

#### **FIXED INCOME WEBINAR**

**Bonds, Bond Funds, and Bond ETFs** 

May 11, 2016

Beau Coash Fixed Income Portfolio Manager Lee Sterne ETF Strategist Roger Young SVP, Fidelity Capital Markets

Host:

Richard Carter VP, Fixed Income Products

# **Agenda**

- Bond Market Context
- Individual Bonds
- Bond Mutual Funds
- Bond ETFs
- Summary & Next Steps

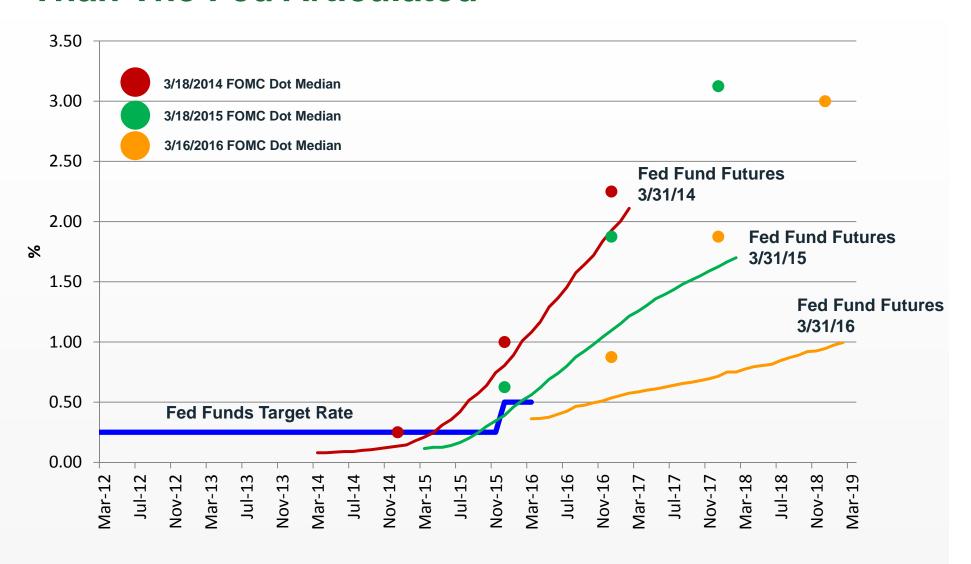


# **Bond Market Context**

**Beau Coash** 



# Markets are Pricing in a Slower Pace of Hikes Than The Fed Articulated





# Other Developed Markets have Lower Yields than US

#### A Shared Set of Demand Drivers

- 1. Global Agg. Yield 1.55% → 1.34%
- 2. Aging demographics
- 3. Regulatory policy / banks need for AAA

10YR Yields less than 1%

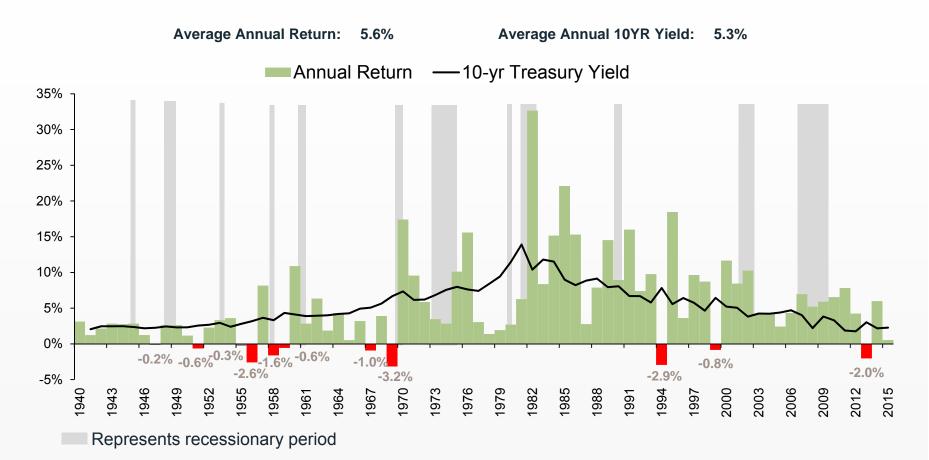
	Developed Countries	10 Year Yield (%)*	April 2016 10 Year Yield (%)**	Difference
1	Switzerland	0.019	-0.412	-0.431
2	Japan	0.352	-0.100	-0.452
3	Germany	0.451	0.097	-0.354
4	Denmark	0.507	0.299	-0.208
5	Austria	0.556	0.303	-0.253
6	Netherlands	0.590	0.315	-0.275
7	Finland	0.483	0.370	-0.113
8	France	0.721	0.440	-0.281
9	Sweden	0.531	0.465	-0.066
10	Belgium	0.709	0.480	-0.229
11	Ireland	0.987	0.773	-0.214
12	Hong Kong	1.516	1.163	-0.353
13	Norway	1.545	1.170	-0.375
14	Canada	1.698	1.206	-0.492
15	Italy	1.527	1.327	-0.200
16	United Kingdom	1.841	1.351	-0.490
17	Spain	1.494	1.533	0.039
18	Israel	1.510	1.709	0.199
<mark>19</mark>	United States	2.131	1.717	-0.414

U.S. rates are not low relative to other high-quality liquid markets

**Fidelity** 

#### **Bond Returns vs. Interest Rates**

(1940 - 2015)



Source: Barclays and Bloomberg as of 12/31/2015.

Note: From 1940–1975, bond returns are based on Fidelity Investments "Synthetic Aggregate"=67% Intermediate Government Bonds, 33% Long-term Corporate Bonds. From 1975–2015, bond returns are based on Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index.

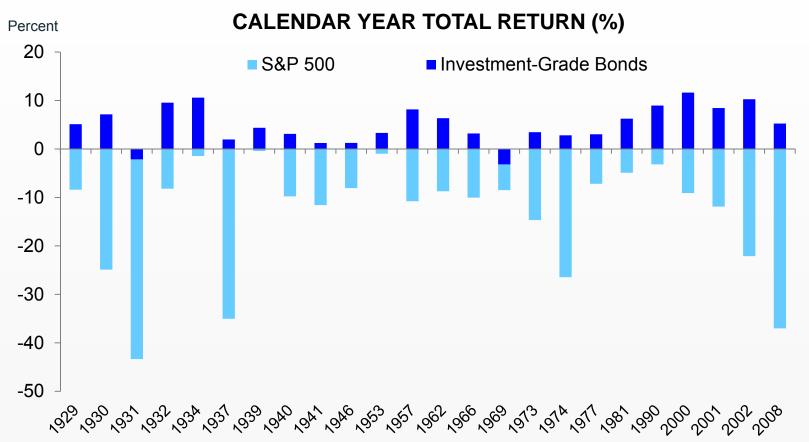
Past performance is no guarantee of future results. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Index performance is not meant to represent that of any Fidelity mutual fund.

See the Glossary at the end of this presentation for more information on any terms.



