

# Stellenbosch University Retirement Fund (SURF)

## Growth Portfolio Factsheet March 2026

**Period ending:** 31 March 2026

**Portfolio size (R'million):** 6 529.13

**Portfolio Objective:**

**Primary Objective:** The primary investment objective of the SURF Growth Portfolio is to obtain at least 75<sup>th</sup> percentile performance relative to the Global Balanced peer group as represented by the WTW Single Manager Industry Median Survey over any five year measurement period.

**Secondary Objective:** The secondary objective of the SURF Growth Portfolio is to deliver a real return of 5% p.a. (net of all costs) over rolling seven-year periods.

**Risk Profile:** Aggressive

**Performance per annum**

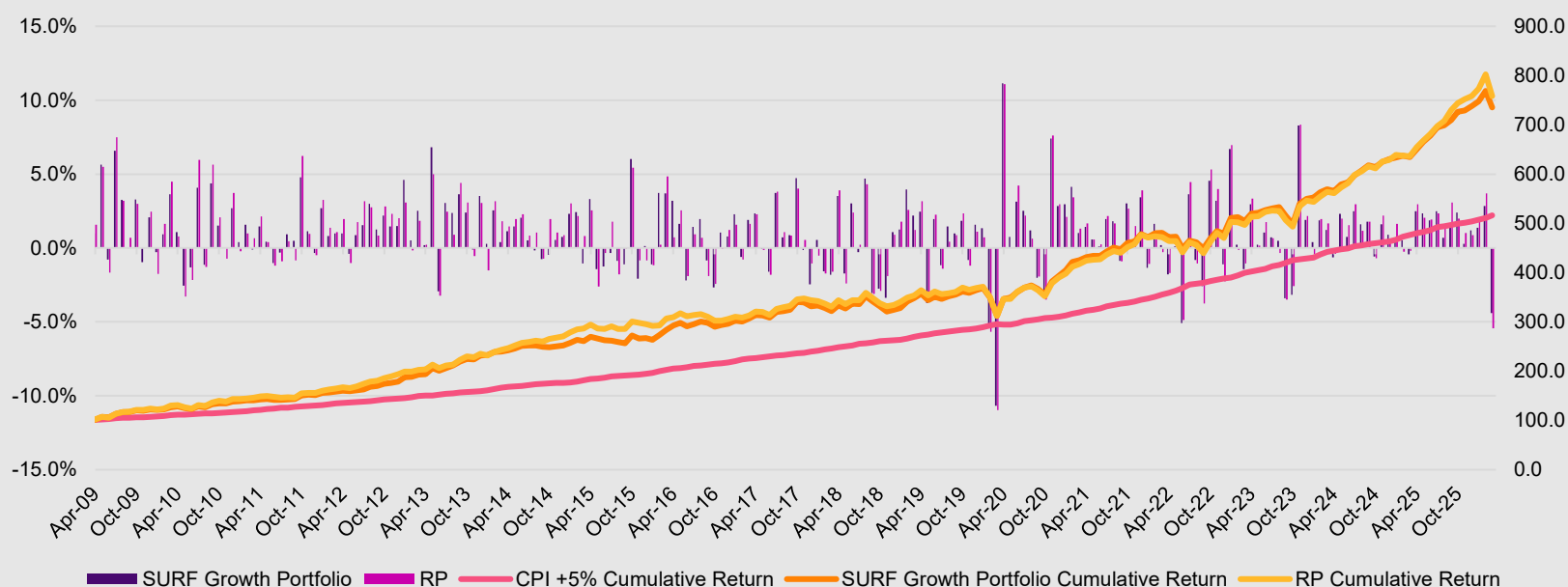
The table below shows the performance of the SURF Growth Portfolio, net of fees, over various measured periods ended 31 March 2026, compared to the median and top quartile of the peer group (annualised over periods longer than one year).

	SURF Growth Portfolio Return	WTW Peer group median	WTW peer group top quartile
3 months	-0.3%	-1.7%	0.6%
6 months	3.6%	2.8%	5.5%
1 year	15.9%	19.0%	20.3%
3 years	13.3%	13.8%	14.2%
5 years	11.6%	11.5%	12.2%
7 years	11.2%	10.8%	11.7%
10 years	10.0%	9.3%	9.9%
15 years	11.7%	10.7%	11.5%
17 years, 0 months	12.5%	11.8%	12.5%

NB: The peer group median and peer group top quartile returns have been adjusted by 0.6% p.a. to allow for manager fees.

