# PORTFOLIO UPDATE

# Atlas Australian Core Equity Portfolio

# Monthly Report July 2025



- > July was a stronger month for equities globally and domestically, with the S&P500 gaining 2.17% over the month and the ASX 200 gaining 2.35%. The key news domestically was the surprise from the RBA of not cutting rates in July. Since then, inflation has continued to moderate, which is likely to prompt the RBA to cut rates when it meets in August
- ➤ The Atlas Australian Core Equity Portfolio gained 2.74%, outperforming the benchmark return of 2.29%. As always, it is challenging in July to deviate from the index with most companies in blackout and the market being driven by macroeconomic themes.
- Atlas is looking forward to the upcoming August reporting season. We expect the reporting season will continue to show the resilience of company earnings from the companies held in the Portfolio and that management will guide to higher profits and dividends over the coming year. In the last weeks of July, eight companies gave guidance on their upcoming results. An advantage of populating a portfolio with established and profitable companies over newly listed firms with novel business models is that investors have a guide on how these companies should perform in all business conditions.

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	12m rolling	Inception % p.a.
Atlas Australian Core Equity Potfolio	-0.3%	1.7%	-1.8%	3.8%	-2.8%	4.5%	-3.6%	-3.1%	2.0%	4.0%	1.6%	2.7%	8.6%	9.3%
ASX 200 TR ex LPT	0.5%	2.7%	-1.2%	3.9%	-3.0%	4.6%	-3.8%	-3.3%	3.5%	4.2%	1.4%	2.3%	11.6%	8.7%
Active return	-0.8%	-1.0%	-0.6%	-0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%	-1.5%	-0.2%	0.2%	0.5%	-3.0%	0.7%

#### **Portfolio Objective**

Our approach to investing in Australian shares is founded on fundamental company analysis, earnings quality, and sensible risk management principles. The objective is to build a portfolio of high-quality companies that deliver consistent and growing dividends with easily forecastable earnings. The Portfolio focuses on companies with strong profit and dividend growth.

#### **Portfolio Details**

Index	S&P ASX 200 Total Return (ex LPT)
Number of Stocks	18 - 30
Asset Allocation	100% Equity
Inception Date	March 2016
Security Target	within 5% of S&P ASX 200 weights
Sector Target	within 10% of S&P GICS sector weights
Management Fee	0.44% per annum (GST included)
Platform	Hub24/Netwealth/Praemium/Macquarie Wrap
Code	ATL001

#### **Market Update**

There was minimal company-specific news during July due to companies being in blackout before releasing their sixmonth financial results in August. The key economic news over the month was the easing of inflation, which is likely to prompt the Reserve Bank to cut interest rates when it meets next Tuesday.

Globally, President Trump was again active on the tariffs, releasing a frenzy of deals, adjustments, backflips, sidedeals, all of which are now largely ignored by the markets – the cratering of markets of March and April seems so far away now

## Top Ten Active Positions as of July 2025

Positive	Negative
Amcor	BHP
QBE Insurance	NAB
Transurban	Commonwealth Bank
ANZ	Telstra
Macquarie Group	Rio Tinto

## **Estimated portfolio metrics for FY26**

	ASX 200	ACEP
PE (x) fwd.	19.5	14.0
Dividend yield net	3.4%	4.9%
Est Franking	67%	82%
Grossed Up Yield	4.2%	6.5%
Number of stocks	200	23
Avg mcap \$bn	11	69
Beta (3-month rolling)	1.0	0.93

Source: Bloomberg & UBS

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#### **Portfolio Performance**

In June, the **Atlas Australian Core Equity Portfolio** gained by 2.7%, outperforming the benchmark return of 2.3% in a volatile month.

Over the month, positions in Mineral Resources (+33%), Whitehaven Coal (+19%), CSL (+13%), Woodside (+13%) and Deterra Royalties (+10%) added value.

On the negative side of the ledger, Bapcor (-23%), Macquarie Group (-5%), and Suncorp Insurance (-3%) detracted value.

### **Quarterly Updates:**

During July, the Portfolio received quarterly updates from eight companies, with most results being positive.

Ampol (+6%) provided a trading update that was largely in line with market expectations, with retail sales continuing to grow earnings from a favourable mix of premium fuels and the refining margin recovering from higher oil prices globally.

Bapcor (-23%) provided a trading update that was below market expectations and that three directors will be stepping down. Atlas has a meeting scheduled with management following its results in August.

Mineral Resources (+33%) provided a solid production update, which showed production was at the top end of guidance and costs were below guidance for both iron ore and lithium.

Atlas Arteria (+1%) provided a traffic update during July, showing that the average traffic across their road system increased by 3% but their revenues increased by 11% following increases in toll rates at the start of the year.

Deterra Royalties (+10%) provided a solid update following a \$20 million capacity payment from BHP, which was triggered by increased production at their flagship mine, now exceeding 128 million tonnes per annum.

Whitehaven (+19%) provided a positive production update, which was demonstrated by management's focus on operational excellence and cost reduction in their met coal mines.

## **Portfolio Trading**

No trading was done this month.

## **Sector Exposure July 2025**

<b>GICS Sector</b>	ASX200	ACEP	ACTIVE
Consumer Discretionary	9.4%	11.2%	1.8%
Consumer Staples	3.6%	0.0%	-3.6%
Energy	3.7%	7.6%	3.9%
Banks	27.0%	32.4%	5.2%
Diversified Fins	6.8%	12.0%	5.2%
Health Care	9.6%	10.8%	1.2%
Industrials	5.3%	1.3%	-4.0%
Materials	18.1%	14.4%	-3.8%
Telecommunication Services	5.9%	0.0%	-5.9%
Listed Property	6.7%	0.0%	-6.7%
Utilities	3.6%	8.9%	5.3%

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