

## HIGH YIELD WRAP

June 30, 2024

Investment Products:
• Not FDIC Insured • No Bank Guarantee • May Lose Value • Not Insured by Any Federal Government Agency • Not Deposits • Not a Condition to Any Banking Service or Activity

Seix Investment Advisors is a division of Virtus Fixed Income Advisers, LLC ("VFIA"), an SEC registered investment adviser.

- Organizational Overview
- Leveraged Finance Platform Overview
- Performance
- Investment Philosophy & Process
- Leveraged Credit Market Update
- Strategy Characteristics
- Appendix
  - Biographies
  - GIPS Composite Reports



## ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW



### **Key Facts**

- Founded in 1992
- A division of Virtus Fixed Income Advisers, LLC ("VFIA"), an SEC registered investment adviser
- Headquartered in Park Ridge, NJ with offices in Atlanta, GA and Orlando, FL

### **Organizational Characteristics**

- Institutional fixed income boutique
- Performance oriented, risk focused and collaborative culture
- Seasoned fixed income professionals
- Sound, transparent, and repeatable investment philosophy and process

#### **Assets Under Management**

Total Assets \$12.7 Billion<sup>1</sup>

Leveraged Finance \$7.8<sup>1</sup>



Investment Grade \$4.9

Signatory of:



### **Strategies**

- High Yield Bonds
- Leveraged Loans
- CLOs
- Investment Grade Fixed Income (Taxable & Tax-Exempt)







#### OTHER AFFILIATES



Virtus has the flexibility, agility, and responsiveness of a boutique asset management firm with the product breadth, distribution, and resources of larger firms

- Independent publicly traded asset manager with a market capitalization of \$1.7 billion<sup>1</sup> (NYSE: VRTS)
- Managing approximately \$173.6 billion in a multi-boutique structure<sup>1</sup>
- Investment strategies available in multiple product forms:
  - Institutional accounts
  - Open-end mutual funds
  - Closed-end mutual funds
  - UCITS
  - ETFs
  - Commingled investment trusts
  - Retail separate accounts



## LEVERAGED FINANCE PLATFORM OVERVIEW



## SEIX LEVERAGED FINANCE STRATEGIES OVERVIEW

#### Team and Firm Attributes

#### Experience

- 27 years in high yield management
- 18 years in leveraged loan and CLO management
- Consistent leadership of key investment personnel
- "Senior sector specialists"; credit analysts are not generalists
- Research team comprised of senior industry veterans with an average of 26+ years of experience and 14+ years working together through a variety of dislocated markets

#### Size Advantage

- \$5.0bn manager in leveraged loans<sup>1</sup>, \$2.8bn manager in high yield
- Access to deal flow and management, with the ability to scale and be selective
- Relationships across broker/dealers and private equity sponsors



Including SMA wrap capability



Seek to maximize portfolio return per unit of risk and avoid permanent loss of capital by focusing on business models that can make it through volatile business cycles

Combination of skills and resources



A transparent, repeatable investment process based on consistently applied investment tenets by an experienced, tenured team with a goal to produce superior risk-adjusted returns for our clients



Our high yield team seeks to deliver high yield returns to our clients through a transparent and repeatable process that aims to capture the upside potential while limiting downside risk

### **Competitive Advantages**

#### **Bottom Up, Credit Focused**

- While other firms may spend the majority of time trying to forecast the macro environment, Seix believes it is more important to concentrate on identifying issuers that can survive through difficult markets
- In 21+ years of managing the high yield wrap strategy, these portfolios have never experienced a default
- We do not use derivatives or other exotic instruments and structures in high yield portfolios

#### "Sweet Spot" in Size

- With \$7.8 billion<sup>1</sup> in leverage finance assets under management (\$5.0 billion in leveraged loans<sup>1</sup>, \$2.8 billion in high yield bonds), we believe Seix is "Big Enough to Matter, but Small Enough to Be Nimble"
- 16 investment and research professionals are dedicated to leveraged finance
- Seix's size, presence and strong relationships benefit our clients as we act on their behalf in the over-thecounter high yield market
- At less than 0.5% of the high yield universe, we believe Seix is small enough to be nimble in positioning the portfolio

#### **Experience**

- Informed insights driven by an average of 26+ years of industry experience
- A seasoned team that has managed high yield portfolios during times of stress that include extreme "risk off" environments in 2008, 2011 and early 2016



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#### George Goudelias Managing Director Senior Portfolio Manager Head of Leveraged Finance

37 Years Industry Experience, 23 at Seix

#### Michael Kirkpatrick

Managing Director Senior Portfolio Manager 33 Years Industry Experience,

22 at Seix

Head of Leveraged Finance

Research

HEALTHCARE, CONSTRUCTION

31 Years Industry Experience, 11 at Seix

Brian Reid, CFA

AUTOS, PAPER & PACKAGING,

GAMING, FOOD

28 Years Industry Experience, 17 at Seix

Ania Wacht, CFA

AEROSPACE, RETAIL, UTILITIES,

CONSUMER. TRANSPORT

21 Years Industry Experience, 17 at Seix

John Dyer, CFA\*

FINANCIALS,

REITS

28 Years Industry Experience, 12 at Seix

#### James FitzPatrick, CFA Portfolio Manager Financials Head of Leveraged Finance Trading 28 Years Industry Experience, 27 at Seix

#### STRUCTURED CREDIT

John Wu, CFA Head of Structured Credit 28 Years Industry Experience, 8 at Seix

#### **PRODUCT SPECIALIST**

Bob Spada Client Portfolio Manager 39 Years Industry Experience, 2 at Seix

## Susan Madison V

**INVESTMENT RESEARCH** 

Vince Flanagan, CFA Portfolio Manager MEDIA, TECHNOLOGY 27 Years Industry Experience, 18 at Seix

David Phipps Portfolio Manager TECHNOLOGY, TELECOM, CHEMICALS 32 Years Industry Experience, 5 at Seix

Andrea Pagnozzi ENERGY, INDUSTRIAL SERVICES 23 Years Industry Experience, 16 at Seix

Daman Singh DIVERSIFIED MEDIA, SERVICES, LEISURE

23 Years Industry Experience, 18 at Seix

#### TRADING

Eric Guevara Portfolio Manager Head of Leveraged Loan Trading 24 Years Industry Experience, 24 at Seix

David Chou Senior High Yield Trader 22 Years Industry Experience, 22 at Seix

> Norman Kopack Senior High Yield Trader

37 Years Industry Experience, 20 at Seix

Bryan Trowbridge Trader 21 Years Industry Experience, 17 at Seix



June 2024

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cht Brian Reid	
MEDIA, ENERGY, INDUSTRIAL SERVICES Andrea Pagnozzi Flow of	
ingh Andrea Pagnozzi Flow of Information & Ideas	
ALS, HEALTHCARE, CONSTRUCTION	
Patrick er* Susan Madison	
OGY TECHNOLOGY, TELECOM, CHEMICALS	





## PERFORMANCE

## SEIX HIGH YIELD BOND WRAP

Composite Performance Summary

Trailing Returns (%)									
	High Yield I	ICE BofA HY							
	Gross	Net	Cash Pay Index						
QTD	1.19	0.56	1.02						
YTD	2.18	0.91	2.50						
1-Year	8.11	5.45	10.34						
3-Year	1.01	-1.49	1.65						
5-Year	3.41	0.86	3.71						
10-Year	3.67	1.11	4.20						
Since Inception	6.31	3.69	6.25						

Annualized Sinc	e Inception		
	High Yield	Bond Wrap	ICE BofA HY
	Gross	Net	Cash Pay Index
Standard Deviation (%)	6.11	6.08	9.65
Return Per Unit of Risk (%)	1.03	0.61	0.65
Maximum Drawdown (%)	21	23	33

Calendar Yea	ar Returns (%)		
	High Yield	Bond Wrap	ICE BofA HY
	Gross	Net	Cash Pay Index
2023	10.16	7.46	13.40
2022	-9.65	-11.90	-11.11
2021	3.91	1.35	5.29
2020	8.23	5.57	6.20
2019	12.60	9.84	14.40
2018	-1.65	-4.08	-2.26
2017	5.51	2.91	7.48
2016	9.94	7.24	17.34
2015	-1.77	-4.20	-4.55
2014	4.08	1.52	2.44

Seix High Yield Bond Wrap Composite incepted on 7/1/97.

