

# MONTHLY FACTSHEET 31 JULY 2020

#### KEY STATISTICS

Share Price Net Asset Value (NAV) per Share Premium

(Discount)

777.0p

829.7p

(6.4%)

# SUMMARY OF APPROACH

INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

Alliance Trust aims to be a core equity holding for investors that delivers a real return over the long term through a combination of capital growth and a rising dividend. The Company invests primarily in global equities across a wide range of industries and sectors to achieve its objective.

The Company's investment manager, Willis Towers Watson, has appointed a number of stock pickers with different styles, who each ignore the benchmark and only buy a small number of stocks in which they have strong conviction. Investors therefore get the benefit of both highly focused stock picking to increase potential outperformance versus the benchmark and manager diversification to reduce risk and volatility. The Company's diversified but highly active multi-manager portfolio is competitively priced.

ABSOLUTE PERFORMANCE (TOTAL RETURN IN STERLING)

■ Share price — NAV/Share — MSCI ACWI<sup>4</sup>

July 2017

01.04.175

# KEY FACTS

Market Capitalisation Total Assets Net Assets Gross Gearing<sup>1</sup> Net Gearing<sup>2</sup> Net Yield<sup>3</sup> Year End Incorporated Dividend Paid

Shares in Issue Buybacks

TIDM

AIC Sector Next AGM

£2.528.7M £2,900.0M

£2,700.1M 5.8%

4.2% 1.8%

> 31 December 21 April 1888

Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec

325,446,281

1,352,452 shares at a cost of £10.9M (0.42% of the issued share capital)

GB00B11V7W98

Global April 2021

#### CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE (%)

July 2016

To 31 July 2020	5 Years	3 Years	Since 01.04.17 <sup>5</sup>		YTD	Month
Total shareholder return	73.8	15.0	20.5	-4.9	-6.5	-0.8
NAV total return	60.7	15.6	21.6	-2.7	-4.4	-0.9
MSCI ACWI total return <sup>4</sup>	69.7	23.0	25.1	0.0	-0.4	-0.9

July 2018

The NAV total return reflects the impact of owning investments other than global equities prior to 30 June 2019, which had a drag on the return. Between 1 April 2017 and 31 July 2020, the performance of the equity portfolio before fees (a good approximation of the NAV total return after costs had these legacy investments not been included), was 25.2% versus the return on the MSCI ACWI Index<sup>4</sup> of 25.1%.

# DIVIDEND

Alliance Trust has been awarded the AIC's Dividend Hero award and is proud to have over 50 years of consecutive dividend growth.

#### DISCRETE PERFORMANCE (%)

From To	31-Jul-19 31-Jul-20	31-Jul-18 31-Jul-19	31-Jul-17 31-Jul-18	31-Jul-16 31-Jul-17	31-Jul-15 31-Jul-16
Total shareholder return	-4.9	10.5	9.4	29.1	17.0
NAV total return	-2.7	7.8	10.2	23.1	12.9
MSCI ACWI total return <sup>4</sup>	0.0	10.3	11.5	17.9	17.0

For an explanation of how we measure performance, please refer to our website

# CHARGES

Targeted Ongoing Charges Ratio (OCR)6

OCR Year to 31 Dec 20197

0.65% OR LESS

0.62%

#### **Risk warnings**

120

100

80

60 40

20

0 July 2015

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns. The value of shares and the income from them can rise and fall, so investors may not get back the amount originally invested. Net Asset Value ("NAV") performance is not the same as share price performance and investors may not realise returns the same as NAV performance. Exchange rate changes may cause the value of overseas investments to go down as well as up and can impact on both the level of income received and capital value of your investment. Investment trusts may borrow to finance further investment (gearing). The use of gearing is likely to lead to volatility in the NAV, meaning that a relatively small movement, down or up, in the value of a trust's assets will result in a magnified movement, in the same direction, of that NAV. This may mean that you could get back less than you invested or nothing at all.

July 2019

July 2020

Notes: All data is provided as at 31 July 2020 unless otherwise stated. All figures may be subject to rounding errors. Sources: Investment Performance data is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon Performance & Risk Analytics Europe Limited, Morningstar and MSCI Inc; Key Statistics, Key Facts and Charges data is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd. NAV and NAV total return is based on NAV including income with debt at fair value, after all manager fees (including Willis Towers Watson's fees) and allows for any tax reclaims when they are achieved. The NAV total return shown in the factsheets up to May 2018 was based on NAV excluding income with debt valued at par.

- Total borrowings at par value divided by net assets.

  Annual dividend per share divided by share price.

  1 April 2017 was the date that Willis Towers Watson was appointed investment manager.
- Total borrowings at par value minus total cash and equivalents, divided by net assets.
   MSCI All Country World Index Net Dividends Reinvested.
   The OCR target of 0.65% is based on NAV reported as at 31 December 2017.
- 7. The OCR for year to 31 December 2019 was calculated in line with the industry standard using the average of net asset values at each NAV calculation date. Previously we reported the OCR based on the average Net Asset Value (NAV) denominator of opening and closing NAV for the year; based on the old methodology, the OCR for the year to 31 December 2019 was 0.64%.

