



**Fort Washington
Investment Advisors, Inc.**

A member of Western & Southern Financial Group

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FORT WASHINGTON CORE PLUS FIXED INCOME — 2Q2025

PORTFOLIO COMMENTARY

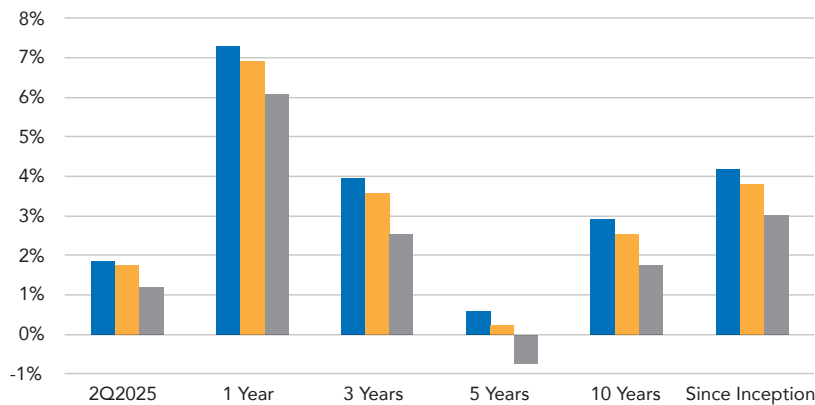
The Fort Washington Core Plus Fixed Income strategy returned 1.84% gross and 1.75% net for the quarter, outperforming the Bloomberg US Aggregate Index which returned 1.21%.

Sector allocation was the largest contributor to relative performance during the quarter. The primary driver was the overweight allocation to credit, specifically the addition of high yield corporates in April which contributed to outperformance as spreads tightened following the allocation.

Security selection contributed to relative performance during the quarter, driven by securitized assets. Within securitized, the strategy was overweight CMOs and non-agency CMBS which outperformed as spreads tightened over the period.

Interest rate exposure contributed to relative performance over the quarter. Interest rates experienced volatility during the quarter as investors adjusted their expectations for future rate cuts, growth, and inflation. As a result, the strategy utilized tactical duration management which contributed to outperformance as the yield curve steepened over the quarter while the 10-year Treasury was unchanged.

Trailing Total Returns (as of June 30, 2025)



■ Core Plus Fixed Income (Gross)	1.84	7.29	3.95	0.58	2.91	4.17
■ Core Plus Fixed Income (Net)	1.75	6.92	3.59	0.23	2.55	3.80
■ Bloomberg US Aggregate Index	1.21	6.08	2.55	-0.73	1.76	3.03

Source: Fort Washington. Past performance is not indicative of future results. This supplemental information complements the Core Plus Fixed Income GIPS Report. Inception date: 10/01/2007.

POSITIONING

Risk budget: The strategy is targeting a modest overweight to risk, representing 40% of the risk budget.

Despite modestly cheaper valuations since the beginning of the year, current levels are still expensive relative to history. Incorporating our macroeconomic outlook and elevated uncertainty, portfolios are positioned with a modest overweight risk posture and an ability to add risk as opportunities arise.

INVESTMENT PROFESSIONALS

Daniel J. Carter, CFA

Managing Director
Senior Portfolio Manager
29 Years Experience

Austin R. Kummer, CFA

Managing Director
Senior Portfolio Manager
12 Years Experience

Garrick T. Bauer, CFA

Managing Director
Portfolio Manager, Head of Credit
Leveraged Credit

Paul A. Tomich, CFA

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Investment Grade Credit

Scott D. Weston

Managing Director
Senior Portfolio Manager
Securitized Products

Brendan M. White, CFA

Senior Vice President
Co-Chief Investment Officer

Investment Grade Credit

8 Portfolio Managers & Analysts
Average Industry experience / 2009

Securitized Products

7 Portfolio Managers & Analysts
Average Industry experience / 2006

Emerging Markets

4 Portfolio Managers & Analysts
Average Industry experience / 2003

Leveraged Credit

12 Portfolio Managers & Analysts
Average Industry experience / 2004

Sectors: Sector positioning reflects current valuations, relative value, and opportunities within each sector. A notable change to sector allocation was the addition of High Yield Corporates in April, and subsequent reduction in Treasuries. Other sector allocations were mostly unchanged during the quarter and primary risk exposures include:

