

BARROW HANLEY GLOBAL EQUITY TRUST

March 2024



FUND FACTS

Investment return objective: Aims to provide the trust with higher returns compared to the benchmark, while maintaining lower risk.

FUND BENEFITS

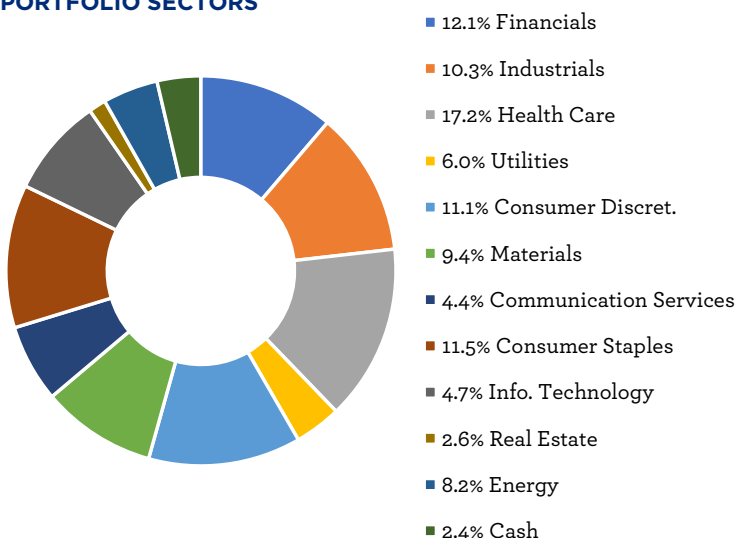
True traditional value portfolio concentrated in 50-70 stocks which focuses on undervalued companies with improving operating fundamentals identified by Barrow Hanley's screening process.

FUND RISKS

All investments carry risk and different strategies may carry different levels of risk. The relevant product disclosure statement or offer document for a fund should be considered before deciding whether to acquire or hold units in that fund. Your financial adviser can assist you in determining whether a fund is suited to your financial needs.

Benchmark:	MSCI World Index (Measured in AUD)
Inception date:	6/05/2016
Delegated Investment Manager:	Barrow Hanley Mewhinney & Strauss
APIR:	ETLo434AU
Management Fee:	0.99% p.a
Size of fund	\$ 247.80 million as at 31/12/2023
Suggested minimum investment period:	Five years or longer

PORTFOLIO SECTORS



NET PERFORMANCE - Periods ending February 29, 2024

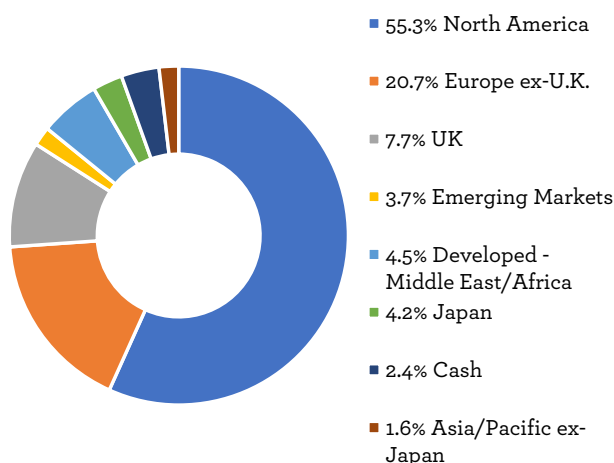
	Fund	Benchmark	Excess
1 month	3.9	5.9	-1.94
3 months	7.2	12.8	-5.61
FYTD	7.2	16.3	-9.06
1 year	13.4	30.1	-16.68
2 years	11.2	14.2	-3.02
3 years	12.6	15.7	-3.04
4 years	10.5	13.8	-3.21
5 years	10.2	14.2	-4.00
Since Inception	11.2	13.7	-2.53

Past performance is not indicative of future performance. Returns may differ due to different tax treatments.

