

# Australian Absolute Growth Fund

## Portfolio Investment Entity

### Monthly Fact Sheet as at 31 January 2026



#### Portfolio Managers



**William Curtayne**  
Portfolio Manager



**Wayne Gentle**  
Portfolio Manager



**Jason Kururangi**  
Co-Portfolio Manager

The new year is underway with plenty of action and volatility in January. The Fund returned 2.0% in January outperforming the ASX 200, and over the last 12 months the Fund has returned 8.7% compared to 7.4% by the ASX 200.

Resources again lead the market last month but with a significant drawdown on the final two days of January. Firstly, gold and silver surged as the precious metals bull market became increasingly speculative and leveraged traders eventually were forced to sell when the metals prices corrected. Our gold miners performed well lead by Newmont (+15.4%). We used this opportunity to take profits and to manage our overall gold exposure fearful of a potential pullback given its rapid ascent and began to add some miners back post the end of month metals crash. The thesis for owning some gold exposure remains intact, but with increasing speculation in gold and likely continued high volatility we will manage our gold miner positions accordingly.

The precious metal rally and increasing global awareness of the strategic importance of resources also drove up iron ore, copper and other commodities. We took the opportunity to lighten our positions in Rio Tinto, Capstone Copper and Develop Global into this rally. Again, we will likely be buyers of resources companies on weakness.

Compared to the ASX 200, much of the Fund's outperformance was driven by its relatively small weight in banks. Banks are likely to underperform while resources outperform as often the two sectors trade in counterbalance.

Our top contributor over the month was BlueScope Steel (+29.7%) which received a takeover offer from Seven Group and US listed Steel Dynamics. Another standout was ALS Ltd which does core assay testing for gold mines and clearly is seeing an improved outlook in this gold price back drop.

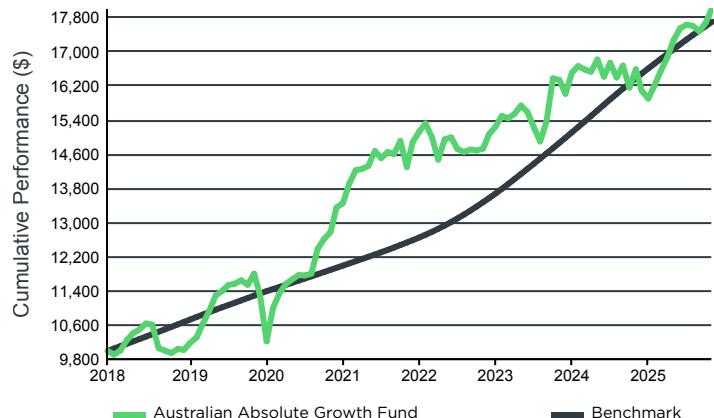
2026 will likely be another eventful year that looks set to start with strong US growth, imminent Fed rate cuts as well as significant federal deficits. This should set up strong demand for real assets and support resources. Meanwhile domestically equity market valuations have come back to more palatable levels, and we are finding some well-priced parts of the market, that look to offer solid risk adjusted returns. We will need to keep a close eye on climbing long bond yields and possible growth shocks that could cause a market upset at some stage this year.

To view Milford's January 2026 Market and Economic Review please see [milfordasset.com/insights](http://milfordasset.com/insights).

For previous fund reports see [milfordasset.com/fund-reports](http://milfordasset.com/fund-reports).

#### Cumulative Fund Performance

(after fees and before tax)



Assumes the growth of \$10,000 invested at the Fund's inception date.

