# **Municipal Income Enhanced Portfolio**

# Fact Sheet

As of 3/31/2025





# **Highlights**

# **Actively Managed For Challenging Fixed Income Environment**

- Designed to meet the unique challenges presented by today's volatile interest rates
- Emphasis on credit risk and interest rate risk management
- Prioritizes absolute return over relative return versus a benchmark

# **Highly Liquid and Efficient Exposure to Municipal Bond Market**

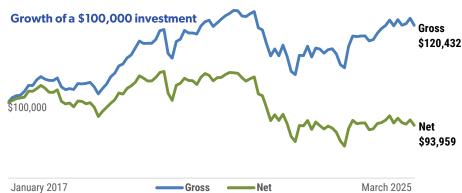
- Consists primarily of municipal fixed income ETFs, which provide efficient exposure to multiple underlying sectors of the investment-grade U.S. municipal bond market
- While not without their own unique risks, compared to a portfolio consisting of individual bonds, municipal ETFs provide clear advantages with regard to diversification, liquidity, trading execution, and price transparency
- Active management overlay includes fund selection, weighting, and rebalancing to pursue the desired targets for yield, duration, curve positioning, and sector allocations

# **Opportunity to Earn Enhanced Income**

- The utilization of modest leverage can add a multiplier effect to the portfolio that may magnify income, total returns, and losses
- According to a March 2021 Blackrock research report, leveraged municipal CEFs have outperformed comparable unleveraged funds in 15 out of the last 20 years<sup>1</sup>
- ► The maximum allocation to CEFs is 20%, which is intended to control total portfolio leverage and limit overall price volatility

# **Performance Overview**

December 31, 2016–March 31, 2025 | Past performance is no guarantee of future results.



# Objective

Municipal fixed income strategy utilizing exchange-traded funds (ETFs) and closed end funds (CEFs) to seek capital preservation, return stability, and taxadvantaged income as part of a diversified investment portfolio

# **Portfolio Characteristics**

Inception	January 1, 2017
Number of Holdings	14
Benchmark	Bloomberg Muni Bond Index
Wgtd. Avg. ETF Mkt. Cap.	\$6.0 Bln.
Annual Turnover - 2024	5.8%
Wgtd. Avg. 30-Day SEC Yld†	3.2%

+ Excluding closed-end funds

For information on the exchange-traded funds within the portfolio refer to the Supplemental Information on page 5.

Risk Statistics		
	Portfolio	Benchmark
Standard Deviation (%)	6.13	6.31
Sharpe Ratio	-0.23	-0.26
Beta	0.96	1.00
R-Squared	0.97	1.00
Alpha (%)	0.25	0.00
Batting Average (%)	58.33	100.00
Up-Market Capture (%)	97.89	100.00
Down-Market Capture (%)	95.43	100.00

All risk measures are based on a 5-year time period using monthly returns.

The growth of \$100,000 chart presented herein is for illustrative purposes only. The chart illustrates the growth of \$100,000 had it been invested at the time of inception and includes reinvestment of dividends. It does not assume withdrawals or contributions. Any results shown above may not represent the actual experience of individual investors. Individual account performance may differ due to, e.g., account size, cash flows, investment restrictions, economic factors, and fees.

Total Returns			Annualized Returns			Calendar-Year Returns									
	3-Mos	6-Mos	YTD	1-year	3-year	5-year	Inception	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Gross %	-0.04	-1.13	-0.04	2.37	1.39	1.28	2.28	6.52	-1.55	11.26	4.05	2.22	-9.41	4.63	2.44
Benchmark %	-0.22	-1.44	-0.22	1.22	1.53	1.07	2.27	5.45	1.28	7.54	5.21	1.52	-8.53	6.40	1.05
Net %	-0.78	-2.62	-0.78	-0.68	-1.62	-1.72	-0.75	3.38	-4.51	7.99	0.98	-0.80	-12.13	1.54	-0.61

As of 3/31/2025; Inception–January 1, 2017; Benchmark = Bloomberg U.S. Municipal Bond Index

Net returns reflect the deduction of the potential maximum managed account fee of 3.00% which includes the wrap sponsor fee and EquityCompass investment management fees. Actual fees may vary.

(1) Spotlight on Leverage in Closed-end Funds, Blackrock, March 2021.

