

The MacKay Advantage

MACKAY SHIELDS

- \$159 Billion AUM¹
- Experienced boutique investment teams
- Specialty fixed income expertise across global fixed income markets including municipal bonds, structured credit, corporate credit and emerging markets debt
- Acquired by New York Life Insurance Company in 1984

Global Fixed Income Team

Portfolio Managers

MICHAEL DEPALMA

NEIL MORIARTY

ZACHARY ARONSON

LESYA PAISLEY, CFA

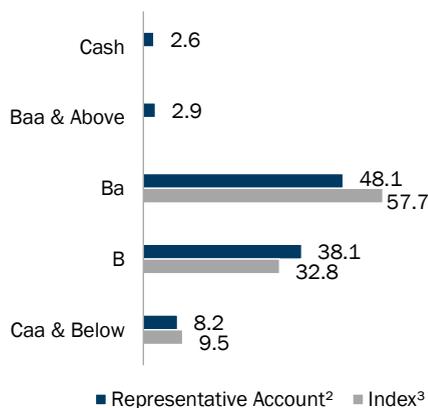
CAMERON WHITE, CFA

High Yield Active Core seeks to outperform the benchmark by eliminating uncompensated risk from investments in below investment grade securities. The strategy strives to achieve an information ratio of greater than 1.

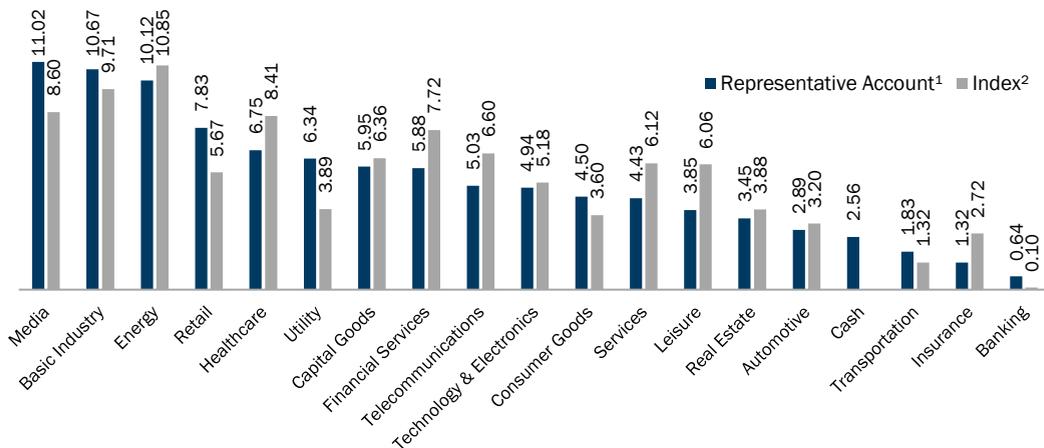
Representative Account Characteristics | As of December 31, 2025

Statistics	Representative Account ¹	Index ²	Difference
YIELD TO WORST (%)	6.57	6.62	-0.05
OPTION ADJUSTED SPREAD	273	281	-8
EFFECTIVE DURATION (YRS)	2.87	2.87	0.00
AVERAGE QUALITY	BB-	B+	-
NUMBER OF ISSUERS	258	857	-

CREDIT RATING DISTRIBUTION³



RELATIVE SECTOR EXPOSURE



1. The representative account utilized for this analysis was selected because it is the oldest dedicated account in the composite and not for performance reasons. Each client account is individually managed, actual holdings will vary for each client and there is no guarantee that a particular client's account will have the same characteristics. It may not precisely represent every portfolio in the composite. Unless otherwise noted, characteristics presented herein are gross characteristics and do not reflect the deduction of fees and expenses.

2. ICE BofA High Yield Master II Index.

3. Average of S&P, Moody's and Fitch ratings. For rated securities, credit quality is assigned as the middle rating of Moody's, S&P and Fitch; when a rating from only two agencies is available, the lower is used; when only one agency rates a bond, that rating is used. ICE BA utilizes its own composite scale, similar to those of Moody's, S&P and Fitch, when publishing a composite rating on an index constituent (eg. BBB3, BBB2, BBB1). Index constituent composite ratings are the simple averages of numerical equivalent values of the ratings from Moody's, S&P and Fitch. If only two of the designated agencies rate a bond, the composite rating is based on an average of the two. Likewise, if only one of the designated agencies rates a bond, the composite rating is based on that one rating. Please see Average Credit Quality disclosures at the end of this document for additional important information.

