

# AJ Bell Funds Quarterly Reports

As at 30 September 2025

**Portfolio commentary**

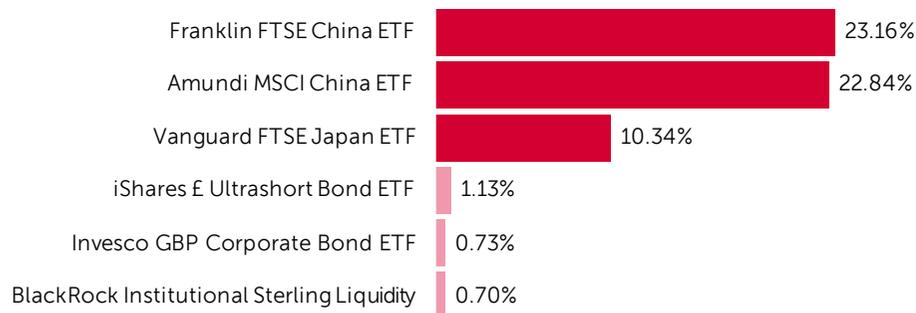
This quarter the Income fund returned 5.37% and 7.73% for the year.

One of the best performers for the portfolio this quarter was China, alongside the broader allocation to emerging markets excluding China, as countries with a tech focus like South Korea and Taiwan had a strong run. This was supported by a strong turn from sector powerhouses like Samsung and TSMC. Despite being a key hub of AI innovation, the US market had slower growth in the third quarter. It has, however, recovered April's big losses.

UK markets ended the quarter strongly with larger companies in key sectors for the income fund performing well, such financials and materials, In contrast smaller UK companies, where the fund does not invest, were constrained by investor concerns about UK fiscal policy.

On the fixed income side, the top returns came from emerging market government bonds as investors looked beyond developed markets due to fiscal policy concerns and political uncertainty.

**Q3 2025 best/worst performers**



**Performance**

Cumulative (%)	3 months	6 months	1 year	3 years	5 years	Since inception
VT AJ Bell Income	5.37	7.77	7.73	23.76	34.64	37.32

The above table displays the total return of the fund on a cumulative basis. This is taken from the most recent month end.



! Past performance is not indicative of future performance. The value of investments may go down as well as up and the income generated by investments is not guaranteed and may fluctuate. You may receive back less than the amount that you invested.

**Portfolio snapshot**

Number of holdings	25	
Inception date	08 Apr 2019	
Fund size	£60.23m	
ISIN	(I Acc)	GB00BH3W7446
	(I Inc)	GB00BH3W7552

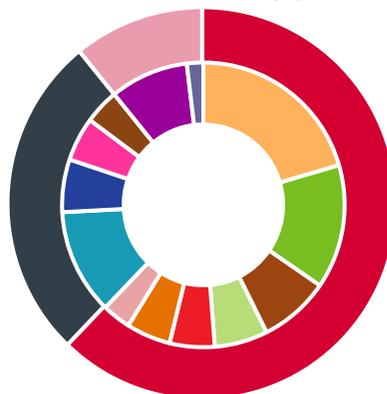
**Top 10 holdings**

Holding	Weight (%)
iShares Core FTSE 100 ETF	14.06
Invesco GBP Corporate Bond ETF	11.98
Fidelity US Quality Income ETF	11.09
Invesco S&P 500 High Dividend Low Volatility ETF	9.44
iShares E Ultrashort Bond ETF	6.01
Fidelity Emerging Markets Quality Income ETF	5.07
Vanguard FTSE Japan ETF	4.54
Franklin Templeton European QualDiv ETF	4.20
iShares MSCI Europe Quality Dividend ETF	3.84
State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index	3.59

**Risk profile**

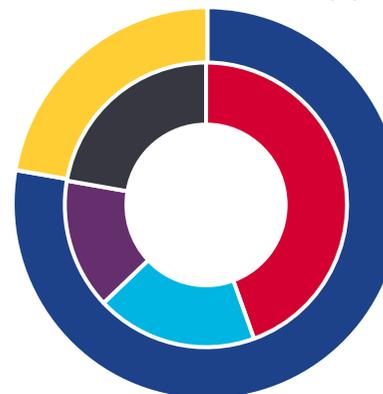
For investors who can tolerate short-term dips in portfolio value and understand the importance of investing for the long term to help in achieving higher overall returns. The portfolio invests in funds and exchange traded funds (ETFs), using a defined strategic asset allocation process to deliver returns while meeting the targeted level of risk.

