

Fidelity Funds – US Dollar Bond Fund

29 February 2024

For existing investors in the Fidelity Funds – US Dollar Bond Fund ('the Fund') only. Thank you for investing in the Fund. We would like to use this opportunity to give you an update on the Fund's performance. Please note that this is not a product advertisement or solicitation for investment in the Fund.



How has the Fund performed in February 2024?

- The Fund returned -1.5%¹ (for the A-ACC-USD share class in USD terms) and -1.6%¹ (for the A-MINCOME(G)-SGD (hedged)* share class in SGD terms).



Reasons for performance

- The US dollar bond market continued to be under pressure in February as the hotter-than-expected economic data in the US further pushed back the timing of the Fed's first rate cut, raising the prospect of a potential 'no landing' outcome.
- The Fund delivered negative returns for the month, underperforming its index², hurt by our long duration bias amid rising Treasury yields. However, credit contributed positively as spreads continued to tighten, partially offsetting some of the losses from rising rates.
- Within credit, the fund's exposure to high yield names were the main contributors, notably led by Ashland and Teva Pharmaceuticals. Both outperformed during the month as spreads tightened.
- There were no notable detractors for the month.



Outlook / Expectations

- The US economy continued to show resilience with fiscal deficit spending as one of the key drivers, offsetting the impact of tighter monetary policy.
- The Fund remains defensively positioned and concentrated in high-quality corporate and government bonds, with low exposure to high yield bonds. Our approach is to be nimble with our positioning and accordingly adjust our duration position.
- With global inflation on a downwards trajectory, we retain our long duration positionings in USD, GBP, and EUR, short duration in CAD. We also pared back our long duration positioning in AUD.
- For key positioning changes in February, we continued to rotate corporate credits, whose spreads have recently tightened significantly, into government bonds and short-dated corporate bonds. We took some profit in Bayer after it announced to cut dividend.

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- As at 29 February 2024, the Fund's yield to maturity⁴ was 4.6%, running yield⁵ was 4.4%, duration³ was 6.9 years and average credit rating⁶ was A+.

We remain confident that the Fund could continue to meet its objectives of **achieving capital growth over time and providing income**.

Source: Fidelity International, as at 29 February 2024.

1. The stated returns are computed on a NAV-NAV basis, with dividends reinvested in their respective currencies. They do not take into account the amount of initial sales charge, which may be levied by your distributor. The stated returns will be reduced when the applicable sales charge is being taken into account. Please note that past performance is not indicative of future returns. The 1-year return, net of sales charge of 3% for the Fidelity Funds – US Dollar Bond Fund A-ACC-USD and A-MINCOME(G)-SGD (hedged)* share classes are 0.28% and -1.32% respectively.
2. The reference benchmark is the ICE BofA Q4AR Custom Index.
3. Duration is a measure of sensitivity of the fund value to changes in interest rates and includes all investments in the fund including derivatives. It takes into account that expected cash flows will fluctuate as interest rates change and affect a bond's price.
4. Yield to Maturity is the internal rate of return earned on a bond, assuming that the bond will be held until maturity and all coupon and principal payments will be made. It is an estimation of future return, as the rate at which coupon payments can be reinvested when received is unknown.
5. Running Yield describes the income investors get from their portfolio as a percentage of market value of the securities (incorporating the effect of derivatives) and does not include the impact of fees. It should not be relied on as a measure of expected fund return. The running yield does not reflect the total return over the life of the bond and takes no account of reinvestment risk or the fact that bonds usually mature at par value.
6. Average Credit Rating is the weighted average of all the bond credit ratings in the fund. It takes into account all investments in the fund including derivatives. This measure gives an idea of how risky the fund's bonds are overall: the lower the average credit rating, the riskier the fund. With a Linear weighted average the weight assigned to each issue is equal to its market value weight.

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Singapore

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