

# Milford Monthly Fund Overview

February 2025

## USA, a bit less exceptional

February saw a sharp change in tone for markets. Share markets sold-off, led by the US as investors grew concerned about a slowing in US economic growth. This also drove investors to buy bonds, sending bond prices sharply higher last month. Milford's diversified funds fared well through this volatility, outperforming underlying markets.

Conventional wisdom had it that the Trump administration would be very pro stock market. However, recent policy announcements on cuts to government spending and tariffs on major trading partners could weigh on economic growth in the short term, both in the US and further afield. Policy uncertainty is starting to weigh on sentiment in consumers and corporates and investors are also becoming jittery. This concern gathered steam last month, sending US shares lower and US bonds higher.

Our Funds navigated this shift in a number of ways. Firstly, we tilted our Funds away from shares and into bonds at the start of the month, helping capture the swings in these markets over the month. Secondly, the mix of shares we own is

very different to those in broad share market indices. Our tilt to the UK/Europe has paid off recently and last month delivered positive performance against the backdrop of falling global shares. For example, banks like NatWest Group (+10.6%), and Bank of Ireland (+17.8%) continue to deliver. It was also encouraging to see BT Group (+12.6%) outperform. Strong performers were seen in other regions too, US insurance broker Arthur J Gallagher rallied 11.9% and in Australia, energy infrastructure company APA rallied 8.2%. These picks helped cushion what was also a soggy month for NZ and Australian shares (down 3.0% and 3.8% respectively).

A slowing in US economic growth relative to the rest of the world coincides with wide share market pricing gaps. This provides plenty of opportunities as demand increases for previously overlooked and better value shares in other parts of the world, upending the status quo of the last two years. Milford funds continue to be well placed to take advantage of these opportunities.

# Milford Fund Performance as at 28 February 2025

## Milford Investment Funds

	Past month	1 year	3 years (p.a.)	5 years (p.a.)	Since Fund Inception (p.a.)	Unit price \$	Fund size \$
<b>Multi-Asset Funds</b>							
Conservative Fund <sup>†</sup>	0.70%	9.22%	4.83%	3.69%	5.13%	1.2805	626.3 M
Diversified Income Fund <sup>†</sup>	0.28%	10.10%	5.23%	4.66%	9.03%	1.9609	2,849.7 M
Balanced Fund	-0.23%	11.05%	6.54%	7.50%	9.05%	3.4730	2,085.9 M
Active Growth Fund	0.57%	13.57%	8.48%	10.16%	11.74%	6.3757	4,461.9 M
Australian Absolute Growth Fund	-3.04%	0.45%	2.61%	7.36%	7.02%	1.5945	381.9 M
Aggressive Fund	-1.97%	13.61%	9.68%	—	7.48%	1.2982	2,785.8 M
<b>Cash and Fixed Income Funds</b>							
Trans-Tasman Bond Fund <sup>††</sup>	0.64%	7.50%	3.94%	2.18%	4.13%	1.1840	1,386.5 M
Global Corporate Bond Fund <sup>††</sup>	1.53%	7.57%	2.95%	1.88%	3.24%	1.0637	442.2 M
Cash Fund	0.33%	5.38%	4.63%	2.97%	2.77%	1.1781	763.3 M
<b>Equity Funds</b>							
Global Equity Fund <sup>†</sup>	-1.37%	13.28%	9.23%	11.75%	9.68%	2.9529	1,441.3 M
Trans-Tasman Equity Fund <sup>†</sup>	-4.24%	8.61%	5.95%	7.73%	10.44%	4.3605	761.3 M
Dynamic Fund <sup>#</sup>	-3.94%	8.85%	7.06%	11.39%	11.78%	3.5046	770.1 M

For details of how investment performance is calculated, and returns at each PIR please see [www.milfordasset.com/funds-performance/view-performance#tabperformance](http://www.milfordasset.com/funds-performance/view-performance#tabperformance).

Performance figures are after total Fund charges have been deducted and at 0% PIR. Please note past performance is not a guarantee of future returns.

Inception dates for the Funds: Active Growth Fund: 1 October 2007, Trans-Tasman Equity Fund: 1 October 2007, Balanced Fund: 1 April 2010, Diversified Income Fund: 1 April 2010, Global Equity Fund: 12 April 2013, Dynamic Fund: 1 October 2013, Trans-Tasman Bond Fund: 2 December 2013, Conservative Fund: 1 September 2015, Global Corporate Bond Fund: 1 February 2017, Australian Absolute Growth Fund: 1 March 2018, Cash Fund: 1 March 2019, Aggressive Fund: 21 June 2021.

\* Performance figures include the reinvestment of the Funds' distribution.

<sup>†</sup> Returns prior to 1 March 2018 are from when the Fund was previously offered to wholesale investors only and have been adjusted for current Fund charges.

<sup>††</sup> Returns prior to 1 October 2018 are from when the Fund was structured to achieve an absolute return.

<sup>#</sup> Closed to new investment.

