

# 2Q 2023 CLOSED-END FUND & BDC REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

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Closed-End Fund Advisors is a Registered Investment Advisory Firm founded in 1989 that specializes in Closed-End Fund & BDC Research, Trading and Management.

### **Presentation Agenda**



- What is Closed-End Fund Advisors?
- What is AICA?
- What is a CEF?
- What is a BDC?
- 10-year asset class history: returns, discounts & correlations
- CEF & BDC universe overview stats
- 2Q summary: discounts & returns
- Major sector discount levels
- CEF discount history and frequency
- Relative discount opportunity
- Discount seasonality & tax-loss selling
- Sector focus: Equity, Taxable Fixed Income, Muni CEFs, and BDCs
- Sub-sector yield comparison
- Leverage Levels and Leverage Cost
- Return of capital trends

- Destructive return of capital
- CEF trading volume trends
- NAV vs price volatility comparison
- NAV vs price correlation trends
- 2Q press release & SEC filing stats
- 2Q distribution changes
- CEF distribution lookback
- IPOs: trends & recent highlights
- CEF mergers & deaths
- CEFA CEF/BDC index performance
- Institutional ownership trends & stats
- Activists & recent corporate actions
- Interval funds
- Tender offer funds
- 3Q & 2023 outlook
- CEFA model portfolios
- Disclosures & disclaimers

### What is Closed-End Fund Advisors?



#### Investment Management

- Separately Managed Accounts highly customized per client
- Model portfolios (25 of them) www.cefdata.com/portfoliocomp

#### Data Service

- Offer industry-leading data on CEFs, BDCs, and Interval Funds
  - Daily/Weekly/Monthly data spreadsheets and PDF charts/tables
- CEFData.com: CEF/BDC /iCEF daily data modules and analytics
- Daily email news alerts for CEF & BDC news and SEC filings
  - Covers all material updates, including distribution changes, activist actions/filings, insider purchases

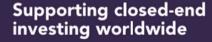
#### Research, Data Analytics & Consulting

- Consult for Institutional Investors & CEF/BDC Fund Sponsors
- CEFA Select BDC Unit Investment Trusts with partner SmartTrustUIT

### Non-profit - Active Investment Company Alliance (AICA)

- Started a non-profit to improve the CEF & BDC ecosystem in 2019
- AICA has done multiple events with over a thousand attendees







- ➤ High Quality and Inclusive Non-Profit Trade Association: US Listed and Non-Listed CEFs / BDCs powered by CEFdata.com.
- ➤ Focused on helping CEFs, BDCs, & Interval Funds Extend Their Outreach to the Investment Community with Advisor Centric Content
- Membership Spread Amongst Fund Sponsors, Institutional Investors and Service Providers
- Access to The Only Public Profile Pages for Interval Funds & BDCs
- ➤ 200+ Podcasts (The NAVigator), Videos, Events, Articles, Webinars
- ➤ 12 Events to date, 10 virtual events during COVD. 1,100 Total AICA Event Registrations.

#### 2023 Goals:

- > Full Day Event in NYC this Fall
- Student Challenge, CEF Research Rankings, Awards, Career Networking
- ➤ CEF/BDC Experienced Advisor Database for Individual Investors
- ➤ Grow Membership from 15 to 25 Members
- ➤ AICA Advisor CEF, BDC & Interval Fund Surveys

Founded by John Cole Scott, President, CIO of CEF Advisors

Mission: The Active Investment Company Alliance (AICA) will be the premier 501(c)(6) non-profit trade association for listed closed-end funds, business development companies, interval and tender offer funds. Membership will be broad-based globally across fund sponsors (member firm who manages a closed-ended management company, BDC or equivalent), or product sponsors (member firm who manages an investment product: open-end, UIT, ETF, CEF, SMA, LP where the underlying investments are focused on closed-ended management companies, BDC or equivalent) and Service Provider Membership.

Work to engage, educate, connect and offer transparency for investment professionals and the investors they serve. Seek to gain better advocacy and guidance from regulators to protect investors. Support quality fund managers and sponsors in order to grow the universe of funds in size and liquidity.



#### **Recent AICA Content Examples**



#### **Podcasts**



#### XA Investments' Flynn sees rapid growth in interval funds using alternatives



Kimberly Flynn, managing director of alternative investments at XA Investments, says that demand for alternative investments as a means of adding

diversification to a portfolio has spurred tremendous growth in interval funds, whose limited liquidity makes them an ideal vehicle for many types of less-liquid securities.



#### BDCs are well-positioned to handle Fed policies and recession



Mickey Schleien, managing director for equity research at Ladenburg Thalmann and Co, says that business-development companies have seen the

rising interest-rate environment lead to higher yields, which has helped to offset declines in net asset value that BDCs have...



#### Nuveen's Baker: Look beyond yield to find opportunity in preferreds



Doug Baker, head of preferred securities at Nuveen says that while it is relatively common now to find preferreds with yields above 7 percent, the real

opportunity for investors at the moment comes from looking beyond the yield.



#### BlueBay's Farley on zagging while the credit market zias



Duncan Farley, portfolio manager at BlueBay Asset
Management -- which runs the BlueBay Destra
International Event-Driven Credit Fund -- discusses

how his fund produced a 20-plus percent gain during one of the worst years ever for the...

#### **30** Jun, 2023

#### Closed-End Fund Advisors' Scott on the funds he is using most for clients now



John Cole Scott, president of Closed-End Fund Advisors, discusses what he is seeing in the market now by delving into four of the investments he is



#### Gabelli's Marangi expects market is about to widen its opportunity set



Chris Marangi, co-chief investment officer for value at the Gabelli Funds, says 'the new normal' is one where inflation is higher than the Federal Reserve's target of

2 percent and growth is below trend, but it is creating an opportunity for...

using the most and weighting heavily in client portfolios.



#### A 'Wall of Meh' in sentiment is an opportunity for closed-end fund investors



Rob Shaker, portfolio manager at Shaker Financial Services, says that economic conditions -- the debtceiling debate, troubled banks, higher interest rates

and persistent inflation -- have created a situation where the market isn't climbing the proverbial wall of worry,...



#### Calamos' Freund: Rates could be as range-bound as stocks for a while



Matt Freund, co-chief investment officer/head of fixed-income strategies at Calamos Investments, says he expects interest rates to settle in and remain

stable for quite a while before trending down; he expects more volatility in longer-term bonds, which will make it harder for investors...

#### **Events**

#### CEF | BDC | Interval Fund BootCamp and Roundtable

NYC - In Person - November 16th, 2022

Read More >

#### 2022 Interval Fund Spring Manager Spotlight

April 26th - 27th, 2022

Read More >

#### AICA Spring Closed-End Fund Roundtable

March 15th - 16th, 2022

Read More

#### Passive Access to CEFs/BDCs via ETF and UITs

February 3rd, 2022

Read More >

#### Interval Fund Winter Manager Spotlight

December 8th - 9th, 2021

**AICA Income Spotlight** 

Summer 2021

June 17th, 2021

Read More >

Read More

### Business Development Company (BDC) Fall Forum

November 16th, 2021

Read More

#### Tax Free & Tax Advantaged Income for Investors

September 29th, 2021

Read More

BDC Investor Forum 2021

May 27th, 2021

Read More

#### www.AICAlliance.org



### **AICA 2023 Fall Roundtable:**

(CEFs, BDCs, Interval Funds)

#### Planned Topics for Traditional Closed-end Funds

- Institutional Trading in CEFs: What Have You Learned, What Advice Can You Give?
- Products of CEFs Navigating the 8+ Products of CEFs for Advisors
- Commodity & Energy Exposure: What's New & What Rhymes?
- · Equity Funds for Retirement Income Needs
- Multisector Bond Funds: High Yield, Sr Loan, CLO & Investment Grade: Favorite Fixed Income Sectors and Active Management
- Municipal (Tax-Free) Bond Funds: Outlook in a Recession w/ Low Rates
- · CEF Analysts Panel: Tips Tricks & Pitfalls in Listed CEFs
- Discounts, Distributions and Leverage Use: A Fund Sponsors' Perspective
- Product Development: Success of the New CEF IPO: What Might Be Next?

#### Planned Topics for Business Development Companies (BDCs)

- Evaluation & Understanding BDCs (Panel of Service Providers)
- BDC from & Institutional Investor's Perspective: Advice & Perspective for The Board of Directors
- Premium to Book Value BDCs: Understand the Traits & Track Record of BDCs that Generally Trade Higher to Book Value
- Top Picks from BDC Analysts: What They Look for in Quality Management

#### Planned Topic for Interval Funds

- Managing a Listed CEF & Interval Fund: Benefits & Challenges
- Real Estate Investing in Listed vs Non-listed CEFs
- · Unique Credit Investing in the Interval Fund Structure
- · Creating and Helping Advisors Understand Interval Funds
- Equity Interval Fund Unlike any Listed CEFs You Have Ever Seen

#### October 2023

\$95 Full-Day Registration (RIA/FA) \$395 Full-Day Registration (Fund Sponsor) \$695 Full-Day Registration (Service Provider)

#### 8am - Registration & Breakfast

8:30am - Welcome, John Cole Scott

8:40am - Keynote Presenter

9:10am - Session: Industry Trends & Perspectives

10am - CEF Panel #1 & BDC Panel #1

10:50am - Sponsor & Member Networking Break

11:10am - CEF Panel #2 & BDC Panel #2

12pm - CEF Panel #3 & BDC Panel #3

12:50pm - Networking Lunch

1:40pm - CEF Panel #4 & Interval Fund Panel #1

2:30pm - CEF Panel #5 & Interval Fund Panel #2

3:20pm - Sponsor & Member Networking Break

3:40pm - CEF Panel #6 & Interval Fund Panel #3

4:30pm - Session: Institutional Investors & Products

5:20pm Closing Remarks, John Cole Scott

We have 10 complimentary Press Passes available for qualified financial journalists.



#### Presenters from Fall 2019 Conference in NYC



AlCalliance.org/NYC2019Event/

#### Presenters from Fall 2022 Conference in NYC



















































### What is a Closed-End Fund (CEF)?



- A CEF is a 'Registered Investment Company' is an investment structure/vehicle as defined by the Investment Company Act of 1940 and features:
  - Fixed pool of capital
  - Active management
  - Daily liquidity CEF shares trade like stocks
- Long, established history CEFs have traded on the NYSE since 1893
- Funds can trade at prices both below NAV (discount) and above (premium)
- Tax-advantaged earnings are passed through to investors in the form of dividends and distributions (similar to REITs and MLPs)
- CEFs often utilized debt/leverage (such as margin loans or preferred shares)
- The closed-end structure is not an asset class but an investment vehicle "wrapper"
- Interval & Tender Offer Funds (non-listed), have been around since 1989, but growth has picked up since 2017.
  - 280 Strategies and \$283.7 Billion in AUM (CEFData.com: 6/30/23)



### What is a Business Development Company (BDC)?

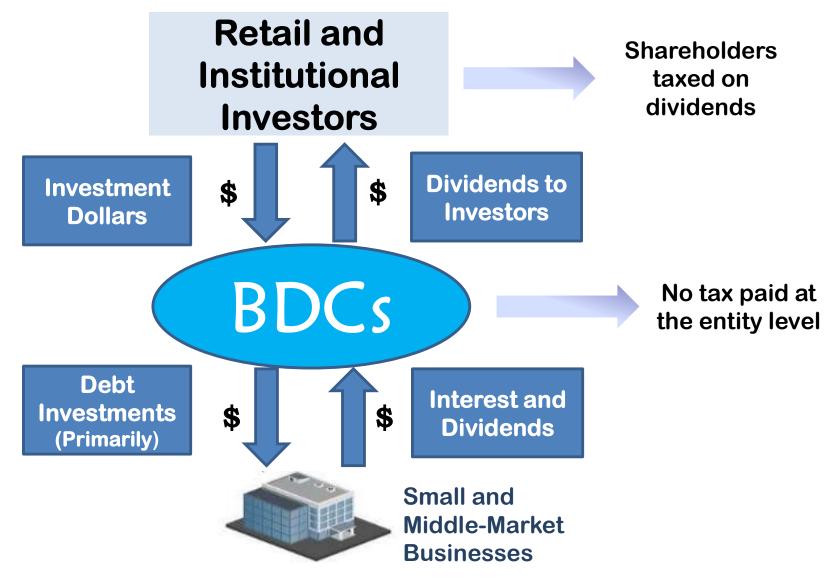
CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

- BDCs are closed-end funds that provide small, growing companies access to capital.
- BDCs were created by Congress in 1980 to provide an opportunity for individual, nonaccredited investors to participate in private investments
- BDCs (just like traditional closed-end funds) offer:
  - 1940 Act Investment Company status/regulation
  - Fixed-Capital
  - Active Management
  - Daily Liquidity
- Tax-advantaged and earnings are passed through to investors in the form of dividends and distributions (similar to REITs and MLPs)
- BDCs leverage is limited to 200% (\*150%) asset coverage = total assets / total debt or
   "one turn" of leverage, excluding SBIC facilities (BDCs) this is higher than other CEFs
- BDCs typically have a higher fee structure w/ carry



### **BDCs Provide Access to Private Debt Investments**







### **Types of Loans Held By Listed BDCs**

Source: Data as of June 30, 2023, from CEFData.com



	<b>Listed BDCs</b>	NL BDCs	All BDCs
First Lien Loans	70%	75%	73%
Second Lien Loans	10%	8%	8%
Unsecured Loans	4%	3%	3%
Equity/Other	16%	15%	15%
	4 40/	4.20/	422/
Avg Portfolio Turnover	14%	12%	13%
Variable Loans	85%	86%	86%
Fixed Loans	15%	14%	14%
Libor Floor Average	1.5%	1.2%	1.3%
Libor Floor Percentage	54%	41%	45%
Avg Loan Size (\$MM)	10.2	8.3	8.9
Loans Under \$25MM	67%	77%	73%
Avg Maturity (2 to 6 years)	3.4	3.8	3.7
Avg # of Loans	230	161	184
From Companies	136	92	107
<b>Total Gross Assets</b>	\$130.0B	\$150.4B	\$280.4B





### Asset Class Annual Returns (NAV) 2013-2023



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2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023-YTD	2013 - 2022
MLP 28.71%	REIT 24.47%	Preferred 6.37%	MLP 33.64%	World Stock 25.80%	BDC 9.39%	REIT 31.14%	Convertible 37.5%	MLP 42.63%	MLP 22.69%	Covered Call 14.02%	US Stock 10.23%
US Stock 25.62%	Muni Bond 19.70%	Muni Bond 5.53%	HY Bond 18.43%	US Stock 19.79%	Muni Bond 0.52%	Convertible 28.26%	World Stock 16.02%	REIT 34.07%	BDC 7.47%	US Stock 13.72%	BDC 9.25%
Convertible 20.89%	Preferred 17.57%	BDC 3.90%	Senior Loan 14.91%	Covered Call 17.59%	Senior Loan -1.34%	US Stock 25.96%	US Stock 13.11%	BDC 20.88%	Senior Loan -6.07%	World Stock 11.54%	Covered Call 7.89%
Tactical Sector 16.85%	US Stock 11.20%	Covered Call 1.35%	Convertible 12.06%	Tactical Sector 15.93%	Investment Grade -2.51%	Preferred 24.88%	Covered Call 10.7%	US Stock 20.25%	HY Bond -14.45%	Convertible 9.07%	Convertible 7.61%
Covered Call 16.31%	BDC 8.10%	REIT 0.95%	Tactical Sector 11.98%	Preferred 14.19%	HY Bond -3.49%	Covered Call 23.64%	Tactical Sector 8.14%	Covered Call 19.65%	Preferred -15.33%	Intl Bond 7.41%	REIT 6.93%
BDC 13.36%	Investment Grade 7.73%	US Stock 0.42%	Intl Bond 11.84%	Convertible 12.57%	US Stock -5.54%	Tactical Sector 18.61%	Investment Grade 7.33%	Tactical Sector 10.21%	US Stock -16.18%	Senior Loan 6.84%	Tactical Sector 6.37%
HY Bond 10.02%	Tactical Sector 7.46%	Investment Grade -2.38%	BDC 10.09%	REIT 12.42%	Tactical Sector -6.00%	HY Bond 15.43%	Muni Bond 6.54%	Preferred 8.73%	Tactical Sector -16.26%	HY Bond 6.06%	Preferred 6.13%
Senior Loan 8.49%	Covered Call 4.86%	Senior Loan -2.66%	Investment Grade 8.74%	Intl Bond 12.05%	Convertible -6.09%	Investment Grade 14.57%	HY Bond 4.04%	Senior Loan 7.86%	Covered Call -16.53%	Tactical Sector 5.92%	HY Bond 4.13%
REIT 3.65%	MLP 3.45%	Tactical Sector -3.23%	Covered Call 8.67%	Investment Grade 10.77%	Preferred -7.02%	MLP 11.62%	Preferred 2.91%	HY Bond 6.24%	Investment Grade -17.13%	REIT 4.82%	Senior Loan 3.85%
World Stock 3.34%	HY Bond 1.59%	HY Bond -4.99%	World Stock 8.45%	BDC 8.83%	Covered Call -7.31%	Muni Bond 10.83%	Intl Bond 2.45%	Convertible 4.37%	Muni Bond -17.7%	Muni Bond 4.21%	Muni Bond 3.13%
Preferred 2.15%	Senior Loan 1.32%	World Stock -6.55%	US Stock 7.65%	HY Bond 8.50%	REIT -8.27%	Senior Loan 10.67%	Senior Loan 0.45%	Muni Bond 4.25%	Intl Bond -17.81%	BDC 3.58%	Investment Grade 2.84%
Investment Grade -1.5%	Intl Bond 0.49%	Convertible -7.25%	Preferred 6.89%	Muni Bond 8.41%	Intl Bond -8.72%	World Stock 10.44%	BDC 0.31%	Investment Grade 2.75%	World Stock -17.93%	Investment Grade 3.29%	World Stock 2.68%
Intl Bond -6.57%	Convertible 0.12%	Intl Bond -8.46%	REIT 6.84%	Senior Loan 4.82%	World Stock -14.93%	BDC 10.12%	REIT -8.82%	World Stock 2.43%	Convertible -26.31%	MLP 1.98%	MLP 1.89%
Muni Bond -7.35%	World Stock -0.26%	MLP -44.23%	Muni Bond 0.61%	MLP -5.77%	MLP -19.05%	Intl Bond 6.96%	MLP -54.77%	Intl Bond -2.53%	REIT -27.18%	Preferred -2.26%	Intl Bond -1.03%

US Stock – CEFA's US Equity Index; REIT – CEFA's Global Real Estate, REIT & Real Asset Index; MLP – CEFA's Master Limited Partnership (MLP) Fund Index; BDC – CEFA's Debt-Focused Business Development Company (BDC) Index; High Yield Bond – CEFA's High Yield Bond Index; Preferred – CEFA's Preferred Equity Index; World Stock – CEFA's International Equity Index; Sr. Loan - CEFA's Senior Loan Index; Muni Bond - CEFA's National Municipal Bond Index; Covered Call / Option Funds Index; Convertible - CEFA's Convertible Bond Index; Investment Grade - CEFA's Investment Grade Bond Index.; Tactical Sector - CEFA's Hybrid / Balanced Fund Index (50%) & CEFA's Multisector Bond Fund Index (50%); Intl Bond - CEFA's International Bond Index. Returns data are NAV total returns which include dividends and capital appreciation. "2013- 2022" column shows yearly average for each sector. You cannot invest directly in an index. Past performance is not an indication of future results. Index Performance prior to 2015 was determined using index constituents as of 12/31/2014. Data for all indexes is sourced from CEFData.com as of 6/30/2023.

