

# **AUSTRALIAN UNIT TRUST PORTFOLIO UPDATE**

# T. Rowe Price Concentrated Global Equity Fund - S Class

As of 31 March 2024



Portfolio Manager:
Peter Bates

Joined Firm:
2004

Investment Experience:
22 Years

# **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

The Fund is a high conviction global equity strategy that aims to provide long-term capital appreciation. The Fund typically invests in a concentrated portfolio of mid to large cap companies which are traded or listed on recognised exchange and/or markets throughout the world, including developing countries

TOP 10 HOLDINGS % of			SECTOR EXPOSURE		Fund vs. MSCI World Index		
	Country	Industry	Fund		% of Fund	ex-Austral (unhedged	
Microsoft	United States	Software	5.1%	Financials	19.1%		4.1
NVIDIA United States Semio	Semiconductors & Semiconductor 4 Equipment	4.9	Health Care	17.2		5.2	
			Information Technology	16.7	-7.3		
Steel Dynamics	United States	Metals & Mining	4.5	Industrials & Business Services	15.5		4.1
Meta Platforms	United States	Interactive Media & Services	4.2	Materials	7.2		3.6
Corebridge Financial	United States	Financial Services	3.7	Consumer Discretionary	6.3	-4.5	
Eli Lilly and Co	United States	Pharmaceuticals	3.7	Communication Services	6.1	-1.4	
Stanley Black &			0.5	Energy	4.3	-0.2	
Decker	United States	Machinery	3.5	Utilities	2.7		0.3
Amazon.com	United States	Broadline Retail	3.5	Consumer Staples	1.7	-4.9	
Danaher	United States	Life Sciences Tools & Services	3.1	Real Estate	0.0	-2.2	
ITOCHU	Japan	Trading Companies & Distributors	2.9				-

PERFORMANCE

PENFONIVIANCE					Annualised
					Since Share Class
	One	Three	Year-to-	One	Inception
	Month	Months	date	Year	15 Dec 2021
T. Rowe Price Concentrated Global Equity Fund - S Class (Net - AUD)*	3.24%	17.05%	17.05%	33.08%	10.47%
MSCI World Index ex-Australia Net (unhedged) (AUD)**	3.02	14.06	14.06	28.72	9.32
Value Added (Net) 1	0.22	2.99	2.99	4.36	1.15

#### Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

Source for performance: T. Rowe Price.

Figures include changes in principal value. Investment return and principal value will vary, and an account may be worth more or less at termination than at inception. For further details, please refer to the Fund's product disclosure statement and reference guide which are available from Equity Trustees or TRPAU.

This material is provided for informational purposes only and is not intended to be investment advice or a recommendation to take any particular investment action. The views and portfolio holdings contained herein are as of date noted on the material and are subject to change without further notice. The specific securities identified and described do not necessarily represent all of the securities purchased, sold, or recommended for the Fund and no assumptions should be made that the securities identified and discussed were or will be profitable.

INVEST WITH CONFIDENCE®

<sup>\*</sup>Net-of-fees performance is based on end-of-month redemption prices after the deduction of fees and expenses and the reinvestment of all distributions.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Index returns shown with reinvestment of dividends after the deduction of withholding taxes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The Value Added is shown as the Fund (Net) minus its Index.

COUNTRY DIVERSIFICAT	MSCI World Index ex- Australia Net (unhedged)	
	% of Fund	(AUD)
United States	68.9%	72.1%
Japan	7.9	6.3
Switzerland	6.7	2.6
Canada	4.2	3.1
Taiwan	2.9	0.0
Germany	2.2	2.3
Norway	2.0	0.2
United Kingdom	1.9	3.8
Argentina	0.0	0.1
Austria	0.0	0.0

## MARKET REVIEW

In Australian dollar terms, global equities delivered solid gains in March as central banks continued signaling for potential interest rate cuts in 2024 and exuberance toward artificial intelligence (Al)-driven demand helped buoy stocks.

U.S. stocks rose in March, capping a strong quarter for equities that lifted several broad indexes to all-time highs. Investors remained optimistic about the corporate profit potential stemming from advances in Al. Investors were also encouraged by the outcome of the Federal Reserve's mid-March monetary policy meeting. Although the central bank kept short-term interest rates steady, policymakers maintained their year-end 2023 "dot plot" projections for three quarter-point interest rate cuts by the end of 2024 despite recent upticks in inflation readings. Signs of an uptick in inflation as well as cooling labor market and consumer data were not able to derail general investor optimism.

