# JPMorgan Funds – Income Fund

For available share classes, please check the prospectus.

### Topline

**Markets** – Riskier assets and interest rates experienced contribution on encouraging economic data.

**Helped** – Corporate credit, securitised products and emerging market debt contributed to returns.

Hurt – No sectors detracted from returns.

**Outlook** – Lower growth remains our base case given evidence of a soft landing and widening economic expansion. Significantly looser financial conditions continue to support growth, and although there are signs that the labour market is rebalancing and longerterm disinflationary trends are in place, there is still a risk that inflation remains persistent. Both market participants and the Federal Reserve (Fed) will continue to be focused on the inflation trajectory this year.

## **Fund Overview**

#### Investment objective

To provide income by investing primarily in debt securities.

## Month in Review

- High yield was the largest contributor to returns. Yields moved lower over the month as riskier assets performed well. Investment grade corporate bonds also contributed to returns.
- Securitised products contributed to returns, with agency mortgagebacked securities (MBS) leading the contribution. Agency MBS benefited as softer inflation data drove rates lower and volatility subsided. Nonagency MBS also contributed. Commercial MBS contributed as spreads tightened, partly due to the sector benefiting from lower rates as the Federal Reserve pushed back on talks of further interest rate hikes. Asset-backed securities marginally contributed.
- Emerging market debt contributed to returns, benefiting from the broader risk-on environment.
- The fund's duration positioning was flat over the month, with the 10-year US Treasury yield moving lower by 18 basis points, to 4.50%. The fund continues to dynamically adjust its duration and yield curve positioning, ending May short of US Treasury duration. Overall fund duration ended the month at 2.5 years.

## **Looking Ahead**

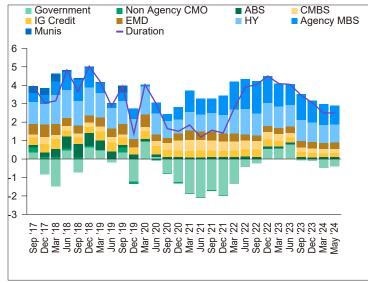
- Lower growth remains our base case given evidence of a soft landing and widening economic expansion. Significantly looser financial conditions continue to support growth, and although there are signs that the labour market is rebalancing and longer-term disinflationary trends are in place, there is still a risk that inflation remains persistent. Both market participants and the Fed will continue to be focused on the inflation trajectory this year.
- In 2022, high inflation and low unemployment caused the Fed to raise interest rates into restrictive territory despite downside risks to growth and rising recession probabilities. As the Fed continued hiking rates into 2023, cracks began to appear in the market, particularly in the US regional banking sector, due to the lagged and variable effects of tightening monetary policy. The Fed eschewed raising rates for the fifth time in a row in May. Uncertainty remains around the number of rate cuts that can be expected this year.
- Given this backdrop, the fund is focused on maintaining higher credit quality, increasing its liquidity profile, and allocating towards sectors with a positive fundamental outlook and which, in our view, offer attractive yield characteristics versus their potential risks. We believe the fund's current duration positioning and diversified allocations to higher-quality securitised investments, higher-quality high yield corporates, and select emerging market debt are attractive amid the current environment.

Provided for portfolio update and reporting purposes only to report on portfolio positioning, not to be construed as offer, research or investment advice. Diversification does not guarantee positive returns or eliminates risks of loss.

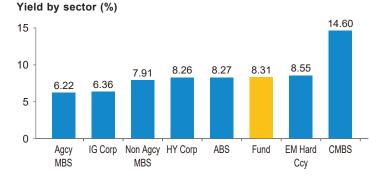
Source: Fund related information and market commentary – J.P. Morgan Asset Management, other market data – various public sources. Data is as of date of the commentary unless stated otherwise.

The Fund seeks to achieve its investment objectives stated in the offering document, there is no guarantee the objectives will be met.

The companies/securities, asset classes mentioned above for illustrative purposes only. Their inclusion should not be interpreted as a recommendation to buy or sell. J.P. Morgan Asset Management may or may not hold positions on behalf of its clients in any or all of the aforementioned securities. Past performance is not indicative of future performance. Forecasts/estimates are based on current market conditions subject to change from time to time and may or may not come to pass. Please refer to the Singapore Offering Documents at www.jpmorgan.com/sg/am/per/.



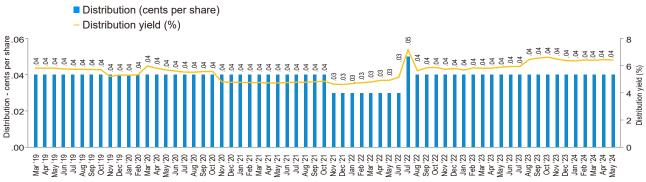
#### Portfolio weighted sector allocation (duration, years)



ABS: Asset-Backed Securities; Munis: Municipal bonds; CMBS: Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities; Agcy: Agency; CMO: Collateralised Mortgage Obligation; MBS: Mortgage-Backed Securities; IG: Investment Grade; Corp: Corporate; HY: High Yield; EM: Emerging Market; EMD: Emerging Market Debt; Ccy: Currency.

Source: J.P. Morgan Asset Management. Data as of 31.05.2024. The Fund is an actively managed portfolio; holdings, sector weights, allocations and leverage, as applicable, are subject to change at the discretion of the Investment Manager without notice. Provided for information only, not to be construed as investment recommendation. Investment involves risks. Not all investment ideas are suitable for all investors.

#### Distribution per share and distribution yield



Distribution shown is for A (mth) - USD share class

\* Annualised yield is calculated based on the latest dividend distribution with dividend reinvested, and may be higher or lower than the actual annual dividend yield. Positive yields does not imply positive returns.

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Past payout yields and payments do not represent future payout yields and payments. Positive distribution yield does not imply positive return. Dividend is not guaranteed. Distributions may be paid out of capital an investor originally invested which includes realised losses if any and unrealised capital gains or losses attributable to that original investment; or paid out of distributable income which includes realised gains calculated on a per transaction basis net of fees and expenses, or paid out of both capital and distributable income. Any payments of distributions by the Fund are expected to result in a decrease in the net asset value per share on the ex-dividend date. Please refer to further income disclosures on www.jpmorgan.com/sg/am/per/

#### **NEXT STEPS**

For further information, please visit: <u>www.jpmorgan.com/sg/am/per/</u>

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Refer to Risk Factors in the Prospectus for further information on risks of the product.

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