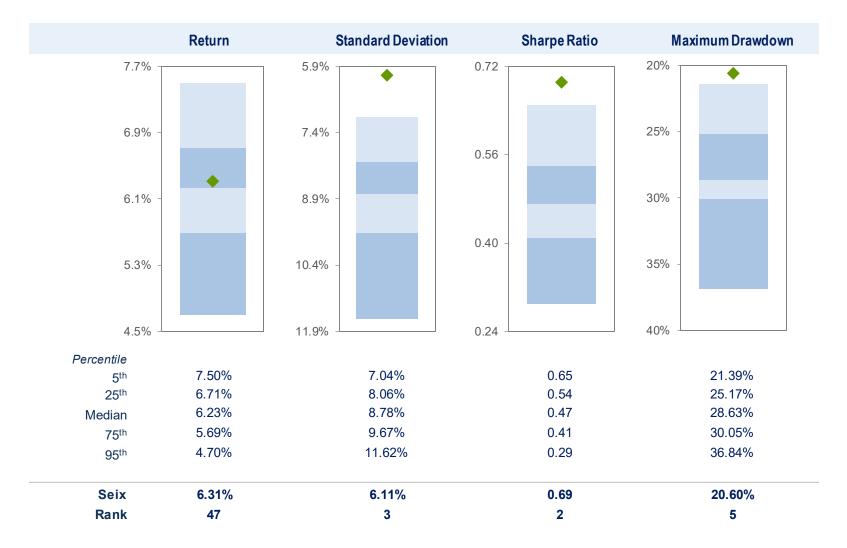
The investment management fee schedule for the wrap programs vary between 1.25 and 2.50. The wrap fee includes all charges for portfolio management, custody and other administrative fees. Net returns are calculated by subtracting the highest applicable wrap fee (2.50 on an annual basis, or 0.21 monthly) on a monthly basis from the gross composite monthly return. Please see the Composite Performance Disclosure in the appendix for more information.

Standard Deviation - A measure of the dispersion of a set of data from its mean. The more spread apart the data, the higher the deviation. In finance, standard deviation is applied to the annual rate of return of an investment to measure the investment's volatility (based on quarterly data).

Maximum Drawdown - The maximum of the peak-to-trough declines during a specific period. Going sequentially through time with a manager's cumulative return, it is the "loss" from the highest portfolio value to its low est point (based on monthly data).



Source: Virtus Performance & Analytics, ICE Data Services, eVestment - High Yield Universe 7/17/24 run date.



Standard Deviation: A measure of the dispersion of a set of data from its mean and is calculated as the square root of variance. The more spread apart the data, the higher the deviation. In finance, standard deviation is applied to the annual rate of return of an investment to measure the investment's volatility (based on quarterly data). Sharpe Ratio: A risk-adjusted measure calculated using standard deviation and ex cess return to determine reward per unit of risk. The Sharpe ratio is computed by subtracting the return of the risk-free index (FTSE 3-Month Treasury Bill Index) from the return of the manager to determine the risk-adjusted excess return. This excess return is then divided by the standard deviation of the manager. Maximum Drawdown: The maximum of the peak-to-trough declines during a specific period. Going sequentially through time with a manager's cumulative return, it is the "loss" from the highest portfolio value to its low est point (based on monthly data).

Performance is shown gross of investment advisory fees. Please refer to the previously shown Composite Performance Summary slide for net of fee returns.

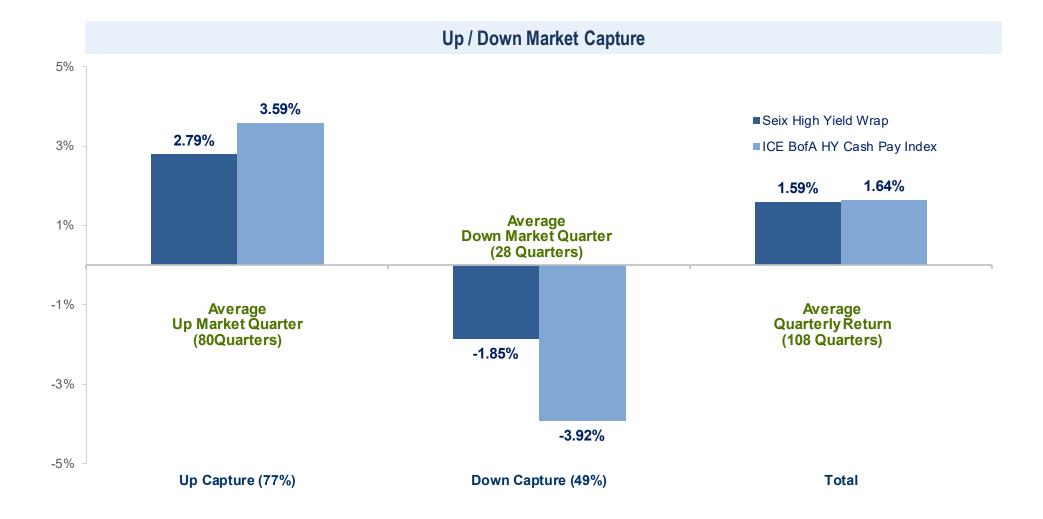
The above information is shown as supplemental information only and complements the previously shown Composite Performance Summary slide and fully compliant presentations contained in the appendix. Past performance is not indicative of future results. Data show nabove is annualized.

Source: eVestment – High Yield Universe 7/17/24 run date. For the period above, the eVestment US High Yield Fixed Income Universe includes 77 observations, which are categorized in the high yield asset class by eVestment. Sex does not pay any fees to be included in the eVestment High Yield Universe or for the ranking itself. Seix does pay fees for the use of certain products and services provided by eVestment. eVestment rankings are based on gross of fee returns.



## INVESTMENT RESULTS





Seix High Yield Wrap Composite incepted on 7/1/97.

Up / Down Market Capture: The % of index performance attained in an Up or Down market based on Total Return.

Performance is shown gross of investment advisory fees. Please refer to the previously shown Composite Performance Summary slide for net of fee returns.

The above information is shown as supplemental information only and complements the previously shown Composite Performance Summary slide and fully compliant presentations contained in the appendix.

Past performance is not indicative of future results.

Source: Virtus Performance & Analytics, eVestment

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## **INVESTMENT PHILOSOPHY & PROCESS**



## **Our Approach to High Yield Bond Investing**

- Seix Seeks to Create Value Through a Sound, Transparent and Repeatable Process that Leverages Our Competitive Advantages and Aims to Capture Upside Potential While Limiting Downside Risk
- Critical to Achieving this Is In-Depth Fundamental, Bottom-Up Credit Analysis and a Strict Sell Discipline
- Strategy's Focus Is on Identifying Issuers that Have a Solid Margin of Safety and Multiple Levers to Pull in Difficult Markets



## HIGH YIELD INVESTMENT PROCESS

Key Attributes and Competitive Advantages

## **Key Attributes**

## Distinctive approach to credit analysis

- Five key investment tenets favor issuers with significant asset protection
- Focus on healthier segment of high yield bond market
- Focus on overlooked segments of high yield bond and investment grade corporate bond markets

## Skill in assessing appropriate compensation for risk

- Conviction in credit selection during times of stress or volatility – a particularly strong trait for Seix
- Stress testing scenarios point to misunderstood industries and credits that can survive through challenging environments
- Willingness to under-yield index at market extremes

