

# PIMCO Investment Grade Credit Bond Fund

## PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

The PIMCO Investment Grade Credit Bond Fund returned 1.10% at NAV in March versus the Bloomberg U.S. Credit Index, which returned 1.23% for the month. Year-to-date the Fund has returned 0.02% at NAV, while the benchmark returned -0.41%.

In March, the Bloomberg U.S. Credit Index returned 1.23%, outperforming like-duration Treasuries by 0.51%. Investment grade credit spreads tightened 5 bps while yields fell 0.11% to 5.25%<sup>1</sup>.

### Contributors

- Duration positioning
- Tactical exposure to securitized credit

### Detractors

- Name selection within media
- Name selection within telecom
- Name selection within food

Month end performance 31 March 2024				Quarter end performance 31 March 2024			
3 mos.	6 mos.	1 yr.	YTD	1 yr.	5 yrs.	10 yrs.	Since inception
0.02	7.77	4.08	0.02	4.08	0.70	2.52	5.62
-3.73	3.70	0.14	-3.73	0.14	-0.06	2.12	5.45
-0.41	7.71	4.15	-0.41	4.15	1.39	2.49	4.89

■ PIMCO Investment Grade Credit Bond Fund share class A ■ Benchmark (%) at NAV (%)  
■ PIMCO Investment Grade Credit Bond Fund A at MOP

**Benchmark:** Bloomberg U.S. Credit Index

*Performance quoted represents past performance. Past performance is not a guarantee or a reliable indicator of future results. Investment return and the principal value of an investment will fluctuate. Shares may be worth more or less than original cost when redeemed. Current performance may be lower or higher than performance shown. For performance current to the most recent month-end, visit [www.pimco.com](http://www.pimco.com) or call (888) 87-PIMCO. The maximum offering price (MOP) returns take into account the 3.75% maximum initial sales charge.*

Certain Funds may offer a share class with an inception date which is different than the inception date of the Fund. For the periods prior to the inception date of a share class, performance information is based on the performance of the Fund's oldest class shares, adjusted to reflect the fees and expenses paid by that class of shares. The performance figures presented reflect the total return performance, unless otherwise noted, for A class shares and reflect changes in share price and reinvestment of dividend and capital gain distributions. All periods longer than one year are annualized. Periods less than one year are cumulative.

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.

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.

**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.

A Shares	<b>PBDAX</b>	INST Shares	<b>PIGIX</b>
ADMIN Shares	<b>PGCAX</b>	I-2 Shares	<b>PBDPX</b>
C Shares	<b>PBDCX</b>	I-3 Shares	<b>PCNNX</b>

Fund Inception Date **28 April 2000**

Shareclass A Inception Date **30 July 2004**

Total Net Assets (in millions) **\$12,032.1**

### Performance Characteristics

A 30-day SEC yield<sup>1</sup> **4.59%**

<sup>1</sup>The 30 day SEC Yield is computed under an SEC standardized formula based on net income earned over the past 30 days.

### Basic Facts

Dividend frequency **Monthly with Daily Accrual**

### Fund Expenses

Maximum Sales Charge (Load) **3.75%**

Maximum Deferred Sales Charge (Load) **1.00%**

A share Gross Expense Ratio **1.44%**

A share Adjusted Expense Ratio **0.90%**

The Adjusted Expense Ratio excludes certain investment expenses, such as interest expense from borrowings and repurchase agreements and dividend expense from investments on short sales, incurred directly by the Fund or indirectly through the Fund's investments in underlying PIMCO Funds (if applicable), none of which are paid to PIMCO.

### Portfolio Managers

Mark Kiesel, Mohit Mittal, Amit Arora

### Fund Statistics

Effective Duration (yrs) **6.08**

Effective Maturity (yrs) **9.31**

Sharpe Ratio (10 year) **0.19**

Volatility (10 year) **6.78%**

## PORTFOLIO POSITIONING

The Fund is underweight developed market duration, with a preference for holdings in the intermediate part of the curve. The Fund favors sectors that exhibit resiliency to higher rates such as banks and specialty finance. Within banks, we favor US banks benefitting from high barriers to entry and solid balance sheets, while focusing on senior bonds issued by strong banks given attractive risk-adjusted valuations due to repricing in the sector across the capital structure. We are finding opportunities in non-cyclical sectors that may be better insulated from an economic slowdown. Further, we are finding value in companies benefitting from the strong demand for broadband and connected devices, particularly tower companies and select wireless providers. The Fund maintains exposure to industries tied to housing, including non-Agency MBS where fundamentals remain strong with higher homeowner equity. We are also focusing on Agency MBS as the sector continues to trade at historically cheap levels, largely driven by technical headwinds. The Fund also maintains an overweight to select corporate, quasi-sovereign and sovereign issues in emerging markets, particularly credits we believe to have relatively strong fundamentals. Conversely, we are cautious on sectors that face potential regulatory headwinds and those that face potential M&A and obsolescence risk.

