

# MyNorth Managed Portfolios

PROFESSIONAL CHOICE RETIREMENT 85%



Monthly Update for Month Ending December 2025

## Investment objective

Aims to deliver outperformance against the benchmark over the medium to longer term.

## Key information

<b>Code</b>	NTH0471
<b>Manager name</b>	Mercer Investments (Australia) Limited
<b>Inception date</b>	22 August 2025
<b>Benchmark</b>	Morningstar Australia Aggressive Target Allocation NR AUD
<b>Asset class</b>	Diversified
<b>Number of underlying assets</b>	14
<b>Minimum investment horizon</b>	10 years
<b>Portfolio income</b>	Default - Paid to Platform Cash
<b>Management fees and costs</b>	0.87%
<b>Performance fee</b>	0.06%
<b>Estimated Transaction Costs</b>	0.10%
<b>Risk band/label</b>	6/High
<b>Minimum investment amount</b>	\$500

## About the manager

### Mercer Investments (Australia) Limited

Mercer is a multi-national investment manager, using specialised investment tools and strategies to provide robust and diversified portfolios for their clients. Mercer's primary driver in portfolio construction is risk management - spreading investments across investment types and different risks to mitigate periods of market volatility and protecting investments from loss. Using a multi-dimensional framework, Mercer uses active management in asset classes offering the greatest opportunity for skilled investment managers to add value while using passive management to manage risk or constructing a portfolio to deliver close to market returns.

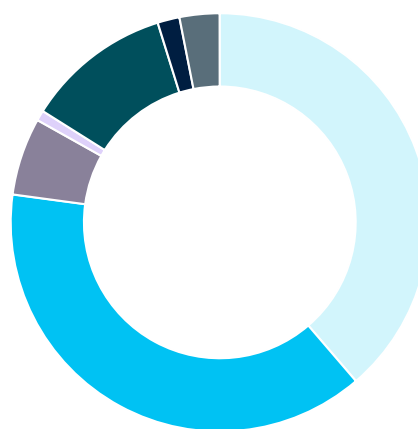
## Returns

as at 31 December 2025

	Since inception*	1 Month (%)	3 Month (%)	6 Month (%)	1 Year (%)	3 Years (%)
Total return <sup>1</sup>	0.92	0.23	0.72	-	-	-
Income	2.18	0.41	1.77	-	-	-
Growth	-1.26	-0.18	-1.05	-	-	-
Benchmark <sup>2</sup>	4.65	0.41	1.41	-	-	-

\* Since inception returns commence from the month end of the portfolio's launch.

## Asset allocation



as at 31 December 2025

Growth assets		Allocation (%)
<span style="color: #00AEEF;">■</span>	Australian Equities	38.8
<span style="color: #00AEEF;">■</span>	International Equities	38.5
<span style="color: #555555;">■</span>	Property	6.0
<span style="color: #A0A0A0;">■</span>	Other	0.8
<b>Total</b>		<b>84.1%</b>
Defensive assets		Allocation (%)
<span style="color: #008080;">■</span>	Australian Fixed Interest	11.3
<span style="color: #004040;">■</span>	International Fixed Interest	1.7
<span style="color: #555555;">■</span>	Cash	3.1
<b>Total</b>		<b>16.1%</b>

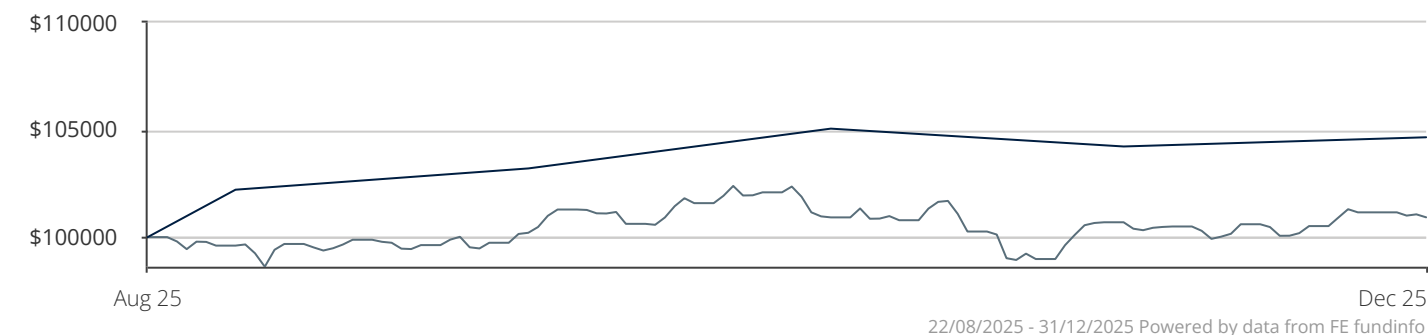
Asset allocation data sourced via Morningstar® from the underlying fund manager.

