

### Pendal Government Bond Fund

ARSN: 098 011 048

Income & Fixed Interest

30 April 2026

#### About the Fund

The Pendal Government Bond Fund (**Fund**) is an actively managed portfolio of predominantly government bond securities which aims to take advantage of investment opportunities within bond markets.

#### Fund Objective

The Fund aims to provide a return (before fees and expenses) that exceeds the Bloomberg AusBond Govt 0+ Yr Index over a rolling 3-year period. The suggested investment timeframe is three years or more.

#### Description of Fund

This Fund is designed for investors who want to take advantage of opportunities within the government bond markets and are prepared to accept some variability of returns. The Fund offers income and a diversified portfolio of government bonds and cash securities. The Fund invests primarily in the Australian government bond market across a combination of Commonwealth government bonds, semi government bonds (State issued bonds), corporate bonds (which are Government guaranteed), foreign sovereign and supranational bonds. The Fund may also invest tactically in international government bonds, which are in developed markets.

The Fund can use derivatives to achieve its investment objective and to gain exposure to assets and markets. Derivatives may also be used to reduce risk and can act as a hedge against adverse movements in a particular market and/or in the underlying assets.

Pendal's investment process for government bonds aims to add value through multiple strategies and investment research. Pendal seeks to generate excess returns through strategies including active security and sector selection, duration and yield curve management.

#### Investment Team

Pendal's Income & Fixed Interest team has extensive and varied experience across both local and international Fixed Interest markets. The team manages a range of strategies including Cash, Government bond, Composite bond, specialised Insurance solutions, Income solutions and Sustainable and Impact funds. The portfolio manager of the Fund is Tim Hext who has more than 35 years industry experience.

#### Other Information

Fund size (as at 30 April 2026)	\$327 million
Date of inception	July 1992
Minimum investment	\$500,000
Buy-sell spread <sup>1</sup>	
For the Fund's current buy-sell spread information, visit <a href="http://www.pendalgroup.com">www.pendalgroup.com</a>	
Distribution frequency	Quarterly
APIR code	BTA0111AU

<sup>1</sup> The buy-sell spread represents a contribution to the transaction costs incurred by the Fund, when the Fund is purchasing and selling assets. The buy-sell spread is generally incurred whenever you invest or withdraw funds, and may vary from time to time without notice.

#### Fees and costs

You should refer to the latest Product Disclosure Statement for full details of the ongoing fees and costs that you may be charged.

Management fee <sup>2</sup>	0.32% pa
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<sup>2</sup> This is the fee we charge for managing the assets and overseeing the operations of the Fund. The management fee is deducted from the Fund's assets and reflected in its unit price.

#### Performance

(%)	Total Returns (post-fee)	Total Returns (pre-fee)	Benchmark Return
1 month	-0.03	0.00	0.01
3 months	-0.66	-0.58	-0.58
6 months	-2.16	-2.00	-2.07
1 year	-0.47	-0.15	-0.51
2 years (p.a)	3.17	3.50	3.17
3 years (p.a)	1.72	2.05	1.59
5 years (p.a)	-0.11	0.21	-0.28
Since Inception (p.a)	5.43	5.78	5.45

Source: Pendal as at 30 April 2026.

"Post-fee" returns assume reinvestment of distributions and is calculated using exit prices. "Pre-fee" returns exclude the effects of management costs and any taxes. Returns for periods greater than one year are annualised. Fund inception: July 1992.

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

The benchmark for this Fund has changed over time. The benchmark performance shown is that of the combined benchmarks that the fund has aimed to exceed over time.

#### Sector Allocation (as at 30 April 2026)

Government bonds	29.9%
Semi-Government bonds	38.8%
Cash & other	31.3%

#### Fund Statistics (as at 30 April 2026)

Yield to maturity <sup>#</sup>	5.10%
Running yield <sup>*</sup>	3.85%
Modified duration	5.34 years
Credit spread duration	0.04 years
Weighted average maturity	5.36 years

<sup>#</sup> Yield to maturity is an estimate, at a point in time, of an individual security's expected annual rate of return, assuming the security is held to maturity and all coupon payments are made on time and reinvested at the same rate. The Fund's yield to maturity uses this calculation on a weighted average basis for all physical securities held in the Fund. The Fund's yield to maturity does not represent the actual return of the Fund over any period.

<sup>\*</sup> Running yield is an estimate, at a point in time, of the annual income generated by an individual security expressed as a percentage of its current market price. It is calculated by dividing the coupon of the security by the market value of that security. The Fund's running yield uses this calculation on a weighted average basis for all physical securities held in the Fund. Running yield does not reflect the actual income return of the Fund.

## Market review

There was no meeting held by the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) during the month. Inflation data showed first quarter trimmed mean inflation rising by 0.8% and resulting in an annual increase of 3.5%. The quarterly result was slightly weaker than expected, the annual result in line.

The monthly inflation series showed inflation rising by 1.1% in March. The increase was driven by a 32.8% surge in automotive fuel, contributing 1% to the headline result. Year-on-year inflation was up 4.6%.

Labour market data was in line with expectations. Employment grew by 17,900 jobs and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.3%. The participation rate fell by 0.1% to 66.8%.