## MONTH IN REVIEW

The Fund's bottom-up sector and security selection was neutral for relative performance for the month, while macro positioning detracted from performance.

Underweight duration positioning contributed to performance.

Tactical exposure to securitized credit contributed to performance as spreads tightened.

Name selection within media detracted from performance as a select issuer announced several decisions deemed hostile to creditors. Name selection within telecom detracted from performance as select issuers were affected by increased industry competition. Name selection within food detracted from performance as select issuers were affected by lower earnings guidance than projected.

## Top Industries (% Market Value)

Top Industries (% Market Value)	Fund
Banks	19.4
Electric Utility	8.1
Pipelines	5.7
Financial Other	5.3
Technology	4.2
Brokerage	3.7
Wireless	3.5
Wirelines	2.7
Gaming	2.6
Aerospace/Defense	2.4

## OUTLOOK AND STRATEGY

Higher savings balances and a slower pass-through of monetary policy in the U.S. relative to other developed markets could, in our view, keep inflation above the Fed's 2% target over the cyclical horizon. We still expect the Fed to start normalizing policy at midyear, similar to other DM central banks; however, the Fed's subsequent rate-cutting path could be more gradual. Additionally, we believe that an economic soft landing is achievable, but both recessionary and inflationary risks remain elevated in the aftermath of unprecedented global shocks to supply and demand.

Credit market technicals remain strong as demand continues to be supported by high yields, although net new supply has risen due to receding recession fears and growing expectation amongst issuers for yields to stay higher for longer. Valuations are near the lowest levels since 2008 which warrants a patient approach and focus on maintaining liquidity and flexibility in portfolios, capitalizing on opportunities as they present themselves.

We continue to seek out high conviction opportunities, with a preference for sectors that have historically been more resilient to higher rates and non-cyclical sectors that may be better anchored in an economic slowdown. Our bottom-up positioning emphasizes companies with high barriers to entry, pricing power, asset coverage, and management teams that favor bondholders in the capital structure.

*Investors should consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses of the funds carefully before investing. This and other information are contained in the fund's prospectus and summary prospectus, if available, which may be obtained by contacting your investment professional or PIMCO representative or by visiting [www.pimco.com](http://www.pimco.com). Please read them carefully before you invest or send money.*

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 shareholder redemptions for cash, or hold a comparatively large portion of its portfolio in cash due to significant share purchases for cash, in each case when the Fund otherwise would not seek to do so, which may adversely affect performance.

**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.

**Effective duration** is a measure of a portfolio's price sensitivity to interest rate changes, including expected changes in cash flows caused by embedded options. The **Sharpe Ratio** measures the risk-adjusted performance. The risk-free rate is subtracted from the rate of return for a portfolio and the result is divided by the standard deviation of the risk-free rate subtracted from the portfolio returns. **Volatility** is measured by the standard deviation, or dispersion of a set of data from its mean, based on historical portfolio returns. A larger spread of data indicates higher standard deviation and higher volatility. **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.

Morningstar ratings are only shown for those funds that have achieved a 4 or 5 star rating. Ratings for other share classes are either lower or not available.

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

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.

Bloomberg U.S. Credit Index is an unmanaged index comprised of publicly issued U.S. corporate and specified non-U.S. debentures and secured notes that meet the specified maturity, liquidity, and quality requirements. To qualify, bonds must be SEC-registered. This index was formerly known as the Bloomberg Credit Investment Grade Index. It is not possible to invest directly in an unmanaged index.

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<sup>1</sup>Spreads referenced are the average option adjusted spread (OAS) level as generated by Bloomberg. Excess Returns are measured by comparing individual securities within the index against like-duration U.S. Treasuries. All spread and performance figures are as reported by Bloomberg for the Bloomberg U.S. Credit Index and its respective sub-sectors. Like-duration Treasuries are calculated by the index provider by comparing the index return to a hypothetical matched position in Treasuries.

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.

Mortgage-backed securities (MBS); Emerging Markets (EM)