

# Core Total Return Fixed Income Composite

## INVESTMENT STRATEGY

Core Total Return Fixed Income strategy emphasizes duration neutrality, sector rotation, yield curve management and individual security selection. This approach is designed to capture the bulk of the excess returns available in the investment-grade market while minimizing the variability of those returns. Key to the process is the responsiveness, focus and unbiased analysis provided by our dedicated in-house sector specialists, credit analysts and trading professionals.

## PERFORMANCE<sup>1</sup>

Fixed Income + Cash	Core Total Return Composite (net) %	Core Total Return Composite (gross) %	Bloomberg Barclays Aggregate Index %
2nd Quarter 2021	2.07	2.12	1.83
YTD 2021	-1.62	-1.52	-1.60
1 year	-0.03	0.17	-0.33
3 year	5.66	5.87	5.34
5 year	3.22	3.43	3.03
7 year	3.34	3.55	3.28
10 year	3.58	3.79	3.39
15 year	4.76	4.95	4.43
20 year	4.87	5.05	4.56
Since inception [Inception: 12/31/99]	5.26	5.43	4.95
5-year standard deviation	3.38	3.37	3.23

Note: 1-, 3-, 5-, 7-, 10-, 15-, 20-year and since inception periods are annualized.

## CHARACTERISTICS

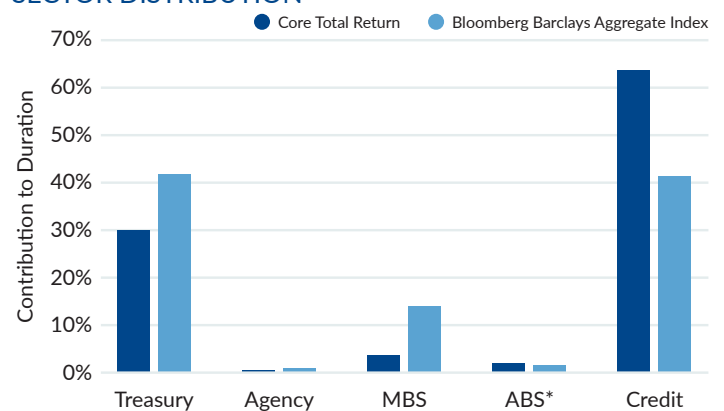
	Core Total Return Composite	Bloomberg Barclays Aggregate Index
Duration (%)	6.15	6.28
Yield to maturity (%)	1.44	1.38
Average maturity (years)	7.72	8.17
Quality	AA-	AA

Please see the reverse side for additional disclosures regarding the deduction of advisory fees.

## KEY ADVANTAGES

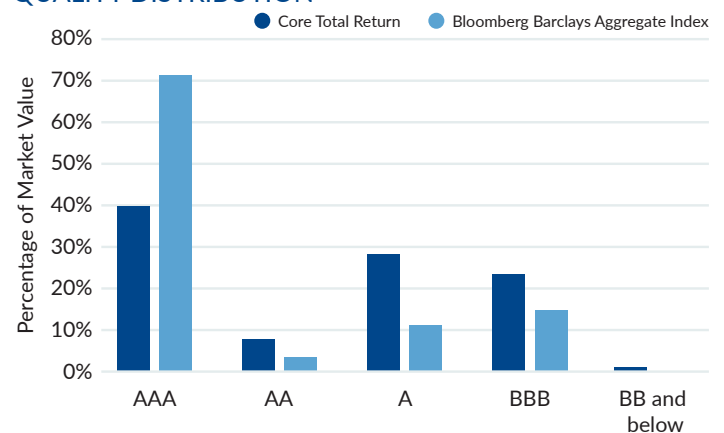
- Proven, experienced leadership through many market cycles.
- Time-tested investment process that focuses on the most consistent sources of excess return.
- Size that allows us to efficiently exploit relative value opportunities, apply a unique client service model and create customized investment strategies for our clients.

## SECTOR DISTRIBUTION



\*ABS includes CMBS

## QUALITY DISTRIBUTION



1. The composite numbers listed are linked with performance numbers generated by Mesirow Financial Investment Management's Fixed Income team while they were employed at a prior firm. The investment team joined Mesirow on 03/15/05 and is employing the same strategy used at their prior firm. The performance information provided above is supplemental. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results. Please refer to the GIPS Report on the reverse side for complete information, including fees, composite and benchmark descriptions.

## PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Year	Net of fee performance annual returns (%)	Gross of fee performance annual returns (%)	Bloomberg Barclays Aggregate Index <sup>3</sup> (YTD%)	Number of portfolios	Year end assets (\$MM)	Percentage of firm assets* (%)		Composite dispersion-standard deviation <sup>1</sup> (%)	Composite annualized standard deviation of returns – 3 years <sup>2</sup> (%)	Benchmark annualized standard deviation of returns – 3 years <sup>2</sup> (%)
						Firm	Entity			
2000	12.37	12.51	11.63	2	290.3	—	—	—	—	—
2001	8.46	8.59	8.44	3	562.1	—	—	—	—	—
2002	10.55	10.69	10.25	3	575.2	—	—	—	—	—
2003	4.36	4.49	4.10	3	643.9	—	—	—	—	—
2004	4.70	4.83	4.34	5	830.0	—	—	—	—	—
2005	2.43	2.53	2.43	4	665.8	—	17.4	—	—	—
2006	4.47	4.64	4.33	9	997.5	—	16.8	0.15	—	—
2007	6.05	6.20	6.96	9	1,198.2	—	16.0	0.14	—	—
2008	3.25	3.39	5.24	10	1,313.3	—	19.4	0.41	—	—
2009	11.81	11.97	5.93	12	1,378.7	—	17.4	0.93	—	—
2010	7.19	7.34	6.54	16	1,386.5	42.8	34.7	0.28	—	—
2011	7.21	7.37	7.84	14	1,387.6	39.5	35.6	0.40	—	—
2012	5.78	6.00	4.22	12	658.2	16.0	14.8	0.33	2.32	2.38
2013	-2.10	-1.90	-2.02	14	805.0	16.7	15.5	0.09	2.73	2.71
2014	6.24	6.47	5.97	15	987.3	19.9	18.4	0.18	2.70	2.63
2015	-0.17	0.04	0.55	14	858.6	18.9	18.1	0.17	2.93	2.88
2016	3.05	3.27	2.65	14	863.4	19.6	14.2	0.26	2.97	2.98
2017	3.32	3.53	3.54	14	941.7	19.7	15.1	0.12	2.74	2.78
2018	-0.21	-0.04	0.01	13	719.4	17.4	14.6	0.15	2.72	2.84
2019	8.94	9.16	8.72	9	612.9	15.7	13.5	0.14	2.84	2.91
2020	8.62	8.84	7.51	10	789.7	11.8	10.7	0.16	3.62	3.40
Current Performance Results										
2021 (YTD)	-1.62	-1.52	-1.60	11	840.8	13.0	13.0	N/A	N/A	N/A

Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results.

Mesirow Financial Investment Management Institutional – Fixed Income claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. Mesirow Financial Investment Management Institutional – Fixed Income has been independently verified for the periods from inception through December 31, 2019. A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS Standard must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS Standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. The Core Total Return composite has had a performance examination for the periods from January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2019. The verification and performance examination reports are available upon request.

\* Mesirow Financial Investment Management, Inc. ("MFIM") is an investment advisor registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. The "Entity" as shown represents Mesirow Financial Investment Management Equities and Fixed Income, which is comprised of the GIPS-compliant units of MFIM which specialize in managing portfolios for institutional clients adhering to an investment process geared towards institutional investors. The historical performance presented prior to the creation of the division was managed by MFIM or its predecessor firms prior to January 1, 2005. For purposes of claiming GIPS compliance, as of January 1, 2010, the "Firm" is further defined as the Fixed Income business unit, which manages portfolios primarily for institutional investors adhering to an investment process, incorporating fundamental analysis of security valuation factors and drivers. The composites within this business unit vary primarily by duration and the type of originator of the security. Please note that the 2018 percentage of firm assets have been restated to properly include the addition of assets obtained through the acquisition of the High Yield Team from a former and unaffiliated registered Investment Advisor, effective 10/23/2017. Additional information regarding these corrections is available upon request.

The above composite was created on January 1, 2000 and these performance results are as of June 30, 2021.

