

# WEALTHFOCUS PERPETUAL CONCENTRATED EQUITY

May 2025

## FUND FACTS

**Investment objective:** Aims to provide long-term capital growth and income through investment predominantly in quality Australian industrial and resource shares.

## FUND BENEFITS

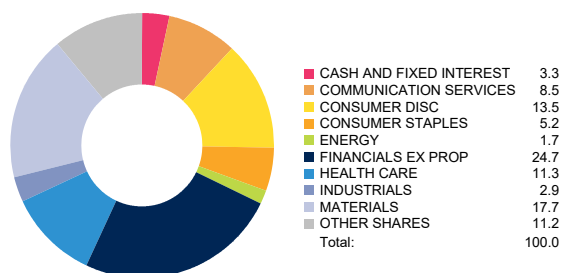
Provides investors with higher potential returns, through the active management of a portfolio of fewer stocks but with higher conviction, than our core Australian equity funds. This concentration may lead to increased short term volatility.

## FUND RISKS

All investments carry risk and different strategies may carry different levels of risk. The relevant product disclosure statement or offer document for a fund should be considered before deciding whether to acquire or hold units in that fund. Your financial adviser can assist you in determining whether a fund is suited to your financial needs.

**Benchmark:** S&P/ASX 300 Accum. Index  
**Inception Date:** November 2008  
**Size of Portfolio:** \$11.08 million as at 31 Mar 2025  
**APIR:** PER0488AU  
**Management Fee:** 1.23%\*  
**Investment style:** Active, fundamental, bottom-up, value  
**Suggested minimum investment period:** Five years or longer

## PORTFOLIO SECTORS



## TOP 10 STOCK HOLDINGS

	% of Portfolio
BHP Group Ltd	10.1%
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	9.6%
GPT Group	5.4%
Wesfarmers Limited	4.1%
News Corporation	4.0%
ANZ Group Holdings Limited	3.8%
CSL Limited	3.8%
Washington H. Soul Patt.	3.6%
EVT Limited	3.6%
Sigma Healthcare Ltd	3.2%

## NET PERFORMANCE - periods ending 31 May 2025

	Fund	Benchmark #	Excess
1 month	2.48	4.20	-1.72
3 months	1.79	4.34	-2.55
1 year	6.54	13.17	-6.63
2 year p.a.	7.19	13.00	-5.81
3 year p.a.	6.03	9.34	-3.30
4 year p.a.	7.12	8.16	-1.04
5 year p.a.	12.38	11.99	+0.38
7 year p.a.	6.96	8.99	-2.03
10 year p.a.	5.93	8.10	-2.18

Past performance is not indicative of future performance. Returns may differ due to different tax treatments.

## PORTFOLIO FUNDAMENTALS^

	Portfolio	Benchmark
Price / Earnings*	19.3	18.8
Dividend Yield*	2.9%	3.5%
Price / Book	2.1	2.3
Debt / Equity	37.1%	38.9%
Return on Equity*	10.7%	12.6%

^ Portfolio Fundamentals are compiled using our methodology and provided only for the purpose of illustrating the Fund's investment style in action. These figures are forecast estimates, calculated based on consensus broker estimates where available, and should not be relied upon. Dividend Yield is a dividend forecast of underlying securities for the portfolio and does not reflect the distributions to be determined for the fund.

\* Forward looking 12-month estimate.

## GROWTH OF \$10,000 SINCE INCEPTION



## MARKET COMMENTARY

The S&P/ASX 300 Accumulation Index rose 4.2% in May, marking a strong rebound after April's tariff-driven sell-off. Global markets found relief as President Trump paused his sweeping tariff agenda, fuelling hopes the so-called "Trump put" - the tendency to reverse course after market weakness - remains intact. The rally was further supported by stronger-than-expected US earnings, with over 70% of S&P 500 companies beating estimates, helping risk sentiment recover. Locally, Information Technology (+18.8%) surged on AI optimism, while Energy (+8.7%) rebounded alongside firmer oil prices. Defensive sectors lagged as risk appetite returned, with Health Care (+1.4%), Consumer Staples (+1.2%) and Utilities (+0.3%) underperforming. Despite the rally, Australian forward earnings expectations softened, and gains were driven by valuation expansion, with the market's P/E multiple returning to recent highs at 18.6x. While valuations have risen and local earnings forecasts remain more measured than global peers, selective opportunities remain for investors focused on quality, resilient business models and disciplined capital allocation.

## PORTFOLIO COMMENTARY

The portfolio's largest overweight positions include GPT Group, News Corporation and EVT Limited. The largest relative underweights include National Australia Bank Limited, Telstra Group Limited (not held) and Transurban Group Ltd (not held).

The portfolio's overweight to EVT Limited contributed to relative performance in May (+15.0%) as the stock continued to appreciate despite no major news. We invested when the share price reflected only the value of its property portfolio and little to its operating businesses. A recovery in cinema earnings is underway, supported by an improving box office pipeline and growing spend per visitor. The fixed-cost nature of cinemas provides meaningful operating leverage. The company's hotel and property assets offer embedded value, with planned divestments and strategic reviews acting as near-term catalysts. As earnings momentum builds and transparency improves, we remain convicted in EVT and believe the market will narrow the valuation gap.