# When Stocks Fall, Bonds Tend to Stabilize Portfolio Returns

Bond Returns in Years when Stocks Were Down, 1926–2015



Source: Morningstar EnCorr, Fidelity Investments (AART).

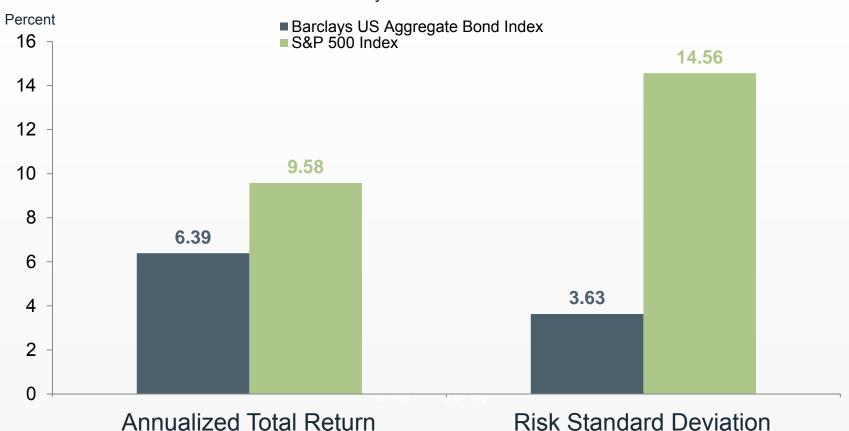
Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Diversification does not ensure a profit or guarantee against loss. Bond returns represented by the performance of the Barclays Aggregate Bond Index from January 1976 and by a composite of the IA SBBI U.S. Intermediate-Term Government Bond Index (67%) and the IA SBBI U.S. Long-Term Corporate Bond Index (33%) from January 1926 through December 1975. Stock returns represented by the performance of the S&P 500 Index.



# Bonds Have Been Attractive on a Risk/Return Basis

#### **EQUITY AND FIXED INCOME**

Risk and Return Characteristics January 1990–March 2016



Source: Fidelity Investments as of 03/31/2016.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Index performance is not meant to represent the performance of any Fidelity fund. You cannot invest directly in an index. Sharpe Ratio: Bonds are represented by the Barclays Aggregate Bond Index from January 1976 and by a composite of the IA SBBI Intermediate-Term Government Bond Index (67%) and the IA SBBI Long-Term Corporate Bond Index (33%) from January 1926 through December 1975. The Risk Free Proxy is represented by the IA SBBI 30 Day T-Bill Index.





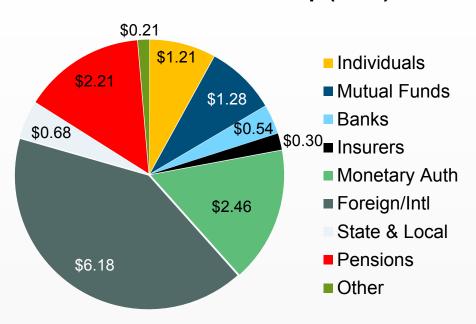
# **Individual Bonds**

**Roger Young** 

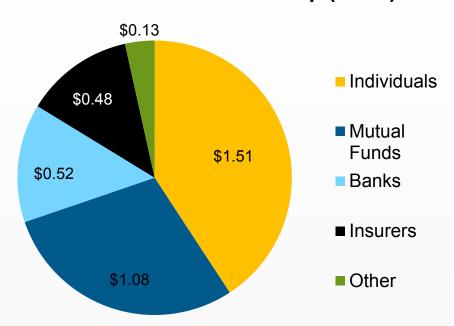


# **Bond Ownership Varies Across Bond Types**

#### **US Treasuries Ownership (\$15T)**



#### **US Muni Bond Ownership (\$3.7T)**



Source: SIFMA; Federal Reserve



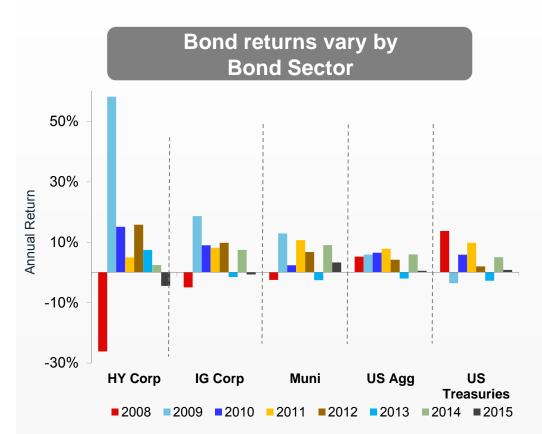
#### **Growth in Recent Years**

	12/2006	3/2016
<b>US Treasuries</b>	\$4.3T	\$15T
Municipals	\$3.1T	\$3.7T
Corporates	\$4.8T	\$8.2T



# Bond Sub-asset Classes have different Risk/Reward Characteristics

With individual bonds, YOU manage credit review and reinvestment



# Considerations when investing in Bonds

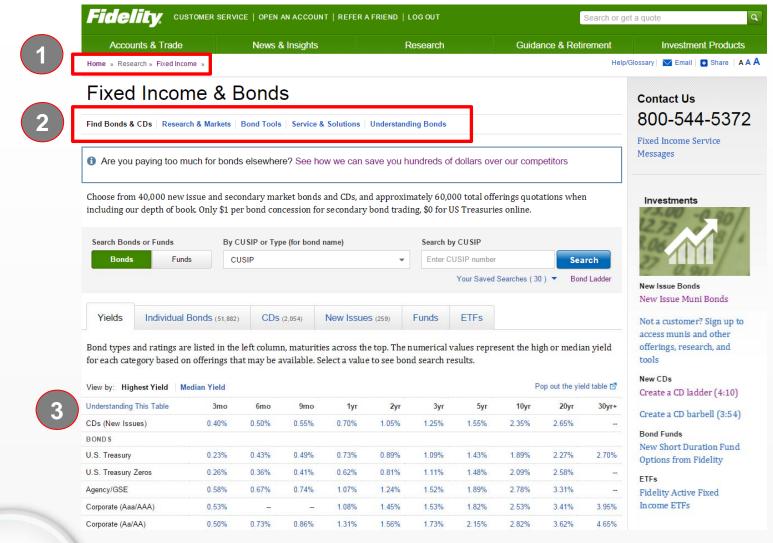
- 1. Assessing bond sectors and features
- 2. Assessing credit ratings
- 3. Assessing liquidity
- 4. Assessing diversification

Source: Barclays Capital, December 2015

HY Corp – Barclays Capital U.S. High Yield Index, IG Corp – Barclays Capital U.S. Corporate Investment Grade Index, Muni - Barclays Capital Municipal Bond Index, Global Agg – Barclays Capital Global Aggregate Index, US Agg – Barclays Capital U.S. Aggregate Index, Agcy – Barclays Capital US Aggregate: Agencies Index, UST – Barclays Capital U.S. Treasury Index



