



# PIMCO Flexible Global Bond Fund (Canada)



Quarterly Investment Report | 4Q23

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Please note that this material contains the opinions of the manager as of the date noted, and may not have been updated to reflect real time market developments. All opinions are subject to change without notice.

# Executive summary

## Portfolio Performance

The Fund's interest rate, spread sector, and currency strategies contributed to performance over the quarter.

### CONTRIBUTORS

- Long exposure to duration in the dollar bloc, as yields fell
- Long exposure to duration in the U.S., as yields fell
- Curve positioning within European rate strategies

### DETRACTORS

- Positioning within U.S. non-agency RMBS, as spreads widened
- Short exposure to duration in Japan, as yields fell
- Short exposure to duration in China, as yields fell

Performance periods ended 31 Dec '23	3 mos.	6 mos.	1 yr.	3 yrs.	5 yrs.	10 yrs.	SI
Fund (before management and admin fees)	5.56	4.98	7.14	0.35	2.87	3.53	3.84
Benchmark*	5.67	3.60	6.33	-2.47	0.98	2.22	2.78

Performance is net of operating expenses, but does not include management or administrative fees. Management fees for Series I units of a Fund are negotiated and paid directly by the investor, not by the Fund, and will not exceed the Series A management fees of the Fund. Please refer to the prospectus for additional details on applicable fees and expenses.

Commissions, trailing commissions, management fees and expenses all may be associated with mutual fund investments. Please read the prospectus before investing. The indicated rates of return are the historical annual compounded total returns including changes in unit value and reinvestment of all dividends and does not take into account sales, redemption, distribution or optional charges or income taxes payable by any security holder that would have reduced returns. Mutual funds are not guaranteed, their values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated.

## Portfolio strategy

- Duration and curve positioning: Emphasize exposure to select high quality countries like the U.S. and Dollar bloc over Japan and China.
- European duration positioning: Long overall duration in the Euro bloc, favoring Denmark vs. the Eurozone broadly (core, semi-core, and peripherals).
- Spread positioning: Prefer holding high quality securitized credit in lieu of corporate credit. Maintain long exposure to financials, particularly senior issues from global systemically important banks.
- Currency positioning: Continue to seek out diversifying relative value opportunities in select DM and EM currencies.

\*Bloomberg Global Aggregate (CAD Hedged) Index

\*\*As of 30/06/2023. Management expense ratio is based on total expenses, including the management fee, (excluding commissions and other portfolio transaction costs) for the stated period and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the period. The Annual Management Fee is used to pay for investment management services and general administration of the fund, this fee does not include taxes.

\*\*\*Yield to Maturity (YTM) is the estimated total return of a bond if held to maturity. YTM accounts for the present value of a bond's future coupon payments. Refer to the Important Disclosures at the conclusion of this report for additional important information.

Series:	I
Inception date:	20 Jan '11
Fund assets (in CAD millions):	CAD239.42
Series I MER:**	0.000%
Series I management fee:**	0.000%

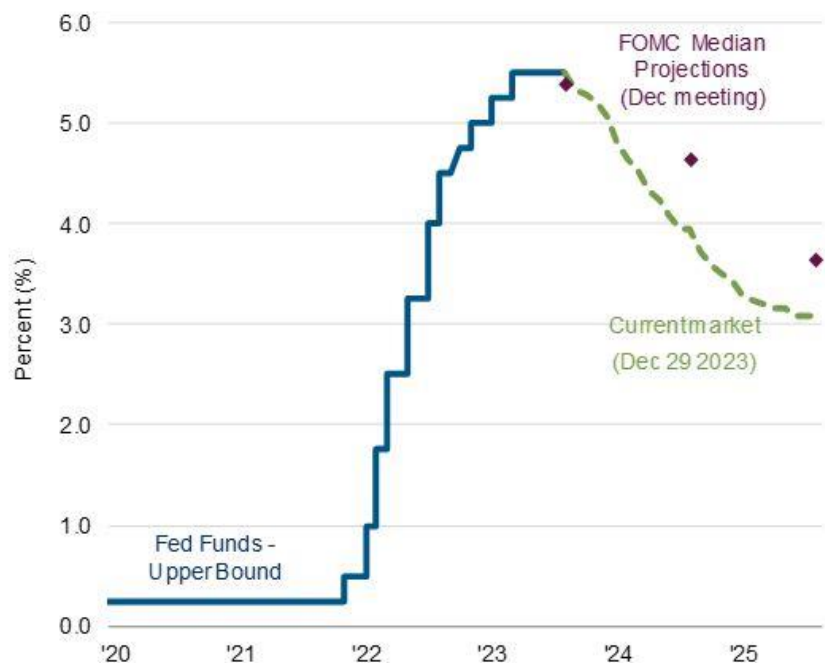
Summary information	31 Dec '23
Estimated yield to maturity (Gross of fee)***	4.03%
Effective duration (yrs)	3.73
Benchmark duration - provider (yrs)	6.70
Benchmark duration - PIMCO (yrs)	6.66
Effective maturity (yrs)	2.87
Average coupon	3.15%
Tracking error (10 yrs)	2.52
Information ratio (10 yrs)	0.50

