

# Colchester Global Government Bond Fund - Class I APIR Code ETL5525AU

As at 31 October 2020

## **Investment Objective**

To generate income and increase the amount invested by investing in a globally diversified portfolio of government bonds and currencies.

### **Investment Philosophy & Process**

We believe that if we hold a portfolio of high real yielding bonds and currencies that are undervalued according to their real exchange rate that over time this will prove rewarding. At the heart of Colchester's value-oriented philosophy is the belief that investments should be valued in terms of the income they will generate in real terms. Our approach is based on the analysis of inflation, real interest rates and real exchange rates supplemented by an assessment of sovereign financial balances. Portfolios are constructed to benefit from those opportunities with the greatest relative investment potential for a given level of risk.

#### **Fund Facts**

Benchmark<sup>1</sup> FTSE World Government Bond Index AUD Hedged Target Outperform the benchmark by 2% p.a. gross of fees

Outperform the benchmark by 2% p.a. gross of fees over full economic cycle 5-7yrs in length.

Fund Inception 9 December 2016

Management Fee 0.60% p.a. Distributions Quarterly Liquidity Daily

Application: \$1million or as per platform minimum

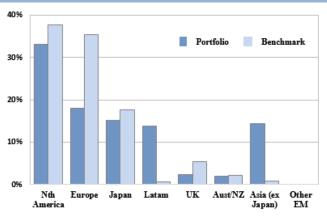
Platforms: AMP North & Portfolio Care, Asgard, Ausmaq, BT Panorama,

BT Wrap, CFS FirstWrap, Grow Wrap, HUB24, IOOF Pursuit, Macquarie Wrap, Mason Stevens, MLC Wrap, Navigator,

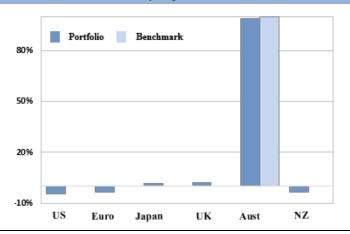
Netwealth, Oasis, PowerWrap, Praemium, Symetry, uXchange,

WealthO2Super, Xplore Wealth

## Country Exposure (%)



## Currency Exposure (%)





Total Return <sup>3</sup>	2016 <sup>2</sup>	2017	2018	2019	2020	Ann SI <sup>4</sup>
Gross Returns	0.36%	3.95%	2.68%	7.46%	4.66%	4.90%
Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	0.78%	2.79%	2.51%	6.63%	5.59%	4.69%
Relative Gross	-0.42%	1.16%	0.17%	0.84%	-0.93%	0.21%

Fund Characteristics			
	Portfolio <sup>2</sup>	Benchmark <sup>1</sup>	
Duration	7.83	8.72	
Flat Yield (unhedged)	2.38	1.70	
Yield to Maturity (unhedged)	1.17	0.26	
Average Coupon	2.71	2.13	
Average Credit Rating	AA-	AA	

Top 5 Bond Holdings			
1	US Treasury 1.5% 15 Aug 2026		
2	US Treasury 1.625% 15Nov2022		
3	US Treasury Inflation IX 2.125 15Feb 2041		
4	Japanese Government 0.3% 20Jun2039		
5	US Treasury 2% 15Feb2025		

<b>Top Active Bond Positions</b>				
Portfolio Exposure		% Relative to Benchmark	Current % of Portfolio	
Overweights				
1	Singapore	+9.71	10.08	
2	Mexico	+9.19	9.83	
3	Colombia	+3.88	3.88	
Underweights				
1	Europe	-16.02	17.91	
2	United States	-6.79	29.46	
3	UK	-3.09	2.24	

Top Active Currency Positions				
Portfolio Exposure		% Relative to Benchmark	Current % of Portfolio	
Overweights				
1	Malaysia Ringgit	+4.15	4.15	
2	Swedish Krona	+2.94	2.94	
3	British Pound	+2.35	2.35	
Underweigh	ts			
1	United States Dollars	-4.75	-4.75	
2	Swiss Franc	-4.04	-4.04	
3	New Zealand Dollars	-3.55	-3.55	

#### **Monthly Performance Commentary**

The fund returned -0.08% over the month, performing in line with the benchmark which returned -0.07%. Bond selection detracted -0.12% from relative returns, while currency selection added 0.12%. The top three bond detractors from relative returns were the overweight positions in Mexican nominal bonds and US inflation-linked bonds and the underweight position in European nominal bonds. The top three positive currency contributors to relative returns were the long positions in Mexican Peso, Malaysia Ringgit and Swedish Krona.

