

# PORTFOLIO UPDATE

## HNW Australian Equity Income Portfolio

### Monthly Report November 2025

- November was the weakest month of 2025 for the ASX since the Trump tariffs in February/March, at one stage down -5.5%, before rallying to finish "only" down -2.66%. Interest rate expectations were a key driver of markets in November, with a Melbourne Cup Day rate cut by the RBA evaporating amid higher inflation from electricity subsidies rolling off and stronger US employment data suggesting that a cut in December was less likely.
- The **HNW Australian Equity Income Focus Portfolio** fell by 1.7%, underperforming its the benchmark return of -1.1%, demonstrating its expected defensive characteristics in a volatile month and was aided by positive trading updates from several Portfolio companies.
- November was a good month for income in the Portfolio, with five companies declaring franked dividends (Macquarie Group, Amcor, Westpac, ANZ Bank, and Dyno Nodel) based on solid profits reported in early November. In addition, the major banks continue to have on-market share buybacks underway, which will support share prices over the coming months.

	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	12m rolling	Incept annual
Australian Equity Income Portfolio	-1.7%	4.2%	-2.3%	-2.4%	2.5%	4.5%	1.9%	2.0%	3.5%	-2.6%	1.0%	-1.7%	8.7%	9.3%
ASX 200TR/RBA +3%	-1.3%	2.6%	-1.6%	-1.4%	2.1%	2.4%	1.0%	1.5%	1.8%	-0.1%	0.5%	-1.1%	6.6%	6.5%
Active return	-0.4%	1.6%	-0.8%	-1.1%	0.4%	2.1%	0.8%	0.5%	1.6%	-2.5%	0.5%	-0.6%	2.2%	2.8%

#### Portfolio Objective

Investment decisions are determined by the ability of the companies to maintain or grow income to shareholders or that are likely to provide franking credits (including contemplation of possible off-market buybacks).

#### Appropriate Investors

Pensioners or otherwise low marginal tax rate investors.

#### Portfolio Details

Index	S&P ASX 200 Total Return/RBA +3%
Number of Stocks	15 - 30
Asset Allocation	100% Equity
Inception Date	30 <sup>th</sup> November 2022
Security Target	within 5% of S&P ASX 200 weights
Sector Target	within 10% of S&P GICS sector weights

#### Performance Update

The key news over the month was the strong US employment data, which showed employment held steady at 4.3%, well above expectations. The strong jobs report cut expectations of a December rate cut in the US and continued to drag on equities throughout the month.

Adding to this was a hot inflation print in Australia in November, which saw inflation rise to 3.9%, driven by the roll-off of state electricity subsidies. The key stock-specific news over the month was the banks' reporting season, which was fairly benign, with all banks showing robust net interest margins and record-low bad debts

#### Top Positions end November 2025 Yield (incl-franking)

Company	Yield
Woodside	8.1%
Macquarie Bank	4.8%
Transurban	5.0%
Commonwealth Bank	3.5%
ANZ Bank	8.0%

#### Estimated portfolio metrics for FY25

	ASX 200	HNW EI
PE (x) fwd.	18.3	16.1
Dividend yield (net)	3.5%	5.2%
Est Franking	67%	81%
Grossed Up Yield	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>6.8%</b>
Number of stocks	200	23
Avg mcap \$B	11	58
Beta (3mth rolling)	1.0	0.91

Source: Bloomberg & UBS

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November 2025

### Portfolio Performance

In November, the **HNW Australian Equities Income Focus Portfolio** fell 1.7%.

Over the month, positions in Sonic Healthcare (+10%), Amcor (+10%), Dyno Nobel (+6%) and Transurban (+3%) added value. The first three names provided solid results at the beginning of November, highlighting strong earnings growth and capital management.

On the negative side of the ledger, Suncorp (-11%), Macquarie Group (-9%), and JB Hi-Fi (-6%) detracted value.

### Banks Reporting Season

Overall, we are happy with the November financial results from the banks owned in the Portfolio. All the banks demonstrated solid net interest margins, low non-performing loans, and effective cost control. All of the major banks held or increased dividends for shareholders (along with ongoing share buybacks), signalling to Atlas that the banks are performing well. Atlas sees dividends as a better measure than earnings per share for assessing a company's health, since earnings per share are open to some degree of manipulation.

An area that is increasingly a focus for the major banks is business lending, with the major banks looking to take market share from NAB. Westpac significantly stepped up its business lending, with a 15% increase in lending to businesses and a 17% increase in lending to institutions. Whilst business lending is riskier than typical mortgage lending, the big banks are focusing on industries that have historically had a better track record of repayments, such as health services, professional services and agriculture.

### Portfolio Trading

No major trading was done over the month

### Performance Calculation Methodology

The following conventions have been adopted for calculating performance:

- Transaction expenses of 10bp are applied to Portfolio buy and sells. Transaction expenses are capitalised into the cost base. Rebalancing transactions incur transaction expenses.
- Cash-flow from dividends is credited on the ex-date rather than the pay date. Franking is not considered which is consistent with the calculation methodology of the benchmark. Cash-flow from dividends is assumed to be reinvested in issuer stock at the closing price on the ex-date.
- The Portfolio can participate in entitlement-based capital raisings, however, cannot participate in institutional raisings. The Portfolio must fund the required amount by the sale of the equivalent amount of equity. In the event of a subsequent scale-back the Portfolio will also record the pro-rata amount of script issued.

### Sector Exposure November 2025

GICS Sector	ASX200	Income	ACTIVE
Consumer Disc	7.8%	10.5%	2.7%
Consumer Staples	4.8%	0.0%	-4.8%
Energy	7.0%	12.0%	5.0%
Banks	24.0%	26.0%	-2.0%
Diversified Fins	4.8%	10.0%	5.2%
Health Care	9.8%	2.0%	-7.8%
Industrials	5.6%	0.0%	-5.6%
Materials	22.8%	16.5%	-6.3%
Telco	2.5%	0.0%	-2.5%
Listed Property	5.6%	14.0%	8.4%
Utilities	1.3%	10.0%	8.7%

- Performance does not include consideration of taxation including capital gains tax.
- Performance numbers are presented on an unaudited basis