# Using the Bond Yield Table on Fidelity.com



For illustrative purposes only



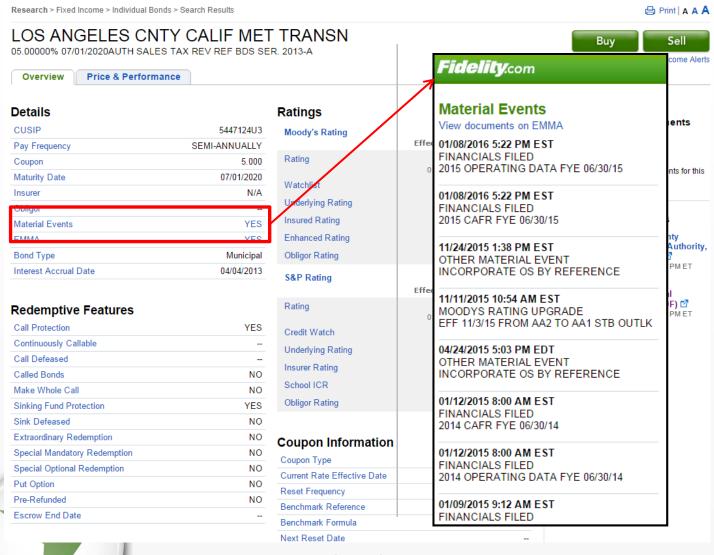
#### Where can I learn more?

Research > Fixed Income Bonds & CDs



## **Using the Bond Details Pages**

#### Researching the bond's features and attributes

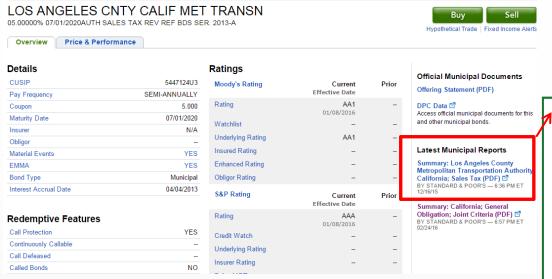


Fidelity.

Source: Fidelity.com, April 2016

### **Issuer-Specific Credit Reports**

#### Understand why a bond has its rating and potential risks



**Summary:** 

## Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, California; Sales Tax

Credit Profile		
US\$194.535 mil Proposition A first tier snr sale	s tax rev rfdg bnds ser 2016-A due 07/	01/2031
Long Term Rating	AAA/Stable	New
Los Angeles Cnty Metro Transp Auth sales tax	prop	
Long Term Rating	AAA/Stable	Affirmed

#### Rationale

Standard & Poor's Ratings Services assigned its 'AAA' long-term rating to Los Angeles County Metropolitan

Transportation Authority (LACMTA or the authority), Calif.'s Proposition A first-tier senior sales tax revenue refunding
bonds, series 2016-A. At the same time, Standard & Poor's affirmed its 'AAA' rating and underlying rating (SPUR) on
the authority's \$1.14 billion parity bonds outstanding, secured by a first lien on Proposition A sales tax revenues. The
outlook is stable.

The ratings reflect our view of:

- . The breadth of the Los Angeles County economy, with a growing population of more than 10 million residents;
- Four years of pledged revenue increases, from fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2015, and an additional increase projected for fiscal 2016;
- Very strong, 4.1x coverage of maximum annual debt service (MADS) based on unaudited fiscal 2015 pledged Proposition A revenues; and
- Strong restrictions against additional parity bonds, including an effective 2.46x additional bonds test (ABT) and an
  incentive not to issue additional debt to the fullest extent of the ABT so as to preserve revenues after payment of
  debt service to subsidize transit operations.

The authority will use the proceeds of the 2016-A bonds to refund and defease the outstanding variable-rate 2008-A1 bonds, 2008-A2 bonds, 2008-A3 bonds, and 2008-A4 bonds. Following this issuance, the authority will not have any variable-rate bonds outstanding. In addition, the trust agreement includes a springing amendment. The amendment will take effect and remove the reserve requirement for all new bonds issued once 60% of all first tier senior-lien bonds outstanding are issued under the new reserve fund provision; based on current projections, management assumes that this will occur in four to five years. The reserve requirement will remain in place for currently outstanding bonds.

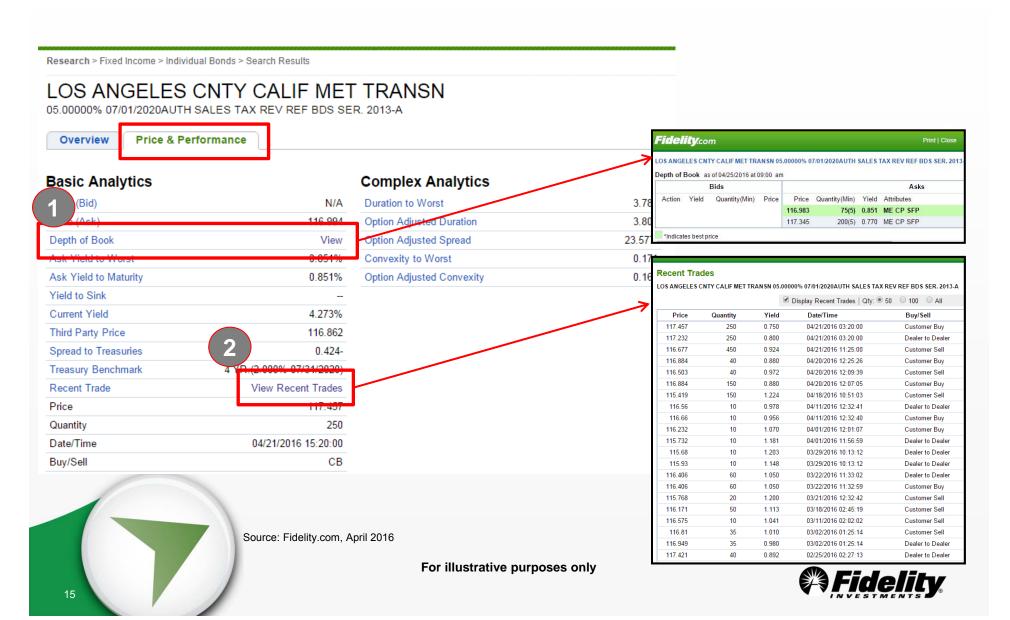
The authority's sales tax bonds are eligible to be rated above the sovereign because we believe the authority can maintain better credit characteristics than the U.S. in a stress scenario. Under our criteria "Ratings Above The

