

FIXD

First Trust Smith Opportunistic Fixed Income ETF

The **First Trust Smith Opportunistic Fixed Income ETF** (the "fund") is an exchange-traded fund (ETF) that seeks to maximize long-term total return by investing at least 80% of its net assets (including borrowings for investment purposes) in fixed income securities. The portfolio is sub-advised and managed by Smith Capital Investors, LLC ("Smith Capital" or "Sub-Advisor").

About FIXD

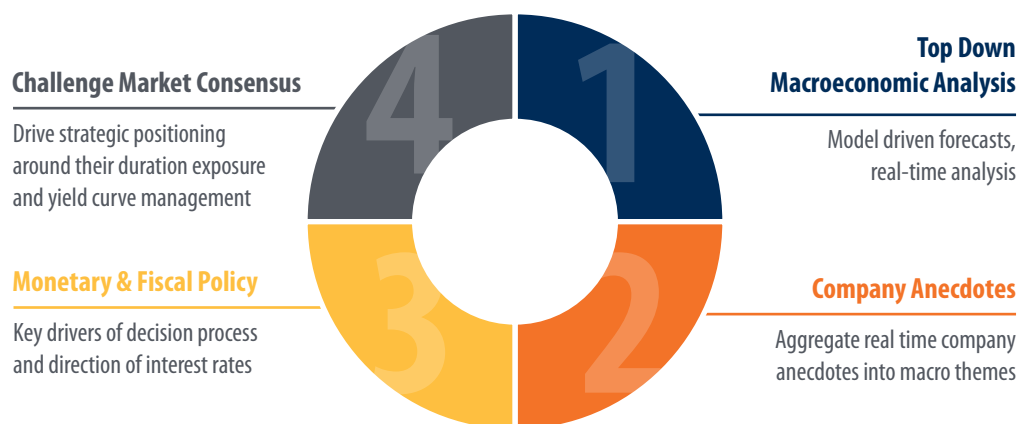
Smith Capital attempts to focus the fund's portfolio holdings in areas of the fixed income market (based on quality, sector, coupon or maturity) that they believe to be relatively attractive.

FIXD may invest in securities including but not limited to:

- Up to 35% of its net assets in corporate debt and other securities rated below investment grade, "high yield" or "junk" bonds.
- Up to 15% of its total assets in preferred and convertible securities.
- The fund may also invest in money market funds and other cash equivalents, fixed-to-floating rate securities, repurchase agreements, common stock and ETFs that invest primarily in fixed income securities.

Macro Environment Analysis

Smith Capital combines top-down macroeconomic data with real-time company insights to shape market expectations, guiding decisions on sector exposure, portfolio duration, and yield curve positioning. This blend of economic outlook and bottom-up analysis forms their holistic investment approach.



Fund Details

Fund Ticker	FIXD
Investment Advisor	First Trust Advisors L.P.
Investment Sub-Advisor	Smith Capital Investors, LLC
CUSIP	33740F805
Intraday NAV	FIXDIV
Fund Inception Date	2/14/2017
Primary Listing	Nasdaq
Benchmark	Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index
Expected Average Duration	Within +/- 45% of the Benchmark

Portfolio Managers

Gibson Smith

Founder, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Investment Officer and Portfolio Manager
30+ Years Experience

Eric Bernum, CFA®

Portfolio Manager
20+ Years Experience

You should consider the fund's investment objectives, risks, and charges and expenses carefully before investing. Contact First Trust Portfolios L.P. at 1-800-621-1675 or visit www.ftportfolios.com to obtain a prospectus or summary prospectus which contains this and other information about the fund. The prospectus or summary prospectus should be read carefully before investing.

Smith Capital Market Cycle Positioning and Focus

Smith Capital believes that markets move in cycles, which requires adaptability, discipline, and deep fundamental research. As part of this philosophy, Smith Capital seeks to proactively adjust risk exposure over market cycles by moving between three distinct categories: defensive, neutral, and opportunistic positioning informed by macroeconomic views on the business and economic cycle, and valuations that exist in the market. Smith Capital's investment process starts with bottom-up analysis on individual credit exposures and applies a top-down macroeconomic assessment. The process integrates a credit research approach across the entire investment universe and leverages a proprietary analysis to identify securities with strong risk-adjusted return potential.

