

GLOBAL EQUITY INCOME FUND

At a glance

Performance*

The Fund returned 5.26%, the Index returned 6.25% and the Peer Group returned 6.09%.

Contributors/detractors

Technology companies Microsoft and TSMC outperformed after reporting better-than-expected results. Industrial company Air Products shares came under pressure due to weak demand, which resulted in disappointing results.

Outlook

Despite the strong recent performance of global equities, we believe that opportunities remain to invest in well-managed, cash-generative businesses with strong balance sheets at attractive valuation levels.

Portfolio management



Ben Lofthouse, CFA



Andrew Jones

Investment environment

- The first quarter saw another strong period of performance from global equity markets, with several indices reaching all-time highs. Growing expectations of an economic 'soft landing' in the US, alongside ongoing optimism about artificial intelligence (AI), fuelled the gains.
- The S&P 500 Index and the European Stoxx 600 Index ended the quarter at record highs, even as investors reappraised the outlook for inflation and interest rates. Meanwhile, the Nikkei Index surpassed its previous record high from 1989 despite the Bank of Japan announcing the end of its negative interest-rate policy in March.
- At the sector level, information technology, energy and financials outperformed, while real estate, utilities, materials and consumer staples underperformed.

Portfolio review

The fund's holdings in technology stocks outperformed over the quarter. Strong results from NVIDIA boosted sentiment towards the sector, particularly for those stocks perceived to be beneficiaries of AI trends. Microsoft reported better-than-expected revenues and earnings

across its major divisions. Revenues at its cloud business Azure grew 28%, helped by strong AI-related demand. Semiconductor company TSMC's results also beat expectations, with the company well positioned to capture a significant share of AI-driven semiconductor manufacturing.

Outside of technology, pharmaceutical company Novo Nordisk's results exceeded forecasts due to ongoing strong demand for its obesity and diabetes drugs Wegovy and Ozempic. Daimler Truck outperformed following strong results and encouraging profit guidance for 2024.

Conversely, the fund's holdings in industrial company Air Products, insurance company AIA Group and paper and pulp company UPM-Kymmene underperformed. Air Products reported disappointing results due to weak industrial demand, particularly in China, which led to further downgrades to earnings forecasts.

Insurance company AIA Group reported results broadly in line with expectations but continued to be impacted by negative sentiment towards its exposure to Hong Kong and China. Meanwhile, UPM-Kymmene reported results broadly in line with analyst forecasts but lowered profit guidance for 2024.

In terms of activity, we sold the holding in Crown Castle, taking advantage of a rebound in the share price. We used

Marketing communication

Past performance does not predict future returns.

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*For benchmark/usage and peer group, if applicable, refer to Fund details on page 3. For relevant descriptions, risks and the Fund's investment policy statement, refer to Additional fund information on page 4.

the proceeds to initiate a position in software company Oracle, where earnings appear to have bottomed and growth is set to improve as the company continues to transition to the cloud and build out its cloud infrastructure business.

We also sold the holding in McDonalds following a period of strong share-price performance and initiated a position in UK bank NatWest. In our view, NatWest was attractively valued at the time of purchase and was trading at 0.6x price-to-book ratio and offering a dividend yield of over 7%.

We also took the opportunity to add to the position in AIA Group, given its recent weak share-price performance, and MediaTek, where earnings forecasts are expected to improve from current levels.

Manager outlook

Despite the resilience of the US economy and concerns about the path of inflation, central banks should still be able to cut interest rates during 2024, though the size and timing of any cuts remains uncertain. The global economy has coped better than expected with the higher interest rate environment and we believe that opportunities remain to invest in well-managed, cash-generative businesses at attractive valuation levels, despite the recent strong performance of global equities. Shareholder returns announcements - in terms of both dividends and share buybacks - remain supportive and suggest that management teams share our confidence in the long-term outlook for their companies.

Performance (%)

Returns	Cumulative				Annualised			
	1 Month	3 Month	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	Since inception (17/01/14)
I Acc (Net)	3.27	5.26	5.26	9.75	8.18	7.74	8.39	8.23
Index	4.10	6.25	6.25	11.40	9.73	11.71	12.26	12.03
Peer Group	2.99	6.09	6.09	13.18	9.06	9.18	8.84	8.73

12 month rolling

	Mar 2023-Mar 2024	Mar 2022-Mar 2023	Mar 2021-Mar 2022	Mar 2020-Mar 2021	Mar 2019-Mar 2020
I Acc (Net)	9.75	5.48	9.38	26.36	-9.27
Index	11.40	2.33	15.90	39.09	-5.29
Peer Group	13.16	2.32	12.01	32.35	-9.63

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Fund charges will impact the value of your investment. In particular, the ongoing charges applicable to each fund will dilute investment performance, particularly over time. For further explanation of charges please visit our Fund Charges page at www.janushenderson.com.