Source: Fidelity.com, April, 2016

**Fidelity** 

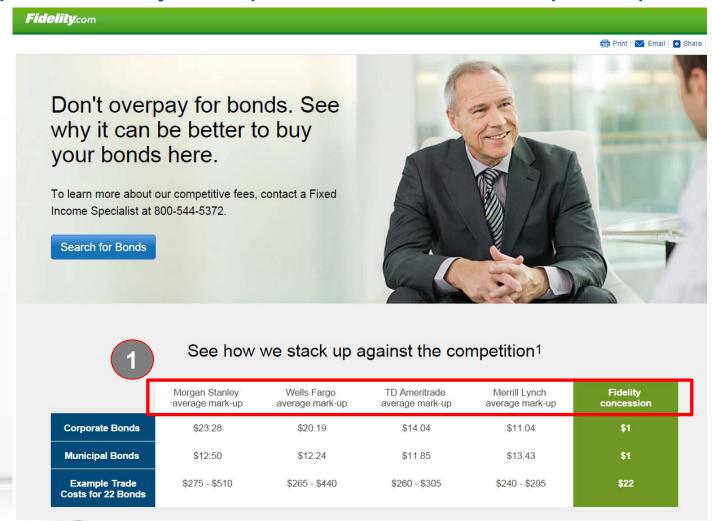
## **Using Pricing Information to "See the Market"**

Aggregated, live "Depth of Book" and historical trading prices



# **Understanding the Impact of Transaction Costs**

Compare Fidelity's \$1 per bond with mark-up competitors





www.Fidelity.com/go/bond

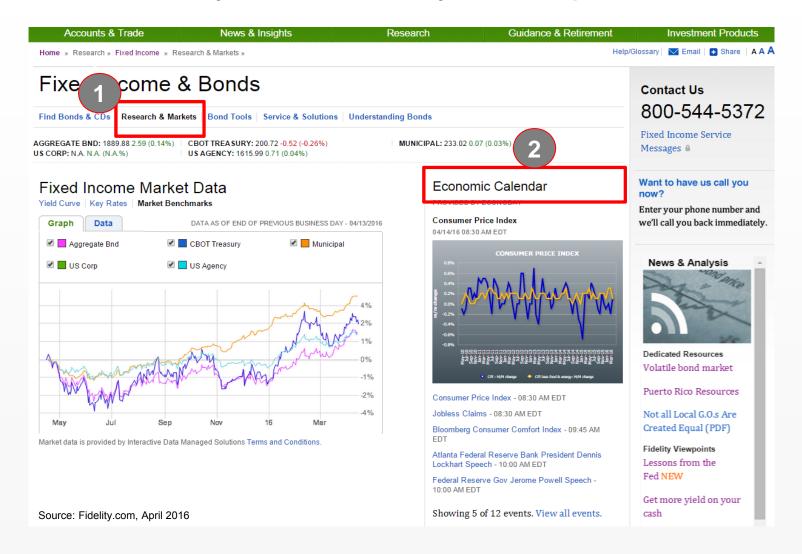
Source: Fidelity.com, April 2016

For illustrative purposes only



## **Bond Market News and Reports**

### News and analysis from Fidelity and 3<sup>rd</sup>-parties



#### For illustrative purposes only

News, commentary, and research reports are from third-party sources unaffiliated with Fidelity. Fidelity does not endorse or adopt their content. Fidelity makes no guarantees that the information supplied is accurate, complete, or timely, and does not provide any warranties regarding results obtained from its use

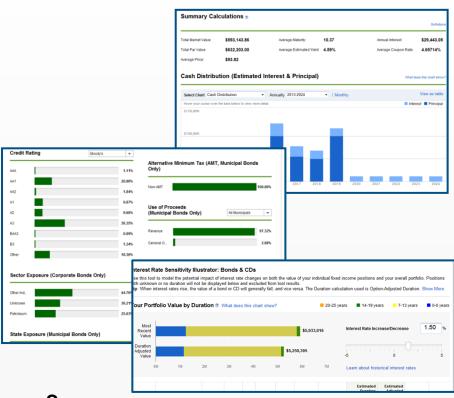


# **Key Advantages of Individual Bonds**

#### Using Fidelity's Proprietary Tools to Plan & Monitor

- 1. Bonds mature plan for future expenses, real estate tax payment, college education, reinvestment
- 2. Cash flow planning bond valuations may fluctuate but cash flow is consistent, barring an issuer default
- 3. Research before you invest bond structure and pricing
- 4. Strive to lower costs use Depth of Book.
  Compare Fidelity to firms with significant markups.
  New issue products no charge at Fidelity<sup>1</sup>
- 5. Monitor your holdings Fixed Income Analysis; Alerts on maturities, ratings changes

# Fixed Income Analysis – with interest rate sensitivity





Where can I learn more?

Research > <u>Fixed Income Bonds & CDs</u> > Bond Tools tab

For illustrative purposes only

1) Fidelity makes certain new issue products available without a separate transaction fee. Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC and National Financial Services LLC receive compensation for participating in the offering as a selling group member or underwriter.



# How do ETFs compare to mutual funds?

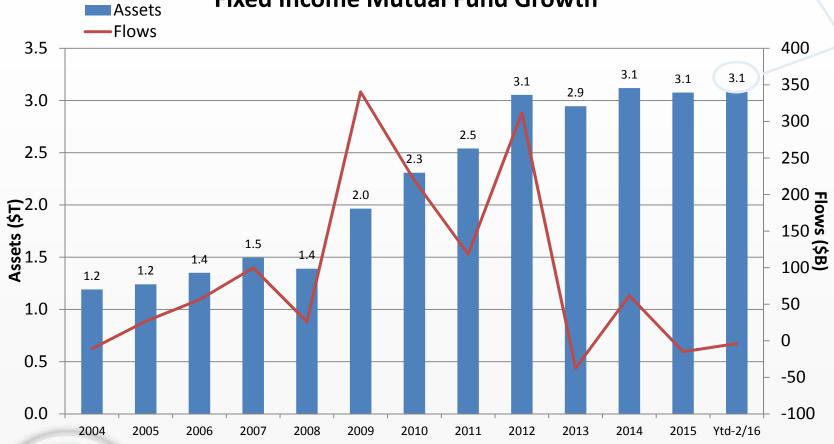
Lee Sterne



# **Bond Fund Market Landscape**

Ending Assets \$3.1 T





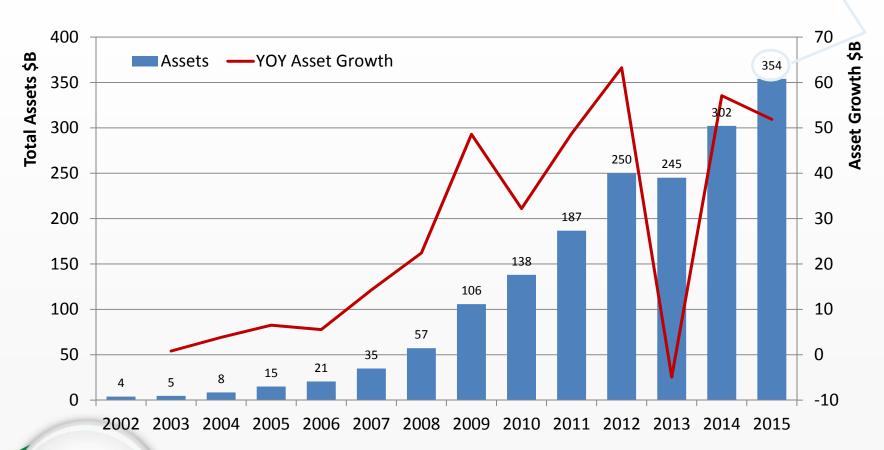
Source: Simfund as of 2/29/16



# **Bond ETF Market Landscape**

Ending Assets \$354B

#### **Fixed Income ETF Asset Growth**



Source: Morningstar Direct 3/30/16



#### What is a Mutual Fund?

- Investment Strategy Registered under the 1940 Act:
  - Professionally Managed portfolio of securities
  - Can be either passively, enhanced or actively managed
  - Investors access directly from mutual fund provider

