fund, annualised over the relevant periods. 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 and are the percentage of the value of the Fund that was incurred as costs relating to the buying and selling of the assets underlying the Fund. The TER and transaction costs are based on actual data, where available, and best estimates. The total investment charge (TIC) is the sum of the TER and transaction costs.

TER and transaction costs breakdown for the 1- and 3-year period ending 30 September 2025	1yr %	3yr % <sup>7</sup>
Total expense ratio	0.77	0.75
Fee for benchmark performance	0.65	0.65
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.02	0.01
VAT	0.10	0.10
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.00	0.00
Total investment charge	0.77	0.75

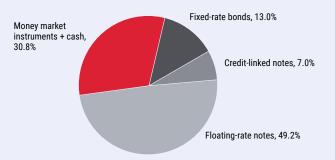
<sup>7.</sup> Based on since-inception data, as the Fund does not yet have a 3-year history.

## Top credit exposures on 31 October 2025



<sup>\*</sup>RSA government guaranteed

## Asset allocation on 31 October 2025



## Maturity profile on 31 October 2025



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





Fund managers: Sean Munsie, Thalia Petousis

Inception date: 1 May 2024

It is proving to be a challenging year to decode the forces underlying US inflation and economic growth, which, in turn, has complicated the job of the US Federal Reserve (the Fed) when setting a so-called neutral policy rate of interest. Fed chair Jerome Powell summed this up quite succinctly in September with the comment: "It's not incredibly obvious what to do." After a hiatus through 2025, the Fed delivered a 25-basis point interest rate cut in September, taking the federal funds rate to 4%. While it cited a softer US labour market in arriving at this decision, this comes with quite a few caveats. From a peak of more than 300 000 jobs being added in a single month in 2024, only 22 000 were added in August of 2025. This is among the lowest numbers of monthly job additions seen in recent history outside of major US recessions. By contrast, the overall US unemployment rate remains near a healthy multidecade low of 4.3%, or more than 2% lower than that seen in the decade pre-COVID-19.

What is going on underneath the data? The answer to the US labour market conundrum may lie in what has been taking place at its borders. To say that they have simply closed understates the situation. A mix of border closures, visa restrictions, voluntary exits and deportations should see the US experience negative net migration this year, meaning that more people are departing the country than entering it. This is a phenomenon not seen in almost 70 years and is in sharp contrast to the approximately four million workers who migrated to the US over 2022 to 2024, when one needed to add over 100 000 jobs each month just to break even with the rate of migration. In a negative net migration environment, one's "breakeven" new job listings figure to maintain employment is naturally materially lower, accounting only for people entering the labour force for the first time. The market's mindset has arguably not adjusted to that economic reality and instead responds to lower monthly job creation figures as being indicative of a near-term recession and a steep lowering of interest rates. This thinking is hugely at odds with wage growth that is still running ahead of the Fed's consumer price index target, particularly among part-time workers. which could, in turn, be a harbinger of trouble for consumer prices.

US inflation has been creeping higher towards 3% even with the full impact of tariffs still unrecorded. In such an environment, further rate cuts run the risk of stoking pricing pressures unless the Fed can be reasonably certain that a near-term recession will crush demand and prices. In some ways, such a

recessionary forecast might be a dangerous bet against the near-term effects of the AI investment supercycle. Capital expenditure being laid out for new AI data centres this year is on track for US\$600bn of spend, or double the average pace of manufacturing investment that took place in the US in the prior decade. This spending, in fact, contributed more to real economic growth earlier this year than personal consumption.

While I can make a good case for why US interest rates are being cut at a time when wage and pricing pressures make it imprudent to do so, there is arguably no such case to be made in local interest rate markets. The South African Reserve Bank (SARB) has been making this case since May this year, when it had an about-turn in thinking and began speaking to the potential for a 5.5% to 6% steady state rate of interest to match an inflationary target of 3%. Since then, it has stuck to this rhetoric, although with a notable pause at its September meeting to lament the "serious dysfunction in administered prices" that has seen the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) revise Eskom's regulated tariff increase to roughly 9% from the previously agreed 5% to 6%.

