FUND INFORMATION

Portfolio managers: Scott Smith, CFA[®] and Jonathan Terry, CFA[®]

Benchmark: Bloomberg U.S. Credit Bond Index

Fund inception: 15 Dec 2016

Management approach: Actively managed

Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation: Article 8^t

[†]Promotes environmental and social characteristics but does not have a sustainable investment objective.

OBJECTIVES AND PROCESS

- Seeks total return, maximising investment income whilst preserving capital
- Invests at least two-thirds of its assets in US\$-denominated credit debt securities of investment grade (or equivalent) at the time of purchase
- Invests at least 5% of its assets in green, sustainable, sustainable-linked and social bonds
- Focuses on bottom-up credit research seeking to balance income whilst aiming for a competitive yield to drive total returns
- Favours companies with strong or improving ESG positions and incorporates into its rigorous fundamental analysis
- Uses a negative screen to exclude securities issued by companies based on their exposure to ESG risks
- May invest:
 - One-third of its assets in debt securities rated below investment grade and non US\$-denominated debt securities
 - Up to 20% of its assets in asset-backed securities
 - Using futures/derivatives for hedging, efficient portfolio management or for investment purposes

CALENDAR YEAR PERFORMANCE (%)

Past performance is not indicative of future performance.

	YTD	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
USD Investment Grade Credit Fund - Class I (USD)	2.37	2.63	8.00	-16.08	-1.46	11.33	15.20	-2.46	6.88
Bloomberg U.S. Credit Bond Index	2.36	2.03	8.18	-15.26	-1.08	9.35	13.80	-2.11	6.18

Fund performance calculations are net of all applicable fees and are calculated on an NAV-to-NAV basis in US dollars (with income re-invested). Share class inception date: 15 Dec 2016

Quarterly review

- In the first quarter of 2025, the USD Investment Grade Credit Fund generated a total return of 2.44%, outperforming the Bloomberg US Credit Index by 8 basis points (bps; 100 bps equal 1.00%), which returned 2.36%.
- The Credit Index widened 6 bps to 88 as markets traded with volatility this quarter. Uncertainty around tariffs and the effects on growth and inflation was an overhang on markets and drove a flight to quality. The positive total returns were led by the sharp rate rally, whilst excess returns were hampered by wider spreads.

Market review

Credit spreads traded wider as there was a lack of conviction in the market this quarter. President Trump announced higher-than-expected tariffs on the European Union, Canada and Mexico but then extended the deadline to 1 April. Trump then announced that further tariffs will be made public after the first quarter on his coined "Liberation Day". However, the announcement of higher tariffs but muddled details around how large they would be weighed on credit spreads. The inflationary effects of tariffs further complicate the US Federal Reserve's fight to bring down inflation to its 2% target.

FUND RISKS

Debt securities risk Asset-backed securities risk High yield securities risk ESG risk Contingent convertible bonds risk Geographic concentration risk Global investment risk Leverage risk

PORTFOLIO POSITIONING

PORTFOLIO ATTRIBUTION* AND STRATEGY

Country-neutral

• The fund invests primarily in US-based issuers and maintains an exposure of over 70%. The remaining exposure is allocated to issuers outside of the US, with debt denominated in US dollars.

Currency-neutral

• The fund solely invests in US-dollar-denominated debt. Therefore, currency is not a factor in returns.

Sector-neutral

- The changing details on tariff policy made it difficult for investors to assess the direction of rates, impact on inflation and how corporate earnings would look in the remainder of the year. With new headlines in the market, we saw decompression and a flight to quality. Aa+ bonds outperformed. Sector dispersion this quarter was more pronounced than usual. Sectors with the highest exposure to tariffs, such as energy, transportation and basics, underperformed, whilst defensive sectors, such as banking and consumer non-cyclicals, outperformed. Until rates stabilise and more certainty around tariffs is announced, we expect that the market will see wider wides and tights.
- The fund is well positioned to withstand economic uncertainty and periods of slowing growth. We have trimmed down exposure to highly cyclical names, selling names that have outperformed the index in the last year. We then rotated into higher-quality assets, such as Treasuries and single-A corporates.

- We remain overweight banks, particularly GSIBs, as they have benefitted from the higher rate environment. The fund remains underweight consumer cyclical and basic industry sectors, as the cyclical nature tends to be more negatively affected in weaker economic settings.
- Financial institutions, particularly banking, and Treasuries outperformed whilst industrials underperformed given their higher-beta nature and decompression trading in the market. The sector allocations provided 7 bps of alpha.