## Upcoming Distributions

Fund	Target	Payment Date
Conservative Fund	0.85 cents (Quarterly)	16/04/2025
Diversified Income Fund	1.55 cents (Quarterly)	14/05/2025
Trans-Tasman Bond Fund	0.85 cents (Quarterly)	12/03/2025
Global Corporate Bond Fund	0.85 cents (Quarterly)	12/03/2025

**Milford, its staff and their families, have approx. \$121.5 million invested in Milford's Investment Funds as of February 2025.**

# Milford Fund Performance as at 28 February 2025

## Milford KiwiSaver Plan

	Past month	1 year	3 years (p.a.)	5 years (p.a.)	Since Fund Inception (p.a.)	Unit price \$	Fund size \$
KiwiSaver Conservative Fund	0.69%	9.27%	4.86%	3.74%	6.87%	2.2387	291.9 M
KiwiSaver Moderate Fund	0.29%	10.05%	5.70%	—	7.07%	1.3919	210.3 M
KiwiSaver Balanced Fund	-0.11%	11.17%	6.58%	7.70%	9.27%	3.5823	1,770.6 M
KiwiSaver Active Growth Fund <sup>†</sup>	0.31%	13.51%	8.42%	10.24%	11.86%	6.4980	6,650.2 M
KiwiSaver Aggressive Fund	-1.96%	13.49%	9.69%	12.13%	11.36%	1.8088	2,211.1 M
KiwiSaver Cash Fund	0.32%	5.38%	4.64%	—	2.99%	1.1562	129.4 M

For details of how investment performance is calculated, and returns at each PIR please see [www.milfordasset.com/funds-performance/view-performance#tabperformance](http://www.milfordasset.com/funds-performance/view-performance#tabperformance). Performance figures are after total Fund charges have been deducted and at 0% PIR. Please note past performance is not a guarantee of future returns. Inception dates for the Funds: KiwiSaver Active Growth Fund: 1 October 2007, KiwiSaver Balanced Fund: 1 April 2010, KiwiSaver Conservative Fund: 1 October 2012, KiwiSaver Aggressive Fund: 1 August 2019, KiwiSaver Cash Fund: 27 March 2020, KiwiSaver Moderate Fund: 27 March 2020. <sup>†</sup>Based on the performance of the AonSaver AMT Milford Aggressive Fund until 31 March 2010 and the Milford KiwiSaver Active Growth Fund from 1 April 2010.

Milford KiwiSaver Plan is the proud winner of multiple awards:



PROVIDER OF THE YEAR  
KIWISAVER 2020 - 2024



OUTSTANDING VALUE  
KIWISAVER SCHEME 2020 - 2024

## Key Market Indices

	Past month	1 year	3 years (p.a.)	5 years (p.a.)	7 years (p.a.)
S&P/NZX 50 Gross Index (with imputation credits)	-2.98%	8.14%	2.56%	3.04%	6.89%
S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index (AUD)	-3.79%	9.94%	9.23%	8.87%	8.57%
MSCI World Index (local currency)*	-0.96%	16.48%	11.47%	14.53%	11.39%
MSCI World Index (NZD)*	0.17%	25.72%	17.37%	16.25%	14.61%
S&P/NZX NZ Government Bond Index	0.74%	6.72%	0.94%	-0.75%	1.37%
Bloomberg Global Agg. Bond (USD-Hedged)	1.2%	5.98%	0.95%	0.19%	2.1%
S&P/NZX 90-Day Bank Bill Rate	0.33%	5.37%	4.59%	2.92%	2.6%

\*With net dividends reinvested

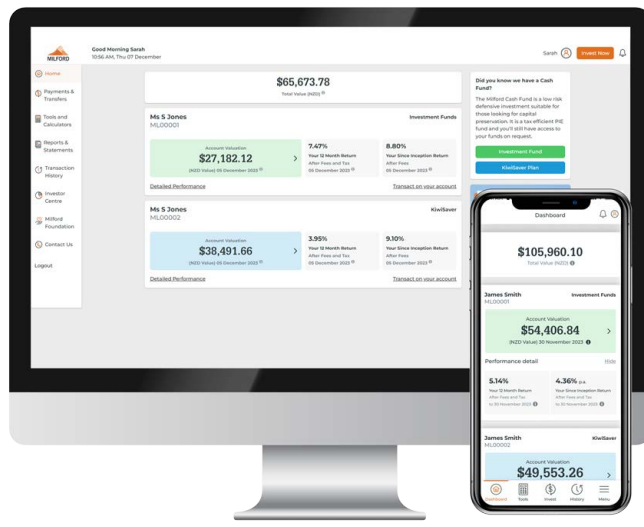
Milford staff and their families have approx. \$45.4 million invested in Milford's KiwiSaver Plan as of February 2025.

# Milford Digital Tools

## The Milford client portal & app

### We understand that transparency is important because it's your money

Clients have access to a dedicated Milford mobile app and online portal that gives full visibility over where your money is invested and how it is performing at all times.



## Need help choosing the right fund?

### Access our expert digital advice to help guide you on your way

Whether you're saving for your first home, building your savings or about to retire, our digital advice can help you invest with confidence.

- ✓ Understand your risk tolerance
- ✓ Estimate your future balance
- ✓ Choose the right Milford Fund for you
- ✓ Estimate how much future income your investment could provide
- ✓ Free to use, no financial advice fee
- ✓ No obligation to invest with us.



Get digital advice at [milfordasset.com/digital-adviser](https://milfordasset.com/digital-adviser)

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