When positioning a portfolio for the upcoming path of interest rates, one is sometimes not betting on the actual outcome of inflation but on the response of policymakers to their own expectations of inflation. The fact that South Africa's inflation has been languishing around 3% against the backdrop of a low oil price, a stable rand and low local investment is hugely important, but it may be more important that the SARB itself has acknowledged that cash rates of 7% to 8% are too high for such an environment.

In the last quarter, the Fund reduced some duration positioning after adding during the second quarter of 2025. It bought Transnet (fully government-guaranteed) floating-rate notes at attractive yields and diluted its holdings of government credit-linked notes in order to take profit into market strength.

Commentary contributed by Thalia Petousis

Fund manager commentary as at 30 September 2025



Fund managers: Sean Munsie, Thalia Petousis

Inception date: 1 May 2024

**Allan Gray Interest Fund** 

31 October 2025

© 2025 Allan Gray Proprietary Limited. All rights reserved. The content and information may not be reproduced or distributed without the prior written consent of Allan Gray Proprietary Limited ("Allan Gray").

#### Information and content

The information in and content of this publication are provided by Allan Gray as general information about the company and its products and services. Allan Gray does not guarantee the suitability or potential value of any information or particular investment source. The information provided is not intended to, nor does it constitute financial, tax, legal, investment or other advice. Before making any decision or taking any action regarding your finances, you should consult a qualified financial adviser. Nothing contained in this publication constitutes a solicitation, recommendation, endorsement or offer by Allan Gray; it is merely an invitation to do business. Allan Gray has taken and will continue to take care that all information provided, in so far as this is under its control, is true and correct. However, Allan Gray shall not be responsible for and therefore disclaims any liability for any loss, liability, damage (whether direct or consequential) or expense of any nature whatsoever which may be suffered as a result of or which may be attributable, directly or indirectly, to the use of or reliance on any information provided. Allan Gray is an authorised financial services provider.

#### 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).

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

The FTSE/JSE 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 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 and FTSE/JSE All Bond Index vests in FTSE and the JSE jointly. All their rights are reserved.

#### **Bloomberg Index Services Limited**

Bloomberg® and the indices referenced herein (the "Indices", and each such index, an "Index") are service marks of Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates (collectively "Bloomberg") and/or one or more third-party providers (each such provider, a "Third-Party Provider,") and have been licensed for use for certain purposes to Allan Gray Proprietary Limited (the "Licensee"). To the extent a Third-Party Provider contributes intellectual property in connection with the Index, such third-party products, company names and logos are trademarks or service marks, and remain the property, of such Third-Party Provider. Bloomberg or Bloomberg's licensors own all proprietary rights in the Bloomberg Indices. Neither Bloomberg nor Bloomberg's licensors, including a Third-Party Provider, approves or endorses this material, or guarantees the accuracy or completeness of any information herein, or makes any warranty, express or implied, as to the results to be obtained therefrom and, to the maximum extent allowed by law, neither Bloomberg nor Bloomberg's licensors, including a Third-Party Provider, shall have any liability or responsibility for injury or damages arising in connection therewith.

# 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 manager: Thalia Petousis Inception date: 1 October 2004

## 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 31 October 2025

Fund size	R9.9bn
Number of units	599 739 722
Price (net asset value per unit)	R11.51
Modified duration	5.5
Gross yield (i.e. before fees)	9.3
Class	А

- 1. FTSE/JSE All Bond Index (source: Iress), performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 31 October 2025.
- CPI inflation has been calculated based on the most recent rebased values from Stats SA, reflecting the data as at 30 September 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)	571.2	555.8	201.5
Annualised:			
Since inception (1 October 2004)	9.5	9.3	5.4
Latest 10 years	9.9	9.9	4.8
Latest 5 years	11.4	12.4	5.0
Latest 3 years	15.2	16.3	4.2
Latest 2 years	18.5	20.7	3.6
Latest 1 year	18.5	20.1	3.4
Year-to-date (not annualised)	15.9	16.9	3.5
Risk measures (since inception)			
Maximum drawdown <sup>3</sup>	-18.9	-19.3	n/a
Percentage positive months <sup>4</sup>	72.7	69.6	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



Fund manager: Thalia Petousis Inception date: 1 October 2004

## Meeting the Fund objective

Since inception the Fund has outperformed its benchmark. Over the latest 10-year period the Fund has performed in line with 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	31 Dec 2024	31 Mar 2025	30 Jun 2025	30 Sep 2025
Cents per unit	26.1592	25.4437	26.1703	26.1388