Core Total Return Fixed Income Composite is defined as U.S. dollar dominated fixed income investment grade securities primarily rated BBB- or better and with a maturity range of one to thirty years at the time of purchase. The Core Total Return composite consists of fixed income fee-paying discretionary portfolios with a minimum of \$7,500,000 under management. The benchmark is the Bloomberg Barclays Aggregate Index. In March of 2005, the Core Total Return fixed income portfolio management team of an independent investment advisor joined the MFIM Fixed Income portfolio management team. The performance results shown prior to March 15, 2005 reflect the team's performance prior to joining

MFIM-Fixed Income. Such returns have been incorporated into the MFIM Core Total Return Fixed Income composite. Upon receipt of client consent, MFIM-Fixed Income obtained the required custody and holdings information from the independent custody firms, or other similar sources, for all clients that have been managed on a continuous basis and that information has been incorporated into the MFIM Core Total Return Fixed Income composite. A complete list of composites can be made available upon request. Information is provided in terms of U.S. dollar denominations. For the period, portfolios below \$7,500,000 are considered nondiscretionary, as MFIM-Fixed Income may be unable to fully and efficiently implement the intended investment strategy of the composite. Effective January 1, 2019, accounts will be temporarily removed from the composite due to significant cash flows of 15% or more of market value. Prior to January 1, 2019, accounts had been temporarily removed from the composite due to significant cash flows of 10% or more of market value. Additional information regarding the significant cash flow policy is available upon request.

#### Calculation of Risk Measures: Annual / 3 Years Dispersion

1. Composite dispersion presented is the equal-weighted standard deviation of the gross annual returns of portfolios in the composite for the entire year. Because it is not statistically meaningful, MFIM Fixed Income does not calculate the dispersion of annual returns for the years the composite held five or fewer accounts. Please note that the 12/31/2019 annual dispersion statistic has been restated to properly reflect the equal weighted standard deviation of portfolios included in the composite for the entire year. The dispersion was updated from 0.98 to 0.14. Additional information regarding this correction is available upon request.

2. The three-year annualized ex-post standard deviation measures the variability of the composite gross returns and the benchmark returns over the preceding 36-month period. It is not required to be presented for annual periods prior to 2011 or when a full three years of composite performance is not yet available.

#### Performance / Net of Fee Disclosure

MFIM-Fixed Income's investment management fees vary based upon account size, with breakpoint deductions for larger accounts and a minimum annual fee of \$20,000. The standard fee schedule for Core Total Return Portfolios is listed below:

0.350% on the first \$10 million  
0.250% on the next \$40 million  
0.200% on the next \$100 million  
0.150% on the next \$150 million  
0.125% on the next \$200 million  
0.100% over \$500 million

Performance information that is provided gross of fees does not reflect the deduction of advisory fees. Client returns will be reduced by such fees and other expenses that may be incurred in the management of the account. Advisory fees are described in Form ADV Part 2 of Mesirow Financial Investment Management, Inc. Net of fee performance is presented utilizing actual client net of fee performance for all accounts included in the composite. We do, however, have clients that pay lower fees than the maximum. Any stated results include the reinvestment of dividend and other earnings. Policies for valuing portfolios, calculating performance, and preparing compliant presentations are available upon request. Benchmark returns are not covered by the report of independent verifiers.

#### Benchmark Definitions

3. The Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Index represents securities that are SEC-registered, taxable, and dollar denominated. The index covers the U.S. investment grade fixed rate bond market, with index components for government and corporate securities, mortgage pass-through securities, and asset-backed securities. These major sectors are subdivided into more specific indexes that are calculated and reported on a regular basis.

Mesirow Financial Investment Management, Inc. and its affiliated companies and/or individuals may, from time to time, own, have long or short positions in, or options on, or act as a market maker in, any securities discussed herein and may also perform financial advisory or investment banking services for those companies.

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## About Mesirow

Mesirow is an independent, employee-owned financial services firm founded in 1937. Headquartered in Chicago, with locations around the world, we serve clients through a personal, custom approach to reaching financial goals and acting as a force for social good. With capabilities spanning Global Investment Management, Capital Markets & Investment Banking, and Advisory Services, we invest in what matters: our clients, our communities and our culture. To learn more, visit [mesrow.com](https://mesrow.com) and follow us on LinkedIn.

If you have questions or would like to receive additional materials, please contact **Charlene Linke** at 312.595.6742.