

# Franklin Core Plus Bond Fund

Advisor Class: FKSAX Class A: FRSTX Class C: FSGCX Class R: FKSRX Class R6: FGKNX

Multi-Sector | Factsheet as of March 31, 2026

## Investment Overview

The fund seeks to provide a high level of current income. Its secondary goal is capital appreciation over the long term. The fund is a core plus fund that invests across fixed income sectors, primarily in investment grade rated securities.

## Average Annual Total Returns (%)

	Without Sales Charges					With Sales Charges					Inception Date
	1-Yr	3-Yr	5-Yr	10-Yr	Inception	1-Yr	3-Yr	5-Yr	10-Yr	Inception	
Advisor Class	4.90	5.33	2.21	3.19	5.83	4.90	5.33	2.21	3.19	5.83	5/24/1994
Class A	4.77	5.07	1.96	2.94	5.61	0.87	3.74	1.17	2.55	5.48	5/24/1994
Class C	4.34	4.67	1.55	2.52	4.21	3.34	4.67	1.55	2.52	4.21	5/1/1998
Class R	4.41	4.79	1.69	2.67	5.30	4.41	4.79	1.69	2.67	5.30	5/24/1994
Class R6	5.00	5.44	2.31	3.32	6.03	5.00	5.44	2.31	3.32	6.03	5/24/1994
Benchmark	4.35	3.63	0.31	1.70	—	4.35	3.63	0.31	1.70	—	—

## Cumulative Total Returns (% Without Sales Charge)

	3-Mo	YTD	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Advisor Class	0.02	0.02	7.45	3.53	8.53	-10.38	2.38	3.63	8.54	-1.63	4.76	8.24
Class A	-0.04	-0.04	7.19	3.28	8.42	-10.72	2.13	3.48	8.16	-1.88	4.50	7.98
Class C	-0.14	-0.14	6.74	2.85	7.94	-11.00	1.69	3.05	7.72	-2.28	4.19	7.44
Class R	-0.10	-0.10	6.97	2.91	8.05	-10.88	1.88	3.13	7.92	-2.02	4.25	7.63
Class R6	-0.07	-0.07	7.68	3.65	8.66	-10.26	2.49	3.74	8.56	-1.40	4.93	8.40
Benchmark	-0.05	-0.05	7.30	1.25	5.53	-13.01	-1.54	7.51	8.72	0.01	3.54	2.65

**Performance data quoted represents past performance, which does not guarantee future results.** Current performance may be lower or higher than the figures shown. Principal value and investment returns will fluctuate, and investors' shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than the original cost. Performance would have been lower if fees had not been waived in various periods. Total returns assume the reinvestment of all distributions and the deduction of all fund expenses. Returns with sales charge reflect a deduction of the stated maximum sales charge. An investor cannot invest directly in an index, and unmanaged index returns do not reflect any fees, expenses or sales charges. Returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized. All classes of shares may not be available to all investors or through all distribution channels. For current month-end performance, please visit [franklintempleton.com](http://franklintempleton.com).

The fund began offering Advisor Class shares on 8/12/1999, the fund began offering R Class shares on 1/2/2002, and the fund began offering R6 Class shares on 5/1/2013. Performance quotations have been calculated as follows: (a) for Advisor Class periods prior to 8/12/1999, a restated figure is used based on the fund's Class A performance; for R Class periods prior to 1/2/2002, a restated figure is used based on the fund's Class A performance; for R6 Class periods prior to 5/1/2013, a restated figure is used based on the fund's Class Advisor performance. The performance was adjusted to take into account differences in class-specific operating expenses and maximum sales charges. (b) For periods after share class offering, performance for the specific share class is used, reflecting the expenses and maximum sales charges applicable to that class.

## Share Class Details

	CUSIP	Ticker	Sales Charges (%)		Expenses (%)		30-Day SEC Yield (%)	
			Max	CDSC	Gross	Net	Without Waiver	With Waiver
Advisor Class	354713737	FKSAX	0.00	—	0.60	0.47	4.47	4.60
Class A	354713505	FRSTX	3.75	—	0.85	0.72	4.06	4.18
Class C	354713836	FSGCX	0.00	1.00	1.25	1.12	3.82	3.94
Class R	354713554	FKSRX	0.00	—	1.10	0.97	3.97	4.10
Class R6	354713323	FGKNX	0.00	—	0.51	0.37	4.59	4.70

Gross expenses are the fund's total annual operating expenses as of the fund's prospectus available at the time of publication. Actual expenses may be higher and may impact portfolio returns. Net expenses reflect contractual fee waivers, expense caps and/or reimbursements, which cannot be terminated prior to 08/31/2026 without Board consent. Additional amounts may be voluntarily waived and/or reimbursed and may be modified or discontinued at any time without notice. There is a 1% CDSC on any Class C shares you sell within 12 months of purchase.

