

## 1Q 2022 Update William Blair Emerging Markets Debt Fund

### OBJECTIVE

Risk-adjusted returns

### CHARACTERISTICS

The Fund seeks to provide risk-adjusted returns through investments in hard-currency-denominated debt issued in emerging markets

### WHY CONSIDER THIS FUND?

- The historical yield advantage of emerging markets debt over developed markets debt provides the potential for attractive risk-adjusted returns.
- A combination of bottom-up and top-down expertise deepens our understanding of performance drivers, improving the decision-making process.
- The breadth of the team allows for specialization and regional focus, enhancing our ability to identify opportunities and to avoid unattractive risks.

### EXPENSE RATIOS

	Gross Expense	Net Expense
Class R6	0.84%	0.65%

Expenses shown are as of the most recent prospectus. The Fund's Adviser has contractually agreed to waive fees and/or reimburse expenses to limit fund operating expenses until 4/30/22.

### FUND FACTS AND STATISTICS

Total Net Assets (\$MM)	\$48
Number of Holdings	184
Since Inception Turnover	112.9%
Average Maturity (Years)	16.5
Average Quality	BB+
Duration (Years)	7.5

### INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE (as of 03/31/22)

	QTR	YTD	1 Y	3 Y	5 Y	Since Inception
Class R6 (SI: 05/25/21)	-8.40%	-8.40%	--	--	--	-9.61%
JPMorgan Emerging Markets Bond Index (EMBI) Global Diversified <sup>1</sup>	-10.02%	-10.02%	--	--	--	-10.22%

### CALENDAR YEAR PERFORMANCE

	2021*	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Class R6 (SI: 05/25/21)	-1.32%	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
JPMorgan Emerging Markets Bond Index (EMBI) Global Diversified <sup>1</sup>	-0.22%	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

\*Since Inception of Class R6 Shares on 5/25/21 through 12/31/21.

**Performance cited represents past performance. Past performance does not guarantee future results and current performance may be lower or higher than the data quoted. Returns shown assume reinvestment of dividends and capital gains. Investment returns and principal will fluctuate with market and economic conditions and you may have a gain or loss when you sell shares. For the most current month-end performance information, please call +1 800 742 7272, or visit our Web site at [www.williamblairfunds.com](http://www.williamblairfunds.com). Class R6 shares are available only to investors who meet certain eligibility requirements.**

### TOP 10 COUNTRIES BY ACTIVE SPREAD DURATION CONTRIBUTION<sup>2,5</sup>

	Fund
Romania	0.1%
Nigeria	0.1%
Bahrain	0.1%
Colombia	0.1%
Ecuador	0.1%
Qatar	0.1%
Dominican Republic	0.1%
Egypt	0.1%
Angola	0.1%
Gabon	0.1%
<b>Total Top 10</b>	<b>1.0%</b>

### TOP 10 COUNTRY ALLOCATIONS<sup>5</sup>

	Fund	Index <sup>1</sup>
Indonesia	5.4%	4.9%
Colombia	4.9%	2.8%
Mexico	4.7%	5.2%
Dominican Rep.	3.8%	2.8%
Nigeria	3.8%	2.1%
Qatar	3.8%	4.0%
Malaysia	3.5%	2.8%
Egypt	3.1%	2.7%
Chile	3.0%	3.2%
Turkey	3.0%	3.8%
<b>Total Top 10</b>	<b>38.9%</b>	<b>34.3%</b>

### TOP 10 ISSUERS<sup>5</sup>

	Fund	Index <sup>1</sup>
Republica De Colombia	3.1%	2.8%
Jumhuriyat Misr Al-Arabiyah	3.1%	2.7%
Republik Indonesia	3.0%	2.5%
Dawlat Qatar	3.0%	3.1%
Republica Dominicana	3.0%	2.8%
Nigeria, Federal Republic Of (Government)	2.9%	2.1%
Petroleos Mexicanos	2.7%	2.1%
Republica Del Ecuador	2.7%	1.6%
Mamlakat Al Bahrayn	2.6%	1.7%
Angola, Republic Of (Government)	2.5%	1.2%
<b>Total Top 10</b>	<b>28.6%</b>	<b>22.6%</b>

**DURATION DISTRIBUTION<sup>4</sup>**

	Fund	Index <sup>1</sup>
Less than 1 year	11.2%	4.3%
1-3 years	7.1%	15.1%
3-5 years	13.4%	19.6%
5-7 years	14.8%	17.6%
7-10 years	19.5%	15.6%
10-15 years	19.8%	15.8%
15+ years	14.2%	12.0%

**SECTOR ALLOCATIONS<sup>5</sup>**

	Fund	Index <sup>1</sup>
Sovereign	64.1%	80.2%
Corporate	12.8%	--
Quasi-Sovereign	15.5%	19.8%
Sub Sovereign	1.4%	--
Supranational	0.4%	--
Cash & Equivalents	5.8%	--

**PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**



**Marcelo Assalin, CFA**  
Started in Industry: 1997  
Education: B.A., Business Administration & Accounting, University of São Paulo



**Marco Ruijer, CFA**  
Started in Industry: 1998  
Education: M.A., International Financial Economics, Univ. of Amsterdam

**CREDIT QUALITY<sup>3,5</sup>**

	Fund	Index <sup>1</sup>
AA	4.5%	6.5%
A	5.3%	14.6%
BBB	18.1%	26.4%
BB	18.0%	16.4%
B	33.8%	26.1%
CCC	5.6%	2.6%
CC	0.3%	--
C	0.1%	--
D	0.6%	--
No Rating	7.9%	7.4%
Cash & Equivalents	5.8%	--

<sup>1</sup>The JP Morgan Emerging Markets Bond Index (EMBI) Global Diversified tracks the total return of U.S.-dollar denominated debt instruments issued by sovereign and quasi-sovereign entities. The index is unmanaged, does not incur fees or expenses, and cannot be invested in directly. Information has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable but JP Morgan does not warrant its completeness or accuracy. The index is used with permission. The index may not be copied, used, or distributed without JP Morgan's prior written approval. Copyright JPMorgan Chase & Co. All rights reserved.

<sup>2</sup>Active spread duration is the difference between the effective spread duration contribution from a particular security or market segment to a portfolio, and the contribution to the portfolio's benchmark. Effective spread duration is a measure of the sensitivity of a bond's price with respect to sovereign spread movement. It approximately measures the percentage change in a bond's price if spreads change by 100 bps.

<sup>3</sup>The credit quality of securities in the portfolio and Index are sourced from Standard & Poor's, Copyright © 2021, S&P Global Market Intelligence (and its affiliates, as applicable). Reproduction of any information, data or material, including ratings ("Content") in any form is prohibited except with the prior written permission of the relevant party. Such party, its affiliates and suppliers ("Content Providers") do not guarantee the accuracy, adequacy, completeness, timeliness or availability of any Content and are not responsible for any errors or omissions (negligent or otherwise), regardless of the cause, or for the results obtained from the use of such Content. In no event shall Content Providers be liable for any damages, costs, expenses, legal fees, or losses (including lost income or lost profit and opportunity costs) in connection with any use of the Content. A reference to a particular investment or security, a rating or any observation concerning an investment that is part of the Content is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold such investment or security, does not address the suitability of an investment or security and should not be relied on as investment advice. Credit ratings are statements of opinions and are not statements of fact. Credit quality designations range from AAA (highest) to D (lowest). Credit quality ratings on underlying securities are received from S&P and Moody's which are converted to the equivalent S&P major rating category for presentation purposes only. The portfolio itself has not been rated.

<sup>4</sup>Duration distribution is the portfolio's allocation to different groups of bonds, where those groups are determined by the bonds' effective interest rate duration. Effective interest rate duration is a measure of the sensitivity of a bond's price with respect to a shift in U.S. interest rates. It approximately measures the percentage change in a bond's price if U.S. interest rates change by 100 bps.

<sup>5</sup>Top ten issuers are shown as % of total net assets. Investment type and credit quality diversification are shown as % of total investments which includes cash equivalents. Information about the Fund's holdings should not be considered investment advice. There is no guarantee that the Fund will continue to hold any one particular security or stay invested in any one particular sector. Holdings are subject to change at any time.

**Risks: The Fund involves a high level of risk and may not be appropriate for everyone.** The Fund's return will vary, and you could lose money by investing in the Fund. Investing in the bond market is subject to certain risks including market, interest rate, issuer, credit, and inflation risk. Rising interest rates generally cause bond prices to fall. Sovereign debt securities are subject to the risk that an entity may delay or refuse to pay interest or principal on its sovereign debt because of cash flow problems, insufficient foreign reserves, or political or other considerations. 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. Investing in foreign denominated and/or domiciled securities may involve heightened risk due to currency fluctuations, and economic and political risks. These risks may be enhanced in emerging markets. Derivatives may be subject to certain risks such as leveraging, liquidity, interest rate, credit, counterparty, management and the risk of mispricing or improper valuation. The Fund is non-diversified and may be more susceptible to adverse developments affecting any single issuer held by the Fund.

**Please carefully consider the Fund's investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses before investing. This and other information is contained in the Fund's prospectus and summary prospectus, which you may obtain by calling +1 800 742 7272. Read the prospectus and summary prospectus carefully before investing. Investing includes the risk of loss.**

This content is for informational and educational purposes only and not intended as investment advice or a recommendation to buy or sell any security. Investment advice and recommendations can be provided only after careful consideration of an investor's objectives, guidelines, and restrictions.

Distributed by William Blair & Company, L.L.C., member FINRA/SIPC

Copyright © William Blair & Company, L.L.C. "William Blair" is a registered trademark of William Blair & Company, L.L.C.

**NOT FDIC INSURED | NO BANK GUARANTEE | MAY LOSE VALUE**

+1 800 742 7272 | williamblairfunds.com