- ▶ The strategy remains overweight Investment Grade Credit (IG). Within the IG allocation, the strategy is increasingly weighted toward liquid, higher quality issues. We are maintaining a risk overweight to select sectors where compelling bottom-up opportunities exist such as midstream and banks.
- ▶ Securitized Products remain an overweight exposure relative to the benchmark, focused within high quality non-agency CMBS and RMBS. Spreads moved tighter over the quarter as trade tensions moderated and many non-agency sectors have moved back to levels that are tight of historical medians. Pockets of value still exist but as tight credit curves are not adequately compensating investors for risk, the exposure remains biased up-in-quality.
- ▶ The strategy maintained its neutral weighting to Emerging Market Debt (EMD). EMD spreads experienced volatility due to uncertainty over U.S. trade policy but ended the quarter tight of historical averages. The strategy continues to favor relative value within the High Yield space.
- ▶ The strategy added exposure to High Yield Corporates in April given attractive relative value surrounding tariff announcements ("Liberation Day"). Spreads have tightened significantly since the allocation and are back to historically tight levels. As a result, the strategy is maintaining a higher-quality bias with the ability to still add within the sector as opportunities arise.

Rates: We are currently positioning portfolios with neutral duration relative to the benchmark as uncertainty remains high and volatility persists. The yield curve steepened modestly during the quarter as forecasts for Fed cuts increased. Portfolios are positioned largely neutral from a curve perspective relative to the index. Volatility has been elevated and we anticipate the magnitude of expected rate cuts will continue shifting with new economic data and developments around executive branch policies, presenting opportunities for tactical adjustments.

Sector Allocation						
	Portfolio		Index		Relative	
	MV %	Spread Risk	MV %	Spread Risk	MV %	Spread Risk
US Government	25.5	-	45.9	0.0	-20.3	-0.0
TIPS	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment Grade Credit	36.3	2.4	26.4	1.4	+9.8	+1.0
Basic Industry	0.6	0.0	0.5	0.0	+0.1	+0.0
Capital Goods	1.7	0.1	1.3	0.1	+0.4	+0.0
Communications	3.1	0.2	1.7	0.1	+1.4	+0.1
Consumer Cyclical	3.1	0.2	1.6	0.1	+1.5	+0.1
Consumer Non-Cyclical	5.0	0.4	3.6	0.2	+1.5	+0.2
Energy	3.3	0.3	1.7	0.1	+1.6	+0.2
Financials	11.1	0.6	8.1	0.4	+2.9	+0.2
Other Industrial	-	-	0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.0
Technology	3.2	0.2	2.3	0.1	+0.9	+0.0
Transportation	2.8	0.2	0.5	0.0	+2.3	+0.1
Utility	2.1	0.2	2.3	0.2	-0.2	+0.0
Other	0.3	0.0	2.6	0.0	-2.4	-0.0
Securitized	29.1	1.2	26.4	0.5	+2.7	+0.8
RMBS	19.8	0.8	24.5	0.4	-4.7	+0.4
ABS	1.9	0.1	0.4	0.0	+1.5	+0.1
CLO	1.3	0.1	-	-	+1.3	+0.1
CMBS	6.0	0.3	1.5	0.1	+4.5	+0.3
High Yield	6.4	0.6	-	-	+6.4	+0.6
Emerging Markets Debt	1.2	0.2	1.3	0.1	-0.1	+0.1
Preferred Stock	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	0.0	0.0	-	-	+0.0	+0.0
Cash	1.6	-	-	-	+1.6	-

Source: Bloomberg PORT. Sector Analysis chart is for illustrative purposes only; this illustrates the portfolio's allocation of dollars and risk compared to the benchmark. Information is subject to change at any time without notice. Index is the Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index. This should not be considered investment advice or a recommendation of any strategy, product, or particular security. See disclosures for important information about derivatives. This supplemental information complements the Core Plus Fixed Income GIPS Report.

Portfolio Characteristics

	Core Plus Fixed Income	Bloomberg US Aggregate
Yield to Worst	5.14	4.51
Option Adjusted Spread	94	33
Option Adjusted Duration	5.99	6.06
BBB Equiv Spread Risk	4.43	1.97
Average Quality	A1/A2	Aa2/Aa3
Number Issuers*	371	1,413

Source: Fort Washington. *A Core Plus Fixed Income Representative Account is being used to illustrate Number of Issuers. Portfolio characteristics and credit quality are as of the reported date and subject to change at any time without notice. Past performance is not indicative of future results. This supplemental information complements the Core Plus Fixed Income GIPS Report.

