



# Western Asset High Income Fund II Inc. (HIX)

#### **Investment Overview**

Offers a leveraged portfolio of high-yield corporate debt securities from both the U.S. and non-U.S. corporations, with strategic allocations to emerging markets and derivatives. Seeks high current income with capital appreciation as a secondary objective. Emphasizes team management and extensive credit research expertise to identify attractively priced securities.

## **Total Returns (%)**

|                     | Cumulative |       |      | Average Annual |      |      |       |           | Inception |
|---------------------|------------|-------|------|----------------|------|------|-------|-----------|-----------|
|                     | 3-Mth      | 6-Mth | YTD  | 1-Yr           | 3-Yr | 5-Yr | 10-Yr | Inception | Date      |
| Market Price Return | 6.24       | 9.14  | 9.14 | 12.89          | 8.44 | 3.91 | 4.79  | 6.61      | 5/28/1998 |
| NAV Returns         | 3.72       | 5.03  | 5.03 | 10.78          | 7.62 | 2.76 | 3.51  | 6.46      | 5/28/1998 |
| Benchmark 1         | 3.44       | 4.75  | 4.75 | 10.13          | 9.60 | 5.13 | 5.00  | -         | _         |
| Benchmark 2         | 3.53       | 4.57  | 4.57 | 10.29          | 9.93 | 5.96 | 5.37  | -         | -         |
| Benchmark 3         | 3.06       | 5.48  | 5.48 | 9.51           | 8.23 | 1.81 | 3.45  | 6.76      | -         |

## **Calendar Year Total Returns (%)**

|                     | 2024  | 2023  | 2022   | 2021  | 2020  | 2019  | 2018   | 2017 | 2016  | 2015   |
|---------------------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|------|-------|--------|
| Market Price Return | -3.15 | 15.89 | -24.59 | 13.11 | 12.00 | 27.17 | -10.00 | 7.07 | 25.23 | -15.03 |
| NAV Returns         | 3.64  | 11.11 | -19.75 | 3.07  | 6.52  | 19.19 | -5.77  | 9.61 | 21.61 | -9.02  |
| Benchmark 1         | 7.70  | 12.85 | -12.21 | 3.89  | 6.83  | 14.35 | -2.57  | 7.87 | 15.74 | -3.32  |
| Benchmark 2         | 8.19  | 13.44 | -11.18 | 5.26  | 7.05  | 14.32 | -2.08  | 7.50 | 17.13 | -4.43  |
| Benchmark 3         | 5.73  | 10.45 | -16.45 | -1.51 | 5.88  | 14.42 | -4.61  | 9.32 | 10.19 | 1.23   |

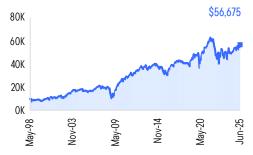
**Performance shown represents past performance and is no guarantee of future results.** Current performance may be higher or lower than the performance shown. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so shares, when sold, may be worth more or less than the original cost. Returns based on Market Price or NAV, and assume the reinvestment of all distributions at the Dividend Reinvestment Plan Price or NAV, respectively. All returns include the deduction of management fees, operating expenses and all other fund expenses, and do not reflect the deduction of brokerage commissions or taxes that investors may pay on distributions or the sale of shares. When applicable, performance would have been lower if fees had not been waived in various periods. An investor cannot invest directly in an index, and unmanaged index returns do not reflect any fees, expense or sales charges. Returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized. Please visit franklintempleton.com for the most recent month-end performance.

Gross expenses are the fund's total annual operating expenses as of the fund's annual report available at the time of publication. Actual expenses may be higher and may impact portfolio returns. Net expenses reflect voluntary fee waivers, expense caps and/or reimbursements. Voluntary waivers may be modified or discontinued at any time without notice. **NAV** is total assets less total liabilities divided by the number of shares outstanding. **Market Price**, determined by supply and demand, is the price an investor purchases or sells the fund. The Market Price may differ from a fund's NAV. **Premium / Discount** reflects the difference between the NAV and the Market Price of the fund, and represents the amount that the fund is trading above or below its NAV, expressed as a percentage of the NAV. **Distribution Rate** is calculated by annualizing the most recent distribution amount paid, divided by the closing market price or NAV as of the date indicated. The Distribution Rate calculation includes income and return of capital, and excludes special distributions. The Distribution Rate is not guaranteed, subject to change, and is not a quotation of fund performance. The difference between total assets and net assets, if any, is due primarily to the fund's use of borrowings and other liabilities; netassets do not include borrowings. The fund may employ leverage in the form of loans, preferred stock, reverse repurchase agreementsand/or other instruments. When the fund engages in transactions that have a leveraging effect on the fund's portfolio, the value of thefund will be more volatile and all other risks will tend to be compounded.

## Corporate Credit | Factsheet as of June 30, 2025

#### Growth of \$10,000

Inception through June 30, 2025 Market Price Returns, assuming dividends reinvested



The Growth of \$10,000 chart reflects a hypothetical \$10,000 investment on Market Price and assumes reinvestment of dividends and capital gains. Fund expense, including management fees and other expenses were deducted.