**Asset allocation (%)**



<b>Equity</b>	<b>62.19</b>
North America equity	20.52
UK equity	14.06
Europe ex-UK equity	8.04
Japan equity	6.07
Emerging markets ex-China equity	5.18
Emerging markets equity	5.07
China equity	3.25
<b>Fixed Income</b>	<b>26.94</b>
UK corporate bonds	11.98
Emerging market debt	6.00
Global high yield bonds (GBP hedged)	4.97
International government bonds (GBP hedged)	3.99
<b>Cash</b>	<b>10.87</b>
Cash equivalent	9.00
Cash	1.87

**Fixed income breakdown (%)**



<b>GBP Bonds</b>	<b>77.71</b>
UK corporate bonds	44.47
Global high yield bonds (GBP hedged)	18.45
International government bonds (GBP hedged)	14.80
<b>International Bonds</b>	<b>22.29</b>
Emerging market debt	22.29

**Equity breakdown (%)**



Sector	
Financial Services	20.06
Technology	13.31
Industrials	11.08
Consumer Defensive	9.42
Communication Services	8.85
Healthcare	8.47
Consumer Cyclical	8.16
Energy	6.22
Real Estate	5.23
Utilities	5.10
Basic Materials	4.12

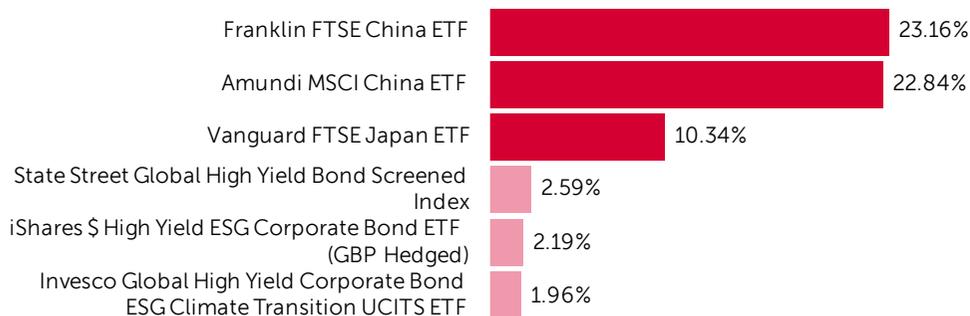
**Portfolio commentary**

Although consumer price index inflation ticked up to 3.8% in August this year, the fund remains well ahead with 11.75 % growth for the year. In the past three months, it has returned 7.04%.

The performance has been underpinned by strong quarters for emerging markets and Japan. Tech has been a key theme, with well-established names including Samsung (of South Korea) and TSMC (of Taiwan) chalking up impressive gains. In China, consumer goods companies, especially in the discretionary category, have been a significant contributor to market gains.

The UK ended the quarter strong. The fund focuses mostly on larger companies, which typically have a more international focus and often pay generous dividends. While these have performed well, smaller companies have struggled under the weight of potential fiscal policy changes anticipated in the upcoming Budget. In the US, markets have recovered from their April tumble, but returns are still muted compared to some other regions.

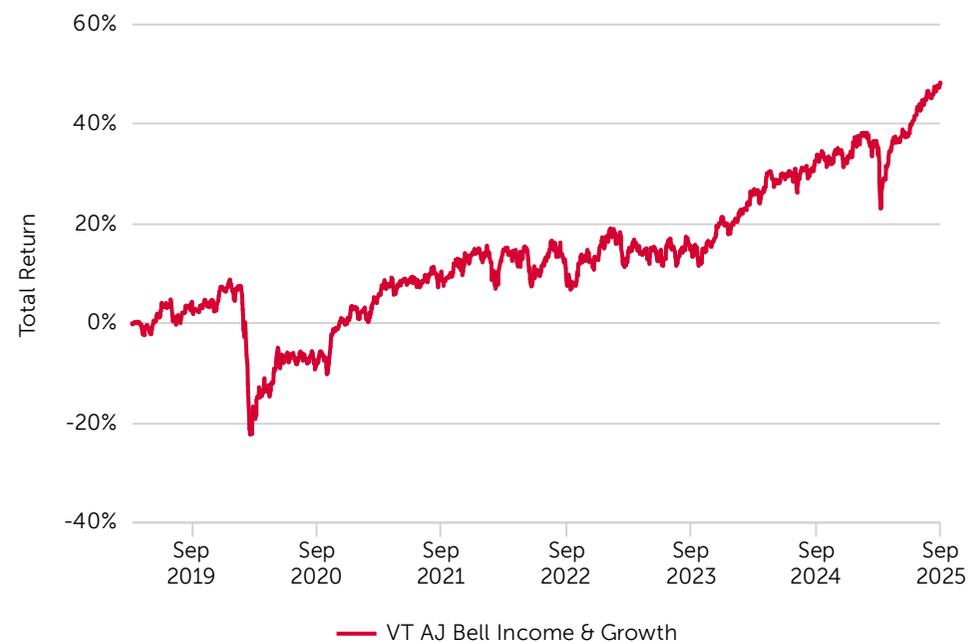
**Q3 2025 best/worst performers**



**Performance**

Cumulative (%)	3 months	6 months	1 year	3 years	5 years	Since inception
VT AJ Bell Income & Growth	7.04	10.77	11.75	35.73	60.96	48.21

The above table displays the total return of the fund on a cumulative basis. This is taken from the most recent month end.



