

STRATEGY HIGHLIGHTS As of 31 March 2024

# **US High Yield Bond Strategy**

Total US High Yield Bond Strategy Assets: \$2.4 billion

Figures shown in U.S. Dollars

#### INVESTMENT APPROACH

- Concentrated high yield portfolio primarily focused on the traditional U.S. high yield investment opportunity set.
- Independent, fundamental, bottom-up credit selection process, combined with forward-looking research to identify potential total return ideas.
- Seeks to capitalize on price inefficiencies that create attractive relative value opportunities across issuers due to size, credit quality, and geography.
- Flexibility to search across the full capital structure to uncover high conviction ideas and access smaller, under-researched credit issuers.
- Disciplined risk management practices.

#### PORTFOLIO CONSTRUCTION

- Concentrated portfolio structure of primarily U.S. high yield corporate bonds
  - Typically 100-200 issuers
- Portfolio construction reviewed monthly to ensure sufficient sector balance and liquidity of positions.
- Typical position size guidelines:
  - 0.75-2.00%
  - 5% maximum
- Other permissible investments:
  - Up to 20% in investment grade corporate bonds
  - Up to 20% in bank loans

## **BENCHMARK**

ICE BofA US High Yield Constrained Index

## PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

## Kevin Loome, CFA®

- 30 years of investment experience; 17 years with T. Rowe Price.
- M.B.A., Dartmouth College, Tuck School of Business
- B.S., University of Virginia

## PORTFOLIO SPECIALISTS

## **Ashley Wiersma**

- 18 years of investment experience; 2 years with T. Rowe Price.
- M.B.A., Northwestern University, Kellogg School of Management
- B.A., Wheaton College

Portfolio Specialists do not assume management responsibilities.

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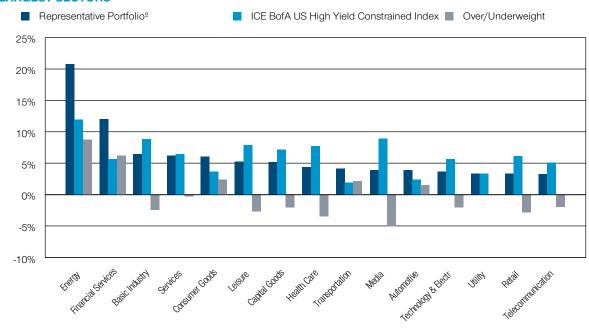
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes a U.S.-registered mutual fund.

Figures shown in U.S. Dollars

## **TOP 10 ISSUERS**

#### % of Representative Portfolio<sup>o</sup> 2.3% **Energy Transfer** Osaic Holdings 2.3 **RCS** Capital 2.0 LSF9 Atlantis Holdings LLC / Victra 1.8 Finance Sigma Holdco BV 1.7 Coty Inc/HFC Prestige Products 1.4 Inc/HFC Prestige International US Vistra 1.3 1.3 Ultimate Software Group Ascent Resources Utica Holdings LLC / 1.3 ARU Finance American Airlines Inc/AAdvantage 1.3 Loyalty IP Total 16.7%

## 15 LARGEST SECTORS



## **PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS**

		ICE BofA US High Yield Constrained		
	Representative Portfolio <sup>2</sup>	Index		
Weighted Average Coupon	7.80%	6.13%		
Weighted Average Maturity	6.00 years	4.76 years		
Weighted Average Effective Duration	2.99 years	3.48 years		
Current Yield	7.81%	6.57%		
Yield to Worst	8.24%	7.66%		
Average Credit Quality	BB-	B+		
Number of Holdings	115	1,862		

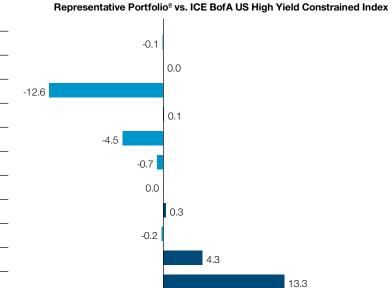
Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. 

Please see Additional Disclosures section for further information.

Figures shown in U.S. Dollars

## **CREDIT QUALITY DIVERSIFICATION**

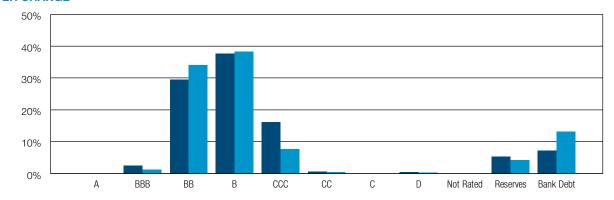
	% of Representative Portfolio <sup>2</sup>	% of Index			
A	0.0	0.1			
BBB	1.2	1.2			
BB	34.1	46.7			
В	38.4	38.3			
CCC	7.8	12.4			
CC	0.4	1.1			
С	0.0	0.0			
D	0.4	0.1			
Not Rated	0.0	0.2			
Reserves	4.3	0.0			
Bank Debt	13.3	0.0			



## **QUARTER-OVER-QUARTER CHANGE**

Composite - Prior Quarter (31 Dec 2023)Composite - Current

Quarter (31 Mar 2024)



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>º</sup>Please see Additional Disclosures section for further information.