### **Asset Class Average Discounts/Premiums 2013-2023**



11											
2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023-YTD	2013-2022
BDC 8.03%	BDC 1.69%	Tactical Sector -5.37%	Preferred -0.77%	Preferred 0.03%	Convertible -1.35%	Preferred 1.66%	Preferred 1.96%	Preferred 3.94%	Covered Call -0.88%	Investment Grade -0.12%	Preferred -1.63%
MLP 1.95%	Tactical Sector -2.63%	MLP -6.10%	Muni Bond -1.88%	Tactical Sector -1.42%	Tactical Sector -1.84%	Tactical Sector 0.14%	Investment Grade 0.36%	Investment Grade 2.88%	Investment Grade -2.23%	Convertible -2.33%	Investment Grade -2.23%
Senior Loan -0.12%	Convertible -3.17%	Muni Bond -6.44%	Investment Grade -3.74%	Investment Grade -2.09%	Covered Call -2.39%	Investment Grade -0.12%	Tactical Sector -4.01%	BDC 0.81%	Convertible -2.4%	Covered Call -2.88%	Tactical Sector -2.58%
HY Bond -0.63%	HY Bond -3.48%	Investment Grade -6.81%	Tactical Sector -3.89%	MLP -3.11%	Investment Grade -2.74%	Covered Call -2.51%	Muni Bond -6.05%	Tactical Sector 0%	Preferred -2.78%	Intl Bond -4.97%	Covered Call -4.87%
Tactical Sector -1.72%	MLP -4.54%	Preferred -6.89%	HY Bond -4.84%	Muni Bond -3.32%	Preferred -2.91%	Convertible -2.80%	Covered Call -6.35%	Intl Bond -0.41%	Tactical Sector -5.06%	Preferred -5.51%	Muni Bond -4.9%
Investment Grade -2.92%	Investment Grade -4.93%	Convertible -7.98%	MLP -5.05%	Convertible -4.00%	MLP -4.57%	Intl Bond -3.30%	Intl Bond -6.43%	Muni Bond -1.68%	REIT -5.14%	Tactical Sector -6.73%	Convertible -5.03%
Muni Bond	Muni Bond	BDC	Covered Call	Covered Call	Intl Bond	BDC	HY Bond	Covered Call	Intl Bond	REIT	HY Bond
-3.65%	-6.40%	-8.61%	-7.39%	-4.25%	-7.62%	-4.96%	-7.48%	-2.02%	-5.18%	-7.86%	-5.38%
Preferred	Senior Loan	Covered Call	Senior Loan	Senior Loan	Senior Loan	Muni Bond	Convertible -7.98%	HY Bond	Muni Bond	HY Bond	BDC
-3.83%	-6.49%	-8.11%	-8.75%	-4.32%	-7.77%	-5.37%		-2.66%	-5.67%	-8.64%	-5.73%
Intl Bond	Covered Call	HY Bond	Convertible -10.08%	BDC	HY Bond	HY Bond	REIT	Senior Loan	US Stock	Muni Bond	Intl Bond
-5.04%	-6.62%	-8.41%		-4.48%	-8.04%	-5.61%	-10.87%	-4.05%	-6.25%	-9.76%	-6.75%
REIT	Preferred	Senior Loan	BDC	HY Bond	US Stock	MLP	US Stock	Convertible -4.31%	BDC	BDC	Senior Loan
-5.65%	-6.73%	-8.70%	-10.98%	-5.19%	-8.06%	-7.44%	-11.27%		-6.78%	-10.39%	-6.9%
Convertible	World Stock	World Stock	Intl Bond	Intl Bond	Muni Bond	REIT	Senior Loan	REIT	HY Bond	US Stock	MLP
-6.22%	-9.04%	-11.00%	-11.21%	-6.85%	-8.57%	-8.70%	-11.77%	-5.23%	-7.44%	-10.75%	-7.9%
Covered Call	Intl Bond	US Stock	US Stock	REIT	World Stock	US Stock	World Stock	US Stock	Senior Loan	Senior Loan	REIT
-8.13%	-8.45%	-11.00%	-11.47%	-9.18%	-9.6%	-9.05%	-13.85%	-7.24%	-7.61%	-11.14%	-8.93%
World Stock	US Stock	REIT	REIT	US Stock	BDC	Senior Loan	MLP	World Stock	World Stock	World Stock	US Stock
-8.15%	-9.63%	-12.21%	-11.62%	-9.44%	-9.75%	-9.45%	-17.88%	-10.15%	-9.84%	-11.89%	-9.27%
US Stock	REIT	Intl Bond	World Stock	World Stock	REIT	World Stock	BDC	MLP	MLP	MLP	World Stock
-9.32%	-10.63%	-13.02%	-12.44%	-9.50%	-10.05%	-10.54%	-22.23%	-16.73%	-15.51%	-14.82%	-10.41%

### 15 Sector NAV Correlation Matrix (Diversification)



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	MLP	BDC	Convertible	HY Bond	Muni Bond	Senior Loan	Preferred	World Stock	Cov Call	US Stock	REIT	Investment Grade	Tactical Sector	Internation al Bond
MLP	100%	57%	74%	73%	33%	69%	55%	66%	73%	75%	57%	60%	72%	66%
BDC	57%	100%	46%	45%	15%	42%	33%	46%	50%	52%	34%	34%	45%	37%
Convertible	74%	46%	100%	94%	55%	85%	77%	90%	92%	94%	77%	86%	95%	85%
HY Bond	73%	45%	94%	100%	60%	94%	81%	87%	85%	88%	85%	91%	96%	86%
Muni Bond	33%	15%	55%	60%	100%	58%	54%	47%	43%	43%	55%	63%	58%	62%
Senior Loan	69%	42%	85%	94%	58%	100%	71%	75%	73%	77%	76%	80%	87%	71%
Preferred	55%	33%	77%	81%	54%	71%	100%	78%	73%	77%	83%	94%	88%	75%
World Stock	66%	46%	90%	87%	47%	75%	78%	100%	92%	93%	80%	83%	93%	86%
Cov Call	73%	50%	92%	85%	43%	73%	73%	92%	100%	98%	80%	79%	92%	80%
US Stock	75%	52%	94%	88%	43%	77%	77%	93%	98%	100%	83%	82%	95%	79%
REIT	57%	34%	77%	85%	55%	76%	83%	80%	80%	83%	100%	85%	89%	71%
Investment Grade	60%	34%	86%	91%	63%	80%	94%	83%	79%	82%	85%	100%	94%	86%
Tactical Sector	72%	45%	95%	96%	58%	87%	88%	93%	92%	95%	89%	94%	100%	87%
Internation al Bond	66%	37%	85%	86%	62%	71%	75%	86%	80%	79%	71%	86%	87%	100%

Note: Correlation over previous 18 years, using quarterly NAV total returns.

Source: CEFData.com as of 6/30/2023

### The CEF and BDC Investment Universe (Listed)



*Note:* Benchmarks for Beta: "S&P 500 Index" for Equity Funds and "iShares Core U.S. Aggregate Bond ETF" for Bond Funds *Source: CEFData.com as of 6/30/2023* 

	# of Funds	Total Net Assets	Total Gross Assets	Premium / Discount	Market Yield	1 Year Dividend Growth	3 Year Dividend Growth	NAV Beta (2yr)	Duration	Leverage	Non Lev Gross Exp Ratio	Average Net Assets
<b>Equity Funds</b>	187	\$124,485	\$141,973	-9.2%	8.1%	-3.5%	7.9%	0.75		14.3%	1.17%	\$666
Taxable Bond	137	\$54,407	\$82,575	-5.7%	10.4%	4.2%	8.1%	0.62	3.9	26.6%	1.15%	\$397
Municipal Bond	114	\$55,731	\$88,047	-10.9%	4.4%	-22.1%	-25.4%	0.86	11.2	33.6%	0.68%	\$489
BDCs	48	\$58,044	\$130,429	-14.5%	10.0%	11.4%	10.9%	0.64		48.3%	3.50%	\$1,209
Total CEFs	486	\$292,667	\$443,024	-9.1%	8.0%	-4.5%	-0.3%	0.73	7.1	25.6%	1.28%	\$602
Municipal Bond	114	\$55,731	\$88,047	-10.9%	4.4%	-22.1%	-25.4%	0.86	11.2	33.6%	0.68%	\$489
World Stock	36	\$9,689	\$9,819	-11.9%	7.5%	-11.1%	3.0%	0.75		6.7%	1.47%	\$269
Debt Focused BDC	43	\$57,621	\$129,900	-9.9%	11.0%	10.0%	10.9%	0.65		52.5%	3.19%	\$1,340
High Yield Bond	30	\$9,732	\$12,783	-8.5%	10.1%	-1.2%	-6.2%	0.60	3.64	23.9%	1.07%	\$324
US Stock	30	\$27,721	\$29,043	-11.3%	7.4%	-9.9%	8.7%	0.86		9.1%	1.19%	\$924
Multisector Bonds	24	\$18,185	\$28,858	-2.6%	10.4%	-0.5%	-6.0%	0.73	4.32	26.9%	0.96%	\$758
Covered Call	22	\$20,225	\$19,165	-4.1%	7.9%	-6.8%	3.5%	0.79		0.0%	1.09%	\$919
Senior Loan	23	\$8,324	\$12,951	-11.0%	11.6%	33.8%	44.3%	0.15	0.99	33.9%	1.30%	\$362
Hybrid / Balanced	19	\$11,613	\$15,095	-12.3%	10.6%	-7.5%	-6.5%	0.77	3.1	19.4%	1.20%	\$611
MLP Funds	16	\$5,472	\$7,718	-12.5%	8.5%	30.0%	62.5%	0.89		21.4%	1.17%	\$342
Preferred Equity	18	\$9,355	\$15,575	-7.0%	8.0%	-16.9%	-17.7%	0.40	3.5	38.3%	0.80%	\$520
International Bond	14	\$4,034	\$5,048	-4.9%	11.8%	-1.2%	5.4%	0.81	4.99	21.6%	1.29%	\$288
Investment Grade Bond	12	\$3,909	\$5,832	0.0%	7.6%	-2.3%	-10.4%	0.83	5.3	15.5%	0.74%	\$326
Convertible Bond	11	\$3,896	\$6,243	-3.9%	9.9%	-3.6%	2.8%	0.90	2.60	34.1%	0.97%	\$354
REIT Funds	10	\$5,263	\$7,248	-10.1%	10.5%	-2.3%	-1.9%	0.90		26.4%	1.09%	\$526

### **CEF Universe: Sponsors**

Source: CEFData.com as of June 30, 2023



#### **Traditional CEF**

#### **Business Development Companies** (Listed & Non listed)

		Gross			Gross Non Lev			Gross			# Non	Gross Non Lev
#	Sponsor	Assets (B)	# Funds	# Sectors	Exp Ratio (%)	#	Sponsor	Assets (B)	# Funds	# Listed	Listed	Exp Ratio (%)
1	Nuveen	\$52.8	51	19	0.81	1	Blackstone	\$61.2	2	1	1	1.81
2	BlackRock	\$49.1	51	22	0.75	2	Owl Rock	\$29.9	6	0	6	2.08
3	PIMCO	\$22.9	21	7	0.74	3	Ares	\$22.2	2	1	1	1.05
4	Eaton Vance	\$20.7	23	7	0.96	4	FS/KKR	\$18.3	2	1	1	2.62
5	Franklin Templeton	\$14.1	31	16	0.97	5	Blue Owl Cr Advisors	\$13.7	1	1	0	2.80
6	Sprott	\$12.5	5	2	0.75	6	Golub Capital	\$8.9	5	1	4	1.75
7	Cohen&Steers	\$11.1	9	4	0.92	7	Morgan Stanley	\$7.9	4	0	4	1.28
8	Virtus	\$10.7	14	7	1.00	8	Prospect Capital	\$7.7	2	1	1	4.05
9	Invesco	\$9.6	15	9	0.68	9	Goldman Sachs	\$7.4	5	1	4	2.25
10	Calamos	\$8.0	7	2	1.10	10	Apollo	\$7.0	2	1	1	2.01
11	Gabelli	\$7.1	13	7	1.17	11	New Mountain Capital	\$6.9	4	1	3	2.02
12	First Trust	\$5.9	14	11	1.15	12	HPS	\$6.9	1	0	1	1.87
13	John Hancock	\$5.7	10	7	0.86	13	Barings	\$6.5	3	1	2	1.84
14	abrdn	\$4.8	12	9	1.48	14	Main Street Capital	\$5.4	2	1	1	2.21
15	Guggenheim Funds	\$4.1	4	4	1.03	15	Sixth St Splty Lending	\$4.6	2	1	1	2.56
16	Tekla	\$3.1	4	1	1.21	16	Carlyle	\$4.5	3	1	2	1.95
17	Adams Funds	\$2.9	2	2	0.67	17	Oaktree Capital	\$4.3	2	1	1	2.65
18	Doubleline	\$2.8	3	2	1.22	18	Franklin Templeton	\$3.8	2	0	2	2.49
19	Flaherty & Crumrine	\$2.8	5	1	0.68	19	Hercules	\$3.3	1	1	0	2.54
20	RiverNorth	\$2.7	8	4	1.44	20	SLR Capital	\$3.2	3	1	2	1.66
Oth	er Sponsors	\$59.6	135	27	1.54	Ot	her Sponsors	\$47.4	80	32	48	3.44
All	Listed CEFs	\$312.8	437	38	1.41	Al	BDCs	\$280.8	134	48	86	3.13

### **2Q Snapshot: Discounts & Total Returns**



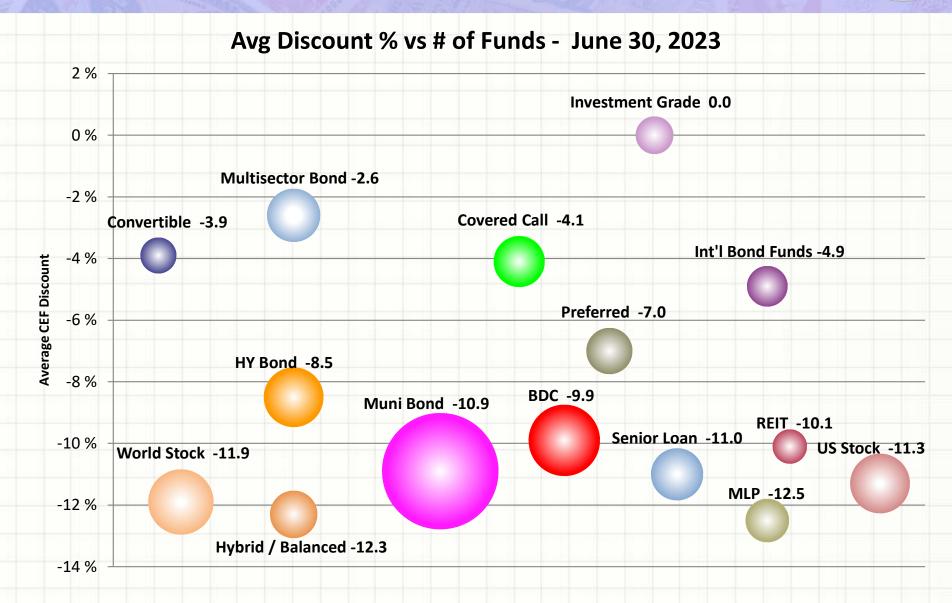
	Disc	ount /	/ Premium			QTD N	IAV TR			QTD P	rice TR	
	Discount	%	Premium	%	Positive	%	Negative	%	Positive	%	Negative	%
Municipal Bond	111	97%	3	3%	89	78%	25	22%	21	18%	93	82%
World Stock	34	94%	2	6%	30	83%	6	17%	23	64%	13	36%
Debt Focused BDC	31	72%	11	26%	43	100%	0	0%	36	84%	7	16%
High Yield Bond	28	93%	2	7%	29	97%	1	3%	27	90%	3	10%
US Stock	26	87%	4	13%	27	90%	2	7%	26	87%	4	13%
Multisector Bonds	15	63%	9	38%	20	83%	4	17%	18	75%	6	25%
Covered Call	17	77%	5	23%	21	95%	1	5%	19	86%	3	14%
Senior Loan	22	96%	1	4%	22	96%	1	4%	21	91%	2	9%
Hybrid / Balanced	19	100%	0	0%	16	84%	3	16%	14	74%	5	26%
MLP Funds	15	94%	1	6%	14	88%	2	13%	14	88%	2	13%
Preferred Equity	14	78%	4	22%	17	94%	1	6%	6	33%	12	67%
International Bond	11	79%	3	21%	14	100%	0	0%	12	86%	2	14%
<b>Investment Grade Bond</b>	9	75%	3	25%	7	58%	5	42%	6	50%	6	50%
Convertible Bond	7	64%	4	36%	11	100%	0	0%	10	91%	1	9%
REIT Funds	10	100%	0	0%	8	80%	2	20%	5	50%	5	50%
Total CEFs	421	87%	64	13%	405	83%	81	17%	281	58%	205	42%

Note: BDCs reflect 1Q23 NAV TR, as 6/30/2023 NAVs are largely unreported yet

Source: CEFData.com as of June 30, 2023

### **Major Sector Average Discount Levels**





Source: CEFData.com

### **Discount & Yield Perspective**

Source: CEFData.com as of June 30, 2023



		Discoun	t Relative	e Moveme	ent	
Sector	Current Q	Vs Prev Q	Vs 1Yr Ago	Vs 8-Nov-21	Vs 23-Mar-20	Vs 19-Feb-20
US Stock	-11.4%	-0.8%	-4.2%	-5.1%	6.7%	-3.2%
World Stock	-11.9%	0.3%	-3.5%	-2.1%	7.3%	-1.6%
Covered Call	-4.1%	-1.3%	-1.7%	-3.9%	11.3%	-2.9%
MLP	-13.3%	1.6%	1.7%	1.4%	9.2%	-7.4%
REIT	-10.1%	-1.9%	-5.3%	-5.7%	5.8%	-5.0%
Hybrid	-12.3%	-0.7%	-5.0%	-11.4%	2.9%	-12.7%
Preferred	-7.0%	-3.2%	-5.7%	-11.6%	1.9%	-12.2%
Convert	-3.9%	1.2%	-2.0%	-0.3%	10.6%	-3.1%
Multisector	-2.6%	1.4%	0.4%	-3.7%	10.9%	-6.1%
HY Bond	-8.5%	1.1%	-1.0%	-8.7%	11.8%	-6.3%
Senior Loan	-11.0%	0.7%	-2.6%	-10.3%	9.1%	-5.2%
BDC	-10.1%	1.1%	2.3%	-14.3%	49.1%	-10.7%
Inv Grade	0.0%	1.2%	1.7%	-6.0%	9.3%	-6.9%
Intl Bond	-4.9%	1.2%	-0.7%	-6.1%	12.5%	-5.2%
Muni Bond	-10.9%	-1.6%	-6.0%	-10.8%	1.5%	-8.2%
Average	-8.1%	0.0%	-2.1%	-6.6%	10.7%	-6.4%

		Mk Yield	d Relativ	e Moveme	ent	
Sector	Current Q	Vs Prev Q	Vs 1Yr Ago	Vs 8-Nov-21	Vs 23-Mar-20	Vs 19-Feb-20
US Stock	7.9%	-0.2%	-2.4%	1.2%	-6.3%	0.4%
World Stock	7.9%	-0.6%	-2.5%	0.7%	-4.7%	0.7%
Covered Call	8.0%	-0.2%	-0.9%	1.3%	-4.6%	0.6%
MLP	8.7%	-0.3%	0.8%	2.6%	-39.3%	-0.4%
REIT	10.5%	0.2%	1.9%	4.0%	-4.4%	3.7%
Hybrid	10.6%	0.0%	-0.1%	2.9%	-6.0%	1.8%
Preferred	8.0%	-0.2%	-0.2%	1.6%	-4.3%	1.8%
Convert	9.9%	-0.2%	-0.6%	3.5%	-4.1%	2.3%
Multisector	10.4%	-0.1%	0.7%	2.9%	-2.4%	2.5%
HY Bond	10.1%	0.0%	0.0%	2.6%	-3.8%	2.1%
Senior Loan	11.6%	0.1%	2.9%	4.9%	-1.6%	3.7%
BDC	11.3%	-0.1%	1.1%	2.6%	-14.6%	1.8%
Inv Grade	7.6%	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	-1.3%	1.5%
Intl Bond	11.8%	-0.1%	-0.1%	3.4%	-4.0%	2.9%
Muni Bond	4.4%	0.0%	-0.9%	0.2%	-1.1%	0.3%
Average	9.2%	-0.1%	0.0%	2.4%	-6.8%	1.7%

