



# PIMCO RAE US Small Fund



Quarterly Investment Report | 1Q24

## **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

During the first quarter of 2024, PIMCO RAE US Small (Institutional share class, after fees) outperformed the Russell 2000 Value Index.

### CONTRIBUTORS

- Consumer Discretionary
- Industrials
- Financials

### DETRACTORS

- Health Care
- Communication Services
- No other material detractors

Performance periods ended 31 Mar '24	3 mos.	6 mos.	1 yr.	3 yrs.	5 yrs.	10 yrs.	SI
Fund before fees	11.35	24.10	33.37	12.81	16.15	11.10	10.46
Fund after fees	11.21	23.80	32.71	12.25	15.57	10.55	9.91
Benchmark*	2.90	18.60	18.75	2.22	8.17	6.87	7.11
Secondary Benchmark**	5.18	19.94	19.71	-0.10	8.11	7.58	7.91
After fees alpha vs. value index (bps)	8.31	5.20	13.96	10.03	7.40	3.67	2.80
After fees alpha vs. core index (bps)	6.03	3.86	13.01	12.35	7.46	2.97	2.00

*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 pimco.com or call 888.87.PIMCO.*

A privately offered fund managed by the fund's Sub-Adviser was reorganized into the fund as of 5 June 2015. For periods prior to the commencement of fund operations, the fund's performance is that of the private fund. The performance of the private fund has not been restated to reflect the fees, estimated expenses and fee waivers and/or expense limitations applicable to each share class of the fund. If the performance of the private fund had been restated to reflect the applicable fees and expenses of each share class of the fund, the performance may have been higher or lower. The private fund began operations on 09/29/2005 and, on 5 June 2015, was reorganized into the fund. Prior to the reorganization, the private fund had an investment objective and investment strategies that were the were substantially similar to the fund, and was managed in a manner that complied, in all material respects, with the guidelines and restrictions of the fund. However, the private fund was not registered as an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940 and was not subject to its requirements or requirements imposed by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 which, if applicable, may have adversely affected its performance. The performance of each class of shares of the fund will differ as a result of the different levels of fees and expenses applicable to each class of shares.

## Portfolio strategy

- RAE US Small remains underweight to industries that trade at less attractive valuations with its largest underweights being the banking and biotechnology industries.
- Similar themes persist across each of the six portfolios (Global, Global ex-US, US, US Small, International and Emerging Markets).
- The RAE US Small portfolio's dynamic value orientation continues to demonstrate attractive valuations. We believe this represents the potential for strong performance as valuations mean revert.

\*Russell 2000® Value Index; \*\*Russell 2000® Index

<b>Class:</b>	<b>INST</b>
<b>Inception date:</b>	<b>29 Sep '05</b>
<b>Inception date:</b>	<b>05 Jun '15</b>
<b>Fund assets (in millions):</b>	<b>\$1,049.63</b>
<b>Gross expense ratio:</b>	<b>0.51%</b>
<b>Net expense ratio:</b>	<b>0.50%</b>

The Net Expense Ratio reflects a contractual fee waiver and/or expense reduction, which is in place through 31 October 2024 and renews automatically for a full year unless terminated by PIMCO in accordance with the terms of the agreement. See the Fund's prospectus for more information.