<sup>1</sup> The managed portfolio performance represents total return for the periods. Returns have been calculated using the time-weighted method, they assume distributions are reinvested and are after investment management fees and indirect costs. Total and growth returns include accrued distributions, while income return includes paid distributions only. Returns do not take into account tax payable. Individual client returns may vary based on the contributions, withdrawals, and timing differences within the managed portfolio

<sup>2</sup> The applicable Benchmark for this portfolio is shown in the Key Information section.

## Performance history

\$100,000 invested since 22/08/2025



- Portfolio
- Benchmark

## Managed portfolio holdings<sup>3</sup>

Holding	Asset class	Allocation (%)
Ausbil Active Dividend Income Fund - MA Class	Australian Equities	17.0
Plato Australian Shares Income Fund	Australian Equities	17.0
Epoch Global Equity Shareholder Yield Fund - Class B	International Equities	11.0
Schroder Multi-Asset Income Fund	Other	8.0
Lazard Global Infrastructure Fund (Hedged) - S Class	International Equities	7.0
AMP International Equity Index Fund Hedged	International Equities	6.0
First Sentier ex-20 Australian Share Fund Active ETF	Australian Equities	6.0
Resolution Capital Global Property Securities Fund - Class C	Property	6.0
JPMorgan Global Select Equity Fund - Class I Units	International Equities	5.0
Macquarie True Index Australian Fixed Interest	Australian Fixed Interest	5.0
Robeco Emerging Conservative Equity Fund (AUD) - Class C	International Equities	5.0
Fairlight Global Small & Mid Cap Fund - Class I	International Equities	3.0
Janus Henderson Tactical Income Fund	Australian Fixed Interest	3.0
Cash Account	Cash	1.0

## Quarterly manager commentary

### Market Update

In Q4 2025, global equities rose, helped by AI enthusiasm, monetary policy easing and fiscal stimulus measures, while trade tensions eased as the year progressed. 2025 was a strong year for risk assets as markets shrugged off tariff concerns with focus shifting towards positive earnings growth momentum particularly from large cap US equities. Global government bonds showed mixed trends across economies and maturities. In the US, the yield curve steepened, with 2-10-year spread widening over Q4. Progress on disinflation and continued gradual weakness in the US labour market led the Fed to cut interest rates in December with markets pricing more rate cuts to come. Commodity prices rose over Q4, led by metals. Silver and gold rallied, up 51% and 12%, respectively. Silver outperformed gold due to strong industrial demand and supply shortages. Gold remained favored as a safe haven and appears to be driven by strong retail demand. Copper saw the largest gains among industrial metals, driven by strong expected demand from the AI datacentre build out.

In Australia, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) held rates steady at 3.6% at their December meeting, in line with market expectations. Although market expectations have recently shifted toward rate hikes in 2026, our view is that the RBA is unlikely to pivot that quickly. It is more likely that the RBA will remain on hold into 2026. Australian shares fell -0.9% over the quarter, as stronger than expected labour market data and higher inflation both suggested that future interest rate cuts in Australia may not eventuate. The materials sector was the best performing sector over the quarter, higher by 12.9% driven by higher commodity prices, followed by the energy sector, which increased marginally, by 0.9%

### Portfolio Update

Australian shares fell -0.9% over the quarter, as stronger than expected labour market data and higher inflation both suggested that future interest rate cuts in Australia may not eventuate. The materials sector was the best performing sector over the quarter, higher by 12.9% driven by higher commodity prices, followed by the energy sector, which increased marginally, by 0.9%.

