FACTSHEET 31 March 2024

# GuardCap Global Equity Fund

# **Investment Objective**

The Fund seeks to provide long-term growth of capital with lower than market volatility.

#### **Investment Approach**

Philosophy: growth drives returns; quality protects against downside; valuation matters.

- Concentrated, long-only strategy with 20-25 high quality, sustainably growing companies
- Focused "total immersion", bottom-up analysis of selected high-confidence stocks
- Benchmark agnostic, unconstrained portfolio construction; high active share
- Genuine long-term investing with low portfolio turnover
- Large / Mid-cap focus

#### **Investment Team**

Joined GuardCap	Years of experience
2014	35
2014	26
2016	17
2015	13
	2014 2014 2016

# Performance (%)

						Annua	lisea	
	1 M	3 M	YTD	1 YR	3 YR	5 YR*	7 YR* I	nception*
Fund	0.76	7.48	7.48	12.90	10.86	12.90	15.66	16.91
Benchmark	3.15	14.03	14.03	28.60	14.41	14.01	13.64	13.47
Relative return	-2.39	-6.55	-6.55	-15.70	-3.55	-1.11	2.02	3.44

\*Performance prior to the inception of the fund is provided for the Guardian Fundamental Global Equity Composite, gross of fees, in AUD. Composite inception date 01/08/14. Due to the limited amount of time since fund inception, performance of the Composite is shown. The information is relevant because the GuardCap Global Equity Fund is modelled on the equity component of the Composite. Returns greater than 1 year are annualised. Past performance results are no indication of future results. For further information about the Composite, please see the Disclaimer. Fund inception date 04/09/2020.

# **Calendar Year Performance (%)**



Performance prior to the inception of the fund is provided for the Guardian Fundamental Global Equity Composite, gross of fees, in AUD. Past performance results are no indication of future results. Fund inception date 04/09/2020. Performance start date 05/09/2020.

# **Fund Facts**

Fund Manager	GuardCap Asset
	Management Limited
Responsible Entity	<b>Equity Trustees Limited</b>
Legal Status	Registered MIS
Strategy Inception	1 August 2014
Fund Inception	4 September 2020
Benchmark N	ISCI World Index (Net) AUD
Base Currency	Australian Dollar Net
Liquidity	Daily at NAV
Fund Size	AUD 138.25 million
Strategy AUM <sup>1</sup>	AUD 19.11 billion
Strategy AUA <sup>1</sup>	AUD 2.15 billion
Fund Manager (FUM	1) AUD 21.38 billion
ABN	89 296 839 062
APIR	ETL6126AU
ARSN	642 341 106
ISIN	AU60ETL61263
Morningstar Ticker (	Code 43809

<sup>1</sup>AUM = Assets under management, AUA = Assets under advice; based on estimates and is not official

# **Charges & Subscriptions**

Annual management fee	0.95%
Buy/Sell Spread	0.25%
Minimum investment	AUD 20.000

# **Portfolio Characteristics**

Number of stocks	24
Net exposure	98.8%

Indov

# Risk

	Fund	maex
Tracking error	5.63	
Standard deviation	14.04	15.14
Information ratio	0.59	
Sharpe ratio*	0.81	0.53
Upside market capture	97.73	100.00
Downside market capture	82.54	100.00
Batting average	0.59	

The risk indicators shown are based on the strategy's returns in its base currency (USD). You should note that movements of the AUD versus the USD and other world currencies may have a material impact on both returns and risk parameters in AUD terms for Australian investors.

\*Sharpe ratio calculated using Bloomberg US Generic Govt.
3 Month Yield. Strategy inception date 1/08/14. Risk calculations provided in USD.

