# STAMP 1-5 Year Fixed Income

September 30, 2023

## **Inception Date**

October 1, 2002

## **Total Strategy Assets<sup>1</sup>**

\$3.2 billion

### **Portfolio Managers**

Scott Pavlak, CFA Juan Peruyero John Palphreyman, CFA

### **Investment Philosophy**

We believe fixed income markets are inefficient in pricing short-term liquidity and default risk and provide managers with an opportunity to add value relative to benchmark indices

#### **Investment Approach**

- Utilizing a top-down process, we seek to generate excess returns by actively managing sector and yield curve positioning along with bottom up security selection while controlling duration risk
- Broadly diversify across the U.S. investment-grade universe
- At a minimum, the average portfolio quality is Aa3 or AA-5 while the maximum duration of any investment is seven years.
- Risk is evaluated and managed at the portfolio, sector and security levels

#### Benchmark<sup>2</sup>

ICE BofA 1-5 Year U.S. Treasury Index

ICE BofA 1-5 Year U.S. Corp/Govt Index

## **Our Strengths**

We believe our key competitive strengths are:

Investment Team — Focused on front end strategies with dedicated resources in each sub sector, with portfolio managers and sector specialists averaging 27 years of industry experience.

**Size** — Our size helps ensure efficient implementation and diversification at the portfolio level and allows us to remain sufficiently nimble to reposition the portfolio as market opportunities arise.

#### Portfolio Statistics<sup>3</sup>

Characteristics	STAMP 1-5	ICE BofA 1-5 Year Treasury Index
Yield (%)	5.41	4.96
Effective Duration (years)	2.56	2.57
Average Quality	Aa1	Govt
Fixed / Floating (%)	99 / 1	N/A

## Composite Performance (%)4

	3Q2022 to 3Q2023	3Q2021 to 3Q2022	3Q2020 to 3Q2021	3Q2019 to 3Q2020	3Q2018 to 3Q2019
STAMP 1-5 (Gross)	2.91	-7.02	0.68	5.27	5.15
STAMP 1-5 (Net)	2.67	-7.26	0.43	5.01	4.89
ICE BofA 1-5 Yr U.S. Treas Index	2.13	-6.74	-0.40	4.60	5.62
ICE BofA 1-5 Yr Corp/Govt Index	2.85	-5.13	0.35	3.74	4.65

	3Q23	YTD	1 Yr	3 Yrs	5 Yrs	7 Yrs	10 Yrs	Since Int.
STAMP 1-5 (Gross)	0.37	1.74	2.91	-1.24	1.29	1.15	1.51	1.73
STAMP 1-5 (Net)	0.32	1.56	2.67	-1.48	1.04	0.89	1.26	1.49
ICE BofA 1-5 Yr U.S. Treas Index	0.23	1.17	2.13	-1.74	0.94	0.58	0.83	0.91
ICE BofA 1-5 Yr Corp/Govt Index	0.29	1.50	2.73	-1.55	1.18	0.87	1.15	1.28

<sup>1.</sup> Stated at estimated fair value (unaudited). The STAMP 1-5 Year Fixed Income is a strategy of public fixed income assets. Total Strategy Assets for STAMP 1-5 Fixed Income include all assets managed by MIM in the STAMP 1-5 Fixed Income strategy and may include certain assets that are not included in Composite Assets (as presented in GIPS® Composite Statistics and Performance table towards the end of this document) for STAMP 1-5 Fixed Income.

