

# MONTHLY FACTSHEET

31 MARCH 2020

## KEY STATISTICS

Share Price	642.0p
Net Asset Value (NAV) per Share	689.6p
Premium (Discount)	(6.9%)

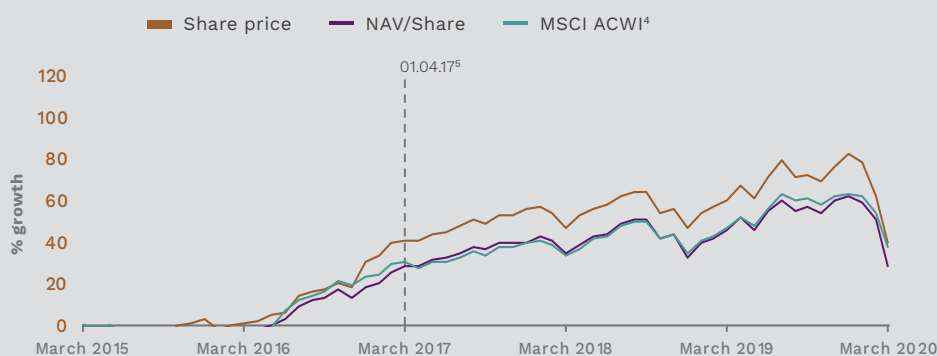
## SUMMARY OF APPROACH

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 Trust invests primarily in global equities across a wide range of industries and sectors to achieve its objective.

The Trust'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 Trust's diversified but highly active multi-manager portfolio is competitively priced.

## INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

### ABSOLUTE PERFORMANCE (TOTAL RETURN IN STERLING)



### CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE (%)

To 31 March 2020	5 Years	3 Years	Since 01.04.17 <sup>5</sup>	1 Year	YTD	Month
Total shareholder return	40.4	-0.9	-0.9	-12.3	-23.1	-13.7
NAV total return	29.5	0.6	0.6	-11.2	-20.9	-14.6
MSCI ACWI total return <sup>4</sup>	37.8	5.5	5.5	-6.7	-16.0	-10.9

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 March 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 4.2% versus the return on the MSCI ACWI Index<sup>4</sup> of 5.5%.

### DISCRETE PERFORMANCE (%)

From To	31-Mar-19 31-Mar-20	31-Mar-18 31-Mar-19	31-Mar-17 31-Mar-18	31-Mar-16 31-Mar-17	31-Mar-15 31-Mar-16
Total shareholder return	-12.3	8.8	3.9	39.3	1.6
NAV total return	-11.2	8.2	4.7	30.2	-1.2
MSCI ACWI total return <sup>4</sup>	-6.7	10.5	2.3	32.2	-1.2

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

## KEY FACTS

Market Capitalisation	£2,112.6M
Total Assets	£2,531.4M
Net Assets	£2,267.2M
Gross Gearing <sup>1</sup>	10.6%
Net Gearing <sup>2</sup>	6.7%
Net Yield <sup>3</sup>	2.2%
Year End	31 December
Incorporated	21 April 1888
Dividend Paid	Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec
Shares in Issue	329,065,733
Buybacks in March	There were no shares bought back in March
TIDM	ATST
ISIN	GB00B11V7W98
AIC Sector	Global
Next AGM	April 2020



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

## CHARGES

Targeted Ongoing Charges Ratio (OCR) <sup>6</sup>	0.65% OR LESS
OCR Year to 31 Dec 2019 <sup>7</sup>	0.62%

## Risk warnings

**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.**

Notes: All data is provided as at 31 March 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 reclaim 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.

1. Total borrowings at par value divided by net assets.

2. Factsheet reissued to restate the net gearing level which was incorrectly reported with total borrowings calculated at fair value rather than calculated as stated as total borrowings at par value minus total cash and equivalents, divided by net assets with debt at par.

3. Annual dividend per share divided by share price.

4. MSCI All Country World Index Net Dividends Reinvested.

5. 1 April 2017 was the date that Willis Towers Watson was appointed investment manager.

6. 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	117.6	4.6
Microsoft	82.9	3.3
Amazon	70.0	2.8
Alibaba	55.9	2.2
Mastercard	48.6	1.9
Nvidia	41.8	1.6
HDFC Bank	34.9	1.4
Charter Communications	33.5	1.3
Qorvo	33.1	1.3
Baidu - ADR	30.2	1.2
Oracle	30.0	1.2
Visa	29.2	1.2
Tencent	28.9	1.1
Facebook	27.5	1.1
BAE System	26.5	1.0
Philip Morris International	25.4	1.0
KKR	25.2	1.0
Interpublic Group	24.4	1.0
UnitedHealth Group	24.3	1.0
Nestlé	23.8	0.9

Top 10 holdings 21.6%

Top 20 holdings 32.1%

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 Trust's portfolio can be viewed at: [www.alliancetrust.co.uk](http://www.alliancetrust.co.uk)

## ACTIVE SHARE | 77%

Active Share is a measure of the percentage of stock holdings in a manager's portfolio that differs from the benchmark index.