#### What is an Exchange-Traded Fund (ETF)?

- An ETF is an evolution of the mutual fund which:
  - Offers exposure to a certain segment(s) of the market
  - Can be either passively, enhanced or actively managed
  - Investors access through brokerage account
  - Investors buy or sell shares on Exchange at the market price
  - Market Price may differ from NAV
  - Shares are not individually redeemable with the ETF
  - Potentially more tax efficient



Where can I learn more on Fidelity.com?

Research > Learning Center > <u>ETFs and Mutual</u> Funds: What to consider





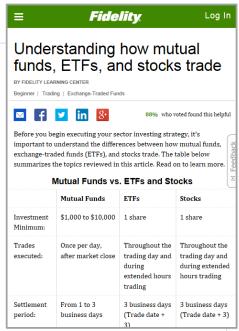
# Things to know about TRADING ATTRIBUTES

#### **ETFs**

- Intra-day trading on exchange at market price which may be higher or lower than NAV
- Allows Limit, Stop and Conditional Orders
- Allows Shorting and Margin

#### **Mutual Funds**

- Most transact once a day at closing NAV
- No Limit, Stop or Conditional Orders
- No Shorting (Margin 30 days)



Images are for illustrative purposes only.

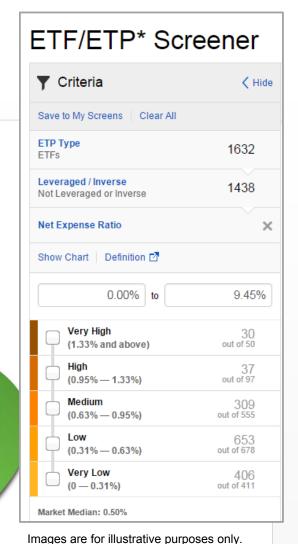


Where can I learn more on Fidelity.com?

Research > Learning Center > <u>Understanding how mutual funds</u>, ETFs, and stocks trade

# Things to know about COSTS

# ETFs Mutual Funds Expense ratios Commissions (certain ETFs may be traded commission free) Bid-Ask spreads Premium/Discounts Tracking error Mutual Funds Expense ratios Transaction Fee (Load and no-load) May have redemption fees





Where can I learn more on Fidelity.com?

Research > ETFs > ETF / ETP Screener



# Things to know about ACCESS, TRANSPARENCY & TAXES

#### **ETFs**

#### Asset class specific, maturity focused and broad market

- Generally, daily transparency of all holdings
- Capital gains tend to be lower due to creation & redemption feature

#### **Mutual Funds**

- Asset class specific, maturity focused and broad market
- Holdings data usually at least 1 month old
- Less tax efficient structure, all shareholders bear tax burden

#### Portfolio Composition: FLTB FIDELITY LIMITED TERM BOND ETF (A) 50.6309 ★ 0.0009 (0.00%) AS OF 12:14:53PM ET 04/20/2018 Quotes delayed at least 15 min. Log in for real time quote Add to Watch List | Set Alert | Prospectus, Repor ETP's Prospectus Stated Objectives Seeks to provide a high rate of income. The fund normally invests at least 80% of its assets in investment-grade debt securities of all types and repurchase agreements for those securities. ETP Portfolio Characteristics AS OF 04/19/2016 Independent third-party analytics of the daily basket holdings shown belo characteristics of its underlying holdings. Their use of standardized calcu not reflect ETF Managers' methodology to determine portfolio characteris Managers' investment approach and performance in their Portfolio Char Rasket Holdings Total: 323 (Long: 322 | Short: 0) ■ Top 10 45.13% 54.87% Top 10 UST 0.875 11/30/17 12.97% UNITED STATES TREASURY UST 1 625 07/31/20 9.86% UNITED STATES TREASURY

Images are for illustrative purposes only.

UNITED STATES TREASURY

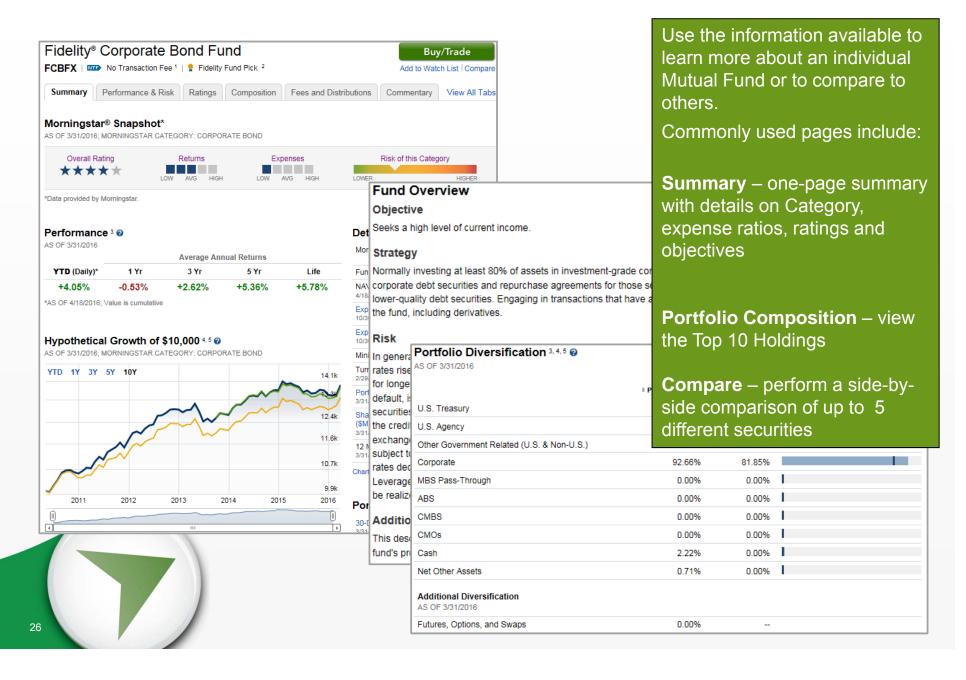
UST 0.750 02/15/19



Where can I learn more on Fidelity.com?