Ramsay Healthcare also contributed positively (+15.2%) after third-quarter earnings and as Healthscope entered receivership, creating potential upside through reduced sector capacity and targeted acquisitions. Ramsay faces a slow recovery in domestic hospital volumes and ongoing wage inflation. Overnight admissions remain below pre-COVID levels, reflecting structural shifts including growth in day procedures and exclusionary policies. Wage pressures from Enterprise Bargaining Agreement renewals and pending Fair Work Commission outcomes present further headwinds. While indexation by insurers may offset some costs, sustainability remains uncertain. Ramsay Sante continues to underperform, with divestment under review.

Nick Scali supported portfolio performance in May (+7.4%), continuing a strong 12-month rally. The company offers a balanced growth opportunity, driven by store rollout, market share gains and early success in the UK. Foot traffic softened in January but improved in February and March, in line with management commentary, suggesting seasonal timing rather than structural weakness. The UK rollout remains on track, with nine refurbishments complete and three more due in 2H25. Gross margins have lifted to 45.1% since acquisition, with further upside expected as the full product range is introduced. Consensus forecasts appear conservative, and the company has a strong track record of exceeding expectations.

BlueScope detracted from portfolio performance in May as the stock fell -4.7% following Trump's approval of the US Steel and Nippon "partnership." Nippon pledged significant US investment to secure the deal, including building a new steel mill and preserving existing jobs. Approval was granted despite concerns a revitalised US Steel, backed by Nippon capital, could disrupt the sector and lead to job losses among incumbents. This challenges the long-term thesis based on industry rationality around capacity and pricing. Despite the noise, hot-rolled coil steel prices are trending positively. BlueScope remains a high-quality steel producer with strong management, a strategic asset at Port Kembla, and the Colorbond brand, which boosts margins and supports international growth.

Select Harvests detracted from relative performance over May (-8.8%) after delivering First Half FY25 results, despite presenting a stabilising investment case supported by improved balance sheet dynamics, firm pricing, and disciplined crop management. About 60% of the almond crop is committed for sale, with the remainder expected to help reduce debt by year-end. Debt refinancing has mitigated short-term funding risks, and working capital cycles remain seasonally predictable. Fundamentals remain sound, pricing trends are favourable, and medium-term supply growth is constrained, particularly in California. Upside exists through stronger pricing and tariff adjustments, but current valuations better reflect underlying assets and operations.

The overweight in Iluka Resources detracted from performance in May (-11.6%) despite an investor briefing early in the month. The briefing highlighted significant value, with market capitalisation close to the value of inventory and the stake in Deterra Royalties. Further upside depends on confidence in the Eneabba refinery, though uncertainty around cost overruns, a slow ramp-up, and no secured offtake dampens sentiment. If management executes well, the stock presents meaningful upside. Iluka is a major producer of rutile, synthetic rutile and zircon. A recovery could be met by releasing excess inventory and reducing working capital before restarting production. Iluka's strong balance sheet and valuable stake in Deterra Royalties provide a buffer through periods of demand disruption.

## OUTLOOK

Markets are at a crossroads. Despite growing concern over U.S. debt and deficit - highlighted by talk of another "big, beautiful bill" to increase liabilities - equity markets remain resilient. Bond vigilantes are re-emerging, and inflation fears persist. Yet markets have quickly rebounded into growth and tech trades, reversing the sharp sell-off earlier this year. Some optimism is supported by strong fundamentals, including Nvidia's robust revenue growth. However, a deeper shift appears underway. The global economy is entering a period of rebalancing, and markets typically follow. U.S. equities remain near peak valuations, with elevated profit margins and a peaking U.S. dollar - conditions that are rarely sustained. The Trump administration is focused on opening global market access and challenging currency and regulatory tools used to suppress trade. The U.S. and U.K. are moving toward banking deregulation to stimulate credit growth. Germany is reflatting through structural reforms. India is overtaking Japan to become one of the world's top three economies. Together, these forces suggest an inflection point for the global economy and market leadership. Investors should be prepared for a market environment that looks very different from the last, both for Australia and globally.

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# The Ordinaries benchmark prior to 1/4/2000 was the ASX All Ordinaries Accumulation Index. From 1/4/2000 to current the benchmark is S&P/ASX 300 Accumulation Index. The publication has been prepared and issued by Perpetual Investment Management Limited (PIML) ABN 18 000 866 535 AFSL No 234426, as promoter for the Perpetual WealthFocus Superannuation Fund. The information contained in this document is general information only and is not intended to provide you with financial advice or take into account your objectives, financial situation or needs. You should consider, with a financial adviser, whether the information is suitable for your circumstances. To the extent permitted by law, no liability is accepted for any loss or damage as a result of any reliance on this information. The information contained in this document is in addition to and does not form part of the product disclosure statement (PDS) for the Perpetual WealthFocus Superannuation Fund. The PDS for the Perpetual WealthFocus Superannuation Fund ABN 41 772 007 500, issued by Equity Trustees Superannuation Limited (ETSL) ABN 50 055 641 757, AFSL 229757, RSE L0001458, should be considered before deciding whether to acquire or hold units. The PDS and Target Market Determination can be obtained by calling 1800 011 022 or visiting [www.perpetual.com.au](http://www.perpetual.com.au). Neither PIML, ETSL nor any of their related parties guarantee the performance of any fund or the return of an investor's capital. Total returns shown for the Perpetual WealthFocus Superannuation Fund have been calculated using exit prices after taking into account all of Perpetual's ongoing fees and assuming reinvestment of distributions. No allowance has been made for taxation. Past performance is not indicative of future performance.

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