#### **Market Commentary**

Global government bonds produced tepid returns in October, following strong gains in the third quarter, despite heightened le vels of uncertainty from the coronavirus pandemic and political risk from the upcoming US Presidential election. The FTSE World Government Bond Index generated a mild negative return of -0.1% in US dollar hedged terms over the month. In unhedged terms the return for October was -0.2% as the US dollar appreciated modestly against most major currencies over the month

The yield on US Treasuries moved higher in October, resulting in a negative return for US government bonds of -0.9%. The US Presidential race continues to heat up apace and although the gap in the polls has somewhat narrowed, the Democratic candidate Joe Biden continues to lead the polls. The US economy continues to show signs of improvement since the height of the coronavirus crisis in the second quarter. Initial jobless claims, although remaining high have gradually lowered over the summer months into October, however the unemployment rate from the Bureau of Labor Statistics remains elevated at 7.9%. Inflation data released in October showed an increase to an annual rate of 1.4%, well above the low seen in May of just 0.1%. The US dollar initially a ppreciated in the initial stages of the crisis but has since depreciated, making the import of foreign goods more expensive. Elsewhere, the Canadian bond market return was negative at -0.6% in October. In Mexico inflation has remained elevated at just over 4%, driven largely due to the depreciation of the peso, but the local Mexican government bond market was broadly stable, returning -0.2%.

Japanese government bonds returned -0.2% in October as Bank of Japan policy maintains yields in a narrow range. In Singapore the bond market had another strong month, following the September return of 0.9% with a return of 0.7% in October. The Australian bond market also performed positively over the month, returning 0.2%. In New Zealand, Jacinda Arden and her Labour party won the general election with a landslide victory, forming the first single-party government for over two decades. The result had a modest impact on the bond market, and returns were slightly negative at -0.2% over the month.

The coronavirus crisis deepened in Europe in October with statistics showing an increase in the number of new cases of the virus, with many countries implementing more severe restrictions and even national lockdowns. This had the effect of supporting government bond values across the region. The German market returned 0.9%, France 0.8% and Italy returned 1.3%. In the UK, the approach was initially different than many countries, with a regional approach to fighting the virus however, at the time of writing, new lockdown measures have been announced and the country will also go into a national lockdown in the first week of November. UK gilts underperformed in October, returning -0.6% over the month.

The US dollar stabilized in October after benefitting from the increased risk avers ion in September. The Norwegian krone depreciated by -2.1% with the price of oil falling by more than 11% in the month. The Australian dollar also weakened, falling -2.0% and the Euro -0.7% over the month. The Japanese yen continued to strengthen however, gaining 0.9% against the dollar. The best performing major currency was the Mexican peso. Although it underperformed in the early stages of the coronavirus crisis, it rose by 3.8% in October.

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## Disclaimers

1.FTSE World Government Bond Index 100% hedged in Australian dollars (AUD) formerly Citigroup World Government Bond Index 100% hedged in AUD. Source: London Stock Exchange Group ple and its group undertakings (collectively, the "LSE Group"). © LSE Group 2018. FTSE Russell is a trading name of certain of the LSE Group companies. "FTSE®" is a trademark of the relevant LSE Group companies and is used by any other LSE Group company under license. "TMX®" is a trademark of TSX, Inc. and used by the LSE Group under license. All rights in the FTSE Russell indexes or data vest in the relevant LSE Group company which owns the index or the data. Neither LSE Group nor its licensors accept any liability for any errors or omissions in the indexes or data and no party may rely on any indexes or data contained in this communication. No further distribution of data from the LSE Group is permitted without the relevant LSE Group company's express written consent. The LSE Group does not promote, sponsor or endorse the content of this communication. 2. Colchester Global Government Bond Fund —Class I whose inception date was 9 December 2016. 3. Total Fund Return comprises Growth and Income Return; and is reported gross of fees. 4. Annualised returns since inception. Past performance is not a good indicator of future performance.

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Valuation and returns have been calculated in AUD as at month end. The WM-Reuters exchange rate used by the index provider in compiling their index is the predominant exchange rate used in valuing the Portfolio. The portfolio's guidelines and investment management fees are set out in PDS of the fund. Please refer to Equity Trustees (EQT) for further details https://www.eqt.com.au/.

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