Fusion Defensive

Factsheet | 01 Sep 2025

PORTFOLIO SUMMARY

- Low-risk portfolio within the Optima ETF portfolio range
- Performance is expected to be quite moderate in return for stability and a low probability of significant drawdowns
- Designed to achieve stable income and some capital growth through a well-diversified multi-asset portfolio
- The objective of portfolio is to systematically capture risk premiums while minimizing investment costs. This is accomplished by employing highly liquid ETFs with low charges

PORTFOLIO INFORMATION

Inception Date Dec 2018

Investment Horizon At least 1 year

Total Ongoing charges for underlying funds 0.21%

Management Charge 0.20%

INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

Fusion Optima portfolios aim to systematically harvest risk premiums while minimizing the costs of the investments by utilising ETFs with high liquidity and low charges. These are carefully selected from a wide range of well-established product providers, targeting outperformance of their respected benchmarks.

The range is based on systematic Strategic Asset Allocation, aiming to maximise expected long-term return within well-defined risk parameters. Medium-term market forecasts are overlaid to adjust the allocation by incorporating current market transfer.

RISK SCORE

Based on our internal analysis, our Investment Team believes this portfolio corresponds to the following risk levels of external risk profiling tools:

DT	Defaqto	Synaptic	
3	3	4	





MARKET COMMENTS

Holidaymakers didn't miss too much action as August was a relatively flat month for overall portfolio performance, with global equities rising 0.5% yet global bonds retreating -0.6% in GBP terms. The month's top performing region was Japan (+4.8%), where markets were buoyed by the US-Japan trade deal towards the end of July, combined with supportive economic growth data. Significant news came from the US (-0.1%), where a weak labour report featured a steep decline in job creation. The Federal Reserve Chair noted this could justify a change in policy stance, increasing the market's expectations of an interest rate cut at its mid-September meeting. Technology slightly underperformed over the period. While the sector has had an exceptional year, some of that momentum might have been at least temporarily short-circuited by a report from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology that found 95% of corporate Al projects failed to deliver a financial return, questioning the validity of sky-high valuations.

In the UK, the Bank of England cut interest rates to 4%. However, gilts came under further pressure following another upside surprise to inflation, casting doubt on the likelihood of further imminent cuts. Longer-dated gilts also underperformed, with the UK 30-year government bond yield reaching 5.6% (its highest level since 1998) driven by thin liquidity and ongoing fiscal sustainability concerns. Emerging market equities (-0.6%) underperformed, despite strong gains in Latin America (+6.5%) and China (+4%), where US-China trade talks resulted in another 90-day pause on tariffs. Indian markets (-3.5%) were challenged by rising US tariffs, which have increased to 50% in an attempt to discourage its purchasing of Russian oil, and foreign equity outflows.

PERFORMANCE



—Fusion Defensive —Benchmark

CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE

	1m	3m	1у	Зу	5у	SI
Portfolio	0.74%	4.28%	7.91%	16.78%	19.33%	227.98%
Benchmark	0.68%	2.83%	5.20%	12.48%	10.76%	99.90%

RISK CHARACTERISTICS

	Volatility		Sharpe Ratio			Maximum Drawdown	
	1у	5у	SI	1у	5у	SI	
Portfolio	6.06%	5.79%	5.09%	1.31	0.53	0.80	-11.62%
Benchmark	3.83%	4.57%	4.54%	1.36	0.33	0.37	-17.91%

^{*}The performance figures in this report are based on the live performance of the portfolio since December 2018. Performance before this date is simulated by applying models and algorithms currently used in the construction of this portfolio. The benchmark is the Abrdn MyFolio Market I fund which has one of the lowest tracking errors with the IA Mixed investments 0-35 index. Performance prior to June 2014 is reconstructed from the index performance.

FUSION ASSET MANAGEMENT LLP

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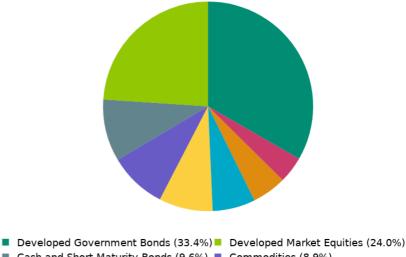
FUSION ASSET MANAGEMENT

TOP HOLDINGS

- LYXOR CORE FTSE ACTUARIES UK GILTS DR UCITS
- ISHARES GBP ULTRASHORT BOND UCITS ETF
- ISHARES GLOBAL GOVT BOND UCITS ETF
- SPDR BLOOMBERG BARCLAYS GLOBAL AGGREGATE
 BOND LICITS FTF
- ISHARES GLOBAL HIGH YIELD CORP BOND UCITS

 ETF
- SPDR BLOOMBERG BARCLAYS 1-5 YEAR GILT UCITS
- ISHARES \$ TREASURY BOND 3-7YR UCITS ETF
- INVESCO GBP CORPORATE BOND UCITS ETF
- ISHARES CORE ETSE 100 UCITS ETE ACC
- VANECK DEFENCE ETF

ASSET ALLOCATION



Developed Government Bonds (33.4%)
 Cash and Short Maturity Bonds (9.6%)
 Emerging Market Equities (8.3%)
 Investment Grade Bonds (6.6%)
 High-Yield Bonds (5.3%)
 Alternatives (4.1%)

HOW TO ACCESS OUR PORTFOLIOS

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CONTACT US

Our address

22 Dartmouth Street, London, SW1H 9BP **Email**

info@fusionam.com

Phone

+44 (0) 207 802 2280

Weh

http://www.fusiondfm.com

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