ام م ما ا م ب م ما



# Geographic Allocation (%)

United States	63.89
Denmark	11.99
France	11.29
United Kingdom	6.36
Switzerland	3.11
■ Japan	2.17
■ Cash	1.19



# Sector Allocation (%)

■ Health Care	24.57
<ul><li>Financials</li></ul>	16.89
<ul> <li>Consumer Staples</li> </ul>	14.02
Consumer Discretionary	12.85
Information Technology	11.19
<ul><li>Industrials</li></ul>	8.61
Communication Services	6.27
- Materials	4.41
Cash	1.19



#### **Top 5 Holdings**

	% of assets
EssilorLuxottica	7.75
CME Group	6.74
Alphabet	6.27
Mastercard	6.13
Booking Holdings	5.33

# **Monthly Contributors / Detractors**

		Contribution to return
+	Alphabet	0.51
+	EssilorLuxottica	0.47
+	Novo Nordisk	0.39
-	Accenture	-0.42
-	Nike	-0.37
-	Reckitt Benckiser	-0.33

#### **YTD Contributors / Detractors**

	Contribution to return
+ Novo Nordisk	1.87
+ EssilorLuxottica	1.24
+ Mastercard	1.03
- MarketAxess	-0.97
- Reckitt Benckise	er -0.57
- Nike	-0.38

#### **Manager Commentary**

The top contributors to performance year to date were Novo Nordisk, EssilorLuxottica and Mastercard.

Novo Nordisk continues to benefit from a strong uptake of its diabetes and obesity medicines. 2024 sales growth guidance of 18-26% follows 36% growth in 2023. Its cardiovascular dataset is a strong point of differentiation. Amycretin, its new weight loss drug, has shown promising early results and is potentially market leading at improving weight loss. EssilorLuxottica reported consensus beating sales growth with a sequential acceleration in Q4. Management claim to have the richest pipeline ever, with a 10-20 year time horizon, including products for myopia management, eyeglasses powered by technology and audio. Mastercard reported strong quarterly results driven by growth in cross border and healthy consumer spending. Payment network revenues (60% of sales) grew 7% at constant exchange rates, value added services (40%) increased 17%. The company is guiding to 12-13% organic revenue growth at constant exchange for 2024.

The top detractors year to date were MarketAxess, Reckitt Benckiser and Nike.

MarketAxess reported market share losses in Q1. The decrease in high yield market share was driven by lower levels of credit spread volatility, a greater focus on new issuance, and a higher mix of lower-rated bonds. Whilst new issuance has a negative impact for market share, it is a longer term positive for market volumes. The company will launch a raft of initiatives in 2024 to grow corporate bond market share. Reckitt Benckiser reported disappointing H2 23 results. News of an understatement of trade spend in the Middle East hit sentiment; management believe the incident is an isolated event. In March a jury awarded \$60 million in damages to a mother who said her baby died after consuming the company's pre-term Enfamil baby formula. There are several 100 similar claims. Reckitt are confident in a successful appeal based on the science. The product has not been withdrawn. At its most recent results presentation, Nike gave guidance for its next fiscal year which disappointed the market. Although the company expects growth, it is not expected until the second half of the year. Inventory levels have improved significantly, and the product portfolio will go through a transition in the next couple of quarters. Management believes that the Paris Olympics will serve as a catalyst for Nike brands.

Returns are expressed in U.S. dollars and attribution commentary refers to the USD share class



# **ESG** Reporting

#### **Fund ESG Ratings**

Morningstar Sustainability Rating™ Morningstar Low Carbon Designation™

MSCI ESG Rating™



Ratings are for our representative portfolio. Ratings are not the only factor to be taken into account when deciding whether to invest in a financial product or take up a credit product. Ratings are likely to change from time to time.

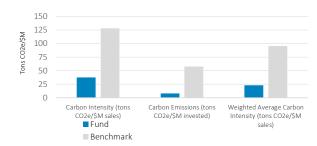
#### **ESG** Integration

All investee companies must meet the team's ten Confidence Criteria, including strong "Foundations for Sustainable Growth" (FSG), which ensures that a company's ESG practices align with its potential for long-term sustainable growth. The Fund's concentrated approach (20-25 stocks) enables a thorough understanding of the sustainability risks and opportunities relevant to each company and an analysis of a company's ESG issues forms a key part of every investment decision.