Credit Quality

	Core Plus Fixed Income	Bloomberg US Aggregate
AAA	11%	3%
AA	43%	73%
A	12%	11%
BBB	25%	12%
BB	4%	0%
B	3%	0%
CCC and Below	0%	0%
Not Rated / Other	0%	0%
Cash	2%	0%

MARKET OVERVIEW

Uncertainty that unsettled investors in Q1 extended into the second quarter. Escalating tariff policies peaked on April 2nd—dubbed “Liberation Day”—with the announcement of reciprocal tariffs on all trading partners. A reprieve followed a week later, which provided relief to markets and lowered the chances of an immediate growth shock. However, it did little to clarify the outlook for consumers and businesses regarding spending, capital expenditures, or hiring plans.

Despite softening sentiment, economic fundamentals remained resilient. Retail sales continued to grow, albeit with volatility driven by tariff-related front-running. The labor market remains largely balanced with the U.S. adding jobs and consumers experiencing real wage growth. However, a rising personal savings rate suggests consumers are preparing for potential policy shocks. Meanwhile, housing remains a persistent drag due to extremely challenging affordability as mortgage rates and home prices stay high.

Looking ahead, growth expectations for 2025 and 2026 have been revised downward due to continued uncertainty. Should this uncertainty persist, it may begin to reflect in weaker economic data. However, the recent passage of the reconciliation package—“One Big, Beautiful Bill”—is likely to provide a modest boost to economic activity in the short term, via extended tax cuts and incentives for capital expenditures through accelerated depreciation.

MACRO OUTLOOK | AS OF 06/30/2025

Factor	Outlook	Comments
Economic Growth	Neutral	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Growth expectations have fallen due to shifting trade policy leading to softer sentiment across businesses and consumers. In aggregate, the consumer has a solid foundation, but their outlook remains fragile. Overall business fundamentals generally healthy but trade policy creates uncertainty for capital investment and hiring. Market forecasts for inflation have increased due to tariffs, but impacts are not expected to be persistent. Economic and fiscal effects of tariffs and budget reconciliation will be the policy focus over coming quarters.
Financial Conditions	Neutral	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Terminal rate expectations continue shifting, markets anticipate multiple cuts each in 2025 and 2026. Volatility to remain elevated as markets react to incoming data and policy response. Lending standards and market-based financial conditions are largely neutral.
Valuations	Credit: Expensive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spreads continued tightening from the April highs and are back to historically tight levels. Default risk low but downside risk remains elevated with limited margin of safety.
	Equities: Neutral	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equity markets back to highs despite April volatility. Valuations are back to levels comfortably above long-term averages but growth expectations supportive.
	Rates: Positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interest rates reasonably priced at current levels. Yields reflect further interest rate cuts from the Fed and benign long-term inflation expectations.
Risk Budget	Summary	

40%

The U.S. economy entered the year on solid footing, but growth forecasts have declined in recent months. Shifting trade policy and escalating geopolitical tensions have created elevated uncertainty along with weaker sentiment across consumers and businesses. While the market expects tariffs to increase inflation, the impacts are expected to be relatively short-lived. Corporate fundamentals remain generally healthy, but the current environment creates uncertainty over CAPEX and hiring. As a result, investors anticipate slower growth and ongoing Fed rate cuts, expecting multiple cuts each in 2025 and 2026. Given the swift recovery of financial markets, equity and credit valuations remain elevated compared to long-term averages and offer limited margin of safety. Current valuations, coupled with elevated economic risks, result in a modest allocation to credit risk.

Source: Fort Washington. This is for informational purposes only and should not be construed as investment advice. Outlook reflects subjective judgments and assumptions subject to change without notice. Unexpected events may occur, there can be no assurance that developments will transpire as forecast. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

CORE PLUS FIXED INCOME COMPOSITE GIPS REPORT

	2Q2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Core Plus Fixed Income (Gross)	1.84%	2.84%	6.74%	-13.56%	-0.75%	10.31%	11.09%	-0.73%	4.51%	6.62%	1.11%
Core Plus Fixed Income (Net)	1.75%	2.48%	6.37%	-13.87%	-1.10%	9.93%	10.71%	-1.08%	4.15%	6.25%	0.76%
Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index	1.21%	1.25%	5.53%	-13.01%	-1.54%	7.51%	8.72%	0.01%	3.54%	2.65%	0.55%
Core Plus Fixed Income 3-Year Annual Standard Deviation ¹	-	8.17%	7.60%	6.96%	4.59%	4.59%	2.76%	2.80%	2.76%	3.03%	3.06%
Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index 3-Year Annual Standard Deviation ¹	-	7.72%	7.14%	5.77%	3.35%	3.36%	2.87%	2.84%	2.78%	2.98%	2.88%
Dispersion ²	0.09%	0.22%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of Accounts	7	7	5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5
Composite Assets (\$ Millions)	\$1,884.3	\$1,848.7	\$1,635.3	\$1,570.3	\$1,918.5	\$1,643.3	\$1,335.7	\$1,163.6	\$1,101.6	\$607.0	\$310.4
Total Firm Assets (\$ Millions)	\$84,969	\$81,286	\$74,613	\$66,365	\$73,804	\$65,086	\$59,174	\$49,225	\$52,774	\$45,656	\$42,959

