

The Morgan Stanley Wealth Management MAPS (Multi-Asset Portfolio Solutions) Core Balanced Portfolio is an actively-managed diversified portfolio that invests in a broad range of managed funds and exchange traded funds.

## Who is this portfolio suitable for?

Morgan Stanley Wealth Management Australia has designed this portfolio to be suitable for investors who have a balanced risk profile and are looking for a portfolio with a mix of growth and defensive assets (see Risks section on page 5). It is suitable for investors who can withstand some fluctuation in prices but would also like some downside protection. The portfolio has a core strategic asset allocation range of 48%-72% in growth assets and 28%-52% in defensive assets.

#### Track record

Note: The MAPS Core Balanced Portfolio is based on the Core Balanced model published by the Morgan Stanley Wealth Management Research team. Past performance may not be indicative of future results.





IMAP

MANAGED ACCOUNT
AWARD WINNER

MULTI ASSET

2015

Morgan Stanley Wealth Management was a winner in the Licensee and Multi Asset categories in the 2021 IMAP Managed Account Awards.

2020

2021

As at 31 December 2021	1 Month	3 Month	1 Year	3 Year (pa)	5 Year (pa)	7 Year (pa)	Inception (18 April 2012) (pa)
Core Balanced	1.2	1.7	11.9	10.1	7.8	7.1	8.9
Peers	1.6	1.9	10.3	8.6	6.3	5.7	6.9
Outperformance	-0.4	-0.2	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.4	2.0
250 - 200 - 150 -	Core Balanced Peers		~~				

<sup>2012 2013

&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Rounded to one decimal point

Source: Morningstar, Morgan Stanley Wealth Management Research. Results shown represent total return (including dividends). Past performance is no guarantee of future results. The portfolio is hypothetical and does not include actual trades; results do not include transaction costs/fees. Return data from 18 April 2012 to 31 December 2021. Morningstar Category Average ("peers") is the Morningstar Australia Fund Multisector Balanced Category Average. Performance is net of ICRs (indirect cost ratio).

2017

2016

### **Market Commentary**

December saw the S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index add a further 2.7% to end 2021 with a calendar year total return of 17.2%. The calendar year saw strong contributions from the barbell of financials and materials while technology was the only sector to see negative returns. December saw a return of Value outperformance against a backdrop of another wave of Covid disruption.

In overseas markets, 2021 marked the third consecutive year in which US stocks posted an annual total return above 15%, with the S&P 500 Index returning 28.7% in local terms (36.1% in AUD). There has been only one other such three year period since 1929. By sector, US energy and real estate stocks outperformed, and European banks had their best year since 2009.

However, outside of the notably strong performance of these markets, most other equity regions and asset classes struggled to outpace inflation for the year. Japanese and Emerging Market equities underperformed sharply over the year with the Nikkei 225 Index and the MSCI Emerging Markets Index posting total returns of 1.3% and 3.0% (in AUD) respectively.

During December the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meeting tone was overwhelmingly towards more restrictive monetary policy as evidenced by the indicated accelerated tapering of asset purchases to finish in March 2022 and the option to hike rates for the first time since 2018. In Europe, the Bank of England raised the cash rate in December despite Omicron uncertainties, guided by a clear focus on the medium-term inflation outlook. The European Central Bank announced plans to exit pandemic support. Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) data in December seemed to support these views with both the UK and Euro Area PMIs remaining in expansion territory despite modest misses reflecting the current Covid wave and associated uncertainty.

Commodities were also strong in 2021, with the Bloomberg Commodities Index seeing its best year since the 1970s. The S&P GSCI sub-indices for Energy (+69.9% in AUD), Industrial Metals (+37.1% in AUD) and Agriculture (+31.8% in AUD) all showed strong returns, with only the Precious Metals subset showing weak returns (0.3% in AUD).

Developed Market High Yield gross issuance was up +25% YoY, while Investment Grade gross issuance fell back in line with prior years after an exceptional 2020. Uncertainty moderated throughout the year with the CBOE VIX volatility index peaking at 37% in January of 2021 and ending the year at 17%.

Source: Morgan Stanley Research, MSWM Research

## **Investment strategy**

The MAPS Core Balanced Portfolio draws from Morgan Stanley's leading insights and specifically aligns to the needs of investors with a balanced risk profile. It is designed to capture value at several points in the investment process; asset allocation, active-passive strategy mix, manager selection, portfolio construction and risk management.

The portfolio seeks out the highest quality ETFs and managed funds.

#### **Benefits**



Optimised activepassive mix



Award winning research capability



Broad universe of listed ETFs and managed funds



Broad diversification



Lower volatility



Active risk management



Full performance and tax reporting



Access to national presentations

## Investment guidelines

Asset allocation ranges (as at 3 August 2021)	Min %	Target %	Max %	
Australian equities	22%	32%	42%	
Australian fixed interest	15%	25%	35%	
International equities	14%	24%	34%	
International fixed interest	2%	12%	22%	
Listed property	0%	4%	14%	
Cash	0%	3%	20%	

## **Key information**

**Date of inception:** 29 September 2020

Minimum investment: \$25,000

Model portfolio fee: 0.275% pa (GST included), which is retained by Morgan Stanley Wealth Management.