#### Resource characteristics of our diversified boutique

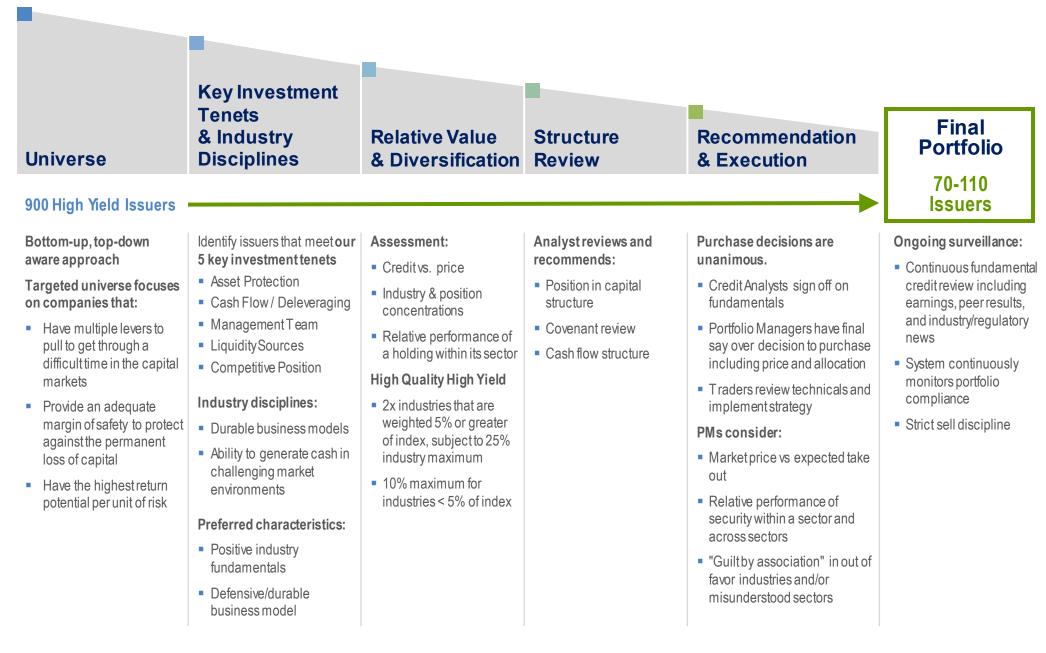
- "Sweet spot" of access & selectivity
- Investment grade credit team and structured product expertise is highly additive

#### **Benefits of Our Approach**

- Optimize the ability to take constructive risks while equally focusing on capital preservation
- Credit research philosophy especially relevant as spreads hover around historically tight levels
- Seeks to maximize portfolio return per unit of risk
- Ability to generate alpha through times of stress
- Don't need to own the market critical as the leveraged loan market becomes more institutionalized
- Enhanced potential opportunities across fallen angels
- Ability to access potential opportunities in structured credit markets



## HIGH YIELD INVESTMENT PROCESS





#### **Risk Management Process**

- Entire credit research process is focused on assessing default risk
- Quantitative risks are monitored by Bloomberg AIM system
  - Prevents any purchase in the portfolio that would cause a guideline, risk control or diversification limit breach
  - AIM continuously monitors portfolios' compliance and risk thresholds. Compliance Officer/Risk Analyst informs Trading Desk of any passive breach and required portfolio adjustments are executed. Compliance Officer/Risk Analyst has separate reporting line through Chief Compliance Officer, not through investment team.
- Research analysts examine issuers' adherence to covenants

#### **Risk Controls**

#### **Default Risk**

Outgrowth of our rigorous credit research process

 A formal credit review is triggered if an issue's price falls more than 10% relative to peers

#### **Interest Rate Risk**

We do not view yield curve or duration management as an effective tool for outperformance

- Duration maintained within client specified range
- Portfolio structure (bullet or barbell) is a result of bottom up, relative value decisions

#### **Structure Risk**

#### Focus on

- Covenant quality
- Convexity of both individual securities and portfolio
- Issue's priority within capital structure

#### **Diversification Limits**

#### Issuer

3.5% maximum per issuer – rarely exceeds 3%

#### **Industry Allocation**

#### **High Quality High Yield**

- 2x industries that are weighted 5% or greater of index
- 10% maximum for industries weighted less than 5% of index
- 25% maximum in any one Industry



## ESG INVESTING AT SEIX

#### ESG Integration Checklist

Report Date: 4/2023 Bloomberg Sector: Materials



SUM 3.0 ESG score reflects its strong safety programs and commitment to improve resource use. Offsetting these strengths is the resource intensity required to source and manufacture its key products including cement and aggregates.

is the resource intensity required to s	ource and manufacture its key products including cement and aggregates.		Considerations
Environmental	SCORE: 2.8		Since our founding by Christina Seix in 1992, the
Issues: GHG Emission Air Quality Energy Management Water and Wastewater Management Waste & Hazardous Materials Management Ecological Impacts	Cement is an energy intensive manufacturing process. However, SUM has developed a long-term strategy to address CO2 emissions from its cement operations, and has established both 2030 and 2050 targets for each of the North Star Pillars, including carbon reduction. Summit has researched the quantum of the emissions impact that can be addressed using currently commercially available technology and believes that approximately 25% of its 2020 baseline impacts can be addressed by 2030 and that 50-75% of those impacts can be addressed with currently available technologies by 2050. As an interim step, Summit plans to address the balance of those impacts with	1	investment process has been driven by bottom-up credit analysis that relies on our five core investment tenets. Building on proprietary systems developed in our early years to ensure compliance with SRI client guidelines, we integrated the review of ESG factors into our existing credit process.
Social Capital Issues:	market-based offsets and credits to achieve net zero by 2050. SCORE: 3.0	2	Sponsoring research analyst uses an ESG checklis that we internally developed.
Human Rights & Community Relations Customer Privacy Data Security Access & Affordability Product Quality and Safety Customer Welfare Selling Practices & Product Labeling <b>Human Capital</b>	SCORE: 3.5	3	<ul> <li>ESG framework seeks to identify a company's ESG exposure as:</li> <li>Positive &gt; 3-5 (ESG supports credit improvement</li> <li>Neutral 3</li> <li>Negative &lt; 3-1 (invest with caution, unlikely to invest)</li> </ul>
Issues: Labor Practices Employee Health & Safety Employee Engagement, Diversity & Inclusion	SUMs operations are subject to special hazards that may cause personal injury or property damage. SUM engages is intitiatives to standardize business practices to promote safety. The company uses technology to track its trucking fleet to encourage safe driving and reduce prevantable incidents. Building sites are inherently dangerous. However, SUM has initiated multiple programs to track and reduce injuries and promote work place safety. SUM has benchmarked its Lost Time Injury Rate against	4	Bonds and loans are scored using a 5-point scale (1-5) across material ESG risk factors to derive an internal ESG risk score. Information sources include available filings, LSTA ESG Questionnaires management discussions and various 3rd part ESG data sources.
Business Model & Innovation	peers since 2010 and recorded a meaningful reduction in injury rates.  SCORE: 2.5	5	ESG screening process will not necessarily result i an automatic decision to avoid investment in
<b>Issues:</b> Product Design & Lifecycle Management Business Model Resilence Supply Chain Management Material Sourcing & Efficiency Physical Impacts of Climate Change	Adverse weather conditions such as heavy or sustained rainy and cold weather in the spring and fall can reduce demand for SUM products and reduce sales, render contracting operations less efficient or restrict ability to ship products. For example, unusually severe flooding conditions on the Mississippi River during the first half of 2019, negatively impacted SUM's operations which affected financial results. Major weather events such as hurricanes, tornadoes, tropical storms and heavy snows have adversely affected and could adversely affect sales in the near term. In particular, SUM's operations in the southeastern and Gulf Coast regions of the United States are at risk for hurricane activity, most notably in August, September and October. For example, in 2017, Hurricane Harvey adversely affected SUM's operations not only during the days immediately before and after the storm, but also in the weeks and months after the storm as our customers recovered and reallocated resources in response to damage caused by the storm.	6	<ul> <li>credit.</li> <li>Monitoring of ESG checklist scores</li> <li>Positive scores are reviewed routinely since inclusion of these companies may lower overal performance risk.</li> <li>Poorly performing credits are subject to more frequent reviews, including, but not limited to their ESG scores, in order to ascertain that risk factors of concerns are not deteriorating.</li> </ul>
Leadership & Governance	SCORE: 3.0		<ul> <li>Highly negative scores (usually due to concerns)</li> </ul>
Issues: Business Ethics Governance Competitive Behavior Management of the Legal and Regulatory Management	SUM is a publicly traded company. SUMs 9 person board with 5 women is better than peers both in size and gender diversity. 8 of the board memebers are independent which also exceeds peer group average.		regarding sustainability of the business model o risk of stranded assets) may be excluded at the discretion of the portfolio manager.
Systemic Risk Management			SEIX