### **CEF Groups: Average Premium / Discount**

CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

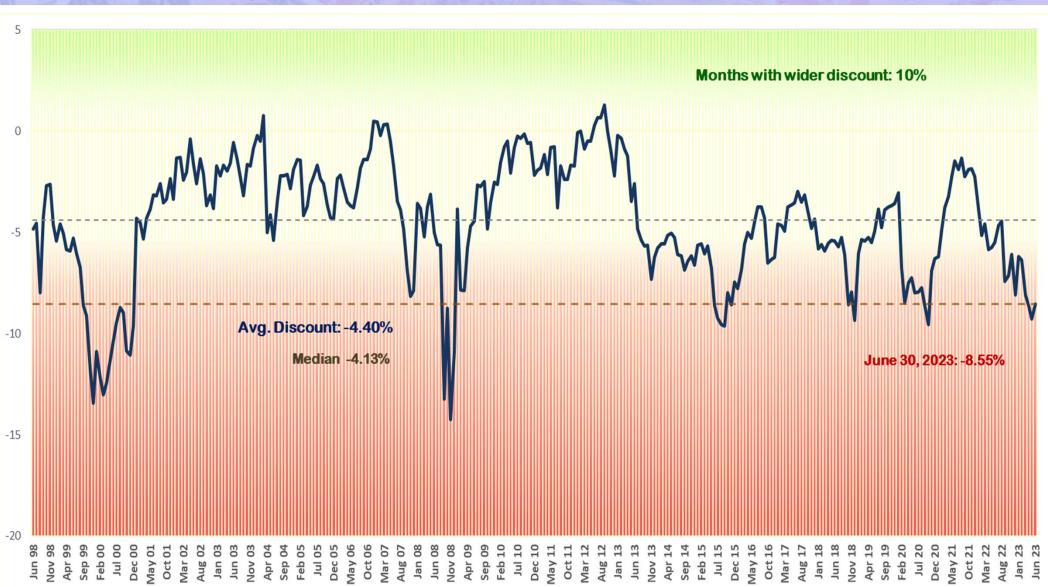
Source: CEFData.com as of June 30, 2023

Fund Crouning	Discount			Average	Premium/(	Discount)		
Fund Grouping	(6/30/23)	1Yr	3Yr	5Yr	10Yr	15Yr	20Yr	25Yr
US Stock	-11.3%	-9.2%	-8.6%	-9.0%	-9.8%	-9.8%	-7.3%	-7.3%
<b>World Stock</b>	-11.9%	-10.9%	-10.9%	-11.1%	-10.4%	-9.2%	-8.4%	-9.2%
<b>Covered Call</b>	-4.1%	-1.2%	-2.3%	-2.5%	-4.2%	-5.1%	-4.8%	-4.8%
MLP	-12.5%	-14.9%	-17.2%	-13.7%	-8.7%	-5.8%	-5.4%	-5.4%
REIT	-10.1%	-6.5%	-6.7%	-7.5%	-8.6%	-8.4%	-7.8%	-7.3%
Hybrid	-12.3%	-10.1%	-5.9%	-5.1%	-6.4%	-7.2%	-6.7%	-6.0%
Preferred	-7.0%	-4.6%	-0.3%	0.1%	-1.6%	-1.6%	-2.0%	-2.0%
Convert	-3.9%	-2.2%	-4.2%	-3.9%	-4.5%	-4.3%	-3.3%	-3.5%
Multisector	-2.6%	-3.0%	-1.9%	-1.1%	0.0%	1.4%	0.3%	0.2%
HY Bond	-8.5%	-8.4%	-6.1%	-6.7%	-6.7%	-4.4%	-3.9%	-3.1%
Senior Loan	-11.0%	-10.3%	-7.8%	-8.7%	-7.9%	-6.5%	-5.9%	-5.8%
BDC	-9.9%	-10.7%	-8.1%	-8.7%	-6.2%	-6.4%	-5.4%	-5.3%
Inv Grade	0.0%	-0.8%	1.2%	1.8%	-0.2%	0.7%	-0.3%	-1.2%
Intl Bond	-4.9%	-5.5%	-4.4%	-5.0%	-7.3%	-6.7%	-6.5%	-6.8%
Muni Bond	-10.9%	-7.9%	-4.8%	-5.3%	-4.7%	-3.4%	-3.3%	-3.4%
All CEF	-9.1%	-7.8%	-6.1%	-6.2%	-6.1%	-5.2%	-4.7%	-4.8%
			4-1			No. of the last	The second second	

### **All CEFs: 25 Year Discount History**

CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

Source: CEFData.com

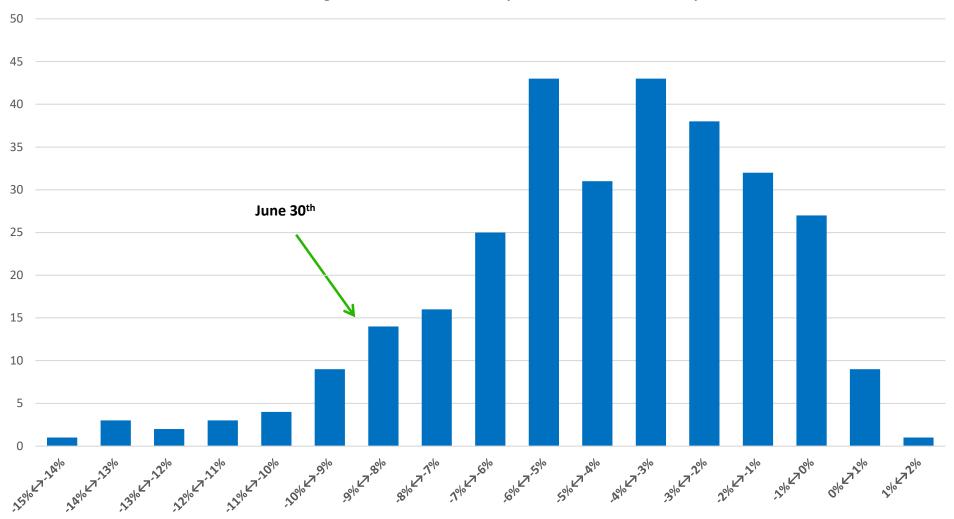


### All CEFs: 25 Year Discount Level Frequency

CLOSED-END FUND
ADVISORS

Source: CEFData.com

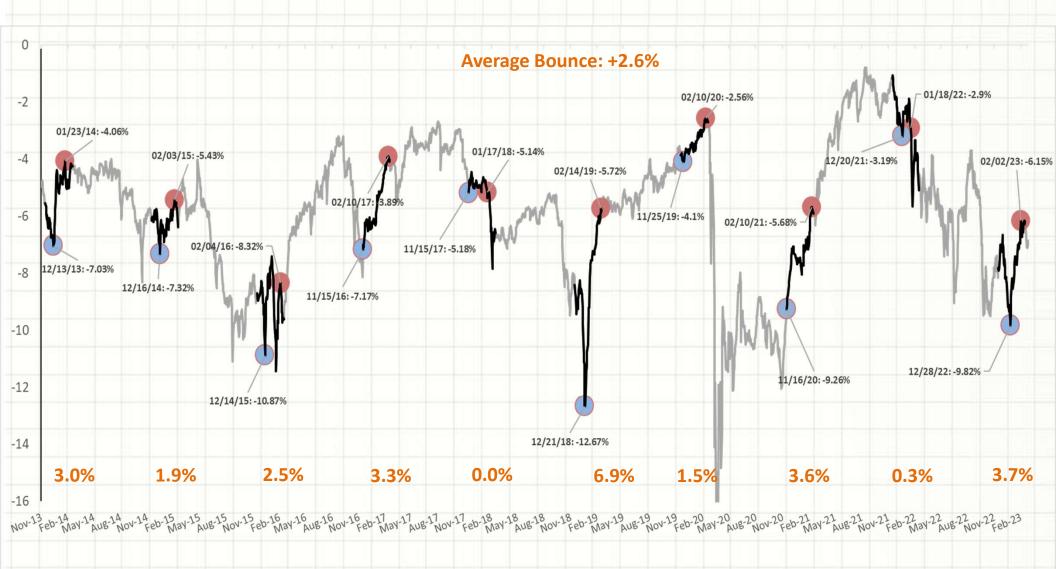
#### **Monthly Discount Levels (June '98 - June '23)**



## Discount Seasonality & Tax Loss Selling Major Sector Avg Discount Moves From November to February



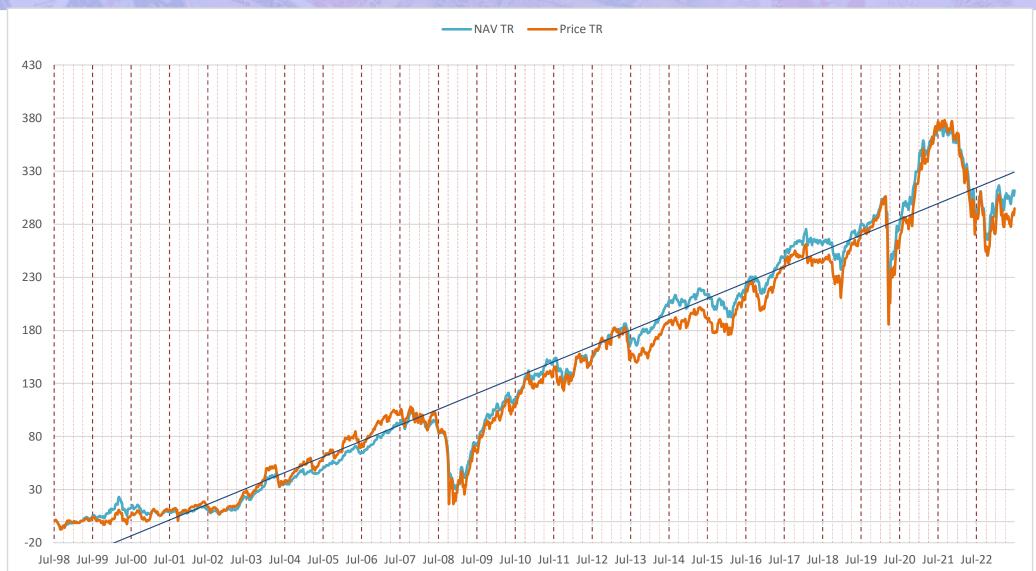
Source: CEFData.com



### **Traditional CEFs: 25 Year Total Return**

CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

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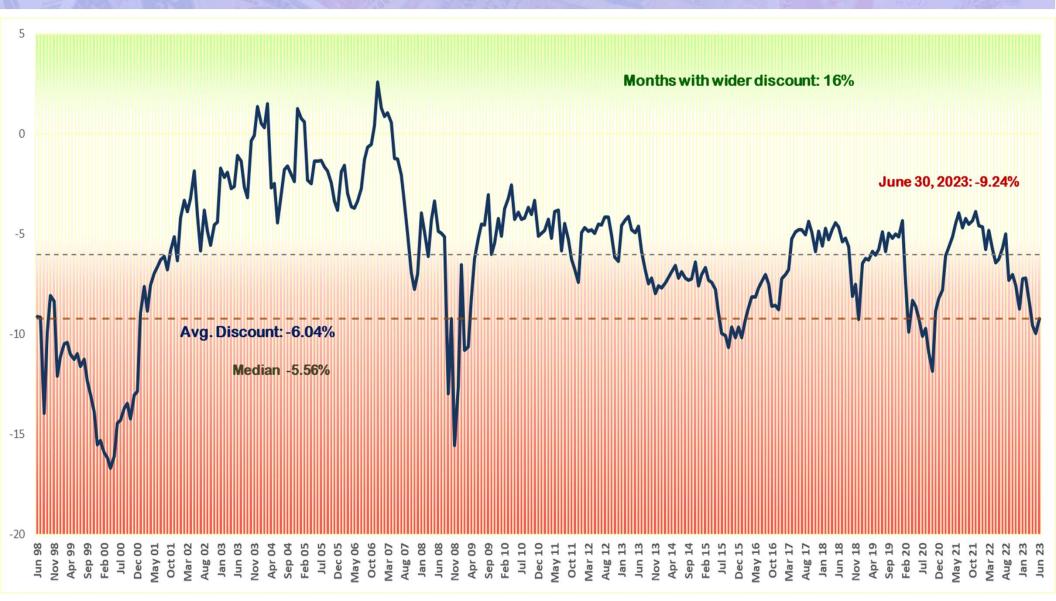


Back-tested results also do not account for those Funds that were previously recommended by the Adviser and which are no longer included as an alternative in a client's asset allocation strategy. Thus, the back-tested performance results shown above may overestimate the potential returns a client could expect to generate due to the effect of recommended manager survivor bias.

### **Equity CEFs: 25 Year Discount History**

CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

Source: CEFData.com

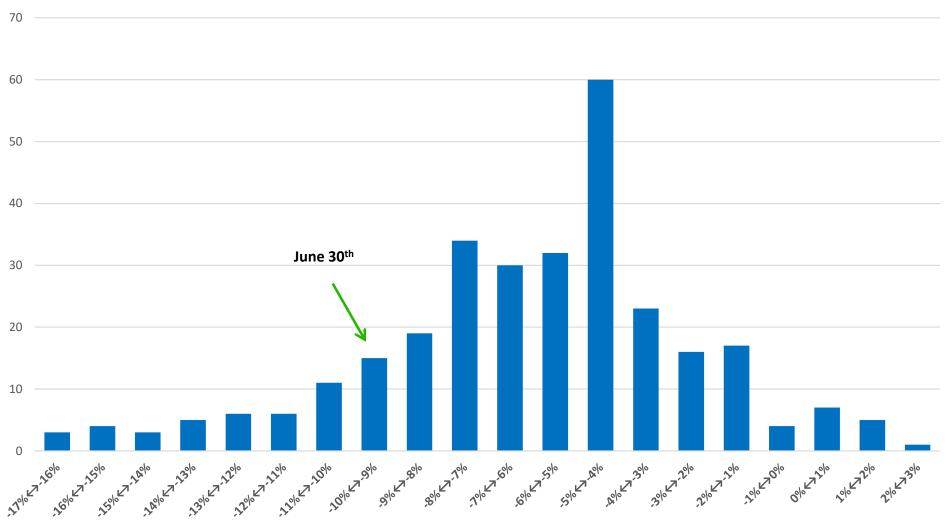


### **Equity CEFs: 25 Year Discount Level Frequency**

CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

Source: CEFData.com





### **Equity CEFs: 25 Year Total Return**



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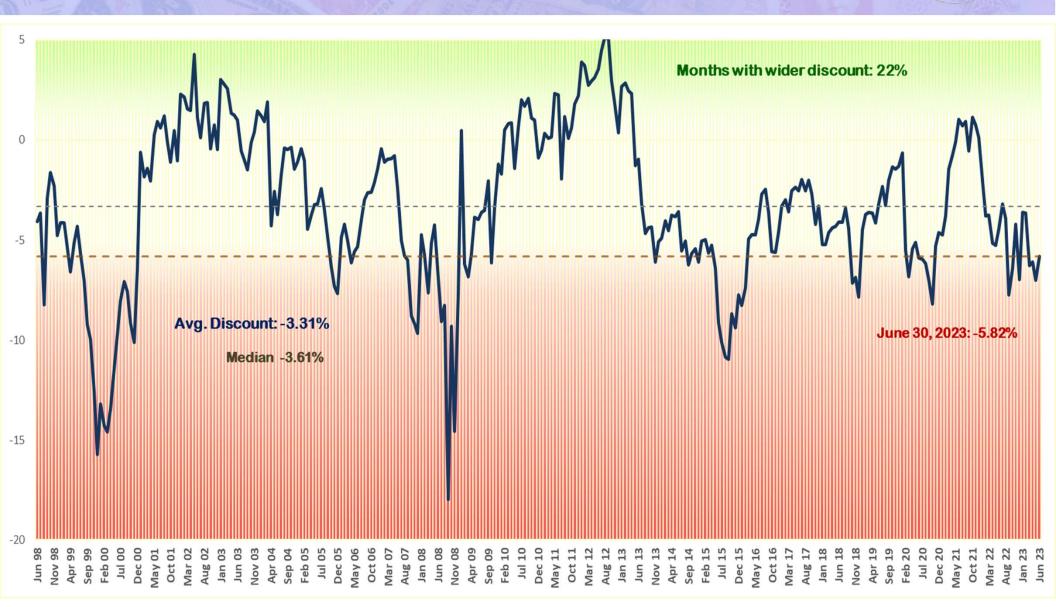


Back-tested results also do not account for those Funds that were previously recommended by the Adviser and which are no longer included as an alternative in a client's asset allocation strategy. Thus, the back-tested performance results shown above may overestimate the potential returns a client could expect to generate due to the effect of recommended manager survivor bias.

### **Taxable Fixed Income CEFs: 25 Year Discount History**

CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

Source: CEFData.com

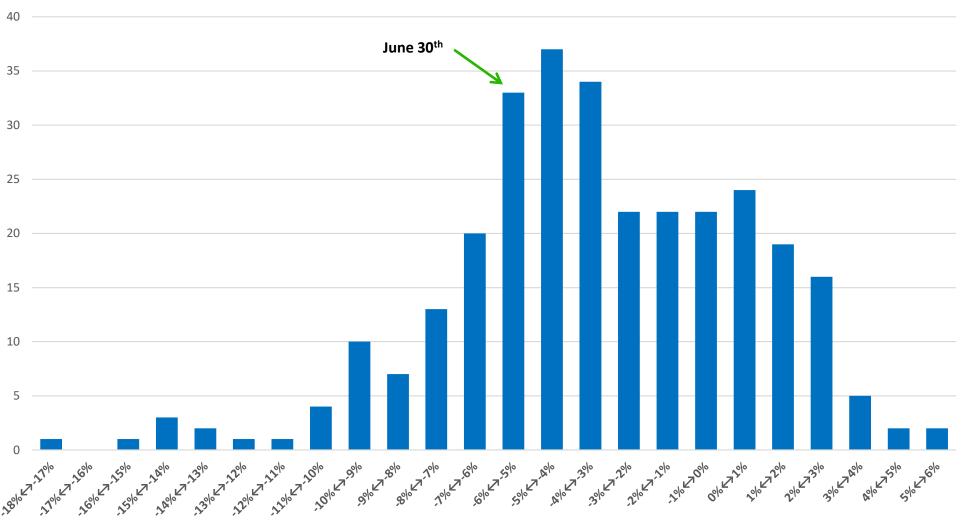


### Taxable Fixed Income: 25 Year Discount Level Frequency CLOSE

CLOSED-END FUND
ADVISORS

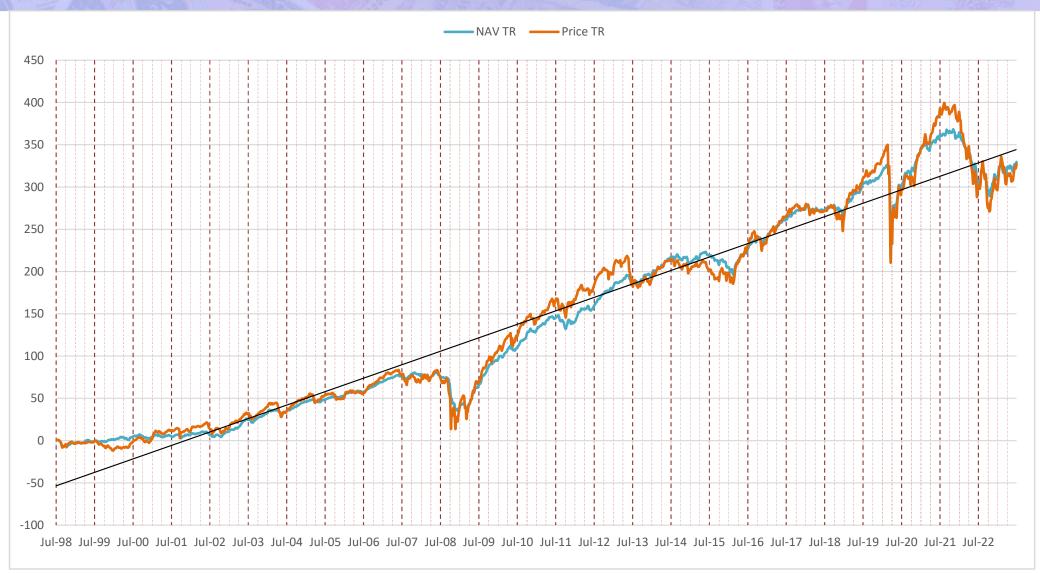
Source: CEFData.com





### **Taxable Fixed Income CEFs: 25 Year Total Return**



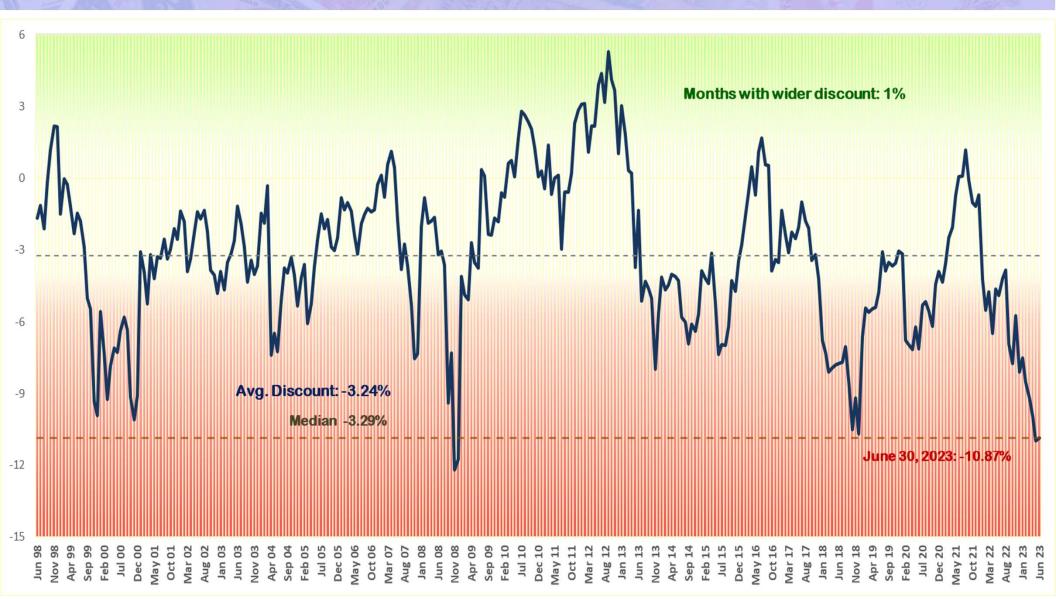


Back-tested results also do not account for those Funds that were previously recommended by the Adviser and which are no longer included as an alternative in a client's asset allocation strategy. Thus, the back-tested performance results shown above may overestimate the potential returns a client could expect to generate due to the effect of recommended manager survivor bias.