#### **Active Ownership**

Active ownership is deeply embedded in our investment philosophy and we endeavour to vote on all resolutions related to our companies. If a company is engaged in a practice that concerns us, we will engage with the company on the issue, seek to learn more about it and encourage

# Carbon Footprint Metrics (Scope 1 and 2)



	Tullu	Delicilliaik
Carbon Intensity (tons CO2e/\$M sales)	37.6	128.0
Carbon Emissions (tons CO2e/\$M invested)	8.1	57.4
Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (tons	23.0	95.5
CO2e/\$M sales)		

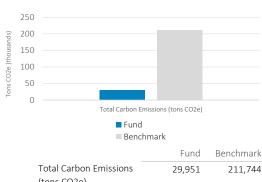
Source: MSCI as at 31 March 2024. Data is for our representative portfolio. Includes Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions

Carbon Intensity (tons CO2e/\$M sales) measures the carbon efficiency of a portfolio, defined as the ratio of carbon emissions for which an investor is responsible to the sales for which an investor has a claim by their equity ownership. Emissions and sales are apportioned based on equity ownership (% market capitalisation).

Carbon Emissions (tons CO2e/\$M invested) measures the carbon emissions, for which an investor is responsible, per USD million invested, by their equity ownership. Emissions are apportioned based on equity ownership (% market capitalisation).

Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (WACI) (tons CO2e/\$M sales) measures a portfolio's exposure to carbon-intensive companies, defined as the portfolio weighted average of companies' Carbon Intensity (emissions/sales).

# Total Carbon Emissions (Scope 1 and 2)



(tons CO2e)

Source: MSCI as at 31 March 2024. Data is for our representative portfolio. Includes Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions.

Total Carbon Emissions (tons CO2e) measures the total carbon emissions for which an investor is responsible by their equity ownership. Emissions are apportioned based on equity ownership (% market capitalisation).

Scope 1 emissions are direct emissions from owned or controlled sources. Scope 2 emissions are indirect emissions from the generation of purchased

The decision to invest in the promoted fund should take into account all the characteristics or objectives of the promoted fund as described in its prospectus.



#### Disclaimer:

GuardCap Asset Management Limited is exempt from the requirement to hold an Australian Financial Services License under the Corporations Act in respect of the financial services described in this document. GuardCap Asset Management is authorised and regulated by the UK Financial Conduct Authority under UK laws, which differ from Australian laws.

This document includes information concerning financial markets that was developed at a particular point in time. This information is subject to change at any time, without notice, and without update. This commentary may also include forward looking statements concerning anticipated results, circumstances, and expectations regarding future events. Forward-looking statements require assumptions to be made and are, therefore, subject to inherent risks and uncertainties. There is significant risk that predictions and other forward-looking statements will not prove to be accurate. Investing involves risk. Equity markets are volatile and will increase and decrease in response to economic, political, regulatory and other developments. The risks and potential rewards are usually greater for small companies and companies located in emerging markets. Bond markets and fixed-income securities are sensitive to interest rate movements. Inflation, credit and default risks are all associated with fixed income securities. Diversification may not protect against market risk and loss of principal may result. Index returns are for information purposes only and do not represent actual strategy or fund performance. Index performance returns do not reflect the impact of management fees, transaction costs or expenses. This information is provided for educational purposes only. Certain information contained in this document has been obtained from external parties which we believe to be reliable, however we cannot guarantee its accuracy

Equity Trustees Limited ("Equity Trustees") (ABN 46 004 031 298) AFSL 240975, is the Responsible Entity for the GuardCap Global Equity Fund. Equity Trustees is a subsidiary of EQT Holdings Limited (ABN 22 607 797 615), a publicly listed company on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX: EQT). This factsheet has been prepared by GuardCap Asset Management Limited to provide you with general information only. In preparing this information, we did not take into account the investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any particular person. It is not intended to take the place of professional advice and you should not take action on specific issues in reliance on this information. Neither GuardCap Asset Management Limited, Equity Trustees nor any of its related parties, their employees or directors, provide any warranty of accuracy or reliability in relation to such information or accepts any liability to any person who relies on it. Past performance should not be taken as an indicator of future performance. You should obtain a copy of the Product Disclosure Statement (https://www.eqt.com.au/-/media/equitytrustees/files/instofunds/guardcap-asset-management-limited/guardcap-global-equity-fund-pds.pdf) before making a decision about whether to invest in this product.