Developed European stocks also rose. The European Central Bank (ECB) left its key deposit rate unchanged at a record 4.0% but hinted that it could start reducing it in June. The central bank revised its inflation and economic growth forecasts lower and indicated that discussion on dialing back restrictive policy later in the year had begun. Headline and core inflation, which excludes volatile food and energy prices, continued to slow in February, although by less than expected. Wage pressures—which the ECB monitors closely—continued to abate. In the UK, annual consumer price growth decelerated to 3.4% in February, the lowest inflation rate in more than two years. The economy showed signs that it may be recovering from a recession that occurred in the second half of 2023.

Developed Asian markets produced solid returns. Japanese stocks continued to make gains in March, largely due to yen weakness. The Bank of Japan (BoJ) made a much-anticipated policy shift and exited its negative interest rate policy. The central bank announced that it will set a policy rate target of 0.0% to 0.1%, up from -0.1%, following reports of major companies agreeing to robust pay increases in annual wage talks. The BoJ also ended its yield curve control program. However, Governor Kazuo Ueda affirmed that financial conditions would remain accommodative as inflation expectations were still below the 2% target.

Emerging market stocks broadly gained ground over the period. Emerging Asian markets were among the best performers as Chinese markets stabilized, though A shares were modestly negative, and strong gains in South Korea and Taiwan helped lift returns for the region. Latin American markets were also broadly positive with the exception of Brazil, which lost ground. Emerging European shares were more mixed and underperformed other regions.

Sector performance in the MSCI World Index ex Australia was positive. Energy, materials, and utilities were the strongest performers, while consumer discretionary lagged the most but still produced positive returns

PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTIC	MSCI World Index ex- Australia Net (unhedged)	
	Fund	(AUD)
Number of Issuers	35	1,392
Top 20 Issuers as Percent of Total	66.0%	29.4%
Percent of Portfolio in Cash	3.2%	-
Portfolio Turnover (12 Months)	86.1%	_
Active Share	83.4%	-

#### **FUND REVIEW**

The portfolio outperformed the MSCI World ex Australia Index Net for the one-month period ended March 31, 2024. At the sector level, sector allocation drove relative outperformance. Holdings in the information technology sector contributed the most to relative performance, especially our lack of exposure to Apple and positions in Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing and NVIDIA. Within the materials sector, a combination of stock selection and sector allocation helped, led by our position in Steel Dynamics. Conversely, stock picks in communication services weighed on relative performance, especially our positions in Liberty Media Corpliberty Formula One and Meta Platforms. At the regional level, holdings in North America contributed, while stock picks in developed Europe detracted the most.

#### OUTLOOK

Post-pandemic economic activity appears to be returning to normal. Supply chain disruptions have largely dissipated and following a series of rolling recessions in various end markets, we expect the economy is poised to accelerate in the second half of the year. The U.S. in particular has benefited from a still-resilient labor market that has enabled consumers to largely maintain spending levels. Coupled with the gradual progress we've experienced with disinflation, we think the odds of a hard recession have fallen and the odds of a soft recession or no recession have risen.

We are encouraged that equity markets have started to broaden and are finding idiosyncratic ideas across our expansive opportunity set that have what we think are clear reasons why they can win moving forward. The portfolio currently reflects a structurally bullish stance on U.S. housing and U.S. infrastructure and related re-shoring, but also has exposure to secular mega trends related to artificial intelligence and GLP-1s that we think have long runways ahead. However, we also have exposure to lower beta ideas that provide balance to the portfolio. In terms of how the portfolio looks across our three style buckets, we are overweight durable growers, though we continue to maintain meaningful exposure to cyclicals/turnarounds and disruptors as well.

While we continue to monitor the macro environment, views on the market are not going to drive our portfolio performance. We think our ability to balance style and cyclical exposures helps neutralize overall macro variable exposures, which has historically resulted in stock picking driving our performance no matter the environment. Ultimately, we remain true to our mandate to manage growth-value risk and portfolio tilts and focus on finding the best ideas in the market that can add value for clients.

#### **CONTACT US**

For more information about the Fund, please contact our Relationship Management team on +61 2 8667 5700 or visit www.troweprice.com

# **FUND INFORMATION**

Minimum Investment Amount	\$50,000 AUD
APIR	ETL0923AU
ARSN	654 927 554
ISIN	AU60ETL09239
Inception Date	15 December 2021
Benchmark	MSCI World Index ex-Australia Net (unhedged) (AUD)
Management Fees and Costs <sup>^</sup>	1.25% p.a.
Distribution	Annually
Buy/Sell	Buy +0.15% / Sell -0.05%

<sup>^</sup>The Management Fee for the T. Rowe Price Concentrated Global Equity Fund - S Class is 1.25% p.a. and the Indirect Cost is 0.00% p.a. Full details of other fees and charges are available within the Fund's Product Disclosure Statement and Reference Guide.

#### ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURES

Unless indicated otherwise the source of all data is T. Rowe Price.

Active Share is a holdings-based measure of active management representing the percentage of a portfolio's holdings that differ from those in its benchmark. Compared with tracking error, which measures the standard deviation of the difference in a manager's returns versus the index returns, Active Share allows investors to get a clearer understanding of what a manager is doing to drive performance, rather than drawing conclusions from observed returns. The greater the difference between the asset composition of a product and its benchmark, the greater the active share is.

Source for MSCI data: MSCI. MSCI and its affiliates and third party sources and providers (collectively, "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 indices or any securities or financial products. This report is not approved, reviewed, or produced by MSCI. Historical MSCI data and analysis should not be taken as an indication or guarantee of any future performance analysis, forecast or prediction. 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.

The information shown does not reflect any Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) that may be held in the fund.

Source for Sector Diversification: T. Rowe Price uses the current MSCI/S&P Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) for sector and industry reporting.

The Global Industry Classification Standard ("GICS") was developed by and is the exclusive property and a service mark of Morgan Stanley Capital International Inc, ("MSCI") and Standard & Poor's, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. ("S&P") and is licensed for use by T. Rowe Price. Neither MSCI, S&P nor any third party involved in making or compiling the GICS or any GICS classifications makes any express or implied warranties or representations with respect to such standard or classification (or the results to be obtained by the use thereof), and all such parties hereby expressly disclaim all warranties of originality, accuracy, completeness, merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose with respect to any or such standard or classification, Without limiting any or the foregoing, in no event shall MSCI, S&P, any of their affiliates or any third party involved in making or compiling the GICS or any GICS classifications have any liability for any direct, indirect, special, punitive, consequential or any other damages (including lost profits) even if notified of the possibility of such damages.

Certain numbers in this report may not equal stated totals due to rounding. Unless otherwise stated, all data is as of the report production date.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Equity Trustees Limited ("Equity Trustees") (ABN 46 004 031 298 AFSL 240975) is a subsidiary of EQT Holdings Limited (ABN 22 607 797 615), a publicly listed company on the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX:EQT). Equity Trustees and T. Rowe Price Australia Limited ("TRPAU") (ABN: 13 620 668 895 and AFSL: 503741) are, respectively, the responsible entity and investment manager of the T. Rowe Price Australian Unit Trusts.

A Target Market Determination for each T. Rowe Price Australian Unit Trust (or class of units in a Trust) is available here (www.eqt.com.au/insto [eqt.com.au]). It describes who the financial product is likely to be appropriate for (i.e. the target market), and any conditions around how the product can be distributed to investors. It also describes the events or circumstances where Equity Trustees Limited, the responsible entity of the T. Rowe Price Australian Unit Trusts may need to review the Target Market Determination for the financial product.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. The price of any fund may go up or down. Investment involves risk including a possible loss to the principal amount invested. For general information purposes only, does not take into account the investment objectives, financial situation or needs of any particular investor. For further details, please refer to each fund's product disclosure statement and reference guide which are available from Equity Trustees (www.eqt.com.au/insto) or TRPAU (www.troweprice.com.au/investor).

Information and opinions presented have been obtained or derived from sources believed to be reliable and current; however, we cannot guarantee the sources' accuracy or completeness. There is no guarantee that any forecasts made will come to pass. The views contained herein are as of the date noted on the material and are subject to change without notice; these views may differ from those of other T. Rowe Price group companies and/or associates. Under no circumstances should the material, in whole or in part, be copied or redistributed without consent from T. Rowe Price.

This document has been prepared without taking account of any person's individual objectives, financial situation or needs. A person should, before making any investment decisions, consider the appropriateness of the information in this document and seek independent professional advice having regard to their objectives, financial situation and needs.

Any person should consider the relevant product disclosure statement ("PDS") in relation to the fund(s) named in this document (if any) before making a decision in relation to the relevant product. Contact Equity Trustees Limited, the responsible entity and T. Rower Price Australia Limited, the investment manager, for a copy of the PDS.

© 2024 T. Rowe Price. All Rights Reserved. T. ROWE PRICE, INVEST WITH CONFIDENCE, and the Bighorn Sheep design are, collectively and/or apart, trademarks of T. Rowe Price Group, Inc.

202404-3481040

202404-3483629