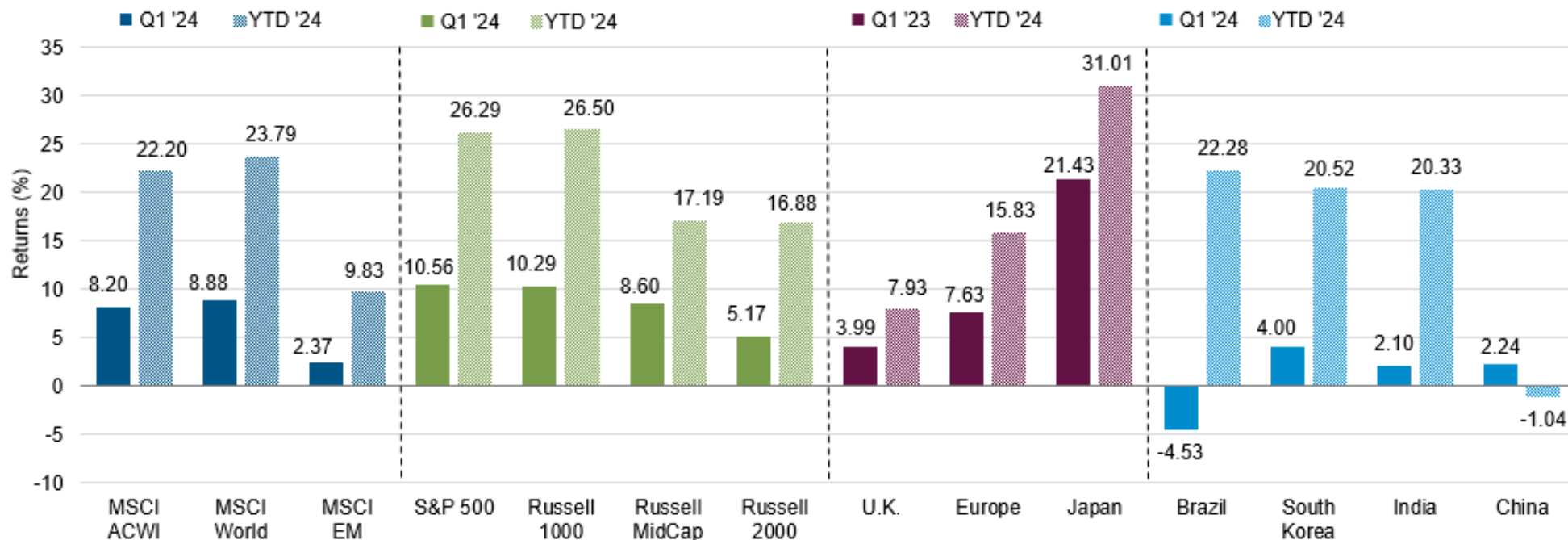
Summary information	RAE	Index*
Number of stocks	176	1,411
Weighted average market cap (\$MM)	4,391.89	2,883.91
Trailing P/E ratio	13.47	12.56
Forward P/E ratio	13.30	13.02
Price/Sales	0.74	0.94
Price/Book	1.90	1.37

Top GICS sectors (MV%)	RAE	Index*
Consumer Discretionary	25.57	11.03
Industrials	18.50	14.87
Financials	12.66	25.77
Information Technology	8.27	5.91
Real Estate	7.39	9.68
Materials	6.78	4.98
Energy	6.77	10.10
Health Care	6.48	9.32
Consumer Staples	4.55	2.24
Communication Services	1.85	2.34
Utilities	0.21	3.73

# Quarter in Review

## Strong economic growth and the prospect of accommodative monetary policy drove equity markets higher in Q1

Developed market equities rose 8.9% in the first quarter of 2024 against an improving macro-economic backdrop, AI enthusiasm, and the prospect of interest-rate cuts. U.S. equities rose 10.6% as mega-cap leaders continued to drive the index higher. European equities rose 7.6% during the first quarter as strong economic readings and signs of slowing inflation spurred optimism. Japanese equities rose by 21.4% as the BOJ ended the era of ultra-accommodative monetary policy amid reflating growth and the return of inflation. Emerging market equities gained 2.4% in the first quarter following strong performance in South Korea and China.



SOURCE: Bloomberg, PIMCO

Global and US Equity indexes represent returns in USD. Non-US Developed and EM indexes represent returns in local currency.

U.K.: FTSE 100 Index, Europe: MSCI Europe Index, Japan: Nikkei 225 Index, Brazil: Ibovespa Brazil Sao Paulo Stock Exchange Index, South Korea: KOSPI Composite Index, India: S&P BSE Sensex Index, China: Shanghai Composite Index

# Market Summary

## Value underperformed growth across all markets and geographies in Q1

Large-cap tech powered growth, while cyclicals drove value's recovery late in Q1.

Overweight to and selection in consumer discretionary, specifically the specialty retail industry, contributed to performance.

Overweight to and selection in industrials, specifically the machinery industry, contributed to performance.

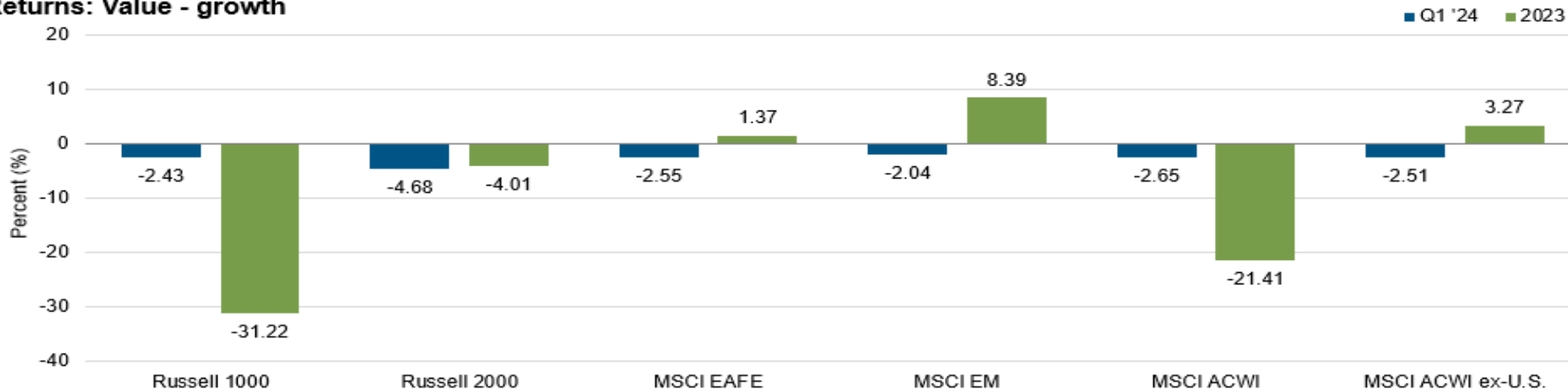
Underweight to and selection in financials, specifically the banking industry, contributed to performance.