Regional allocation (% DWE by currency of settlement)	Portfolio	BM*
United States	67.59%	40.92%
Japan	-15.45%	15.13%
Eurozone	17.68%	21.26%
United Kingdom	13.50%	5.14%
Europe non-EMU	0.52%	1.11%
Dollar Block	32.76%	4.33%
Other industrialized countries	0.00%	0.00%
Emerging markets	-16.60%	12.10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

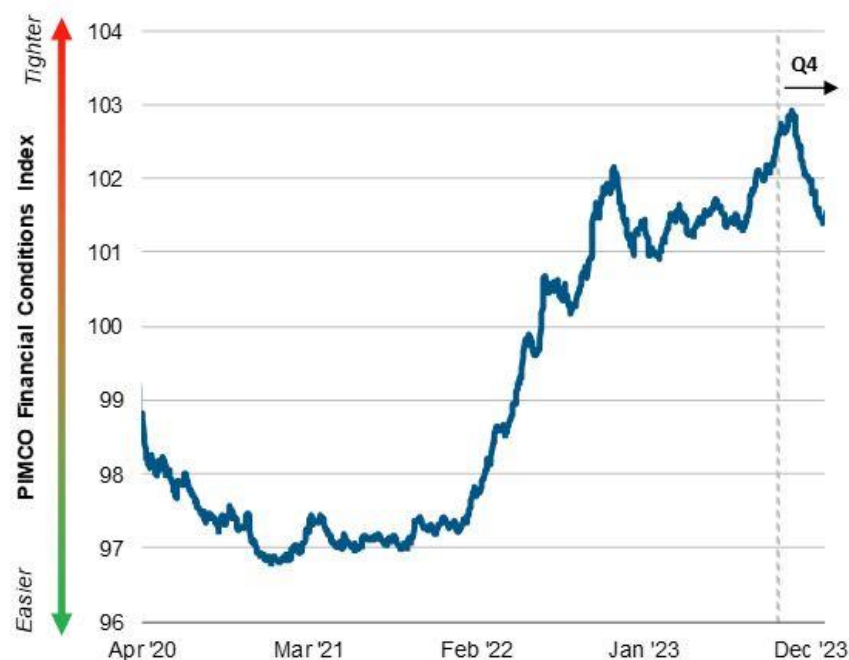
# Quarter in Review

## Early signs of economic weakening spark market optimism

Indications of slowing inflation and a cooling labor market led market participants to price in an accelerated path of rate cuts for 2024, prompting a broad rally across the global bond market. Risk sentiment rebounded, with the MSCI World rising 11.53%, while the dollar weakened. The Fed paused rate hikes for the third consecutive time, while the central bank's dot plot pointed to the potential for 75 bps of cuts in 2024. Global developed central banks broadly maintained hawkish stances, with both the ECB and BoE signaling that rates would remain restrictive for longer. Meanwhile, the BoJ maintained its negative interest rate policy and left its dovish guidance unchanged.



Weakening economic data has sparked optimism, with market participants pricing in roughly 6 cuts in 2024, for a total of more than 150 bps.



After rising for much of 2023, financial conditions notably eased over the quarter amid early signs of economic weakening.

Source: Bloomberg  
 The PIMCO Financial Conditions Index (FCI) is a proprietary index that summarizes the information about the future state of the economy contained in a wide range of financial variables. It includes variables such as the Fed funds rate, bond yields, credits, equity prices, oil prices, and the broad trade-weighted USD, all of which will impact the economy. The weights of these variables is determined by simulations with the Federal reserve's FRB/US model. An increase (decline) in the FCI implies a tightening (easing) of financial conditions.

