

# Vanguard Short-Term Bond Index Fund

Bond fund | Institutional Shares

## Fund facts

<b>Risk level</b> Low ← → High					<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>Expense ratio as of 04/26/24</b>	<b>Ticker symbol</b>	<b>Turnover rate</b>	<b>Inception date</b>	<b>Fund number</b>
1	2	3	4	5	\$5,670 MM	0.05%	VBITX	63.8%	09/27/11	0732

## Investment objective

Vanguard Short-Term Bond Index Fund seeks to track the performance of a market-weighted bond index with a short-term dollar-weighted average maturity.

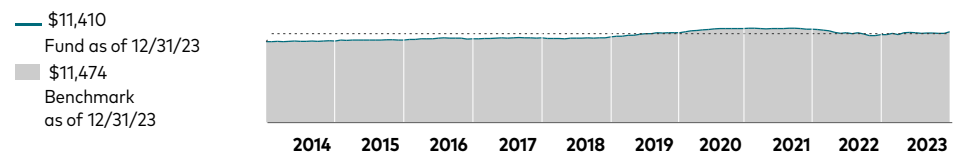
## Investment strategy

The fund employs an indexing investment approach designed to track the performance of the Bloomberg 1-5 Year U.S. Government/Credit Float Adjusted Bond Index. This index includes all medium and larger issues of U.S. government, investment-grade corporate, and investment-grade international dollar-denominated bonds that have maturities of between 1 and 5 years and are publicly issued. The fund invests by sampling the index, meaning that it holds a range of securities that, in the aggregate, approximates the full index in terms of key risk factors and other characteristics. All of the fund's investments will be selected through the sampling process, and at least 80% of the fund's assets will be invested in bonds held in the index. Under normal circumstances, the fund's dollar-weighted average maturity is not expected to exceed 3 years.

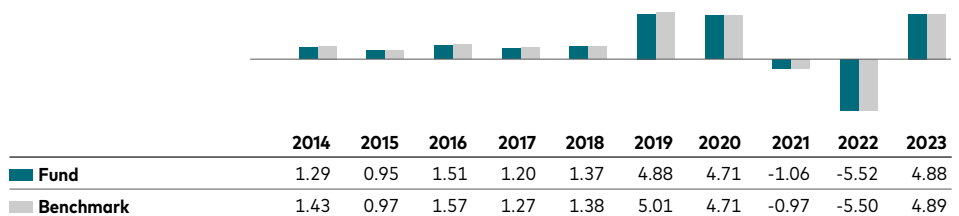
## Benchmark

Spl Bloomberg US1-5YrGov/Cr FIAdjx

## Growth of a \$10,000 investment: January 31, 2014–December 31, 2023



## Annual returns



## Total returns

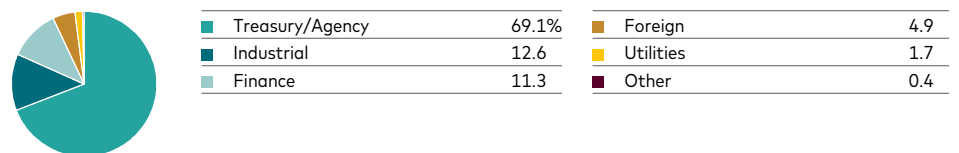
Periods ended September 30, 2024

	Quarter	Year to date	One year	Three years	Five years	Ten years
<b>Fund</b>	3.48%	4.53%	8.08%	0.92%	1.50%	1.73%
<b>Benchmark</b>	3.50%	4.50%	8.10%	0.94%	1.54%	1.78%

The performance data shown represent past performance, which is not a guarantee of future results. Investment returns and principal value will fluctuate, so investors' shares, when sold, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data cited. For performance data current to the most recent month-end, visit our website at [vanguard.com/performance](http://vanguard.com/performance). The performance of an index is not an exact representation of any particular investment, as you cannot invest directly in an index.

Figures for periods of less than one year are cumulative returns. All other figures represent average annual returns. Performance figures include the reinvestment of all dividends and any capital gains distributions. All returns are net of expenses.

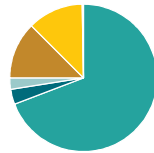
## Distribution by issuer—bonds



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Distribution by credit quality\*



U.S. Government	69.2%	A	12.5%
Aaa	3.3%	Baa	12.2%
Aa	2.5%	Not Rated	0.3%

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## Plain talk about risk

The fund is designed for investors with a low tolerance for risk; however, the fund's performance could be hurt by:

**Interest rate risk:** The chance that bond prices will decline because of rising interest rates. Interest rate risk should be low for the fund because it invests primarily in short-term bonds, whose prices are much less sensitive to interest rate changes than are the prices of long-term bonds.

**Income risk:** The chance that the fund's income will decline because of falling interest rates.

**Credit risk:** The chance that a bond issuer will fail to pay interest or principal in a timely manner or that negative perceptions of the issuer's ability to make such payments will cause the price of that bond to decline. Credit risk should be low for the fund because it purchases only bonds that are of investment-grade quality.

**Index sampling risk:** The chance that the securities selected for the fund, in the aggregate, will not provide investment performance matching that of the index. Index sampling risk for the fund should be low.

\*Credit-quality ratings are measured on a scale that generally ranges from AAA (highest) to D (lowest). "NR" is used to classify securities for which a rating is not available. NR securities may include a fund's investment in Vanguard Market Liquidity Fund or Vanguard Municipal Low Duration Fund, each of which invests in high-quality money market instruments and may serve as a cash management vehicle for the Vanguard funds, trusts, and accounts. U.S. Treasury, U.S. Agency, and U.S. Agency mortgage-backed securities appear under "U.S. Government." Credit-quality ratings for each issue are obtained from Bloomberg using ratings derived from Moody's Investors Service (Moody's), Fitch Ratings (Fitch), and Standard & Poor's (S&P). When ratings from all three agencies are available, the median rating is used. When ratings are available from two of the agencies, the lower rating is used. When one rating is available, that rating is used.

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