This document is for informational purposes only. Portfolio holdings are subject to change without notice.

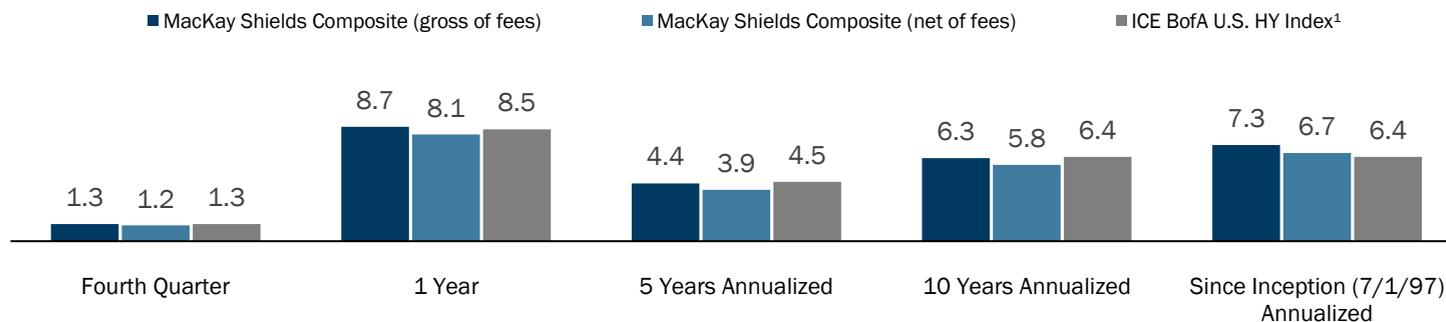
Provided as supplemental information to the GIPS report in this document. See disclosures regarding comparisons to an index and index descriptions at the end of this document.

Source: ICE Data.

1. As of December 31, 2025, includes MacKay Shields LLC and its subsidiaries.

Composite Returns (%)

Period Ending December 31, 2025



Composite Disclosures

Period	MacKay Shields Composite Gross	MacKay Shields Composite Net	ICE BofA U.S. HY Index¹	Composite 3-Yr St Dev	Benchmark¹ 3-Yr St Dev	No. of Accts.	Composite Assets (\$Mil)	Firm Assets (\$Mil)	Internal Dispersion (%)
	Returns (%)	Returns (%)	Returns (%)	(%)	(%)				
2025	8.7	8.1	8.5	4.6	4.7	≤5	370	158,884	0.3
2024	7.7	7.2	8.2	8.1	8.4	≤5	455	150,568	0.2
2023	12.7	12.2	13.5	8.1	8.3	≤5	491	139,163	0.1
2022	-9.8	-10.3	-11.2	9.8	11.1	≤5	561	128,584	0.1
2021	4.5	3.9	5.4	7.6	9.1	≤5	674	163,646	0.1
2020	7.0	6.5	6.2	7.9	9.4	≤5	693	153,995	0.4
2019	15.4	14.8	14.4	3.9	4.1	≤5	887	131,978	0.2
2018	-3.3	-3.8	-2.3	4.2	4.6	6	1,270	107,467	0.1
2017	8.2	7.7	7.5	5.4	5.6	13	3,563	98,098	0.5
2016	15.2	14.6	17.5	5.9	6.0	16	4,538	94,540	0.5