### **Municipal Bond CEFs: 25 Year Discount History**

CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

Source: CEFData.com

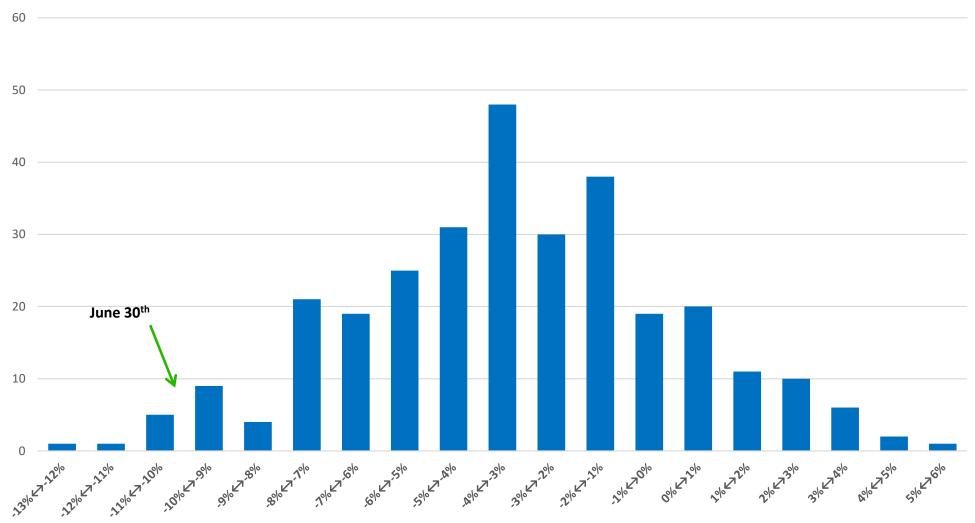


### Municipal Bond CEFs: 25 Year Discount Level Frequency CLOS

CLOSED-END FUNDA DVISORS

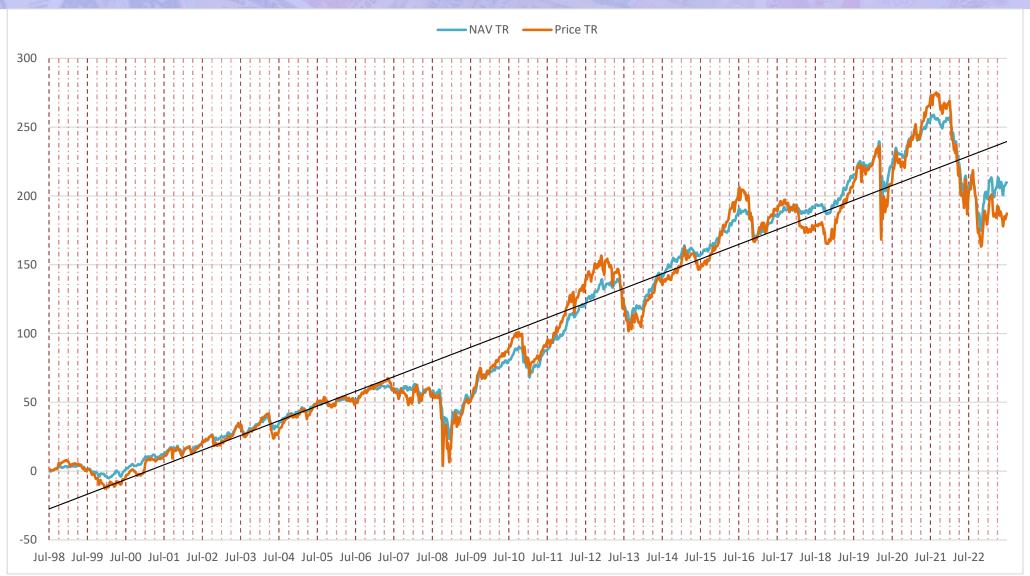
Source: CEFData.com





### **Municipal Bond CEFs: 25 Year Total Return**





Back-tested results also do not account for those Funds that were previously recommended by the Adviser and which are no longer included as an alternative in a client's asset allocation strategy. Thus, the back-tested performance results shown above may overestimate the potential returns a client could expect to generate due to the effect of recommended manager survivor bias.

### **2Q 2023 Performance and Discounts**



CEF Advisors' 15 Major CEF Sectors Index Data as of 06/30/2023 V

ABOUT PERFORMANCE DISCOUNT CHARACTER

#### **ABOUT THE INDEX**

The seven most liquid funds by 90-day average trading dollar \$ liquidity in each of the 15 major groupings of funds: Business Development Companies (BDCs), Convertible Bonds, Covered Call Funds, Global Equity, High Yield Bonds, Investment Grade Bonds, Master Limited Partnership (MLP), Municipal Bonds, Preferred Equity, REITs/Real Assets, Senior Loans, US Equity, Hybrid / Balanced Funds, Multi-sector Bonds and International Bonds. For Hybrid / Balanced Funds and Multi-sector Bonds sectors, the selection allows only the most liquid fund from each sponsor. From the selected funds, we exclude the least liquid 5 funds. Each sector has equal weight in the index (6.66%), which is distributed equally to funds within that sector. The index constituents will be rebalanced each quarter.

As of June 30, 2022, we updated the index rules to cover 3 more major sectors. Click here to see the previous index rules, used since 2017 for the index.

#### INDEX PERFORMANCE

	Current(\$)	Previous Day(%)	1 Week(%)	1 Month(%)	3 Month(%)	6 Month(%)	1 Year(%)	3 Year(%)	5 Year(%)	10 Year(%)	MTD(%)	QTD(%)	YTD(%)
Price	1,460.55	0.48	2.64	4.95	4.18	8.55	7.50	9.63	4.97	5.77	4.95	4.18	8.55
NAV	1,438.14	0.51	1.97	3.49	3.34	6.73	8.12	7.87	5.10	5.72	3.49	3.34	6.73
Difference		0.03	-0.67	-1.46	-0.85	-1.83	0.62	-1.76	0.13	-0.05	-1.46	-0.85	-1.83

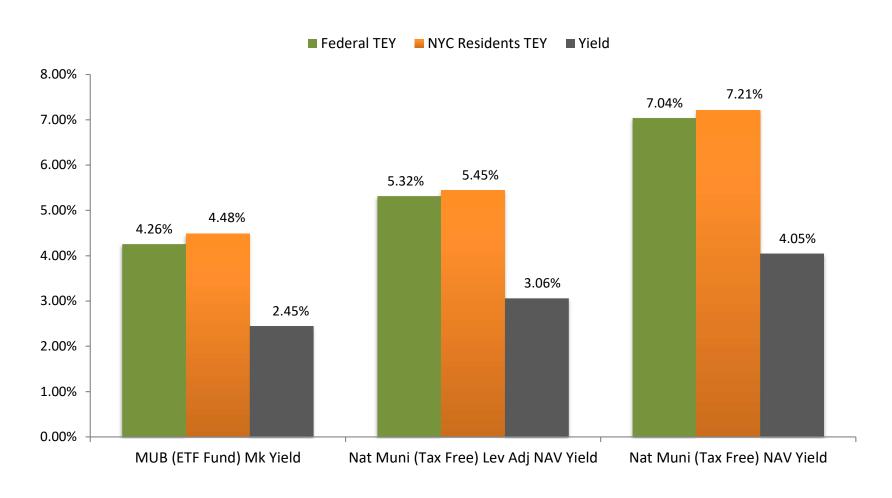
<sup>\*</sup>Periods greater than 1 Year are annualized. \*\* On Inception Date (12/30/16), Index Price was \$1,000 and NAV was \$1,000.00

					202	23 - Month	ly Perform	ance (%)									SI	Show Previous Years		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Q1	Apr	May	Jun	Q2	1H	Jul	Aug	Sep	Q3	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q4	2H	2023	
Price	10.20	-2.35	-3.17	4.20	1.04	-1.76	4.95	4.18	8.55	( <del>(*)</del>	18		(#)	: <del>-</del> :	( <del>*</del> )	=	3 <del>0</del> )	(19)	, <del>e</del>	
NAV	6.07	-2.51	-0.13	3.28	0.95	-1.09	3.49	3.34	6.73	100	-	17		7.5		T:	7	(-)	7	
Difference	-4.13	-0.16	3.04	-0.92	-0.09	0.67	-1.46	-0.85	-1.83	55	15	-	97.	85	879	54	7	55		

Back-tested results also do not account for those Funds that were previously recommended by the Adviser and which are no longer included as an alternative in a client's asset allocation strategy. Thus, the back-tested performance results shown above may overestimate the potential returns a client could expect to generate due to the effect of recommended manager survivor bias.

# Tax Equivalent Yield Comparison Married Couple with W-2 Income of \$1MM+





Sources: CEFData.com as of 6/30/2023; tax rates from IRS and NY State.

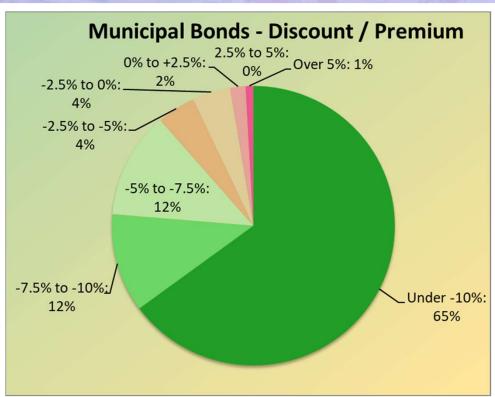
### **Municipal Bond CEF Overview**

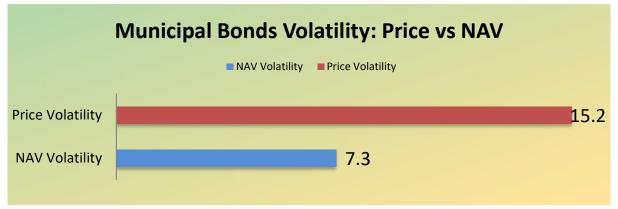
Source: CEFData.com as of June 30, 2023

Note: Volatility is a three-year rolling calculation

		Single State Muni Funds	Total
Number of Funds	76	38	114
Net Assets (Total)	\$43,085	\$12,646	\$55,731
Net Assets	\$567	\$333	\$489
Earnings Covg Ratio %	93.4	104.6	97.1
Premium / Discount %	-10.32	-11.97	-10.87
Total Mkt Yield %	4.60	3.86	4.36
Lvg Adj NAV Yield %	3.15	2.56	2.95
NAV Volatility	7.41	7.12	7.31
Leverage %	32.8	35.3	33.6
Leverage Cost %	1.49	1.70	1.56
Duration	10.65	12.25	11.18
Insured %	6.5	5.4	6.2
Investment Grade %	78	86	81
Credit Quality	A	A	A







### **Relative UNII for National Muni Funds**

CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

Source: CEFData.com as of June 30, 2023

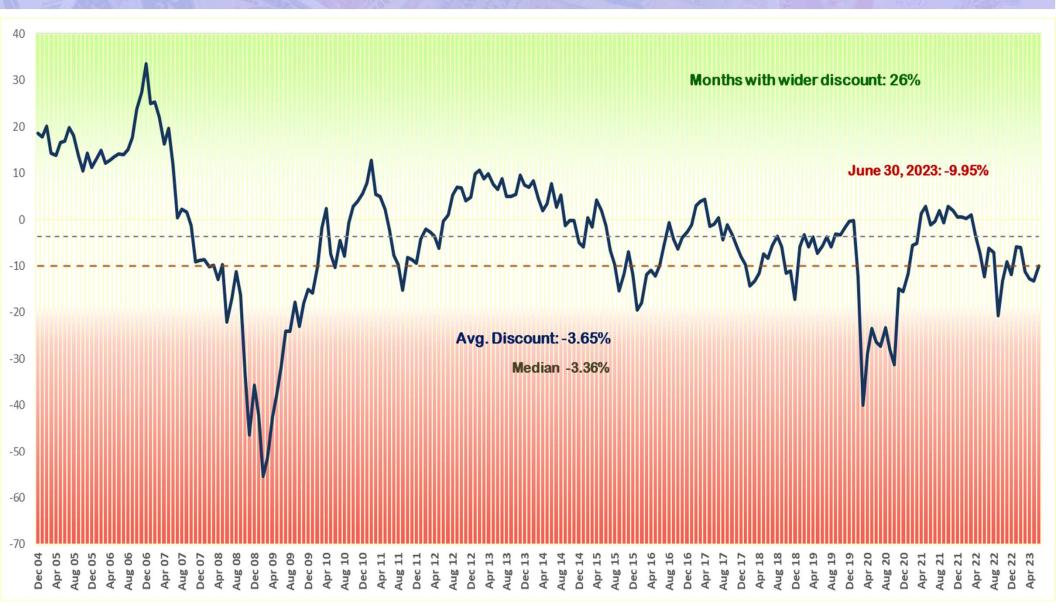
#### Nat Muni Bond - Relative UNII May' 12 - June' 23



## **Debt BDCs: 18 Year Discount History**

CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

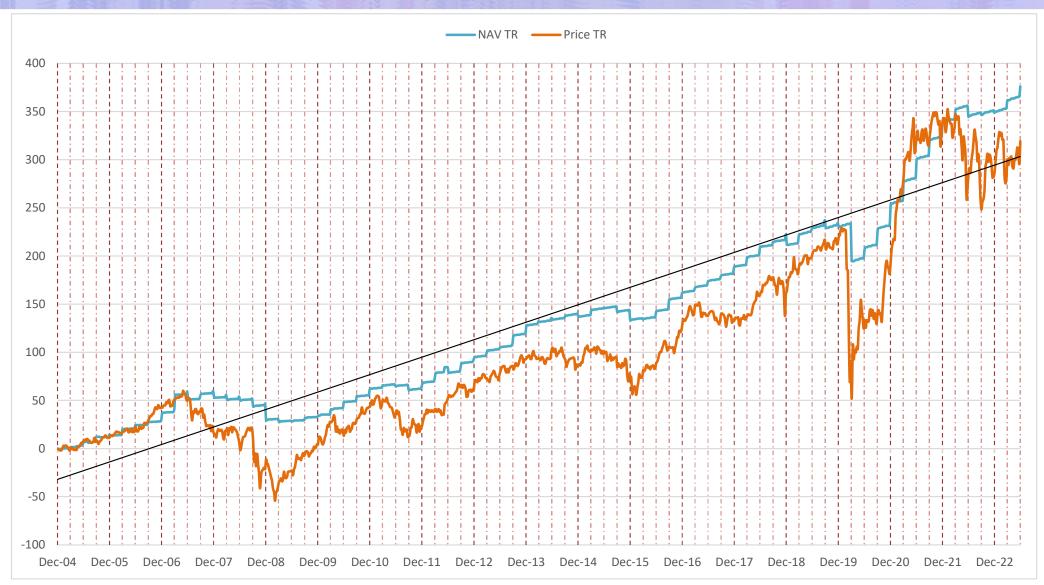
Source: CEFData.com



#### **Debt BDCs: 18 Year Total Return**



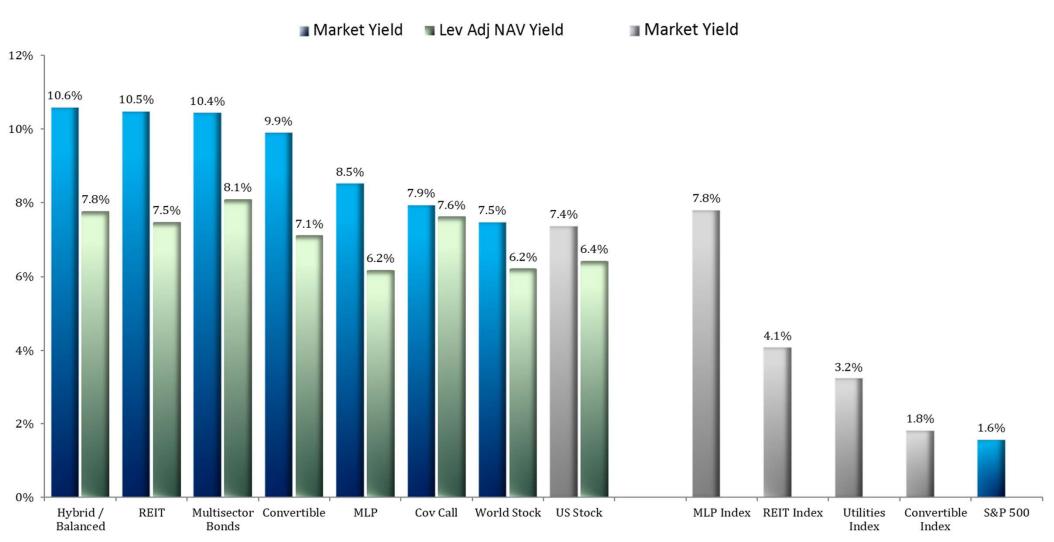
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Back-tested results also do not account for those Funds that were previously recommended by the Adviser and which are no longer included as an alternative in a client's asset allocation strategy. Thus, the back-tested performance results shown above may overestimate the potential returns a client could expect to generate due to the effect of recommended manager survivor bias.