Source: Bloomberg

# Market Summary

## Q4'23: Weakening economic data

The Fund's interest rate, spread sector, and currency strategies contributed to performance over the quarter.

### Developed market debt

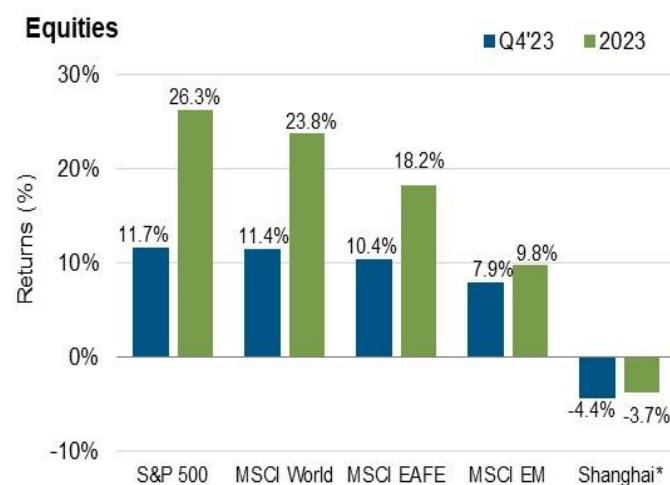
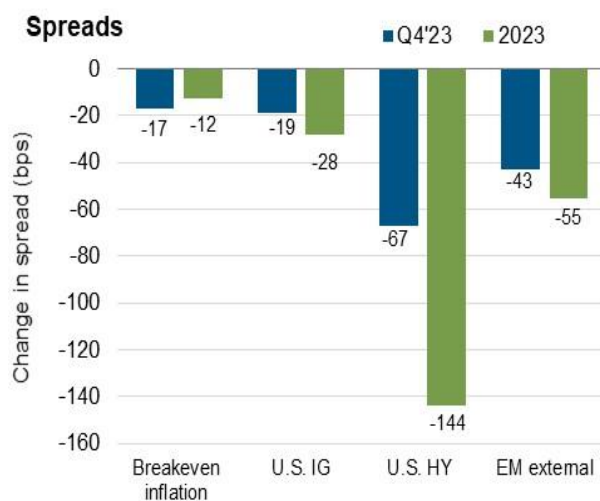
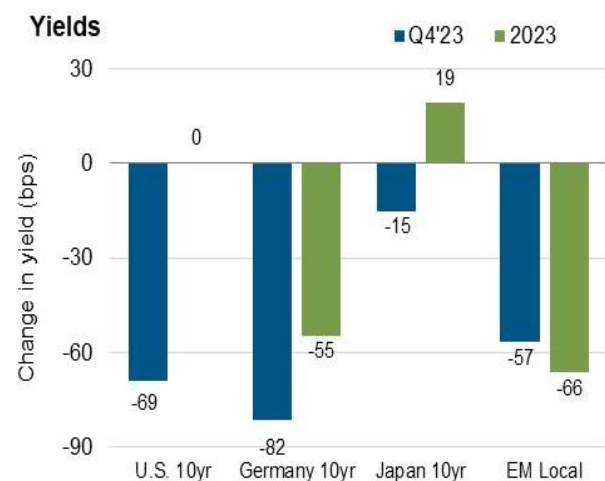
Indications of slowing inflation in the second half of the quarter prompted markets to price in accelerated expectations of rate cuts for next year. Yields fell broadly in developed markets as central banks held rates steady, including in the U.S., U.K., and Germany. In Japan, yields fell more modestly as the Bank of Japan weighed a potential exit to its accommodative monetary policy.

### Credit

U.S. investment grade credit<sup>1</sup> spreads tightened 19 bps, ending the quarter at 93 bps. The sector returned 8.15%, outperforming like-duration treasuries by 1.81%. High quality credit posted two strong months of returns to end the year amid the rate rally.

### Equities

Developed market equities<sup>2</sup> rose 11.4% in the fourth quarter of 2023 driven by optimism around interest rate cuts, easing inflationary pressures, and economic growth.



Source: U.S. 10yr, Germany 10yr, Japan 10yr, Breakeven inflation (Bloomberg); EM local (JPMorgan GBI-EM Global Diversified Composite Yield to Maturity Index); U.S. investment grade credit (Bloomberg U.S. Credit Index); U.S. high yield credit (ICE BofA High Yield Constrained Index); EM external (JPMorgan Emerging Bond Index Global Sovereign Spread); S&P 500 (S&P 500 Total Return Index); MSCI EAFE (MSCI EAFE Net Total Return USD Index); MSCI EM (MSCI Emerging Net Total Return USD Index); \*Shanghai (Shanghai Stock Exchange Composite Index).