Defensive

- Prioritizing capital preservation through the stress in the market when economic conditions deteriorate, credit spreads widen, market volatility rises, and liquidity concerns emerge
- Focus on quality, increasing exposure to U.S. Treasuries, investment-grade corporate bonds, and agency mortgage-backed securities
- Generally focus on shortening duration to mitigate interest rate risk and reduce exposure to higher-yielding, cyclical credit
- Tends to maintain higher allocations to cash and defensive fixed income instruments for liquidity and risk mitigation

Neutral

- Balancing income and risk in a transition market when economic indicators become mixed, credit spreads are fair, economic growth may be slowing, and rate uncertainty is rising
- Generally balance allocations between investment-grade credit and securitized debt, with selective exposure to higher-yielding asset
- Deploy tactical shifts between duration neutral and modest duration extension depending on rate outlooks
- Maintain a barbell approach by combining shorter-duration, higher-yielding assets with longer duration, high-quality securities

Opportunistic

- Capturing growth in favorable market conditions when credit spreads are attractive, economic growth is strong, and market sentiment is constructive
- Generally increase exposure to high-yield bonds and securitized credit where risk-adjusted returns look favorable.
- Utilize selective exposure of longer-duration bonds if rates are expected to decline
- Make tactical credit allocations to companies undergoing capital structure improvements and free cash flow growth

Definitions

Duration is a measure of the expected price volatility of a fixed income security as a result of changes in market rates of interest.

Free cash flow is the cash remaining after a company has paid day-to-day operating expenses, including interest and taxes, as well as capital expenditures.

The **Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index** covers the investment-grade, U.S. dollar-denominated, fixed-rate taxable bond market, including Treasuries, government-related and corporate securities, MBS, ABS, and CMBS.

Investment Process & Strategy Overview

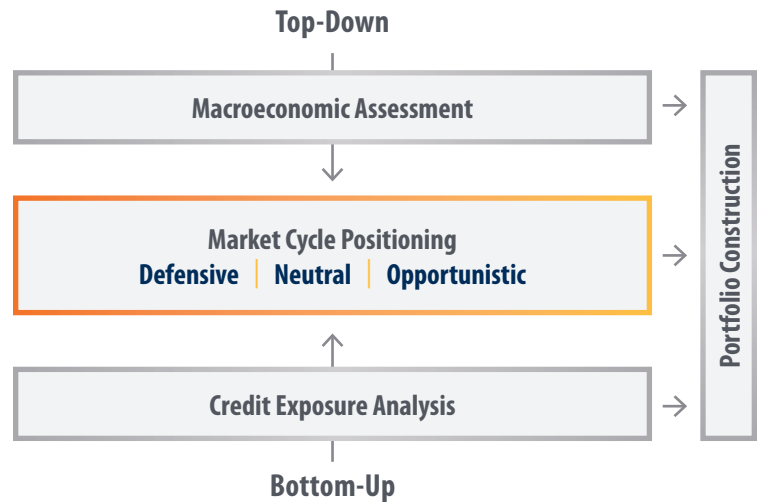
Smith Capital's investment philosophy is based on seeking to deliver results through disciplined, fundamentally-driven investment strategies, with a focus on risk-adjusted returns and the preservation of capital. Smith Capital believes that this is best achieved by employing a dynamic fundamental framework for understanding when risk is priced appropriately. In seeking to emphasize risk-adjusted returns, Smith Capital views investment opportunities through the lens of the risk associated with achieving an expected result and utilizing a bottom-up fundamental process to identify securities that offer risk/reward profiles that fit the desired investment criteria. In seeking to optimize returns, Smith Capital believes that preservation of capital must be a priority, and therefore, seeks to manage investments with a goal of minimizing unnecessary risk. In implementing this investment philosophy, Smith Capital believes that a fixed-income portfolio should be actively managed to evolve with changing market conditions, that individual investment decisions should be based on in-depth fundamental analysis and a disciplined risk framework, that unnecessary risk should be minimized, and that investment portfolios should be transparent, explainable, and built on high-conviction investment ideas rooted in extensive proprietary research.

Security Selection & Sector Rotation | Smith Capital seeks opportunities where risk-adjusted return potential is attractive, seeking optimal exposure across fixed income sectors.

Active Duration & Yield Curve Management | Tactical duration adjustments may allow for the potential for enhanced returns while seeking to manage risk across market cycles.

Macro Overlay & Bottom-Up Analysis | A dual approach combines macroeconomic insights with deep fundamental credit research so as to seek to create robust portfolios.