## **Fund Overview**

| NYSE - XNYS Ticker           | HIX         |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| NAV Symbol                   | XHGIX       |
| Listed Exchange              | NYSE - XNYS |
| Fund Inception Date          | 05/28/1998  |
| NAV                          | \$4.36      |
| Market Price                 | \$4.29      |
| Premium/Discount             | -1.61%      |
| Distribution Rate at Market  |             |
| Price (%)                    | 13.71       |
| Distribution Rate at NAV (%) | 13.49       |
| Dividend Frequency, if any   | Monthly     |

#### Benchmark(s)

1—80% Bloomberg HY (2% constrained), 20% JPM EMBI Global 2—Bloomberg U.S. Corporate High Yield - 2% Issuer Cap Index 3—JP Morgan Emerging Markets Bond Index Global

| Fund Characteristics  | Fund             |  |  |
|-----------------------|------------------|--|--|
| Total Assets          | \$578.59 Million |  |  |
| Loans                 | 27.13%           |  |  |
| Repurchase Agreements | 5.01%            |  |  |
| Total Net Assets      | \$392.63 Million |  |  |
| Average Life          | 7.86 Years       |  |  |
| Effective Duration    | 4.75 Years       |  |  |
| Average Coupon        | 9.48%            |  |  |

| Fund  |
|-------|
| 18.82 |
| 15.96 |
| 9.81  |
| 9.80  |
| 9.70  |
| 9.61  |
| 7.41  |
| 5.84  |
| 13.94 |
| -0.89 |
|       |

# **Currency Exposure (% of Total)**

|                | Fund  |
|----------------|-------|
| US Dollar      | 97.04 |
| Euro           | 1.43  |
| British Pound  | 0.85  |
| Uruguayan Peso | 0.42  |
| Other          | 0.26  |

## **Geographic Allocation (% of Total)**

|                         | Fund  |
|-------------------------|-------|
| United States           | 60.86 |
| United Kingdom          | 5.99  |
| Canada                  | 4.19  |
| Other                   | 29.84 |
| Cash & Cash Equivalents | -0.89 |
|                         |       |

## Credit Quality Allocation (% of Total)

|                         | Fund  |
|-------------------------|-------|
| AA                      | 0.38  |
| A                       | 1.05  |
| BBB                     | 13.44 |
| BB                      | 35.56 |
| В                       | 33.22 |
| CCC                     | 11.31 |
| CC                      | 0.64  |
| С                       | 0.26  |
| D                       | 0.72  |
| NR                      | 4.31  |
| Cash & Cash Equivalents | -0.89 |

#### **Portfolio Data Information**

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 Standard and Poor's, Moody's Investors Service and/or Fitch Ratings, Ltd. and typically range from AAA (highest) to D (lowest), or an equivalent and/or similar rating. For this purpose, if two or more of the agencies have assigned differing ratings to a security, the lowest rating is used. Securities that are unrated by all three agencies are reflected as such. The credit quality of the investments in the fund's portfolio does not apply to the stability or safety of the fund. These ratings are updated monthly and may change over time. **Please note, the Fund itself has not been rated by an independent rating agency.** 

#### **Portfolio Description**

Western Asset Management is one of the world's leading global fixed income managers. Founded in 1971, the firm is known for team management and proprietary research, supported by robust risk management and a long-term fundamental value approach. Each group of sector specialists utilizes their expertise in bottom-up analysis of each portfolio sector.

## 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. Low-rated, high-yield bonds are subject to greater price volatility, illiquidity and possibility of default. 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. Leverage increases the volatility of investment returns and subjects investments to magnified losses and a decline in value.

#### Glossary

Average Life: 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. Average Coupon is the average interest rate stated on the securities held by a portfolio. Average Coupon is calculated without the deduction of fees and expenses.

#### Important Information

## Distributions are not guaranteed and are subject to change.

The Closed-End Funds are not sold or distributed by Franklin Distributors, LLC, or any affiliate of Franklin Resources, Inc. Unlike open-end funds, shares are not continually offered. Like other public companies, closed-end funds have a one-time initial public offering, and once their shares are first issued, are generally bought and sold through non-affiliated broker/dealers and trade on nationally recognized stock exchanges. Share prices will fluctuate with market conditions and, at the time of sale, may be worth more or less than your original investment. Shares of exchange-traded closed-end funds may trade at a discount or premium to their original offering price, and often trade at a discount to their net asset value. Investment return, market price and net asset value will fluctuate with changes in market conditions. The Funds are subject to investment risks, including the possible loss of principal invested.

**Negative Cash Weightings:** The negative cash position reflects a temporary position that is a result of a delay in securities settlement transactions. Top fixed Income Issuers excludes repurchase agreement.

The **Bloomberg U.S. Corporate High Yield - 2% Issuer Cap Index** measures the performance of U.S. dollar-denominated, non-investment-grade, fixed-rate, taxable corporate bond market. The Index limits the maximum exposure to any one issuer to 2%. Source: Bloomberg Indices. The **80% Bloomberg HY (2% constrained), 20% JPM EMBI Global** blended index consists of 80% Bloomberg U.S. Corporate High Yield - 2% Issuer Cap Index and 20% JPMorgan EMBI (Emerging Markets Bond Index) Global. Source: Bloomberg Indices. JP Morgan. The **JP Morgan EMBI Index** tracks total returns for U.S. dollar-denominated debt instruments issued by emerging market sovereign and quasi-sovereign entities: Brady bonds, loans, Eurobonds and local market instruments. Source: JP Morgan. Important data provider notices and terms available at www.franklintempletondatasources.com. All data is subject to change. © Franklin Distributors, LLC. Member FINRA/SIPC.

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