1: Bloomberg US Credit Index

2: MSCI World Index

# Navigating the Descent: Four economic themes

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**Peak inflation and rising unemployment consistent with rate cuts**



**Soft landings are possible, but risks remain**



**Markets already price a substantial cutting cycle**



**Global divergence in monetary policy**

# Portfolio Outlook

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## Strategic outlook

Further disinflation and the potential for a faster cutting cycle should, in our view, raise the prospects for a soft landing. However, this is not to say that we believe that the path toward a soft landing is the only possible path. It is our view that the tighter-for-longer strategy that central banks have been communicating along with the strong possibility of stagnation in developed market supply and demand growth leave recession risks elevated.

## Key strategies

### Interest Rate Strategies

The Fund has focused on maintaining moderate long duration exposure sourced from high-quality countries (U.S., U.K., Dollar bloc) that have the potential to provide diversification benefits in a risk-off scenarios.

### Spread Positioning

We prefer exposure to senior securitized assets, particularly mortgage-related assets in the U.S. and Europe with strong fundamentals and compelling valuations. We maintain long exposure to financials, particularly senior issues from global systemically important banks.

### European Country Positioning

The Fund is long duration in Europe given growth vulnerabilities, preferring exposure to Denmark over core, semi-core, and peripheral regions.

### Currencies

Currency strategies continue to act as a diversifying strategy in the portfolio and positioning remains tactical. Given valuations, we maintain longs to a basket of select developed market, EM Asia, and LatAm countries.

# Sector exposure

	Portfolio				Benchmark	
	% of Market value		Duration in years		% of Market value	Duration in years
	30 Sep '23	31 Dec '23	30 Sep '23	31 Dec '23	31 Dec '23	31 Dec '23
<b>Government Related</b>	14.75	73.69	1.54	2.44	52.75	3.87
<b>Inflation Linked</b>	3.44	2.32	0.13	0.11	-	-
<b>Securitized*</b>	23.43	21.41	1.14	0.91	11.76	0.68
<b>Covered Bonds and Pfandbriefe</b>	2.56	3.07	0.25	0.25	2.18	0.10
<b>Investment Grade Credit</b>	2.97	3.09	0.34	0.34	17.66	1.08
<b>High Yield Credit</b>	0.27	0.25	0.00	0.00	-	-
<b>Municipals</b>	0.40	0.38	0.02	0.02	0.25	0.02
<b>EM External</b>	3.32	4.58	0.19	0.23	2.64	0.16
<b>EM Local</b>	-10.31	-12.93	-0.46	-0.61	12.74	0.80
<b>Other***</b>	0.54	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00
<b>Net Other Short Duration Instruments****</b>	58.66	3.92	-0.09	0.04	-	-
Commingled Cash Vehicles	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-
Commercial Paper/STIF	3.11	3.22	0.01	0.01	-	-
Govt Related	25.36	25.14	0.04	0.06	-	-
Securitized	6.73	5.99	0.00	0.00	-	-
Credit	5.58	4.68	0.02	0.01	-	-
Other***	19.15	19.06	0.00	-0.00	-	-
Short Duration Derivatives and Derivative Offsets	9.99	-45.12	-0.16	-0.04	-	-
Net Unsettled Trades	-11.27	-9.04	0.00	0.00	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>99.99</b>	<b>3.06</b>	<b>3.73</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6.71</b>

\*Securitized includes Agency MBS, non-Agency MBS, CMBS, ABS, CDO, CLO, and Pooled Funds.

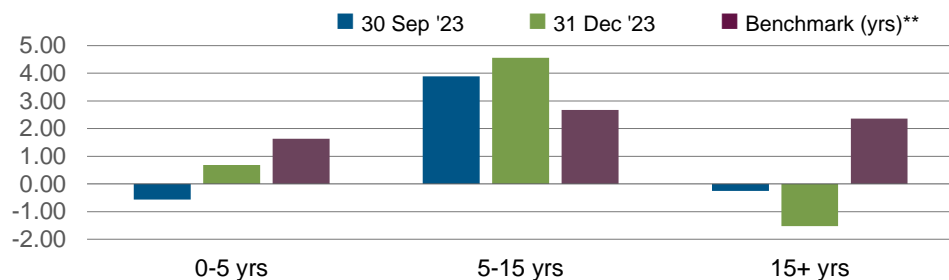
\*\*\*Investment vehicles not listed, allowed by prospectus.