# **Municipal Income Enhanced Portfolio**



**Fact Sheet** As of 3/31/2025

Top Five Portfolio Holdings by Weight								
Description	ETF	%						
PIMCO Intermed. Muni. Bond Active ETF	MUNI	11.54						
VanEck Intermediate Muni. ETF	ITM	10.19						
SPDR Nuveen Bloomberg Muni. Bd. ETF	TFI	9.82						
SPDR Nuveen Bloomberg S-T Muni. Bd. ETF	SHM	9.76						
iShares Nat'l. Muni. Bond ETF	MUB	9.50						

For illustrative purposes only and not intended as personalized recommendations. The specific securities identified and described herein do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold, or recommended to advisory clients, and the reader should not assume that investments in the securities identified and discussed were or will be profitable. A complete list of all recommendations made by the firm is available upon request. For information on the exchange-traded funds shown in the table above, refer to the Supplemental Information on page 5.

Statistics for Underlying Bond Portfolio (Years)						
	Portfolio	Benchmark				
Weighted Average Life	10.21	12.09				
Effective Duration	5.76	6.36				

Top Five Municipal Sector Allocation by Weight (%)						
	Portfolio	Benchmark				
Tax Revenue	15.79	17.65				
Various Purpose	13.70	18.31				
Transportation	13.37	17.72				
Utility	12.29	17.69				
Health	9.06	0.01				

Moody's Rating Distribution (%)						
	Portfolio	Benchmark				
Aaa	15.42	19.08				
Aa	45.23	53.59				
A	16.83	12.70				
Ваа	2.53	0.47				
Below Baa	0.20					
Non Rated (Including Cash)	19.78	14.16				

# **Portfolio Management**



James J. DeMasi, CFA Senior Portfolio Manager

# About EquityCompass

EquityCompass is a Baltimore-based SEC registered investment adviser offering a broad range of portfolio strategies and custom plans for individuals, financial intermediaries, and institutional clients in the U.S. Formally organized in 2008, EquityCompass provides portfolio strategies with respect to total assets of approximately \$5.2 billion as of March 31, 2025.\*

The EquityCompass team of professionals represents deep industry experience in security analysis, capital markets, and portfolio management. We are committed to a consistent investment process that relies on enduring principles, sound empirical reasoning, and the recognition of a dynamic investment environment with a global reach.

# MUNICIPAL INCOME ENHANCED PORTFOLIO WRAP COMPOSITE (01/01/2017 - 12/31/2023)

				Composite	Benchmark	Composite		Composite	Strategy	Firm & Advisory
	Gross-of-Fees	Net-of-Fees	Benchmark	3 Yr. Ex Post	3 Yr. Ex Post	Number of	Internal	Assets	Assets	Assets
Year-End	Return*	Return**	Return	Std. Deviation	Std. Deviation	Portfolios	Dispersion	(USD Mil.)	(USD Mil)†	(USD Mil.)
2017	6.5%	6.5%	5.4%	N/A	N/A	<6	N/A	\$0.02	\$0.03	\$3,785
2018	-1.6%	-1.6%	1.3%	N/A	N/A	<6	N/A	\$0.02	\$0.03	\$3,831
2019	11.3%	11.3%	7.5%	N/A	N/A	<6	N/A	\$0.02	\$0.03	\$4,294
2020	4.0%	4.0%	5.2%	5.4%	4.0%	<6	N/A	\$0.05	\$0.06	\$4,012
2021	2.2%	-0.8%	1.5%	5.0%	4.0%	<6	N/A	\$0.15	\$0.20	\$5,038
2022	-9.4%	-12.1%	-8.5%	7.1%	6.5%	<6	N/A	\$0.14	\$2.50	\$4,469
2023	4.6%	1.5%	6.4%	7.1%	7.5%	<6	N/A	\$0.14	\$4.50	\$4,707

\* Supplemental information. Please see Fees section for details. \*\* Net returns are calculated by subtracting the highest applicable wrap fee (3.00% on an annual basis) from the gross composite return. † Supplemental Information.

