Janus Henderson INVESTORS

GLOBAL INVESTMENT GRADE BOND FUND

At a glance

Performance*
The Fund returned −3.97%, the Index returned −3.12% and the Sector returned −3.11%.

Contributors/detractors
The fund's overweight duration position relative to the benchmark detracted from performance as yields rose, while security selection was the largest contributor to performance.

Outlook
Following recent spread widening, we have increased credit risk, as valuations appear somewhat more compelling and, in our view, remain supported by sound corporate fundamentals.

Portfolio management


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Investment environment

- Global investment grade credit delivered negative returns over the third quarter as a sharp rise in government bond yields (meaning prices fell) outweighed the resilience of corporate fundamentals.
- Renewed tensions between the US and Iran pushed energy prices higher, reigniting concerns about rising inflation and reinforcing expectations of tighter monetary policy.
- The US Federal Reserve (Fed) and the European Central Bank (ECB) both raised rates by 25 basis points (bps) in September, while uncertainty around the future policy path added to volatility.
- By the end of the quarter, the yield on the 10-year US Treasury had risen by 82 bps to 5.28%, the yield on the 10-year German bund had risen by 73 bps to 3.59%, and the 10-year UK gilt yield had risen by 67 bps to 5.42%.
- Despite resilient economic data and generally strong corporate earnings, credit spreads widened towards the end of the quarter. Heavy corporate issuance, particularly to finance artificial intelligence (AI) infrastructure investment, added to supply pressures, while higher government yields made financing conditions more challenging for lower-quality borrowers.
- Financials underperformed non-financials in both US dollar- and euro-denominated investment grade bond markets. US technology also came under pressure as investors reassessed the scale of AI-related borrowing requirements.

Portfolio review

The fund's small long-duration position relative to the benchmark was the main detractor, given the sell-off in government bond markets. Sector allocation was detrimental, as the overweight position in technology and sub-market exposure to basic industry overrode the positive effects from the overweight allocations to other utilities and brokers, asset managers and exchanges. Elsewhere, widening credit spreads weighed on the fund's overweight credit beta exposure. Conversely, security selection was the biggest contributor to performance, buoyed in particular by our choices in UK water companies (in the other utilities sector) and banks. Security selection was more challenged in the technology and energy sectors.

Within individual holdings, the areas that came under the most pressure tended to be lower-rated, higher-beta issues, including favoured data centre and AI infrastructure

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*For benchmark and sector, if applicable, refer to Fund details on page 3. For relevant descriptions, risks and the Fund's investment policy statement, refer to Additional fund information on page 4.

names CoreWeave and Tract Capital. Both companies were affected by nervousness about the pipeline of AI-related issuance in the sub-investment-grade bond market rather than by fundamental developments at either company. Healthcare company Harrow also detracted, as investors became concerned about the sub-investment-grade issuer's leverage in a higher-interest-rate environment.

Southern Water was one of the biggest contributors to performance as political headwinds eased and investors refocused on recent improvements in the UK water utility sector. Elsewhere, online vehicle dealer Carvana reported record profits and restructured its debt, significantly reducing interest payments.

Earlier in the summer, we trimmed higher-beta holdings and communications issuance, including exiting T-Mobile amid concerns about competitive disruption from satellite-enabled technology. However, following price weakness, we selectively added to positions in technology and AI infrastructure, including CoreWeave, Tract Capital and SpaceX, after the latter's debut issuance. We also added Ford, AbbVie and Capella Healthcare, alongside a Chilean government bond offering what we saw as an attractive entry point. Ahead of the September supply surge, we trimmed technology and data centre exposures. This positioned us to increase credit beta to a modest overweight position towards the end of the quarter, taking advantage of more attractive relative valuations and new-issue opportunities. Additions included Renault, Volkswagen and Teva, alongside AON, Wells Fargo, Ares and SoftBank. We also diversified into euro-denominated issues, including Orange, Lagardère and DP World, and rebalanced selected holdings in Roblox, CoreWeave and Shea Homes following weakness in the high yield bond market. Towards the end of the period, we took partial profits in UK water utilities following their recovery, and in fintech holdings, including Experian and Wise, which had rebounded as concerns eased that advances in AI could threaten the viability of software-as-a-service (SaaS).

Manager outlook

The short-term outlook remains mixed. Recent weakness in government bonds and credit spreads reflects a combination of geopolitical, energy and supply-related pressures. Re-escalation in the Middle East has been an important driver, with uncertainty surrounding the Strait of Hormuz, Iranian oil exports and European gas prices adding to inflation concerns. The prospect of higher energy prices for longer has therefore reinforced expectations that central banks may have less scope to ease monetary policy, while the recent rise in US Treasury yields has also weighed on sentiment across global credit markets.