Selection in health care, specifically the biotechnology industry, detracted from performance.

Selection in communication services, specifically the interactive media & services industry, detracted from performance.

No other material detractors.

### Returns: Value - growth



SOURCE: Bloomberg

# Portfolio Outlook

## Equity Market Outlook

With equity markets continuing to price in a soft-landing amidst a still elevated risk environment, we expect prudent active management to be vital throughout 2024. To that end, we believe RAE's disciplined approach is well suited to navigate short-term irrationality and capture long-term tailwinds. Valuations appear attractive, with value trading in the bottom decile of historical valuations versus growth. Given that RAE trades at a deeper discount than value itself, the strategy stands to benefit should valuations mean-revert. Additionally, RAE continues to be positioned to benefit from structurally higher inflation and interest rates, which have historically favored value over growth. Finally, RAE's disciplined investment process utilizes the quality signal as a "guardrail" to avoid investing in companies with serious quality concerns. Looking ahead, we expect this signal to be critical as borrowing costs remain elevated, leaving lower quality companies vulnerable should downside risks materialize.

### Key strategies

#### A systematic approach to buying low and selling high

RAE seeks to select undervalued stocks using valuation metrics designed by Research Affiliates, while also incorporating quality and momentum signals to improve performance. Selected stocks are weighted based on fundamental measures of company size such as sales, cash flows, dividends and book value. This weighting methodology allows the fund to capitalize on market inefficiencies by systematically buying low and selling high and benefit from long-term mean reversion in stock prices.

#### Prospective performance may be attractive given current valuation discounts

RAE's systematic strategy to buying low and selling high results in a value approach that is consistently applied across market cycles and regions. Following multiple years of strong markets, long-horizon mean reversion remains a persistent opportunity to earn excess return.

### Position

Top sector overweights	RAE US Small (%)	Russell 2000 Value (%)	Variation (bps)
Consumer Discretionary	25.57	11.03	1,455
Industrials	18.50	14.87	363
Information Technology	8.27	5.91	236
Top sector underweights			
Financials	12.66	25.77	-1,311
Utilities	0.21	3.73	-352
Energy	6.77	10.10	-333

	RAE US Small	Russell 2000 Value
Price/Book	1.90	1.37
Price/Cash flow	7.15	7.00
Price/Earnings	13.47	12.56
Price/Sales	0.74	0.94

SOURCE: PIMCO

# Additional share class performance

PIMCO RAE US Small Fund (net of fees performance)

Performance periods ended: 31 Mar '24	Maximum Sales Charge (Load)	Maximum Deferred Sales Charge (Load)	Gross expense ratio	Net expense ratio	NAV currency	Class Inception date	3 mos.	6 mos.	1 yr.	3 yrs.	5 yrs.	10 yrs.	SI
Class A (at NAV)	3.75	1.00	0.91	0.90	USD	05 Jun '15	11.02	23.48	32.26	11.81	15.09	10.15	9.69
Class A (at MOP)	3.75	1.00	0.91	0.90	USD	05 Jun '15	6.86	18.84	27.25	10.38	14.22	9.73	9.47
Class I-2	-	-	0.61	0.60	USD	05 Jun '15	11.16	23.73	32.61	12.15	15.45	10.44	9.85
Class INST	-	-	0.51	0.50	USD	05 Jun '15	11.21	23.80	32.71	12.25	15.57	10.55	9.91
Russell 2000® Value Index							2.90	18.60	18.75	2.22	8.17	6.87	7.11
Russell 2000® Index							5.18	19.94	19.71	-0.10	8.11	7.58	7.91

The Net Expense Ratio reflects a contractual fee waiver and/or expense reduction, which is in place through 31 October 2024 and renews automatically for a full year unless terminated by PIMCO in accordance with the terms of the agreement. See the Fund's prospectus for more information.

Class A shares are subject to an initial sales charge (as a percentage of offering price). A CDSC (as a percentage of the lower of the original purchase price or redemption price) may be imposed in certain circumstances on Class A shares that are purchased without an initial sales charge and then redeemed during the first 12 months after purchase. Class C shares are subject to a CDSC, which may apply in the first year.

