# Voya Core Plus Fixed Income Strategy

| Strategy-at-a-glance         |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Objective <sup>1</sup>       | To outperform the Bloomberg U.S.<br>Aggregate Index over a full credit<br>cycle                     |
| Value Added Sources          | Sector Allocation: 40-60%<br>Security Selection: 40-60%<br>Interest Rate/ Curve Position:<br>10-20% |
| Inception Date               | 01/01/99  |
| Strategy Assets <sup>2</sup> | \$16.4 billion  |
| Benchmark                    | Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index   |
| Available Vehicles           | Separate Account<br>Collective Trust<br>Mutual Fund   |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> There is no guarantee that this objective will be achieved.

### Strategy overview

The Core Plus Fixed Income strategy seeks to maximize total return over a full market cycle via a broadly diversified and well-balanced, multi-sector approach that employs the full spectrum the fixed income universe, including up to 20% of total portfolio allocation to below investment grade debt.

## Investment philosophy

We believe that intensive security level research paired with a broadly informed awareness of the economic and credit cycles are critical to identifying superior investment opportunities and managing downside risk.

The following key beliefs underpin our investment philosophy:

- Security selection is a significant driver of risk and returns
- Nimble sector and sub-sector allocations capture relative value
- Risk management is critical throughout the entire investment process These three key beliefs frame an integrated strategy that incorporates a dynamic blend of top-down and bottom-up approaches.

#### Investment process

Supported by a seasoned team of fixed income professionals, our three-step process leverages the collective insights from across Voya's Fixed Income platform, incorporating both top-down and bottom-up research insights. First, our asset allocation committee deliberates and prioritizes investment themes impacting fixed income markets, offers unencumbered views regarding sectors and overall risk posturing. Next, the Head of Global Rates & Macro, the Head of Fixed Income Research, and the Head of Multi-Sector Portfolio Management then builds a model portfolio, incorporating client guidelines and objectives. Finally, individual sector teams are then responsible for identifying and trading specific bonds.

# Performance



Voya Investment Management claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®). GIPS® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein. To learn more on the GIPS® compliance Schedule of Composite Performance go to: https://institutional.voya.com/document/product/gips.pptx.

Past performance does not guarantee future results. Performance numbers for time periods greater than one year are annualized. The Composite represents the investment results of a group of fully discretionary portfolios managed according to the strategy. Returns include the reinvestment of income. Gross-of-fees returns are presented before management and custodial fees but after all trading expenses. Net-of-fees returns are calculated by deducting a hypothetical management fee from the gross return on a monthly basis and geometrically linking the results to produce returns shown. The hypothetical management fee is equal to or greater than the asset-weighted average of each accounts' fee schedule in the composite. The model fee used will result in a net return that is equal to or lower than a net return using actual fees. For a description of advisory fees, please see Form ADV, Part II. Gross returns should be used as Supplemental Information only.

Not FDIC Insured | May Lose Value | No Bank Guarantee

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INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT



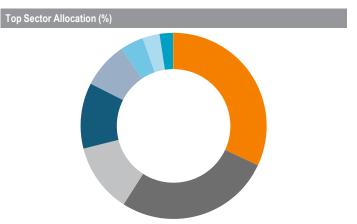
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> AUM as of 12/31/23

## Portfolio highlights

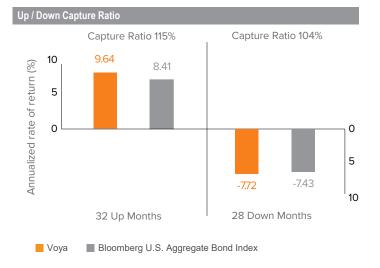
| Returns-Based Characteristics (5 years ending 03/31/24) | Composite | Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate<br>Bond Index |
|---|-----------|--|
| Standard Deviation (%)                                  | 6.77      | 6.08                                   |
| Tracking Error (%)                                      | 2.32      | -                                      |
| Information Ratio                                       | 0.35      | -                                      |
| Alpha (annualized %)                                    | 0.89      | -                                      |
| Beta  | 1.05      | 1.00                                   |
| R-Squared   | 0.88      | 1.00                                   |
| Sharpe Ratio  | -0.13     | -0.28                                  |

| Credit Quality (%)                                    | Portfolio | Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate<br>Bond Index |  |
|---|-----------|--|--|
| Treasuries/Cash                                       | 11.46     | 42.08                                  |  |
| AAA   | 9.28      | 3.55                                   |  |
| AA  | 35.56     | 29.84                                  |  |
| A   | 16.29     | 11.95                                  |  |
| BBB   | 18.24     | 12.55                                  |  |
| BB  | 5.41      | 0.00                                   |  |
| В   | 2.31      | 0.00                                   |  |
| <b< td=""><td>0.37</td><td colspan="2">0.00</td></b<> | 0.37      | 0.00                                   |  |
| Not Rated   | 1.08      | 0.04                                   |  |