GuardCap Global Equity Fund's Target Market Determination available here — <a href="www.eqt.com.au/insto">www.eqt.com.au/insto</a>. A Target Market Determination is a document which is required to be made available from 5 October 2021. It describes who this 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 the Target Market Determination for this financial product may need to be reviewed.

GCLPI Performance Disclosure Fundamental Global Equity Composite (gross) (USD)

Schedule of Rates of
Return
(US Dollars)
For the Period From
August 1, 2014 to December 31,
2021

Year	Total Composite Return (Gross of fees)(%)	Total Benchmark Return (%)	Number of Portfolios (Accounts)	Composite Dispersion (Std. Dev)	3 Year Std. Dev Composite	3 Year Std. Dev Benchmark	Total Composite Assets (\$MM)	% of Firm Assets Under Management	Total Firm Assets (\$MM)
2021	20.62	21.82	14	0.27	15.45	17.30	11884.25	48.85	24,326
2020	18.77	15.90	8	0.37	15.64	18.53	6687.34	36.44	18,351
2019	29.96	27.67	<=5	n/a	10.36	11.29	2454.53	17.22	14,253
2018	2.32	-8.71	<=5	n/a	10.62	10.53	674.30	5.71	11,805
2017	33.71	22.40	<=5	n/a	10.45	10.38	333.60	2.15	15,507
2016	8.20	7.51	<=5	n/a	n/a	n/a	167.95	1.15	14,659
2015	9.63	-0.87	<=5	n/a	n/a	n/a	71.94	0.57	12,565
2014 *	3.06	0.43	<=5	n/a	n/a	n/a	3.46	0.02	16,244
* Repres	sents a five month period r	etum since incenti	on						

Description of the Firm: Guardian Capital LP (Institutional Division) (GCLPI) is an operating division of Guardian Capital LP (GCLP). GCLPI provides investment management services to primarily institutional clients. Institutional clients include defined benefit pension plans, defined contribution pension plans, group retirement plans, charitable organizations, foundations, endowments, external mutual funds and pooled funds, and investment holding companies.

The Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) compliant firm (GCLPI) includes client accounts that represent \$18.4 billion (in US Dollars) out of GCLP's total assets under management of \$ 23.8 billion (in US Dollars) as at December 31, 2020, of which \$5.4 billion (in US Dollars) consists of wrap accounts.

Compliance statement: GCLPI claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. GCLPI has been independently verified for the periods January 1, 2001 to December 31, 2020. A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. The Fundamental Global Equity Composite has been examined for the periods August 1, 2014 to December 31, 2020. The verification and performance examination reports are available upon request.

Composite Description: The Fundamental Global Equity Composite (the "Composite") seeks to provide long-term capital appreciation through investment in a concentrated portfolio of high quality equity or equity-related securities of issuers throughout the world. Valuations are computed and composite performance is reported in US dollars.

Composite Creation Date and Inception Date: The Composite creation date is August 1, 2014 and its inception date is July 31, 2014. Benchmark: The Composite's benchmark is the MSCI World Index (Net in US Dollars).



Performance Calculation: Performance has been calculated on a trade-date basis, time weighted, valued monthly, with geometric linking of period returns. Performance is calculated gross of investment fees and net of transaction costs. GCLPI includes all similar portfolios in a composite regardless of size. Any withholding taxes on income and dividends paid to portfolios comprising the Composite are based on client's residency. The Composite's benchmark is net of withholding taxes. The Composite may include portfolios that are tax-exempt. All portfolios within the composite and benchmark are valued using WM/Reuters 4:00 p.m. (London) exchange rates. Prior to December 31, 2018, the portfolios and benchmarks were valued using IDC Foreign Exchange Rates (Formerly Bank of Canada "Noon Rate"). Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results. Gross-of-fees returns are used to calculate presented risk measures. Internal dispersion is presented only for those years where the Composite had more than five accounts for the entire year. Only those accounts managed for the full year are included in the dispersion calculation. The internal dispersion calculation is using the equal weighted methodology. Performance history for the last ten years, or since inception of the Composite if less than ten years, has been disclosed.

The three-year annualized standard deviation measures the variability of the composite and the benchmark returns over the preceding 36-month period. The standard deviation is presented once the composite has three full calendar years of performance. This measure of dispersion was not required for periods prior to January 1, 2011.