Risk Management & Portfolio Analytics | Proprietary models and risk tools guide investment decisions that seek to create portfolios that remain resilient across different environments.



Risk Considerations

You could lose money by investing in a fund. An investment in a fund is not a deposit of a bank and is not insured or guaranteed. There can be no assurance that a fund's objective(s) will be achieved. Investors buying or selling shares on the secondary market may incur customary brokerage commissions. Please refer to each fund's prospectus and Statement of Additional Information for additional details on a fund's risks. The order of the below risk factors does not indicate the significance of any particular risk factor.

Asset-backed securities are a type of debt security and are generally not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government and are subject to the risk of default on the underlying asset or loan, particularly during periods of economic downturn.

Unlike mutual funds, shares of the fund may only be redeemed directly from a fund by authorized participants in very large creation/redemption units. If a fund's authorized participants are unable to proceed with creation/redemption orders and no other authorized participant is able to step forward to create or redeem, fund shares may trade at a premium or discount to a fund's net asset value and possibly face delisting and the bid/ask spread may widen.

Investments in bank loans are subject to the same risks as other debt securities, but the risks may be heightened because of limited public information available and because loan borrowers may be leveraged and tend to be more adversely affected by changes in market or economic conditions. The secondary market for bank loans may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods.

During periods of falling interest rates if an issuer calls higher-yielding debt instruments, a fund may be forced to invest the proceeds at lower interest rates, likely resulting in a decline in the fund's income.

A fund that effects all or a portion of its creations and redemptions for cash rather than in-kind may be less tax-efficient. Collateralized loan obligations ("CLOs") carry additional risks, including the possibility that distributions from collateral securities will not be adequate to make interest or other payments, the quality of the collateral may decline in value or default, the possibility that the investments in CLOs are subordinate to other classes or tranches, and the complex structure of the security may not be fully understood at the time of investment and may produce disputes with the issuer or unexpected investment results.

A convertible security is exposed to risks associated with both equity and debt securities. The value of convertibles may rise and fall with the market value of the underlying stock or vary with changes in interest rates and credit quality of the issuer.

A fund may be subject to the risk that a counterparty will not fulfill its obligations which may result in significant financial loss to a fund.

An issuer or other obligated party of a debt security may be unable or unwilling to make dividend, interest and/or principal payments when due and the value of a security may decline as a result.

An investment in credit default swaps involves greater risks than if a fund had invested in the reference obligation directly. These risks include general market, liquidity, counterparty, credit and leverage risks.

Ratings assigned by a credit rating agency are opinions of such entities, not absolute standards of credit quality and they do not evaluate risks of securities. Any shortcomings or inefficiencies in the process of determining credit ratings may adversely affect the credit ratings of the securities held by a fund and their perceived or actual credit risk.

Changes in currency exchange rates and the relative value of non-US currencies may affect the value of a fund's investments and the value of a fund's shares.

Current market conditions risk is the risk that a particular investment, or shares of the fund in general, may fall in value due to current market conditions. For example, changes in governmental fiscal and regulatory policies, disruptions to banking and real estate markets, actual and threatened international armed conflicts and hostilities, and public health crises, among other significant events, could have a material impact on the value of the fund's investments.

A fund is susceptible to operational risks through breaches in cyber security. Such events could cause a fund to incur regulatory penalties, reputational damage, additional compliance costs associated with corrective measures and/or financial loss.

Investments in debt securities subject the holder to the credit risk of the issuer and the value of debt securities will generally change inversely with changes in interest rates. In addition, debt securities generally do not trade on a securities exchange making them less liquid and more difficult to value.

Risk considerations continued on the following page

The use of derivatives instruments involves different and possibly greater risks than investing directly in securities including counterparty risk, valuation risk, volatility risk, and liquidity risk. Further, losses because of adverse movements in the price or value of the underlying asset, index or rate may be magnified by certain features of the derivatives.

Distressed securities are speculative and often illiquid or trade in low volumes and thus may be more difficult to value and pose a substantial risk of default.

Investments in emerging market securities are generally considered speculative and involve additional risks relating to political, economic and regulatory conditions.

Equity securities may decline significantly in price over short or extended periods of time, and such declines may occur in the equity market as a whole, or they may occur in only a particular country, company, industry or sector of the market.