Note that any differences among portfolio securities currencies, share class currencies and costs to be paid or represented in currencies other than your home currency will expose you to currency risk. Costs and returns may increase or decrease as a result of currency and exchange rate fluctuations.

Investment objective

The Fund aims to provide an income in excess of 80% of the income generated by the MSCI ACWI High Dividend Yield Index over any 3 year period with the potential for capital growth over the long term (5 years or more).

For the fund's investment policy, refer to the Additional fund information on page 4.

Past performance does not predict future returns.

Fund details

Inception date	01 February 2002
Total net assets	688.71m
Asset class	Equities
Domicile	United Kingdom
Structure	OEIC
Base currency	GBP
Index	MSCI ACWI High Dividend Yield Index
Peer group	IA Global Equity Income

For benchmark/usage description, refer to Additional fund information on page 4.

Additional fund information

Tax assumptions and reliefs depend upon an investor's particular circumstances and may be subject to change. Availability of share classes shown may be limited by law in certain jurisdictions. Performance records are detailed on the specific KIID, fees and charges may vary and further information can be found in the fund's prospectus and KIID which must be reviewed before investing. Please consult your local sales representative if you have any further queries. From 31 March 2022, the Benchmark changed to the MSCI ACWI High Dividend Yield Index from the MSCI World Index, the Investment Objective & Policy also changed. The past performance shown before this change was therefore achieved under circumstances that no longer apply. In line with the standard policy for our UK funds, the new benchmark will be calculated on a gross return basis. 100% of the Annual Management Charge is taken from capital. These are the views of the author at the time of publication and may differ from the views of other individuals/teams at Janus Henderson Investors. Any securities, funds, sectors or indices mentioned within this article do not constitute or form part of any offer or solicitation to buy or sell them. The information in this commentary does not qualify as an investment recommendation. Investment into the fund will acquire units/shares of the fund itself and not the underlying assets owned by the fund. Cash balances and exposures are based on settled and unsettled trades as at the reporting date.

The MSCI ACWI High Dividend Yield Index is a measure of the combined performance of large and medium sized companies that pay above average dividends across developed and Emerging Market stock markets around the world. It is the basis for the Fund's income target.

The Investment Association (IA) groups funds with similar geographic and/or investment remit into sectors. The Fund's ranking within the sector (as calculated by a number of data providers) can be a useful performance comparison against other funds with similar aims.

Investment policy

The Fund invests at least 80% of its assets in shares (also known as equities) of companies, of any size, in any industry, in any country. The Fund may also invest in other assets including cash and money market instruments. The Investment Manager may use derivatives (complex financial instruments) to reduce risk, to manage the Fund more efficiently, or to generate additional income for the Fund. The Fund is actively managed with reference to the MSCI ACWI High Dividend Yield Index, which is broadly representative of the companies in which it may invest, as this forms the basis of the Fund's income target. The Investment Manager has discretion to choose investments for the Fund with weightings different to the index or not in the index. As an additional means of assessing the performance of the Fund, the IA Global Equity Income sector average, which is based on a peer group of broadly similar funds, may also provide a useful comparator.

Investment strategy

The Investment Manager follows a dividend-seeking, valuation-driven strategy that focuses on companies with good and growing cashflow. The investment process seeks to identify companies from around the World with income growth prospects (typically with defensible competitive positions, affordable investment requirements, aligned management behaviour and sustainable returns) and companies with capital growth prospects (typically unloved, with under-appreciated earnings and undervalued shares). The process results in a portfolio well diversified by sector and geography.

Fund specific risks

The Fund could lose money if a counterparty with which the Fund trades becomes unwilling or unable to meet its obligations, or as a result of failure or delay in operational processes or the failure of a third party provider. Shares/Units can lose value rapidly, and typically involve higher risks than bonds or money market instruments. The value of your investment may fall as a result. The Fund may use derivatives with the aim of reducing risk or managing the portfolio more efficiently. However this introduces other risks, in particular, that a derivative counterparty may not meet its contractual obligations. If the Fund holds assets in currencies other than the base currency of the Fund, or you invest in a share/unit class of a different currency to the Fund (unless hedged, i.e. mitigated by taking an offsetting position in a related security), the value of your investment may be impacted by changes in exchange rates. Securities within the Fund could become hard to value or to sell at a desired time and price, especially in extreme market conditions when asset prices may be falling, increasing the risk of investment losses. Some or all of the ongoing charges may be taken from capital, which may erode capital or reduce potential for capital growth.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT [JANUSHENDERSON.COM](https://www.janushenderson.com)

Source: Janus Henderson Investors, as at 31 March 2024, unless otherwise noted.

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