\*\*\*\*Net Other Short Duration Instruments includes securities and other instruments (except instruments tied to emerging markets by country of risk) with an effective duration less than one year and rated investment grade or higher or, if unrated, determined by PIMCO to be of comparable quality, commingled liquidity funds, uninvested cash, interest receivables, net unsettled trades, broker money and derivatives offset. With respect to certain categories of short duration securities, the Adviser reserves the discretion to require a minimum credit rating higher than investment grade for inclusion in this category.

Benchmark: Bloomberg Global Aggregate (CAD Hedged) Index

# Portfolio characteristics

## Key rate duration exposure



	Portfolio (yrs)		Benchmark (yrs)**
	30 Sep '23	31 Dec '23	31 Dec '23
0-5 yrs	-0.56	0.69	1.63
5-15 yrs	3.89	4.56	2.67
15+ yrs	-0.25	-1.53	2.36
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.08</b>	<b>3.72</b>	<b>6.66</b>

## Quality exposure (MV%)

	Portfolio		Benchmark
	30 Sep '23	31 Dec '23	31 Dec '23
A1/P1	24.56	24.69	0.00
AAA	45.53	42.31	11.84
AA	4.62	7.52	42.21
A	10.14	12.14	31.80
Below A1/P1	1.80	1.54	0.00
BAA	5.46	4.52	14.15
BB	0.59	0.50	0.00
B	1.26	1.33	0.00
Below B	6.03	5.45	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

\*\*Benchmark duration is calculated by PIMCO  
Benchmark: Bloomberg Global Aggregate (CAD Hedged) Index

## Interest rate exposure

	Portfolio (yrs)		Benchmark (yrs)**
	30 Sep '23	31 Dec '23	31 Dec '23
Effective duration	3.08	3.73	6.66
Bull market duration	3.02	3.76	6.70
Bear market duration	3.08	3.87	6.61
<b>Spread duration</b>			
Mortgage spread duration	1.52	1.33	0.67
Corporate spread duration	-0.20	-0.18	1.16
Emerging markets spread duration	-0.26	-0.39	0.98
Swap spread duration	3.73	3.83	0.00
Covered bond spread duration	0.27	0.28	0.10
Sovereign related spread duration	0.04	0.04	0.46

## Derivative exposure (% of duration)

	30 Sep '23	31 Dec '23
<b>Government futures</b>	-92.68	-60.91
<b>Interest rate swaps</b>	100.81	82.82
<b>Credit default swaps*</b>	-8.15	-8.40
Purchased swaps	-8.28	-8.52
Written swaps	0.13	0.12
<b>Options</b>	-0.38	-1.14
Purchased Options	-1.98	-0.57
Written Options	1.59	-0.57
<b>Mortgage Derivatives</b>	0.00	0.00
<b>Money Market Derivatives</b>	-3.87	-0.90
Futures	-2.97	-0.07
Interest rate swaps	-0.90	-0.83
<b>Other Derivatives</b>	0.00	0.00

