

Financial update – Attorneyships clients

30 June 2025

Market update for the financial year to 30 June 2025

The 2025 financial year was marked by heightened geopolitical uncertainty driving significant market volatility.

Equities performed strongly early in the year but concerns about tariffs in the latter part of the year triggered sharp declines across Australian and international markets. A late year rebound, spurred by positive tariff developments and US tax reforms, helped restore some optimism.

Fixed income markets mirrored this turbulence. Cautious signals from the US Federal Reserve in the second quarter of the year resulted in negative returns. Rising sovereign bond prices in the third quarter supported a brief recovery but were again disrupted by global trade tensions.

Currency markets also fluctuated. Most currencies strengthened against the US dollar which saw its worst half-year performance since 1991.

In Australia, interest rates fell from 4.35% to 3.85%, though retail sales remained weak despite rising employment. The Australian property market has shown a mixed trend over the last 12 months. Overall, the pace of growth varied across capital cities and regional areas. Perth and Adelaide experienced higher growth rates, while other cities like Melbourne have seen more subdued increases.

Globally, central banks eased monetary policy in response to inflation. In line with this, Germany made a historic fiscal shift toward stimulating economic growth by approving €500 billion in infrastructure spending.

Meanwhile, geopolitical tensions escalated in the Middle East and the US passed major tax legislation, adding complexity to already uncertain and dynamic global financial marketplace.

Investment outlook

Global trade disruptions from tariff changes and tensions continue to impact supply chains.

China may offset some effects through stimulus and spending, benefiting Australia's exports. However, US growth could slow due to fiscal tightening and the rising costs of imports due to tariffs and a weaker US dollar. Europe may see gains from increased Government spending.

In Australia, despite easing inflation and possible future rate cuts, domestic growth remains constrained by high interest rates and cautious investment.

Source: This market update has been provided by Mercer Australia – August 2025.

Investment performance

The performance of State Trustees' investment funds is outlined in the table below.

	Total Net Return*		
	1 year	3 years p/a	5 years p/a
Cash Common Fund 2	4.34%	3.55%	2.09%
inveST International Equity Fund	16.20%	16.87%	13.95%
inveST Property Fund	8.63%	5.97%	6.71%
inveST Diversified Income Fund	5.75%	2.69%	-0.85%
inveST Balanced Fund	10.94%	9.19%	7.41%
inveST Australian Equity Fund	11.95%	12.16%	11.07%

* Total Net Return is the Gross Return (including both distributions and growth) minus ongoing fees and expenses. Past performance is not necessarily an indication of future performance.

Note – The above returns only apply to the State Trustees Common and inveST Funds. Client funds may be invested in other investments.



You can find information on all our fees, commissions and charges at www.statetrustees.com.au/fees.

Understanding the Financial Statements

The financial statements for your account include two separate statements – the Statement of Account and the Asset and Liability Statement. To help understand these, explanations of the main components are listed below.



If you require assistance clarifying any aspect of the statements, contact your Consultant or email epa@statetrustees.com.au.

Statement of Account

The Statement of Account summarises the financial transactions we processed on your behalf (via the Cash Common Fund) for the financial year to 30 June 2025. These have been grouped into the categories outlined in the table below.

Details (heading)	Shows the headings and description.
Debits (heading)	Monies moving out of the Cash Common Fund account of the client e.g. other investments, payments requested, fees or taxes.
Credits (heading)	Monies moving into the Cash Common Fund account of the client e.g. investment returns or interest, funds from the sale of an asset / investment.
Balance (heading)	The opening balance of the Cash Common Fund account of the client or the interim balances after addition or subtraction of monies. Note: these are not balances held by the Cash Common Fund account throughout the reported financial period.
Opening Balance	This is the balance of funds held in the Cash Common Fund at the beginning of the financial period covered by the statement.
Asset Capital Receipts	Shows where funds have been withdrawn from a non-Cash Common Fund investment to either provide more readily available cash or to be reinvested in other investments.
Asset Income Receipts	Shows the income received from the non-Cash Common Fund investments.
Other Receipts	Shows any other monies received, including interest earned on the Cash Common Fund investment.
Asset Capital Expenses	Shows funds that have been invested from the Cash Common Fund into non-Cash Common Fund investments (including where Asset Income Receipts have been reinvested to purchase additional units in an investment).
Other Expenses	Shows the totals of payments made from the account, as well as State Trustees' fees and commissions incurred in the management of the client account, including statutory charges such as GST.
Totals	The figure at the far right is the balance of funds held in the Cash Common Fund at the end of the financial period covered by the statement.

Asset and Liability Statement

A statement showing the value of all assets managed by State Trustees as at 30 June 2025.

Valuation Date (heading)	The date of the most recent valuation of the particular asset holding.
Units (heading)	Investments (e.g. Managed Funds or shares) are held as units. The 'Units' figure is the number of units of the investment owned as at the date of the statement. Other investments, such as the Cash Common Fund, do not have units – their columns are intentionally blank.
Liabilities (heading)	The value of any amounts the client owes to other parties at the Statement date.
Balance (heading)	The net value of assets or investments the client holds (taking into account any liability) at the Statement date. This is usually the same as the ASSETS value.
Equities	Investment funds including property funds, shares and diversified funds. The dollar value provided for these accounts reflects the unit price at the date of the statement multiplied by the number of units held.
Interest Bearing Holdings	Bank accounts and cash management funds.
Realty	Real property such as houses, land or other investment property.
Personalty	Assets (including art and animals), which are not real property, money, or investments.
Cash Common Fund	A managed fund account that earns cash rates of interest (paid monthly) and provides the funds from which payments are made. The figure in the BALANCE column for this equals the closing balance at the bottom of the 'Statement of Account' for the same date.
Totals	The total value of the account as at the date of the statement is printed at the bottom.