Composite inception date: 10/01/2007. Composite creation date: 07/01/2015. ¹The 3-Year annualized ex-post standard deviation is calculated using monthly gross-of-fee returns to measure the average deviations of returns from its mean. ²Dispersion is not calculated for years in which the composite contains five portfolios or less. Dispersion is calculated as the equal weighted standard deviation of gross-of-fee returns for those portfolios held in the composite during the entire period. Past performance is not indicative of future results. The benchmark for this composite is the Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index. The Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index is a market capitalization-weighted index that measures the performance of the U.S. dollar-denominated, fixed-rate, taxable bond market. The index includes investment grade securities such as U.S. Treasuries, government-related and corporate bonds, mortgage-backed securities, asset-backed securities, and commercial mortgage-backed securities. The index accounts for interest payments by incorporating them into the total return calculation. Fort Washington's Core Plus Fixed Income strategy uses explicit measures of value and risk as a guide to investment decisions. Combined with intensive fundamental research, the portfolio management team believes this provides the best opportunity for excess return. The Core Plus Composite includes all fixed income accounts above \$50MM with the ability to invest in High Yield (at least 30%) and have the unrestricted ability to invest in Investment Grade Securities across all durations relative to the Bloomberg US Aggregate. Accounts within this composite may also have the ability to hold derivatives. These investments, whether traded on an established market or not, include but are not limited to options, notional principal contracts, futures or forward contracts, VIX futures, and options on futures, forward contracts, or debt obligations. Investments made in derivatives are used in line with the portfolio's risk exposure, allowing for the portfolio to reduce its exposure to an existing position or increase exposure within the portfolio's guidelines. Derivatives involve risks in addition to the risks of underlying securities, including liquidity, interest rate, market, credit, and management. Investing in derivatives could lose more than the amount invested. All fee-paying, fully discretionary portfolios managed in the Core Plus Fixed Income style, with a minimum of \$50 million under our management, are included in this composite. The strategy's fee schedule is 0.35% on the first \$50 million, 0.25% on the next \$50 million, and 0.20% on additional amounts over \$100 million for separate accounts. Portfolios in this composite include cash, cash equivalents, investment securities, interest, and dividends. Cash is maintained, within each separately managed account segment, in accordance with our asset allocation ratio. The U.S. dollar is the base currency. The specific securities identified and described do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold, or recommended. Returns are presented gross and net of management fees and include the reinvestment of all income. Gross returns will be reduced by investment advisory fees and other expenses that may be incurred in the management of the account. Net returns reflect the portfolio's gross returns with the deduction of expenses and other costs associated with the management of the investments in the portfolio as well as the deduction of the highest advertised fee rate for the applicable strategy shown. Individual portfolio returns are calculated on a daily valuation basis. Fort Washington Investment Advisors, Inc. (Fort Washington), a wholly owned subsidiary of The Western and Southern Life Insurance Company, is a registered investment advisor and provides discretionary money management to a broad range of investors, including both institutional and individual investors. Assets under management include all portfolios managed by Fort Washington and exclude assets managed by and marketed as its Private Equity business unit. Fort Washington claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS Standards. 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RISK DISCLOSURE

The Fort Washington Core Plus Fixed Income strategy invests in fixed-income securities which can experience reduced liquidity during certain market events, lose their value as interest rates rise and are subject to credit risk which is the risk of deterioration in the financial condition of an issuer and/or general economic conditions that can cause the issuer to not make timely payments of principal and interest also causing the securities to decline in value and an investor can lose principal. The strategy invests in non-investment grade debt securities which are considered speculative with respect to the issuers' ability to make timely payments of interest and principal, may lack liquidity and has had more frequent and larger price changes than other debt securities. The strategy invests in derivatives and securities such as forward foreign currency exchange contracts, futures contracts, options and swap agreements. Derivatives can be highly volatile, illiquid and difficult to value, subject to counterparty and leverage risks and there is risk that changes in the value of a derivative held by the strategy will not correlate with the strategy's other investments. The strategy invests in sovereign debt securities which are issued by foreign governments whose respective economies could have an important effect on their ability or willingness to service their debt which could affect the value of the securities.

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