A fund may invest in the shares of other ETFs, which involves additional expenses that would not be present in a direct investment in the underlying funds. In addition, a fund's investment performance and risks may be related to the investment performance and risks of the underlying funds.

Extension risk is the risk that, when interest rates rise, certain obligations will be paid off by the issuer (or other obligated party) more slowly than anticipated, causing the value of these debt securities to fall. Rising interest rates tend to extend the duration of debt securities, making their market value more sensitive to changes in interest rates.

Fixed-to-floating rate securities are securities that have a fixed dividend rate for an initial term that converts to a floating dividend rate upon the expiration of the initial term. While fixed-to-floating rate securities can be less sensitive to interest rate risk than fixed-rate securities they generally carry lower yields than similar fixed-rate securities.

Floating rate securities are structured so that the security's coupon rate fluctuates based upon the level of a reference rate. As a result, the coupon on floating rate securities will generally decline in a falling interest rate environment, causing a fund to experience a reduction in the income it receives from the security. A floating rate security's coupon rate resets periodically according to the terms of the security. Consequently, in a rising interest rate environment, floating rate securities with coupon rates that reset infrequently may lag behind the changes in market interest rates.

The market for forward contracts is substantially unregulated and can experience lengthy periods of illiquidity, unusually high trading volume and other negative impacts, such as political intervention. Forward contracts can increase a fund's risk exposure to underlying references and their attendant risks, such as credit risk, currency risk, market risk, and interest rate risk, while also exposing a fund to counterparty risk, liquidity risk and valuation risk, among others.

The risk of a position in a futures contract may be very large compared to the relatively low level of margin a fund is required to deposit and a relatively small price movement in a futures contract may result in immediate and substantial loss relative to the size of margin deposit.

High yield securities, or "junk" bonds, are less liquid and are subject to greater market fluctuations and risk of loss than securities with higher ratings, and therefore, are considered to be highly speculative.

A fund's income may decline when interest rates fall or if there are defaults in its portfolio.

A fund may be a constituent of one or more indices or models which could greatly affect a fund's trading activity, size and volatility.

As inflation increases, the present value of a fund's assets and distributions may decline.

Inflation-indexed debt securities, such as TIPS, are subject to the same risks as other debt securities. Although the holders of TIPS receive no less than the par value of the security at maturity, if a fund purchases TIPS in the secondary market whose principal values have previously been adjusted upward and there is a period of subsequent declining inflation rates, a fund may receive at maturity less than it invested and incur a loss.

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of the debt securities in a fund's portfolio will decline because of rising interest rates. Interest rate risk is generally lower for shorter term debt securities and higher for longer-term debt securities.

Leverage may result in losses that exceed the amount originally invested and may accelerate the rates of losses. Leverage tends to magnify, sometimes significantly, the effect of any increase or decrease in a fund's exposure to an asset or class of assets and may cause the value of a fund's shares to be volatile and sensitive to market swings.

Certain fund investments may be subject to restrictions on resale, trade over-the-counter or in limited volume, or lack an active trading market. Illiquid securities may trade at a discount and may be subject to wide fluctuations in market value.

The portfolio managers of an actively managed portfolio will apply investment techniques and risk analyses that may not have the desired result.

Market risk is the risk that a particular security, or shares of a fund in general may fall in value. Securities are subject to market fluctuations caused by such factors as general economic conditions, political events, regulatory or market developments, changes in interest rates and perceived trends in securities prices. Shares of a fund could decline in value or underperform other investments as a result. In addition, local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, spread of infectious disease or other public health issues, recessions, natural disasters or other events could have significant negative impact on a fund.

A fund faces numerous market trading risks, including the potential lack of an active market for fund shares due to a limited number of market makers. Decisions by market makers or authorized participants to reduce their role or step away in times of market stress could inhibit the effectiveness of the arbitrage process in maintaining the relationship between the underlying values of a fund's portfolio securities and a fund's market price.

A fund that holds cash or invests in money market or short-term securities may be less likely to achieve its investment objective and could lose money.

Mortgage-related securities are more susceptible to adverse economic, political or regulatory events that affect the value of real estate.

The values of municipal securities may be adversely affected by local political and economic conditions and developments. Income from municipal securities could be declared taxable because of, among other things, unfavorable changes in tax laws, adverse interpretations by the Internal Revenue Service or state tax authorities, or noncompliant conduct of an issuer.