Figures shown in U.S. Dollars

## **PERFORMANCE**

			Annualized			
	Three Months	One Year	Three Years	Five Years	Ten Years	
US High Yield Bond Composite (Gross)	2.16%	12.53%	1.73%	4.66%	5.30%	
US High Yield Bond Composite (Net)	2.05	12.03	1.28	4.19	4.83	
ICE BofA US High Yield Constrained Index	1.51	11.06	2.21	4.01	4.36	
Value Added (Gross)	0.65	1.47	-0.48	0.65	0.94	
Value Added (Net)	0.54	0.97	-0.93	0.18	0.47	

#### Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

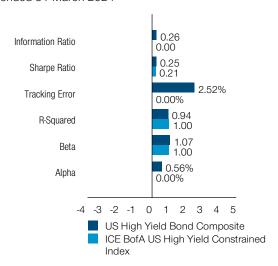
Gross performance returns are presented before management and all other fees, where applicable, but after trading expenses. Net of fees performance reflects the deduction of the highest applicable management fee that would be charged based on the fee schedule contained within this material, without the benefit of breakpoints. Gross and net performance returns reflect the reinvestment of dividends and are net of all non-reclaimable withholding taxes on dividends, interest income, and capital gains.

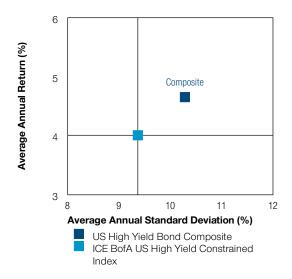
Performance from a past firm is linked to the ongoing performance of the composite and continues to be managed with the same investment strategy and objective as the composite. See GIPS® Composite Report located in this material for additional information.

Figures shown in U.S. Dollars

## RISK/RETURN CHARACTERISTICS

Five Years ended 31 March 2024





Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. Statistics based on monthly gross returns. Returns would have been lower as the result of the deduction of applicable fees.

Figures shown in U.S. Dollars

## **FEE SCHEDULE**

# **US High Yield Bond Composite**

The US High Yield Bond Composite seeks total return and income primarily through investment in fixed income securities rated below investment-grade in the U.S. bond market. (Created May 2017, incepted April 30, 2013.)

First \$50 million	45 basis points
Next \$50 million	35 basis points
Above \$100 million	35 basis points on all assets *
Above \$250 million	32.5 basis points on all assets *
Minimum separate account size	\$100 million

<sup>\*</sup>A transitional credit is applied to the fee schedule as assets approach or fall below the break point.

Figures shown in U.S. Dollars

# GIPS Composite Report

## **US High Yield Bond Composite**

Period Ended December 31, 2023 Figures Shown in U.S. dollar

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Gross Annual Returns (%) <sup>2</sup>	4.40	-0.79	17.23	9.63	-3.33	17.36	8.66	5.65	-14.06	14.55
Net Annual Returns (%) <sup>1,2</sup>	2.49	-2.62	15.10	7.63	-5.11	15.24	6.68	3.72	-15.65	12.47
ICE BofA US High Yield Constrained Index (%)	2.51	-4.61	17.49	7.48	-2.27	14.41	6.07	5.35	-11.21	13.47
Composite 3-Yr St. Dev.	N/A	N/A	5.15	4.58	4.21	4.58	10.56	10.22	12.07	8.86
ICE BofA US High Yield Constrained Index 3-Yr St. Dev.	N/A	N/A	6.02	5.59	4.64	4.13	9.38	9.14	11.09	8.33
Composite Dispersion	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.05	0.26	0.66
Comp. Assets (Millions)	25.4	26.7	52.0	123.1	758.4	1,084.0	2,099.9	2,597.0	2,124.1	1,558.0
# of Accts. in Comp.	1	1	1	1	6	6	7	8	10	8
Total Firm Assets (Billions)	749.6	772.4	817.2	1,000.2	972.7	1,218.2	1,482.5	1,653.6	1,237.4	1,403.8 <sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The fee rate used to calculate net returns is 1.85%. This represents the maximum fee rate applicable to all composite members. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

T. Rowe Price (TRP) claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. TRP has been independently verified for the 27-year period ended June 30, 2023 by KPMG LLP. The verification report is available upon request. A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm wide basis. Verification does not ensure the accuracy of any specific composite presentation. TRP is a U.S. investment management firm with various investment advisers registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, the U.K. Financial Conduct Authority, and other regulatory bodies in various countries and holds itself out as such to potential clients for GIPS purposes. TRP further defines itself under GIPS as a discretionary investment manager providing services primarily to institutional clients with regard to various mandates, which include U.S., international, and global strategies but excluding the services of the Private Asset Management group. As of October 1, 2022, there is no minimum asset level for portfolio inclusion into the composite. Prior to October 2022, the minimum asset level for equity portfolios to be included in composites was \$5 million. The minimum asset level for fixed income and asset allocation portfolios to be included in composites was \$10 million. Valuations are computed and performance reported in U.S. dollars.

