

## EMERGING COUNTRY DEBT

## OVERVIEW

The GMO Emerging Country Debt Strategy's objective is total return in excess of that of its benchmark, the J.P. Morgan Emerging Markets Bond Index Global Diversified (EMBIG-D). The Strategy invests primarily in external debt of sovereigns and quasi-sovereigns.

GMO's Emerging Country Debt team focuses on bottom-up issue selection, seeking to find issues with similar default characteristics but better long-term total return potential than the issues in EMBIG-D. We believe that our approach provides value-oriented clients with long-term investment objectives a significantly higher likelihood of outperforming the EMBIG-D than the approaches employed by other emerging debt managers who focus on economic forecasting, market timing, and other macro/top-down approaches.

## CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURNS (USD, NET OF FEES, %)

	<i>MTD</i>	<i>QTD</i>	<i>YTD</i>	<i>2025</i>	<i>2024</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2021</i>
Composite	1.51	5.30	5.30	21.77	12.57	17.13	-16.49	-1.43
Benchmark	1.39	2.08	2.08	14.30	6.54	11.09	-17.78	-1.80

## ANNUALIZED TOTAL RETURNS (USD, NET OF FEES, %)

	<i>1 Year</i>	<i>3 Years</i>	<i>5 Years</i>	<i>10 Years</i>	<i>ITD</i>
Composite	22.63	18.42	7.57	7.34	12.09
Benchmark	13.24	11.03	2.95	4.28	8.41

## FACTS

Strategy Inception	19-Apr-94
Composite Inception	30-Apr-94
Total Assets	\$8.9bn USD
Benchmark	J.P. Morgan EMBI Global Diversified +

## RISK PROFILE (5-YEAR TRAILING)

Alpha (Jensen's)	4.66
Beta	1.09
R Squared	0.93
Sharpe Ratio	0.41
Standard Deviation	9.99

## PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT



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Joined GMO in 2004  
BA, Washington and Lee  
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**Risks:** Risks associated with investing in the Strategy may include: (1) Credit Risk: the risk that the issuer or guarantor of a fixed income investment or the obligor of an obligation underlying an asset-backed security will be unable or unwilling to satisfy its obligation to pay principal and interest or otherwise to honor its obligations in a timely manner; (2) Market Risk - Fixed Income Investments: the market price of a fixed income investment can decline due to a number of market-related factors, including rising interest rates and widening credit spreads or decreased liquidity stemming from the market's uncertainty about the value of a fixed income investment (or class of fixed income investments); and (3) Illiquidity Risk: low trading volume, lack of a market maker, large position size, or legal restrictions may limit or prevent the Fund from selling particular securities or closing derivative positions at desirable prices. This is not a complete list of risks associated with investing in the Strategy. Please contact GMO for more information.

**Performance Returns:** Returns shown for periods greater than one year are on an annualized basis. To obtain performance information to the most recent month-end, visit [www.gmo.com](http://www.gmo.com). **Performance data quoted represents past performance and is not predictive of future performance.** Net returns are presented after the deduction of a model advisory fee and incentive fee if applicable. These returns include transaction costs, commissions and withholding taxes on foreign income and capital gains and include the reinvestment of dividends and other income, as applicable. Fees paid by accounts within the composite may be higher or lower than the model fees used. **GMO LLC claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®). A Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) Composite Report is available at [www.gmo.com](http://www.gmo.com) by clicking the GIPS® Composite Report link in the documents section of the strategy page. GIPS® is a registered trademark owned by CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein. Actual fees are disclosed in Part 2 of GMO's Form ADV and are also available in each strategy's Composite Report.** Returns for one of the accounts in the composite are based on estimated market values for the period from and including October 2008 through February 2009.

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## CHARACTERISTICS

	<i>Portfolio</i>	<i>Benchmark</i>
Spread Duration	6.6	6.4
Modified Duration	6.3	6.6
Average Credit Rating	BB-	BB+
Portfolio Turnover	41%	37%
# of Countries	77	68
USD	97%	100%

## TOP COUNTRIES (DURATION ADJUSTED) (%)

<i>Country</i>	<i>Portfolio</i>	<i>Benchmark</i>
Mexico	8.5	5.2
Turkey	7.4	4.2
Colombia	5.7	2.9
Romania	5.5	2.8
Venezuela	5.4	1.3
Argentina	5.0	2.6
Bahrain	4.5	2.9
Egypt	4.2	2.8
Brazil	4.1	3.2
Saudi Arabia	4.1	5.2

## CREDIT RATINGS (%)

	<i>%</i>
AAA	0.2
AA	3.2
A	5.7
BBB	14.4
BB	25.6
B	15.5
CCC	20.1
CC	2.7
C	0.4
D	1.5
NR	10.7

## SECTORS (%)

<i>Sector</i>	<i>Portfolio</i>	<i>Benchmark</i>
Quasi-Sovereign	26.4	18.1
Sovereign	73.6	81.9