## Annual management fee

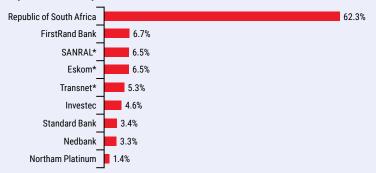
A fixed fee of 0.5% p.a. excl. VAT

## 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.

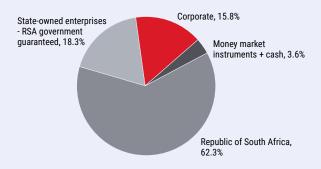
TER and transaction costs breakdown for the 1- and 3-year period ending 30 September 2025	1yr %	3yr %
Total expense ratio	0.58	0.58
Fee for benchmark performance	0.50	0.50
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.01	0.01
VAT	0.08	0.08
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.00	0.00
Total investment charge	0.58	0.58

## Top 10 credit exposures on 31 October 2025



<sup>\*</sup>RSA government guaranteed

## Asset allocation on 31 October 2025



## Maturity profile on 31 October 2025



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

## **Allan Gray Bond Fund**

31 October 2025



Fund manager: Thalia Petousis Inception date: 1 October 2004

While 2024 was the strongest single year for SA bonds in 20 years, the track record of the FTSE/JSE All Bond Index (ALBI) for the first three quarters of 2025 is coming in at a close second. Even though South Africa's gross domestic product (GDP) and investment spending have remained lacklustre since the formation of the government of national unity, foreign investors have supported auctions this year in line with their existing ownership weight of South Africa's government bonds. This in itself presents a marked shift from the ownership de-gearing they exhibited from 2019 to 2023. While last year's foreign purchase underpin seemed to turn sharply in favour of South Africa post-election, 2025's purchasing behaviour appears to be in keeping with the insatiable offshore appetite for high-yield debt that has seen even Ghanaian Eurobonds, or a country that not so recently defaulted, trade at US dollar yields as low as 6.5%.

Although one might consider "hunt for yield" behaviour to coincide with a lower federal funds rate than that of 4%, the market has taken recent cues from the US Federal Reserve (the Fed) and so-called weakness in the US labour market as signs that US dollar rates will fall further. From a peak of more than 300 000 jobs being added in a single month in the US in 2024, only 22 000 jobs were added in August of 2025. This is among the lowest monthly job addition numbers seen in recent history outside of major recessions. Such data must be interpreted with caution, however. To say that borders have simply closed understates the situation. A mix of border closures, visa restrictions, voluntary exits and deportations should see the US experience negative net migration this year, meaning that more people are departing the country than entering it. This is a phenomenon not seen in almost 70 years and is in sharp contrast to the approximately four million workers who migrated to the US from 2022 to 2024, when one needed to add over 100 000 jobs each month just to break even with the rate of migration. In a negative net migration environment, one's "breakeven" new job listings figure to maintain employment is naturally materially lower, accounting only for people entering the labour force for the first time. The market's mindset has arguably not adjusted to that economic reality and instead responds to lower monthly job creation figures as being indicative of a near-term recession and a steep lowering of interest rates. This thinking is hugely at odds with wage growth that is still running ahead of the Fed's consumer price index target, particularly among part-time workers, which could, in turn, be a harbinger of trouble for consumer prices.

US inflation has been creeping higher towards 3% even with the full impact of tariffs still unrecorded. In such an environment, further rate cuts run the risk of stoking pricing pressures unless the Fed can be reasonably certain that a near-term recession will crush demand and prices. In some ways, such a recessionary forecast might be a dangerous bet against the near-term effects of the Al investment supercycle. Capital expenditure being laid out for new Al data centres this year is on track for US\$600bn of spend, or double the average pace of manufacturing investment that took place in the US during the prior decade. This spending, in fact, contributed more to real economic growth earlier this year than personal consumption.

