

HIGH YIELD

OVERVIEW

The GMO High Yield Strategy seeks to generate total return in excess of that of its benchmark, the Markit iBoxx USD Liquid High Yield Index, by applying a systematic, factor-based approach to portfolio construction. It is designed to capture alpha from top-down sources of risk premia, taking advantage of structural market inefficiencies, while maintaining a liquid portfolio. Our top-down, data-driven approach (in what is still largely a fundamentally managed asset class) brings a unique perspective that allows us to allocate capital across a range of high yield instruments in an effort to achieve optimal risk-adjusted returns in excess of the Strategy's benchmark.

FACTS

Strategy Inception	31-Jan-17
Composite Inception	31-Jan-17
Total Assets	\$187mm USD
Benchmark	Markit iBoxx USD Liquid High Yield

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	1.86	1.86	1.13	9.30	7.88	12.93	-7.96	5.00
Benchmark	1.58	1.58	1.14	8.83	7.95	12.89	-10.74	4.48

RISK PROFILE (5-YEAR TRAILING)

Alpha (Jensen's)	0.78
Beta	0.97
R Squared	0.98
Sharpe Ratio	0.20
Standard Deviation	7.09

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	8.92	8.75	4.99	-	5.60
Benchmark	8.73	8.69	4.23	-	4.89

PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT



Joe Auth, CFA
Joined GMO in 2014
MBA, University of
Connecticut



Rachna
Ramachandran
Joined GMO in 2019
MS, City, University of
London

Risks: Risks associated with investing in the Strategy may include: (1) Management and Operational Risk: the risk that GMO's investment techniques will fail to produce desired results, including annualized returns and annualized volatility; (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) 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. 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. **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 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.

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CHARACTERISTICS

	<i>Portfolio</i>	<i>Benchmark</i>
Spread	263.5bps	290.3bps
Effective Duration	2.8	2.9
Average Credit Rating	B+	B+
Weighted Average Life	3.9	4.6

CREDIT RATINGS (%)

	%
BBB	0.9
BB	56.3
B	32.9
CCC	8.3
CC	0.6
D	0.0
NR	1.0

SECTORS (%)

<i>Sector</i>	<i>Portfolio</i>
Agencies	0.2
Financial Institutions	12.2
Industrial	83.3
Utility	4.2

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Benchmark(s): The Markit iBoxx USD Liquid High Yield Index is an independently maintained index consisting of liquid USD high yield bonds, selected to provide a balanced representation of the broad USD high yield corporate bond universe.

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. **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.

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

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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.