**Cumulative Performance**

The chart below shows the monthly performance of the SURF Growth Portfolio (net of fees) relative to the Reference Portfolio (RP). The RP is an objective measure of whether the portfolio's active managers add value over longer measurement periods of seven years and more. The chart also shows the cumulative net performance of the Growth Portfolio relative to the RP and the CPI + 5.0% p.a. inflation investment objective on the right-hand axis.



**Risk Statistics**

The table below sets out some key risk statistics for the SURF Growth Portfolio relative to the RP for the period since inception (April 2009) to 31 March 2026.

Portfolio	Return achieved	Active return <sup>1</sup>	Standard deviation <sup>2</sup>	Downside risk <sup>3</sup>	Tracking error <sup>4</sup>	Sortino ratio <sup>5</sup>	Information ratio <sup>6</sup>	Beta <sup>7</sup>	Drawdown <sup>8</sup>	Active Drawdown <sup>9</sup>
Growth Portfolio (17 years, 0 months)	12.5%	-0.2%	8.6%	8.3%	2.8%	1.5	-0.1	0.9	-15.4%	-11.1%
Reference Portfolio (17 years, 0 months)	12.7%		9.0%	8.3%		1.5			-16.0%	

**Notes**

- Active return is a measure of the actual return realised in excess of the benchmark return.
- Variation of return (standard deviation) is a measure of how widely the return is dispersed – the lower this measure, the less risk. This measure has been annualised.
- Downside risk measures the dispersion of return below a minimum return (zero) – the lower this measure, the less risk of realising a negative return.
- The “tracking error” measures how much the return of the actual portfolio differs from the benchmark.
- Sortino ratio measures the excess return above a minimum accepted return (taken to be zero) divided by the downside risk – it therefore measures the extra return generated per unit of risk of realising a return below zero.
- The “information ratio” measures the extent to which the actual portfolio has outperformed the benchmark divided by the “tracking error” – it is therefore a measure of the extra return generated per unit of relative risk. An information ratio net of fees of 0.25 and higher is regarded as good.
- Beta is a measure of the volatility, or systematic risk, of a portfolio relative to the benchmark.
- The drawdown is the peak-to-trough decline of returns over a specific period.
- Active drawdown is the peak-to-trough decline of the active returns (relative to the benchmark) over a specific period.

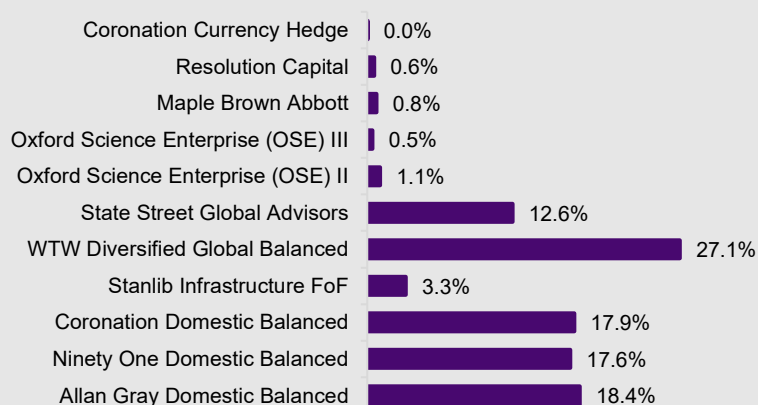
### Risk and Return Analysis

The chart below compares the risk (as measured by the standard deviation) and return characteristics of the SURF Growth Portfolio and Reference Portfolio over the five years ended 31 March 2026.



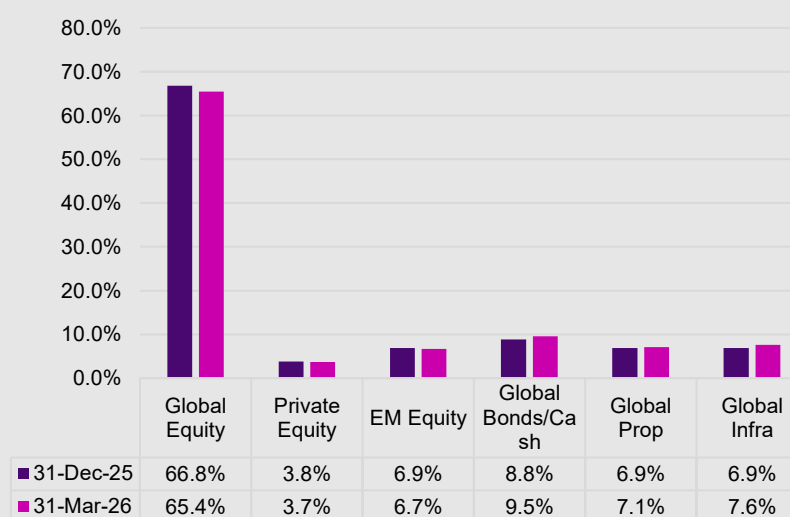
### Manager Allocation

The chart below shows the manager allocation of the SURF Growth Portfolio.