## CONTACT

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## SIGN UP

If you wish to sign up to the Alliance Trust factsheet, please visit [www.alliancetrust.co.uk/signup](http://www.alliancetrust.co.uk/signup)

## INVESTMENT COMMENTARY

For the month of March, the Trust's Total Shareholder Return and NAV Total Return were -13.7% and -14.6% respectively versus -10.9% for the MSCI All Country World Index (MSCI ACWI). In a falling market, the Trust's underperformance of the benchmark was exacerbated by gearing and the discount widening.

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) triggered a sharp fall in equity markets, with the FTSE 100 index down nearly 14% by the end of the month. Globally, both central banks and governments reacted swiftly to the crisis. In the UK, the Bank of England cut the bank rate to 0.1% along with the Chancellor pledging over £330bn of aid for businesses. In the US, the Federal Reserve cut interest rates to zero and launched a raft of quantitative easing measures as the government responded with a \$2 trillion stimulus package.

With demand for air travel reduced by the COVID-19 crisis, Airbus SE was a material detractor from the Trust's performance. But volatility also presented new opportunities for the stock pickers to purchase attractively valued shares. A position was initiated in Baidu, the largest Internet search engine in China with a 70% market share. In light of the Coronavirus outbreak, the company is attractively valued, as it specialises in the development of artificial intelligence for healthcare and robotics, along with holding a stake in the online video platform iQiyi.

Furthermore, a position in Nike, a leading global sportswear brand, was established due to its dominant position in the market, driven by its strong brand and technological capabilities promoting its online presence as the demand rises for e-commerce.

We have also been actively adjusting manager weightings during this period of heightened volatility, taking profits from outperforming managers and reallocating capital to others. We expect markets to remain volatile, which should provide further opportunities for us and our stock pickers.

**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.**

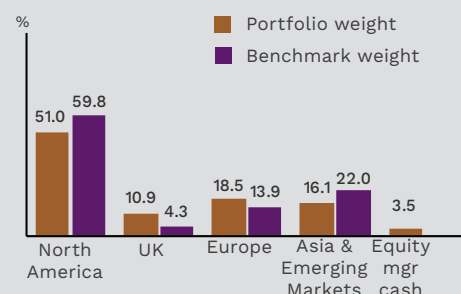
## EQUITY MANAGERS % OF EQUITY PORTFOLIO MANAGED

13% <b>BLACK CREEK</b> INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT INC. <i>Unique Insights. Proprietary Ideas.</i> Bill Kanko	9% <b>FPA</b> <i>investors first</i> Pierre Py, Greg Herr	9% <b>JUPITER</b> Ben Whitmore
9% <b>Lyrical</b> ASSET MANAGEMENT LTD Andrew Wellington	18% <b>GQG</b> PARTNERS Rajiv Jain*	14% <b>Veritas</b> — Asset Management Andy Headley
7% <b>RIVER AND MERCANTILE</b> ASSET MANAGEMENT Hugh Sergeant	12% <b>SGA</b> <i>Sustainable Growth Advisers</i> George Fraise, Gordon Marchand, Rob Rohn	9% <b>VULCAN VALUE PARTNERS</b> C.T Fitzpatrick

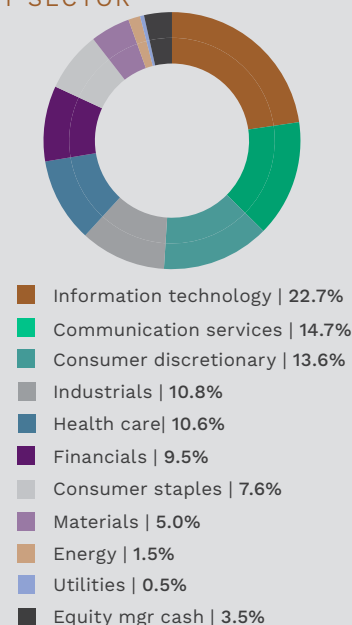
Note: "JUPITER" and **JUPITER** are the trade marks of Jupiter Investment Management Group Ltd and registered in the UK and as Community Trade Marks and elsewhere

## EQUITY PORTFOLIO ALLOCATION

### BY GEOGRAPHY



### BY SECTOR



### TOTAL TRUST ASSETS

Assets	% net assets
Equity portfolio	111.7
Non-core assets <sup>9</sup>	0.0
Central cash	0.0
Gross assets	111.7
Total borrowings at fair value	-11.7
<b>Total Net assets</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### 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 March 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. Manages both a global equity and an emerging markets equity portfolio.

9. Small legacy positions in private equity that are in the process of being sold.