TOP 5 STOCK HOLDINGS

	% of Portfolio
COMCAST CORP	3.2%
MERCK & CO INC	3.1%
ENBRIDGE INC	3.0%
RHEINMETALL AG	2.8%
QUALCOMM INC	2.8%

PORTFOLIO REGIONS



PORTFOLIO COMMENTARY

The first quarter of 2024 took off from the starting line quick, adding another consecutive quarter of strong equity returns for global indexes with the MSCI World Index up more than 8%. A combination of continued hope for central bank rate cuts and declining fears over a recession fueled the global equity rally. Markets made new all-time highs not just in the U.S., but across Europe and Japan as well. While the top-level index returns were strong, under the hood, much of those gains were driven by a narrow handful of high momentum and mega-tech companies. Although some modest broadening occurred, the concentrated nature of the markets continued to reach greater extremes as the weight of the highest momentum stocks in the MSCI World Index reached new highs. Buoyed in part by the euphoria for artificial intelligence (AI), this small cohort continued to drive the overall U.S. and global indices even as most stocks have not kept pace with the torrid move higher to start the year.

The market built on last quarter's strong rally as it continued pushing higher during the first quarter of the year. The Magnificent 7 returned as a significant market driver, only eclipsed by high momentum stocks that skewed towards sectors positively exposed to traditional growth stocks. This led the MSCI World Growth Index to outperform the MSCI World Value Index. However, this paradigm began to shift on February 9th after Fed Chairman Jay Powell announced that rates may not fall as quickly as the market expected, leading to fewer predicted rate cuts.

Rheinmetall AG positively contributed to relative performance during the quarter after the German automotive supplier and defense contractor saw strong news flow on contract awards throughout the quarter. Rheinmetall released solid quarterly results as profit and free cash flow were ahead of expectations and 2024 guidance ahead of consensus expectations. Management provided additional comments on order outlook and cash conversion that is even stronger than previously communicated with high visibility. The company has a strong balance sheet supported by the desire in Europe to build up domestic defense production through increased expenditure as NATO countries push spending toward 2% of GDP.

BAE Systems plc positively contributed to relative performance during the quarter as the UK defense contractor posted quality quarterly results. Revenue continues to grow and was higher than consensus expectations on strength across all segments. A strong order intake mixed with positive comments on the overall demand environment continue to push the stock higher, along with the broader European defense industry. The company trades at 18x forward earnings with a dividend yield of 2.1%.

Humana Inc. detracted from relative performance and was weak for the second quarter in a row. Humana came under pressure last quarter because a perfect suitor, Cigna, had just walked away from a bid. This quarter it emerged that Humana is suffering from unprecedented level of excess utilization in their Medicare Advantage (MA) book. Humana is a rational actor and has already indicated that pricing actions are coming for 2025. The bid timeline in the MA business is a bit more elongated than the commercial market, and therefore

Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. detracted from relative performance in the quarter after missing earnings estimates and slowing down guidance as the demand growth rate for renewables starts to slow. There were some idiosyncratic end market issues that other specialty chemical companies faced, but the company still grew earnings during the quarter. Overall, the company remains a best-in-class operator, and the stock price began recovering at the end of the quarter on hopes of increased visibility on long-term contracts for underway projects. Overall, the company still has a large backlog of projects that should fuel future growth and is trading near a trough valuation multiple of 18x forward earnings while paying a dividend yield of 3%.

As the year began, investor expectations were for roughly six rate cuts from the Fed. That now stands at just three for 2024 after Fed Chair Powell's remarks tempered expectations. The more things change, the more they stay the same, in this instance after failing to call the ceiling for rates, now investors have overestimated the potential for rate cuts. Chairman Powell kicked off the normalization with the fastest rate hiking cycle in history in 2022, however, as quickly as "higher for longer" entered the lexicon of investors, it was replaced by "soft landing" and debates over rate cuts. The newest wrinkle is that recent uncertainty is being driven by the fiscal side of the ledger.

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MORE INFORMATION

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