| Top Ten Credit Exposures (%)       | Portfolio |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| BANK OF AMERICA CORP               | 0.90      |
| MORGAN STANLEY                     | 0.85      |
| JPMORGAN CHASE & CO                | 0.70      |
| ABBVIE INC                         | 0.44      |
| HCA INC                            | 0.37      |
| CENTENE CORPORATION                | 0.34      |
| PFIZER INVESTMENT ENTERPRISES PTE. | 0.32      |
| DUKE ENERGY FLORIDA LLC            | 0.29      |
| HSBC HOLDINGS PLC                  | 0.29      |
| VOLKSWAGEN GROUP OF AMERICA FINANC | 0.28      |



|                                       | Portfolio | Index |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------|
| Agency Mortgages                      | 31.95     | 25.86 |
| ■ IG Corporates                       | 27.06     | 24.76 |
| Asset-Backed Securities               | 12.04     | 0.50  |
| US Treasury & Cash                    | 11.46     | 42.12 |
| Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities | 8.04      | 1.63  |
| Non-Agency RMBS and SF CRT            | 4.07      | 0.00  |
| HY Corporates                         | 2.96      | 0.01  |
| Emerging Markets                      | 2.37      | 1.35  |
| Government Related                    | 0.03      | 3.77  |
| Other                                 | 0.02      | 0.00  |



Credit Quality is calculated based on S&P, Moody's and Fitch ratings. If the ratings from all 3 rating agencies are available, securities will be assigned the median rating based on the numerical equivalents. If the ratings are available from only two of the agencies, the more conservative of the ratings will be assigned to the security. If the rating is available from only one agency, then that rating will be used. Any security is not rated by S&P, Moody's, or Fitch is placed in the NR (Not Rated) category. Internal ratings will not be used for any security. Ratings are subject to change. Ratings are a measure of quality and safety of a bond based on the financial condition of the issuer. Generally accepted, AAA is the highest grade (best) to D which is the lowest (worst).

Past performance does not guarantee future results. The returns-based characteristics presented are based on the gross-of-fee composite returns. Characteristics are based on a representative account in the composite that we believe best represents the portfolio management style of the composite. Characteristics may be adjusted to exclude securities for which data is not available or for extreme data outliers via commonly used trimming methodologies. Holdings are subject to change. The information shown is supplemental only. Totals may not equal due to rounding.

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# Portfolio managers

#### Matt Toms, CFA

Chief Executive Officer Years of experience: 30 Years with firm: 15

#### Sean Banai, CFA

Head of Portfolio Management

Years of experience: 25 Years with firm: 25

#### **Dave Goodson**

Head of Securitized Years of experience: 28 Years with firm: 22

#### Randy Parrish, CFA

Head of Public Credit Years of experience: 34 Years with firm: 23

## Voya Investment Management

Voya Investment Management provides both core and specialized investment strategies to institutions, financial intermediaries and individual investors worldwide. Drawing on a 50-year legacy of active investing and the expertise of over 300 investment professionals, Voya Investment Management manages approximately \$318 billion\* in assets across public and private fixed income, equities, multi-asset solutions and alternative strategies.

Our culture is grounded in a commitment to understanding and anticipating clients' needs, producing strong investment performance, and seeking to embed diversity, equity and inclusion in everything we do. Voya Investment Management is the asset management business of Voya Financial (NYSE: VOYA), a leading health, wealth and investment company with 9,000 employees dedicated to serving the needs of over 14 million individual and workplace clients.

\*As of 12/31/23. Voya IM assets are calculated on a market value basis and include proprietary insurance general account assets of \$33 billion.

The principal risks are generally those attributable to bond investing. Holdings are subject to market, issuer, credit, prepayment, extension, and other risks, and their values may fluctuate. Market risk is the risk that securities may decline in value due to factors affecting the securities markets or particular industries. Issuer risk is the risk that the value of a security may decline for reasons specific to the issuer, such as changes in its financial condition. The strategy may invest in mortgage-related securities, which can be paid off early if the borrowers on the underlying mortgages pay off their mortgages sooner than scheduled. If interest rates are falling, the strategy will be forced to reinvest this money at lower yields. Conversely, if interest rates are rising, the expected principal payments will slow, thereby locking in the coupon rate at below market levels and extending the security's life and duration while reducing its market value. High yield bonds carry particular market risks and may experience greater volatility in market value than investment grade bonds. Foreign investments could be riskier than U.S. investments because of exchange rate, political, economics, liquidity, and regulatory risks. Additionally, investments in emerging market countries are riskier than other foreign investments because the political and economic systems in emerging market countries are less stable.

The strategy employs a quantitative model to execute the strategy. Data imprecision, software or other technology malfunctions, programming inaccuracies and similar circumstances may impair the performance of these systems, which may negatively affect performance. Furthermore, there can be no assurance that the quantitative models used in managing the strategy will perform as anticipated or enable the strategy to achieve its objective.

The Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index is a broad-based flagship benchmark that measures the investment grade, US dollar-denominated, fixed-rate taxable bond market. The index includes treasuries, government-related and corporate securities, fixed-rate agency MBS, ABS and CMBS (agency and non-agency).

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