The NAB Business survey painted a mixed picture. According to the survey business conditions fell marginally although remain in positive territory. Business conditions showed capacity utilisation remaining above its long run average. Purchase cost growth rose sharply. Confidence however plummeted, falling to -29 due to the conflict in the Middle East. It was the 2nd largest fall in the survey's history with the magnitude mirroring declines seen in the Global Financial Crisis and the COVID outbreak.

The Westpac Consumer Confidence survey also fell sharply. The index fell by 12.5% and is near historical lows. According to the survey the spike in fuel prices and rising interest rates triggered the largest fall since COVID.

Geopolitical events continued to dominate headlines in April. Equity markets performed strongly despite the oil price rising over the month and bonds yields moving higher. The S&P500 gained over 10% for the month, German DAX rose 7% and the Nikkei was up 5.6%. US bond yields rose with the short end of the curve underperforming. US 2-year yields traded in a 32 basis-point range before ending 8 basis points higher at 3.87%. US 10-year yields traded in a 23 basis-point range and ended 5 basis points higher at 4.37%. The UK market was the worst performing intra month before recovering into month end. Two-year Gilts traded in a 53 basis-point range before ending 5 basis-points higher at 4.45%. Thirty-year yields ended 17 basis-points higher at 5.69%.

Central banks that held meetings during the month included the Federal Reserve, Bank of Canada, European Central Bank, Bank of England, Bank of Japan and the Reserve Bank of New Zealand. All left monetary policy rates unchanged. At the Federal Reserve there was some dissent around the language in the statement. Three members dissented against the statement, arguing that the easing bias should be removed with the risk to rates being two-sided. Governor Miran voted for policy easing. The Bank of Japan left policy settings unchanged at 0.75%. The vote was 6-3 for no change, with 3 members voting for a 0.25% increase. Inflation in Japan remains above target with annual core inflation at 2.4%. In Europe inflation expectations surged with the ECB's Consumer Expectations Survey showing 1-year inflation expectations rising from 2.5% to 4%.

Tensions in the Middle East remain elevated. United States President Trump threatened to destroy Iranian infrastructure and wipe out a civilisation early in the month. The oil price rose and bond yields moved higher on the headlines. A two-week ceasefire between the United States and Iran was subsequently announced and saw the oil price (West Texas Intermediate - WTI) fall from \$115 to \$94. The ceasefire was fragile with Israel launching attacks against Hezbollah in Lebanon. Iran threatened to boycott a meeting with the US if the ceasefire excluded Lebanon. The meeting between the US and Iran did take place and failed to yield an agreement. The US President announced a naval blockade of the Strait in response. Risk sentiment improved as hopes for an extension to the two-week ceasefire escalated following headlines that talks with Iran could resume. The Strait was re-opened in mid-

April to commercial traffic. The oil price responded and fell to a low of \$82. It was short lived. Iran announced they were closing the Strait again, citing the US naval blockade. The US Navy seized an Iranian cargo ship. Iran rejected a second round of talks with the US, citing the blockade and unrealistic expectations. Risk sentiment rebounded after President Trump posted that he would extend the ceasefire following a request from Pakistan, who operated as mediator in the conflict. The blockade was not lifted. Iran subsequently seized two ships in the Strait and fired on a third.

Economic data in the United States included non-farm payrolls rising by a much larger than expected 178,000 jobs (consensus 65k). The unemployment rate fell from 4.4% to 4.3%. Average hourly earnings were slightly weaker than expected, rising by 0.2% in March at 3.5% over the year. Retail sales were stronger than expected. Consumer confidence picked up as expectations for the next six months improved and labour market sentiment improved.

Inflation remains above the Federal Reserve's target. Annual core personal consumption expenditure (PCE) rose 3.2%. Annual headline inflation rose 3.3% and core inflation was up 2.6%. Both results were slightly weaker than expected.

## Fund performance and activity

The Fund slightly underperformed the benchmark where the total return of the benchmark was essentially flat over the month. The negative capital return due to higher yields was offset by income. Semi Governments had a good relative month with spreads to Government tightening on aggregate 3 points and fairly evenly across the curve and sectors.

The Fund took the opportunity to get involved in some new semi-government issuance and ended the month with a small overweight. The new deals invested in were a new 2039 WATC green bond and a new benchmark 2034 NSWTC, partly funded out TCV.

The Fund started the month with a small overweight to duration and has kept this position the month.

## Market outlook

Tensions in the Middle East will see the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) revise their inflation forecasts higher in their next Statement on Monetary Policy in May. With inflation already above target and moving higher it is likely that the RBA also tightens monetary policy at their May meeting. Further policy tightening after that remains largely contingent on external events. Domestically the RBA will be paying close to attention to wage agreements and the effect of higher commodity prices on household spending. For now, containing inflation expectations remains the RBA's primary objective. Further policy tightening is likely, although the environment remains volatile and uncertain.

For more information please call 1300 346 821,  
contact your key account manager or visit [pendalgroup.com](http://pendalgroup.com)

**PENDAL**

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If market movements, cash flows or changes in the nature of an investment (e.g. a change in credit rating) cause the Fund to exceed any of the investment ranges or limits specified, this will be rectified by PFSL as soon as reasonably practicable after becoming aware of it. If PFSL does so, it will have no other obligations in relation to these circumstances. The procedures, investment ranges, benchmarks and limits specified are accurate as at the date of this factsheet and PFSL reserves the right to vary these from time to time.

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