Signatory of:

**Environmental, Social & Governance** 

Considerations



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INVESTMENT ADVISORS

A VIRTUS INVESTMENT PARTNER

## LEVERAGED CREDIT MARKET UPDATE



## **CREDIT OUTLOOK**

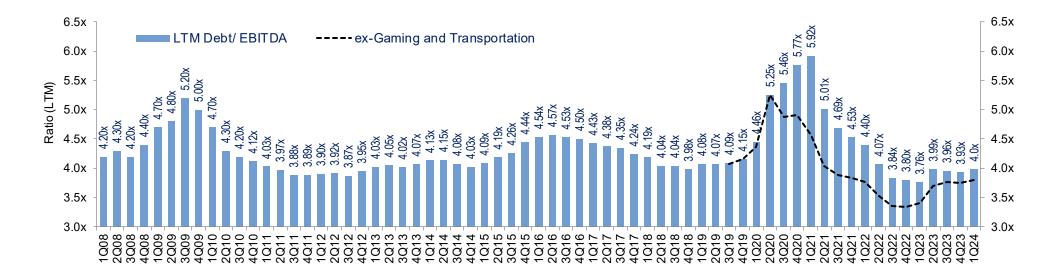
High Yield Bonds Still Offer Attractive Yields Relative to Broad Fixed Income

Fundamentals positive	<ul> <li>1Q24 earnings for high yield issuers were generally healthy with earnings beats and positive outlooks Nevertheless, credit fundamentals showed moderate sequential deterioration with the release of 1Q24 earnings. Interest coverage dropped just below 5x while leverage increased slightly to 4x. While credit fundamentals continue to show moderate declines, credit metrics remain at historically healthy levels.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>The refinancing of debt will continue to impact interest expense creating roughly a ½ turn decline in interes coverage per year for the next couple of years absent a focus on debt reduction.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Profit margins hit a three-year low as cost inflation seems to be stickier than modest revenue deterioration experienced by the asset class.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Trailing 12-month interest expense increased 11%. The increase was more meaningful for companies that have bank debt as part of their capital structure.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>EBITDA declined 7.8% q/q and 0.3% y/y. However, this was not felt equally across the ratings spectrum as BB's experienced slight y/y EBITDA growth while B's and CCC's showed deterioration.</li> </ul>
Technicals neutral	<ul> <li>In 2024 we believe the technicals in the market are neutral. Inflows into the asset class have been positive this year. The majority of 2024's issuance proceeds continue to be used for refinancing but the rising star/faller angel ratio will be more balanced.</li> </ul>
Valuations neutral	<ul> <li>Yields for the high yield asset class have fluctuated just inside their historical median level (using data going back to Jan. 2000). Spreads have trended well inside top decile levels for BB's and B's while non-distressed CCC's have traded at mid-teens percentile levels. While strong credit fundamentals have been supportive of spread levels, it is difficult to make a strong argument for additional spread compression for current levels.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>We believe that shorter-dated bonds offer solid value in the current market environment. However, a steepening of the treasury curve should present some opportunities to lengthen duration at some point.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Another area of recent investment activity has been in securities with solid current income and downside protection.</li> </ul>



## **INTEREST COVERAGE & LEVERAGE**

5.71x 6.0x 5.62x 5.77 ŝ EBITDA/Int Expense 5.25x 5.5x 5.12 5.03X 4.99x 5.00x 4.9X Ratio (LTM) 4.69 4.66x 4.71 5.0x 4.42x 4.29 21× 4.23 4 24 4.5x 4.10X ð 4, 4.06x 4.06x 4.02x <u>94</u> 3.89x 3.83x 3.79x 88 4.0x <u>8</u> 3.5x 3.0x 2008 3008 4008 1009 3009 3009 4022 1023 2023 3023 4023 1024 4Q09 2022 3Q22 1Q22 4Q21

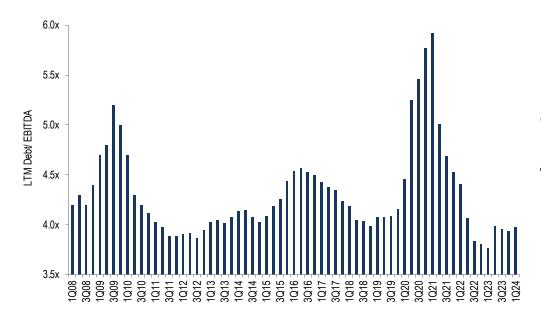


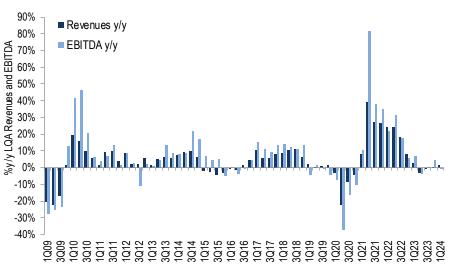


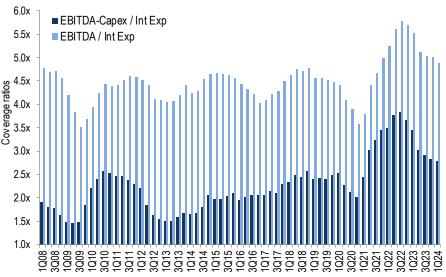
Source: JPMorgan

# Balance sheets for US HY issuers are in a strong state heading into a more challenging fundamental landscape for corporates

High Yield Credit Metric Highlights	5				
Quarterly 1Q24	Q/Q	Y/Y	LTM as of 1Q24	Q/Q	Y/Y
Revenue	-3.40%	1.50%	Revenue	0.40%	-0.40%
EBITDA	-7.80%	-0.30%	EBITDA	-0.10%	-0.80%
Capex	-18.50%	-2.50%	Capex	-0.60%	11.70%
Interest expense	-1.80%	5.10%	Interest expense	1.30%	10.70%
Total debt	0.00%	-0.70%	Cash & equivalents	-5.40%	-4.50%
			•		
LTM	1Q24	4Q23	1Q23	Q/Q	Y/Y
Leverage (Debt/EBITDA)	3.98x	3.93x	3.76x	0.05x	0.21x
Net Leverage ((Debt-Cash)/EBITDA)	3.49x	3.42x	3.32x	0.07x	0.17x
EBITDA Margin	15.10%	16.10%	16.60%	-0.9%	-1.5%
Coverage (EBITDA/Net Int Exp)	4.89x	5.00x	5.53x	-0.12x	-0.65x
EBITDA-Capex/Net Int Exp	2.79x	2.84x	3.45x	-0.05x	-0.65x









Past performance is not indicative of future results Source: J.P. Morgan; Capital IQ Note: Includes debt-w eighted metrics for 481 HY companies; excludes Financials and Utilities.

As of 3/31/24

High Yield Issuers Maintain \$167bn in Cash and Generate \$93bn in FCF									
Sector	Debt	Cash	FCF	Cash+FCF/Debt					
Cable	164,415	4,281	1,933	4%					
Telecoms	50,715	2,879	1,141	8%					
Energy	111,148	9,378	-437	8%					
Packaging/Paper	47,684	4,865	1,154	13%					
Autos	64,119	4,988	3,344	13%					
Gaming	104,332	11,138	3,931	14%					
Utilities	41,500	2,117	4,073	15%					
Services	57,237	4,912	4,564	17%					
Food Producers	29,512	2,344	2,914	18%					
Travel	140,376	17,040	8,723	18%					
Media	92,065	12,031	6,866	21%					
Chemicals	38,635	5,649	2,820	22%					
Retail	110,391	12,774	11,761	22%					
Capital Goods	86,528	14,286	7,191	25%					
Healthcare	128,864	21,933	10,666	25%					
Real Estate	49,727	9,612	8,758	37%					
Metals	14,483	3,034	2,877	41%					
Transportation	21,617	6,732	3,268	46%					
Technology	39,777	17,209	8,212	64%					
BB	753,663	107,689	73,270	24%					
В	449,710	50,388	19,793	16%					
CCC	189,753	9,125	-222	5%					
НҮ	1,393,126	167,202	92,842	19%					