Valuation: Equity prices are supplied by SVC – Security Data Services (SS&C). Securities such as warrants where a publicly available price is not available are fair valued by management on a monthly basis using present fair valuation methods. Bonds that are in an index are priced using the index price in GCLPI's systems. For others, GCLPI relies on SVC supplied prices (Security Data Services from SS&C). In cases where SVC cannot supply a reasonable price, management determines the fair value based on sources such as NASD's (National Association of Securities Dealers Association), TRACE (Trade Reporting And Compliance Engine OTC trade reporting) and the average of dealer supplied prices. Private placements are priced based on market trading activity or based on valuation techniques with the guidance of dealers.

**Standard Fee Schedule**: The annual fee schedule is as follows: 0.80% of the first \$25 million, 0.75% of the next \$25 million, 0.70% of the next \$50 million and 0.65% thereafter for segregated portfolios, and 0.85% of the first \$25 million, 0.80% of the next \$25 million, 0.75% of the next \$50 million, and 0.70% thereafter for pooled fund participants.

Other: Policies for valuing portfolios, calculating performance, preparing GIPS reports, a complete list and description of firm composites and broad distribution pooled funds are available to clients and qualified potential clients upon request by contacting our client service department at <a href="mailto:GCLPClient\_Services@guardiancaptial.com">GCLPClient\_Services@guardiancaptial.com</a>.

GIPS® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein.

The Morningstar Sustainability Rating™ is a measure of how well the portfolio holdings are managing their ESG Risk relative to the portfolio's Global Category peer group. Sustainalytics provides company-level analysis used in the calculation of Morningstar's Historical Sustainability Score. The Morningstar Low Carbon Designation™ is Sustainalytics' evaluation of the degree to which a firm's activities and products are aligned with the transition to a low-carbon economy. Investment decisions should not be based on a high rating alone. All data is as at the document date unless indicated otherwise. © 2023 Morningstar, Inc. All rights reserved. The information contained herein: (1) is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its content providers; (2) may not be copied or distributed; and (3) is not warranted to be accurate, complete, or timely. Neither Morningstar nor its content providers are responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. For more details, please go to http://corporate1.morningstar.com/SustainableInvesting/. MSCI Research LLC's ("MSCI ESG") Fund Metrics products (the "Information") provide environmental, social and governance data with respect to underlying securities within more than 56,000 multi asset class Mutual Funds and ETFs globally. MSCI ESG is a Registered Investment Adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. MSCI ESG materials have not been submitted to, nor received approval from, the US SEC or any other regulatory body. None of the Information constitutes an offer to buy or sell, or a promotion or recommendation of, any security, financial instrument or product or trading strategy, nor should it be taken as an indication or guarantee of any future performance, analysis, forecast or prediction. None of the Information can be used to determine which securities to buy or sell or when to buy or sell them. The Information is provided "as is" and the user of the Information assumes the entire risk of any

Certain information contained herein (the "Information") is sourced from/copyright of MSCI Inc., MSCI ESG Research LLC, or their affiliates ("MSCI"), or information providers (together the "MSCI Parties") and may have been used to calculate scores, signals, or other indicators. The Information is for internal use only and may not be reproduced or disseminated in whole or part without prior written permission. The Information may not be used for, nor does it constitute, an offer to buy or sell, or a promotion or recommendation of, any security, financial instrument or product, trading strategy, or index, nor should it be taken as an indication or guarantee of any future performance. Some funds may be based on or linked to MSCI indexes, and MSCI may be compensated based on the fund's assets under management or other measures. MSCI has established an information barrier between index research and certain Information. None of the Information in and of itself can be used to determine which securities to buy or sell or when to buy or sell them. The Information is provided "as is" and the user assumes the entire risk of any use it may make or permit to be made of the Information. No MSCI Party warrants or guarantees the originality, accuracy and/or completeness of the Information and each expressly disclaims all express or implied warranties. No MSCI Party shall have any liability for any errors or omissions in connection with any Information herein, or 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.

**For More Information** 

Michael Hughes

mhughes@guardiancapital.com | +44-20-7907-2405

Alexandra Schwarz

aschwarz@guardiancapital.com | +44-20-7907-2011