# **Equity Sectors: Yield Comparison**



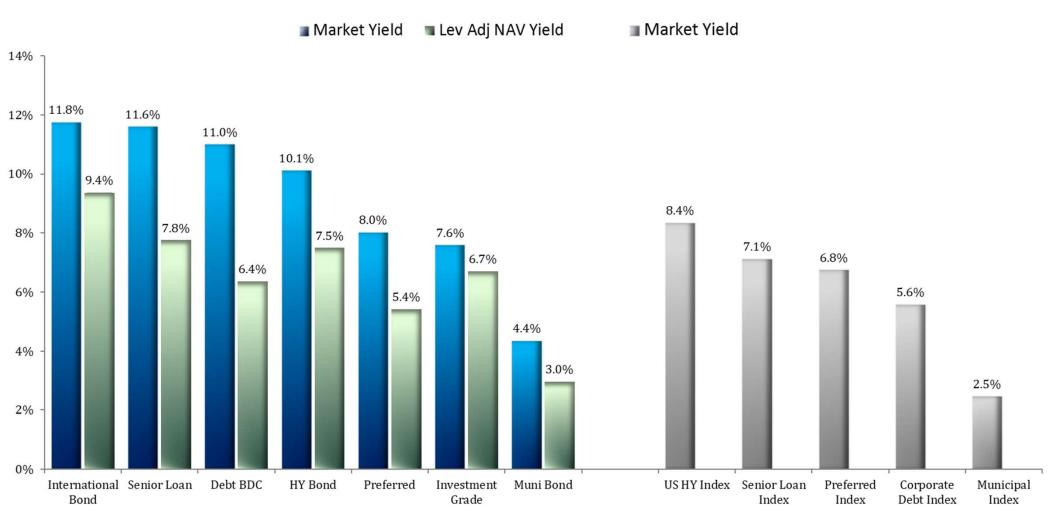


Data as of 6/30/20223

MLP Index: Alerian MLP Index; REIT Index: FTSE NAREIT All Equity REITs Index; Utilities Index: The Utilities Select Sector SPDR® Fund; Convertible Index: iShares Convertible Bond ETF

# **Debt Sectors: Yield Comparison**





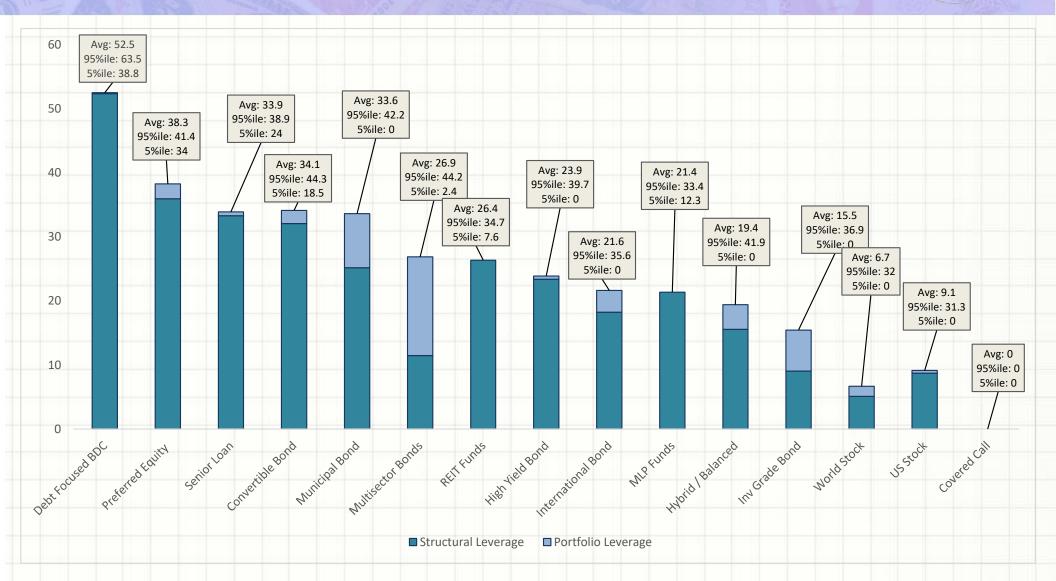
Data as of 6/30/20223

US High Yield Index: BofA Merrill Lynch US High Yield; Preferred Index: iShares Preferred and Income Securities ETF; Senior Loan Index: Invesco Senior Loan ETF; Corporate Debt Index: S&P 500 Bond Index; Municipal Index: iShares National Muni Bond ETF

# 15 Major Sectors: Leverage (%)

CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

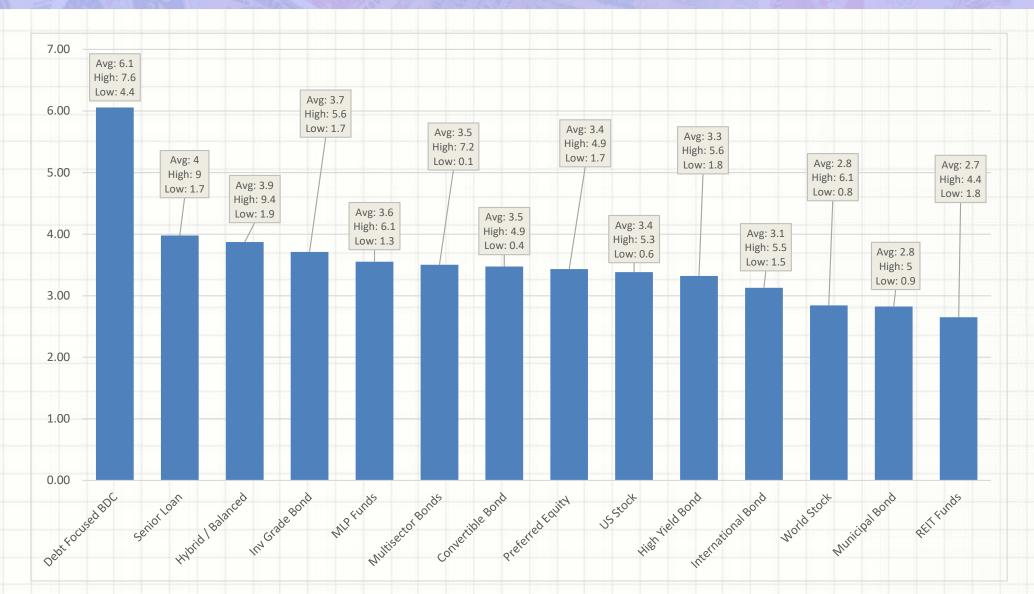
Source: June 30, 2023 – CEFData.com



# 15 Major Sectors: Relative Leverage Cost (%)



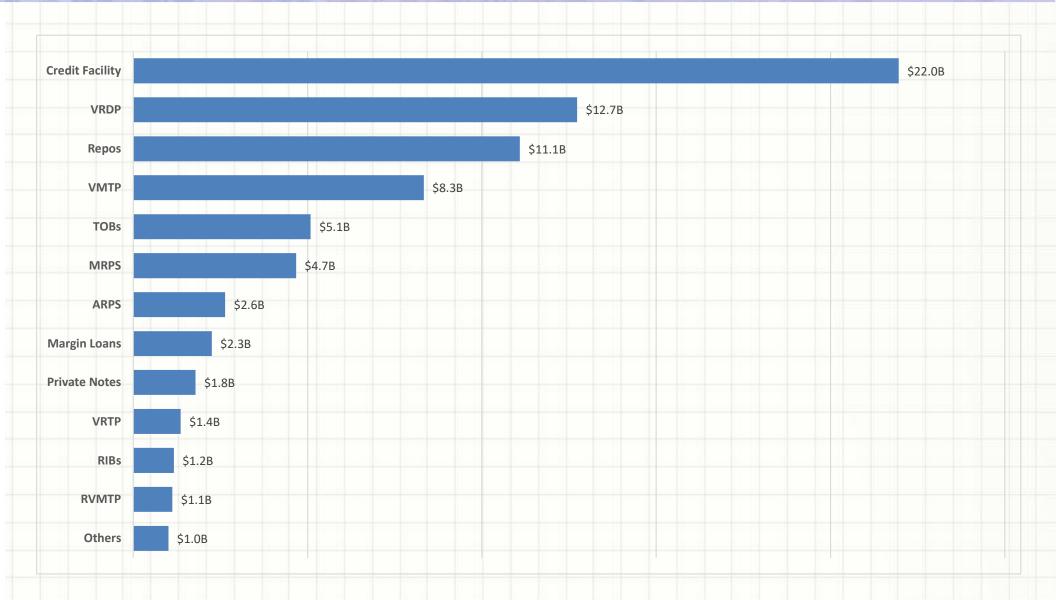
Source: June 30, 2023 - CEFData.com



# **Traditional CEF Leverage By Type**

CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

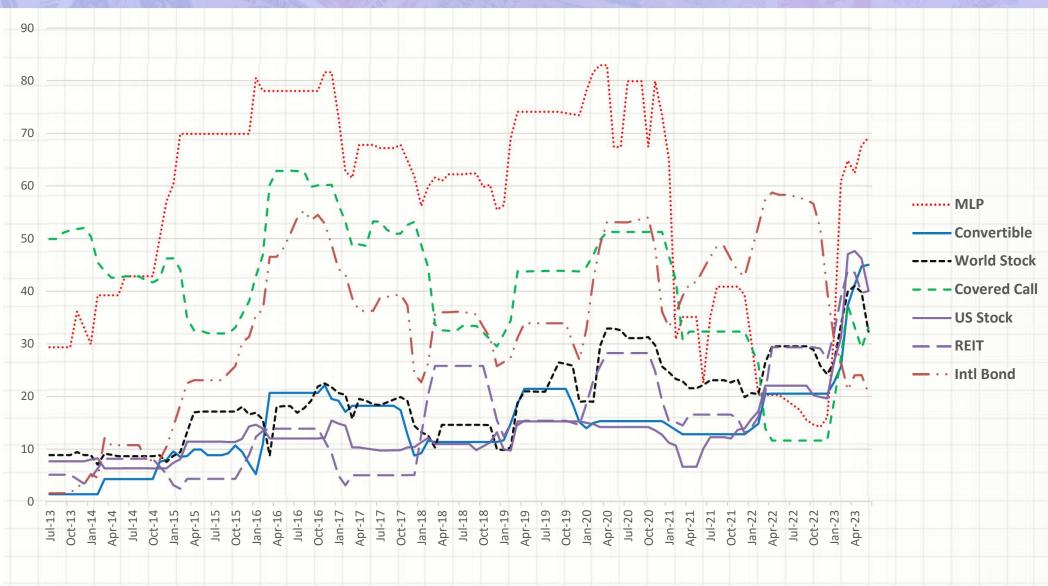
Source: June 30, 2023 - CEFData.com



# **Return of Capital Trends (90 day rolling)**



Source: CEFData.com as of June 30, 2023



# **Destructive Return of Capital (10YR DRoC)**

CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

Source: CEFData.com as of 6/30/2023

		E de	tale					
Fund Grouping	RoC%		with tive RoC	Avg Destructive				10Yr NAV TR vs NAV Yield
		#	%	RoC %	vs nav rieid	vs nav rieid	vs NAV Tiela	vs nav viela
US Equity	31%	4	13%	20%	0.8x	0.9x	0.1x	0.2x
Non-US Equity	32%	9	25%	50%	0.4x	0.2x	-0.6x	-0.3x
Specialty Equity	28%	32	31%	35%	-0.1x	0.7x	-0.6x	-0.4x
All Equity CEFs	32%	55	29%	38%	0.1x	0.6x	-0.5x	-0.3x
Taxable Bond	18%	63	46%	16%	-0.3x	-0.6x	-0.8x	-0.6x
National Muni	10%	41	54%	12%	-0.5x	-1.3x	-0.7x	-0.1x
State Muni	8%	16	42%	N/A	-0.4x	-1.6x	-0.7x	0.0x
All Bond CEFs	14%	120	48%	15%	-0.4x	-0.8x	-0.7x	-0.5x
Average – All CEFs	21%	175			-0.2x	-0.2x	-0.6x	-0.4x

# **NAV vs Market Price Volatility: Equity CEF Sectors**



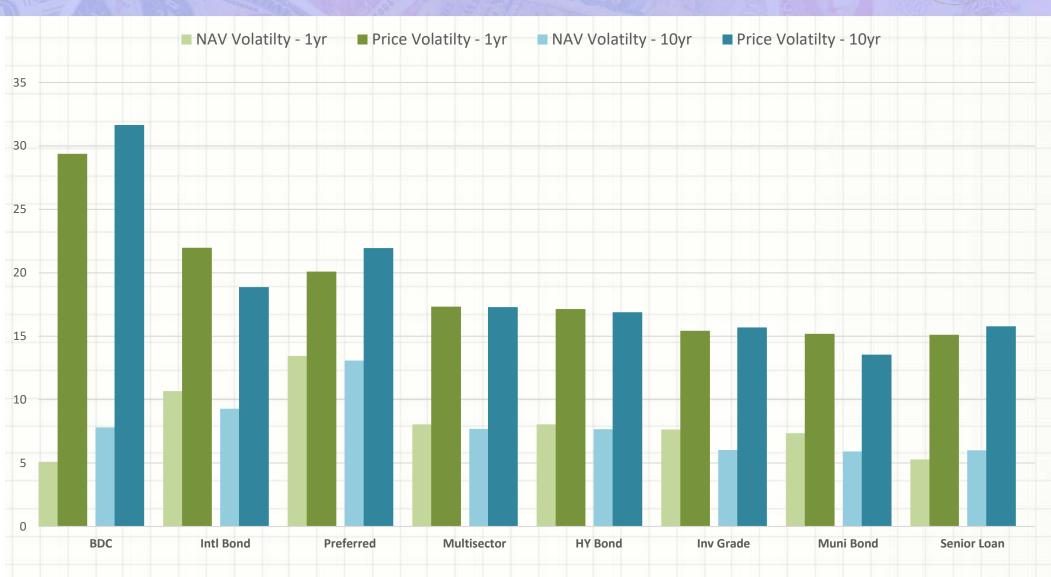
Source: June 30, 2023 – CEFData.com



# **NAV vs Market Price Volatility: Fixed Income Sectors**

CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

Source: June 30, 2023 - CEFData.com



# CEF Liquidity Trends (\$ADV 90 days) - 2Q 2023



Source: CEFAData.com as of 6/30/2023

Fund Grouping	Avg Liq - 2Q'23	Avg Liq - 1Q'23	% Q/Q Change	Avg Liq - 2Q'22	% Y/Y Change
Convertible	\$1,063	\$1,057	1%	\$1,314	-19%
Covered Call	\$1,774	\$1,763	1%	\$2,123	-16%
High Yield Bond	\$860	\$1,041	-17%	\$950	-10%
International Bond	\$756	\$884	-14%	\$853	-11%
Investment Grade	\$918	\$1,091	-16%	\$911	1%
MLP	\$964	\$1,007	-4%	\$1,287	-25%
Municipal Bond	\$878	\$1,050	-16%	\$1,524	-42%
Preferred Stock	\$1,239	\$1,436	-14%	\$1,549	-20%
Real Estate / REIT	\$1,404	\$1,497	-6%	\$1,572	-11%
Senior Loan	\$1,124	\$1,189	-5%	\$1,175	-4%
Hybrid / Balanced	\$1,256	\$1,452	-14%	\$1,550	-19%
US Stock	\$1,716	\$2,042	-16%	\$3,226	-47%
World Stock	\$520	\$677	-23%	\$610	-15%
Average Equity CEF	\$1,533	\$1,794	-15%	\$2,071	-26%
Average Bond CEF	\$1,049	\$1,227	-14%	\$1,449	-28%
Average BDC	\$5,290	\$5,760	-8%	\$6,143	-14%
Average - ALL CEFs	\$1,655	\$1,889	-12%	\$2,141	-23%

### **Traditional CEFs: NAV – Market Price Correlation**



Source: CEFAData.com as of 6/30/2023

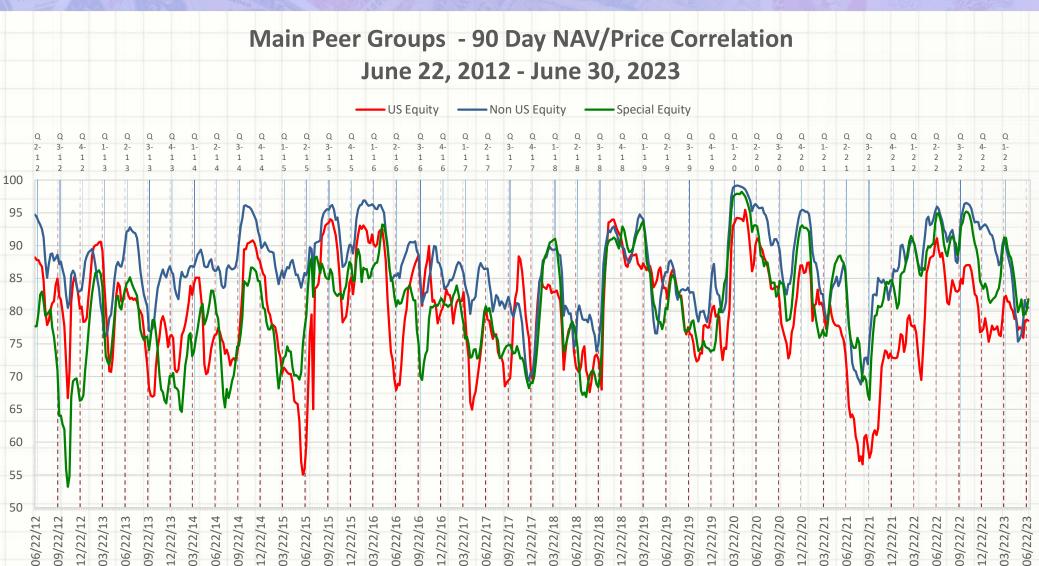
Fund Grouping	Correlation 2Q 23	Correlation 1Q 23	Q/Q Chg in Correlation	Correlation 2Q 22	Y/Y Chg in Correlation
US Equity	78.6%	82.3%	-3.7%	89.4%	-10.8%
Non-US Equity	80.5%	89.9%	-9.4%	95.8%	-15.2%
Specialty Equity	81.8%	91.2%	-9.4%	95.1%	-13.3%
Equity CEF Avg	80.7%	89.3%	-8.6%	94.5%	-13.8%
Taxable Bond	59.1%	81.3%	-22.2%	90.7%	-31.5%
National Muni Bond	75.0%	79.7%	-4.7%	82.9%	-7.9%
State Muni Bond	76.6%	82.1%	-5.5%	78.5%	-1.9%
Bond CEF Avg	66.6%	81.0%	-14.4%	86.5%	-19.9%
Average – All CEFs	72.6%	84.5%	-11.9%	89.9%	-17.3%