#### High Yield Bond Supply Surplus / Shortfall (\$bn) \$250B 209.50 \$200B \$150B 112.10 35.20<sup>53.60<sup>56.90</sup></sup> \$100B 50.30 47.60 43.20 48.20 21.00 ---59.80 \$50B 11.10<sup>7.10</sup> 12.50 3.10 0.00 \$0B -20.70-21.60 -6.70 -47.90 -14.80 -15.50 -\$50B -20.70 -53.40\_61.10 -38.30 -58.10 -\$100B -78.50 -\$150B -131.40 -157.50 -\$200B -\$250B -231.90 2022 1993 1994 1995 1996 1998 1999 2000 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2023 1997 2001 YTD 6/30/24

#### Sources of Supply and Demand (\$bn)

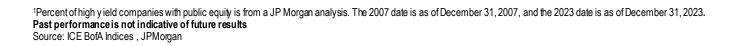
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	YTD
Gross new issuance	398.5	355.7	293.2	286.2	328.1	187.4	286.6	449.9	483.0	106.5	176.1	87.6
Fallen angels	<u>41.2</u>	<u>37.2</u>	<u>52.7</u>	<u>71.6</u>	<u>18.4</u>	<u>42.0</u>	<u>15.1</u>	<u>227.7</u>	<u>9.6</u>	<u>13.6</u>	<u>14.2</u>	<u>3.4</u>
Total Supply	439.8	392.9	345.9	357.8	346.5	229.4	301.7	677.6	492.6	120.1	190.2	91.0
Calls	122.8	137.2	126.3	127.5	179.9	141.5	156.3	211.4	284.6	86.8	72.8	23.3
Tenders	47.2	47.2	49.8	70.6	61.8	45.3	55.1	60.1	66.0	56.3	35.2	15.6
Maturities	48.8	40.1	44.2	50.9	37.5	46.5	55.0	41.5	52.3	64.1	52.2	9.9
Rising stars	83.7	45.9	48.5	21.6	22.0	38.9	58.9	23.6	53.7	113.0	124.7	13.3
Coupon reinvestment @ 75%	88.3	89.3	93.8	98.2	87.4	82.7	89.1	86.6	87.5	80.7	69.8	17.6
Mutual fund flows (AMG)	<u>-4.7</u>	<u>-23.8</u>	<u>-16.6</u>	<u>9.6</u>	<u>-20.6</u>	<u>-46.9</u>	<u>18.7</u>	<u>44.8</u>	<u>-13.2</u>	<u>-48.9</u>	<u>-7.0</u>	<u>2.6</u>
Total Demand	386.2	336.0	345.9	378.5	368.1	307.9	433.2	468.1	530.9	352.0	347.7	82.3
Supply surplus/(shortfall)	53.6	56.9	0.0	-20.7	-21.6	-78.5	-131.4	209.5	-38.3	-231.9	-157.5	8.6



As of 6/30/24

## ICE BofA US High Yield Index (H0A0)

	10/25/2007	10/25/2012	10/25/2017	10/25/2019	10/25/2023
# of Issues	1,754	2,077	1,873	1,784	1,872
Face Value (MM)	\$687,253	\$1,041,383	\$1,263,023	\$1,202,954	\$1,344,999
Distinct Tickers	881	1,012	860	846	887
Average Debt Per Ticker (MM)	\$780	\$1,029	\$1,469	\$1,422	\$1,521
YTW	8.57%	6.19%	5.44%	5.69%	9.45%
OAS	440	524	342	389	437
Effective Duration	4.53	4.07	3.84	3.28	3.64
BB Rated	41.47%	42.32%	48.21%	49.36%	49.62%
B Rated	41.09%	41.52%	37.76%	38.66%	39.14%
CCC & Lower Rated	17.44%	16.16%	14.03%	11.98%	11.24%
Par Weighted Price	96.48	103.72	101.73	99.25	86.22
Par Weighted Coupon	7.94%	7.98%	6.44%	6.36%	5.95
Secured Debt	11.02%	23.38%	18.45%	17.72%	31.63%
High Yield Companies with Public Equity <sup>1</sup>	63.17%				65.57%





## LOWER QUALITY HIGH YIELD HAS DECLINED OVER TIME

As of 5/20/24





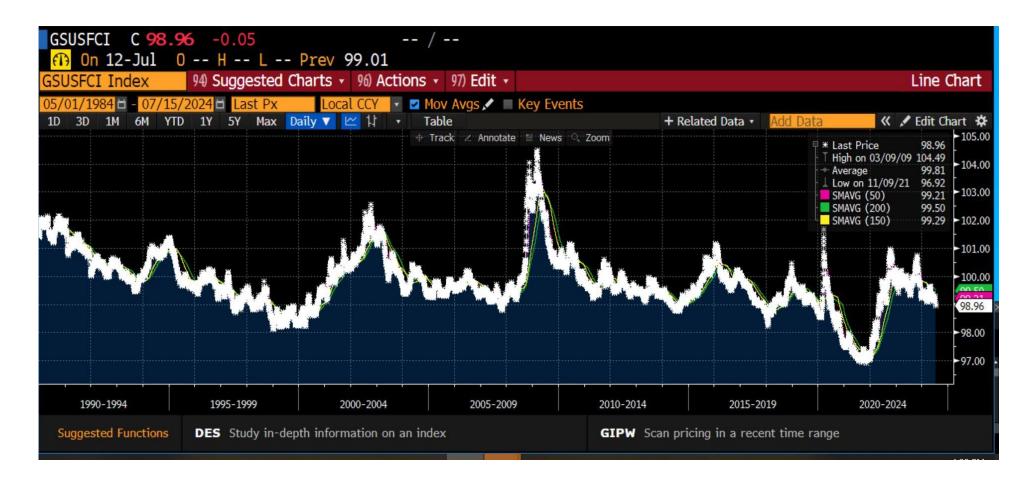
## **BB YIELD EXCEEDS S&P 500 EARNINGS YIELD**

900 750 600 Yield Differential (bps) 450 300 150 0 m -150 -300 Sep-06 Dec-08 Sep-09 Sep-15 Sep-18 Dec-23 Sep-97 Jun-98 Mar-99 Dec-99 Sep-00 Mar-02 Dec-02 Sep-03 Jun-04 Mar-05 Dec-05 Mar-08 Jun-10 Dec-11 Sep-12 Jun-13 Mar-14 Dec-14 Dec-17 Jun-19 Mar-20 Dec-20 Sep-21 Jun-22 Mar-23 Dec-96 Mar-17 Jun-01 Jun-16 Jun-07 Mar-11





The month of November saw the largest easing in U.S. financial conditions of any single month in the past four decades





## Going forward default rates are expected to trend higher



JP Morgan High Yield Bond Annual Default Rates

<sup>1</sup>Seix High Yield Wrap Strategy average annual default rate is 0.0% since 1997 inception, compared to the JP Morgan High Yield Bond average annual default rate of 3.3% (including distressed exchanges). 2024 and 2025 forecasts above include distressed exchanges. **Past performance is not indicative of future results.** Source: JPMorgan



## HISTORICAL HIGH YIELD SPREADS

High Yield may offer downside mitigation vs. Equities while allowing investors to potentially still capture much of the upside





	н	ligh-yield ann	ualized returr	ıs				High-yield ann	High-yield annualized returns
verage return	6m	12m	18m	24m	Median	return	return 6m	return 6m 12m	return 6m 12m 18m
)0bp	6.5%	6.3%	5.5%	4.3%	<400bp		6.8%	6.8% 6.5%	6.8% 6.5% 6.0%
)bp - 499bp	6.1%	5.6%	5.1%	6.0%	400bp - 4	499bp	499bp 6.9%	499bp 6.9% 5.8%	499bp 6.9% 5.8% 5.7%
)bp - 599bp	5.9%	5.0%	5.8%	6.1%	500bp - 5	599bp	599bp 4.8%	599bp 4.8% 7.4%	599bp 4.8% 7.4% 6.3%
0bp - 699bp	6.6%	8.3%	8.9%	8.9%	600bp - 6	99bp	99bp 13.2%	99bp 13.2% 10.6%	99bp 13.2% 10.6% 10.4%
)0bp - 799bp	8.8%	10.4%	13.4%	13.5%	700bp - 7	'99bp	'99bp 8.0%	799bp 8.0% 15.4%	799bp 8.0% 15.4% 14.5%
)0bp - 899bp	14.5%	14.0%	14.8%	13.6%	800bp - 8	399bp	899bp 25.1%	899bp 25.1% 20.5%	899bp 25.1% 20.5% 17.3%
900bp+	45.6%	34.3%	28.3%	24.1%	900bp+		44.4%	44.4% 34.2%	44.4% 34.2% 28.1%