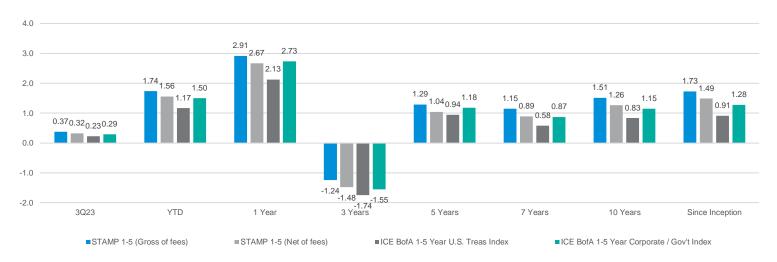
3. The characteristics displayed are for a representative account for this investment strategy. Actual account characteristics may differ. All data above is provided for illustrative purposes only. This data is supplemental to the information required in a GIPS compliant document. Credit ratings reflect the index provider's credit quality methodology. Average quality excludes cash and securities that are not rated.

4. Past performance is not indicative of future results. Net of fee returns reflect the deduction of investment advisory fees and are calculated in the same manner as gross of fee returns. Net of fee returns are calculated using the highest fee rate disclosed in the Form ADV. Please see GIPS disclosures towards the end of this document.



<sup>2.</sup> The performance benchmark for the Short-Term Actively Managed 1-5 Year composite ("STAMP 1-5") is the ICE BofA 1-5 Year U.S. Treasury Index, which is a broad based index that measures short-term Treasury Notes and Bonds with a maturity range between one and five years. The benchmark does not reflect hiddings in all sectors targeted within the STAMP 1-5 strategy. The ICE BofA 1-5 year Corporate / Government Index is a broad based index, which consists of government high grade corporates with a maturity range from one to five years, reflecting total returns and is presented here for discussion purposes only. Please see GIPS disclosures towards the end of this document.

## Composite Performance (%)1



# **Quarterly Performance Attribution<sup>2</sup>**

The strategy outperformed over the quarter. Our positioning in IG Corporates, MBS, ABS and Taxable municipals drove the outperformance.

- (+) IG Corporates Exposure in Banking, Health Care, Insurance, Electric and Food and Beverage were positive contributors.
- (+) ABS Autos, Private student loans and "Other" ABS holdings (which includes cell phone payment plans, timeshares, mortgage servicer advances, insurance premiums, aircraft leases, etc.) were additive to performance.
- (N) CMBS Performance was neutral. Non-agency securities were additive while our Agency holdings detracted from performance.
- (+) RMBS Holdings in non-Agency CMOs generated positive excess return while Specified Pools detracted.
- (+) Taxable municipals Holdings in Airports, Highway and State Obligations generated positive excess return.
- (-) Yield Curve/Duration Our duration and positioning on the curve slightly detracted from performance.

# **Strategy**

We continue to position our strategies more defensively with an up-in-quality bias and a neutral to slightly long duration posture as we believe this tightening cycle is near or at the end. We expect to maintain our lower spread duration from a historical perspective but will be nimble if we see opportunities given our anticipated growth slowdown in 2024 as the lag effects of the tightening cycle begin to take hold.

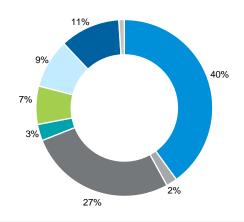
Fundamental credit metrics across the spread product universe are deteriorating and as a result we expect spreads to widen. While inflation has ticked lower it remains elevated as the labor market also continues to show resilience. We believe the consumer will likely face headwinds and growth will be challenged by excess savings declining, revolving consumer credit rising, elevated rent costs and student loan payments restarting. We expect over the next 36 months an opportunity will arise to potentially increase spread duration across portfolios.

The views presented above are MIM's and are subject to change over time. There can be no assurance that the views expressed above will prove accurate and should not be relied upon as a reliable indicator of future events.

- 1. Past performance is not indicative of future results. Net of fee returns reflect the deduction of investment advisory fees and are calculated in the same manner as gross of fee returns. Net of fee returns are calculated using the highest fee rate disclosed in the Form ADV. Please see GIPS disclosures towards the end of this document
- 2. Treasury sector selection attribution is included in Duration figure. Performance attribution is calculated against the BofA 1-5 Year Corporate/Government Index.