# **CEF Market Price/NAV Correlation (Rolling 90 Day)**



Source: June 30, 2023 - CEFData.com



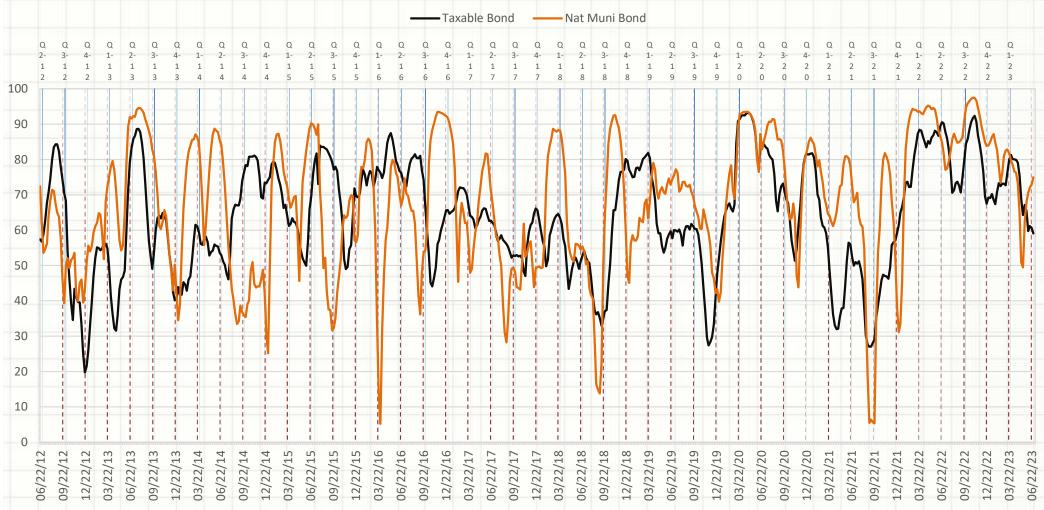


# **CEF Market Price/NAV Correlation (Rolling 90 Day)**



Source: June 30, 2023 - CEFData.com

# Main Peer Groups - 90 Day NAV/Price Correlation June 22, 2012 - June 30, 2023





# CEF Press Release & SEC Filings Summary (2,202 CEF & BDC PRs in 2Q23)

CLOSED-END FUND

Source: Fund Press Releases & SEC Filings

Announcement Type	2Q 2023	YTD	2022	2021	2020	2019	Avg/Q
Rights Issue / Offering	3	6	18	28	11	18	5
Secondary Offering (CEFs)	0	0	3	7	3	1	1
Secondary Offering (BDCs)	2	5	11	6	1	8	2
Tender Offer	2	8	20	41	39	23	7
Distribution Policy Change (CEFs)	1	2	8	12	13	18	3
<b>Distribution Policy Change (BDCs)</b>	0	0	1	0	3	0	0
13D/G Filings (Traditional CEF)	50	142	282	208	575	282	83
13D Filings (Traditional CEF)	26	36	44	47	56	50	13
New N-2 Filings	19	29	49	61	46	37	12
<b>Updated N-2 Filings</b>	97	125	123	171	155	154	40
Director Change	9	18	65	56	34	85	14
Portfolio Manager Change	26	44	23	40	41	47	11
Leverage Amount / Type Change	20	33	78	365	109	70	36

# 2Q23 CEF & BDC Distribution Increases vs. Decreases

CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

Source: Fund Press Releases & SEC Filings

#### 3.5% of announcements "Big Cuts"

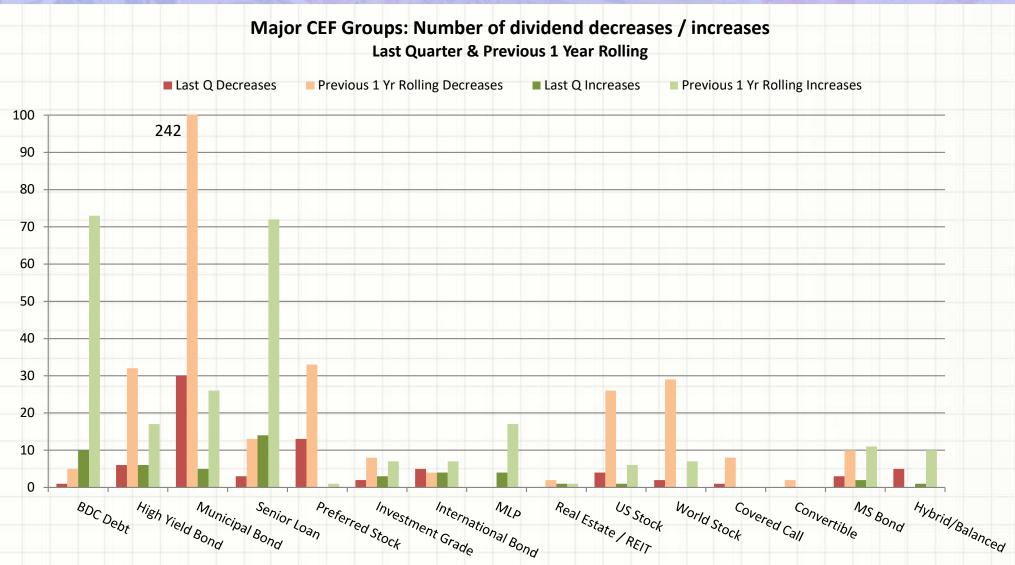
Distribution Announcement	2Q 2023 Number of Announcements	2Q 2023 Average Change	2Q '22 – 1Q '23 Number of Announcements	2Q '22 – 1Q '23 Average Change
<b>Dividend Maintains</b>	999 (86.5%)	N/A	3864 (82%)	N/A
<b>Dividend Increases</b>	58 (5%)	+5.84%	310 (6.6%)	+9.34%
<b>Dividend Decreases</b>	98 (8.5%)	-6.1%	541 (11.5%)	-10.74%
Under 5% Increase	33 (57%)	+2.47%	145 (47%)	+2.36%
5% - 15% Increase	20 (34%)	+8.21%	118 (38%)	+9.16%
Over 15% Increase	5 (9%)	+18.57%	47 (15%)	+31.31%
<b>Under 5% Decrease</b>	58 (59%)	-2.05%	190 (35%)	-2.45%
5% - 15% Decrease	33 (34%)	-8.15%	215 (40%)	-9.54%
Over 15% Decrease	7 (7%)	-29.89%	136 (25%)	-24.22%



# **2Q23 CEF & BDC Distribution Changes by Sector**



Source: Fund Press Releases



# **Dividend Growth Rate**

Source: CEFData.com as of 6/30/2023



Sector	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
US Stock	-14.3%	16.9%	5.6%	38.2%
World Stock	-17.0%	2.3%	-6.9%	9.7%
Covered Call	-16.6%	4.3%	0.7%	-1.5%
MLP	63.2%	90.3%	-60.1%	-67.6%
REIT	-7.6%	-2.9%	-8.6%	29.9%
Hybrid	-13.9%	-8.0%	-20.0%	2.3%
Preferred	-19.4%	-21.7%	-22.2%	-24.4%
Convert	-20.0%	4.5%	-4.1%	33.1%
Multisector	-2.9%	-12.2%	-13.7%	-20.6%
HY Bond	-2.3%	-10.4%	3.4%	-19.4%
Senior Loan	30.1%	52.3%	39.9%	13.6%
BDC	12.2%	16.5%	-1.8%	67.1%
Inv Grade	-7.5%	-18.1%	-19.8%	-27.0%
Intl Bond	0.1%	3.5%	-20.5%	-31.2%
Muni Bond	-23.1%	-26.7%	-31.8%	-46.3%

# **CEF Distribution Lookback**(Policies NOT Promises)



Source: CEFAData.com, as of June 30, 2023

#### 3 Year Dividend Growth (2.3 : 1 Negative Ratio)

- 206 funds (47%) had negative 3-year growth (average -25%)
- 86 funds (20%) had positive 3-year growth (average +27%)

#### 2 Year Lookback (2: 1 Negative Ratio)

- 302 funds changed their dividend policy in the past 2 years (69% of funds)
- 201 cut (46%) an average of -15%, while 101 (23%) raised by an average of 13%
- 175 of these funds have "level" or "managed distributions"
  - 115 of those were cut an average -16%
  - 60 were increased an average of +14%

#### 1 Year Lookback (2: 1 Negative Ratio)

- 108 increases vs 213 decreases
- 39 had <u>BOTH</u> increases and decreases in the past year

# **CEF & BDC IPOs – Annual Trend**

CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

Source: SEC Filings, Press Releases

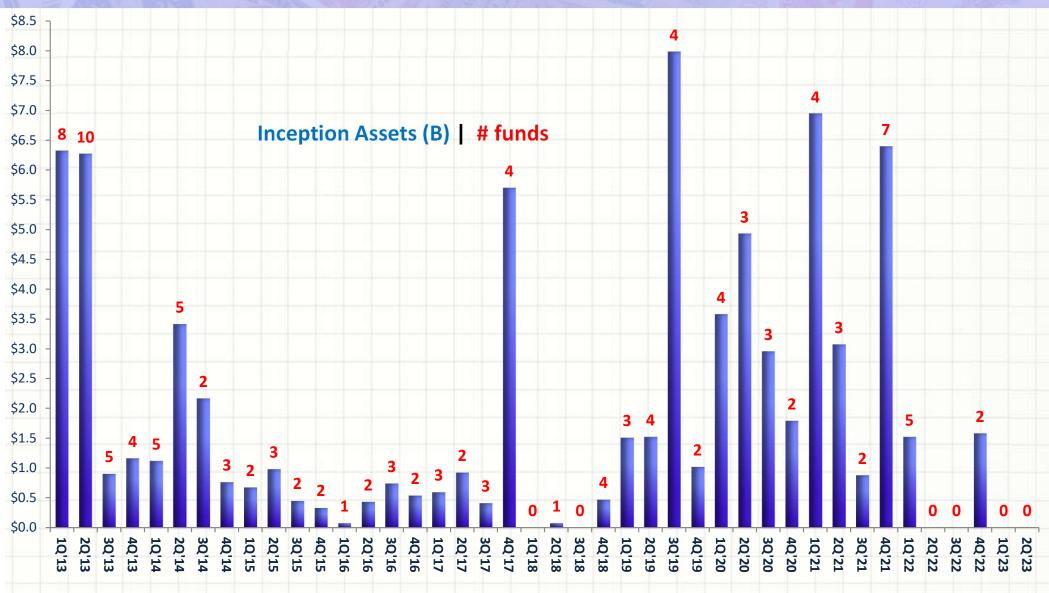
	2023 YTD	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Number of IPOs											
CEF	0	6	12	10	12	4	11	8	8	9	25
BDC	0	1	4	2	1	1	2	0	1	6	2
TOTAL	0	7	16	12	13	5	13	8	9	15	27
Average Assets (\$ Million	ns)										
CEF	\$0	\$504	\$1,253	\$852	\$429	\$80	\$294	\$225	\$291	\$469	\$580
BDC	\$0	\$83	\$561	\$2,368	\$6,890	\$152	\$2,852	\$0	\$120	\$543	\$90
AVERAGE	\$0	\$361	\$1,653	\$1,105	\$926	\$94	\$646	\$225	\$272	\$498	\$543
Total IPO Assets (\$ Millio	ons)										
CEF	\$0	\$3,026	\$15,040	\$8,525	\$5,148	\$319	\$3,239	\$1,799	\$2,327	\$4,218	\$14,488
BDC	\$0	\$83	\$2,245	\$4,736	\$6,890	\$152	\$5,163	\$0	\$120	\$3,257	\$180
TOTAL	\$0	\$3,109	\$17,285	\$13,261	\$12,038	\$471	\$8,402	\$1,799	\$2,447	\$7,475	\$14,668

10 Year Average: 12 funds per year, \$632 MM avg fund assets, \$8.0 B avg raised per year

# **CEF & BDC IPOs – Quarterly Trend**

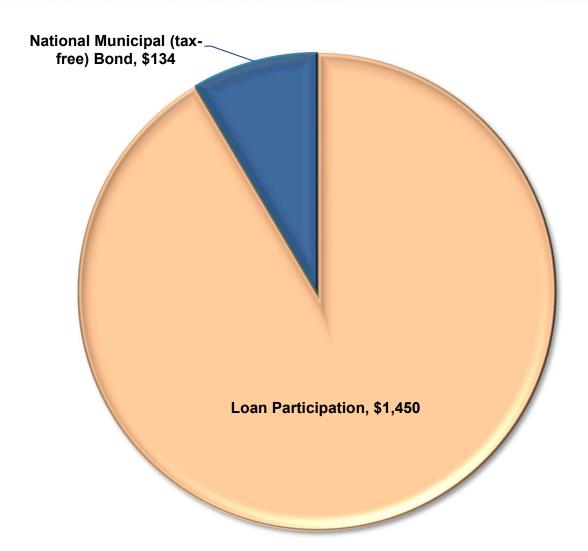


Source: June 30, 2023 - CEFData.com



# CEF & BDC IPOs - By Investment Strategy (L4Q)





Note: Inception Assets in millions; data as of 6/30/2023, cefdata.com

# 2022 IPO Details (pt 1 of 2)

CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

Source: Fund Press Releases

#### Destra Multi-Alternative Fund (DMA) - Hybrid / Balanced Funds

Direct Listed on January 13, 2022

IPO Price: \$12.00 IPO Assets: \$106M

Price as of 6/30/23: \$5.01 Disc/Prm as of 6/30/23: -52.60%

#### PIMCO Access Income Fund (PAXS) - Multisector Bond Funds

IPOed on January 27, 2022

IPO Price: \$20.00 IPO Assets: \$866M

Price as of 6/30/23: \$14.75 Disc/Prm as of 6/30/23: -0.94%

### RiverNorth Managed Duration Municipal Income Fund II (RMMZ) - National

Municipal (tax-free) Bond

IPOed on February 11, 2022

IPO Price: \$20.00 IPO Assets: \$165M

Price as of 6/30/23: \$16.04 Disc/Prm as of 6/30/23: -13.82%

# 2022 IPO Details (pt 2 of 2)

Source: Fund Press Releases



#### Silver Spike Investment Corp (SSIC) - BDC - Equity Focused

IPOed on February 4, 2022

IPO Price: \$14.00 IPO Assets: \$83M

Price as of 6/30/23: \$8.18 Disc/Prm as of 6/30/23: -42.76%

#### Cohen & Steers Real Estate Opportunities and Income Fund (RLTY) - Global Real Estate,

**REIT & Real Asset** 

IPOed on February 24, 2022

IPO Price: \$20.00 IPO Assets: \$305M

Price as of 6/30/23: \$13.78 Disc/Prm as of 6/30/23: -13.82%

#### BlackRock 2037 Municipal Target Term Trust (BMN) - National Municipal (tax-free) Bond

IPOed on October 26, 2022

IPO Price: \$25.00 IPO Assets: \$134M

Price as of 6/30/23: \$24.84 Disc/Prm as of 6/30/23: -3.31%

#### FS Credit Opportunities Corp (FSCO) - Loan Participation

Direct Listed on November 14, 2022

IPO Price: \$4.48 IPO Assets: \$1450M

Price as of 6/30/23: \$4.75 Disc/Prm as of 6/30/23: -28.68%

# Recent IPOs (last 12 quarters) Current Discount / Premium



Source: CEFData.com as of June 30, 2023

#### **Traditional CEFs**

IPO Date	Ticker	Current Disc/Prm	<b>Current Price</b>	<b>IPO Price</b>	Curr vs IPO
	ASGI	-15.29%	\$17.79	\$20.00	88.95%
3Q 2020	NDMO	-7.12%	\$10.17	\$15.00	67.80%
	BCAT	-12.00%	\$15.25	\$20.00	76.25%
4Q 2020	PTA	-8.98%	\$17.43	\$25.00	69.72%
4Q 2020	SDHY	-12.77%	\$14.89	\$20.00	74.45%
	PDO	2.75%	\$13.06	\$20.00	65.30%
1Q 2021	RFMZ	-6.26%	\$14.38	\$20.00	71.90%
	BIGZ	-16.31%	\$7.85	\$20.00	39.25%
	NPCT	-15.86%	\$9.97	\$20.00	49.85%
2Q 2021	NBXG	-17.60%	\$10.91	\$20.00	54.55%
	WDI	-10.79%	\$13.47	\$20.00	67.35%
	TBLD	-13.76%	\$15.23	\$20.00	76.15%
3Q 2021	MIO	-14.40%	\$10.76	\$20.00	53.80%
	ECAT	-12.95%	\$15.66	\$20.00	78.30%
	MEGI	-16.31%	\$13.70	\$20.00	68.50%
4Q 2021	GUG	-10.42%	\$14.36	\$20.00	71.80%
	NPFD	-15.18%	\$15.48	\$25.00	61.92%
	DMA	-52.60%	\$5.01	\$12.00	41.75%
1Q 2022	PAXS	-0.94%	\$14.75	\$20.00	73.75%
1Q 2022	RMMZ	-6.96%	\$16.04	\$20.00	80.20%
	RLTY	-13.82%	\$13.78	\$20.00	68.90%
4Q 2022	BMN	-3.31%	\$24.84	\$25.00	99.36%
4Q 2022	FSCO	-28.68%	\$4.75	\$4.48	106.03%

#### **BDCs**

IPO Date	Ticker	Current Disc/Prm	<b>Current Price</b>	<b>IPO Price</b>	<b>Curr vs IPO</b>
1Q 2021	TRIN	1.45%	\$13.26	\$14.00	94.71%
	CION	-31.30%	\$10.38	\$11.85	87.59%
3Q 2021	RWAY	-12.22%	\$12.35	\$14.60	84.59%
	BXSL	4.83%	\$27.36	\$26.15	104.63%
1Q 2022	SSIC	-42.76%	\$8.18	\$14.00	58.43%