While I can make a good case for why US interest rates are being cut at a time when wage and pricing pressures make it imprudent to do so, there is arguably no such case to be made in local interest rate markets. The South African Reserve Bank has been making this case since May of this year, when it had an about-turn in thinking and began speaking to the potential of a 5.5% to 6% steady state rate of interest to match an inflationary target of 3%. Since then, it has stuck to this rhetoric, although with a notable pause at its September meeting to lament the "serious dysfunction in administered prices" that has seen the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) revise Eskom's regulated tariff increase to roughly 9% from the previously agreed 5% to 6%. As highlighted in the previous quarter's commentary, a lower inflation differential between South Africa and the United States warrants a lower fair value yield on SA bonds. This was reflected in the net additions to modified duration this year, with the Fund's current modified duration sitting higher than its recent history.

In the last quarter, the Fund added to Transnet (fully government-guaranteed) debt at attractive yields and maintained a higher yield relative to the ALBI at a lower modified duration.

Commentary contributed by Thalia Petousis

Fund manager quarterly commentary as at 30 September 2025





Fund manager: Thalia Petousis Inception date: 1 October 2004

© 2025 Allan Gray Proprietary Limited. All rights reserved. The content and information may not be reproduced or distributed without the prior written consent of Allan Gray Proprietary Limited ("Allan Gray").

#### Information and content

The information in and content of this publication are provided by Allan Gray as general information about the company and its products and services. Allan Gray does not guarantee the suitability or potential value of any information or particular investment source. The information provided is not intended to, nor does it constitute financial, tax, legal, investment or other advice. Before making any decision or taking any action regarding your finances, you should consult a qualified financial adviser. Nothing contained in this publication constitutes a solicitation, recommendation, endorsement or offer by Allan Gray; it is merely an invitation to do business. Allan Gray has taken and will continue to take care that all information provided, in so far as this is under its control, is true and correct. However, Allan Gray shall not be responsible for and therefore disclaims any liability for any loss, liability, damage (whether direct or consequential) or expense of any nature whatsoever which may be suffered as a result of or which may be attributable, directly or indirectly, to the use of or reliance on any information provided. Allan Gray is an authorised financial services provider.

#### **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 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.

## **Bloomberg Index Services Limited**

Bloomberg® and the indices referenced herein (the "Indices", and each such index, an "Index") are service marks of Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates (collectively "Bloomberg") and/or one or more third-party providers (each such provider, a "Third-Party Provider,") and have been licensed for use for certain purposes to Allan Gray Proprietary Limited (the "Licensee"). To the extent a Third-Party Provider contributes intellectual property in connection with the Index, such third party products, company names and logos are trademarks or service marks, and remain the property, of such Third-Party Provider. Bloomberg or Bloomberg's licensors own all proprietary rights in the Bloomberg Indices. Neither Bloomberg nor Bloomberg's licensors, including a Third Party Provider, approves or endorses this material, or guarantees the accuracy or completeness of any information herein, or makes any warranty, express or implied, as to the results to be obtained therefrom and, to the maximum extent allowed by law, neither Bloomberg nor Bloomberg's licensors, including a Third-Party Provider, shall have any liability or responsibility for injury or damages arising in connection therewith.

# 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 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 Alexforbes 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

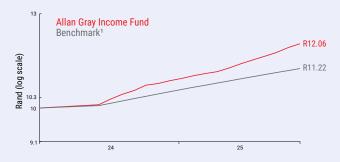
Actual payout, the Fund distributes quarterly	31 Dec 2024	31 Mar 2025	30 Jun 2025	30 Sep 2025
Cents per unit	23.6333	22.3434	22.1425	22.1094

## Fund information on 31 October 2025

Fund size	R2.2bn
Number of units	116 673 936
Price (net asset value per unit)	R10.66
Modified duration	1.9
Gross yield (i.e. before fees)	8.8
Net yield (i.e. after fees)	7.8
Fund weighted average maturity (years)	4.6
Class	А

## Performance net of all fees and expenses

Value of R10 invested at inception with all distributions reinvested



- The Fund's benchmark is the Alexforbes Short Term Fixed Interest (STEFI) Composite Index. Performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at 31 October 2025. Source: Bloomberg.
- CPI inflation has been calculated based on the most recent rebased values from Stats SA, reflecting the data as at 30 September 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 31 May 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 September 2025 and the benchmark's occurred during the 12 months ended 31 October 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)	20.6	12.2	4.3
Annualised:			
Since inception (1 May 2024)	13.3	8.0	3.0
Latest 1 year	12.3	7.7	3.4
Year-to-date (not annualised)	10.7	6.3	3.5
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>	1.2	0.1	n/a
Highest annual return <sup>6</sup>	12.7	8.2	n/a
Lowest annual return <sup>6</sup>	11.6	7.7	n/a



## Meeting the Fund objective

Since inception the Fund has outperformed its benchmark and provided returns in excess of CPI inflation. The Fund aims to minimise risk of loss over any one-to-two year period.

