

Robeco High Yield Bonds IH USD

Robeco High Yield Bonds is an actively managed fund that invests in high yield corporate bonds. The selection of these bonds is mainly based on fundamental analysis. The fund's objective is to provide long-term capital growth. The fund invests in corporate bonds with a sub-investment grade rating, issued primarily by issuers from developed markets (Europe/US). The portfolio is broadly diversified, with a structural bias towards the higher rated part in high yield. Performance drivers are the top-down beta positioning as well as bottom-up issuer selection.



Sander Bus, Roeland Moraal, Christiaan Lever, Daniel de Koning
Fund manager since 01-03-2001

Performance

	Fund	Index
1 m	-0.43%	0.36%
3 m	2.96%	4.05%
Ytd	0.34%	0.47%
1 Year	10.19%	11.37%
2 Years	3.56%	3.21%
3 Years	2.24%	2.22%
5 Years	4.11%	4.28%
10 Years	4.96%	4.49%
Since 01-2009	8.59%	8.43%

Annualized (for periods longer than one year)

Note: due to a difference in measurement period between the fund and the index, performance differences may arise. For further info, see last page.

Calendar year performance

	Fund	Index
2023	11.82%	13.78%
2022	-7.90%	-10.36%
2021	3.81%	5.14%
2020	4.90%	6.41%
2019	15.05%	13.95%
2021-2023	2.25%	2.35%
2019-2023	5.23%	5.39%

Annualized (years)

Index

Bloomberg US Corporate High Yield + Pan Euro HY ex Financials 2.5% Issuer Cap

General facts

Morningstar	★★★★★
Type of fund	Bonds
Currency	USD
Total size of fund	USD 7,039,942,894
Size of share class	USD 1,605,600,384
Outstanding shares	4,611,832
1st quotation date	13-01-2009
Close financial year	31-12
Ongoing charges	0.69%
Daily tradable	Yes
Dividend paid	No
Ex-ante tracking error limit	5.00%
Management company	Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V.

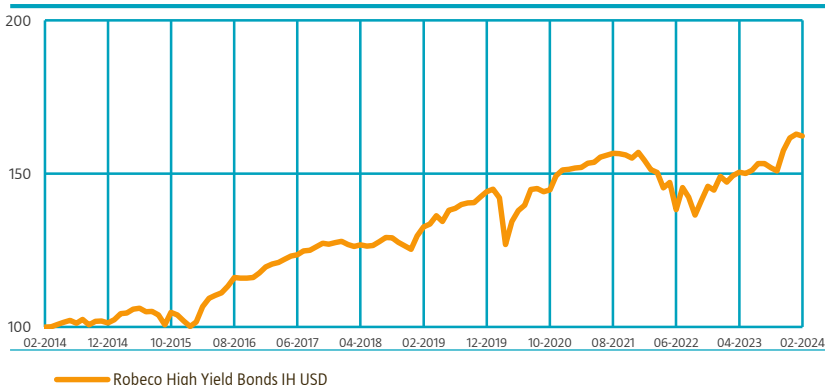
Sustainability profile

- Exclusions
- ESG Integration
- Engagement

For more information on exclusions see <https://www.robeco.com/exclusions/>

Performance

Indexed value (until 29-02-2024) - Source: Robeco



Performance

Based on transaction prices, the fund's return was -0.43%.

In February, the high yield bond index recorded a total return of 0.23%. The index's strong credit returns were offset by losses in rates. The fund underperformed the benchmark by 28 bps. Our up-in-quality strategy worked well in euro bonds, but not in US dollar markets, where lower-rated bonds performed better when adjusted for risk. Our issuer selection had a partially negative impact, while beta positioning detracted 18 bps. From a sector perspective, the underperformance due to an underweight position in consumer cyclical was balanced by gains from an overweight in capital goods. Our overweight position in Glatfelter paid off following merger news with Berry's HH&S segment, expected to enhance its leverage profile. Conversely, the overweight in Ardagh dragged down performance, as the packaging company missed the earnings estimates. Furthermore, our overweight in Charter Communication detracted a few basis points, as reported numbers showed weakness in the cable space and Charter lost subscribers. This shifts the growth expectations for this credit and bonds widened on the back of it.