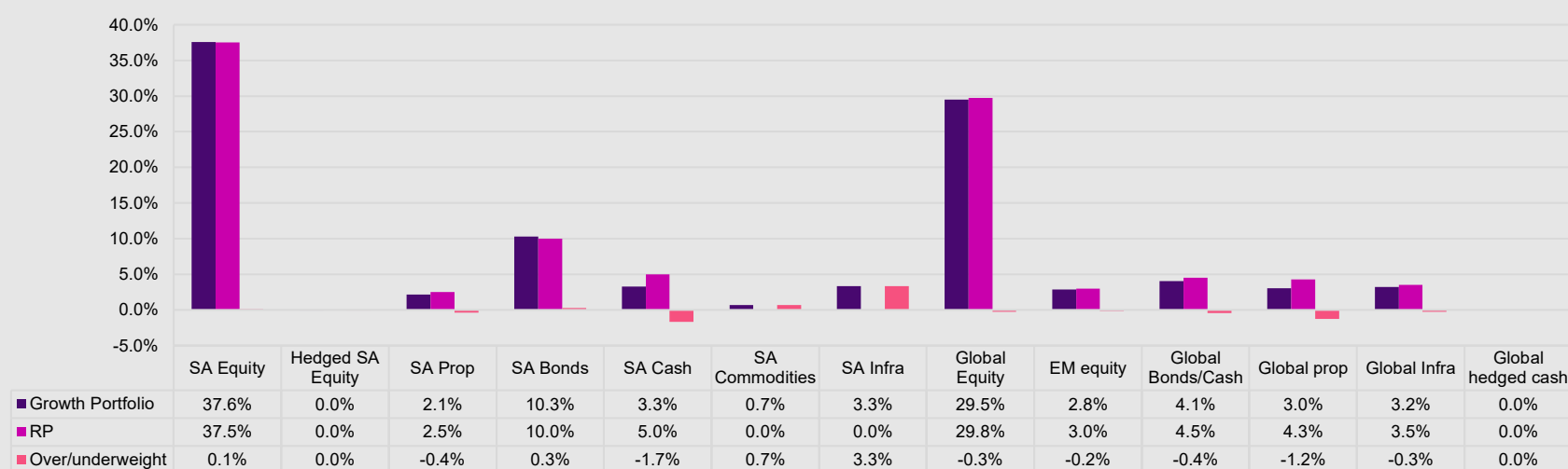
### Foreign Asset Split

The chart below shows the look-through allocation of the SURF Growth Portfolio's global balanced mandate as at the previous and current quarter end.



### Asset Allocation

The chart below compares the actual asset allocation of the Growth Portfolio as at 31 March 2026 to that of the RP.



### Total Expense Ratio ("TER") and Total Investment Charge ("TIC")

The estimated TER and TIC for the SURF Growth Portfolio is 0.39% and 0.52% p.a. respectively, for the one year ended 31 December 2025.

**The TIC is reported as an annualised percentage, typically calculated over a rolling one-year period or since inception. It encompasses the following:**

1. Annual asset management fees;
2. Asset manager performance fees (if any);
3. Bank charges;
4. Audit fees;
5. Taxes (eg VAT);
6. Custodian and trustee fees;
7. Costs related to scrip lending (if any).
8. Transaction cost (if any).

Total Expense Ratio (TER) = Management Fee + Administrative Costs as detailed above. This reflects the ongoing costs of managing the investment.  
Transaction Costs (TC) = Costs incurred from buying and selling assets. Total Investment Charge (TIC) = TER+TC, representing the full cost of investing.

To improve readability and maintain consistency throughout this fact sheet, commonly used asset class names have been abbreviated. The table below serves as a quick reference guide to these abbreviations.

<b>Asset Class Name</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>
Emerging Market Equity	EM Equity
Global Bonds / Cash	Global Bonds/Ca
Global Infrastructure	Global Infra
Global Property	Global Prop
SA Infrastructure	SA Infra
SA Property	SA Prop

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