**During periods of rising inflation, fund yields can vary significantly from month-to-month and may not be repeated.**

## Morningstar Rating™

Overall Rating as of March 31, 2026

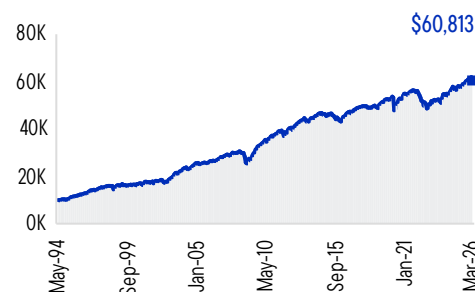
★★★★★ Advisor Class

★★★★★ Class A

As of 03/31/2026 the fund's Advisor Class shares received a 5 star and Class A shares received a 4 star overall Morningstar rating™, measuring risk-adjusted returns against 496, 455 and 355 Intermediate Core-Plus Bond funds over the 3-, 5- and 10- year periods, respectively. A fund's overall rating is derived from a weighted average of the performance figures associated with its 3-, 5- and 10-year (if applicable) rating metrics. The number of funds in the category for the Overall Rating are listed under the 3-year period.

## Growth of \$10,000

Advisor Class Shares—Inception through March 31, 2026  
Excluding Effects of Sales Charges



## Fund Overview

Dividend Frequency, if any	Monthly
Morningstar Category	Intermediate Core-Plus Bond
Lipper Classification	Core Plus Bond Funds
Turnover (fiscal yr)	85%

## Benchmark(s)

Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index

## Fund Characteristics

	Fund
Total Net Assets	\$2.68 Billion
Number of Holdings	925
Average Weighted Maturity	7.84 Years
Effective Duration	5.74 Years

## Risk Statistics (3-Year—Advisor Class)

	Fund
Beta	0.77
R-Squared	0.96
Sharpe Ratio	0.14
Standard Deviation (%)	4.40

**Sector Exposure (% of Total)**

	Fund	Benchmark
Investment Grade Corporates	35.55	23.76
Agency Mortgage-Backed Securities	33.69	23.86
U.S. Treasuries	14.96	45.71
Interest Rate Derivatives	11.59	0.00
Commercial Mortgage Backed Securities	6.40	1.43
High Yield Corporates	6.27	0.00
Residential Mortgage-Backed Securities	6.24	0.00
Collateralized Loan Obligation	5.80	0.00
Other	6.37	5.23
Cash & Cash Equivalents	-17.35	0.00

**Geographic Exposure (% of Total)**

	Fund	Benchmark
United States	114.73	93.11
United Kingdom	1.66	1.10
Canada	1.28	1.08
Other	9.20	4.71
Cash & Cash Equivalents	-17.35	0.00

**Credit Quality Exposure (% of Total)**

	Fund	Benchmark
AAA	10.59	3.20
AA	52.26	73.72
A	10.86	11.38
BBB	24.52	11.66
BB	6.74	0.04
B	5.81	0.00
CCC	0.33	0.00
NR	4.14	0.00
Not Applicable	-0.05	0.00
Cash & Cash Equivalents	-17.35	0.00

**Portfolio Data Information**

**Exposure:** Notional exposure figures are estimated and are intended to show the portfolio's direct exposure to securities and indirect exposure, through derivatives. Direct and indirect exposures are subject to change over time and methodologies for calculating indirect exposures vary by derivative type. Portfolio breakdown percentages may not total 100% and may be negative due to rounding, use of derivatives, unsettled trades or other factors.

**Credit Quality** is a measure of a bond issuer's ability to repay interest and principal in a timely manner. The credit ratings shown are based on each portfolio security's rating as provided by S&P Global Ratings, Moody's Investors Service and/or Fitch Ratings, Inc. and typically range from AAA (highest) to D (lowest), or an equivalent and/or similar rating. For this purpose, the manager assigns each security the middle rating from these three agencies. When only two agencies provide ratings, the lower of the two ratings will be assigned. When only one agency assigns a rating, that rating will be used. Foreign government bonds without a specific rating are assigned a country rating, if available. Securities that are unrated by all three agencies are reflected as such. The credit quality of the investments in the portfolio does not apply to the stability or safety of the portfolio. The methodology used for the calculation of credit quality ratings displayed may differ from the methodology for monitoring investment limits, if applicable. **Please note, the portfolio itself has not been rated by an independent rating agency.**

**Portfolio Management**

	Years with Firm	Years of Experience		Years with Firm	Years of Experience
Sonal Desai, PhD	16	32	Albert W Chan, CFA	23	23
Michael V Salm	28	36	Patricia O'Connor, CFA	28	30
Patrick A. Klein, PhD	20	20			