\* Shown as a percentage of market value



# Country and currency exposure

Country exposure by currency of settlement

	30 Sep '23		31 Dec '23	
	Duration (yrs)	FX (%)	Duration (yrs)	FX (%)
<b>United States</b>	<b>2.56</b>	<b>-2.25</b>	<b>2.52</b>	<b>0.16</b>
<b>Japan</b>	<b>-0.74</b>	<b>1.83</b>	<b>-0.58</b>	<b>0.78</b>
<b>Eurozone</b>	<b>-0.10</b>	<b>-2.09</b>	<b>0.66</b>	<b>-1.49</b>
Euro Currency	0.00	-2.09	0.00	-1.49
European Union	1.15	0.00	1.06	0.00
Finland	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
France	-0.60	0.00	-0.32	0.00
Germany	-0.55	0.00	-0.22	0.00
Italy	-0.21	0.00	0.01	0.00
Netherlands	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Spain	0.10	0.00	0.12	0.00
<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>0.48</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>0.50</b>	<b>0.01</b>
<b>Europe non-EMU</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>0.75</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>-0.36</b>
Denmark	0.23	-0.01	0.21	0.03
Norway	-0.19	0.75	-0.19	0.36
Switzerland	0.00	0.01	-0.00	-0.75
<b>Dollar Block</b>	<b>1.30</b>	<b>99.50</b>	<b>1.22</b>	<b>99.68</b>
Australia	0.63	1.06	0.77	0.31
Canada	0.58	98.80	0.36	99.33
New Zealand	0.09	-0.37	0.09	0.04
<b>EM - Asia</b>	<b>-0.48</b>	<b>-0.51</b>	<b>-0.63</b>	<b>-1.72</b>
China	-0.48	-1.51	-0.46	-1.83
India	0.00	1.53	-0.03	0.72
Indonesia	0.00	0.37	0.00	0.34
Malaysia	-0.16	0.01	-0.14	-0.04
Singapore	-0.03	0.02	-0.09	-0.02
South Korea	0.20	-0.00	0.10	0.03
Taiwan	-0.01	-1.48	-0.00	-0.92
Thailand	0.00	0.56	0.00	0.00
<b>EM - Latin America</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>1.70</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>1.43</b>
Argentina	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Brazil	0.00	0.77	0.00	0.73
Chile	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00
Mexico	0.00	0.88	0.00	0.70
Peru	0.01	-0.01	0.01	-0.00
<b>EM - CEEMEA</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1.02</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1.49</b>
Hungary	0.00	0.98	0.00	1.00
Poland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.46
Romania	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02
South Africa	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.07</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3.73</b>	<b>100</b>

# Important Disclosures

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*No offering is being made by this material. Interested investors should obtain a copy of the prospectus, which is available on [pimco.ca](http://pimco.ca) or from your Financial Advisor.*

**Past performance is not a guarantee or a reliable indicator of future results.** Past performance is not a guarantee or a reliable indicator of future results. The performance figures presented reflect the total return performance and reflect changes in unit price and reinvestment of dividend and capital gain distributions. All periods longer than one year are annualized. Funds typically offer different series, which are subject to different fees and expenses (which may affect performance), having different minimum investment requirements and are entitled to different services.

There is no assurance that any fund, including any fund that has experienced **high or unusual performance** for one or more periods, will experience similar levels of performance in the future. High performance is defined as a significant increase in either 1) a fund's total return in excess of that of the fund's benchmark between reporting periods or 2) a fund's total return in excess of the fund's historical returns between reporting periods. Unusual performance is defined as a significant change in a fund's performance as compared to one or more previous reporting periods.

Differences in the Fund's performance versus the index and related attribution information with respect to particular categories of securities or individual positions may be attributable, in part, to differences in the pricing methodologies used by the Fund and the index.

Investments made by a Fund and the results achieved by a Fund are not expected to be the same as those made by any other PIMCO-advised Fund, including those with a similar name, investment objective or policies. A new or smaller Fund's performance may not represent how the Fund is expected to or may perform in the long-term. New Funds have limited operating histories for investors to evaluate and new and smaller Funds may not attract sufficient assets to achieve investment and trading efficiencies. A Fund may be forced to sell a comparatively large portion of its portfolio to meet significant unitholder redemptions for cash, or hold a comparatively large portion of its portfolio in cash due to significant unit purchases for cash, in each case when the Fund otherwise would not seek to do so, which may adversely affect performance.

Although the Fund may seek to maintain stable distributions, the Fund's distribution rates may be affected by numerous factors, including but not limited to changes in realized and projected market returns, fluctuations in market interest rates, Fund performance, and other factors. There can be no assurance that a change in market conditions or other factors will not result in a change in the Fund's distribution rate or that the rate will be sustainable in the future.

For instance, during periods of low or declining interest rates, the Fund's distributable income and dividend levels may decline for many reasons. For example, the Fund may have to deploy uninvested assets (whether from purchases of Fund units, proceeds from matured, traded or called debt obligations or other sources) in new, lower yielding instruments. Additionally, payments from certain instruments that may be held by the Fund (such as variable and floating rate securities) may be negatively impacted by declining interest rates, which may also lead to a decline in the Fund's distributable income and dividend levels.

# Important Disclosures

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**Yield to Maturity (YTM)** is the estimated total return of a bond if held to maturity. YTM accounts for the present value of a bond's future coupon payments. PIMCO calculates a Fund's Estimated YTM by averaging the YTM of each security held in the Fund on a market-weighted basis. PIMCO pulls each security's YTM from PIMCO's Portfolio Analytics database. In general, the calculation will incorporate the yield based on the notional value of all derivative instruments held by a Fund. The measure does not reflect the deduction of fees and expenses and is not necessarily indicative of the Fund's actual performance. A portfolio's actual yield or distribution rate may be significantly lower than its estimated YTM in practice. Also, estimated YTM is not intended to indicate that a portfolio will actually hold any or all of its portfolio securities to maturity in practice, and various securities may be sold or otherwise disposed of prior to maturity. Estimated YTM is not a projection or prediction of the actual yield or return that a portfolio may achieve or any other future performance results. There can be no assurance that a portfolio will achieve any particular level of yield or return and actual results may vary significantly from estimated YTM.