## Annual management fee

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

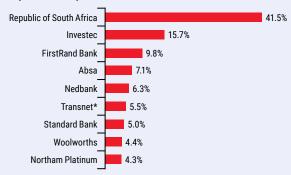
## Total expense ratio (TER) and transaction costs (updated quarterly)

The annual management fee is included in the TER. The TER is the percentage of the value of the Fund that was incurred as expenses relating to the administration of the Fund, annualised over the relevant periods. 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 and are the percentage of the value of the Fund that was incurred as costs relating to the buying and selling of the assets underlying the Fund. The TER and transaction costs are based on actual data, where available, and best estimates. The total investment charge (TIC) is the sum of the TER and transaction costs.

TER and transaction costs breakdown for the 1-and 3-year period ending 30 September 2025	1yr %	3 yr % <sup>7</sup>
Total expense ratio	0.89	0.87
Fee for benchmark performance	0.75	0.75
Other costs excluding transaction costs	0.02	0.01
VAT	0.12	0.11
Transaction costs (including VAT)	0.00	0.00
Total investment charge	0.89	0.87

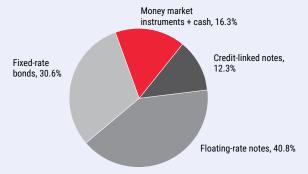
<sup>7.</sup> Based on since-inception data, as the Fund does not yet have a 3-year history.

## Top credit exposures on 31 October 2025



<sup>\*</sup>RSA government guaranteed

### Asset allocation on 31 October 20258



8. Foreign exposure on 31 October 2025: 0.0% is invested in foreign investments.

## Maturity profile on 31 October 2025



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





Fund managers: Sean Munsie, Thalia Petousis

Inception date: 1 May 2024

It is proving to be a challenging year to decode the forces underlying US inflation and economic growth, which, in turn, has complicated the job of the US Federal Reserve (the Fed) when setting a so-called neutral policy rate of interest. Fed chair Jerome Powell summed this up quite succinctly in September with the comment: "It's not incredibly obvious what to do." After a hiatus through 2025, the Fed delivered a 25-basis point interest rate cut in September, taking the federal funds rate to 4%. While it cited a softer US labour market in arriving at this decision, this comes with quite a few caveats. From a peak of more than 300 000 jobs being added in a single month in 2024, only 22 000 were added in August of 2025. This is among the lowest numbers of monthly job additions seen in recent history outside of major US recessions. By contrast, the overall US unemployment rate remains near a healthy multidecade low of 4.3%, or more than 2% lower than that seen in the decade pre-COVID-19.

What is going on underneath the data? The answer to the US labour market conundrum may lie in what has been taking place at its borders. To say that they have simply closed understates the situation. A mix of border closures, visa restrictions, voluntary exits and deportations should see the US experience negative net migration this year, meaning that more people are departing the country than entering it. This is a phenomenon not seen in almost 70 years and is in sharp contrast to the approximately four million workers who migrated to the US over 2022 to 2024, when one needed to add over 100 000 jobs each month just to break even with the rate of migration. In a negative net migration environment, one's "breakeven" new job listings figure to maintain employment is naturally materially lower, accounting only for people entering the labour force for the first time. The market's mindset has arguably not adjusted to that economic reality and instead responds to lower monthly job creation figures as being indicative of a near-term recession and a steep lowering of interest rates. This thinking is hugely at odds with wage growth that is still running ahead of the Fed's consumer price index target, particularly among part-time workers, which could, in turn, be a harbinger of trouble for consumer prices.