Duration and yield curve-contributor

- Rates were volatile in the first quarter of 2025, and the Treasury curve dramatically shifted downwards in yield. Yields tightened anywhere from 20–45 bps, with the front end leading the rally. Despite the recent decline in yields, on a historical average, they remain on the higher end of the range.
- The fund remains overweight the intermediate portion of the curve. The steepening of the Treasury curve has created higher demand for long duration and flattened credit curves. Duration and yield curve contributed 9 bps to the alpha in the first quarter of 2025.
- The fund is positioned neutral versus the Bloomberg US Credit Index. We continue to believe our ability to be benchmark-aware as opposed to benchmark-centric will benefit the fund's performance, as it allows us to adjust positioning accordingly.

Security selection-contributor, detractor or neutral

• As the index widened out, security selection on lower-rated names, such as WBD, weighed on alpha this quarter. With new headlines in the market, we saw decompression and a flight to quality. As an example, Aa+ bonds outperformed across the ratings curve. This quarter, we have trimmed our overweights on tariff-sensitive names and rotated into high-quality and stable names. This helps set up the strategy in a defensive manner to perform well in the next quarter, when we expect uncertainty to continue.

"With new tariff headlines in the market, we saw themes of decompression and a flight to quality. Sector dispersion this quarter was more pronounced than usual with defensive names outperforming. Until we see further stabilisation, we expect to see wider wides and tights.]

PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS

	FUND	BLOOMBERG U.S. CREDIT BOND INDEX
Avg. eff. duration	6.42	6.62
Avg eff maturity (yrs)		-
Weighted avg. coupon	4.26	4.39

SECTOR ALLOCATION (%)

	FUND	BLOOMBERG U.S. CREDIT BOND INDEX
Cash & equivalents	4.73	0.00
Agencies	0.00	2.21
Consumer discretionary	3.96	6.09
Consumer staples	2.57	4.92
Energy	1.70	6.11
Financials	40.39	26.78
Industrials	2.32	6.29
Information technology	15.45	8.17
Real estate	3.51	2.30
Utilities	0.33	8.35
Communication services	12.19	6.70
Health care	4.92	8.20
Local authorities	0.00	2.63
Materials	0.92	2.75
Sovereign	0.00	8.49
Treasuries	7.02	0.00

CREDIT-QUALITY ALLOCATION (%)¹

	FUND	BLOOMBERG U.S. CREDIT BOND INDEX
AAA/Aaa	0.00	6.96
AA/Aa	8.06	9.15
A/A	37.32	40.54
BBB/Baa	49.02	43.34
BB/Ba	0.86	0.01
Cash & equivalents	4.73	0.00

1. The ratings indicated are from Standard & Poor's, Fitch Ratings, and/or Moody's Investors Service. The percentages of the fund's portfolio with the ratings depicted in the chart are calculated based on the total investments of the fund. If a security was rated by all three rating agencies, the median rating was used. If a security was rated by two of the three rating agencies, the lower rating was used. If a security was rated by one of the agencies, that rating was used.

Negative cash percentage and credit-quality allocation greater than 100% is due to unsettled derivative contract positions, which cause the sector/credit weight(s) to increase proportionately to the negative cash amount.

FUND FACTS

Inception date	15 Dec 2016
Net expense ratio—Inst (USD)	0.44%
Assets—all share classes	\$292.63m

ANNUALISED PERFORMANCE (%)

Past performance is not indicative of future performance.

	3 MONTH	1 YEAR	3 YEAR	5 YEAR	10 YEAR	SINCE FUND INCEPTION (15 DEC 2016)
USD Investment Grade Credit Fund	2.37	5.09	0.87	1.31	_	2.89
Bloomberg U.S. Credit Bond Index	2.36	4.87	1.13	1.35	_	_
Morningstar USD Corporate Bond Average		4.39	0.47	0.83	2.12	_

Fund performance calculations are net of all applicable fees and are calculated on an NAV-to-NAV basis in US dollars (with income re-invested). Share class inception date: 15 Dec 2016

SHARE CLASS INFORMATION (Share class and currency availability varies by jurisdiction)

	INCEPTION DATE	ТҮРЕ	ISIN	ANNUAL MGMT FEE	ONGOING CHARGES/ TER (%)*
Class I (USD)	2016-12-15	Accumulating	LU1528096115	0.30	0.44

*The ongoing charges/total expense ratio (TER) reflects annual total operating expenses for the class, excludes transaction costs and is expressed as a percentage of net asset value. The figure shown is from current KID. The investment manager has committed to reimburse the Sub-Fund when the ongoing charges exceed the agreed upon TER. Ongoing charges may vary over time.