1. ICE BofA High Yield Master II Index

The High Yield Active Core Composite includes all discretionary high yield active core accounts managed with similar objectives for a full month, including those accounts no longer with the firm. This strategy invests in high-yield corporate debt securities, and may be composed of all types of high-yield domestic and foreign corporate debt securities that are rated below investment grade or, if unrated, that we determine to be of comparable quality. The strategy may also include derivatives, such as futures, to try to manage interest rate risk or reduce the risk of loss of (that is, hedge) certain of its holdings. As of 4/1/09, the composite definition was changed to exclude those accounts that cannot hold securities rated below CCC- and those accounts that cannot hold 144A securities. As of 4/1/10, the composite definition was changed to exclude mutual funds. Gross-of-fees composite performance reflects reinvestment of income and dividends and is a market-weighted average of the time-weighted return, before advisory fees and related expenses, of each account for the period since inception. Net-of-fees composite performance is derived by reducing the monthly gross-of-fees composite returns by 0.0417%, our highest monthly fee. Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS reports are available upon request. GIPS® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein. Performance is expressed in US Dollars. There can be no assurance that the rate of return for any account within a composite will be the same as that of the composite presented. **Past performance is not indicative of future results.**

The composite inception date was 7/1/97 and for the period from inception through 2/29/00 was developed at Forstmann-Leff International (FLI). Substantially all the investment decision-makers from the Fixed Income Group of FLI became employed by Pareto Partners on 2/29/00 and subsequently by MacKay Shields LLC on 10/15/04. The decision-making process remained intact and independent within Pareto and continues intact and independent within MacKay Shields. This group and process are responsible for the composite performance, therefore the current composite performance is linked to the prior FLI and Pareto composite history. The composite creation date at MacKay Shields was 10/15/04. All portfolios in the composite are fee-paying portfolios except for the period 7/1/97 through 7/31/98 when the composite included one non-fee paying account, which represented 100% of the composite as of 12/31/97.

MacKay Shields claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. For GIPS purposes, the firm includes assets managed by MacKay Shields LLC and the Emerging Market Debt investment team of its affiliate, NYL Investments UK LLP, who have been appointed as officers of MacKay Shields. MacKay Shields LLC is an SEC registered investment advisor. The firm has been independently verified from January 1, 1988 through December 31, 2024. The verification report is available upon request. A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. Verification does not provide assurance on the accuracy of any specific performance report. A list including composite descriptions, pooled fund descriptions for limited distribution pooled funds, and broad distribution funds is available upon request. Indices do not incur management fees, transaction costs or other operating expenses. Investments cannot be made directly into an index. The ICE BofA High Yield Master II Index is referred to for comparative purposes only and is not intended to parallel the risk or investment style of the portfolios in the MacKay Shields Composite. Internal dispersion is calculated using the equal-weighted standard deviation of annual gross returns of those portfolios that were included in the composite for the entire year. The three-year annualized standard deviation measures the variability of the composite gross returns and the index returns over the preceding 36-month period.

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Comparisons to a financial index are provided for illustrative purposes only. Comparisons to an index are subject to limitations because portfolio holdings, volatility and other portfolio characteristics may differ materially from the index. Unlike an index, portfolios within the composite are actively managed and may also include derivatives. There is no guarantee that any of the securities in an index are contained in any managed portfolio. The performance of an index may assume reinvestment of dividends and income, or follow other index-specific methodologies and criteria, but does not reflect the impact of fees, applicable taxes or trading costs which, unlike an index, may reduce the returns of a managed portfolio. Investors cannot invest in an index. Because of these differences, the performance of an index should not be relied upon as an accurate measure of comparison.

INDEX DESCRIPTIONS

ICE BOFA HIGH YIELD MASTER II INDEX

ICE Bank of America High Yield Master II Index tracks the performance of US dollar denominated below investment grade rated corporate debt publicly issued in the US domestic market. To qualify for inclusion in the index, securities must have a below investment grade rating (based on an average of Moody's, S&P, and Fitch) and an investment grade rated country of risk (based on an average of Moody's, S&P, and Fitch foreign currency long term sovereign debt ratings). Each security must have greater than 1 year of remaining maturity, a fixed coupon schedule, and a minimum amount outstanding of \$100 million.

AVERAGE CREDIT QUALITY DISCLOSURE

Average credit quality figures provided for information purposes only and are based on internal calculations by MacKay Shields using data obtained from independent third party rating agencies and internal ratings assigned to securities that are unrated by third party rating agencies. The average credit quality of a portfolio or fund is not obtained from, nor calculated by, third party rating agencies. No representation or warranty is made as to the accuracy of such calculations, or the accuracy of information provided by third parties.

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