The Ausbil Active Dividend Income Fund outperformed its benchmark over the quarter, returning 0.1%. The strategy's overweight to Materials and Communication Services sectors contributed to relative performance. The strategy's investment approach continues to focus on the sustainability and growth potential of a company's future dividend streams.

International shares (hedged) rose 3.5% over the quarter, supported by a strong US Q3'25 earnings season and Fed rate cuts. Healthcare was the best performing sector over the quarter, up 10.8%, as pharmaceuticals performed strongly following solid earnings reports. This was followed by the

materials sector, which rose 5.2%, as metal prices moved higher over the quarter. The consumer discretionary sector was the worst performing sector for the quarter but still saw gains, up 1.4%.

The JPMorgan Global Select Fund underperformed the benchmark over the quarter, returning 0.2%. Stock selection in media and technology – semi & hardware detracted from performance. The fund continues to reduce risk by not taking on outsized regional, sector or style biases, subsequently maintaining a well-diversified portfolio as the implications for inflation and growth remain uncertain.

Emerging markets fund, Robeco Emerging Conservative Equities, underperformed its benchmark over the quarter, returning 1.6%. While positive contributions came from its Income factor, this was offset by their Low Risk and Sentiment factors. More specifically, the strategy was underweight the information technology and industrial sectors, both of which delivered strong performance over the quarter, and additionally maintained an underweight to South Korea, which proved challenging as its bull market fired on all cylinders.

International listed infrastructure was higher, up 0.8%; while international listed property was flat.

The Resolution Capital Global Property Securities Fund outperformed its benchmark over the quarter, returning 1.1%. Stock selection in self-storage and retail, as well as overweight positions in diversified and healthcare segments contributed to relative performance. The fund offers broad exposure to global listed property sectors, provides inflation-linked cash flows, as well as diversification to equity investments.

Australian government bonds were down -1.3% over the quarter. Australian 10-year government bond yields rose by 44bps over the quarter, as markets priced in interest rate hikes in 2026 following stronger labour market data and higher inflation. International government bonds were up 0.5% over the quarter.

The Macquarie True Index Australian Fixed Interest Fund returned -1.1% over the quarter.

The Coolabah Floating Rate Note Fund outperformed its benchmark over the quarter, returning 1.1%. The manager focusses on generating higher income rather than traditional fixed income instruments, investing in a portfolio of investment-grade, Australian floating-rate notes with enhanced yields.

#### **Portfolio changes during the quarter:**

No portfolio changes.

#### **Market Outlook**

We expect the international economy to stay fairly strong going into 2026. US consumer spending should remain solid; helped by steady income growth, strong share markets, and generally healthy household finances. Outside the US, we see a small pickup in growth. Emerging Markets and Japan are expected to keep performing well. China's growth will likely stay below its potential because of ongoing weakness in the property sector. The Fed is likely to cut rates further, but probably not as much as markets expect. The Bank of Japan is expected to keep raising rates, while the Bank of England will likely start easing policy as inflation moves closer to its target. Australian economic growth is likely to pick up in 2026; driven by recent RBA interest rate cuts, improving consumer confidence, and solid income growth. Although market expectations have recently shifted toward rate hikes in 2026, our view is that the RBA is unlikely to pivot that quickly. It is more likely that the RBA will remain on hold into 2026, taking a data dependent approach and assessing each new inflation and employment release. Nonetheless, mounting evidence suggests that most of the easing cycle is already behind us. Headline inflation will continue to rise in 2026 as government energy rebates expired in December, although this should be a short-term impact that the RBA should not be concerned about. Finally, the situation in Venezuela is not expected to impact international markets significantly. Typically, heightened geopolitical risks increase investor concerns and push oil prices higher. However, Venezuela's oil output has declined as its infrastructure has deteriorated, despite the country holding the world's largest oil reserves. If output is restored and increased, higher supply could instead put downward pressure on oil prices.

3 A significant percentage of assets comprising this portfolio are only available through the managed portfolios and therefore can't be transferred out of the MyNorth Managed Portfolio Scheme. For more information relating to restrictions that may apply to asset transfers, refer to the 'Transferring assets in and out of your Portfolio' in Part 1 of the MyNorth Managed Portfolios PDS.

#### **Important Information**

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