HUNTER GLOBAL FIXED INTEREST FUND



Report & Commentary

| Fund Information | 31 March 2021 | | | |
|-----------------------|--|----------|--------|-----------|
| Fund Size | \$1.013 billion | | | |
| Fund Type | PIE | | | |
| Investment management | PIMCO | | | |
| Benchmark | Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate Index - \$NZ hedged | | | |
| Performance (gross) | 1 month | 3 months | 1 Year | 3 Year pa |
| Portfolio (%) | -0.17% | -1.88% | +6.77% | +4.84% |
| Benchmark (%) | -0.41% | -2.49% | +1.39% | +3.99% |
| Alpha (%) | +0.24% | +0.61% | +5.38% | +0.85% |

The performance in this fact sheet is gross of fees and tax. Investors should also refer to the Quarterly Fund Update, which is available on hunterinvestments.co.nz and business.govt.nz/disclose.

Performance update

The Hunter Global Fixed Interest Fund outperformed its benchmark in March although nominal returns were negative again this month.

Contributors included duration and curve positioning in the US and Australia as core interest rates and inflation expectations continued to rise. An underweight to duration in the Eurozone, positioning in Agency and non-Agency mortgages and holdings of emerging markets external debt also contributed.

However, local rate exposure to select emerging markets (including Peru and Brazil) detracted from performance as did our underweight to non-financial investment-grade corporate debt.

Investment markets

March saw continued volatility in markets as investors reacted to various conflicting influences around vaccine rollouts, the blockage in the Suez and President Biden 's stimulus package.

Europe is significantly lagging the UK and the US in vaccine rollout and we also saw another major challenge for the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine as many governments stopped its usage due to concerns over potential blood clots.

The 220,000 ton "Ever Given" ran aground in the Suez Canal completely blocking one of the world's most important shipping lanes for a week which saw significant trade disruptions and large swings in commodity prices - oil was up 6% on the day the news broke.

31 March 2021

President Biden signed the US\$1.9 trillion stimulus package into law early in March and immediately announced his "American Jobs Plan" proposal for an extra US\$2.25 trillion of infrastructure spending, mostly funded by coporate tax rises. US yields ended up 85 basis points in Q1.

Portfolio positioning

PIMCO is maintaining its cautious view towards both interest rates and corporate credit, focusing on relative value positions and diversified alpha strategies. Within broader risk exposures, they maintain tactical tilts designed to benefit across a range of scenarios.

The Fund remains slightly underweight duration versus the index with absolute duration now 7.0 years vs 7.4 years and focused on relative value between regions.

PIMCO still prefers US duration and is marginally overweight versus the benchmark given the recent rise in interest rates. They maintain a dollar bloc bias for its resilience should the global economy worsen. The Fund also holds an underweight to core Eurozone and UK duration given unattractive low yields and negative carry in some parts of the curve.

The Fund remains underweight to corporate credit generally, targetting financials and non-cyclicals.

Securitised assets remain PIMCO's preferred way to take spread exposure although they have reduced the relative size of this position. The Fund remains long non-core Europe versus core Europe as ECB support continues to make further spread contraction likely.

Currency strategies are largely tactical or target portfolio diversification. We remain long a basket of emerging market currencies and also have some developed market currencies including AUD and GBP, all versus USD.

The Fund also has a small allocation to inflation linked bonds which are trading below fair value.

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This Report is provided by Hunter Investment Management Limited (Hunter) in good faith and is designed as a summary to accompany the Product Disclosure Statement for the Hunter Global Fixed Interest Fund (the Fund). The Product Disclosure Statement is available from Hunter, or the issuer Implemented Investment Solutions Limited (IIS) on https://iisolutions.co.nz/fund-hosting/documents-and-reporting-2/, and on https://iisolutions.co.nz/fund-hosting/documents-and-reporting-2/, and on https://iisolutions.co.nz/fund-hosting/documents-and-reporting-2/, and on https://iisolutions.co.nz/fund-hosting-documents-and-reporting-2/, and on <a href="http

31 March 2021

Hunter Global Fixed Interest Fund Investment Portfolio Characteristics

| Investment Statistics | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|--|--|--|--|
| Effective Duration | 7.0 | | | | |
| Benchmark Duration | 7.4 | | | | |
| Average Maturity | 9.0 | | | | |
| Average Coupon | 1.9 | | | | |
| Average Quality | AA- | | | | |
| Total Carry | 2.7 | | | | |

| Quality Breakdown | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|--|
| Market Value | | Market Value | |
| % Portfolio | | % Benchmark | |
| 54.3 | AAA | 36.7 | |
| 4.2 | AA | 15.2 | |
| 22.2 | Α | 31.8 | |
| 14.0 | BBB | 16.3 | |
| 5.2 | Sub Inv Grade | 0.0 | |
| 100 | Total | 100 | |

| Curve Exposure | | | | |
|----------------------|----------------|-------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Duration Weig | thted Exposure | | Duration We | eighted Exposure |
| % Portfolio | % Benchmark | | Years Portfolio | Years Benchmark |
| 4.4 | 0.1 | 0 - 1 years | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 0.1 | 6.7 | 1 - 3 years | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| 14.2 | 12.7 | 3 - 5 years | 1.0 | 0.9 |
| 40.2 | 27.6 | 5-10 years | 2.8 | 2.0 |
| 41.2 | 52.9 | 10+ years | 2.9 | 3.9 |
| 100 | 100 | Total | 7.0 | 7.4 |

| Regional Breakdown by currency of settlement) | | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Duration Weighted Exposure | | | Duration Weighted Exposure | | |
| % Portfolio | % Benchmark | | Years Portfolio | Years Benchmark | |
| 3.6 | 1.4 | Australia/NZ | 0.2 | 0.1 | |
| 16.8 | 17.5 | Japan | 1.2 | 1.3 | |
| 19.4 | 24.7 | Europe - EMU | 1.4 | 1.8 | |
| 6.0 | 1.3 | Europe - Non EMU | 0.4 | 0.1 | |
| 2.9 | 7.6 | United Kingdom | 0.2 | 0.6 | |
| 43.0 | 39.0 | North America | 3.0 | 2.9 | |
| 7.4 | 6.7 | Emerging Markets | 0.5 | 0.5 | |
| 1.0 | 1.7 | Other | 0.1 | 0.1 | |
| 100 | 100 | Total | 7.0 | 7.4 | |

| Sector Breakdown | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Duration Weighted Exposure | | | Duration Weighted Exposure | |
| % Portfolio | % Benchmark | | Years Portfolio | Years Benchmark |
| 52.6 | 54.5 | Government | 3.7 | 4.0 |
| 3.1 | 8.3 | Agency/Semi | 0.2 | 0.6 |
| 12.1 | 7.8 | Mortgage | 0.8 | 0.6 |
| 12.1 | 17.7 | Inv Grade Corp | 0.8 | 1.3 |
| 1.1 | 0.0 | High Yield Corp | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| 15.5 | 11.7 | Emerging Markets | 1.1 | 0.9 |
| 3.4 | 0.0 | Cash Equivalents | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| 100 | 100 | Total | 7.0 | 7.4 |