#### Key Fund Facts

<b>Objective<sup>1</sup></b>	Targets an absolute return with an annualised return objective of 5% above the New Zealand Official Cash Rate while seeking to protect capital over rolling three year periods
<b>Description</b>	Diversified fund that primarily invests in Australasian equities, complemented by selective exposure to international equities and cash
<b>Minimum recommended investment timeframe</b>	7 years +
<b>Target Allocation</b>	17.5% Income Assets / 82.5% Growth Assets
<b>Neutral FX Exposure</b>	0%
<b>Net Asset Value (NAV)</b>	\$179.5 M
<b>Buy-sell Spread</b>	None - swing pricing applies (See PDS for details)
<b>Inception Date</b>	1 March 2018
<b>Benchmark</b>	OCR + 5% p.a.
<b>Base Fund Fee<sup>2</sup></b>	1.05%
<b>Performance Fee</b>	15% of the Fund's returns above the Benchmark <sup>1</sup> , subject to the high watermark.
<b>Total Fund Fees<sup>3</sup></b>	1.30% (includes an est. performance fee)
<b>Risk Indicator</b>	Lower risk <span style="float: right;">Higher risk</span>
	1   2   3   4   5   6   7
	Potentially lower returns      Potentially higher returns

## Australian Absolute Growth Fund as at 31 January 2026

### Investment Performance after fees as at 31 January 2026<sup>4</sup>

Unit Price: \$1.7853

	1 Month	3 Months	1 year	3 years (p.a.)	5 years (p.a.)	Since inception (p.a.)
Milford Australian Absolute Growth Fund (Gross Of Tax)	1.98%	2.40%	8.66%	6.95%	7.12%	7.72%
After Tax 10.50%	1.94%	2.36%	8.58%	6.85%	7.16%	7.69%
After Tax 17.50%	1.91%	2.33%	8.52%	6.78%	7.19%	7.67%
After Tax 28.00%	1.86%	2.28%	8.44%	6.68%	7.23%	7.64%
Benchmark	0.60%	1.80%	8.08%	9.51%	8.27%	7.47%

### Top Security Holdings

Holdings	% of Fund
BHP Group	4.69%
NAB	3.82%
Westpac	3.73%
ANZ Group	3.55%
Flight Centre 2.5% 2032	3.44%
Newmont	3.27%
Sigma Healthcare	2.18%
Goodman Group	2.17%
ALS	2.13%
CSL	2.04%

### Current Asset Allocation

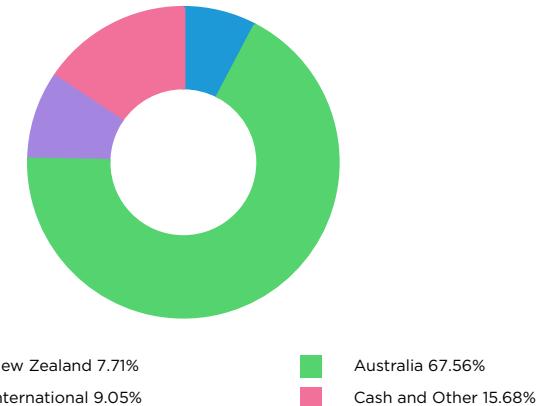
	Actual Investment Mix	Neutral Investment Mix
Effective Cash #	14.57%	7.5%
New Zealand Fixed Interest	3.02%	10%
International Fixed Interest	6.14%	0.0%
New Zealand Equities	3.28%	0.0%
Australian Equities	69.77%	77.5%
International Equities	2.18%	5%
Other	1.04%	0.0%

# The actual cash held by the Fund is 12.11%. Effective Cash reported above is adjusted to reflect the Fund's notional positions (e.g. derivatives used to increase or reduce market exposure).

### Sector Allocation

Allocation	Weight %
Financials	19.47%
Materials	19.09%
Consumer Discretionary	8.25%
Health Care	8.00%
Real Estate	7.97%
Industrials	7.25%
Utilities	3.41%
Communication Services	3.05%
Other Sectors	7.83%
Cash and Other	15.68%

### Region Exposure



1. After the Base Fund Fee but before tax and before the performance fee. 2. Where applicable, the Base Fund Fee includes an estimate of non-related underlying fund charges. 3. The Total Fund Fees comprise the Base Fund Fee and any estimated Performance Fee. Please refer to the Product Disclosure Statement for more information as to how these are calculated. 4. Please note past performance is not a guarantee of future returns.

Please refer to the 'Glossary for the Monthly Fact Sheet' at [milfordasset.com/fact-sheet](http://milfordasset.com/fact-sheet) for more information about the data published within this document.

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