

Pioneer Strategic Income Fund

Commentary | April 3, 2020

Current Positioning

- The Fund has continued to hold an underweight to US Treasuries and an overweight to a diverse range of global fixed income credit sectors and currencies, including corporate, securitized sectors and emerging markets, relative to the Bloomberg Barclays US Universal Index. The team believes that US Treasuries offer little value to investors, while credit sectors may offer significant investment opportunities, with the market dislocations that have developed over the past few weeks. As of this writing, Treasury yields stand below 1% and real yields (which are nominal yields minus the rate of inflation) are negative across the **yield curve**. Although we anticipate near-term disruption to growth, as we see it, Treasury yield levels do not reflect the underlying longer-term strength of the US economy. Moreover, we believe the problems in credit sectors, particularly within investment grade corporates, have resulted primarily from a liquidity squeeze, which has begun to show some early signs of easing, rather than from fundamental factors.

Strategy Changes

- We continue to evaluate our investment themes. While maintaining liquidity in our portfolios is paramount, we are also evaluating the vast number of potential opportunities that are presenting themselves across many of the sectors in which we have invested, at levels at or near those seen in the Financial Crisis of 2008. In particular, we believe that higher quality long duration corporates currently offer value.

Outlook

- In our opinion, the Fund is well-positioned for any potential recovery in credit markets. Notably, with **credit spreads** across investment grade, high yield corporate and securitized credit sectors significantly wider than their historical averages, we believe investors could receive concurrently higher compensation for credit risk. In our opinion, recent fixed income market price volatility reflects a liquidity squeeze, which has begun to demonstrate early signals of being on the mend in the past week, rather than a prolonged economic downturn.

Average Annual Total Returns for Class Y Shares

As of March 31, 2019	Month	Quarter-to-Date	YTD	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Pioneer Strategic Income Fund (STRYX)	-13.28%	-12.31%	-12.31%	-6.40%	-0.36%	1.18%	3.61%
Bloomberg Barclays US Universal Index (Benchmark)	-1.95%	1.30%	1.30%	7.15%	4.37%	3.35%	4.05%

Gross expense ratio: 0.73%

Call 1-800-225-6292 or visit amundipioneer.com/us for the most recent month-end performance results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. The performance data quoted represents past performance, which is no guarantee of future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate, and shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Class Y shares are not subject to sales charges and are available for limited groups of investors, including institutional investors. Initial investments are subject to a \$5 million investment minimum, which may be waived in some circumstances. All results are historical and assume the reinvestment of dividends and capital gains. Other share classes are available for which performance and expenses will differ.

Performance results reflect any applicable expense waivers in effect during the periods shown. Without such waivers, fund performance would be lower. Waivers may not be in effect for all funds. Certain fee waivers are contractual through a specified period. Otherwise, fee waivers can be rescinded at any time. See the prospectus and financial statements for more information.

The **Bloomberg Barclays US Universal Index** is unmanaged, and represents the union of the US Aggregate Index, the US High Yield Corporate Index, the 144A Index, the Eurodollar Index, the Emerging Markets Index, the non-ERISA portion of the CMBS Index, and the CMBS High Yield Index. Municipal debt. Private placements and non-dollar-denominated issues are excluded. Index returns are calculated monthly, assume reinvestment of dividends and, unlike mutual fund returns, do not reflect any fees or expenses associated with a mutual fund. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

The portfolio is actively managed and current information is subject to change. The sectors/holdings discussed should not be considered recommendations to buy or sell any security.

Glossary of Frequently Used Terms

- Credit spreads (or spreads)** – The differences in yield between Treasuries and other types of fixed-income securities with similar maturities.
- Spread risk**–Refers to the danger that the interest rate on a loan or bond turns out to be too low relative to an investment with a lower default risk for it to be a good use of funds.
- Spread sectors** – Nongovernmental fixed-income market sectors that offer higher yields, at greater risk, than governmental investments.
- Real Yield** – The yield provided by an investment once inflation is taken into account.
- more than 90 days in advance of the original bond’s maturity date.
- Basis Point** – A unit of measure used to describe the percentage change in the value or rate of a financial instrument. One basis point is equivalent to 0.01% (1/100th of a percent) or 0.0001 in decimal form. In most cases, it refers to changes in interest rates and bond yields
- Carry** – The cost or benefit of owning that asset.
- Correlation** – The degree to which assets or asset class prices have moved in relation to one another. Correlation ranges from -1 (always moving in opposite directions) through 0 (absolutely independent) to 1 (always moving together).
- Credit spreads (or spreads)** – The differences in yield between Treasuries and other types of fixed-income securities with similar maturities.
- Duration** – A measure of the sensitivity of the price (the value of principal) of a fixed income investment to a change in interest rates, expressed as a number of years.
- Correlation** – The degree to which assets or asset class prices have moved in relation to one another. Correlation ranges from -1 (always moving in opposite directions) through 0 (absolutely independent) to 1 (always moving together).
- Excess returns**–represent investment performance generated by a security or portfolio that exceed the “riskless” performance of a security generally perceived by the market to be risk-free, such as a certificate of deposit or a government-issued bond.
- Goldilocks**–an economy is an economy that is not too hot or cold, in other words sustains moderate economic growth, and that has low inflation, which allows a market-friendly monetary policy.
- Hedge** – An investment utilized to help reduce the risk of adverse price movements in an asset. Normally, a hedge consists of taking an offsetting position in a related security to help guard against a drop in price, such as purchasing a “put” (sell) option contract on a stock in which the investor already owns shares outright.
- Insurance-linked securities** – Investments sponsored by property-and-casualty insurers to help mitigate the risk of having to pay claims in the wake of natural disasters.
- Loan Spread** - The interest rates over and above the LIBOR rate charged to borrowers by banks.
- Municipal-to-Treasury Yield Ratio (municipal bond funds only)** – A measure of municipal bond valuation. The higher the Municipal-to-Treasury ratio, the more attractive municipals are relative to Treasuries.