US inflation has been creeping higher towards 3% even with the full impact of tariffs still unrecorded. In such an environment, further rate cuts run the risk of stoking pricing pressures unless the Fed can be reasonably certain that

a near-term recession will crush demand and prices. In some ways, such a recessionary forecast might be a dangerous bet against the near-term effects of the Al investment supercycle. Capital expenditure being laid out for new Al data centres this year is on track for US\$600bn of spend, or double the average pace of manufacturing investment that took place in the US in the prior decade. This spending, in fact, contributed more to real economic growth earlier this year than personal consumption.

While I can make a good case for why US interest rates are being cut at a time when wage and pricing pressures make it imprudent to do so, there is arguably no such case to be made in local interest rate markets. The South African Reserve Bank (SARB) has been making this case since May this year, when it had an about-turn in thinking and began speaking to the potential for a 5.5% to 6% steady state rate of interest to match an inflationary target of 3%. Since then, it has stuck to this rhetoric, although with a notable pause at its September meeting to lament the "serious dysfunction in administered prices" that has seen the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) revise Eskom's regulated tariff increase to roughly 9% from the previously agreed 5% to 6%.

When positioning a portfolio for the upcoming path of interest rates, one is sometimes not betting on the actual outcome of inflation but on the response of policymakers to their own expectations of inflation. The fact that South Africa's inflation has been languishing around 3% against the backdrop of a low oil price, a stable rand and low local investment is hugely important, but it may be more important that the SARB itself has acknowledged that cash rates of 7% to 8% are too high for such an environment.

In the last quarter, the Fund maintained its higher duration positioning after adding during the second quarter of 2025. It bought Transnet (fully government-guaranteed) debt at attractive yields and diluted its holdings of government credit-linked notes in order to take profit into market strength.

Commentary contributed by Thalia Petousis

Fund manager commentary as at 30 September 2025 Fund managers: Sean Munsie, Thalia Petousis

**Inception date:** 1 May 2024

## **Allan Gray Income Fund**

31 October 2025

© 2025 Allan Gray Proprietary Limited. All rights reserved. The content and information may not be reproduced or distributed without the prior written consent of Allan Gray Proprietary Limited ("Allan Gray").

#### Information and content

The information in and content of this publication are provided by Allan Gray as general information about the company and its products and services. Allan Gray does not guarantee the suitability or potential value of any information or particular investment source. The information provided is not intended to, nor does it constitute financial, tax, legal, investment or other advice.Before making any decision or taking any action regarding your finances, you should consult a qualified financial adviser. Nothing contained in this publication constitutes a solicitation, recommendation, endorsement or offer by Allan Gray; it is merely an invitation to do business. Allan Gray has taken and will continue to take care that all information provided, in so far as this is under its control, is true and correct. However, Allan Gray shall not be responsible for and therefore disclaims any liability for any loss, liability, damage (whether direct or consequential) or expense of any nature whatsoever which may be suffered as a result of or which may be attributable, directly or indirectly, to the use of or reliance on any information provided. Allan Gray is an authorised financial services provider.

#### 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 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 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).

#### Foreign securities

The Fund may invest in foreign securities. Depending on their markets, trading in those securities may carry risks relating to, among others, macroeconomic and political circumstances, constraints on liquidity or the repatriation of funds, foreign exchange rate fluctuations, taxation and trade settlement.

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

The FTSE/JSE 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 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 and FTSE/JSE All Bond Index vests in FTSE and the JSE jointly. All their rights are reserved.

#### **Bloomberg Index Services Limited**

Bloomberg® and the indices referenced herein (the "Indices", and each such index, an "Index") are service marks of Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates (collectively "Bloomberg") and/or one or more third-party providers (each such provider, a "Third-Party Provider,") and have been licensed for use for certain purposes to Allan Gray Proprietary Limited (the "Licensee"). To the extent a Third-Party Provider contributes intellectual property in connection with the Index, such third-party products, company names and logos are trademarks or service marks, and remain the property, of such Third-Party Provider. Bloomberg or Bloomberg's licensors own all proprietary rights in the Bloomberg Indices. Neither Bloomberg nor Bloomberg's licensors, including a Third-Party Provider, approves or endorses this material, or guarantees the accuracy or completeness of any information herein, or makes any warranty, express or implied, as to the results to be obtained therefrom and, to the maximum extent allowed by law, neither Bloomberg nor Bloomberg's licensors, including a Third-Party Provider, shall have any liability or responsibility for injury or damages arising in connection therewith.

