

	Month (%)	Quarter (%)	FYTD (%)	1 Year (%)	3 Years (% p.a.)	5 Years (% p.a.)	Since Inception (% p.a.)
Perennial Concentrated Australian Shares Trust (Net)	1.2	0.9	0.5	28.9	8.3	-	7.3
S&P/ASX 300 Accumulation Index	2.6	6.1	3.7	28.6	10.1	-	10.7
<b>Value Added</b>	<b>-1.4</b>	<b>-5.2</b>	<b>-3.2</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>-1.8</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-3.4</b>

Since inception: May 2017. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

## Overview

- Global markets were strong in August, with most major indices delivering positive returns, with vaccines being rolled out, growth recovering and the prospect of ongoing low interest rates.
- The Australian market rose again, with the ASX300 Accumulation Index making another record high, finishing the month up +2.6%, bringing the total return for the last 12 months to a very healthy +28.6%.
- Company reporting season was the key event during the month, with market earnings rising strongly, as the economy bounced back from the first round of COVID disruptions. Earnings growth was broad-based and dividends were up sharply across all segments of the market. The Resources sector was the standout after a year of rising commodity prices.
- Since the market's low in March 2020, the Trust has performed very well, outperforming the market by +9.2% after fees. This performance highlights the Trust's leverage to the post-COVID economic recovery. Historically, value style investing has delivered significant outperformance during economic recoveries.

## Fund Characteristics

The aim of the Trust is to grow the value of your investment over the long term by investing in a concentrated portfolio of Australian companies and to provide a total return that exceeds the S&P/ASX300 Accumulation Index measured on a rolling three-year basis.

### Portfolio Manager

Dan Bosscher

### Trust FUM

AUD \$20 million

### Distribution Frequency

Half yearly

### Minimum Initial Investment

\$25,000

### Trust Inception Date

May 2017

### Fees

0.92%

### APIR Code

WPC6780AU

Portfolio Characteristics – FY22	Trust	Market
Price to Earnings (x)	14.3	17.0
Price to Free Cash Flow (x)	12.0	15.3
Gross Yield (%)	5.8	4.9
Price to NTA (x)	2.1	3.0

Source: Perennial Value Management. As at 31 August 2021

The above figures are forecasts only. While due care has been used in the preparation of forecast information, actual outcomes may vary in a materially positive or negative manner.

## Trust Thematic Exposures

**Offshore Earners** Aristocrat Leisure , Macquarie Group

**Long Cyclical** BHP, Santos, Alumina

**Defensives** Newcrest Mining, Charter Hall Wale

**Short US10 Yr. Bonds** Underweight Utilities

## Top 10 Positions (A -> Z)

ANZ

Aristocrat Leisure

BHP

BlueScope Steel

Macquarie Group

Newcrest Mining

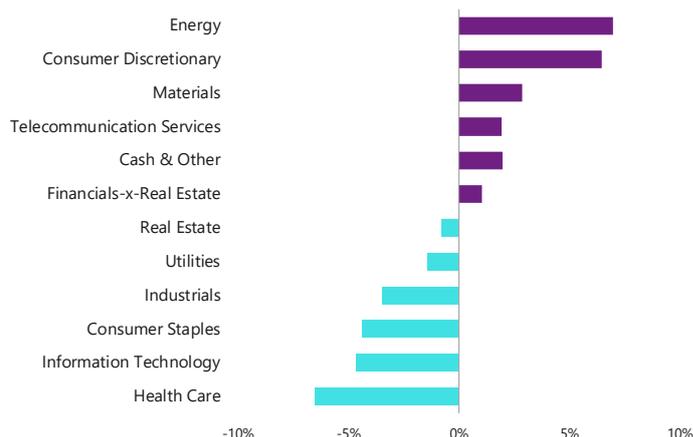
Star Entertainment Group

Telstra

Westpac

Woodside Petroleum

## Sector Active Exposure vs Index



## Trust Review

Given the ongoing rollout of effective vaccines, the market is, at present, prepared to look through the impact of the lockdowns in Australia and the resurgence of COVID infections globally due to the delta variant. As a result, while the reporting season was strong, many of the better performing holdings over the month were those set to benefit the most from the eventual reopening of the economy, rather than those which had delivered the best results, or those with the strongest near-term prospects.

Casino operator, Star Entertainment (+19.3%), for example, rallied despite reporting depressed earnings, as it stands to benefit when restrictions are eased. Further, the company has a large pipeline of growth projects and a valuable portfolio of property assets. Separating the operating businesses from the property assets is common offshore and may well be a means of realizing value in Star. Finally, there is a good chance that they could benefit from the troubles at Crown, with whom they recently proposed a merger. Also in the gaming sector, Aristocrat Leisure (+9.7%) outperformed as visitors returned in droves to US casinos post their reopening. This business is performing very strongly operationally and has a number of growth drivers, including its expanding online video game operations, which now account for nearly half of earnings.

The resources sector was the standout in terms of results delivered, with high commodity prices driving record profits and massive dividends. Despite this, however, the share prices of the iron ore miners declined, down an average of -13.6% over the month. This was due to the iron ore price falling sharply from its recent very high levels following the announcement that the Chinese were aiming to reduce steel production in the coming year.

The major banks outperformed marginally (up an average of +3.8%), underpinned by continuing strong credit quality, which provides a positive signal about the underlying health of the economy

Holdings which underperformed during the month included BHP, Woodside and Newcrest. We remain comfortable with each of these holdings.

## Trust Activity

During the month we took profits in Metcash and added Scentre Group. At month end, stock numbers were 22 and cash was 2.0%.

## Outlook

We believe that 2021 may well mark a significant turning point for the global economy and markets, with the accelerating rollout of effective COVID vaccines underpinning the reopening of economies and a return to global growth. Importantly also, the change of leadership in the US should herald greater government spending to drive higher growth, which will flow through to corporate earnings. Further, this should also usher in a period of stability in terms of domestic and international policy and, hopefully, a generally more harmonious backdrop.

Domestically, while the current COVID outbreak and associated lockdowns are a clear setback, key indicators around employment, business confidence and the property market are all surprising to the upside. Finally, the economy is underpinned by historically low interest rates and meaningful fiscal stimulus. As a result, the economy and corporate earnings are likely to rebound strongly once the current restrictions are eased.

The Trust is positioned to benefit from an ongoing economic improvement and our focus remains on investing in quality companies with proven business models and strong balance sheets, which are offering attractive valuations and have the ability to deliver high levels of franked dividend income to investors.

### Global, Currency & Commodities (%)

S&P 500	+2.9
Nikkei 225	-5.2
FTSE 100	-0.1
Shanghai Composite	-5.4
RBA Cash Rate	0.10
AUD / USD	73.5c
Iron Ore	-12.4
Oil	+3.7
Gold	+4.6
Copper	+6.7

Invest Online Now

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 Significant Investor Visa (SIV) Compliant

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