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# **Definition of the Firm**

EquityCompass is registered as an investment adviser with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The firm provides a broad range of investment strategies to individuals, financial intermediaries, and institutions in the United States. EquityCompass, a wholly owned subsidiary of Stifel Financial Corp., was organized as an entity in 2007, and has been registered with the SEC since May 5, 2008. SEC Registration does not imply a certain level of skill or training. Please refer to the firm's ADV Part 2 for additional disclosures regarding the firm and its practices. To obtain a GIPS Report or a list of our composite descriptions and/or policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS reports, please call (443) 224-1231 or send an e-mail t oinfo@equitycompass.com.

# **Composite Description**

The performance results displayed herein represent the investment performance record for the Municipal Income Enhanced Portfolio Wrap Composite. The composite includes wrap and non-wrap accounts that are invested in the composite strategy and managed on a discretionary basis by EquityCompass. Municipal Income Enhanced Portfolio strategy utilizes exchange-traded funds to seek capital preservation, return stability, and supplemental income as part of a diversified investment portfolio. It is available in wrap fee programs through third-party intermediaries (each, a "Sponsor") that have engaged EquityCompass to manage client accounts on a discretionary basis or to provide non-discretionary investment recommendations in the form of model portfolios. The Composite was created in January 2018 and the inception date is January 1, 2017.

#### **Benchmark Description**

The benchmark is the Bloomberg U.S. Municipal Bond Index. The **Bloomberg U.S. Municipal Bond Index** measures the performance of the U.S. municipal bond market. It is composed of approximately 1,100 bonds; 60% of which are revenue bonds and 40% of which are state government obligations. All benchmark returns are shown on a total return basis and assume that all cash distributions, such as dividends, are reinvested. The volatility of the indices identified in this report may be materially different from the volatility of the model portfolios presented by EquityCompass. Indices are unmanaged, do not reflect fees and expenses, and are not available for direct investment.

#### Fees

Gross-of-fees returns, are gross of portfolio management and custody fees and net of all actual transaction costs in the case of non-wrap accounts and those wrap accounts traded by EquityCompass. If the wrap account trades are executed by the Sponsor, transaction costs are bundled with the wrap fee and therefore not deducted from gross-of-fee return calculation. Net returns are calculated by subtracting the highest applicable annual wrap fee (3.00%, by deducting 0.75% quarterly) from the gross composite return. The EquityCompass management fee per annum is 0.15%. Clients are typically charged a wrap fee which includes, in addition to the manager fee, trading expenses, as well as custody and administrative fees. The wrap fee schedule varies by Sponsor and is available upon request.

# **Reporting Currency**

Valuations are computed and performance reported in U.S. dollars (USD).

# **Annualized Standard Deviation**

The three-year annualized ex post standard deviation measures the variability of the monthly returns of the composite (gross-of-fee) and the benchmark over the preceding 36-month period; it is not presented for periods of less than three years.

# **Internal Dispersion**

Internal dispersion is calculated using the asset-weighted standard deviation of annual gross returns of all accounts that were in the composite for the entire year; it is not presented for periods less than one year or when there were fewer than five accounts in the composite for the entire year.

#### Assets

Strategy Assets include all discretionary and non-discretionary accounts invested in the Municipal Income Enhanced Portfolio strategy. Accounts that are excluded from the composite because of significant cash flows or for other reasons are also included in Strategy Assets. This is presented as supplemental information.

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Leverage magnifies the potential for gain and loss on monies invested. In a leveraged fund, an investor will bear a greater share of the losses and a greater share of the gains in a particular investment than would be the case in an unleveraged investment fund.

Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) are subject to market risk, including the possible loss of principal, and may trade for less than their net asset value. ETFs trade like a stock, and there will be brokerage commissions associated with buying and selling exchange traded funds unless trading occurs in a fee-based account. Investors should consider an ETF's investment objective, risks, charges, and expenses carefully before investing. The prospectus, which contains this and other important information, is available from your Financial Advisor and should be read carefully before investing.

\*Total assets combines both Assets Under Management and Assets Under Advisement as of March 31, 2025. Assets Under Management represents the aggregate fair value of all discretionary and non-discretionary assets, including fee paying and non-fee paying portfolios. Assets Under Advisement represent advisory-only assets where the firm provides a model portfolio and does not have trading authority over the assets.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF TERMS**

#### Alpha

Alpha is a measure of performance vs. a benchmark on a risk-adjusted basis. A positive alpha of 1.0 means the portfolio has outperformed its benchmark index by 1%. Correspondingly, a similar negative alpha would indicate an underperformance of 1%.