Market development

February was a positive month for the US high yield market, with spreads tightening 32 basis points to reach a total of 314 basis points, and the yield-to-worst rising to 7.50%, an increase of 9 basis points. Global data was still robust for the most part, and hopes for a soft landing continued. Market participants had to adjust lower their expectations on upcoming Fed cuts for this year, after inflation came in above expectations at 3.1% and the 10-year yield repriced up. This higher-for-longer shift in sentiment is also supported by the jobs market, which remains steady, and economists remain unsure on whether disinflation will turnaround this narrative in the coming months. In Europe, inflation fell to the lowest level since mid-2021, but services prices remain the outlier. All central banks maintained interest rates at the same level. The concerns about commercial real estate continued. That came after New York Community Bancorp raised its expected loan losses on commercial real estate. February registered 12 defaults/distressed transactions, involving USD 9.9 bln of bonds, the highest level since the pandemic. Also, new issuance was elevated, bringing to market USD 27.7 bln of high yield bonds.

Expectation of fund manager

We have reached the end of one of the sharpest hiking cycles in modern history. Economies in Europe and the US have so far moved through it without being derailed. Monetary policies in Europe and the US were effective in the fight against inflation. Markets have declared victory and fully embraced a soft landing. However, we remain cautious, as it is likely we have not fully seen the impact of the tightening cycle. Central banks are gradually pivoting, but rate cuts are still a few months away it seems. Markets have performed quite a bit better than many would have thought, and short risk was a costly position to be in. We continue to see sectors struggle to maintain pricing power, especially with inflation coming down. The market overall has moved a lot and in many parts valuations are outright rich. We believe selection will be key, not all companies are equal, so it is important to remain vigilant and invest in those companies where risk return is properly balanced. We maintain an up and quality approach to our portfolio and are still positive on financials on the back of valuations, maintaining a beta below 1.

Top 10 largest positions

Our top ten holdings consist mostly of BB-rated large caps in the communications, automotive and packaging sectors. In communications, we are slightly overweight in large US and UK operators like Charter and Virgin Media. In automotive, we own a large overweight position in Forvia (formerly called Faurecia). Other top holdings are in US supermarket operator Albertsons, and in the packaging sector with Crown Holdings and Mauser Packaging.

Fund price

29-02-24	USD	348.15
High Ytd (27-02-24)	USD	349.87
Low Ytd (05-01-24)	USD	343.82

Fees

Management fee	0.55%
Performance fee	None
Service fee	0.12%

Legal status

Investment company with variable capital incorporated under Luxembourg law (SICAV)

Issue structure	Open-end
UCITS V	Yes
Share class	IH USD
This fund is a subfund of Robeco Capital Growth Funds, SICAV	

Registered in

Austria, Chile, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom

Currency policy

All currency risks are hedged.

Risk management

Risk management is fully embedded in the investment process to ensure that positions always meet predefined guidelines.

Dividend policy

The fund does not distribute dividend. The income earned by the fund is reflected in its share price. The fund's entire result is thus reflected in its share price development.

Derivative policy

Robeco High Yield Bonds make use of derivatives for hedging purposes as well as for investment purposes. These derivatives are very liquid.

