

# Sestante ESG Focus Dynamic Conservative Portfolio Monthly Investment Report



As of 31/07/2025

## Latest Performance\*

	1-mth	3-mths	1-yr	3-yr	Inception
ESG Focus Conservative	0.80	3.03	6.56	6.34	6.89
RBA Cash Rate + 2% p.a.	0.50	1.51	6.42	6.10	6.02

## Market Review

Investor sentiment strengthened in July, driven largely by progress on U.S. trade negotiations and optimism surrounding artificial intelligence (AI). Equity markets saw broad-based gains, with emerging markets outperforming developed ones amid favourable trade developments and strong capital inflows, particularly into tech-related sectors.

The S&P 500 rose 2.2% during the month, which now makes the rebound over 27% from April's low. The rally was fuelled by easing trade tensions, robust corporate earnings, and the passage of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), which promised pro-growth fiscal policies and business-friendly tax cuts for 2026. Large-cap technology stocks led gains, supported by strong earnings and persistent enthusiasm for AI investments. Semiconductors and hardware companies were among the primary beneficiaries.

Nearly 83% of reporting S&P 500 firms exceeded earnings expectations, with average surprises over 7%. The technology, financials, and communications sectors drove the bulk of the upside, while industrials lagged. Despite rising input costs, even the energy and materials sectors saw earnings upgrades. However, valuations remain elevated, global equities now trade at around 20x forward earnings, significantly above the long-term average of 16x, suggesting heightened sensitivity to future policy or earnings disappointments.

Emerging market equities outshone developed markets, with standout performances in Taiwan, China, South Korea, and Thailand. Taiwanese stocks continued to attract AI-driven investment, while easing trade frictions and resumed AI-chip exports to China supported broader regional sentiment. Meanwhile, India and Brazil underperformed due to new U.S. tariffs. India faces a 25% duty plus penalties linked to its Russian trade, while Brazil was hit with a 50% tariff.

In Japan, equity markets advanced strongly following a favourable trade agreement with the U.S., which triggered rallies in exporters and AI-related sectors. European shares rose as well, helped by relief that threatened 30% U.S. tariffs were replaced with a lower baseline of 15%. Exemptions for key sectors like aerospace helped sustain investor confidence. In the UK, the FTSE All-Share posted positive returns, led by energy and healthcare, although mid-cap stocks lagged.

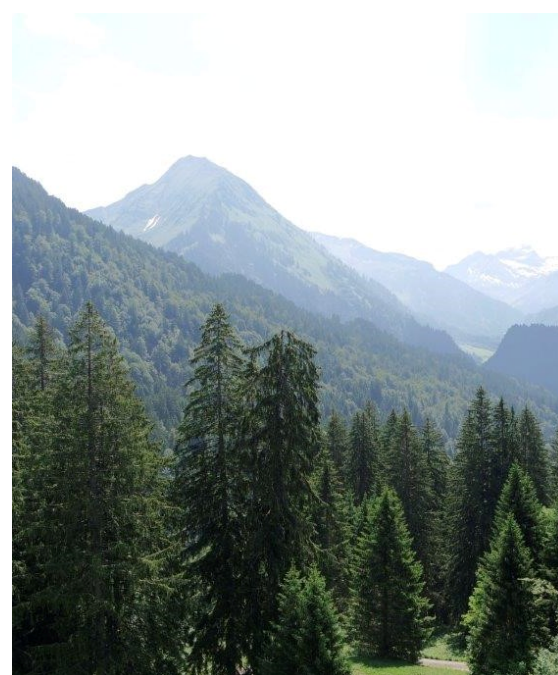
Australian equities returned 2.4% for the month, supported by gains in resource stocks, as iron ore and coal prices rose.

Bond markets faced headwinds as global government bond yields rose, reflecting ongoing concerns about fiscal discipline in major economies. In contrast, corporate bonds outperformed, supported by stronger economic sentiment and solid earnings. U.S. corporate credit markets saw spread compression and positive returns across both investment grade and high-yield segments, driven by upbeat data and investor risk appetite.

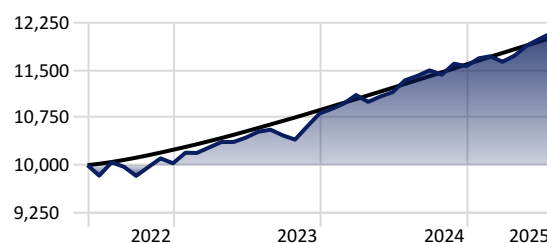
The U.S. dollar strengthened broadly, buoyed by the easing trade tensions, U.S. economic resilience and investor sentiment. Commodities saw mixed performance, the energy and livestock sectors delivered gains, while industrial and agricultural metals struggled. Precious metals remained mostly unchanged.

Looking ahead, markets will be focused on the U.S. Federal Reserve and any further tariff announcements. With valuations stretched and policy uncertainty lingering, diversified investment strategies remain crucial to manage both risk and opportunity.

For a detailed market review and outlook, please refer to the Monthly Market Commentary document available on [www.azsestante.com/investment-options](http://www.azsestante.com/investment-options)



## \$10,000 invested over time

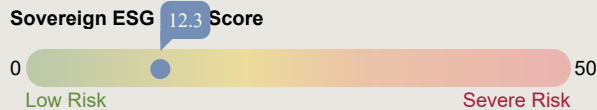
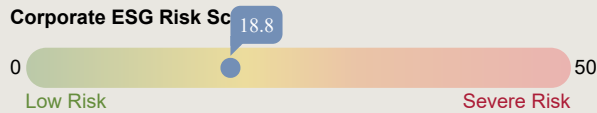


■ ESG Focus Conservative ■ RBA Cash Rate + 2% p.a.