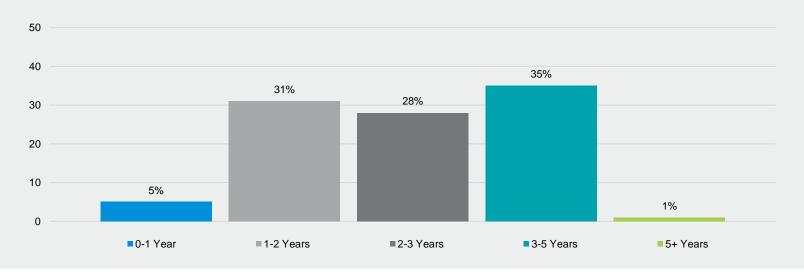


# Sector Distribution<sup>1</sup>

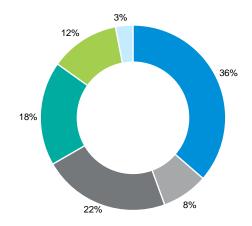


Sector	Allocation
Treasury	40%
Agency	2%
Corporates	27%
RMBS	3%
CMBS	7%
ABS	9%
Municipal	11%
Money Markets	1%

#### Yield Curve Distribution<sup>1</sup>



# Credit Quality Distribution<sup>1</sup>



Rating	Allocation
Government	36%
Agency	8%
AAA	22%
AA	18%
Α	12%
BBB	3%

<sup>1.</sup> The characteristics displayed are for a representative account for this investment strategy. Actual account characteristics may differ. All data above is provided for illustrative purposes only. This data is supplemental to the information required in a GIPS compliant document. Credit ratings reflect the index provider's credit quality methodology. Average quality excludes cash and securities that are not rated. Totals may not foot due to rounding.

#### COMPOSITE STATISTICS AND PERFORMANCE

Year	Gross-of-fee Return	Net-of-fee Return	Benchmark Return <sup>1</sup>	Number Of Portfolios	Dispersion Stdv <sup>2</sup>	Composite 3-Year Stdv <sup>3</sup>	Benchmark 3-Year Stdv <sup>3</sup>	Composite Assets	Total Firm Assets (BB) <sup>4</sup>
10/01/02 (Inception) to 12/31/02	1.14%	1.12%	0.82%	≤ 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$256,883,377	-
2003	2.37%	2.33%	2.06%	≤ 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$764,152,541	-
2004	1.83%	1.81%	1.31%	≤ 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$803,561,472	-
2005	1.97%	1.88%	1.39%	≤ 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$25,798,305	-
2006	4.68%	4.50%	3.81%	≤ 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$86,205,930	-
2007	7.40%	7.20%	8.16%	≤ 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$107,807,167	-
2008	7.19%	6.99%	8.73%	≤ 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$54,959,984	-
2009	8.31%	8.16%	0.23%	≤ 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$51,906,491	-
2010	5.31%	5.15%	3.61%	≤ 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$52,819,727	-
2011	3.74%	3.58%	3.36%	≤ 5	N/A	1.91%	1.86%	\$363,286,040	-
2012	4.14%	3.88%	0.91%	≤ 5	N/A	1.48%	1.40%	\$584,679,473	-
2013	0.67%	0.42%	-0.19%	≤ 5	N/A	1.41%	1.17%	\$589,742,246	-
2014	2.11%	1.85%	1.24%	≤ 5	N/A	1.34%	1.02%	\$603,526,397	-
2015	1.41%	1.16%	0.98%	≤ 5	N/A	1.34%	1.20%	\$200,834,998	-
2016	2.17%	1.92%	1.09%	≤ 5	N/A	1.30%	1.43%	\$183,467,503	-
2017	1.98%	1.73%	0.65%	≤ 5	N/A	1.18%	1.37%	\$163,566,330	-
2018	1.64%	1.39%	1.52%	≤ 5	N/A	1.16%	1.43%	\$115,578,618	-
2019	4.59%	4.33%	4.20%	≤ 5	N/A	1.00%	1.41%	\$152,823,356	\$600.0
2020	5.09%	4.83%	4.25%	≤ 5	N/A	1.46%	1.72%	\$163,820,860	\$659.6
2021	-0.34%	-0.59%	-1.10%	≤ 5	N/A	1.50%	1.67%	\$97,931,893	\$669.0
2022	-5.38%	-5.62%	-5.21%	≤ 5	N/A	2.61%	2.45%	\$65,344,128	\$579.8
YTD 09/30/23	1.74%	1.56%	1.17%	≤ 5	N/A	2.70%	2.59%	\$147,911,167	\$568.2