There are no government or agency guarantees of payments in securities offered by non-government issuers, therefore they are subject to the credit risk of the issuer. Non-agency securities often trade "over-the-counter" and there may be a limited market for them making them difficult to value.

Securities of non-U.S. issuers are subject to additional risks, including currency fluctuations, political risks, withholding, lack of liquidity, lack of adequate financial information, and exchange control restrictions impacting non-U.S. issuers.

A fund and a fund's advisor may seek to reduce various operational risks through controls and procedures, but it is not possible to completely protect against such risks. The fund also relies on third parties for a range of services, including custody, and any delay or failure related to those services may affect the fund's ability to meet its objective.

The prices of options are volatile and the effective use of options depends on a fund's ability to terminate option positions at times deemed desirable to do so. There is no assurance that a fund will be able to effect closing transactions at any particular time or at an acceptable price.

Because OTC derivatives do not trade on an exchange, the parties to an OTC derivative face heightened levels of counterparty risk, liquidity risk and valuation risk.

High portfolio turnover may result in higher levels of transaction costs and may generate greater tax liabilities for shareholders.

Preferred securities combine some of the characteristics of both common stocks and bonds. Preferred stocks are typically subordinated to other debt instruments in terms of priority to corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater credit risk than those debt instruments.

The market price of a fund's shares will generally fluctuate in accordance with changes in the fund's net asset value ("NAV") as well as the relative supply of and demand for shares on the exchange, and a fund's investment advisor cannot predict whether shares will trade below, at or above their NAV.

Prepayment risk is the risk that the issuer of a debt security will repay principal prior to the scheduled maturity date. Debt securities allowing prepayment may offer less potential for gains during a period of declining interest rates, as a fund may be required to reinvest the proceeds of any prepayment at lower interest rates.

If a fund's counterparty defaults on its obligations and a fund is delayed or prevented from recovering collateral, or if the value of the collateral is insufficient, a fund may realize a loss.

A fund may be unable to sell a restricted security on short notice or only sell them at a price below current value.

Companies that issue loans tend to be highly leveraged and thus are more susceptible to the risks of interest deferral, default and/or bankruptcy. Loans are usually rated below investment grade but may also be unrated. As a result, the risks associated with these loans are similar to the risks of high-yield fixed income instruments. The senior loan market has seen a significant increase in loans with weaker lender protections which may impact recovery values and/or trading levels in the future.

A fund with significant exposure to a single asset class, country, region, industry, or sector may be more affected by an adverse economic or political development than a broadly diversified fund.

Investments in sovereign bonds involve special risks because the governmental authority that controls the repayment of the debt may be unwilling or unable to repay the principal and/or interest when due. In times of economic uncertainty, the prices of these securities may be more volatile than those of corporate debt or other government debt obligations.

Swap agreements may involve greater risks than direct investment in securities and could result in losses if the underlying reference or asset does not perform as anticipated. In addition, many swaps trade over-the-counter and may be considered illiquid.

Trading on an exchange may be halted due to market conditions or other reasons. There can be no assurance that a fund's requirements to maintain the exchange listing will continue to be met or be unchanged.

Securities issued or guaranteed by federal agencies and U.S. government sponsored instrumentalities may or may not be backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government.

A fund may hold securities or other assets that may be valued on the basis of factors other than market quotations. This may occur because the asset or security does not trade on a centralized exchange, or in times of market turmoil or reduced liquidity. Portfolio holdings that are valued using techniques other than market quotations, including "fair valued" assets or securities, may be subject to greater fluctuation in their valuations from one day to the next than if market quotations were used. There is no assurance that a fund could sell or close out a portfolio position for the value established for it at any time.

The purchase of securities on a when-issued, TBA ("to be announced"), delayed delivery or forward commitment basis may give rise to investment leverage and increase a fund's volatility and exposure to default.

First Trust Advisors L.P. (FTA) is the adviser to the First Trust fund(s). FTA is an affiliate of First Trust Portfolios L.P., the distributor of the fund(s).

Smith Capital Investors, a registered investment adviser with the SEC, is sub-adviser to the fund(s).

The information presented is not intended to constitute an investment recommendation for, or advice to, any specific person. By providing this information, First Trust is not undertaking to give advice in any fiduciary capacity within the meaning of ERISA, the Internal Revenue Code or any other regulatory framework. Financial professionals are responsible for evaluating investment risks independently and for exercising independent judgment in determining whether investments are appropriate for their clients.