## Portfolio information

- **Investment objective:**  
To delivery outperformance of RBA cash rate +2.0% per annum after fees over a rolling 3-year period.
- **Suggested minimum timeframe:**  
3 years
- 30% Growth / 70% Defensive
- **Portfolio inception date:**  
1 June 2022

## ESG Risk Score



● ESG Focus Conservative

## ESG Pillar Score



## Major Index Returns

	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	3 Years
S&P/ASX 200 TR AUD	2.36	8.17	4.18	11.81	12.33
MSCI World Ex Australia GR AUD	3.14	11.42	4.03	18.00	19.67
Bloomberg AusBond Composite 0+Y TR AUD	-0.04	0.88	3.72	5.22	2.74
Bloomberg Global Aggregate TR Hdg AUD	-0.15	0.39	2.10	3.34	1.40
FTSE EPRA Nareit Global REITs TR AUD	1.07	1.73	-0.86	5.30	4.16
S&P Global Infrastructure NR AUD	1.90	5.65	8.96	23.22	13.09
RBA Cash Rate Target	0.33	1.00	2.04	4.34	4.02
MSCI ACWI Ex USA NR USD	-0.29	7.82	13.01	14.73	12.61

### Important information

\*Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. Performance is calculated before taxes, model management and platform fees and after underlying investment management fees. For full details of fees please refer to the relevant platform offer documents. Performance is notional in nature and an individual investor's actual performance may differ to the that of the model portfolio. Investment performance is shown from 1/6/2022 and represents modelled performance only and assumes income received is reinvested.

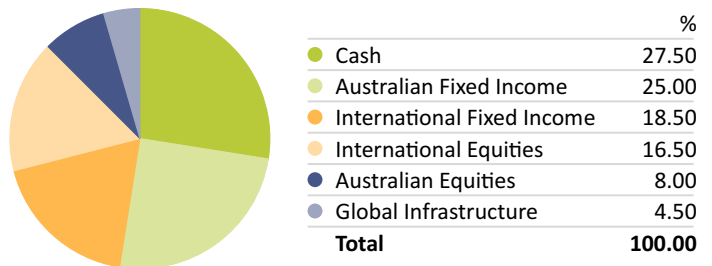
The Morningstar Historical Corporate Sustainability Score is a weighted average of the trailing 12 months of Morningstar Portfolio Corporate Sustainability Scores. Historical portfolio scores are not equal-weighted; rather, more-recent portfolios are weighted more heavily than older portfolios. Combining the trailing 12 months of portfolio scores adds consistency while still reflecting portfolio managers' current decisions by weighting the most recent portfolio scores more heavily.

ESG pillar scores are displayed as a number between 0 and 100 with most scores range between 0 and 25. It is the asset-weighted average of the company environmental, social, governance risk scores for the covered corporate holdings in a portfolio. The scores measure the degree to which a company's economic value may be at risk driven by environmental, social, and governance factors. The risk represents the unmanaged risk exposure after taking into account a company's management of such risks.

The Portfolio Unallocated ESG Risk Score represents the unmanaged ESG risk exposure to companies assigned an ESG Risk Rating, but whose risk is not decomposed into environmental, social and governance components. Calculated as the asset-weighted average of the company ESG Risk scores for the covered holdings in a portfolio that do not have E/S/G risk scores, unallocated ESG risk is displayed as a number between 0 and 100, where lower is better. Together, the four portfolio pillar score data points- Environmental Risk Score, Social Risk Score, Governance Risk Score, and Unallocated ESG Risk Score- will add up to a portfolio's Sustainability Score.

## Current Asset Allocation

Portfolio Date: 31/07/2025



## Where your funds are invested

<b>Cash</b>	<b>27.50</b>	—
BetaShares Aus High Interest Cash ETF	25.50	—
Cash	2.00	—
<b>Australian Fixed Income</b>	<b>25.00</b>	—
Pendal Sustainable Aust Fixed Interest	11.50	●●●●●
Janus Henderson Tactical Income	10.00	●●●●●
Pendal Short Term Income Securities Fd	3.50	●●●●●
<b>International Fixed Income</b>	<b>18.50</b>	—
PIMCO ESG Global Bond Fund - Wholesale	9.50	●●●●●
Macquarie Dynamic Bond No.1 W	9.00	—
<b>International Equities</b>	<b>16.50</b>	—
Betashares Global Sustnby Ldrs Ccy H ETF	3.50	●●●●●
Mirova Global Sustainable Equity No. 2 I	3.50	●●●●●
Stewart Investors Worldwide Leaders	3.50	●●●●●
AXA IM Sustainable Equity	2.50	●●●●●
AXA IM Sustainable Equity A (H) AUD	2.50	●●●●●
Robeco Emerging Conservative Equity AUD	1.00	●●●●●
<b>Australian Equities</b>	<b>8.00</b>	—
VanEck MSCI AUS Sust Eq ETF	3.50	●●●●●
Alphinity Sustainable Share	1.50	●●●●●
Australian Ethical Australian Shr WS	1.50	●●●●●
Schroder Australian Equity Fund - PC	1.50	●●●●●
<b>Global Infrastructure</b>	<b>4.50</b>	—
4D Global Infrastructure AUD Hedged	4.50	●●●●●
	<b>100.00</b>	

Morningstar's Globe Ratings are just one tool that can help investors work out a fund's ESG credentials. A 5 Globe Rating indicates a fund is at the top end of its peer group in terms of sustainability, while a 1 Globe Rating shows it is underperforming on sustainability issues.

## Portfolio changes

There were no portfolio changes this month.