ESG METRICS

The data provided is for transparency and informational purposes only. The ESG metrics are not indicative of how or whether ESG factors will be utilised by the fund. The information is based on third party ratings and, unless otherwise stated within a fund's investment objective, do not change a fund's investment objective or constrain the fund's investable universe. For more information regarding a fund's investment strategy, please see the fund's prospectus. Refer to allspringglobal.com for further sustainability disclosures.

MSCI ESG SCORE

	FUND		BENCHMARK	
	VALUE COVERAGE		VALUE	COVERAGE
MSCI Overall Score	6.8	95%	6.6	96%

Data is sourced from MSCI ESG Research where companies are rated on a scale of 0 - 10 (0 - worst, 10 - best). Weighted average scores exclude effects of unrated securities.

PRODUCT/ACTIVITY INVOLVEMENT (%)

	FUND	BENCHMARK
Controversial Weapons	0.00	1.87
Oil Sands	0.00	0.21
Small Arms	0.00	0.00
Thermal Coal	0.00	0.77
Торассо	0.00	0.99
UNGC violators	0.00	1.59

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SUSTAINALYTICS ESG RISK SCORE

	VALUE	COVERAGE
Fund	20	90%
Benchmark	22	92%

ESG Risk Ratings measure exposure to and management of ESG risks. Lower risk scores reflect less ESG risk. Sustainalytics ESG Risk Scores measure ESG risks on a scale of 0 - 100 (0 - no ESG Risk, >40 - Severe ESG Risk).

CARBON CHARACTERISTICS

	FUND		BENCHMARK		
	VALUE	COVERAGE	VALUE	COVERAGE	% ABOVE/ BELOW BENCHMARK
Carbon to value invested (metric tons CO2e/\$1MM invested)*	17	87%	70	90%	-76%
Weighted average carbon intensity (metric tons CO2e/\$1MM revenues)*	66	88%	250	90%	-74%

 $^{*}\mbox{Carbon emissions}$ includes scope 1 and scope 2 GHG emissions. Data sourced from MSCI ESG Research.

RANKINGS AND RATINGS

Morningstar total return rankings-Institutional Class (as of 31 Mar 2025)

MORNINGSTAR CATEGORY	USD CORPORATE BOND
1 year	155 out of 430
3 year	165 out of 314
5 year	141 out of 269
10 year	N/A

Overall Morningstar Rating [™] ★★★

The Overall Morningstar Rating, a weighted average of the 3-, 5-, and 10-year (if applicable) ratings, is out of 314 funds in the USD corporate bond category, based on risk-adjusted returns as of 31 Mar 2025. Ratings and awards are not an indication, promise, or guarantee of future performance. Ratings and awards should not be relied upon when making an investment decision.

BENCHMARK DESCRIPTIONS:

The Bloomberg U.S. Credit Bond Index is a broad base, market capitalization-weighted bond market index representing intermediate term investment grade bonds traded in the United States. You cannot invest directly in an index. The Fund uses the Bloomberg U.S. Credit Index for performance comparison. The investments of the Sub-Fund may deviate significantly from the components of and their respective weightings in the benchmark.

The Morningstar Category average is the average return for the peer group based on the returns of each individual fund within the group. The total return of the Morningstar Category average does not include the effect of sales charges. You cannot invest directly in a Morningstar Category average.

Diversification does not ensure or guarantee better performance and cannot eliminate the risk of investment losses.

The Morningstar Rating for funds, or star rating, is calculated for managed products (including mutual funds, variable annuity and variable life subaccounts, exchange-traded funds, closed-end funds, and separate accounts) with at least a three-year history. Exchange-traded funds and open-ended mutual funds are considered a single population for comparative purposes. It is calculated based on a Morningstar risk-adjusted return measure that accounts for variation in a managed product's monthly excess performance, placing more emphasis on downward variations and rewarding consistent performance. The Morningstar Rating does not include any adjustment for sales loads. The top 10% of products in each product category receive 5 stars, the next 22.5% receive 4 stars, the next 35% receive 3 stars, the next 22.5% receive 2 stars, and the bottom 10% receive 1 star. The Overall Morningstar Rating for a managed product is derived from a weighted average of the performance figures associated with its 3-, 5-, and 10-year (if applicable) Morningstar Rating metrics. The weights are: 100% 3-year rating for 36-59 months of total returns, 60% 5-year rating/40% 3-year rating for 60–119 months of total returns, and 50% 10-year rating/30% 5-year rating/20% 3-year rating for 120 or more months of total returns. While the 10-year overall star rating formula seems to give the most weight to the 10-year period, the most recent 3-year period actually has the greatest impact because it is included in all three rating periods.