Research > Learning Center > What's in your ETF ? Understanding ETF portfolio composition

#### **Mutual Fund Research**

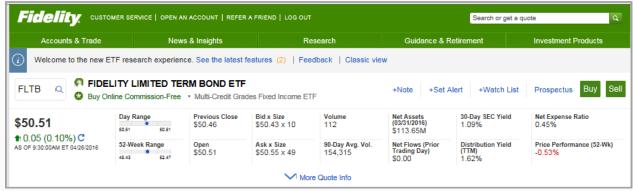


#### **ETF Research**

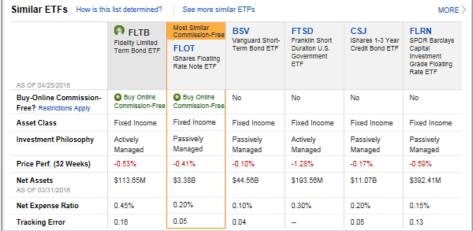
- Learn about an individual ETF or compare to similar.
- Detailed Quote Bid/Ask, Volume and Yield
- Profile: Summary of Holdings, Performance and Structure
- Portfolio Composition view the Top 10 Holdings
   Compare side-by-side comparison of 5 similar ETFs





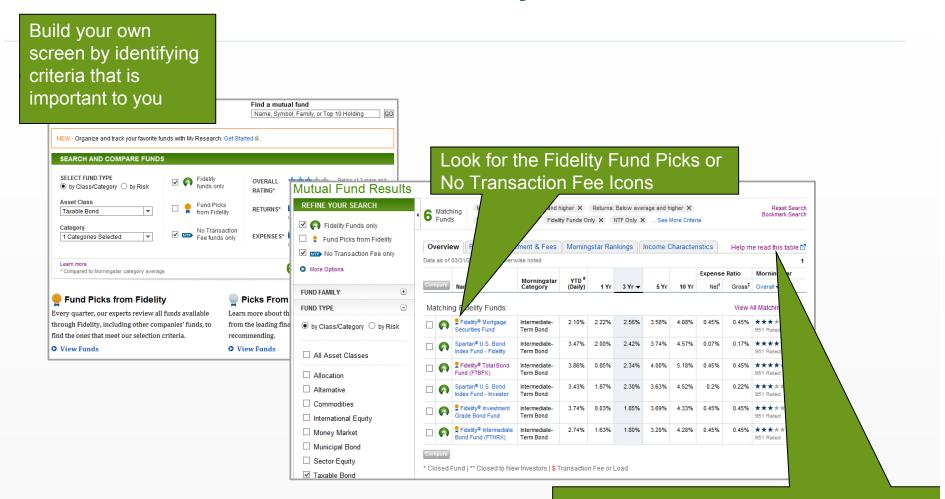


overnment/Credit 1-5 Year Bond Inde ated Objectives   Portfolio Characteristic			the United S	States with a focus on a blend of issuer ty
/hat is it holding? s OF 04/25/2016	How is it AS OF 03/31/2	performing?		How is it structured?
Top 10 Holdings Make up 44.25% of portfolio	Total Returns	FLTB (Price Return)	S&P 500 Index	Fidelity Management & Research Inception Date
Top Debt Type Corporate (58.72%)	YTD	+1.90%	+2.83%	10/08/2014
¬⊾ Top Credit Grade	4 Week	+0.32%	+2.68%	Net Assets AS OF 03/31/2016 \$113.7M
Investment Grade (53.53%)	13 Weeks	+1.21%	+11.88%	Buy Online Commission-Free
Top Maturity Intermediate Term (48.14%)	6 Month	+0.77%	+1.74%	Yes
See more	52 Week	+1.10%	+0.78%	ETF Structure & Tax Impact Open-End Investment Company
	See more			Why this matters



Drofile

# **Mutual Fund Screener: Easy Search Tool**

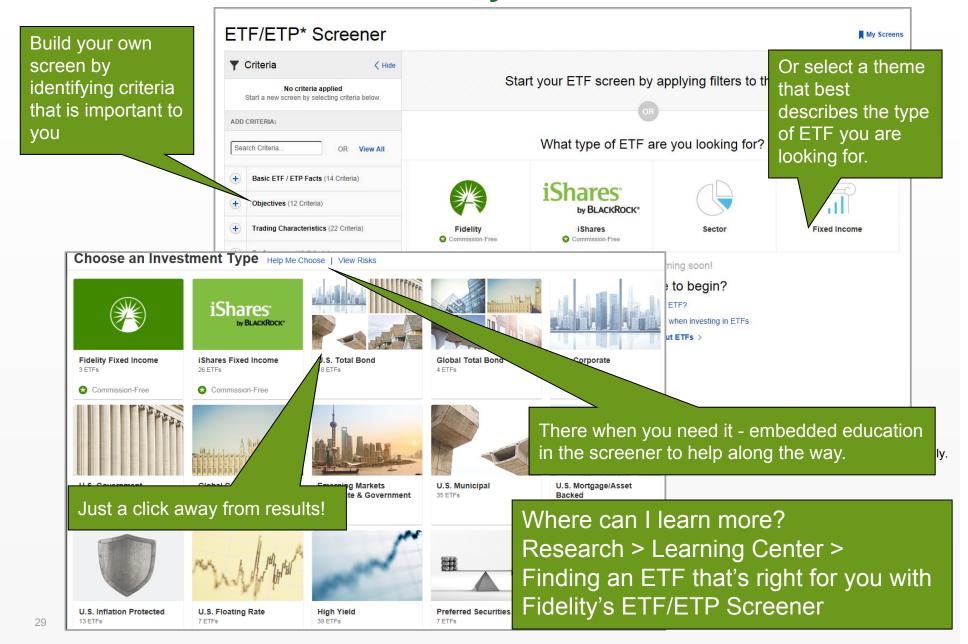


Where can I learn more?
Research > Learning Center
> What are Bond Funds?

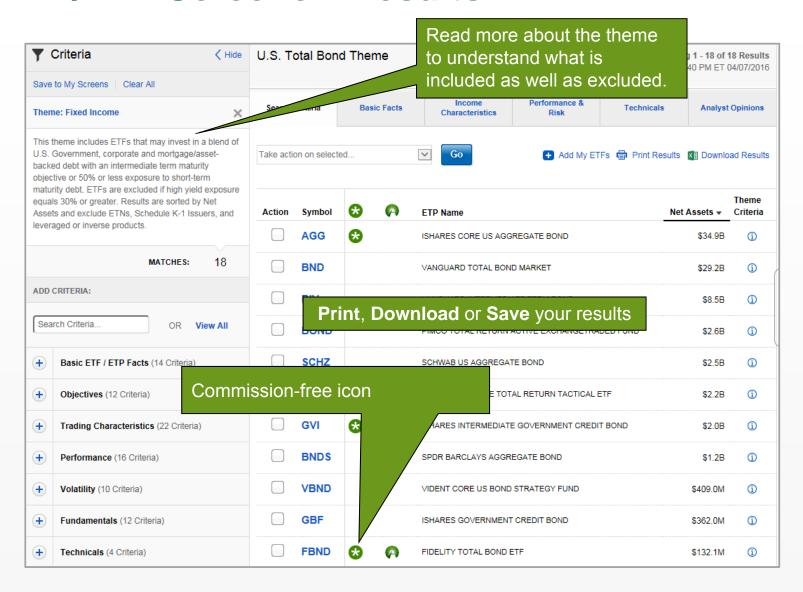
There when you need it - embedded education in the screener to help along the way.