Fund codes

ISIN	LU0398248921
Bloomberg	RGHYBID LX
Sedol	B8J9SN2
WKN	A0YFGL
Valoren	3251005

Top 10 largest positions

Holdings

CCO Holdings LLC / CCO Holdings Capital Corp
Forvia SE
Olympus Water US Holding Corp
ZF Europe Finance BV
Albertsons Cos Inc / Safeway Inc / New Albertsons
Crown European Holdings SA
Mauser Packaging Solutions Holding Co
FMG Resources August 2006 Pty Ltd
Standard Industries Inc/NJ
Vmed O2 UK Financing I PLC
Total

Sector	%
Communications	2.21
Consumer Cyclical	1.52
Basic Industry	1.50
Consumer Cyclical	1.49
Consumer Non Cyclical	1.44
Capital Goods	1.40
Capital Goods	1.23
Basic Industry	1.20
Capital Goods	1.17
Communications	1.15
Total	14.31

Statistics

	3 Years	5 Years
Tracking error ex-post (%)	1.33	1.44
Information ratio	0.52	0.39
Sharpe ratio	0.01	0.32
Alpha (%)	0.61	0.70
Beta	0.92	0.91
Standard deviation	7.50	8.49
Max. monthly gain (%)	5.28	5.28
Max. monthly loss (%)	-5.60	-10.67

Above mentioned ratios are based on gross of fees returns

Hit ratio

	3 Years	5 Years
Months outperformance	18	30
Hit ratio (%)	50.0	50.0
Months Bull market	21	40
Months outperformance Bull	7	15
Hit ratio Bull (%)	33.3	37.5
Months Bear market	15	20
Months Outperformance Bear	11	15
Hit ratio Bear (%)	73.3	75.0

Above mentioned ratios are based on gross of fees returns.

Characteristics

	Fund	Index
Rating	BA2/BA3	BA3/B1
Option Adjusted Modified Duration (years)	3.2	3.1
Maturity (years)	4.4	4.2
Yield to Worst (% , Hedged)	6.9	7.8
Green Bonds (% , Weighted)	3.5	2.3

Changes

Benchmark changes: Since start - 31/3/2005 Barclays Global High Yield (Hedged into USD) 1/4/2005 - 30/4/2005 Barclays US Corporate High Yield & Pan European High Yield (Hedged into USD) 1/5/2005 - 31/3/2009 Barclays US Corporate High Yield & Pan European High Yield 2.5% Issuer Cap (Hedged into USD) 1/4/2009 - now Barclays US Corporate High Yield & Pan European High Yield ex Financials 2.5% Issuer Cap (Hedged into USD)

Sector allocation

Overweights are in less cyclical sectors like paper, chemicals and packaging, as well as in financials, which is an off-benchmark position. Underweights are in sectors that are exposed to consumer discretionary spending like retail, leisure and gaming. We also have underweights in tech and telecommunications.

Sector allocation		Deviation index
Capital Goods	17.9%	6.2%
Consumer Cyclical	13.5%	-10.8%
Consumer Non Cyclical	13.0%	-0.2%
Basic Industry	12.4%	6.5%
Communications	10.8%	-7.3%
Energy	9.5%	-1.4%
Banking	5.7%	5.7%
Technology	4.0%	-3.0%
Transportation	2.0%	-1.3%
Owned No Guarantee	1.3%	1.3%
Insurance	1.0%	1.0%
Other	2.5%	-2.9%
Cash and other instruments	6.4%	6.4%

Currency denomination allocation

All currency risks are hedged to the currency of the share class. The currency denomination allocation shows the currency distribution of the portfolio before hedging.

Currency denomination allocation		Deviation index
U.S. Dollar	58.1%	-19.6%
Euro	32.2%	12.4%
Pound Sterling	3.3%	0.8%

Duration allocation

Robeco High Yield Bonds does not pursue an active duration policy. HY bonds tend to have a limited effective sensitivity to underlying moves in government bond yields. In our 0-duration share classes, the underlying rate risk is hedged to 0 to 6-month duration.

Duration allocation		Deviation index
U.S. Dollar	2.4	-0.1
Euro	0.6	0.0
Pound Sterling	0.1	0.0

Rating allocation

Most exposure is in Ba and B issuers. The fund has a large underweight in the categories Caa and below. We have an allocation to BBBs, mainly consisting of former rising stars that still trade at attractive spread levels, as well as positions lower in the capital structure of European banks.