The USD Investment Grade Credit Fund received 3 stars among 314 funds and 3 stars among 269 funds for the 3- and 5-year periods, respectively. The Morningstar Rating is for the Institutional Class only; other classes may have different performance characteristics.

The Morningstar absolute ranking is based on the fund's total return rank relative to all funds that have the same category for the same time period. Morningstar rankings do not include the effect of sales charges. **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.**

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KEY RISKS

Debt securities risk: debt securities are subject to credit risk and interest rate risk and are affected by an issuer's ability to make interest payments or repay principal when due. Asset-backed securities risk: asset-backed securities may be more sensitive to changes in interest rates and may exhibit added volatility, known as extension risk, and are subject to prepayment risk. High yield securities risk: high yield securities are rated below investment grade, are predominantly speculative, have a much greater risk of default and may be more volatile than higher-rated securities of similar maturity. ESG risk: applying an ESG screen for security selection may result in lost opportunity in a security or industry resulting in possible underperformance relative to peers. ESG screens are dependent on third-party data and errors in the data may result in the incorrect inclusion or exclusion of a security. Contingent convertible bonds risk: These instruments can be converted from debt into equity because of the occurrence of certain predetermined trigger events including when the issuer is in crisis resulting in possible price fluctuations and potential liquidity concerns. Geographic concentration risk: investments concentrated in specific geographic regions and markets may be subject to greater volatility due to economic downturns and other factors affecting the specific geographic regions. Global investment risk: securities of certain jurisdictions may experience more rapid and extreme changes in value and may be affected by uncertainties such as international political developments, currency fluctuations and other developments in the laws and regulations of countries in which an investment may be made. Leverage risk: the use of certain types of financial derivative instruments may create leverage which may increase share price volatility.

DEFINITION OF TERMS:

Credit-quality ratings: Credit-quality ratings apply to underlying holdings of the fund and not the fund itself. Standard & Poor's and Fitch rate the creditworthiness of bonds from AAA (highest) to D (lowest). Standard & Poor's rates the creditworthiness of short-term notes from SP-1 (highest) to SP-3 (lowest). Ratings from A to CCC may be modified by the addition of a plus (+) or minus (-) sign to show relative standing within the rating categories. Moody's rates the creditworthiness of bonds from Aaa (highest) to CC (lowest). Ratings Aa to B may be modified by the addition of a number 1 (highest) to 3 (lowest) to show relative standing within the rating categories. Moody's rates the creditworthiness of short-term U.S. tax-exempt municipal securities from MIG-1/VMIG-1 (highest) to SG (lowest). Credit quality and credit-quality ratings are subject to change.

Duration: Duration is a measurement of the sensitivity of a bond's price to changes in Treasury yields. A fund's duration is the weighted average of duration of the bonds in the portfolio. Duration should be interpreted as the approximate change in a bond's (or fund's) price for a 100-basis-point change in Treasury yields. Duration is based on historical performance and does not represent future results.

Yield curve: The yield curve is a graphical representation of fixed-income security yields (usually U.S. Treasuries) at their respective maturities, starting with the shortest time to maturity and sequentially plotting in a line chart to the longest maturity. The yield curve is based on historical performance and does not represent future results.

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The prospectus, key information documents (KIDs) and key investor information documents (KIDs) contain detailed information regarding the fund's objectives, risks, fees, expenses and sustainability. Please consider all characteristics and objectives of the fund, not only sustainability aspects, before making any final investment decisions. The fund's privacy policy, the KIDs/KIIDs) and a summary of investor rights (available in English) are available on www.allspringglobal.com under Luxembourg UCITS-Related Information and Privacy/Other Policies, and the prospectus can be found within each country-specific page on the website under regulatory documents when selecting relevant investment(s).

The prospectus is available in English, French, German, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese.

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