### Historical High-Yield Bond Performance by Spread Bucket

#### Historical High-Yield Bond Performance by Yield Bucket

	Н	ligh-yield annu	alized return	IS			High-yield ann	High-yield annualized returns
Average return	6m	12m	18m	24m	Median return	Median return 6m	Median return 6m 12m	Median return 6m 12m 18m
<6.00%	1.3%	2.0%	1.4%	2.0%	<6.00%	<6.00% 2.8%	<6.00% 2.8% 2.2%	<6.00% 2.8% 2.2% 2.5%
6.00% - 6.99%	4.2%	4.2%	5.3%	5.4%	6.00% - 6.99%	6.00% - 6.99% 4.7%	6.00% - 6.99% 4.7% 5.3%	6.00% - 6.99% 4.7% 5.3% 5.5%
7.00% - 7.99%	8.1%	7.2%	6.5%	5.9%	7.00% - 7.99%	7.00% - 7.99% 7.1%	7.00% - 7.99% 7.1% 7.3%	7.00% - 7.99% 7.1% 7.3% 8.3%
8.00% - 8.99%	10.5%	9.1%	7.3%	6.4%	8.00% - 8.99%	8.00% - 8.99% 12.8%	8.00% - 8.99% 12.8% 11.4%	8.00% - 8.99% 12.8% 11.4% 8.4%
9.00% - 9.99%	13.0%	8.4%	8.0%	7.9%	9.00% - 9.99%	9.00% - 9.99% 14.5%	9.00% - 9.99% 14.5% 11.6%	9.00% - 9.99% 14.5% 11.6% 7.1%
10.00% - 10.99%	4.6%	6.6%	9.0%	8.9%	10.00% - 10.99%	10.00% - 10.99% 9.6%	10.00% - 10.99% 9.6% 10.7%	10.00% - 10.99% 9.6% 10.7% 11.9%
11.00% - 11.99%	10.4%	12.4%	12.2%	10.9%	11.00% - 11.99%	11.00% - 11.99% 14.6%	11.00% - 11.99% 14.6% 15.4%	11.00% - 11.99% 14.6% 15.4% 14.3%
12.00%+	15.5%	13.6%	13.0%	12.9%	12.00%+	12.00%+ 8.1%	12.00%+ 8.1% 8.7%	12.00%+ 8.1% 8.7% 10.2%



		-	HY Forward Returns				HY Forward Spread Change			
Month of last hike	Fed Funds Terminal Rate	HY Spreads at end of hiking cycle	3 mo.	6 mo.	9 mo.	12 mo.	3 mo.	6 mo.	9 mo.	12 mo.
Dec-18	2.50%	567bp	7.27%	9.88%	10.88%	14.08%	-115bp	-105bp	-91bp	-143bp
Jun-06	5.25%	359bp	3.46%	8.03%	11.21%	11.83%	16bp	-41bp	-45bp	-35bp
May-00	6.50%	661bp	3.57%	-4.42%	4.15%	3.33%	22bp	235bp	139bp	81bp
Mar-97	5.50%	325bp	4.48%	9.53%	11.91%	15.72%	-12bp	-13bp	9bp	-7bp
Feb-95	6.00%	437bp	6.51%	8.96%	11.93%	16.51%	13bp	11bp	34bp	-28bp
Average		470bp	5.06%	6.40%	10.02%	12.30%	-15bp	17bp	9bp	-26bp

## High Yield Forward Performance Post a Pause in Fed Policy Hikes

## High Yield Rating Forward Performance Post a Pause in Fed Policy Hikes

			HY E	BB Forw	ard Ret	urns	HY I	B Forwa	rd Retu	rns	HY C	CC Forw	ard Retu	ırns
Month of last hike	Fed Funds Terminal Rate	HY Spreads at end of hiking cycle	3 mo.	6 mo.	9 mo.	12 mo.	3 mo.	6 mo.	9 mo.	12 mo.	3 mo.	6 mo.	9 mo.	12 mo.
Dec-18	2.50%	567bp	7.30%	10.51%	12.45%	15.61%	7.38%	9.97%	11.97%	15.69%	6.80%	8.79%	7.49%	11.25%
Jun-06	5.25%	359bp	4.06%	7.78%	9.66%	9.29%	3.51%	7.57%	11.01%	11.57%	2.85%	9.81%	14.99%	16.59%
May-00	6.50%	661bp	6.26%	3.91%	11.59%	14.68%	3.79%	-5.47%	4.61%	2.95%	-1.53%	-17.83%	-13.58%	-19.35%
Mar-97	5.50%	325bp	4.17%	7.80%	10.62%	13.25%	4.90%	9.88%	12.03%	16.32%	1.93%	8.94%	9.69%	13.60%
Feb-95	6.00%	437bp	5.85%	8.75%	12.52%	15.74%	5.96%	8.33%	9.95%	15.08%	7.45%	12.96%	15.40%	24.28%
Average		470bp	5.53%	7.75%	11.37%	13.72%	5.11%	6.06%	9.92%	12.32%	3.50%	4.53%	6.80%	9.28%



			HY Forward Returns					HY Forward Spread Change			
Month of first rate cut	HY Spreads at start of cutting cycle	HY Yields at start of cutting cycle	18M Forward Default Rate	3 mo.	6 mo.	9 mo.	12 mo.	3 mo.	6 mo.	9 mo.	12 mo.
Jun-19	433bp	6.19%	6.76%	1.21%	4.17%	-9.39%	-0.40%	9bp	-42bp	460bp	228bp
Aug-07	450bp	8.85%	9.19%	0.96%	-1.30%	2.62%	-1.21%	120bp	308bp	194bp	370bp
Dec-00	919bp	14.36%	9.85%	5.74%	3.70%	-0.95%	4.69%	-98bp	-133bp	72bp	-78bp
Aug-98	555bp	10.53%	4.65%	2.71%	3.08%	5.04%	3.90%	21bp	-11bp	-50bp	-16bp
Jun-95	462bp	10.65%	1.64%	3.13%	6.44%	8.73%	10.67%	-19bp	8bp	-55bp	-77bp
Average	564bp	10.12%	6.42%	2.75%	3.22%	1.21%	3.53%	7bp	26bp	124bp	85bp

## High Yield Forward Performance Following Rate Cuts

High Yield Forward Performance by Rating Following Rate Cuts

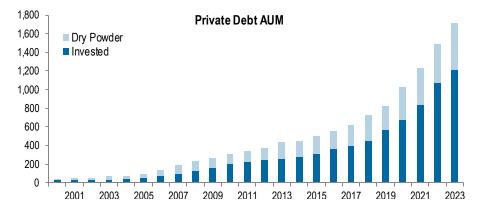
				HY E	B Forw	ard Ret	urns	HYI	B Forwa	rd Retu	rns	HY	CCC For	ward Retu	irns
Month of first rate cut	at start of	HY Yields at start of cutting cycle	18M Forward Default Rate	_3 mo.	6 mo.	9 mo.	12 mo.	_ 3 mo.	6 mo.	9 mo.	12 mo.	_ 3 mo.	6 mo.	9 mo.	12 mo.
Jun-19	433bp	6.19%	6.76%	1.84%	4.73%	-6.12%	3.81%	1.93%	4.92%	-8.74%	-0.38%	-1.95%	1.60%	-20.59%	-12.31%
Aug-07	450bp	8.85%	9.19%	1.38%	1.72%	3.10%	2.76%	1.37%	-1.18%	3.51%	-1.09%	-0.44%	-5.49%	0.65%	-6.15%
Dec-00	919bp	14.36%	9.85%	6.04%	7.82%	6.35%	10.56%	5.98%	2.82%	-2.21%	5.33%	5.27%	-0.84%	-10.02%	-6.31%
Aug-98	555bp	10.53%	4.65%	3.37%	4.48%	4.94%	4.37%	3.63%	3.77%	5.66%	4.93%	-0.94%	-1.19%	8.02%	7.50%
Jun-95	462bp	10.65%	1.64%	3.10%	6.84%	7.29%	8.17%	3.04%	5.06%	8.37%	10.78%	5.44%	7.81%	16.41%	20.73%
Average	564bp	10.12%	6.42%	3.15%	5.12%	3.11%	5.93%	3.19%	3.08%	1.32%	3.91%	1.48%	0.38%	-1.11%	0.69%



