

# Milford Monthly Fund Overview

March 2024

## A bumper crop

March saw another very solid month of returns for the Funds, helped by strong performances from our stock holdings. As expected, the upward momentum in shares continued last month, and was complemented by positive returns from our bonds. Over the past couple of months we have seen a notable broadening in share markets, a key change from last year where only a small handful of large companies were driving gains in share markets.

There is an ongoing divergence in the fate of global economies, driven largely by their sensitivity to interest rates. US economic growth continues to be very strong, and inflation is showing short term signs of rising again. Meanwhile, other parts of the world including Europe, UK and New Zealand have struggled under higher rates, and inflation has taken longer to fall. Some of these economies are finally seeing a drop in inflation and a modest improvement in growth. Global central banks appear keen to cut interest rates despite higher than target inflation, and this is creating a sense that the global economy is more likely to “run hot” over coming quarters. This is a favourable backdrop for shares but less favourable for long-term bonds.

Stronger than expected global growth has helped fuel a broader rally in shares. Last month saw many of our key holdings deliver gains of well over 5%, building on even stronger advances over the past three months. This list includes hospital operator HCA Healthcare, Contact Energy, payments company Fiserv, Goodman Group, Bank of Ireland, NatWest Group and US homebuilder PulteGroup. Standout performer for the month was our semi-conductor play Micron Technologies, up 30% on the back of solid results and guidance.

Over the past few months, improving fundamentals have driven a steady increase in our exposure to global shares and a reduction in bond exposure. From here, valuations are increasingly reflecting a consensus of strong economic growth and falling interest rates. This augurs for a tactical approach to exposures across bonds and shares as the outlook and prices change. Meanwhile, our shorter-term bonds provide a solid income cushion, and we think the broadening out in share market performance can continue.

# Milford Fund Performance as at 31 March 2024

## 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>	1.67%	7.66%	2.08%	3.65%	4.81%	1.2300	527.8 M
Diversified Income Fund <sup>†</sup>	2.24%	7.82%	3.63%	4.82%	9.06%	1.8878	2,720.5 M
Balanced Fund	3.09%	11.27%	5.55%	7.89%	9.09%	3.2290	1,707.6 M
Active Growth Fund	3.82%	17.77%	7.72%	10.48%	11.82%	5.8398	3,388.9 M
Australian Absolute Growth Fund	3.09%	8.31%	7.05%	10.13%	8.58%	1.6383	705.6 M
Aggressive Fund	4.52%	21.83%	—	—	6.81%	1.1959	1,756.6 M
<b>Cash and Fixed Income Funds</b>							
Trans-Tasman Bond Fund <sup>††</sup>	1.05%	6.55%	0.69%	2.07%	3.88%	1.1409	1,351.8 M
Global Corporate Bond Fund <sup>††</sup>	1.27%	7.31%	-0.12%	2.05%	2.79%	1.0261	367.5 M
Cash Fund	0.49%	5.70%	3.17%	2.32%	2.31%	1.1235	692.6 M
<b>Equity Funds</b>							
Global Equity Fund <sup>†</sup>	4.48%	23.35%	8.51%	12.32%	9.72%	2.7267	466.6 M
Trans-Tasman Equity Fund <sup>†</sup>	3.88%	10.71%	4.98%	9.75%	10.75%	4.1817	656.6 M
Dynamic Fund <sup>#</sup>	4.87%	20.59%	8.27%	13.79%	12.47%	3.3817	737.6 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	0.95 cents (Quarterly)	18/04/2024
Diversified Income Fund	1.7 cents (Quarterly)	16/05/2024
Trans-Tasman Bond Fund	0.95 cents (Quarterly)	14/06/2024
Global Corporate Bond Fund	0.85 cents (Quarterly)	14/06/2024

**Milford, its staff and their families, have approx. \$125.6 million invested in Milford's Investment Funds as of March 2024.**

# Milford Fund Performance as at 31 March 2024

## 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	1.78%	7.73%	2.15%	3.69%	6.78%	2.0869	236.5 M
KiwiSaver Moderate Fund	2.23%	9.47%	3.81%	—	6.77%	1.2945	161.5 M
KiwiSaver Balanced Fund	2.99%	11.59%	5.66%	8.07%	9.31%	3.3235	1,399.4 M
KiwiSaver Active Growth Fund <sup>^</sup>	3.97%	17.89%	7.91%	10.64%	11.96%	5.9639	5,206.6 M
KiwiSaver Aggressive Fund	4.47%	21.41%	8.57%	—	11.73%	1.6672	1,484.5 M
KiwiSaver Cash Fund	0.49%	5.71%	3.18%	—	2.46%	1.1025	119.8 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 - 2023



OUTSTANDING VALUE  
KIWISAVER SCHEME 2020 - 2023

## 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)	3.33%	2.75%	-0.42%	5.02%	8.64%
S&P/ASX 200 Accumulation Index (AUD)	3.27%	14.45%	9.61%	9.15%	8.59%
MSCI World Index (local currency)*	3.39%	26.16%	10.01%	12.63%	11.37%
MSCI World Index (NZD)*	5.13%	30.86%	14.46%	15.05%	13.6%
S&P/NZX NZ Government Bond Index	1.17%	2.67%	-2.42%	-0.76%	1.11%
Bloomberg Global Agg. Bond (USD-Hedged)	0.9%	4.14%	-1.29%	0.8%	1.62%
S&P/NZX 90-Day Bank Bill Rate	0.48%	5.69%	3.11%	2.23%	2.17%

\*With net dividends reinvested

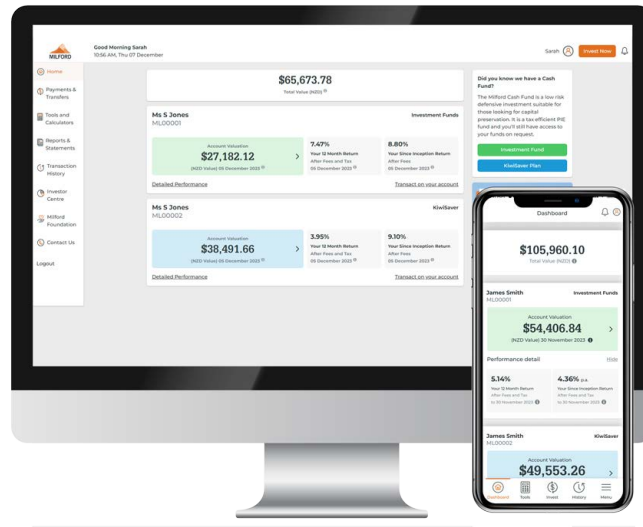
Milford staff and their families have approx. \$38.8 million invested in Milford's KiwiSaver Plan as of March 2024.

# 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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