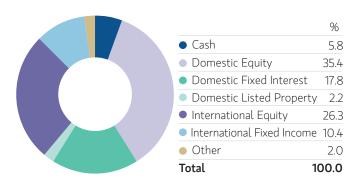
Typical number of holdings: The portfolio will typically hold up to 35 underlying assets.

**Estimated management expense ratio (MER):** less than 0.45% pa (This is an estimate of the current MER for the underlying assets. These are reflected in the unit price of the underlying securities and are not charged to you as a fee or retained by Morgan Stanley Wealth Management.)

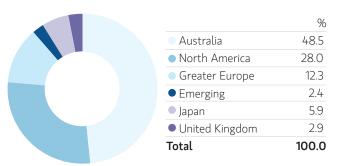
#### Investment team

The portfolio is managed by the Morgan Stanley Wealth Management Investment Solutions team. The Investment Solutions team draws on the global resources of Morgan Stanley and also leverages the asset allocation insights from the Morgan Stanley Wealth Management Research team.

## Asset Allocation Breakdown (AUS)



# **Equity Regional Exposure**



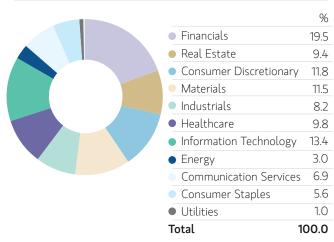
# **Equity Style Allocation**



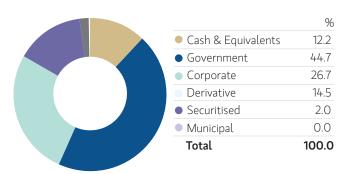
# **Top Holdings**

	Portfolio Weighting %
BetaShares Australia 200 ETF	14.5
Vanguard Australian Government Bond ETF	11.3
Pendal Focus Australian Share	7.4
Betashares Aust Mjr Bnk Hyb ldx ETF	6.0
Pendal Sustainable Aust Fixed Interest	5.4

# **Equity Sectors (GICS)**



# **Fixed Income Sector**



Source: Morningstar, Morgan Stanley Wealth Management Research. Allocations based on the Core Balanced Portfolio as at 31 December 2021.

### Benchmark

The Investment Solutions team sets the benchmark for the MAPS Core Balanced Portfolio by referring to analysis generated by the Wealth Management Research team.

The portfolio has a dual benchmark. A real return benchmark (i.e. targeting a premium over inflation) with an appropriate indicative time horizon for realisation; and a relative return objective, allowing investors to measure portfolio performance against the median comparable multi-asset portfolio in Australia.

Portfolio Risk Profile	Real Return Objective	Relative Return Objective
Conservative	CPI + 2.0%	Morningstar Australia Fund Multisector Conservative Category Average
Balanced	CPI + 3.0%	Morningstar Australia Fund Multisector Balanced Category Average
Growth	CPI + 4.5%	Morningstar Australia Fund Multisector Aggressive Category Average

### **Risks**

Investors should note than an investment in the portfolio through Morgan Stanley's Separately Managed Account (SMA) involves risk, including:

**Market risk** - The risk associated with factors that can influence the direction and volatility of an overall market, or security-specific risks. These factors can affect one country or a number of countries.

**International investments risk** - The risk arising from political and economic uncertainties, interest rate movements and differences in regulatory supervision associated with international investments.

**Currency risk** - Currency exchange rate fluctuation risk arising from investing across multiple countries.

**Interest rate risk** - The risk arising from movements in interest rates which may cause the price of securities within the portfolio to fluctuate.

**Credit risk** - The risk of an issuing entity defaulting on its obligation to pay interest/principal when due.

**Liquidity risk** - The risk that an asset may not be converted to cash in a timely manner.

**Counterparty risk** - The risk of another party to a transaction failing to meet its obligations.

**Leverage risk** - Where underlying investments contain leverage, the movement in market prices may magnify the gains or losses within the portfolio. This may result in a loss of capital.

Investors should consider the relevant product disclosure statement or offer document (where available) for other risks that may apply.

#### www.morganstanley.com.au

#### **Important Information**

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Before entering into any transaction, you should ensure that you fully understand the terms of the transaction, relevant risk factors, the nature and extent of your risk of loss, as well as the legal, tax, and accounting consequences of the transaction. You should also carefully evaluate whether the transaction is appropriate for you in light of your experience, objectives, financial resources, and other relevant circumstances and whether you have the operational resources in place to monitor the associated risks and obligations over the term of the transaction. We recommend that you obtain financial as well as tax advice based on your own individual circumstances before making an investment decision. Morgan Stanley's Separately Managed Accounts platform and certain financial products and services are available in Australia solely to persons who are "wholesale clients" under s761G of the Corporations Act 2001 ("Act"). Accordingly, you are assumed to have sufficient knowledge and experience to make your own evaluation of the merits and risks of a transaction of this type and to be able to assess fully the adequacy of information provided to you. No other person may rely on the contents of this communication nor have access to any such financial products and services, and you acknowledge that as a wholesale client your rights under the Act may be reduced.

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