## **HUNTER GLOBAL FIXED INTEREST FUND**



## **Report & Commentary**

31 July 2021

Fund Information	31 July 2021			
Fund Size	\$1.1 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 (%)	+1.07%	+1.76%	+2.95%	+5.36%
Benchmark (%)	+1.25%	+2.01%	+0.22%	+4.70%
Alpha (%)	-0.18%	-0.25%	+2.73%	+0.66%

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 <a href="https://hunterinvestments.co.nz">hunterinvestments.co.nz</a> and <a href="https://business.govt.nz/disclose">business.govt.nz/disclose</a>.

#### Performance update

The Hunter Global Fixed Interest Fund underperformed its benchmark in July, its defensive positioning meaning it did not benefit as much from declining global bond yields on concerns about the Covid-19 Delta variant and signs of moderating global growth.

Positioning in the 5-10 year part of the US yield curve together with overweights to Danish and Canadian duration added value in July as curves flattened and yields generally fell. Holdings in inflation-linked bonds also added value.

However, our underweight to European and UK duration, particularly the long end of the yield curve, detracted as interest rates fell and curves flattened. An underweight exposure to the US dollar versus a basket of G10 currencies also detracted as the US dollar again appreciated in July.

#### **Investment markets**

Both risk assets and safe haven assets rallied in July, bonds benefitting from the unwinding of reflation trades and equities from continued policy support and decent corporate earnings. Asian equity markets lagged as China cracked down on tech and educational sectors.

Meanwhile, the ECB set a new 2% target for inflation and said it would tolerate transitory periods when inflation exceeded targets. This is its first strategy review since 2003 when it targeted a "close to but below 2%" inflation goal.

The vaccination rollout continues to make progress with over 4 billion doses administered so far although there are stark differences between nations.

While vaccines have provided much needed immunity, the re-opening of economies and the more virulent Delta variant continues to pose challenges.

### **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 increased its underweight duration position versus the index with absolute duration now 6.4 years vs 7.6 years and focused on relative value between regions.

PIMCO is slightly underweight US and Japanese duration versus the benchmark and they maintain a dollar bloc bias for its resilience should the global economy worsen. The Fund is maintaining more significant underweight positions 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 are now underweight to the Agency and semi-government sectors, preferring the nonagency mortgage sector. 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 overweight some developed market currencies including AUD and GBP, all versus USD.

The Fund continues to have a small allocation to inflation-linked bonds.

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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 <a href="https://iisolutions.co.nz/fund-hosting/documents-and-reporting-2/">https://iisolutions.co.nz/fund-hosting/documents-and-reporting-2/</a>, and on <a href="http

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# Hunter Global Fixed Interest Fund Investment Portfolio Characteristics

Investment Statistics					
Effective Duration	on 6.4				
Benchmark Dura	ition 7.6				
Average Maturit	y 8.7				
Average Coupon	1.9				
<b>Average Quality</b>	AA-				
Total Carry	2.3				

Quality Breakdown			
Market Value		Market Value	
% Portfolio		% Benchmark	
51.7	AAA	37.1	
5.9	AA	15.3	
19.5	Α	31.7	
18.1	BBB	15.9	
4.8	Sub Inv Grade	0.0	
100	Total	100	

Curve Exposure					
<b>Duration Weig</b>	hted Exposure		Duration We	eighted Exposure	
% Portfolio	% Benchmark		<b>Years Portfolio</b>	Years Benchmark	
4.9	0.1	0 - 1 years	0.3	0.0	
-1.7	6.6	1 - 3 years	-0.1	0.5	
12.7	12.2	3 - 5 years	0.8	0.9	
41.6	26.4	5-10 years	2.7	2.0	
42.5	54.6	10+ years	2.7	4.1	
100	100	Total	6.4	7.6	

Regional Breakdown by currency of settlement)					
Duration Weighted Exposure			<b>Duration Weighted Exposure</b>		
% Portfolio	% Benchmark		Years Portfolio	Years Benchmark	
3.0	1.4	Australia/NZ	0.2	0.1	
18.4	16.9	Japan	1.2	1.3	
17.7	24.5	Europe - EMU	1.1	1.9	
6.5	1.3	Europe - Non EMU	0.4	0.1	
3.6	7.9	United Kingdom	0.2	0.6	
42.2	39.6	North America	2.7	3.0	
7.6	6.8	<b>Emerging Markets</b>	0.5	0.5	
1.0	1.7	Other	0.1	0.1	
100	100	Total	6.4	7.6	

Sector Breakdown					
<b>Duration Weig</b>	hted Exposure		<b>Duration Weighted Exposure</b>		
% Portfolio	% Benchmark		<b>Years Portfolio</b>	Years Benchmark	
58.6	54.8	Government	3.8	4.1	
1.4	8.4	Agency/Semi	0.1	0.6	
10.4	7.3	Mortgage	0.7	0.5	
9.1	17.7	Inv Grade Corp	0.6	1.3	
1.3	0.0	High Yield Corp	0.1	0.0	
15.1	11.7	<b>Emerging Markets</b>	1.0	0.9	
4.1	0.0	Cash Equivalents	0.3	0.0	
100	100	Total	6.4	7.6	