Prepayment Risk -- The risk involved with the premature return of principal on a fixed-income security. When principal is returned early, future interest payments will not be paid on that part of the principal.

Real Yield -- The yield provided by an investment once inflation is taken into account.

Standard Deviation -- A statistical measure of the historic volatility of a portfolio; a lower standard deviation indicates historically less volatility.

Sharpe Ratio -- A measure of risk-adjusted return that describes how much excess return an investor receives in exchange for the volatility of holding a riskier asset.

Spread sectors -- Nongovernmental fixed-income market sectors that offer higher yields, at greater risk, than governmental investments.

Tail Risk -- The additional risk of an asset or portfolio of assets moving more than 3 standard deviations from the current price, above the risk of a normal distribution.

Yield Curve -- A yield curve is a line that plots the interest rates, at a set point in time, of bonds having equal credit quality but differing maturity dates.

Yield to Maturity -- The total return anticipated on a bond if the bond is held until the end of its lifetime.

Yield to Worst (YTW) -- The lowest potential yield that can be received on a bond without the issuer actually defaulting.

The views expressed are those of Amundi Pioneer and are current through 4/3/20. These views are subject to change at any time based on market or other conditions, and Amundi Pioneer disclaims any responsibility to update such views. These views may not be relied upon as investment advice and, because investment decisions for strategies are based on many factors, may not be relied upon as an indication of trading intent on behalf of any strategy or portfolio.

A Word about Risk

The market prices of securities may go up or down, sometimes rapidly or unpredictably, due to general market conditions, such as real or perceived adverse economic, political, or regulatory conditions, recessions, inflation, changes in interest or currency rates, lack of liquidity in the bond markets, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues or adverse investor sentiment. Investments in high-yield or lower-rated securities are subject to greater-than-average price volatility, illiquidity and possibility of default. When interest rates rise, the prices of fixed-income securities in the Fund will generally fall. Conversely, when interest rates fall, the prices of fixed-income securities in the Fund will generally rise. Investments in the Fund are subject to possible loss due to the financial failure of issuers of underlying securities and their inability to meet their debt obligations. Prepayment risk is the chance that an issuer may exercise its right to prepay its security, if falling interest rates prompt the issuer to do so. Forced to reinvest the unanticipated proceeds at lower interest rates, the Fund would experience a decline in income and lose the opportunity for additional price appreciation. The securities issued by US government-sponsored entities (e.g., FNMA, Freddie Mac) are neither guaranteed nor issued by the US government. The portfolio may invest in mortgage-backed securities, which during times of fluctuating interest rates may increase or decrease more than other fixed-income securities. Mortgage-backed securities are also subject to prepayments. Investing in foreign and/or emerging markets securities involves risks relating to interest rates, currency exchange rates, economic, and political conditions. At times, the Fund's investments may represent industries or industry sectors that are interrelated or have common risks, making it more susceptible to any economic, political, or regulatory developments or other risks affecting those industries and sectors. These risks may increase share price volatility.

Before investing, consider the product's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses. Contact your advisor or Amundi Pioneer Asset Management for a prospectus or a summary prospectus containing this information. Read it carefully.

Individuals are encouraged to seek advice from their financial, legal, tax and other appropriate advisers before making any investment or financial decisions or purchasing any financial, securities or investment-related product or service, including any product or service described in these materials. Amundi Pioneer does not provide investment advice or investment recommendations.

Not FDIC insured • May lose value • No bank guarantee

Securities offered through Amundi Pioneer Distributor, Inc.
Underwriter of Pioneer mutual funds, Member SIPC
60 State Street Boston, Massachusetts 02109
amundipioneer.com/us
©2020 Amundi Pioneer Asset Management, Inc.
AM1140822