At the same time, we believe some concerns about the US economy may be overstated. Although higher energy prices could feed through to inflation over the next three to six months, the second-order effects appear less pronounced than initially feared. The impact of higher rates may also increasingly be felt through financial markets and tighter financial conditions, rather than solely through household consumption. This could provide a more meaningful mechanism for slowing the economy as the lagged effects of recent rate increases emerge.

We think primary market supply is likely to remain an important consideration. Government issuance remains substantial, while the financing requirements of the AI investment cycle continue to grow. We expect periods of heavy issuance may create opportunities for selective participation, particularly where new issue concessions are attractive.

Against this backdrop, we increased credit exposure following the recent widening in spreads, having previously reduced risk when pricing was less compelling. We continue to adjust the portfolio through security selection and relative-value switches, rather than adding risk indiscriminately. We have also been prompt in trimming or switching out of areas where recoveries have been evident. For example, we reduced the UK water utility position as the challenging political backdrop moderated, allowing pricing to better reflect underlying fundamental improvements. Similarly, we reduced some technology exposure following the recovery from concerns about SaaS companies earlier in the year. Fintech companies previously caught in the perceived "AI losers" group have also recovered, as resilient operating performance has suggested that they may be less vulnerable to AI-driven competition than initially feared. With pricing now less compelling to us, we have switched towards other areas offering a more attractive risk/return profile.

We expect markets to remain sensitive to energy prices, government bond yields and the pace of new issuance, potentially creating opportunities for active security selection and relative value. Higher-beta sectors such as real estate, banking and brokerage may remain more vulnerable if rates stay elevated, while technology giants have recently shown greater resilience amid the flight to quality. Overall, we remain relatively constructive on higher-quality credit and comfortable with favoured sub-investment grade issuers, while maintaining some caution around more leveraged areas of the market.

Performance (%)

Returns	Cumulative				Annualised			
	1 Month	3 Month	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	Since inception (29/10/10)
A2 USD (Net)	-2.56	-3.97	-3.06	-2.28	4.84	-0.72	1.44	1.81
Index	-2.10	-3.12	-1.87	-0.96	5.42	0.42	2.16	2.66
Sector	-2.20	-3.11	-2.16	-1.34	5.08	-0.01	2.01	2.80
A2 USD (Gross)	—	—	—	—	—	0.44	2.93	3.50
Target	—	—	—	—	—	1.68	3.44	3.94

12 month rolling	Sep 2025-Sep 2026	Sep 2024-Sep 2025	Sep 2023-Sep 2024	Sep 2022-Sep 2023	Sep 2021-Sep 2022
A2 USD (Net)	-2.28	3.73	13.69	1.50	-17.55
Index	-0.96	4.45	13.26	4.61	-16.67
Sector	-1.34	4.11	12.97	3.56	-16.82

Performance is on a net of fees basis, with gross income reinvested. Source: at 30/09/26. © 2026 Morningstar, Inc. All rights reserved. The information contained herein: (1) is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its content providers; (2) may not be copied or distributed; and (3) is not warranted to be accurate, complete, or timely. Neither Morningstar nor its content providers are responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information. **Past performance does not predict future returns.** Performance/performance target related data will display only where relevant to the share class inception date and annualised target time period. **The value of an investment and the income from it can fall as well as rise and you may not get back the amount originally invested.** Source for target returns (where applicable) - Janus Henderson Investors.

Fund charges will impact the value of your investment. In particular, the ongoing charges applicable to each fund will dilute investment performance, particularly over time. For further explanation of charges please visit our Fund Charges page at www.janushenderson.com.

Note that any differences among portfolio securities currencies, share class currencies and costs to be paid or represented in currencies other than your home currency will expose you to currency risk. Costs and returns may increase or decrease as a result of currency and exchange rate fluctuations.

Investment objective

The Fund aims to provide a return, from a combination of income and capital growth over the long term. Performance target: To outperform the Bloomberg Global Aggregate Corporate Bond Hedged USD Index by 1.25% per annum, before the deduction of charges, over any 5 year period.

For the fund's investment policy, refer to the Additional fund information on page 4.
Past performance does not predict future returns.