12 Quarters Avg: 70% of IPO Price & CEFs @ Avg -13.46% Discount



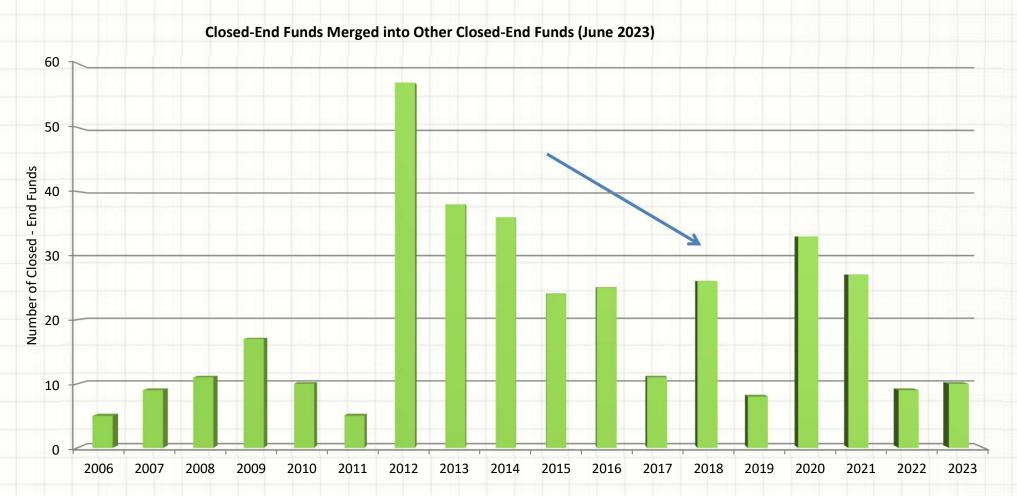
# **Closed-End Fund Mergers**

Note: Based on date announced Source: Fund Press Releases



#### Reasons to merge: lower expense ratios (scale), increased liquidity, lower fund leverage costs

Avg ~21 per year

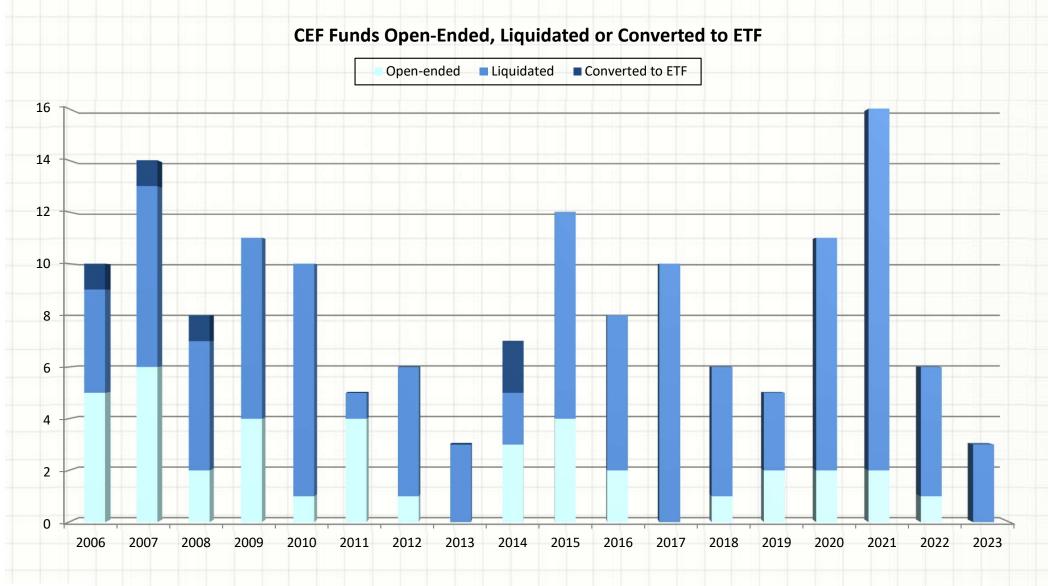




# Closed-End Fund Deaths Open-Ending, Liquidation & Conversion



Source: Fund Press Releases





# CEF / BDC Index Performance (pt 1 of 2)

CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

Note: Returns annualized beyond 1 year Source: CEFData.com as of June 30, 2023

#### **Diversified Indexes**

Index	Curre	ent(\$)	Previous	s Day(%)	1 We	ek(%)	1 Moi	nth(%)	3 Mor	nth(%)	6 Mon	th(%)	1 Ye	ar(%)	3 Yea	r(%)	5 Yea	ar(%)	10 Ye	ar(%)	MTI	O(%)	QTI	D(%)	YTE	D(%)
index	Price	NAV 🛊	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV
1. 15 Major CEF Sectors Index	1,460.55	1,438.14	1.12	1.05	2.64	1.97	4.95	3.49	4.18	3.34	8.55	6.73	7.50	8.12	9.63	7.87	4.97	5.10	5.77	5.72	4.95	3.49	4.18	3.34	8.55	6.73
2. High Income Index	1,266.69	1,257.44	1.36	1.30	2.67	1.97	5.17	3.16	3.99	2.95	10.47	7.25	7.44	7.76	11.30	8.04	1.59	2.22	3.57	3.94	5.17	3.16	3.99	2.95	10.47	7.25
3. Equity Income Index	1,629.27	1,494.98	1.65	1.58	3.44	3.10	5.81	5.24	2.37	3.15	7.40	6.58	7.34	9.34	13.42	11.55	6.03	5.51	6.30	5.79	5.81	5.24	2.37	3.15	7.40	6.58
4. 60/40 Balanced (w/ BDCs) Index	1,561.28	1,501.53	1.26	1.28	2.76	2.24	5.47	4.26	3.66	3.54	8.65	7.39	7.53	8.98	10.00	8.37	5.49	5.42	6.43	6.29	5.47	4.26	3.66	3.54	8.65	7.39
5. Tax-Advantaged Equity Dividend Index	1,692.73	1,563.05	1.56	1.54	2.83	2.64	5.26	5.03	1.89	3.58	5.36	6.53	6.08	9.79	12.17	10.43	6.14	6.06	7.93	6.99	5.26	5.03	1.89	3.58	5.36	6.53
6. Tax-Sensitive Income Index	1,254.67	1,234.32	0.80	0.87	2.29	1.84	3.57	3.07	0.58	1.77	3.75	3.81	3.64	5.70	12.42	10.95	2.90	3.05	3.03	3.30	3.57	3.07	0.58	1.77	3.75	3.81
7. Taxable Bond & BDC Index	1,293.12	1,268.23	1.00	0.88	1.61	0.89	3.68	1.98	3.10	1.88	6.21	4.39	5.73	5.50	3.77	2.90	3.07	2.78	4.33	4.14	3.68	1.98	3.10	1.88	6.21	4.39
8. Discount CEF/BDC Index	1,779.13	1,269,37	1.15	0.95	2.66	2.02	5.20	3.68	3.86	2.34	11.01	5.37	7.77	5.52	15.08	5.43	9.88	3.24	8.62	4.35	5.20	3.68	3.86	2.34	11.01	5.37
9. Premium CEF/BDC Index	871.63	1,463.86	1.39	1.25	2.85	1.89	4.27	3.18	0.40	2.57	-0.02	5.51	2.32	8.45	-2.12	6.02	-3.66	5.30	-0.54	6.01	4.27	3.18	0.40	2.57	-0.02	5.51
10. All Sector Equity CEF Index	1,706.01	1,581.85	1.52	1.55	3.19	2.95	6.26	5.60	3.66	4.25	9.73	9.10	8.70	11.06	12.38	10.59	6.35	6.03	7.04	6.56	6.26	5.60	3.66	4.25	9.73	9.10
11. Alternative Income Index	1,364.40	1,392.35	1.17	1.19	2.72	2.05	4.54	3.08	3.20	2.12	5.66	3.83	3.88	4.73	10.11	8.25	3.18	4.39	5.01	5.43	4.54	3.08	3.20	2.12	5.66	3.83

#### **Equity Sector Indexes**

				-			_		_								_									
Index	Curre	ent(\$)	Previou	s Day(%)	1We	ek(%)	1 Mor	nth(%)	3 Mo	nth(%)	6 Moi	nth(%)	1 Yea	ar(%)	3 Yea	ar(%)	5 Yea	ar(%)	10 Ye	ar(%)	MTE	D(%)	QTI	D(%)	YTE	(%)
index	Price	NAV 🍦	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV
1. International Equity Index	1,550.57	1,436.45	1.11	1.18	1.40	1.47	4.68	4.18	1.56	1.66	11.66	11.54	8.60	10.69	6.86	5.11	4.05	3.39	4.83	4.25	4.68	4.18	1.56	1.66	11.66	11.54
2. US Equity Index	1,944.94	1,847.66	1.60	1.50	2.99	2.46	5.77	4.75	6.30	6.88	12.53	13.72	14.43	16.40	11.96	10.86	8.17	8.57	10.27	9.62	5.77	4.75	6.30	6.88	12.53	13.72
3. Global Equity Index	1,759.14	1,649.17	1.39	1.52	2.95	2.80	6.71	5.95	4.94	5.35	12.08	11.64	10.04	12.77	11.28	9.58	6.59	6.48	7.61	7.19	6.71	5.95	4.94	5.35	12.08	11.64
4. Covered Call / Option Funds Index	1,805.22	1,698.70	1.64	1.37	3.08	2.30	4.87	3.84	5.75	6.65	12.08	14.02	14.78	15.95	12.06	10.87	6.89	7.42	8.95	8.05	4.87	3.84	5.75	6.65	12.08	14.02
5. Global Real Estate, REIT & Real Asset Index	1,325.68	1,261.88	1.53	1.57	5.32	5.62	4.97	4.62	0.21	2.32	2.21	4.82	-7.74	-3.32	6.97	5.93	2.51	2.46	5.21	5.21	4.97	4.62	0.21	2.32	2.21	4.82
6. Utilities / Infrastructure Index	1,655.81	1,482.93	1.46	1.82	2.36	2.90	1.67	3.61	-4.98	-0.86	-0.66	0.42	0.45	0.80	8.31	9.04	7.30	5.69	8.08	6.86	1.67	3.61	-4.98	-0.86	-0.66	0.42
7. Master Limited Partnership (MLP) Fund Index	705.09	687.12	0.98	0.78	5.29	4.23	10.22	5.90	6.99	2.29	7.35	1.98	18.72	13.98	33.75	27.34	-6.18	-5.97	-6.23	-5.60	10.22	5.90	6.99	2.29	7.35	1.98
8. Preferred Equity Index	1,177.33	1,228.03	1.53	1.32	2.18	1.79	3.69	2.33	-0.25	2.71	-2.73	-2.26	-6.17	-2.04	-1.22	1.92	0.86	1.72	4.93	5.00	3.69	2.33	-0.25	2.71	-2.73	-2.26
9. Hybrid / Balanced Fund Index	1.542.06	1.464.26	1.46	1.18	2.63	2.08	5.65	3.88	3.63	3.58	10.35	8.77	6.00	8.74	7.57	7.51	3.66	4.76	6.75	6.26	5.65	3.88	3.63	3.58	10.35	8.77



# **CEF / BDC Index Performance (pt 2 of 2)**

CLOSED-END FUND
ADVISORS

Note: Returns annualized beyond 1 year Source: CEFData.com as of June 30, 2023

#### Taxable Bond Sector Indexes

Index	Curre	ent(\$)	Previou	s Day(%)	1We	ek(%)	1 Mon	nth(%)	3 Mor	nth(%)	6 Mor	nth(%)	1 Yea	ar(%)	3 Yea	ar(%)	5 Ye	ar(%)	10 Ye	ear(%)	MT	D(%)	QT	D(%)	YTE	D(%)
index	Price	NAV 🛊	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV
1. Debt-Focused Business Development Company (BDC) Index	1,590.49	1,682.96	0.78	0.68	4.08	1.06	5,63	1.41	7.21	2.47	11.97	3,58	13.95	5.28	20.76	13.74	8.99	8.75	6.56	8.23	5.63	1.41	7.21	2.47	11.97	3.58
2. BDC Baby Bond / Debt Index	1,413.91	N/A	0.73	N/A	1.00	N/A	0.84	N/A	1.49	N/A	4.27	N/A	4.09	N/A	6.74	N/A	5.27	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.84	N/A	1.49	N/A	4.27	N/A
3. High Yield Bond Index	1,274.02	1,212.41	0.53	0.78	1.05	1.09	3.96	2.19	3.91	2.30	7.60	6.06	10.12	9.30	5.19	3.53	3.49	2.13	4.14	3.97	3.96	2.19	3.91	2.30	7.60	6.06
4. Senior Loan Index	1,218.28	1,244.34	0.89	0.77	2.68	1.30	4.77	2.97	3.98	3.07	8.29	6.84	9.06	10.36	8.44	6.55	3.16	2.92	3.44	3.92	4.77	2.97	3.98	3.07	8.29	6.84
5. Convertible Bond Index	1,683.85	1,563.95	0.94	0.88	3.52	2.51	8.22	5.51	6.12	4.05	12.24	9.07	10.70	10.61	6.26	4.38	5.62	6.00	6.71	6.16	8.22	5.51	6.12	4.05	12.24	9.07
6. Investment Grade Bond Index	1,176.68	1,167.88	0.52	0.70	0.38	0.23	1.33	0.74	1.39	0.39	4.84	3.29	2.19	1.91	-1.62	-0.95	1.30	1.44	3.27	3.03	1.33	0.74	1.39	0.39	4.84	3.29
7. Multisector Bond Fund Index	1,296.88	1,267.33	0.69	0.59	0,94	0.47	2.96	0.87	3.64	1.09	6.60	3.08	4.55	2.38	3.26	2.41	1.92	1.99	5.17	4.97	2.96	0.87	3.64	1.09	6.60	3.08
8. US Bond Index	1,281.08	1,280.19	0.66	0.70	1.33	0.88	3.43	1.82	3.36	2.08	7.25	5.73	7.77	8.42	4.63	4.33	2.88	2.95	4.41	4.58	3.43	1.82	3.36	2.08	7.25	5.73
9. International Bond Index	1,062.08	995.76	0.60	0.88	0.93	0.70	5.16	3.80	4.41	3.30	9.28	7.41	12.01	11.69	1.21	-1.36	0.48	-0.65	1.02	0.27	5.16	3.80	4.41	3.30	9.28	7.41

#### Tax-Free Bond Sector Indexes

The state of the s																	·		V.						100	
Index	Curr	ent(\$)	Previou	Day(%)	1 We	ek(%)	1 Mor	nth(%)	3 Mor	nth(%)	6 Mor	nth(%)	1 Ye	ar(%)	3 Ye	ar(%)	5 Yea	r(%)	10 Ye	ar(%)	MT	)(%)	QTE	)(%)	YTC	D(%)
Index	Price \$	NAV 🖣	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV	Price	NAV
1. National Municipal Bond Index	1,085.77	1,150.41	0.20	0.13	0.62	-0.01	1.91	1.80	-1.77	0.59	0.35	4.21	-3.61	2.69	-2.77	-1.57	0.90	1.26	3.10	3.69	1.91	1.80	-1.77	0.59	0.35	4.21
2. High Yield Municipal Index	1,058.37	1,144.40	0.01	0.21	0.68	-0.37	2.09	1.59	-1.69	0.52	2.30	4.09	-4.21	1.08	-2.51	-0.81	-0.41	0.88	2.71	3.61	2.09	1.59	-1.69	0.52	2.30	4.09
3. Term Municipal Fund Index	1,079.97	1,100.46	0.48	0.31	1.26	0.36	2.31	1.72	1.05	0.45	5.01	2.95	-0.63	1.98	-1.56	-1.11	0.83	0.91	2.32	2.45	2.31	1.72	1.05	0.45	5.01	2.95
4. California Municipal Index	1,068.82	1,122.11	0.18	0.16	0.38	0.03	2.79	1.78	-1.00	0.13	1.36	3.22	-2.53	2.58	-2.58	-2.62	1.13	0.90	3.16	3.53	2.79	1.78	-1.00	0.13	1.36	3.22
5. New York Municipal Index	1,049.12	1,103.57	0.15	0.09	0.22	-0.09	2.13	1.83	-1.01	0.78	3.93	4.86	-0.21	3.54	-2.52	-1.98	0.75	0.76	2.37	3.12	2.13	1.83	-1.01	0.78	3.93	4.86
6. State Municipal Index (Non NY/CA)	1,122.13	1,125.90	0.21	0.09	0.66	-0.08	1.42	1.55	-1.95	0.06	1.28	3.13	-6.43	2.20	-1.68	-1.85	1.86	1.09	3.00	2.98	1.42	1.55	-1.95	0.06	1.28	3.13



# **CEF Institutional Holdings Trend (2Q23)**

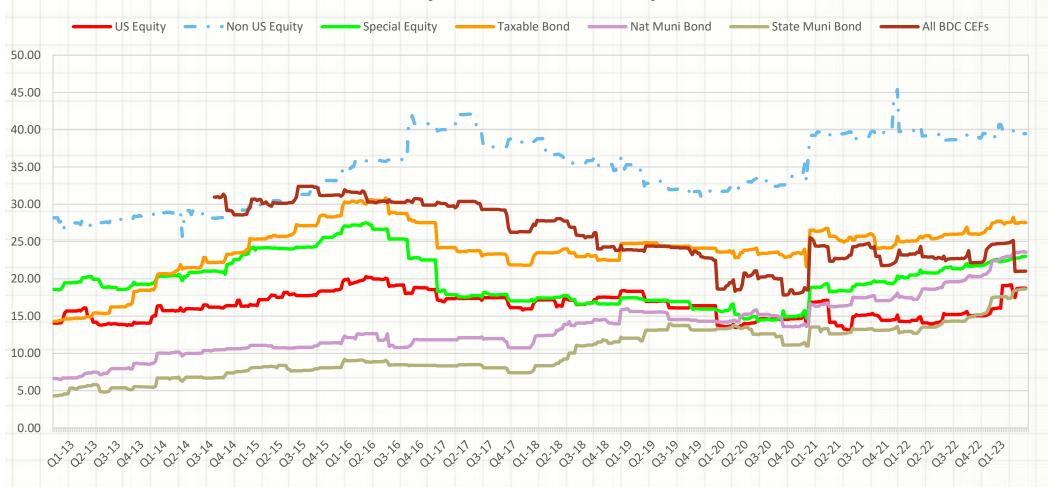
CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

Source: CEFData.com



Increase: 314 funds
Decrease: 121 funds

#### Shares Owned by Institutions January '13 - June '23



# Top 5 % Institutional Ownership (per group)



Source: CEFData.com as of June 30, 2023

U.S	. Equity	Institutions
1	GDL Fund (GDL)	64.0%
2	Miller/Howard Hi Incm Eq Fd (HIE)	56.9%
3	NB Nxt Gen Connectivity Fd (NBXG)	33.7%
4	Spl Opp Fd (SPE)	32.8%
5	General American Invstr (GAM)	30.9%
Noi	າ U.S. Equity	Institutions
1	Taiwan Fund (TWN)	84.0%
2	Japan Sml Caplz Fd (JOF)	80.0%
3	MS China A Shr Fd (CAF)	76.1%
4	Korea Fund (KF)	70.7%
5	abrdn Japan Eq Fd (JEQ)	66.1%
Spe	cialty Equity	Institutions
1	ASA Gd & Prcs Mtl (ASA)	55.4%
2	NB Nrg Infra & Incm Fd (NML)	54.2%
3	Tortoise Nrg Ind Fd (NDP)	50.3%
		30.370
4	Center Coast Brkf MLP & Nrg Infr (CEN	49.9%
4 5	Center Coast Brkf MLP & Nrg Infr (CEN CB Nrg Midstream Opp Fd (EMO)	
5		49.9% 46.7%
5	CB Nrg Midstream Opp Fd (EMO)	49.9% 46.7%
5 <b>Tax</b>	CB Nrg Midstream Opp Fd (EMO)  able Bond Funds	49.9% 46.7% <b>Institutions</b>
5 <b>Tax</b>	CB Nrg Midstream Opp Fd (EMO)  able Bond Funds  BR Enh Govt Fd (EGF)	49.9% 46.7% <b>Institutions</b> 69.0%
5 <b>Tax</b> 1 2	CB Nrg Midstream Opp Fd (EMO)  able Bond Funds  BR Enh Govt Fd (EGF)  Nuv Multi-Mkt Incm Fd (JMM)	49.9% 46.7% <b>Institutions</b> 69.0% 64.6%

Nat	ional Muni Bond Funds	Institutions
1	WA Imd Muni Fd (SBI)	46.6%
2	DWS Muni Incm Tr (KTF)	45.7%
3	AB Nat Muni Incm Fd (AFB)	42.7%
4	BR Muni Incm Fd (MUI)	42.4%
5	DTF Tx-Free Incm 2028 Trm Fd (DTF)	39.8%
Sing	gle State Muni Bond Funds	Institutions
1	EV NY Muni Bnd Fd (ENX)	44.0%
2	BR CA Muni Incm Tr (BFZ)	41.2%
3	EV CA Muni Bnd Fd (EVM)	32.4%
4	Nuv NY AMT-Fr Qlty Muni Incm (NRK)	28.8%
5	NB NY Muni Fd (NBO)	27.6%
BDC	CS .	Institutions
1	Runway Gwth Fin Corp (RWAY)	65.2%
2	Bain Cap Splty Fin (BCSF)	52.1%
3	Crescent Capital BDC (CCAP)	49.1%
4	Barings BDC (BBDC)	48.9%
5	Owl Rock Capital Corp (ORCC)	45.6%

# CEF/BDC Institutional Investors (by AUM \$Ms, 2Q23) CLOSE

CLOSED-END FUND

Source: CEFData.com

	1 Morgan Stanley	\$ 8,262	26 Blackrock Inc	\$ 443
	2 Bank Of America Corp De	\$ 2,334	27 Stifel Financial Corp	\$ 418
	3 Ubs Group Ag	\$ 1,908	28 Cambridge Investment Research Advisors Inc	\$ 393
		\$ 1,789	29 Hennion & Walsh Asset Management, Inc.	\$ 388
	4 Saba Capital Management L P			
	5 Sit Investment Associates Inc	\$ 1,780	30 Kohlberg Kravis Roberts Co L P	\$ 365
	6 Wells Fargo Company Mn	\$ 1,769	31 Oaktree Capital Management Lp	\$ 346
	7 Karpus Management Inc	\$ 1,662	32 Penserra Capital Management Llc	\$ 338
	8 Rivernorth Capital Management Llc	\$ 1,505	33 Regents Of The University Of California	\$ 319
	9 Royal Bank Of Canada	\$ 1,369	34 Hightower Advisors Llc	\$ 307
1	O Allspring Global Investments Holdings, Llc	\$ 1,223	35 State Of New Jersey Common Pension Fund E	\$ 287
1	.1 Guggenheim Capital Llc	\$ 1,068	36 Atlas Wealth Llc	\$ 287
1	.2 City Of London Investment Management Co Ltd	\$ 1,041	37 Cetera Advisor Networks Llc	\$ 279
1	.3 Lpl Financial Llc	\$ 1,033	38 Oak Hill Advisors Lp	\$ 274
1	.4 1607 Capital Partners Llc	\$ 1,001	39 Legal General Group Plc	\$ 274
1	.5 Raymond James Associates	\$ 992	40 Janney Montgomery Scott Llc	\$ 270
1	.6 Invesco Ltd	\$ 987	41 Mcgowan Group Asset Management Inc	\$ 264
1	.7 Van Eck Associates Corp	\$ 750	42 Rockefeller Capital Management L P	\$ 260
1	8 Raymond James Financial Services Advisors Inc	\$ 741	43 Central Trust Co	\$ 250
1	.9 Advisor Group Holdings, Inc.	\$ 740	44 Strs Ohio	\$ 243
2	20 Advisors Asset Management Inc.	\$ 726	45 Ares Management Llc	\$ 234
2	21 Commonwealth Equity Services Llc	\$ 683	46 Envestnet Asset Management Inc	\$ 230
2	22 Ameriprise Financial Inc	\$ 597	47 Jpmorgan Chase Co	\$ 228
2	23 Lazard Asset Management Llc	\$ 551	48 Shaker Financial Services Llc	\$ 228
2	24 Bramshill Investments Llc	\$ 480	49 Sound Income Strategies Llc	\$ 223
2	25 Cohen Steers Inc	\$ 451	50 Bb T Corp	\$ 222