Rating allocation		Deviation index
BAA	10.3%	10.3%
BA	56.1%	6.9%
B	21.4%	-17.9%
CAA	5.6%	-4.8%
CA		-0.9%
D		-0.1%
NR	0.2%	0.2%
Cash and other instruments	6.4%	6.4%

Country allocation

Country risk analysis is incorporated in our proprietary credit research, but we do not implement any specific top-down country policy in the portfolio. We have a preference for Europe versus the United States based on valuations.

Country allocation		Deviation index
United States	54.8%	-14.9%
Germany	7.2%	3.9%
France	6.0%	1.2%
United Kingdom	5.3%	-0.4%
Canada	3.3%	-0.1%
Netherlands	3.1%	1.7%
Spain	2.5%	0.2%
Luxembourg	1.9%	0.0%
Australia	1.5%	0.9%
Italy	1.4%	-1.1%
Switzerland	1.4%	0.9%
Other	5.2%	1.5%
Cash and other instruments	6.4%	6.4%

ESG Important information

The sustainability information in this factsheet can help investors integrate sustainability considerations in their process. This information is for informational purposes only. The reported sustainability information may not at all be used in relation to binding elements for this fund. A decision to invest should take into account all characteristics or objectives of the fund as described in the prospectus. The prospectus is available on request and free of charge on the Robeco website.

Sustainability

The fund incorporates sustainability in the investment process via exclusions, ESG integration, a minimum allocation to ESG-labeled bonds, and engagement. The fund does not invest in credit issuers that are in breach of international norms or where activities have been deemed detrimental to society following Robeco's exclusion policy. Financially material ESG factors are integrated in the bottom-up security analysis to assess the impact on the issuer's fundamental credit quality. In the credit selection the fund limits exposure to issuers with an elevated sustainability risk profile. Furthermore, the fund invests at least 2% in green, social, sustainable, and/or sustainability-linked bonds. Lastly, where issuers are flagged for breaching international standards in the ongoing monitoring, the issuer will become subject to engagement.

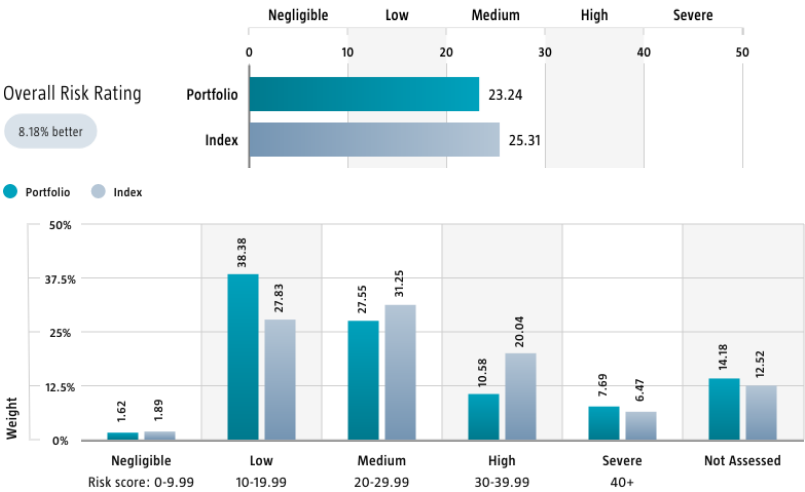
The following sections display the ESG-metrics for this fund along with short descriptions. For more information please visit the sustainability-related disclosures.

The index used for all sustainability visuals is based on Bloomberg US Corporate High Yield + Pan Euro HY ex Financials 2.5% Issuer Cap.

Sustainalytics ESG Risk Rating

The Portfolio Sustainalytics ESG Risk Rating chart displays the portfolio's ESG Risk Rating. This is calculated by multiplying each portfolio component's Sustainalytics ESG Risk Rating by its respective portfolio weight. The Distribution across Sustainalytics ESG Risk levels chart shows the portfolio allocations broken into Sustainalytics' five ESG risk levels: negligible (0-10), low (10-20), medium (20-30), high (30-40) and severe (40+), providing an overview of portfolio exposure to the different ESG risk levels. Index scores are provided alongside the portfolio scores, highlighting the portfolio's ESG risk level compared to the index.