# **ETF/ETP Screener: 2 Ways to Get Started**

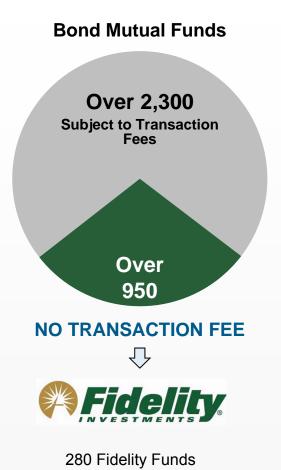


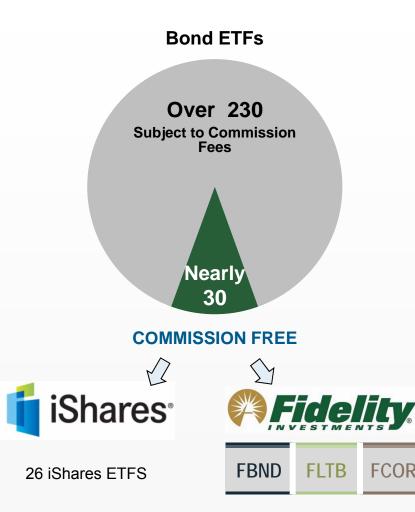
#### **ETF/ETP Screener: Results**





### **Bond Mutual Funds and ETFs on Fidelity.com**





Free commission offer applies to online purchases of Fidelity ETFs and select iShares ETFs in a Fidelity brokerage account. Fidelity accounts may require minimum balances. The sale of ETFs is subject to an activity assessment fee (of between \$0.01 to \$0.03 per \$1,000 of principal). iShares ETFs and Fidelity ETFs are subject to a short-term trading fee by Fidelity if held less than 30 days. For iShares ETFs, Fidelity receives compensation from the ETF sponsor and/or its affiliates in connection with an exclusive, long-term marketing program that includes promotion of iShares ETFs and inclusion of iShares funds in certain FBS platforms and investment programs. Additional information about the sources, amounts, and terms of compensation is described in the ETF's prospectus and related documents. Fidelity may add or waive commissions on ETFs without prior notice. BlackRock and iShares are registered trademarks of BlackRock, Inc. and its affiliates. \$7.95 commission applies to online U.S. equity trades in a Fidelity account with a minimum opening balance of \$2,500 for Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC retail clients. Sell orders are subject to an activity assessment fee of between (\$0.01 to \$0.03 per \$1,000 of principal). Other conditions may apply. See Fidelity.com/commissions for details.

ETFs are subject to market fluctuation and the risks of their underlying investments. ETFs are subject to management fees and other expenses. Unlike mutual funds, ETF shares are bought and sold at market price, which may be higher or lower than their NAV, and are not individually redeemed from the fund. Stock markets are volatile and can fluctuate significantly in response to company, industry, political, regulatory, market, or economic developments. Investing in stock involves risks, including the loss of principal.

# **Summary and Next Steps**



# Why Buy Bonds at Fidelity?

#### Why Buy Bonds & CDs at Fidelity

With industry-low fees, award-winning online tools, and dedicated support, it's easy to see why Fidelity is ranked A+ in bond investing.<sup>1</sup>

#### Industry-low fees

Enjoy pricing that beats markup-based bond brokers over 98% of the time.<sup>2</sup>

- Trade new issues for free.<sup>3</sup>
- Trade secondary bonds for just \$1 per bond—a savings of \$13 per bond compared to the industry average.<sup>2</sup>
- Purchase U.S. Treasuries online for free or for a flat rate of just \$19.95 when placed with a representative.
- Pay a maximum concession of \$250 for individual bond orders or just \$50 for those maturing in a year
  or less.

#### Over 40,000 bonds and CDs

We offer one of the largest bond inventories available from a single brokerage firm.

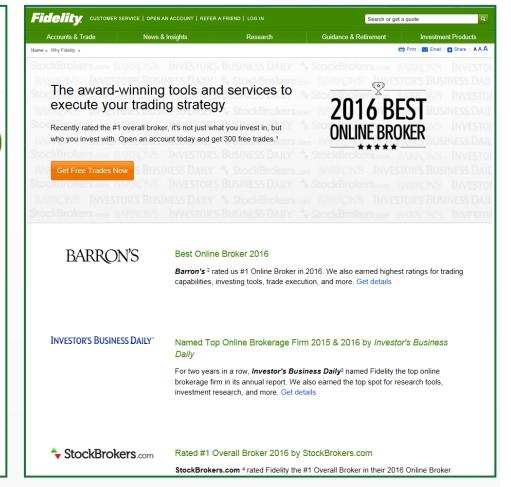
- Choose from over 40,000 bonds and CDs, aggregated from hundreds of dealers around the country.
- Access a regular stream of new issue tax-exempt municipal offerings from various states -44 different states in 2014.
- Select from over 100 FDIC-insured new issue CDs, from a variety of banks with multiple maturities and competitive rates.<sup>4</sup>

#### Bond tools and resources

Our tools and educational resources can help you succeed as a fixed income investor.



PER BOND TRADE





Images are for illustrative purposes only.



#### Awards & Recognition: Fixed Income

Morningstar

FIXED-INCOME MANAGER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Franco Castagliuolo and Bill Irving Nominee: 2011 and 2014

**Fidelity Municipal Bond Team** 

Winner: 2003 | Nominee: 2002, 2008, and 2011

FIXED-INCOME MANAGER OF THE DECADE AWARDS **Fidelity Municipal Bond Team** 

2009 Nominee

FANTASTIC 50, August 2015

**Fidelity Total Bond Fund** 

MORNINGSTAR 4 & 5 STARS<sup>†</sup> 34 Funds

"The Goldilocks of Bond Funds" Morningstar, June 2014

"Intermediate-Term Bond Alternatives to PIMCO Total Return" Morningstar, October 2014

"8 Great Core Bond Funds" Morningstar, March 2015

Total Bond, GNMA, Government Income

#### ANALYST RATINGS: 15 GOLD / 7 SILVER / 3 BRONZE

- California Municipal Income GNMA Government Income Intermediate Municipal Income • Limited Term Municipal Income • Municipal Income • New York Municipal Income • Tax-Free Bond • Total Bond • FA California Municipal Income • FA Government Income • FA Intermediate Municipal Income • FA Limited Term Municipal Income • FA New York Municipal Income • FA Total Bond
- Intermediate Bond Investment Grade Bond Short Term Bond Strategic Income • FA Investment Grade Bond • FA Municipal Income • **FA Strategic Income**
- Conservative Income Bond Spartan U.S. Bond Index Spartan U.S. Bond Index Advantage