Fund details

Inception date	29 October 2010
Total net assets	72.46m
Asset class	Fixed Income
Domicile	Ireland
Structure	Irish Investment Company
Base currency	USD
Index	Bloomberg Global Aggregate Corporate Bond Hedged USD Index
Morningstar sector	Global Corporate Bond - USD Hedged
SFDR category	Article 8

In accordance with the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation, the Fund is classified as Article 8 and promotes, among other characteristics, environmental and/or social characteristics, and invests in companies with good governance practices.

Additional fund information

Tax assumptions and reliefs depend upon an investor's particular circumstances and may be subject to change. Please note the performance target is to be achieved over a specific annualised time period. Refer to the performance target wording within the objective. Availability of share classes shown may be limited by law in certain jurisdictions. Performance records/scenarios are detailed within the fund's specific KIID/KID; fees and charges, and the respective risk rating may vary. Further information can be found in the fund's prospectus and KIID/KID, which must be reviewed before investing. Please consult your local sales representative and/or financial adviser if you have any queries. On 31st July 2024, The Fund's investment policy changed. This is an Irish Investment Company regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. A short-term trading fee may be applied upon exiting the fund as per the prospectus. These are the views of the author at the time of publication and may differ from the views of other individuals/teams at Janus Henderson Investors. Any securities, funds, sectors or indices mentioned within this article do not constitute or form part of any offer or solicitation to buy or sell them. The information in this commentary does not qualify as an investment recommendation. Investment into the fund will acquire units/shares of the fund itself and not the underlying assets owned by the fund. Cash balances and exposures are based on settled and unsettled trades as at the reporting date.

Investment policy

The Fund invests at least 80% of its assets in a global portfolio of investment grade (equivalent to BBB- rated or higher) bonds, of issuers located anywhere in the world, subject to a maximum of 70% exposure to US issuers. Up to 20% may be invested in developing markets. The Fund may also hold other assets including other types of bonds (including convertible bonds), preference shares, cash and money market instruments. The Sub-Investment Adviser may use derivatives (complex financial instruments), including total return swaps, with the aim of making investment gains in line with the Fund's objective, to reduce risk or to manage the Fund more efficiently. The Fund is actively managed with reference to the Bloomberg Global Aggregate Corporate Bond Hedged USD Index, which is broadly representative of the bonds in which it may invest, as this forms the basis of the Fund's performance target. The Sub-Investment Adviser has discretion to choose investments for the Fund with weightings different to the index or not in the index, but at times the Fund may hold investments similar to the index.

Investment strategy

The Sub-Investment Adviser has a forward-looking fundamental approach to credit research and seeks to create a portfolio of best ideas across all fixed income sectors to express their high-conviction views. A fundamental company research-driven investment process focused on investment-grade corporate bonds from companies around the world committed to transforming and improving their balance sheets, free cash flow generation, quality of management and security valuation drive security selection. A dynamic 'top down' (market and economic analysis) framework enables the Sub-Investment Adviser to assess the stage of credit cycle, identify opportunities and take an appropriate amount of risk.

Fund specific risks

An issuer of a bond (or money market instrument) may become unable or unwilling to pay interest or repay capital. If this happens or the market perceives this may happen, the value of the bond will fall. When interest rates rise (or fall), the prices of different securities will be affected differently. In particular, bond values generally fall when interest rates rise (or are expected to rise). This risk is typically greater the longer the maturity of a bond investment. CoCos can fall sharply in value if the financial strength of an issuer weakens and a predetermined trigger event causes the bonds to be converted into shares/units of the issuer or to be partly or wholly written off. If the Fund holds assets in currencies other than the base currency of the Fund, or you invest in a share/unit class of a different currency to the Fund (unless hedged, i.e. seeks to mitigate exchange rate movements between the share/unit class currency and the base currency of the Fund), the value of your investment may be impacted by changes in exchange rates. Derivatives may be used to help achieve the investment objective. This can result in leverage (higher levels of debt), which can magnify an investment outcome. Gains or losses may therefore be greater than the cost of the derivative. Derivatives also introduce other risks, in particular, that a derivative counterparty may not meet its contractual obligations. When the Fund, or a share/unit class, seeks to mitigate exchange rate movements of a currency relative to the base currency (hedge), the hedging strategy itself may positively or negatively impact the value of the Fund due to differences in short-term interest rates between the currencies. Securities could become hard to value or to sell at a desired time and price, especially in extreme market conditions when asset prices may be falling, increasing the risk of investment losses. Some or all of the ongoing charges and other costs of the Fund may be taken from capital, which may erode capital or reduce potential for capital growth. Losses could be incurred if a counterparty became unwilling or unable to meet its obligations, or as a result of failure or delay in operational processes or the failure of a third party provider.

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INVESTORS

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