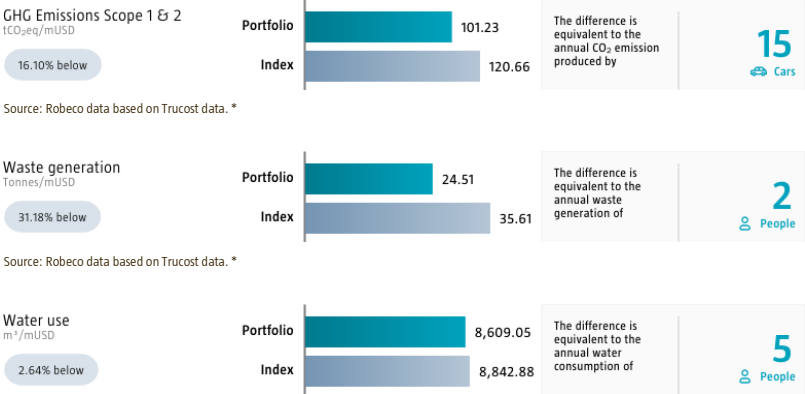
Only holdings mapped as corporates are included in the figures.



Source: Copyright ©2024 Sustainalytics. All rights reserved.

Environmental Footprint

Environmental footprint expresses the total resource consumption of the portfolio per mUSD invested. Each assessed company's footprint is calculated by normalizing resources consumed by the company's enterprise value including cash (EVIC). We aggregate these figures to portfolio level using a weighted average, multiplying each assessed portfolio constituent's footprint by its respective position weight. For comparison, index footprints are shown besides that of the portfolio. The equivalent factors that are used for comparison between the portfolio and index represent European averages and are based on third-party sources combined with own estimates. As such, the figures presented are intended for illustrative purposes and are purely an indication. Only holdings mapped as corporates are included in the figures.

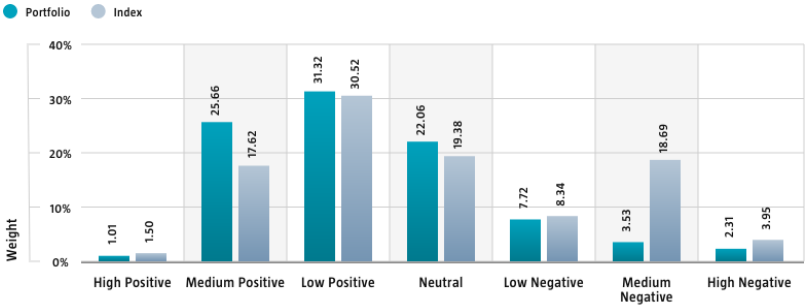


Source: Robeco data based on Trucost data. *

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SDG Impact Alignment

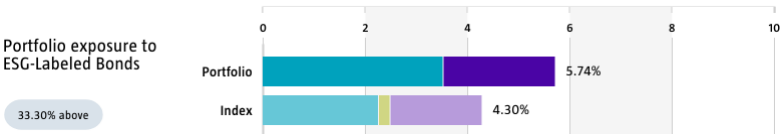
This distribution across SDG scores shows the portfolio weight allocated to companies with a positive, negative and neutral impact alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) based on Robeco’s SDG Framework. The framework utilizes a three-step approach to assess a company’s impact alignment with the relevant SDGs and assign a total SDG score. The score ranges from positive to negative impact alignment with levels from high, medium or low impact alignment. This results in a 7-step scale from -3 to +3. For comparison, index figures are provided alongside that of the portfolio. Only holdings mapped as corporates are included in the figures.



Source: Robeco. Data derived from internal processes.