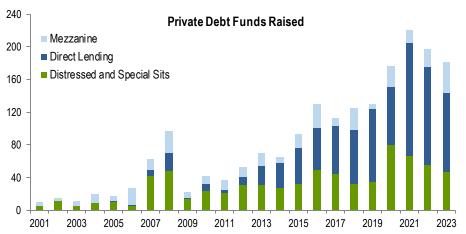
## PRIVATE CREDIT AUM

**Private Credit AUM stands at \$1.7 trillion and accounts for ~30% of leveraged finance.** The median transaction in March came at SOFR +575bps (flat m/m) with a 98 OID and YTM of 11.67%.

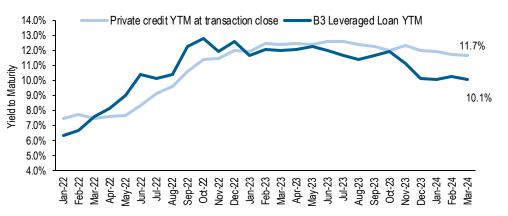
#### Private Credit AUM, \$bn



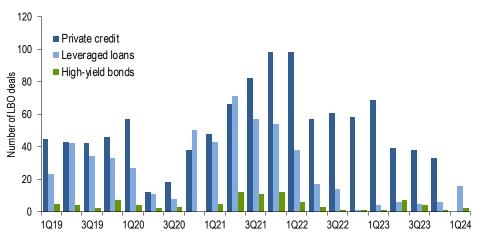
#### Annual Private Credit Fundraising by Strategy, \$bn



#### March's Private Credit Origination 160bp Wide of B3 Loans



#### Private Credit Has Accounted for Bulk of LBO Transactions





Past performance is not indicative of future results. Source: JPMorgan, Pitchbook LDC, Pregin Ltd

# High Yield may offer downside mitigation vs. Equities while allowing investors to potentially still capture much of the upside

High field Bonds vs. Equity Markets (7/1/83-6/30/24)						
	Annualized Return	Standard Deviation	Return Per Unit of Risk	Best	Rolling 3-Year Period Worst	ls % Negative
High Yield	8.21%	8.32%	1.0	26.4%	-7.6%	5%
Large Cap Equity	11.42%	15.17%	0.8	33.3%	-16.1%	13%
Small Cap Equity	8.72%	19.59%	0.4	32.0%	-17.8%	12%

#### High Yield Bonds vs. Equity Markets (7/1/83-6/30/24)

The High Yield, Large Cap Equity & Small Cap Equity Markets are represented by the Bloomberg U.S. Corporate High Yield Index, S&P 500® Index & the Russell 2000® Index, respectively. Returns were calculated using monthly data and begin with the inception of the Bloomberg High Yield Credit Index on 7/1/83. **Past performance is not indicative of future results** Source: Standard & Poor's, FTSE Russell, Bloomberg



## STRATEGY CHARACTERISTICS



## SEIX HIGH YIELD WRAP

#### Portfolio Characteristics & Distributions

Portfolio Characteristics		
	Portfolio	Index
Yield-to-Worst (%)	6.10	7.90
Yield-to-Maturity (%)	6.13	8.04
Effective Duration (yrs)	2.75	3.15
Coupon (%)	5.10	6.32
Weighted Average Life (yrs)	3.96	4.33
Average Credit Quality	Ba2	B1
Average Price	97.42	94.78
NumberofHoldings	103	1844

Industry Distribution (%)		
	Portfolio	Index
Energy	13.12	12.17
Transportation/Automotive/Aerospace	11.32	6.65
Retailers	10.80	4.25
Healthcare/Pharmaceuticals	6.00	7.24
Financial	5.29	9.49
Paper & Packaging	5.25	2.93
Div Manufacturing/Other Industrial	5.25	3.24
Gaming & Leisure	5.09	5.98
Technology	4.72	7.84
Utility	4.37	2.65
Hotels & REITS	4.15	3.15
Cash & Equivalent	4.09	0.00
Metals & Mining	3.94	2.55
Building Construction	3.44	4.67
Telecommunication	3.10	4.60
Restaurants/Food/Bev/Supermarkets	2.63	4.09
Media Non Cable	2.58	3.37
Chemicals	2.03	2.52
Cable Satellite	1.88	6.19
Services/Environmental	0.97	4.25
Consumer Products/Textile/Tobacco	0.00	1.69

	Portfolio	Index
BBB	20.96	0.54
BB	64.54	50.87
В	10.41	36.72
CCC & Below	0.00	11.87
Cash	4.09	-

Top 10 Issuers (%)		
	Portfolio	Index
Delta Air Lines Inc	3.03	0.13
Hilton Hotels Corp	2.74	0.66
Crown Americas	2.64	0.17
Ball Corp	2.61	0.31
Eqt Midstream Partners Lp	2.26	0.54
Ltd Brands Inc	2.23	0.33
Sba Telecommunications	2.17	0.22
Pacific Gas & Electric Co	2.08	0.15
Advance Auto Parts	2.02	0.13
United Rentals NA	2.01	0.57

Maturity Distribution	on (%)	
	Portfolio	Index
Under 1 Year	16.13	2.99
1-2 Years	10.54	8.87
2-3 Years	16.64	12.30
3-5 Years	33.20	49.71
5-7 Years	13.51	19.26
7-10 Years	4.66	5.33
Over 10 Years	5.32	1.55

<b>Duration Distribution</b>	on(%)	
	Portfolio	Index
Under 1 Year	18.29	4.83
1-2 Years	24.06	16.60
2-3 Years	20.86	25.20
3-5 Years	25.81	44.63
5-7 Years	5.31	7.02
7-10 Years	3.62	1.08
Over 10 Years	2.04	0.64

#### Index : ICE BofA US Cash Pay High Yield Index

Components may not add to total due to rounding. The abov einformation is shown as supplemental information only and complements the fully compliant presentations contained in the appendix. The ratings issued by Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations assess the credit worthiness of a corporation's or government's debt issues. The ratings apply to the portfolio's holdings and not the portfolio itself. Standard & Poor's, Moody's, and Fitch ratings are used for all ratings-eligible securities. If all three agencies have rated the security, then the av erage rating based on numerical equivalents is used. If only two agencies have rated the security, then the av erage of the two ratings is used. If only one agency has rated the security, the rating from that agency is used. If a rating is not available for a ratings-eligible security, the security is place in the Not Rated Category. Credit ratings are subject to change. AAA, AA, A, and BBB are investment grade ratings; BB, B, CCC, CC, C, and D are below-investment grade ratings. Source: Virtus Business Application Manager VBAM, ICE Data Services