# 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 manager:** Thalia Petousis **Inception date:** 1 July 2001

## 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 Alexforbes Short Term Fixed Interest (STeFI) 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 31 October 2025

Fund size	R28.0bn
Number of units	24 309 318 669
Price (net asset value per unit)	R1.00
Monthly yield at month end	0.62
Fund weighted average coupon (days)	77.32
Fund weighted average maturity (days)	115.71
Class	A

- The current benchmark is the Alexforbes Short Term
  Fixed Interest (STeFI) 3-month Index. From inception to 31
  March 2003, the benchmark was the Alexforbes 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
  Alexforbes Short Term Fixed Interest (STeFI) Composite
  Index. Performance as calculated by Allan Gray as at
  31 October 2025. Source: Bloomberg.
- CPI inflation has been calculated based on the most recent rebased values from Stats SA, reflecting the data as at 30 September 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

Nov 2024	Dec 2024	Jan 2025	Feb 2025
0.68	0.68	0.68	0.61
Mar 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	Jun 2025
0.67	0.64	0.66	0.63
Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025
0.65	0.63	0.60	0.62

## Performance net of all fees and expenses

% Returns	Fund	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	CPI inflation <sup>2</sup>
Cumulative:			
Since inception (1 July 2001)	510.2	479.8	252.9
Annualised:			
Since inception (1 July 2001)	7.7	7.5	5.3
Latest 10 years	7.2	6.7	4.8
Latest 5 years	6.9	6.4	5.0
Latest 3 years	8.4	7.9	4.2
Latest 2 years	8.6	8.0	3.6
Latest 1 year	8.1	7.5	3.4
Year-to-date (not annualised)	6.6	6.1	3.5
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





**Fund manager:** Thalia Petousis **Inception date:** 1 July 2001

## 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 30 September 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

## Credit exposures as at 31 October 2025

	% of portfolio
Governments	43.8
Republic of South Africa	43.8
Banks <sup>6</sup>	52.6
Nedbank	18.9
Investec	11.2
Standard Bank	10.7
Absa	7.5
FirstRand	4.3
Corporates	3.6
Shoprite Holdings	2.6
Sanlam	0.6
Daimler Truck	0.4
Total (%)	100.0

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

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

## Asset allocation on 31 October 2025

Asset class	Total
Money market and cash	97.4%
Bonds	2.6%
Total (%)	100.0%





**Fund manager:** Thalia Petousis **Inception date:** 1 July 2001

It is proving to be a challenging year to decode the forces underlying US inflation and economic growth, which, in turn, has complicated the job of the US Federal Reserve (the Fed) when setting a so-called neutral policy rate of interest. Fed chair Jerome Powell summed this up quite succinctly in September with the comment: "It's not incredibly obvious what to do." After a hiatus through 2025, the Fed delivered a 25-basis point interest rate cut in September, taking the federal funds rate to 4%. While it cited a softer labour market in arriving at this decision, this comes with quite a few caveats. From a peak of more than 300 000 jobs being added in the US in a single month in 2024, only 22 000 were added in August of 2025. This is among the lowest numbers of monthly job additions seen in recent history outside of major US recessions. By contrast, the overall US unemployment rate remains near a healthy multidecade low of 4.3%, or more than 2% lower than that seen in the decade pre-COVID-19.

What is going on underneath the data? The answer to the US labour market conundrum may lie in what has been taking place at its borders. To say that they have simply closed understates the situation. A mix of border closures, visa restrictions, voluntary exits and deportations should see the US experience negative net migration this year, meaning that more people are departing the country than entering it. This is a phenomenon not seen in almost 70 years and is in sharp contrast to the approximately four million workers who migrated to the US from 2022 to 2024, when one needed to add over 100 000 jobs each month just to break even with the rate of migration. In a negative net migration environment, one's "breakeven" new job listings figure to maintain employment is naturally materially lower, accounting only for people entering the labour force for the first time. The market's mindset has arguably not adjusted to that economic reality and instead responds to lower monthly job creation figures as being indicative of a near-term recession and a steep lowering of interest rates. This thinking is hugely at odds with wage growth that is still running ahead of the Fed's consumer price index target, particularly among part-time workers. which could, in turn, be a harbinger of trouble for consumer prices.

