A diversified, multi-asset portfolio managed by MLC Asset Management Monthly Report | 31 March 2025



#### Portfolio details

MLC's Premium Balanced 70 Portfolio is a complete investment solution aimed at providing investors with above-inflation returns through actively managed and extensively diversified portfolios.

The Portfolio is expected to maintain an average exposure to growth assets (shares, property, infrastructure & alternative growth assets) of approximately 70% over time.

Portfolio Objective	Aims to deliver a return of inflation +3% p.a. over	Indicative	20-25 Direct shares
	5+ years (after Model Manager fees).	holdings	5-15 Managed funds

#### Portfolio performance inception

	1m	3m	6m	1 yr	Inception <sup>4</sup>
Total Return <sup>1</sup>	-1.8%	0.1%	1.0%	-	4.9%
Income <sup>2</sup>	0.3%	0.4%	0.9%	-	1.3%
Growth	-2.1%	-0.2%	0.2%	-	3.8%
CPI + 3.0%	0.5%	1.5%	2.4%	-	3.3%
Peer Category <sup>3</sup>	-2.4%	-1.1%	0.5%	-	-

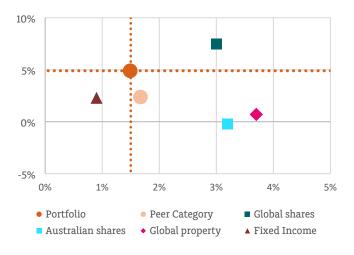
<sup>1</sup> Assumes distributions are reinvested. Returns are net of model manager fee, rebates and indirect costs. Returns greater than 1 year are annualised.

<sup>2</sup> Managed fund income is included when we receive the distribution.

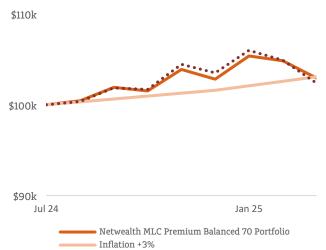
<sup>3</sup> Morningstar Multisector Growth (61% - 80%) category average

<sup>4</sup> Portfolio inception date is 9 July 2024

#### Portfolio risk & return since inception

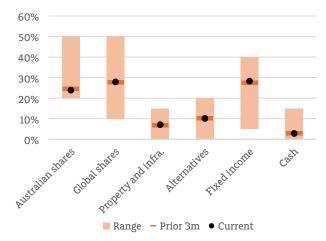


#### Growth of \$100k invested since



••••• Peer (61-80%) category<sup>3</sup>

#### Portfolio asset allocation



The performance and holdings in this document are for the Model Portfolio and are not a guarantee or an indication of the actual performance or holdings of a client's portfolio due to differences in the timing and transaction prices for portfolio changes, client investments and withdrawals during the period, timing of receipt of dividends and income distributions, platform administration fees, transactional costs associated with the client's portfolio, and any portfolio exclusions required by the client. Past performance is not a reliable indicator or guarantee of any future performance. The value of an investment may rise or fall with the changes in the market. Inflation is measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI). We use the most recent CPI as an estimate until the actual CPI is available from the Australian Bureau of Statistics.



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#### What happened in markets over the month?

- US share prices were in a tailspin with President Trump intensifying the tariff war. President Trump proposed a 25% tariff on automobile imports and the imposition of "reciprocal tariffs" on those countries that impose any taxes that challenge US exports. This was perceived as a threat to global trade relationships as well as raising prices for American consumers. US consumers are starting to respond with rising inflation expectations and a slowdown in spending this year. European shares fell in sympathy despite the European Central Bank cutting interest rates by 0.25% in early March. Chinese shares provided a positive surprise by making strong gains. Better than expected Chinese industrial production and retail spending data in the opening months of the year were encouraging despite the headwinds of a weak Chinese property sector and tariffs imposed by the Trump Administration.
- Australian shares slipped in line with global shares. Australia's economic data remains modest. There was positive news with the monthly inflation indicator showing annual inflation declining to 2.4% in February. Consumer sentiment in March also posted an encouraging rise in response to milder inflation and the Reserve Bank cutting interest rates in February. However, the previous strength in the labour market appears to be fading with February recording a sharp decline in jobs. Notably the business surveys also suggest subdued confidence and caution over Australia's prospects with a Federal election on May 3rd.
- Global government bond yields were buffeted by President Trump's tariff agenda and varying assessments of economic growth and inflation risks. Credit markets spreads increased given the volatility in global share markets.