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**Portfolio snapshot**

Number of holdings		19
Inception date		08 Apr 2019
Fund size		£98.85m
ISIN	(I Acc)	GB00BH3W7883
	(I Inc)	GB00BH3W7990

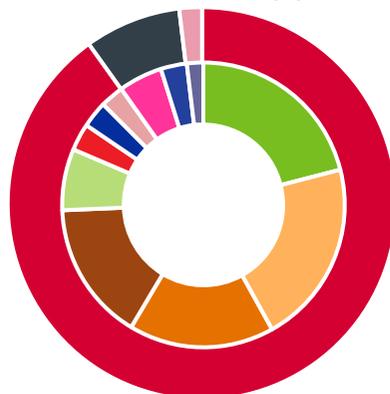
**Top 10 holdings**

Holding	Weight (%)
iShares Core FTSE 100 ETF	18.25
Fidelity Emerging Markets Quality Income ETF	16.59
Fidelity US Quality Income ETF	11.44
Invesco S&P 500 High Dividend Low Volatility ETF	9.48
Franklin Templeton European QualDiv ETF	8.18
iShares MSCI Europe Quality Dividend ETF	7.68
Amundi Prime Japan ETF	4.69
Vanguard Pacific ex-Japan Stock Index	3.00
Vanguard FTSE UK All-Share Index	2.80
State Street Global High Yield Bond Screened Index	2.71

**Risk profile**

For investors who favour capital growth and regular dividend payments through a higher allocation to equities. Investors should understand the risk reward relationship that entails over the short, medium, and long term. The fund predominantly invests in funds, and exchange traded funds (ETFs), using a defined strategic asset allocation process to deliver returns while meeting the targeted level of risk.

**Asset allocation (%)**



<b>Equity</b>	<b>90.12</b>
UK equity	21.04
North America equity	20.91
Emerging markets equity	16.59
Europe ex-UK equity	15.87
Japan equity	6.95
Emerging markets ex-China equity	3.09
Asia Pacific ex-Japan equity	3.00
China equity	2.66
<b>Fixed Income</b>	<b>8.00</b>
Global high yield bonds (GBP hedged)	5.02
Emerging market debt	2.98
<b>Cash</b>	<b>1.89</b>
Cash	1.89

**Fixed income breakdown (%)**



<b>GBP Bonds</b>	<b>62.72</b>
Global high yield bonds (GBP hedged)	62.72
<b>International Bonds</b>	<b>37.28</b>
Emerging market debt	37.28

**Equity breakdown (%)**



<b>Sector</b>	
Financial Services	22.47
Technology	12.06
Industrials	11.29
Consumer Defensive	8.96
Communication Services	8.79
Consumer Cyclical	8.14
Healthcare	7.93
Energy	6.38
Utilities	4.93
Basic Materials	4.68
Real Estate	4.38

The Ongoing charges figure (OCF) includes the underlying OCF, the annual management fee, and the costs for running and administering the fund structure. The annual management fee is variable, as it consists of the fixed OCF, minus all other costs.

Transaction costs represent the net costs incurred by the fund in buying and selling underlying investments. These are the gross costs offset with any pricing mechanisms used by the fund to protect investors from the cost of transactions (such as swing pricing). In some instances this may result in a negative number.

Due to its multi-asset nature, no financial instrument or index represents a fair benchmark for the Fund. The Fund does not aim to track the IA sector as a benchmark. Performance is calculated on a net of fees basis.

The assigned risk profiles do not indicate a promise, forecast or illustration of future volatility or returns nor represent investment advice or a recommendation to buy or sell units/shares in a fund or portfolio.

Based on target weights at portfolio rebalance. Totals may not sum to 100% due to rounding.



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The market capitalisation classifications in this report are based on a tiered methodology developed by Morningstar. Market capitalisation is the total value of a company's shares on the stock market. Under this method, giant-cap shares make up the top 40% of total market value; large-cap shares represent the next 30%; mid-cap the following 20%; small-cap the next 7%; and micro-cap the remaining 3%. These classifications are for analytical purposes only and may differ from other industry definitions.