## TOP CURRENCIES (%)

<i>Currency</i>	<i>Portfolio</i>	<i>Benchmark</i>
USD	96.5	100.0
TRY	0.5	0.0
KRW	0.5	0.0
JPY	0.5	0.0
NGN	0.3	0.0
BRL	0.3	0.0
ZAR	0.3	0.0
UYU	0.3	0.0
DOP	0.2	0.0
PEN	0.2	0.0

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## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**Benchmark(s):** The J.P. Morgan EMBI (Emerging Markets Bond) Index Global Diversified + is an internally maintained benchmark computed by GMO, comprised of (i) the J.P. Morgan EMBI+ Index through 12/31/1999, (ii) the J.P. Morgan EMBI Index Global through 2/28/2020, and the J.P. Morgan EMBI Index Global Diversified (iii) thereafter.

The above information is based on a representative account in the Strategy selected because it has the fewest restrictions and best represents the implementation of the Strategy.

For private bank intermediaries in Singapore and Hong Kong, these materials are intended for institutional and Accredited/Professional Investors Use Only.

## GLOSSARY

**Characteristics:** Average Credit Rating is a market value weighted measure of bond holdings. Turnover is as of the most recent quarter-end. **Credit Ratings:** The credit ratings above may encompass emerging debt, developed rates, and asset-backed exposure. Ratings for core portfolio holdings are derived by using the middle rating from Standard & Poor's, Moody's, and Fitch. Ratings for core holdings were adjusted during the January 2021 reporting period to conform with index provider methodology. Ratings for the emerging debt portion of the portfolio are derived by applying the Standard and Poor's or Moody's issue-level ratings (sequentially), and the S&P LT Foreign currency (FC) country issuer rating for the FC debt securities and/or S&P LT Local currency (LC) country issuer rating for LC securities where a security is not rated by either of the abovementioned credit rating agencies. Final credit ratings are expressed based upon Standard and Poor's ratings scale. Standard & Poor's rates securities from AAA (highest quality) to C (lowest quality), and D to indicate securities in default; some securities are not rated (NR). BB and below are considered below investment grade securities. Please refer to our website for additional information: <https://www.gmo.com/americas/benchmark-disclaimers/>

**Risk Statistics:** Risk profile data is net of fees. Alpha is a measure of risk-adjusted return. Beta is a measure of a portfolio's sensitivity to the market. R-Squared is a measure of how well a portfolio tracks the market. Sharpe Ratio is the return over the risk free rate per unit of risk. Std Deviation is a measure of the volatility of a portfolio. Please refer to <https://www.gmo.com/americas/glossary-of-terms/> for additional portfolio characteristic definitions.

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## ABOUT GMO

Founded in 1977, GMO is a global asset manager committed to delivering superior performance and advice to our clients. We are privately owned, which allows us to singularly focus on our sole business – achieving outstanding long-term client investment outcomes. Offering multi-asset, equity, fixed income, and alternative strategies, we invest with a long-term, valuation-based philosophical approach.

AMSTERDAM

BOSTON

LONDON

SAN FRANCISCO\*

SINGAPORE

SYDNEY

TOKYO\*\*

\*GMO's West Coast Hub is comprised of members of Investment, Global Client Relations, and other teams located in and around the Greater San Francisco area

\*\*Representative Office

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## ADDITIONAL GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Coupon**

The annual income received from a fixed-income security, expressed as a percentage of the par value of the security and par weighted on portfolio level.

**Credit (%)**

The proportion of a mutual fund's total net assets that is invested in credit instruments—such as corporate bonds, securitized debt, or other credit-related securities—expressed as a percentage. This metric indicates the fund's exposure to credit markets and associated credit risk.

**Effective Duration**

A measure of a portfolio's price sensitivity to interest rate changes, including expected changes in cash flows caused by embedded options. The higher the effective duration, the higher the sensitivity to interest rate changes.

**Maturity**

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.

**Modified Duration**

A measure of a portfolio's price sensitivity to changes in interest rates. It estimates the percentage change in price for a 1% (100 basis point) change in yield, assuming all other factors remain constant.

**Spread**

The difference between the yield on a bond or credit instrument and the yield on a benchmark security of similar maturity, typically a government bond. It reflects the additional compensation investors receive for taking on credit risk and is usually expressed in basis points.

**Spread Duration**

A measure of the portfolio's sensitivity to changes in credit spreads.

**Weighted Average Life**

A measure of average number of years until the principal of the securities is expected to be fully repaid.

**Yield to Maturity**

Represents the weighted average annualized return an investor would earn if the ETF's underlying bonds were held to maturity, assuming all interest payments are made as scheduled, bonds are held to maturity, coupons are reinvested at the same rate.