Global market returns	1m	3m	1yr		
Shares					
ASX200	-3.4%	-2.8%	2.8%		
MSCI AC World	-4.1%	-1.9%	12.7%		
MSCI AC World (H)	-4.5%	-2.1%	7.5%		
MSCI EM	0.4%	2.3%	13.5%		
Listed property					
AU REITs	-4.9%	-6.8%	-5.4%		
Global REITs (H)	-2.8%	0.7%	3.6%		
Infrastructure					
Global Infra (H)	1.3%	5.2%	15.8%		
Fixed income & Cash					
Aus Bond Comp	0.2%	1.3%	3.2%		
Aus Bond Credit	0.3%	1.5%	5.6%		
90 Day bank bills	0.3%	1.1%	4.5%		
Global Agg (H)	-0.4%	1.1%	3.7%		
Global Credit (H)	-0.5%	1.6%	4.2%		
Global High Yield (H)	-1.0%	1.1%	8.3%		

Source: MLC Asset Management

All returns are total returns stated in AUD terms

(H) signifies the index is currency hedged

AusBond Comp, AusBond IG, Global Agg and Global Agg IG Credit are all 0+ year indexes. provided by Bloomberg.

#### What happened in the Portfolio?

The Portfolio generated a negative return for the March quarter, with global share markets now facing considerable global political risks. March provided a sharp 'wake-up call' with the realisation that US President Trump is threatening a 'global trade war', announcing a sequence of 'on again - off again' tariffs.

- The Polaris Global Equity fund performed strongly over the month, outperforming its benchmark by 4.18%. The fund benefitted from diversification away from US centric technology stocks, and holding an array of cash flow generative companies with strong underlying balance sheets.
- The Resolution Capital Global Listed Infrastructure fund was the strongest positive performer over the month, producing an absolute return of 1.19%. Robust yield generation from underlying real-assets proved attractive to markets, among strong selection from the Resolution Capital team.



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### What does the Portfolio hold?

Asset class			Weighting (%)	
Australian shares (directly held)			17.9	
BHP Group Ltd	1.5	Aristocrat Leisure Ltd	0.6	
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	1.4	Santos Ltd	0.5	
Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Ltd	1.2	JB Hi-Fi Ltd	0.5	
Wesfarmers Ltd	1.0	Goodman Group	0.5	
CSL Ltd	0.9	Rio Tinto Ltd	0.5	
Macquarie Group Ltd	0.9	AGL Energy Ltd	0.5	
Medibank Private Ltd	0.9	Transurban Group	0.5	
National Australia Bank Ltd	0.8	Woolworths Group Ltd	0.5	
Brambles Ltd	0.8	Telstra Corporation Ltd	0.4	
Woodside Energy Group Ltd	0.7	South32 Ltd	0.4	
QBE Insurance Group Ltd	0.7	Aurizon Holdings Ltd	0.4	
Scentre Group	0.7	Westpac Banking Corporation	0.4	
Xero Ltd	0.6			
Australian shares			6.0	
Active, ex-20	Antares Ex-20 Australian Equities Fund			
Active, small cap	Fairview Equity Partners Emerging Companies Fund		2.0	
Global shares			27.9	
Active, quant, hedged	Arrowstreet Globa	12.6		
Active, growth, unhedged	Intermede Global Equities Fund		3.9	
Active, value, unhedged	Polaris Global Equity Fund		6.4	
Active, emerging markets, unhedged	Walter Scott Emerging Markets Fund		5.0	
Property and Infrastructure			7.1	
Active, hedged Resolution Capital Global Property Securities Fund			3.9	
Active, hedged Resolution Capital Global Listed Infrastructure Fund		3.1		
Alternatives			10.1	
Real return strategy	MLC Real Return A	Assertive	10.1	
Fixed income			28.3	
Australian, active, short maturity	Antares Income Fu	ınd	6.6	
Australian, active, all maturity	Janus Henderson Australian Fixed Interest Fund		7.4	
Global, active, all maturity, hedged	› PIMCO Global Bond Fund		4.7	
Global, active, high yield, hedged	Bentham Professional Syndicated Loan Fund		3.8	
Global, active, high yield, hedged	Bentham Professional Global Income Fund		3.8	
Global, active, high yield, hedged	Janus Henderson Diversified Credit Fund		1.9	
Cash			2.8	
Cash account			2.8	
Total			100	



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