

# PIMCO Target Return Fund

## PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

The PIMCO Target Return Fund (the "Fund") returned 0.71% (Institutional Class, net of fees) in March outperforming the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bills Index by 0.34%. Year-to-date the Fund has returned 3.26% (Institutional Class, net of fees), while the benchmark returned 1.09%.

Equity markets continued their upward trajectory, while bond indices modestly rose as several global central banks sent dovish signals to the market. U.S. credit spreads tightened, and developed sovereign bond yields fell, while the dollar strengthened. In Australia, the RBA once again left the policy rate unchanged at 4.35%. A key shift in the statement from 'a further increase in interest rates cannot be ruled out' to 'the Board is not ruling anything in or out' led markets to view this as the Board abandoning its slight policy-tightening bias.

## Key Facts

Bloomberg Ticker	PIMTRGR
ISIN	AU60ETL00501
APIR	ETL0050AU
Inception date	06 September 2007
Distribution	Quarterly
Management Fee <sup>1</sup>	0.62% p.a.
Portfolio Managers	Robert Mead, Adam Bowe
Total Net Assets	103.9 (AUD in Millions)

<sup>1</sup>In addition to the Management Fee there may be other fees and costs associated with an investment in this fund. For a detailed explanation on fees and costs please refer to the Product Disclosure Statement.

## Contributors

- Australian Credit and Rate Strategies
- Systematic alternative risk premia strategies
- Trend-following strategies

## Detractors

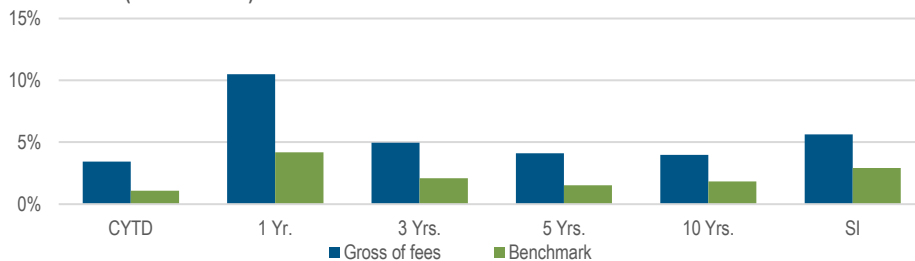
- Macroeconomic strategies

## Investment Statistics

Fund Duration (yrs)	-0.45
Benchmark Duration (yrs)	0.12
Estimated Yield to Maturity (%) <sup>Ⓢ</sup>	5.08
Average Coupon (%)	3.40
Effective Maturity (yrs)	7.51

<sup>Ⓢ</sup>Yield to Maturity (YTM) is the estimated annual rate of return that would be received if the Fund's current securities were all held to their maturity and all coupons and principal were made as contracted. YTM does not account for fees or taxes. YTM is not a forecast, and is not a guarantee of, the future return of the Fund. The Fund's actual return will depend on a range of factors, including fluctuations in the value of the Fund's securities held from time to time.

Performance (Gross of Fees)



Performance	CYTD	1 mos.	3 mos.	FYTD	1 Yr.	3 Yrs.	5 Yrs.	10 Yrs.	SI
Net of fees (%)	3.26	0.71	3.26	8.03	9.82	4.32	3.45	3.32	4.98
Benchmark (%)	1.09	0.37	1.09	3.26	4.19	2.08	1.51	1.82	2.92
Outperformance (%)	2.18	0.34	2.18	4.77	5.63	2.24	1.94	1.50	2.06

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results

Returns for periods longer than 1 year are annualised

Net of Fees - Fund performance is quoted net of fees and expenses and assumes the reinvestment of all distributions but does not take into account personal income tax

SI is the performance since inception. Inception date is 06/09/2007

The benchmark is the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bills Index

## Risk Profile

### Important Notice

Please note that this material contains the opinions of the manager as of the date noted, and may not have been updated to reflect real time market developments. All opinions are subject to change without notice.

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## PORTFOLIO POSITIONING

The Fund aims to maintain a structural allocation to global macroeconomic and quantitative strategies. Within quantitative strategies, the Fund aims to harness exposures to systematic alternative risk premia and trend-following strategies. The Fund may also be looking to take advantage of idiosyncratic global credit opportunities.

The Fund maintains an allocation to Australian rate and credit strategies made of what we consider to be predominantly high-quality, domestic fixed-interest securities that aim to form a 'bedrock' of absolute return generation sought by the Fund. This allocation also aims to take advantage of PIMCO's directional views on domestic rates.