**A word about risk:** Investing in the **bond market** is subject to risks, including market, interest rate, issuer, credit, inflation risk, and liquidity risk. The value of most bonds and bond strategies are impacted by changes in interest rates. Bonds and bond strategies with longer durations tend to be more sensitive and volatile than those with shorter durations; bond prices generally fall as interest rates rise, and low interest rate environments increase this risk. Reductions in bond counterparty capacity may contribute to decreased market liquidity and increased price volatility. Bond investments may be worth more or less than the original cost when redeemed. Investing in **foreign denominated and/or domiciled securities** may involve heightened risk due to currency fluctuations, and economic and political risks, which may be enhanced in emerging markets. **Mortgage and asset-backed securities** may be sensitive to changes in interest rates, subject to early repayment risk, and their value may fluctuate in response to the market's perception of issuer creditworthiness; while generally supported by some form of government or private guarantee there is no assurance that private guarantors will meet their obligations. **High-yield, lower-rated, securities** involve greater risk than higher-rated securities; portfolios that invest in them may be subject to greater levels of credit and liquidity risk than portfolios that do not. **Equities** may decline in value due to both real and perceived general market, economic, and industry conditions. **Derivatives** may involve certain costs and risks such as liquidity, interest rate, market, credit, management and the risk that a position could not be closed when most advantageous. Investing in derivatives could lose more than the amount invested. **Diversification** does not ensure against loss.

Statements concerning financial market trends or portfolio strategies are based on current market conditions, which will fluctuate. There is no guarantee that these investment strategies will work under all market conditions or are appropriate for all investors and each investor should evaluate their ability to invest for the long term, especially during periods of downturn in the market. Outlook and strategies are subject to change without notice.

Forecasts, estimates and certain information contained herein are based upon proprietary research and should not be interpreted as investment advice, as an offer or solicitation, nor as the purchase or sale of any financial instrument. Forecasts and estimates have certain inherent limitations, and unlike an actual performance record, do not reflect actual trading, liquidity constraints, fees, and/or other costs. In addition, references to future results should not be construed as an estimate or promise of results that a client portfolio may achieve.

Portfolio structure is subject to change without notice and may not be representative of current or future allocations.

Differences in the Fund's performance versus the FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index (the "Index") and related attribution information with respect to categories of securities or individual positions may be attributable, in part, to differences in the pricing methodologies used by the Fund and the Index.

Bloomberg Global Aggregate (CAD Hedged) Index provides a broad-based measure of the global investment-grade fixed income markets. The three major components of this index are the U.S. Aggregate, the Pan-European Aggregate, and the Asian-Pacific Aggregate Indices. The index also includes Eurodollar and Euro-Yen corporate bonds, Canadian Government securities, and USD investment grade 144A securities. It is not possible to invest directly in an unmanaged index.

*The products and services provided by PIMCO Canada Corp. may only be available in certain provinces or territories of Canada and only through dealers authorized for that purpose. PIMCO Canada has retained PIMCO LLC as sub-adviser. PIMCO Canada will remain responsible for any loss that arises out of the failure of its sub-advisor.*

# Important Disclosures

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# Important Disclosures

Acronyms and definitions of investment terms used throughout the report:

**Alpha** is a measure of performance on a risk-adjusted basis calculated by comparing the volatility (price risk) of a portfolio vs. its risk-adjusted performance to a benchmark index; the excess return relative to the benchmark is alpha.

**Average coupon** is the average of the coupon payments of the underlying bonds within the portfolio.

**Average effective maturity** is a weighted average of all the maturities of the bonds in a portfolio, computed by weighting each bond's effective maturity by the market value of the security.

**"Bend-but-not-break"** refers to credits that PIMCO would not expect to default in a credit-stressed environment.

**Beta** is a measure of price sensitivity to market movements. Market beta is 1.

**Breakeven inflation rate** (or expectation) is a market-based measure of expected inflation or the difference between the yield of a nominal and an inflation-linked bond of the same maturity.