*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 [pimco.com](http://pimco.com) or call 888.87.PIMCO. The maximum offering price (MOP) returns take into account the Class A maximum initial sales charge of 3.75%.*

# Important Disclosures

---

*This material is authorized for use only when preceded or accompanied by the current PIMCO funds prospectus or summary prospectus, if available.*

**Past performance is not a guarantee or a reliable indicator of future results.** The performance figures presented reflect the total return performance, unless otherwise noted, after fees 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. The minimum initial investment for Institutional, I-2, I-3 and Administrative class shares is \$1 million; however, it may be modified for certain financial intermediaries who submit trades on behalf of eligible investors.

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 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: Equities** may decline in value due to both real and perceived general market, economic and industry conditions. Investments in **value securities** involve the risk the market's value assessment may differ from the manager and the performance of the securities may decline. Investing in distressed companies (both debt and equity) is speculative and may be subject to greater levels of credit, issuer and liquidity risks, and the repayment of default obligations contains significant uncertainties; such companies may be engaged in restructurings or bankruptcy proceedings. **REITs** are subject to risk, such as poor performance by the manager, adverse changes to tax laws or failure to qualify for tax-free pass-through of income. Investing in securities of smaller companies tends to be more volatile and less liquid than investing in securities of larger companies. **Model Risk** is the risk that the Fund's investment models used in making investment allocation decisions may not adequately take into account certain factors and may result in a decline in the value of an investment in the Fund. **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.

Portfolio allocations and other information in the charts in this Quarterly Investment Report are based on the fund's net assets. These percentages may differ from those used for the fund's compliance calculations, including the fund's prospectus, regulatory, and other investment limitations and policies, which may be based on total assets of the fund or other measurements, may include or exclude various categories of investments from those covered in the portfolio allocation categories shown in this report, and may be based on different classifications and measurements of the fund's investments and other criteria. All funds are separately monitored for compliance with prospectus and regulatory requirements.

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.

# Important Disclosures

---

The Russell 2000® Value Index measures the performance of the small-capitalization value sector of the U.S. equity market, as defined by FTSE Russell. The Russell 2000® Value Index is a subset of the Russell 2000® Index. It is not possible to invest directly in an unmanaged index.

The following defined terms are used throughout the report. Emerging market short duration instruments includes an emerging market security or other instrument economically tied to an emerging market country by country of risk with an effective duration less than one year and rated investment grade or higher or if unrated, determined to be similar quality by PIMCO. 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. Short duration derivatives and derivatives offsets include: 1) derivatives with an effective duration less than one year and where the country of risk is not an emerging market country (for example, Eurodollar futures) and 2) offsets associated with investments in futures, swaps and other derivatives. Such offsets may be taken at the notional value of the derivative position which in certain instances may exceed the actual amount owed on such positions. Municipals/Other may include convertibles, preferred and yankee bonds.

**The performance figures presented reflect the performance for the institutional class unless otherwise noted.**

**A note about Sector exposure:** Other indicates swaps and securities issued in euros.

**A note about Emerging markets exposure by country of risk:** country of risk reflects the country of incorporation of the ultimate parent company.

PIMCO uses an internal model for calculating effective duration, which may result in a different value for the duration of an index compared to the duration calculated by the index provider or another third party.

Price-to-book is a ratio used to compare a stock's market value to its book value. It is calculated by dividing the current closing price of the stock by the latest quarter's book value per share. Price-to-earnings (P/E) is a ratio of security price to earnings per share. Typically, an undervalued security is characterized by a low P/E ratio, while an overvalued security is characterized by a high P/E ratio. Priceto-sales is a valuation ratio that compares a company's stock price to its revenues. The price-to-sales ratio is an indicator of the value placed on each dollar of a company's sales or revenues. Price-tocash-flow is the ratio of a stock's price to its cash flow per share; it is an indicator of a stock's valuation. The ratio takes into consideration a stock's operating cash flow, which adds non-cash earnings such as depreciation and amortization to net income.

PIMCO as a general matter provides services to qualified institutions, financial intermediaries and institutional investors. Individual investors should contact their own financial professional to determine the most appropriate investment options for their financial situation. This material contains the current opinions of the manager and such opinions are subject to change without notice. This material has been distributed for informational purposes only and should not be considered as investment advice or a recommendation of any particular security, strategy or investment product. Information contained herein has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but not guaranteed. No part of this material may be reproduced in any form, or referred to in any other publication, without express written permission. PIMCO is a trademark of Allianz Asset Management of America LLC in the United States and throughout the world. **PIMCO Investments LLC, distributor**, 1633 Broadway, New York, NY, 10019 is a company of PIMCO ©2024 PIMCO.



# 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)