

#### 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.

# Invesco Global Investment Grade Corporate Bond Fund

Monthly Report August 2024 (covering July)

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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**

It was another positive month for corporate bonds, led by moves in government yields. In the clearest signal yet of a policy pivot, US Federal Reserve chair Jay Powell said that "A reduction in our policy rate could be on the table as soon as the next meeting in September." His comments prompted a repricing in the futures market with 3-4 cuts now expected by year end. In the UK, headline inflation remaining at 2% allowed the Bank of England to cut the Bank Rate by 25bps on 1 August. While eurozone inflation unexpectedly accelerated in July from 2.5% to 2.6%, it didn't dampen expectations that the ECB would cut in September. In investment grade markets, dollar-denominated bonds delivered the strongest total returns on interest rate effects, followed by sterling and euro. Spreads were little changed over the month. Dollar corporates widened marginally, whereas sterling and euro tightened slightly. In high yield, spreads widened slightly for both dollar and European currency bonds. In this context, the Fund was up for the month. A strong rally in the market on the last day of the month generated a lag in performance vs. the reference benchmark from official Fund pricing at midday European time; however, on an end-of-day basis the portfolio was slightly ahead. Our overweight duration stance was beneficial as government yields – particularly short-term Ones – declined. Our credit positioning was approximately neutral to performance.

## **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 the recent rally in rates and spreads, the all-in yield of the asset class remains historically high. The Fund enjoyed some inflows during the month, and we put the cash to work in several new issue opportunities especially in high-quality non-cyclical areas of the market. We kept the main parameters of the portfolio steady with an overweight in duration focussed on shorter term issues with the expectation for yield curves to steepen.

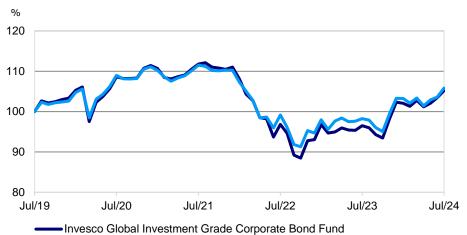
#### Outlook

Following the dovish Fed comments and a disappointing US jobs report, markets are pricing in substantial rate cuts this year, starting in September. There is a clear shift in focus from inflation towards cooling growth and labour markets. In Europe, both the ECB and Bank of England have made their first moves; we expect the rate easing cycle to accelerate in 2025. Markets have been volatile in the start of August, with reactions to data exacerbated by lower liquidity and technical factors. While we concur with a September first move for the Fed, we don't currently see evidence in the fundamentals for significant easing beyond this. That said, even in a "higher for longer" backdrop, income/yield should provide a strong foundation for returns. Our central case is a "soft landing" scenario; the Fund is accordingly long duration with US curve steepeners and overweight credit. Our strategy continues to focus on high quality and duration sensitive corporate bonds especially in short to medium tenors. We also like short-dated callable subordinated bonds on reducing extension risk concerns, banks and energy over consumer cyclicals and REITs. We prefer Europe vs the US as we believe the region is relatively less advanced in the credit cycle while offering better risk reward.

#### Past performance does not predict future returns. Performance (USD) 1

#### **Fund Facts** Z-share ISIN LU1642784927 Bloomberg IGIGCZA LX Domicile Luxembourg AuM 1.13bn USD 01 Sep 2009 Launch Date Reference Index\*\* Bloomberg Global Aggregate Corporate Index USD-Hedged (Total Return) Fund Managers\*\*\* Lyndon Man, Luke Greenwood and Michael Booth

## Performance (USD) 5 Year Active Return



Reference index

Cumulative	YTD	YTQ	1M	1Y	3Y	5Y
Fund (Z-shares)	2.81	1.07	1.72	9.03	-5.90	5.21
Reference Index	2.47	0.30	2.17	7.71	-5.09	5.84
Active return	0.34	0.77	-0.45	1.32	-0.81	-0.63
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		31.07.14	31.07.15	31.07.16	31.07.17	31.07.18
		31.07.15	31.07.16	31.07.17	31.07.18	31.07.19
Fund (Z-shares)		3.80	8.55	3.21	-0.33	10.08
Reference Index		2.36	7.91	1.93	0.48	9.90
Peer Group		1.05	6.21	2.83	0.23	7.93
		31.07.19	31.07.20	31.07.21	31.07.22	31.07.23
		31.07.20	31.07.21	31.07.22	31.07.23	31.07.24
Fund (Z-shares)		8.62	2.92	-13.39	-0.34	9.03
Reference Index		8.96	2.34	-11.09	-0.89	7.71
Peer Group		8.14	2.88	-11.34	-0.94	7.52

Source fund/sector: Morningstar as of 31 July 2024

Source index: RIMES as at 31 July 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.

**	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)	-0.15	-0.16
Batting Average	58.33	61.67
Gain/Loss Ratio	0.86	1.14
Information Ratio	-0.12	-0.06
Sharpe Ratio	-0.63	-0.16
Tracking Error	2.33	1.97

## Awards & Gradings



Morningstar Rating 31.07.24

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

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