ESG Labeled Bonds

The ESG-labeled bond chart displays the portfolio's exposure to ESG-labeled bonds. Specifically, green bonds, social bonds, sustainability bonds, and sustainability-linked bonds. This is calculated as a sum of weights for those bonds in the portfolio that have one of above mentioned labels. Index exposure figures are provided alongside the portfolio exposure figures, highlighting the difference with the index.



	Portfolio weight	Index weight
Green Bonds	3.54%	2.27%
Social Bonds	0.00%	0.00%
Sustainability Bonds	0.00%	0.23%
Sustainability-Linked Bonds	2.20%	1.80%

Source: Bloomberg in conjunction with data derived from internal processes. BLOOMBERG® is a trademark and service mark of Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates (collectively “Bloomberg”).

Engagement

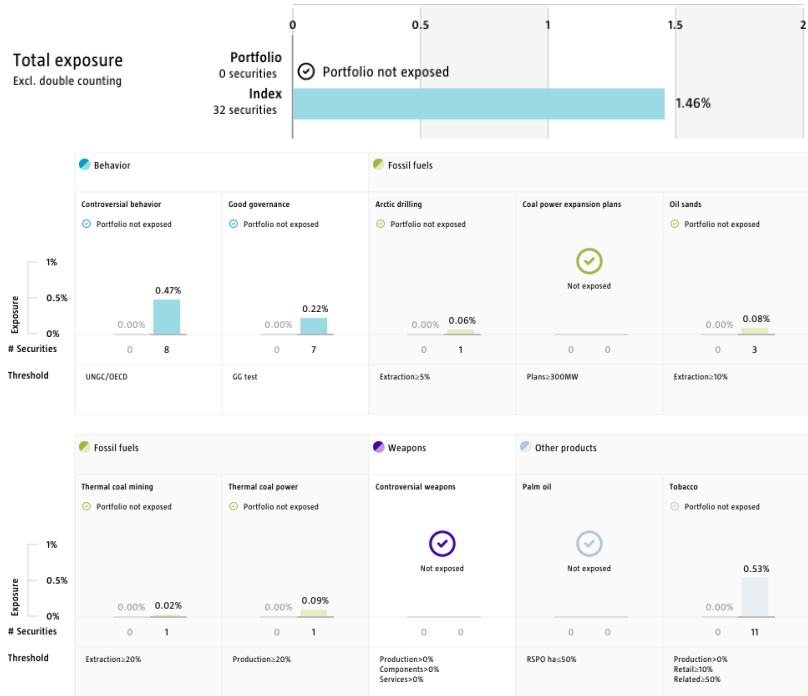
Robeco distinguishes between three types of engagement. Value Engagement focuses on long-term issues that are financially material and/or are causing adverse sustainability impacts. The themes can be broken into Environmental, Social, Governance, or Voting-related. SDG Engagement aims to drive a clear and measurable improvement in a company’s SDG contribution. Enhanced engagement is triggered by misconduct and focuses on companies severely breaching international standards. The report is based on all companies in the portfolio for which engagement activities have taken place during the past 12 months. Note that companies may be under engagement in multiple categories simultaneously. While the total portfolio exposure excludes double counting, it may not equal the sum of individual category exposures.

	Portfolio exposure	# companies engaged with	# activities with companies engaged with
Total (* excluding double counting)	3.83%	19	54
Environmental	1.04%	9	31
Social	0.83%	5	16
Governance	0.00%	0	0
Sustainable Development Goals	0.97%	3	4
Voting Related	0.98%	2	2
Enhanced	0.51%	1	1

Source: Robeco. Data derived from internal processes.

Exclusions

The Exclusions charts display the degree of adherence to exclusion applied by Robeco. For reference, index exposures are shown beside that of the portfolio. Thresholds are based on revenues unless otherwise indicated. For more information about the exclusion policy and which level applies, please refer to the Exclusion Policy and Exclusion List available on Robeco.com.