US inflation has been creeping higher towards 3%, even with the full impact of tariffs still unrecorded. In such an environment, further rate cuts run the risk of stoking pricing pressures unless the Fed can be reasonably certain that a near-term recession will crush demand and prices. In some ways, such a

recessionary forecast might be a dangerous bet against the near-term effects of the AI investment supercycle. Capital expenditure being laid out for new AI data centres this year is on track for US\$600bn of spend, or double the average pace of manufacturing investment that took place in the US in the prior decade. This spending, in fact, contributed more to real economic growth earlier this year than personal consumption.

While I can make a good case for why US interest rates are being cut at a time when wage and pricing pressures make it imprudent to do so, there is arguably no such case to be made in local interest rate markets. The South African Reserve Bank (SARB) has been making this case since May this year, when it had an about-turn in thinking and began speaking to the potential for a 5.5% to 6% steady state rate of interest to match an inflationary target of 3%. Since then, it has stuck to this rhetoric, although with a notable pause at its September meeting to lament the "serious dysfunction in administered prices" that has seen the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) revise Eskom's regulated tariff increase to roughly 9% from the previously agreed 5% to 6%.

When positioning a portfolio for the upcoming path of interest rates, one is sometimes not betting on the actual outcome of inflation but on the response of policymakers to their own expectations of inflation. The fact that South Africa's inflation has been languishing around 3% against the backdrop of a low oil price, a stable rand and low local investment is hugely important, but it may be more important that the SARB itself has acknowledged that cash rates of 7% to 8% are too high for such an environment.

During the last quarter, the Fund maintained a high weighting to government Treasury bills versus the Fund's longer history. Low economic growth in South Africa has been accompanied by tepid bank asset and loan growth, which, in turn, lowers bank appetite for funding via the money markets. Government appetite for debt, by contrast, has risen over the last several years.

Commentary contributed by Thalia Petousis

Fund manager quarterly commentary as at 30 September 2025





Fund manager: Thalia Petousis
Inception date: 1 July 2001

© 2025 Allan Gray Proprietary Limited. All rights reserved. The content and information may not be reproduced or distributed without the prior written consent of Allan Gray Proprietary Limited ("Allan Gray").

#### Information and content

The information in and content of this publication are provided by Allan Gray as general information about the company and its products and services. Allan Gray does not guarantee the suitability or potential value of any information or particular investment source. The information provided is not intended to, nor does it constitute financial, tax, legal, investment or other advice. Before making any decision or taking any action regarding your finances, you should consult a qualified financial adviser. Nothing contained in this publication constitutes a solicitation, recommendation, endorsement or offer by Allan Gray; it is merely an invitation to do business. Allan Gray has taken and will continue to take care that all information provided, in so far as this is under its control, is true and correct. However, Allan Gray shall not be responsible for and therefore disclaims any liability for any loss, liability, damage (whether direct or consequential) or expense of any nature whatsoever which may be suffered as a result of or which may be attributable, directly or indirectly, to the use of or reliance on any information provided. Allan Gray is an authorised financial services provider.

#### **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.

#### 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

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).

### **Bloomberg Index Services Limited**

Bloomberg® and the indices referenced herein (the "Indices", and each such index, an "Index") are service marks of Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates (collectively "Bloomberg") and/or one or more third-party providers (each such provider, a "Third-Party Provider,") and have been licensed for use for certain purposes to Allan Gray Proprietary Limited (the "Licensee"). To the extent a Third-Party Provider contributes intellectual property in connection with the Index, such third-party products, company names and logos are trademarks or service marks, and remain the property, of such Third-Party Provider. Bloomberg or Bloomberg's licensors own all proprietary rights in the Bloomberg Indices. Neither Bloomberg nor Bloomberg's licensors, including a Third-Party Provider, approves or endorses this material, or guarantees the accuracy or completeness of any information herein, or makes any warranty, express or implied, as to the results to be obtained therefrom and, to the maximum extent allowed by law, neither Bloomberg nor Bloomberg's licensors, including a Third-Party Provider, shall have any liability or responsibility for injury or damages arising in connection therewith.

# 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**