

# Invesco Global Investment Grade Corporate Bond Fund

Monthly Report July 2024 (covering June)

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# Summary of fund objective

The Fund is actively managed. The Fund intends to achieve, in the medium to long term, a competitive overall investment return with relative security of capital in comparison to equities. The Fund will invest at least two thirds of its total assets in investment grade corporate bonds. Up to one third of the total assets of the Fund may be invested in cash, cash equivalent securities and other debt securities. For the full objectives and investment policy please consult the current prospectus. The investment concerns the acquisition of units in a fund and not in a given underlying asset.

#### **Fund Performance**

Global government bond markets rallied as more central banks announced interest rate cuts. The European Central Bank reduced its main interest rate from an all-time high of 4% to 3.75%. The Bank of Canada also reduced its official lending rate. Favourable inflation prints from the US and UK supported expectations that the Federal Reserve and the Bank of England could follow suit soon. French assets came under additional pressure however after the unexpected snap election announcement by President Macron. It was another positive month for corporate bond markets in total return terms, despite spreads widening. In investment grade markets, sterling-denominated bonds led the advance, followed by euro and dollar bonds. In this context, the portfolio was up for the month and ahead of the reference benchmark. Our relative erformance was helped by our long duration stance as well as the overweight to European credit.

## **Fund Positioning**

The Fund follows a Theme-based approach which drives relative value positioning versus the reference benchmark across the Thematic Risk Factors (region, sector, capital structure, credit curve term structure and currency basis). Despite a compression in credit spreads as investors reach for high quality income in a more buoyant growth scenario, the interest rate environment of "higher for longer" means the all-in yield of the asset class remains attractive by historical standards. Regionally, Europe and the UK look more attractive than the US. This, combined with our view that US companies will be more willing to re-leverage through capital investment and M&A whilst growth remains at or above trend, drives an ongoing underweight to the US in credit terms. During the month we took advantage of several opportunities in the new issue market, including autos, pharmaceuticals, and utilities. We funded these purchases primarily out of our Treasuries allocation and a reduction in our financials overweight.

#### Outlook

We remain modestly overweight duration, primarily in Europe and UK, as inflation seems to be falling into target ranges earlier than the US. The ECB saw fit to cut at its June meeting; further cuts are less certain however and will be data contingent. In the US, we believe the contribution of shelter to overall inflation should diminish in the coming months, thereby giving the Federal Reserve room to cut in the fourth quarter. Even with the recent rally in government yields, yields on corporate credit remain at levels not seen for 15 years. For those concerned about interest rates remaining higher for longer, we note that the prevailing levels of yield offer a good starting position for returns whilst shielding against a retracement in interest rates. We are overweight Euro credit as we find it attractive to US but have been reducing spread risk given the outperformance year to date. That said, we still see relative value opportunities; on an industry basis we are overweight banks, insurance, and energy over REITs and utilities. Our approach in this environment involves prudently adding high quality income to the fund through the new issue market, whilst having scope to add risk as opportunities present themselves.

### **Investment Risks**

For complete information on risks, refer to the legal documents.

The value of investments and any income will fluctuate (this may partly be the result of exchange-rate fluctuations) and investors may not get back the full amount invested. Debt instruments are exposed to credit risk which is the ability of the borrower to repay the interest and capital on the redemption date. Changes in interest rates will result in fluctuations in the value of the fund. The fund uses derivatives (complex instruments) for investment purposes, which may result in the fund being significantly leveraged and may result in large fluctuations in the value of the fund. The fund may invest in certain securities listed in China which can involve significant regulatory constraints that may affect the liquidity and/or the investment performance of the fund. As this fund is invested in a particular sector, you should be prepared to accept greater fluctuations in the value of the fund than for a fund with a broader investment mandate. The fund may invest in contingent convertible bonds which may result in significant risk of capital loss based on certain trigger events.

Fund Facts	
Z-share ISIN	LU1642784927
Bloomberg	IGIGCZA LX
Domicile	Luxembourg
AuM	1.08bn USD
Launch Date	01 Sep 2009
Reference Index**	Bloomberg Global Aggregate Corporate Index USD-Hedged (Total Return)

Fund Managers\*\*\*

Lyndon Man, Luke Greenwood and Michael Booth

- \*\* The benchmark index is shown for performance comparison purposes only. The fund does not track the index.
- \*\*\* Luke Greenwood and Lyndon Man since August 2013, Michael Booth since January 2024

Fund Characteristics						
(Annualised Data)						
	3Y	5Y				
Alpha (statistical)	-0.01	-0.04				
Batting Average	58.33	63.33				
Gain/Loss Ratio	0.84	1.13				
Information Ratio	-0.07	-0.01				
Sharpe Ratio	-0.63	-0.17				
Tracking Error	2.32	1.96				

## **Awards & Gradings**



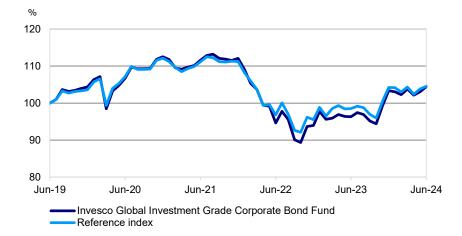
Morningstar Rating 30.06.24

Any reference to a ranking, a rating or an award provides no guarantee for future performance results and is not constant over time.

# Past performance does not predict future returns.

# Performance (USD)

## 5 Year Active Return



Cumulative	YTD	YTQ	1M	1Y	3Y	5Y
Fund (Z-shares)	1.07	1.07	1.33	8.45	-6.40	4.43
Reference Index	0.30	0.30	0.69	6.10	-5.93	4.53
Active return	0.77	0.77	0.64	2.35	-0.47	-0.10

Calendar Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Fund (Z-shares)	15.05	7.85	-0.37	-16.17	9.97
Reference Index	12.51	8.26	-0.79	-14.11	9.10

Rolling 12 Months	30.06.14	30.06.15	30.06.16	30.06.17	30.06.18
	30.06.15	30.06.16	30.06.17	30.06.18	30.06.19
Fund (Z-shares)	2.37	7.01	5.67	-0.56	9.86
Reference Index	1.66	7.06	2.84	0.58	9.60
Peer Group	0.19	5.03	3.84	0.46	7.85

	30.06.19	30.06.20	30.06.21	30.06.22	30.06.23
	30.06.20	30.06.21	30.06.22	30.06.23	30.06.24
Fund (Z-shares)	6.70	4.58	-15.22	1.79	8.45
Reference Index	7.15	3.71	-12.88	1.78	6.10
Peer Group	6.24	4.41	-13.29	1.51	6.36

Source fund/sector: Morningstar as of 30 June 2024

Source index: RIMES as at 30 June 2024, on a total return basis in USD

Peer Group: Morningstar Category EAA Fund Global Corporate Bond - USD Hedged

<sup>1</sup>Fund returns are inclusive of gross income re-invested and net of the ongoing charge and portfolio transaction costs, cumulative, in fund currency. The figures do not reflect the entry charge payable by individual investors. Returns may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations.

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