#### **Batting Average**

A measure of a manager's ability to beat the market consistently, the Batting Average is calculated by dividing the number of quarters in which the manager beat or matched an index by the total number of quarters in the period. For example, a manager who meets or outperforms the market every quarter in a given period would have a batting average of 100. A manager who beats the market half of the time would have a batting average of 50.

#### Beta

Measures the sensitivity of an investment to the movement of its benchmark. A beta higher than 1.0 indicates the investment has been more volatile than the benchmark and a beta of less than 1.0 indicates that the investment has been less volatile than the benchmark.

#### **Down-Market Capture Ratio**

Measures the manager's overall performance to the benchmark's overall performance, considering only quarters that are negative in the benchmark. A down-market capture ratio of less than 1.0 indicates a manager who outperforms the relative benchmark in the benchmark's negative quarters and protects more of a portfolio's value during down markets.

#### **R-Squared**

Measures the strength of the linear relationship between a fund and its benchmark. R-squared at 1.00 implies perfect linear relationship and zero implies no relationship exists.

#### **Sharpe Ratio**

Sharpe Ratio is a risk-adjusted measure, calculated using standard deviation and excess return to determine reward per unit of risk. The higher the Sharpe ratio, the better a portfolio's historical risk-adjusted performance.

#### **Standard Deviation**

Measures the risk or volatility of an investment's return over a particular time period; the greater the number, the greater the risk.

# **Up-Market Capture Ratio**

Measures the manager's overall performance to the benchmark's overall performance, considering only quarters that are positive in the benchmark. An up-market capture ratio of more than 1.0 indicates a manager who outperforms the relative benchmark in the benchmark's positive quarters.

#### Past performance does not guarantee future performance or investment results.

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			30-Day SEC
Municipal Income Enhanced Portfolio (MIEP) ETFs		Weight	Yield*
PIMCO Intermediate Municipal Bond Active ETF	MUNI	11.55%	3.37%
VanEck Vectors AMT-Free Intermediate Municipal ETF	ITM	10.19%	3.35%
SPDR Nuveen Barclays Capital Muni Bond	TFI	9.83%	3.18%
SPDR Nuveen Barclays Capital S/T Muni	SHM	9.76%	2.56%
iShares S&P National AMT-Free Municipal Bond Fund	MUB	9.50%	3.53%
Invesco Trust II National AMT-Free Muni ETF	PZA	9.47%	3.85%
PIMCO Short Term Municipal Bond Active Exchange-Traded Fund	SMMU	9.36%	2.85%
VanEck Vectors AMT-Free Short Municipal Index ETF	SMB	7.84%	2.87%
iShares Short-Term National Muni Bond ETF	SUB	6.71%	2.73%
PIMCO Municipal Income Opportunities ETF	MINO	2.92%	3.72%
	Total Weighted Average Yield	of ETFs	3.19%

(Click on links below to access Standardized Performance and Prospectus for each ETF)

PIMCO Intermediate Municipal Bond Active ETF (MUNI): <u>Standardized Performance</u> | <u>Prospectus</u> VanEck Vectors AMT-Free Intermediate Municipal ETF (ITM): <u>Standardized Performance</u> | <u>Prospectus</u> SPDR Nuveen Barclays Capital Muni Bond (TFI): <u>Standardized Performance</u> | <u>Prospectus</u> SPDR Nuveen Barclays Capital S/T Muni (SHM): <u>Standardized Performance</u> | <u>Prospectus</u> iShares S&P National AMT-Free Municipal Bond Fund (MUB): <u>Standardized Performance</u> | <u>Prospectus</u> Invesco Trust II National AMT-Free Muni ETF (PZA): <u>Standardized Performance</u> | <u>Prospectus</u> PIMCO Short Term Municipal Bond Active Exchange Traded Fund (SMMU): <u>Standardized Performance</u> | <u>Prospectus</u> VanEck Vectors AMT-Free Short Municipal Index ETF (SMB): <u>Standardized Performance</u> | <u>Prospectus</u> iShares Short-Term National Muni Bond ETF (SUB): <u>Standardized Performance</u> | <u>Prospectus</u> PIMCO Municipal Income Opportunities ETF (MINO): <u>Standardized Performance</u> | <u>Prospectus</u>

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