**Carry** is the rate of interest earned by holding the respective securities.

The terms **"cheap" and "rich"** as used herein generally refer to a security or asset class that is deemed to be substantially under- or overpriced compared to both its historical average as well as to the investment manager's future expectations. There is no guarantee of future results or that a security's valuation will ensure a profit or protect against a loss.

**CPI** is the Consumer Price Index.

The **credit quality** of a particular security or group of securities does not ensure the stability or safety of an overall portfolio. The quality ratings of individual issues/issuers are provided to indicate the credit-worthiness of such issues/issuer and generally range from AAA, Aaa, or AAA (highest) to D, C, or D (lowest) for S&P, Moody's, and Fitch respectively.

**Dividend yield** is represented by the weighted average coupon divided by the weighted average price.

**Duration** is the measure of a bond's price sensitivity to interest rates and is expressed in years.

**Effective duration** is the duration for a bond with an embedded option when the value is calculated to include the expected change in cash flow caused by the option as interest rates change.

**Forward curve** is a function graph that defines the prices at which a contract for future delivery or payment can be concluded today.

**Fallen angel** is a bond that was initially given an investment grade rating but has since been reduced to below investment grade status.

**GFC** is the Global Financial Crisis.

**Information ratio** is a ratio of portfolio returns above the returns of a benchmark to the volatility of those returns.

**Like-duration Securities** are calculated by the index provider by comparing the index return to a hypothetical matched position in the security.

**LNG** is Liquefied Natural Gas.

The **Option Adjusted Spread (OAS)** measures the spread over a variety of possible interest rate paths. A security's OAS is the average return an investor will earn over Treasury returns, taking all possible future interest rate scenarios into account. The OAS is the net spread over the swap curve that will on average be earned if the security is held to maturity.

**Rising star** is the term given to a bond that was rated high yield but has since been upgraded to investment grade.

**"Risk assets"** are any financial security or instrument that are likely to fluctuate in price.

**Risk premia** is the return in excess of the risk-free rate of return an investment is expected to yield.

**Roll yield** is the yield that a futures investor captures as their long position in a futures contract converges to the spot price.

**"Safe haven"** is an investment that is expected to retain or increase in value during times of market turbulence.

**"Safe Spread"** is defined as sectors that we believe are most likely to withstand the vicissitudes of a wide range of possible economic scenarios. All investments contain risk and may lose value.

The **SEC yield** is an annualized yield based on the most recent 30 day period. The subsidized yield includes contractual expense reimbursements and it would be lower without those reimbursements. The

**Unsubsidized 30 day SEC Yield** excludes contractual expense reimbursements.

**Tracking error** measures the dispersion or volatility of excess returns relative to a benchmark.

To relate the price sensitivity of ILBs to changes in nominal yields, yield beta is applied to nominal changes to arrive at a price sensitivity of ILBs to changes in nominal rates. A **yield beta** of 0.90 implies that if nominal yields move 100 basis points, real yields will move 90 basis points. ILBs with long maturity may respond differently to changes in nominal rates than shorter maturity ILBs.

The distribution yield for monthly paying Funds is calculated by annualizing actual dividends distributed for the monthly period ended on the date shown and dividing by the net asset value on the last business day for the same period. The distribution yield for quarterly paying Funds is calculated by taking the average of the prior four quarterly distribution yields. The quarterly distribution yields are calculated by annualizing actual dividends distributed for the quarterly period ended on the most recent quarterly distribution date and dividing by the net asset value for the same date. The yield does not include long- or short-term capital gains distributions.

Asset-Backed Security (ABS); Bank of England (BOE); Bank of Japan (BOJ); Breakeven Inflation (BEI); Collateralized Debt Obligation (CDO); Collateralized Loan Obligation (CLO); Commercial Mortgage-Backed Security (CMBS); Developed Markets (DM); Emerging Markets (EM); Federal Reserve Board (The Fed); Europe Central Bank (ECB); Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC); Foreign Exchange (FX); Gross Domestic Product (GDP); Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC); High Yield (HY); Inflation-Linked Bond (ILS); Investment Grade (IG); Leveraged-buyout (LBO); Loan-to-Value (LTV); Master Limited Partnership (MLP); Mortgage-Backed Security (MBS); Market Weighted Spread (MWS); Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT); Residential Mortgage-Backed Security (RMBS); Treasury Inflation-Protected Security (TIPS); Year-over-Year (YoY)

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