Gross performance returns are presented before management and all other fees, where applicable, but after trading expenses. Net of fees performance reflects the deduction of the maximum fee rate applicable to all composite members as shown above. Gross performance returns reflect the reinvestment of dividends and are net of nonreclaimable withholding taxes on dividends, interest income, and capital gains. Gross performance returns are used to calculate presented risk measures. Effective June 30, 2013, portfolio valuation and assets under management are calculated based on the closing price of the security in its respective market. Previously portfolios holding international securities may have been adjusted for after-market events. Policies for valuing portfolios, calculating performance, and preparing compliant presentations are available upon request. Dispersion is measured by the standard deviation across asset-weighted portfolio returns represented within a composite for the full year. Dispersion is not calculated for the composites in which there are five or fewer portfolios. Some portfolios may trade futures, options, and other potentially high-risk derivatives that may create leverage and generally represent in aggregate less than 10% of a portfolio.

Benchmarks are taken from published sources and may have different calculation methodologies, pricing times, and foreign exchange sources from the composite.

Composite policy requires the temporary removal of any portfolio incurring a client initiated significant cash inflow or outflow greater than or equal to 15% of portfolio assets. The temporary removal of such an account occurs at the beginning of the measurement period in which the significant cash flow occurs and the account re-enters the composite on the last day of the current month after the cash flow. Additional information regarding the treatment of significant cash flows is available upon request.

The firm's list of composite descriptions, a list of limited distribution pooled fund descriptions, and a list of broad distribution pooled funds are available upon request. GIPS is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Performance from a past firm prior to May 1, 2017 is linked to the ongoing performance of the composite and continues to be in the same investment strategy and objective as the composite.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Preliminary - subject to adjustment.

Figures shown in U.S. Dollars

## **ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURES**

Portfolio Construction: There is no guarantee that the investment will remain within the anticipated ranges of exposure.

Weighted Average Maturity is an average of the maturities of the underlying bonds, with each bond's maturity weighted by the percentage of Composite assets it represents. Weighted Average Effective Duration is a calculation that seeks to measure the price sensitivity of the Composite to changes in interest rates. In general, the longer the average maturity or duration, the greater the Composite's sensitivity to interest rates. Duration is a better indicator of price sensitivity because it takes into account the time value of cash flows.

Unless indicated otherwise the source of all data is T. Rowe Price.

The specific securities identified and described do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold or recommended for the portfolio, and no assumptions should be made that the securities identified and discussed were or will be profitable.

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The representative portfolio is an account in the composite we believe most closely reflects current portfolio management style for the strategy. Performance is not a consideration in the selection of the representative portfolio. The characteristics of the representative portfolio shown may differ from those of other accounts in the strategy. Please see the GIPS® Composite Report for additional information on the composite.

Certain numbers in this report may not equal stated totals due to rounding. Unless otherwise stated, data is as of the report date.

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## **Risks**

The following risks are materially relevant to the portfolio.

Credit - Credit risk arises when an issuer's financial health deteriorates and/or it fails to fulfill its financial obligations to the portfolio. Default - Default risk may occur if the issuers of certain bonds become unable or unwilling to make payments on their bonds. High yield bond - High yield debt securities are generally subject to greater risk of issuer debt restructuring or default, higher liquidity risk and greater sensitivity to market conditions. Interest rate - Interest rate - Interest rate - Interest rate risk is the potential for losses in fixed-income investments as a result of unexpected changes in interest rates. Liquidity - Liquidity risk may result in securities becoming hard to value or trade within a desired timeframe at a fair price. Total Return Swap - Total return swap contracts may expose the portfolio to additional risks, including market, counterparty and operational risks as well as risks linked to the use of collateral arrangements.

## **General Portfolio Risks**

**ESG** and sustainability - ESG and Sustainability risk may result in a material negative impact on the value of an investment and performance of the portfolio. **Geographic concentration** - Geographic concentration risk may result in performance being more strongly affected by any social, political, economic, environmental or market conditions affecting those countries or regions in which the portfolio's assets are concentrated. Investment portfolio - Investing in portfolio - Investing in portfolio involves certain risks an investor would not face if investing in markets directly. Management - Management risk may result in potential conflicts of interest relating to the obligations of the investment manager. Market - Market risk may subject the portfolio to experience losses caused by unexpected changes in a wide variety of factors. Operational - Operational risk may cause losses as a result of incidents caused by people, systems, and/or processes.

Figures shown in U.S. Dollars

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