**What should I know before investing?**

**All investments involve risks, including possible loss of principal. Fixed income securities** involve interest rate, credit, inflation and reinvestment risks, and possible loss of principal. As interest rates rise, the value of fixed income securities falls. **Changes in the credit rating** of a bond, or in the credit rating or financial strength of a bond's issuer, insurer or guarantor, may affect the bond's value. **Low-rated, high-yield bonds** are subject to greater price volatility, illiquidity and possibility of default. **Floating-rate loans and debt securities** are typically rated below investment grade and are subject to greater risk of default, which could result in loss of principal. **Asset-backed, mortgage-backed or mortgage-related securities** are subject to prepayment and extension risks. **International investments** are subject to special risks, including currency fluctuations and social, economic and political uncertainties, which could increase volatility. These risks are magnified in **emerging markets. Derivative instruments** can be illiquid, may disproportionately increase losses, and have a potentially large impact on performance. The manager may consider **environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria** in the research or investment process; however, ESG considerations may not be a determinative factor in security selection. In addition, the manager may not assess every investment for ESG criteria, and not every ESG factor may be identified or evaluated. These and other risks are discussed in the fund's prospectus.

**Glossary**

**Beta:** A measure of the fund's volatility relative to the market, as represented by the stated Index. A beta greater than 1.00 indicates volatility greater than the market. **R-squared** measures the strength of the linear relationship between the fund and its benchmark. R-squared at 1 implies perfect linear relationship and zero implies no relationship exists. **Sharpe Ratio** refers to a risk-adjusted measure calculated using standard deviation and excess returns to determine reward per unit of risk. The higher the ratio, the greater the risk-adjusted performance. **Standard Deviation:** Measure of the degree to which a fund's return varies from the average of its previous returns. The larger the standard deviation, the greater the likelihood (and risk) that a fund's performance will fluctuate from the average return. The **30-day SEC yield** is calculated using the net income (interest and dividends) per share earned over a trailing 30-day period (annualized), divided by the fund's share price at the end of that period. It may not equal the fund's actual income distribution rate, which reflects the fund's past dividends paid to shareholders. **Turnover** is a measure of the fund's trading activity which represents the portion of the fund's holdings that has changed over a twelve-month period through the fiscal year end. There is no assurance that the fund will maintain its current level of turnover. **Weighted Average Maturity:** An estimate of the number of years to maturity, taking the possibility of early payments into account, for the underlying holdings. **Effective Duration** is a duration calculation for bonds with embedded options. Effective duration takes into account that expected cash flows will fluctuate as interest rates change. Duration measures the sensitivity of price (the value of principal) of a fixed-income investment to a change in interest rates. The higher the duration number, the more sensitive a fixed-income investment will be to interest rate changes.

**Important Information**

**Effective December 11, 2024, the Franklin Strategic Income Fund changed its name to the Franklin Core Plus Bond Fund and modified its principal investment strategies. Such a change can impact performance.**

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**Negative Cash Weightings:** The negative cash position reflects a temporary position that is a result of a delay in securities settlement transactions.

The **Bloomberg US Aggregate Index** is comprised of investment-grade, U.S. dollar-denominated government, corporate, and mortgage- and asset-backed issues having at least one year to maturity. Important data provider notices and terms available at [www.franklintempletondatasources.com](http://www.franklintempletondatasources.com). All data is subject to change.

Source: Bloomberg Indices.

**Morningstar Rating™:** Source: Morningstar®, 03/31/2026. For each mutual fund and ETF with at least a 3-year history, Morningstar calculates a Morningstar Rating™ based on how a fund ranks on a Morningstar Risk-Adjusted Return measure against other funds in the same category. This measure takes into account variations in a fund's monthly performance, and does not take into account the effects of sales charges and loads, placing more emphasis on downward variations and rewarding consistent performance. The top 10% of funds in each category receive 5 stars, the next 22.5% receive 4 stars, the next 35% receive 3 stars, the next 22.5% receive 2 stars and the bottom 10% receive 1 star. The weights are: 100% 3-year rating for 36-59 months of total returns, 60% 5-year rating/40% 3-year rating for 60-119 months of total returns, and 50% 10-year rating/30% 5-year rating/20% 3-year rating for 120 or more months of total returns. While the 10-year overall star rating formula seems to give the most weight to the 10-year period, the most recent 3-year period actually has the greatest impact because it is included in all three rating periods. The fund's Advisor Class shares received a Morningstar Rating of 5, 5 and 5 and fund's Class A shares received a Morningstar Rating of 4, 5 and 4 star(s) for the 3-, 5- and 10-year periods, respectively. Franklin Templeton provides this fund's Morningstar Rating™ for Advisor Class and Class A shares only. Other share classes may have different Morningstar ratings. The information contained herein: (1) is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its content providers; (2) may not be copied or distributed; and (3) is not warranted to be accurate, complete, or timely. Neither Morningstar nor its content providers are responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information. Franklin Distributors, LLC. Member FINRA/SIPC.

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**Before investing, carefully consider a fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses. You can find this and other information in each prospectus, or summary prospectus, if available, at [www.franklintempleton.com](http://www.franklintempleton.com). Please read it carefully.**