## BIOGRAPHIES

Leveraged Finance – Portfolio Managers	Prior Experience & Education
George Goudelias Head of Leveraged Finance, Senior Leveraged Loan Portfolio Manager Joined Seix Investment Advisors 2001 Industry Experience since 1987	<ul> <li>Senior High Yield Research Analyst at J.P. Morgan Securities         <ul> <li>Developed &amp; Published Proprietary High Yield Research used by Fixed Income Firms</li> <li>Specialist in the Telecom Industry</li> </ul> </li> <li>Associate, Financial Reporting, J.P. Morgan         <ul> <li>Developed Proprietary Financial Tools to Monitor Risk Based Capital</li> </ul> </li> <li>Education: New York University BS, MBA</li> </ul>
Michael Kirkpatrick Senior High Yield Portfolio Manager Joined Seix Investment Advisors 2002 Industry Experience since 1991	<ul> <li>Co-Director of High Yield Research at BNY Capital Markets, Inc.         <ul> <li>Specialist in Food, Retail/Wholesale &amp; Related Consumer Products Industries</li> </ul> </li> <li>Managing Partner &amp; Co-Director of High Yield Research at Mendham Capital Group</li> <li>High Yield Research Analyst at Oppenheimer Funds, Inc.</li> <li>Education: University of Delaware BS, Rutgers University MBA</li> </ul>
James FitzPatrick, CFA High Yield Portfolio Manager, Head of Leveraged Finance Trading Financial Industry Analyst Joined Seix Investment Advisors 1997 Industry Experience since 1996	<ul> <li>Head of Mortgage Backed Trading at Seix</li> <li>Analyst in Seix MBS Group</li> <li>Trader at Prudential Securities</li> <li>Education: University of Delaware BA</li> </ul>
Vince Flanagan, CFA Leveraged Loan Portfolio Manager, Senior Leveraged Finance Research Analyst Joined Seix Investment Advisors 2006 Industry Experience since 1997	<ul> <li>Director of Research for Assurant, Inc.         <ul> <li>Primary coverage of T elecom, Cable/Media, Utility and Auto sectors</li> </ul> </li> <li>Senior Research Analyst with TD Securities         <ul> <li>Covered the US and Canadian Wireless Carrier sectors</li> </ul> </li> <li>Education: New York University BS</li> </ul>



## BIOGRAPHIES

Leveraged Finance – Portfolio Managers	Prior Experience & Education
Eric Guevara Leveraged Loan Portfolio Manager, Head of Leveraged Loan Trading Joined Seix Investment Advisors 2000 Industry Experience since 2000	<ul> <li>Senior Leveraged Loan Trader at Seix</li> <li>Investment Grade Trader at Seix</li> <li>Education: Seton Hall University BS</li> </ul>
David Phipps Leveraged Loan Portfolio Manager, Senior Leveraged Finance Research Analyst Joined Seix Investment Advisors 2019 Industry Experience since 1992	<ul> <li>Leveraged Finance TMT Publishing Analystat Citigroup</li> <li>TMT Research Analyst, Co-Portfolio Manager and Co-Research Director at Advent Capital</li> <li>Research Analyst at JP Morgan</li> <li>Education: Virginia Tech BS, University of Michigan MBA</li> </ul>



## SEIX HIGH YIELD BOND WRAP COMPOSITE

	Total Firm Assets (\$ mil)	Com posite As sets		Annual Performance and Standard Deviation						
Year End		US\$ (\$ mil)	Percentage of Wrap-Fee Portfolios	Number of Wrap Sponsors	Net Composite Return	Pure Gross Composite Return		ICE BofA US High Yield Cash Pay Index		Composite Dispersion
2023	12,996	1,421	100	13	7.46%	10.16%	7.63%	13.40%	8.46%	0.1%
2022	14,122	1,442	100	13	-11.90%	-9.65%	8.98%	-11.11%	11.08%	0.1%
2021	17,435	1,902	100	13	1.35%	3.91%	6.75%	5.29%	9.12%	0.0%
2020	17,721	1,742	100	13	5.57%	8.23%	6.94%	6.20%	9.36%	0.15%
2019	18,034	1,614	100	13	9.84%	12.60%	3.45%	14.40%	4.13%	0.05%
2018	21,160	1,414	100	13	-4.08%	-1.65%	3.08%	-2.26%	4.62%	0.0%
2017	24,843	2,020	100	9	2.91%	5.51%	4.11%	7.48%	5.58%	0.0%
2016	27,631	2,060	100	6	7.24%	9.94%	4.80%	17.34%	6.01%	0.2%
2015	25,698	1,527	100	6	-4.20%	-1.77%	4.93%	-4.55%	5.27%	0.1%
2014	30,989	1,482	100	6	1.52%	4.08%	4.23%	2.44%	4.42%	0.1%

Seix Investment Advisors claims compliance with the Global investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. Seix Investment Advisors has been independently verified for the periods January 1, 1993, through December 31, 2023. The verification reports are available upon request. A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedure for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. Verification does not provide assurance on the accuracy of any specific performance report.

Seix Investment Ad visors ("Seix") provides investment management and advisory services primarily to segregated accounts of institutional clients, wrap accounts, and pooled funds. Seix operates as a division of Virtus Fixed Income Advisers, LLC ("VFIA"), an SEC registered investment adviser. For the purpose of complying with the GIPS standards, the firm is defined as Seix Investment Advisors, a division of VFIA and held out to the public as Seix Investment Advisors. Seix Investment Advisors was founded in 1992. In 2014 Seix merged with StableRiver Capital Management and became a subsidiary of RidgeWorth Capital Management LLC. In 2017, RidgeWorth Capital Management LLC was acquired by Virtus Investment Partners, Inc. ("Virtus"). Effective July 1st, 2022, Seix Investment Advisors became a division of VFIA, a subsidiary of Virtus.

The Seix High Yield Bond Wrap strategy seeks high income and capital appreciation. High Yield Bond Wrap accounts invest primarily in a diversified portfolio of higher yielding, BB-rated and B-rated income-producing debt instruments. The accounts may invest in U.S. dollar denominated debt obligations of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers.

Key material risks: Credit & Interest- Debt instruments are subject to various risks, including credit and interest rate risk. The issuer of a debt security may fail to make interest and/or principal payments. Values of debt instruments may rise or fall in response to changes in interest rates, and this risk may be enhanced with longer-term maturities. High Yield Fixed Income Securities -There is a greater risk of issuer default, less liquidity, and increased price volatility related to high yield securities than investment grade securities. Market Volatility - Local, regional, or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues, including hampering the ability of the portfolio manager(s) to invest the portfolio's assets as intended. For comparison purposes, the composite is measured against the ICE BofA US High Yield Cash Pay Index. The ICE BofA US High Yield Cash Pay Index is an unmanaged index consisting of all domestic and Yankee high yield bonds maturing over one year. The quality range is less than BBB-/Baa3 but not in default. Index returns do not reflect the deduction of any fees.

The minimum account size for inclusion in the composite is \$250,000. Prior to June 1, 2015, the account minimum was \$500,000.

Prior to September 30, 2017, the Seix High Yield Bond Wrap Composite was named the Seix High Yield SMA Composite. The Seix High Yield Bond Wrap Composite was created January 1, 2003 and has a performance inception date of July 1, 1997.

Results are based on fully discretionary accounts under management, including those accounts no longer with the firm. The U.S. dollar is the currency used to express performance. Returns include the reinvestment of all income. Pure Gross returns are presented as supplemental information, do not reflect the deduction of any trading costs, fees or expenses and are presented for comparison purposes only. Net returns are calculated by subtracting on a monthly basis the highest assumed wrap fee (2.50% annually or 0.21% per month) from the gross composite monthly return. The assumed wrap fee includes all charges for portfolio management, trading costs, custody and other administrative fees. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

Actual wrap fees vary by Program Sponsor. Please refer to the Program Sponsor's ADV 2A for a full disclosure of the fee schedule for wrap fees. Returns realized by clients will be reduced by the actual wrap fee rates and rates incurred by clients will vary.

The three-year annualized standard deviation measures the variability of the composite gross returns, and the benchmark returns over the preceding 36-month period.

The dispersion of annual returns is measured by the asset-weighted standard deviation of portfolio gross returns represented within the composite for the full year. No dispersion is reported for periods with five or fewer portfolios (shown as N/A).

Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS Reports are available upon request. A list of all composite investment strategies offered by the firm, with a description of each strategy, is available upon request. The type of portfolios in which each strategy is available (segregated account, limited distribution pooled fund, or broad distribution pooled fund) is indicated in the description of each strategy.

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**Risk Considerations** 

- Bonds: Offer a relatively stable level of income, although bond prices will fluctuate providing the potential for principal gain or loss. Intermediate-term, higher-quality bonds generally offer less risk than longer-term bonds and a lower rate of return. Generally, a portfolio's fixed income securities will decrease in value if interest rates rise and vice versa.
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