### TOP 20 HOLDINGS

Name	£m	%
Alphabet	124.1	4.3
Microsoft	92.8	3.2
Amazon	90.7	3.1
Alibaba	72.5	2.5
Mastercard	57.5	2.0
Nvidia	51.5	1.8
Visa	44.0	1.5
Facebook	42.2	1.5
SAP	41.1	1.4
Novo-Nordisk	40.8	1.4
Infosys	40.5	1.4
Qorvo	40.4	1.4
Charter Communications	40.1	1.4
UnitedHealth Group	39.3	1.4
KKR	34.0	1.2
Baidu - ADR	33.0	1.1
Tencent	29.9	1.0
Linde	29.2	1.0
Convatec Group	29.1	1.0
Autodesk	27.6	1.0

### Top 10 holdings 22.7% Top 20 holdings 34.6%

The 20 largest stock positions across the nine equity managers, given as a percentage of the total assets managed by those managers (including their cash holdings).

A full breakdown of the portfolio can be viewed at: www.alliancetrust.co.uk

#### ACTIVE SHARE

74%

Active Share is a measure of how actively a portfolio is managed; is the percentage of the portfolio that differs from its comparative index.

# CONTACT

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#### SIGN UP

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#### INVESTMENT COMMENTARY

For the month of July, the Company's Total Shareholder Return and NAV Total Return were -0.8% and -0.9% respectively, in line with the MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI) benchmark which returned -0.9%.

Amazon.com was the top contributor over July, returning +7.3%. Despite the global slowdown in the Coronavirus outbreak and the re-opening of the high street, the demand for online purchases continues to grow. In addition, Qorvo performed strongly over the month as it experienced particularly strong demand for both its 5G wireless network and Wi-Fi hardware as consumers continue to work from home. Microsoft Corp was the top detractor from the Company's portfolio over the month, returning -5.3% with the stock pulling back in July, after a strong rally since its lows in March.

Within the portfolio, the position in the leading global distribution system company, Amadeus IT, used by travel agents and airlines to distribute inventory was sold. The increase in Coronavirus cases globally has prolonged the decline in demand for air travel, increasing uncertainty for this company. Furthermore, the position in Altice US, an American television cable provider, was also removed as demand from users declined whilst costs continued to rise, exacerbating the compression of gross margins. Over the month, new positions were initiated in Berkshire Hathaway given its large cash position and diversified earnings profile, as well as in JP Morgan. JP Morgan has a very strong management team and the company's diversified business lines allowed them to deliver better than expected earnings during the second quarter.

Over July, we have maintained the use of gearing at the lower end of our range with the portfolio remaining broadly diversified but with high levels of active share.

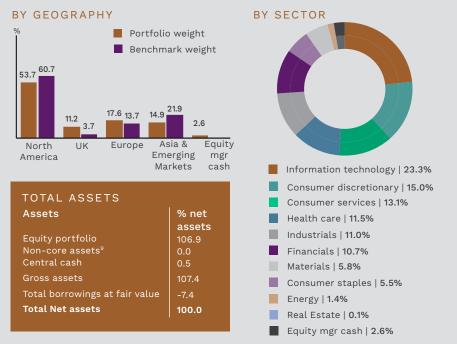
Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future returns. The mention of any specific shares should not be taken as a recommendation to deal.

# EQUITY MANAGERS % OF EQUITY PORTFOLIO MANAGED



Note: "JUPITER" and JUPITER are the trade marks of Jupiter Investment Management Group Ltd and registered in the UK and as Community Trade Marks and elsewhere

# EQUITY PORTFOLIO ALLOCATION



#### Important Information

Alliance Trust is an investment company with investment trust status. Alliance Trust invests primarily in equities and aims to generate capital growth and a progressively rising dividend from its portfolio of investments. Alliance Trust currently conducts its affairs so that its shares can be recommended by Independent Financial Advisers (IFAs) to ordinary retail investors in accordance with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) rules in relation to non-mainstream investment products and intends to continue to do so for the foreseeable future. The shares are excluded from the FCA's restrictions which apply to non-mainstream investment products because they are shares in an investment trust. The shares in the Trust may also be suitable for institutional investors who seek a combination of capital and income return. Private investors should consider consulting an Independent Financial Adviser who specialises in advising on the acquisition of shares and other securities before acquiring shares. Investors should be capable of evaluating the risks and merits of such an investment and should have sufficient resources to bear any loss that may result. The views, information and data in this publication should not be deemed as a financial promotion or recommendation. Alliance Trust is not authorised to give financial advice.

For security and compliance monitoring purposes, telephone calls may be recorded.

The Alliance Trust Board has appointed Towers Watson Investment Management Limited (TWIM) as its Alternative Investment Fund Manager (AIFM). TWIM is part of Willis Towers Watson. Issued by Towers Watson Investment Management Limited. Towers Watson Investment Management Limited, registered office Watson House, London Road, Reigate, Surrey RH2 9PQ is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, firm reference number 446740.

Notes: All data is provided as at 31 July 2020 unless otherwise stated. All figures may be subject to rounding errors. Sources: Top 20 Holdings, % of Equity Portfolio Managed and Total Trust Assets data is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd; Equity Portfolio Allocation and Active Share is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon (International) Ltd and MSCI Inc.

- 8. GQG manages an emerging markets and a global equity mandate for the Company.
- 9. Small legacy positions in private equity that are in the process of being sold.