## Australian Absolute Growth Fund

## Portfolio Investment Entity

# Monthly Fact Sheet as at 31 January 2025



#### **Portfolio Managers**



Portfolio Manager





Jason Kururangi Wayne Gentle Portfolio Manager Co-Portfolio Manager

We were pleased with the performance of the Fund, which rallied 2.7% over the month, outperforming its benchmark return of 0.8%. January was a strong month for global equity markets as markets recovered post a weak December, with a general risk on sentiment permeating through global share markets.

The ASX performed well in the context of global markets with gold remaining a standout, supported by a higher gold price amidst still heightened geopolitical risks and falling bond rates. The Fund remains constructive on the gold complex, and our key winners after strong quarterlies included Genesis Minerals (+29.1%), Evolution Mining (+18.5%), Newmont (+16.2%), Northern Star (+12.0%) and the soon to be acquired De Grev (+13.9%).

Arcadium Lithium was also a strong contributor in the resources space after it received approval from the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States to be acquired by Rio Tinto, allowing the stock to trade back up towards the offer price (+12.3%). Sticking with materials, BlueScope Steel also performed well during the month benefiting from an expectation of tariffs to be erected by the US to support the domestic steel market, which should be supportive of steel spreads.

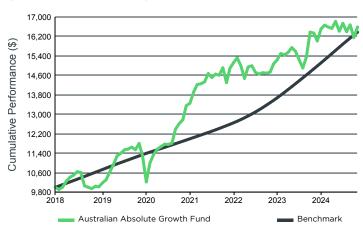
We expect to see continued volatility in markets as the market continues to react to a news flow driven Trump presidency. The implications from recently announced and postponed tariffs, coupled with retaliatory economic policy out of markets like China, heightens near term global uncertainty. So while we remain constructive on the Australian economy given solid fiscal support, as well as an increasing likelihood of interest rate cuts from the RBA, we must also put this in context of full company valuations, global uncertainty, market concentration and a yet to be fought federal election in Australia. On the back of this we will continue to remain at a prudent invested level, with flexibility to protect capital in the event of volatility, looking to deploy capital into weakness, as well as in any opportunities in our upcoming reporting season.

To view Milford's January 2025 Market and Economic Review please see milfordasset.com/insights.

For previous fund reports see 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**

Objective 1

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

Description

Diversified fund that primarily invests in Australasian equities, complemented by selective exposure to

international equities and cash				
Minimum recommended investment timeframe	7 years +			
Target Allocation	17.5% Income Assets / 82.5% Growth Assets			
Neutral FX Exposure	0%			
Net Asset Value (NAV)	\$571.9 M			
Buy-sell Spread	None - swing pricing applies (See PDS for details)			
Inception Date	1 March 2018			
Benchmark	OCR + 5% p.a.			
Base Fund Fee <sup>2</sup>	1.05%			
Performance Fee	15% of the Fund's returns above the Benchmark <sup>1</sup> , subject to the high watermark.			
Total Fund Fees <sup>3</sup>	1.25% (includes an est. performance fee)			
	Lower risk Higher risk			
Risk Indicator	1 2 3 4 5 6 7			
	Potentially lower returns Potentially higher returns			



Unit Price: \$1.6447

## Australian Absolute Growth Fund as at 31 January 2025

### Investment Performance after fees as at 31 January 2025 4

	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)	2.66%	1.18%	1.53%	5.07%	7.03%	7.58%
After Tax 10.50%	2.70%	1.25%	1.80%	5.14%	7.05%	7.56%
After Tax 17.50%	2.72%	1.29%	1.98%	5.19%	7.05%	7.55%
After Tax 28.00%	2.76%	1.36%	2.26%	5.26%	7.07%	7.52%
Benchmark	0.75%	2.29%	10.16%	9.32%	7.72%	7.39%

#### **Top Security Holdings**

Holdings	% of Fund
CSL	5.06%
ВНР	4.01%
NAB	2.96%
Amcor	2.75%
Viva Energy Group	2.49%
Xero	2.47%
Macquarie	2.40%
Spark	2.17%
Teck Resources	1.88%
ANZ	1.84%

#### ANZ

**Sector Allocation** 

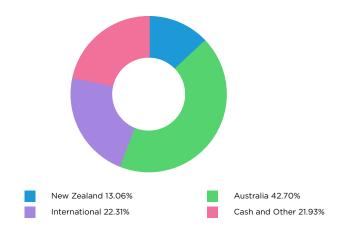
Allocation	Weight %
Materials	17.47%
Financials	16.04%
Health Care	9.15%
Real Estate	6.71%
Communication Services	6.11%
Energy	5.76%
Information Technology	5.30%
Utilities	3.40%
Other Sectors	8.13%
Cash and Other	21.93%

#### **Current Asset Allocation**

21.76%	7.5%
2.35%	10%
2.32%	0.0%
5.35%	0.0%
61.26%	77.5%
6.79%	5%
0.17%	0.0%
	2.32% 5.35% 61.26% 6.79%

# The actual cash held by the Fund is 11.71%. Effective Cash reported above is adjusted to reflect the Fund's notional positions (e.g. derivatives used to increase or reduce market exposure).

## **Region Exposure**



<sup>1.</sup> 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.