Source: We use several data sources such as Sustainalytics, RSPO (Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil), World Bank, Freedom House, Fund for Peace and International Sanctions; further policy document available [Exclusion Policy](#)

Investment policy

Robeco High Yield Bonds is an actively managed fund that invests in high yield corporate bonds. The selection of these bonds is mainly based on fundamental analysis. The fund's objective is to provide long-term capital growth. The fund invests in corporate bonds with a sub-investment grade rating, issued primarily by issuers from developed markets (Europe/US). The portfolio is broadly diversified, with a structural bias towards the higher rated part in high yield. Performance drivers are the top-down beta positioning as well as bottom-up issuer selection.

The fund promotes E&S (i.e. Environmental and Social) characteristics within the meaning of Article 8 of the European Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation, integrates sustainability risks in the investment process and applies Robeco's Good Governance policy. The fund applies sustainability indicators, including but not limited to, normative, activity-based and region-based exclusions, and engagement.

The majority of bonds selected will be components of the benchmark, but bonds outside the benchmark index may be selected too. The fund can deviate substantially from the weightings of the benchmark. The fund aims to outperform the benchmark over the long run, while still controlling relative risk through the application of limits (on currencies and issuers) to the extent of the deviation from the benchmark. This will consequently limit the deviation of the performance relative to the benchmark. The benchmark is a broad market-weighted index that is not consistent with the ESG characteristics promoted by the fund.

Fund manager's CV

Sander Bus is CIO and Portfolio Manager High Yield Bonds in the Credit team. He has been dedicated to High Yield at Robeco since 1998. Previously, Sander worked for two years as a Fixed Income Analyst at Rabobank where he started his career in the industry in 1996. He holds a Master's in Financial Economics from Erasmus University Rotterdam and he is a CFA® charterholder. Roeland Moraal is Portfolio Manager High Yield in the Credit team. Before assuming this role, he was Portfolio Manager in the Robeco Duration team and worked as an Analyst with the Institute for Research and Investment Services. Roeland started his career in the industry in 1997. He holds a Master's in Applied Mathematics from the University of Twente and a Master's in Law from Erasmus University Rotterdam. Christiaan Lever is Portfolio Manager High Yield and Emerging Credits in the Credit team. Before assuming this role in 2016, he was Financial Risk Manager at Robeco, focusing on market risk, counterparty risk and liquidity risk within fixed income markets. Christiaan has been active in the industry since 2010. He holds a Master's in Quantitative Finance and in Econometrics from Erasmus University Rotterdam. Daniel de Koning is Portfolio Manager High Yield in the Credit team. Prior to joining Robeco in 2020, he was Portfolio Manager High Yield at NN Investment Partners. Daniel started his career in 2011 at APG Asset Management, where he held roles of Credit Analyst and Portfolio Manager High Yield. He holds a Master's in Business Economics from the University of Amsterdam and he is a CFA® and CAIA® charterholder.

Team info

The Robeco High Yield fund is managed within Robeco's credit team, which consists of nine portfolio managers and twenty-three credit analysts. The portfolio managers are responsible for the construction and management of the credit portfolios, whereas the analysts cover the team's fundamental research. Our analysts have long term experience in their respective sectors which they cover globally. Each analyst covers both investment grade and high yield, providing them an information advantage and benefiting from inefficiencies that traditionally exist between the two segmented markets. Furthermore, the credit team is supported by three dedicated quantitative researchers and four fixed income traders. On average, the members of the credit team have an experience in the asset management industry of seventeen years, of which eight years with Robeco.

Fiscal product treatment

The fund is established in Luxembourg and is subject to the Luxembourg tax laws and regulations. The fund is not liable to pay any corporation, income, dividend or capital gains tax in Luxembourg. The fund is subject to an annual subscription tax ('tax d'abonnement') in Luxembourg, which amounts to 0.01% of the net asset value of the fund. This tax is included in the net asset value of the fund. The fund can in principle use the Luxembourg treaty network to partially recover any withholding tax on its income.

Morningstar

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Sustainability images

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