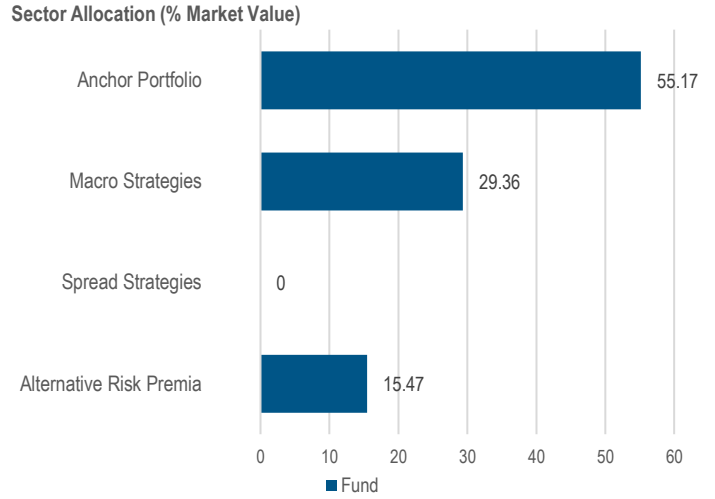
## MONTH IN REVIEW

Equity markets continued their upward trajectory, while bond indices modestly rose as several global central banks sent dovish signals to the market. U.S. credit spreads tightened, and developed sovereign bond yields fell, while the dollar strengthened. In the U.S., the 10-year Treasury fell 5 bps to 4.20% as the Federal Reserve reaffirmed its expectation of three rate cuts in 2024. In Australia, the 10-year ACGB bond finished the month 17 lower at 3.96%.

In the monetary space, central banks worldwide took diverging policy decisions. The Bank of Japan delivered its first hike since 2007, putting an end to yield curve control. The Swiss National Bank surprised markets by cutting its policy rate by 0.25% to 1.50%. The Federal Reserve kept its policy rate unchanged in the range of 5.25-5.50%. The Reserve Bank of Australia also left the policy rate unchanged at 4.35%, after reflecting new data that showed a continued economic slowdown, a softer-than-expected labor market, and further moderation in inflation. A key shift in the statement from 'a further increase in interest rates cannot be ruled out' to 'the Board is not ruling anything in or out' led markets to view this as the Board abandoning its slight policy-tightening bias.

### OUTLOOK AND STRATEGY

Higher savings balances and a slower pass-through of monetary policy in the U.S. relative to other developed markets could, in our view, keep inflation above the Fed's 2% target over the cyclical horizon. We still expect the Fed to start normalizing policy at midyear, similar to other DM central banks; however, the Fed's subsequent rate-cutting path could be more gradual. Additionally, we believe that an economic soft landing is achievable, but both recessionary and inflationary risks remain elevated in the aftermath of unprecedented global shocks to supply and demand. In this uncertain environment, we favour portfolio flexibility and liquidity to respond to events and potentially take advantage of opportunities.



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**Duration:** Duration is the measure of a bond's price sensitivity to interest rates and is expressed in years.

**Fluctuation:** There can be no guarantee that the trends above will continue. Statements concerning financial market trends are based on current market conditions, which will fluctuate.

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All periods longer than one year are annualised.

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**Index:** It is not possible to invest directly in an unmanaged index.

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Investing in foreign-denominated and/or -domiciled securities may involve heightened risk due to currency fluctuations, and economic and political risks, which may be enhanced in emerging markets. Sovereign securities are generally backed by the issuing government. Obligations of U.S. government agencies and authorities are supported by varying degrees, but are generally not backed by the full faith of the U.S. government. Portfolios that invest in such securities are not guaranteed and will fluctuate in value. High yield, lower-rated securities involve greater risk than higher-rated securities; portfolios that invest in them may be subject to greater levels of credit and liquidity risk than portfolios that do not. Mortgage- and asset-backed securities may be sensitive to changes in interest rates, subject to early repayment risk, and while generally supported by a government, government agency or private guarantor, there is no assurance that the guarantor will meet its obligations. Income from municipal bonds may be subject to state and local taxes and at times the alternative minimum tax. Swaps are a type of derivative; swaps are increasingly subject to central clearing and exchange-trading. Swaps that are not centrally cleared and exchange-traded may be less liquid than exchange-traded instruments. Inflation-linked bonds (ILBs) issued by a government are fixed income securities whose principal value is periodically adjusted according to the rate of inflation; ILBs decline in value when real interest rates rise. Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities (TIPS) are ILBs issued by the U.S. government. Certain U.S. government securities are backed by the full faith of the government. Obligations of U.S. government agencies and authorities are supported by varying degrees but are generally not backed by the full faith of the U.S. government. Portfolios that invest in such securities are not guaranteed and will fluctuate in value.

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**Strategy Availability:** Strategy availability may be limited to certain investment vehicles; not all investment vehicles may be available to all investors. Please contact your PIMCO representative for more information.

Interest rate strategies encompass the Fund's duration, yield curve, and convexity strategies.

Benchmark: Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bills Index.

The Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bills Index is an unmanaged index representative of the total return performance of Australian money market securities. It is not possible to invest in an unmanaged index..

Spreads referenced are the average option adjusted spread level as generated by Barclays.