FUND AWARDS 2015	Fund
3 Year	Fidelity Intermediate Government Income Spartan Long-Term Treasury Bond Index Spartan Short-Term Treasury Bond Index
5 Year	Fidelity Intermediate Government Income Spartan Short-Term Treasury Bond Index
10 Year	Fidelity Intermediate Government Income

#### Kiplinger

25 FAVORITE NO-LOAD MUTUAL FUNDS

As of April 2016

5 ETFS FOR 2015 Fidelity Total Bond ETF

**BEST FIDELITY FUNDS Fidelity Intermediate Muni Income** 

FOR INCOME INVESTORS Fidelity Total Bond

**July 2015** 

#### iMoney Ne

2014 RATED MONEY **FUND REPORT AWARDS**  Fidelity Institutional Money Market Tax-Exempt CL I\* Fidelity Institutional Money Market Tax-Exempt CL III\* Highest Net Total Returns

AAA-rated National Tax-Free Funds Category

**Fidelity Intermediate Muni Income** 

#### vione

MONEY 50-BEST MUTUAL FUNDS

**Fidelity Total Bond** 2014

† As of 3/31/16.

You could lose money by investing in a money market fund. Because the share price of the fund will fluctuate when you sell your shares they may be worth more or less than what you originally paid for them. The Fund may impose a fee upon the sale of your shares or may temporarily suspend your ability to sell shares if the Fund's liquidity falls below required minimums because of market conditions or other factors. An investment in the fund is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Fidelity Investments and its affiliates, the fund's sponsor, have no legal obligation to provide financial support to the fund, and you should not expect that the sponsor will provide financial support to the fund at any time. The municipal market can be affected by adverse tax, legislative or political changes and the financial condition of the issuers of municipal securities. A portion of the dividends you receive may be subject to federal and state income taxes. Capital gains realized by the fund generally will be subject to taxation at each level. The fund may invest in municipal securities whose interest is subject to the federal alternative minimum tax.



# **Your Next Steps**

- Locating the Products on Fidelity.com
- More education and support services
- ► How to buy

#### **Individual Bonds**

Fidelity.com > Research > Mutual Funds

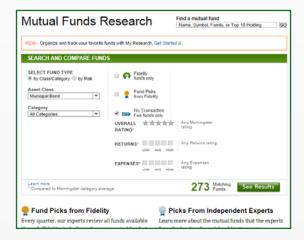
**Bond Mutual Funds** 

https://fixedincome.fidelity.com/ftg w/fi/FILanding

Fidelity.com > Research > Fixed Income



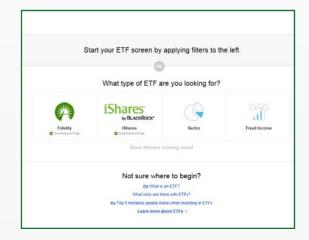
https://www.fidelity.com/fund-screener/research.shtml



#### **Bond ETFs**

Fidelity.com > Research > ETFs ETF/ETP Screener

https://research2.fidelity.com/pi/et f-screener





# Thank you!

- In general, the bond market is volatile, and fixed income securities carry interest rate risk. (As interest rates rise, bond prices usually fall, and vice versa. This effect is usually more pronounced for longer-term securities). Fixed income securities also carry inflation risk, liquidity risk, call risk and credit and default risks for both issuers and counterparties. Any fixed-income security sold or redeemed prior to maturity may be subject to loss.
- Interest income earned from tax-exempt municipal securities generally is exempt from federal income tax, and may also be exempt from state and local income taxes if the investor is a resident in the state of issuance. A portion of the income received may be subject to federal and state income taxes, including the federal alternative minimum tax. In addition, investors may be subject to tax on amounts recognized in connection with the sale of municipal bonds, including capital gains and "market discount" taxed at ordinary income rates. "Market discount" arises when a bond is purchased on the secondary market for a price that is less than its stated redemption price by more than a statutory amount. Before making any investment, investors should review the official statement for the relevant offering for additional tax and other considerations.
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  investment. The offering broker may separately mark up or mark down the price of the security and may realize a trading
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Established in 1988, the Morningstar Fund Manager of the Year award recognizes portfolio managers who demonstrate excellent investment skill and the courage to differ from the consensus to benefit investors. To qualify for the award, managers' funds must have not only posted impressive returns for the year, but the managers also must have a record of delivering outstanding long-term performance and of aligning their interests with shareholders'. The Fund Manager of the Year award winners are chosen based on Morningstar's proprietary research and in-depth evaluation by its fund analysts.

For the 2003 Fixed-Income Manager of the Year award, Morningstar evaluated 1,851 bond fund managers on long- and short-term returns, shareholder-friendly management style, and strength of conviction in investing decisions. From Fidelity's muni fund lineup, Mark Sommer, Jamie Pagliocco, and Kevin Ramundo's team was nominated for 2011 Morningstar Fixed-Income Manager of the Year. From Fidelity's muni fund lineup, Christine Thompson, Mark Sommer, and Jamie Pagliocco's team was nominated for 2008 Morningstar Fixed-Income Manager of the Year. To be nominated, managers' funds must have not only posted impressive returns for the year, but the managers also must have a record of delivering outstanding long-term performance and aligning their interests with shareholders'. Effective 06/30/2010, Christine Thompson was appointed Bond Group Chief Investment Officer for FMRCo.

Kiplinger considers funds that do not levy a sales load and generally avoid funds with high ongoing fees. They favor funds with modest minimum initial investments. Kiplinger closely examines the track records of portfolio managers. Outstanding long-term performance is a given. They also pay attention to how those results were achieved. Consistency is important for Kiplinger, as is the link between returns and risk. Funds that have produced modest returns are perfectly acceptable for Kiplinger if they have taken below-average risks. One subpar year doesn't disqualify a fund from consideration. Kiplinger asks portfolio managers directly to describe their strategies, styles and thought processes for buying and selling stocks or bonds.



#### **Index Definitions**

- Barclays Capital U.S. High Yield Index is a market value-weighted index that covers the universe of dollar-denominated, fixed-rate, non-investment grade debt.
- Barclays Capital U.S. Corporate Investment Grade Index is a market value-weighted index of investment-grade corporate fixed-rate debt issues with maturities of one year or more.
- Barclays Capital Municipal Bond Index is an unmanaged index that includes investmentgrade, tax-exempt, and fixed-rate bonds with maturities greater than two years selected from issues larger than \$75 million.
- Barclays Capital U.S. Aggregate Index is an unmanaged index that tracks domestic investment-grade bonds, including corporate, government, and mortgage-backed securities.
- Barclays Capital U.S. Treasury Index is a market value-weighted index of public obligations of the U.S. Treasury with maturities of one year or more.