Past performance is not indicative of future results. The information presented is only available for institutional client use.

- The performance benchmark for the Short-Term Actively Managed 1-5 Year Fixed Income ("STAMP 1-5 Year") Composite is the ICE Bank of America 1-5 Year U.S. Treasury Index, which is a broad-based index that measures short-term Treasury notes and bonds with a maturity range from one to five years. The benchmark does not reflect holdings in all sectors targeted within the STAMP 1-5 Year strategy. It is impossible to invest directly in an unmanaged index. All index returns presented are provided to represent the investment environment existing during the time periods shown and will not be covered by the future report of independent verifiers. For comparison purposes, the index is fully invested and includes the reinvestment of income. The returns for the index do not include any transaction costs, management fees, or other costs.
- The dispersion of annual returns is measured by the standard deviation among asset-weighted gross-of-fee portfolio returns represented in the composite for the full year. "N/A" is an indication that the information is not statistically meaningful due to an insufficient number of portfolios (five or fewer) in the composite for the entire year. Standard deviation is only presented for accounts managed for a full calendar year.
- The three-year annualized standard deviation measures the variability of the gross-of-fee composite and the benchmark returns over the preceding 36-month period. The standard deviation is not presented for 2002 through 2010 because it is not required for periods prior to 2011. It is also not presented for quarter-ends.
  Prior to July 1, 2019, the investment team was part of a prior firm. Therefore, "Total Firm Assets (BB)" is left blank for year ends before the team joined MetLife Investment Management.

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The STAMP 1-5 Year strategy seeks to generate excess returns over the short duration benchmark through the active management of sector, yield curve, security and duration allocations within the investment grade universe, with a typical duration of +/- 20% to the stated benchmark. Effective March 1, 2021, the STAMP 1-5 Year Fixed Income Composite contains fully discretionary, fee-paying fixed income accounts with assets exceeding \$25 million, managed in accordance with the applicable composite strategy except as otherwise excluded herein. From July 1, 2016 until February 28, 2021, the STAMP 1-5 Year Fixed Income Composite included all fee-paying portfolios equal to or over \$10 million, managed on a discretionary basis according to the applicable composite strategy except as otherwise excluded herein. Prior to July 1, 2016, the STAMP 1-5 Year Fixed Income Composite included all fee-paying portfolios equal to or over \$20 million. The Firm maintains a list of composites and descriptions, a list of limited distribution pooled funds and their descriptions, and a list of broad distribution pooled funds, all of which are available upon request. Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS® reports are available upon request.

The performance benchmark for the STAMP 1-5 Year Fixed Income Composite is the ICE Bank of America Merrill Lynch 1-5 Year U.S. Treasury Index, which is an unmanaged index comprised of U.S. Treasuries with at least \$1 billion in outstanding face value and a remaining term to final maturity of at least one year and less than five years. The benchmark does not reflect holdings in all sectors targeted within the 1-5 Year strategy, which also includes government agencies, municipal, corporate, mortgage and asset backed and municipal securities in the investment grade universe. It is impossible to invest directly in an unmanaged index. All index returns presented are provided to represent the investment environment existing during the time periods shown and will not be covered by the future report of independent verifiers. For comparison purposes, the indices are fully invested and include the reinvestment of income. The returns for the indices do not include any transaction costs, management fees, or other costs.

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