**All 13 Filings = \$64 Billion -- Top 50 = \$43 Billion (67% of total)** 



### **Activists vs Institutional Investors**



Source: CEFAData.com

Activists:	Followers:
1. Ancora Advisors	1. Punch & Associates Investment Mgmt
2. Bulldog Investors	2. Relative Value Partners
3. Special Opportunities Fund (SPE: Bulldog)	3. 1607 Capital Partners LLC
4. City of London	4. Rivernorth Capital Management
5. Ironsides Partners	5. Matisse Capital
6. Karpus Investment Management	6. SIT Investment Associates
7. Western Investment	7. DG Capital Management (BDCs)
8. Saba Capital Management	8. Sims Capital Management (BDCs)
9. Elliott Associates (BDCs)	
10. Wynnefield Capital (BDCs)	

Total Assets at work 6/30/23 - \$3.0 Billion Activist // \$16.7 Billion Followers & Activist



# **CEF Corporate Actions/Activist Update 2Q 2023**

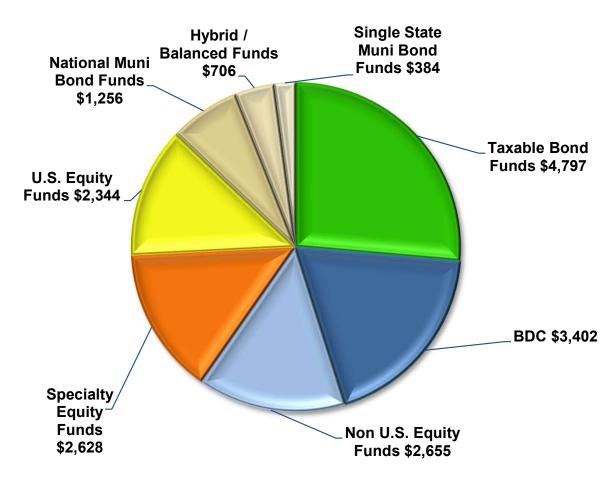
CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

Source: SEC Filings, Press Releases

Month Filed	Filing	Closed-End Fund/BDC	Investor/Who	Notes
June	13D/A	CB MLP & Midstream Tot Rtn Fd (CTR)	Saba	10.2% Terminate Investment Mgmt Proposal
June	Proxy	RENN Fd (RCG)	Public	Fund Declassification Proposal
June	Proxy	BR Innovation & Gwth Trm Tr (BIGZ)	Saba	Board Nominee Proposals
May	13D	Tortoise Nrg Ind Fd (NDP)	Bulldog	5.1% (Inc)
Apr	Proxy	Firsthand Tech Val Fd (SVVC)	Donald Chambers	Terminate Investment Mgmt Proposal (Resolved)
Apr	13D/A	Nuv Srt Dur Cr Opp Fd (JSD)	Saba	6.1% (Inc) Vote against merger

# Activist & Follower Ownership (13D/13G) by Investment Focus





<b>CEF</b> Activist	Ownership	\$18,173
	•	710,110

Top 5 Peer Groups								
BDC Debt	\$3,287							
General Equity	\$2,176							
Asian Equity	\$1,289							
Nat Muni (tax free)	\$1,083							
High Yield Bond	\$1,030							

Note: millions of dollars, data as of 6/30/23, cefdata.com

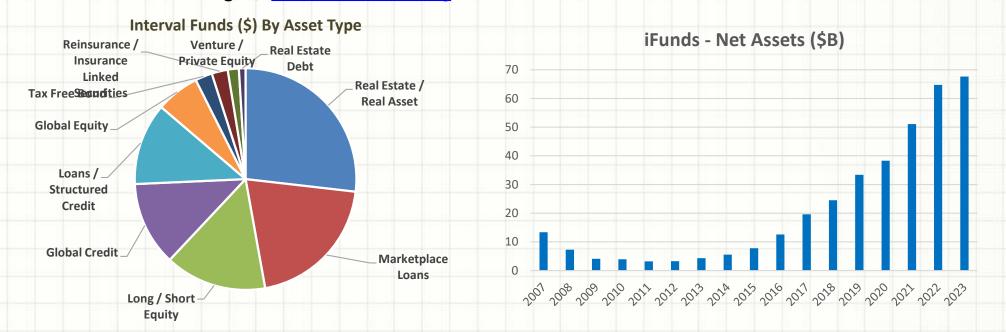
#### **Interval Closed-Ended Funds**

Source: CEData.com, as of 6/30/2023



- Interval funds are growing in popularity as an alternative investment vehicle. Many interval funds can be seen as the best of both worlds. Interval Funds are a small (0.1%) portion of the multitrillion dollar fund industry, but are growing assets quickly, in the ~50% range annually.
  - There are 92 interval funds with \$81B in total AUM as of 6/30/23 (compared to listed CEF AUM of \$313B in 438 funds according to CEFData.com).
- CEFData.com also tracks Tender Offer Funds (a type of non-listed CEF).
  - As of 6/30/23, there were 188 Tender Offer Funds with \$203B in AUM. \$150B in NL/Pvt BDCs

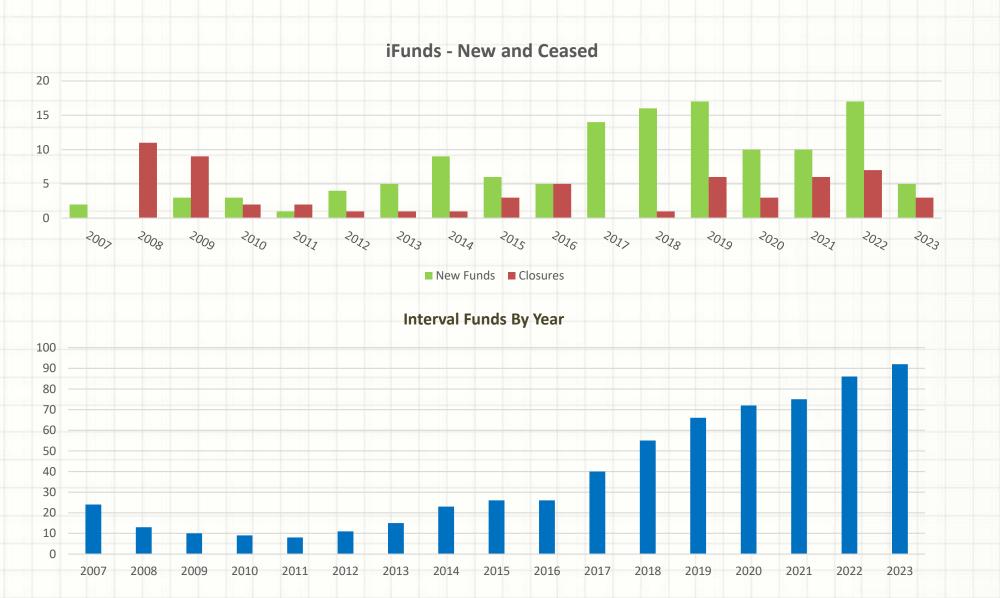
Whitepaper / Overview on: <a href="https://cefadvisors.wordpress.com">https://cefadvisors.wordpress.com</a>
Public Screener & Profile Page @ <a href="https://cefadvisors.wordpress.com">www.AICAlliance.org</a>



#### **Interval Closed-Ended Funds**

Source: CEData.com, as of 6/30/2023





#### Non-Listed CEFs: Asset Class Breakdown (# Funds)

CLOSED-END FUND
A D V I S O R S

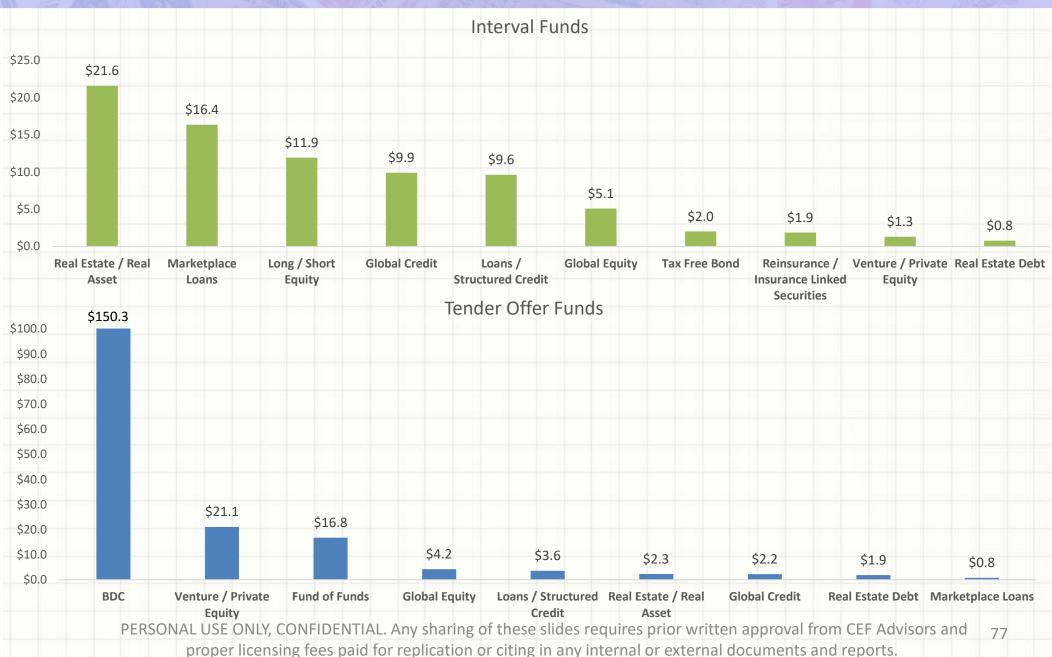
Source: CEData.com, as of 6/30/2023



#### Non-Listed CEFs: Asset Class Breakdown (\$B AUM)

Source: CEData.com, as of 6/30/2023





#### **Non-Listed CEFs: Sponsors**

Source: CEData.com, as of 6/30/2023



TOP SPON	ISORS (AUM)			TOP SPONSOR	RS (# FUNDS	)
Sponsor	or Funds AUM (MM)			Sponsor	Funds	AUM (MM
1 Blackstone	2	\$51,682	1	Morgan Stanley	8	\$9,366
2 Owl Rock	6	\$29,923	2	Central Park	8	\$3,194
3 Partners Group	1	\$13,777	3	Neuberger Berman	8	\$1,446
4 Cliffwater	2	\$13,300	4	Owl Rock	6	\$29,923
5 SilverBay Capital	1	\$11,930	5	PIMCO	6	\$6,991
6 Morgan Stanley	8	\$9,366	6	Goldman Sachs	6	\$4,363
7 Bluerock	2	\$7,449	7	BlackRock	5	\$1,243
8 PIMCO	6	\$6,991	8	Stone Ridge	5	\$4,076
9 HPS	1	\$6,888	9	First Trust	5	\$956
10 Griffin Capital	1	\$5,660	10	Franklin Templeton	4	\$4,569
11 Versus Capital	2	\$5,563	11	Golub Capital	4	\$3,182
12 Apollo	2	\$5,315	12	TCW	4	\$2,977
13 Franklin Templeton	4	\$4,569	13	Nuveen	4	\$2,327
14 Goldman Sachs	6	\$4,363	14	Hatteras	4	\$327
15 Stone Ridge	5	\$4,076	15	Guggenheim Funds	4	\$113
16 Barings	3	\$3,889	16	Bank of America	4	\$75
17 CION Investment	1	\$3,760	17	Barings	3	\$3,889
18 New Mountain Capital	3	\$3,517	18	New Mountain Capital	3	\$3,517
19 Oppenheimer	1	\$3,392	19	John Hancock	3	\$2,405
20 Central Park	8	\$3,194	20	Fundrise	3	\$2,084
21 Golub Capital	4	\$3,182	21	Lord Abbett	3	\$1,423
22 TCW	4	\$2,977	22	Aetos	3	\$831
23 FS/KKR	2	\$2,848	23	UBS Hedge Fund	3	\$662
24 Variant Investments	2	\$2,730	24	Flat Rock	3	\$607
25 Carlyle	3	\$2,610	25	Grosvenor	3	\$443

#### CEFA's Outlook for 3Q and 2023



- US Equity Funds
- Non-US Equity Funds
- Specialty Equity (Sector) Funds
- Taxable Bond Funds
- National Municipal Bond (Tax-Free) Funds
- Debt-Focused Business Development Companies (BDCs)
- Sustainable CEF Portfolio Distribution Yields, Beta, Correlations,
   Duration and After-Tax Income, Gross Asset Exposure, Leverage



#### **CEFA Model Portfolios**

#### Often a good starting point for customizing client portfolios



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Data as of July 6, 2023 from "CEFA's Closed-End Fund Universe Data"												-												
Portfolio	Discount	1 Yr Avg Discount	3 Yr Avg Discount	Rel Disc Range(3yr)	Mk Yield	Lev Adj NAV Yield	After Tax Yield	Tax Friction	1 Yr RoC %	3 Yr Dest RoC %	Lev%	Est Lev Cost	Non Lev Expense Ratio	3 Yr NAV Volatility	3 Yr NAV TR	Purchases Turnover	Sales Turnover	% Equity Exposure	% Bond Exposure	# Holdings	Cash Weighted Duration	Beta (2yr)	Comp NAV TR	Comp Discount
1. CEFA International Opportunity	-11.04	-10.34	-9.50	36.33	8.67	6.73	7.39	1.28	37.4	27.5	13.9	0.67	1.38	16.35	1.45	48.98	54.24	66.15	31.44	26	1.62	0.81	-2.93	-2.00
2. CEFA Diversified Equity	-16.60	-15.72	-14.75	30.99	7.36	5.92	6.66	0.70	43.3	10.6	9.1	0.39	1.48	20.27	7.01	59.36	71.27	86.56	8.44	23	N/A	0.82	-1.58	-3.70
3. CEFA Diversified Growth	-10.27	-10.83	-10.30	41.24	9.46	7.08	7.82	1.64	42.6	16.9	21.5	1.93	2.10	16.84	7.57	48.01	51.11	61.01	35.60	29	0.81	0.78	-0.82	-1.07
4. CEFA Hybrid (High) Income	-12.41	-12.44	-8.50	37.50	11.93	7.97	9.78	2.15	39.1	25.5	32.3	2.78	2.75	10.73	6.77	68.85	55.09	34.37	63.49	44	2.14	0.72	-1.23	-3.69
4.1 CEFA Hybrid (High) Income - Tax Advantaged	-11.92	-11.79	-8.00	33.53	10.28	7.02	8.50	1.78	38.9	20.9	30.4	2.34	2.60	11.13	8.54	63.69	56.47	38.29	58.97	44	2.01	0.69	-0.73	-2.92
4.2. CEFA Hybrid (High) Income Monthly	-2.06	-2.60	-3.10	48.34	11.81	9.32	10.07	1.74	51.6	31.6	27.5	2.05	2.54	13.43	6.05	82.27	86.49	48.62	48.19	35	1.54	0.75	-1.11	4.57
5. CEFA Discount Opportunity	-20.89	-20.87	-20.13	41.67	8.69	5.61	7.41	1.28	43.7	21.4	23.8	2.40	2.60	15.46	9.40	44.71	51.23	56.94	38.03	37	0.79	0.70	-1.42	-10.40
6. CEFA Alternative Income	-11.17	-11.89	-7.70	34.58	10.77	7.26	8.73	2.04	42.1	18.2	32.4	2.73	2.72	10.11	8.57	67.57	58.40	33.14	64.91	44	1.35	0.67	0.58	-2.48
6.1 CEFA Alternative Income - Tax Advantaged	-13.51	-13.18	-11.22	33.06	9.42	6.40	7.98	1.44	42.5	20.3	29.0	1.96	2.13	12.82	9.20	60.57	50.93	37.48	59.14	46	3.37	0.76	0.57	-4.39
7. CEFA Foundation / Balanced	-14.06	-13.51	-11.76	32.75	10.16	7.20	7.75	2.41	41.3	20.4	22.1	1.51	2.01	13.40	7.64	58.16	59.64	52.32	44.76	44	1.03	0.75	0.38	-5.01
7.1 CEFA Foundation / Balanced - Tax Advantaged	-11.12	-9.40	-7.93	31.31	8.70	6.36	7.04	1.66	47.7	14.8	23.6	1.54	1.83	15.64	8.60	52.24	56.43	60.52	37.45	43	2.68	0.84	0.35	-1.69
8. CEFA Taxable Bond & BDC	-9.65	-10.50	-7.74	37.78	10.83	7.30	7.35	3.48	27.5	21.3	35.1	3.05	2.92	6.25	5.17	64.47	52.49	6.55	90.82	32	3.10	0.61	-1.06	-2.56
8.1 CEFA Fixed Income - Tax Advantaged	-10.26	-9.56	-7.63	32.08	9.39	6.42	7.59	1.80	38.8	28.9	34.5	2.43	2.59	7.00	1.69	59.57	44.76	9.76	88.16	43	7.50	0.73	-1.48	-2.34
9. CEFA Dividend Confidence Model	-10.17	-9.52	-8.08	33.80	9.42	6.77	7.81	1.61	37.6	5.9	25.9	1.86	1.99	13.70	9.03	55.87	52.77	51.96	45.99	33	0.95	0.74	0.67	-1.95
9.1 CEFA Inflation Optimized Tax- Advantaged Income	-7.27	-7.42	-6.09	42.29	11.08	7.93	9.15	1.93	43.3	22.7	31.5	2.79	2.92	12.69	9.38	61.99	48.89	44.02	53.59	47	2.78	0.71	-1.03	-0.25
10. CEFA Diversified Low Beta	-11.38	-9.54	-8.08	33.49	9.47	6.55	7.76	1.71	44.8	16.9	28.5	1.85	2.13	12.10	6.82	57.78	62.54	38.18	60.22	35	1.50	0.67	-0.59	-2.34
11. CEFA Low Correlation	-9.13	-7.20	-7.02	37.63	7.66	5.75	6.24	1.42	20.9	1.3	24.6	1.99	2.05	12.21	8.31	46.08	46.08	44.93	51.43	26	3.16	0.70	-1.51	-1.12
11.2. CEFA Low Correlation - IRA	-6.81	-5.88	-5.38	40.10	8.77	6.66	7.07	1.70	28.6	6.5	24.3	1.86	2.15	13.97	9.08	31.29	34.44	43.96	53.13	23	2.65	0.85	0.22	0.26
12.1 CEFA Div Tax-Sensitive Income	-11.71	-11.49	-8.65	32.68	8.86	6.10	7.20	1.66	42.6	18.0	29.5	1.84	1.95	12.42	6.77	47.30	49.64	36.64	61.55	45	3.88	0.78	-0.57	-2.90
13. CEFA BDC Select	2.07	-1.69	11.19	38.82	11.16	7.33	8.58	2.58	43.1	4.3	54.4	7.42	4.20	4.82	12.86	11.11	11.11	4.62	93.45	10	N/A	0.79	5.21	11.61
13.2. CEFA BDC - Low Beta	-9.00	-9.68	-6.04	49.00	11.08	6.49	8.41	2.67	12.2	9.4	53.9	7.08	4.18	5.26	11.24	14.08	14.08	10.23	84.95	14	N/A	0.68	0.94	0.53
13.3. CEFA BDC Premium	12.35	10.27	19.02	34.34	10.32	7.49	7.94	2.38	27.8	2.6	52.6	6.70	3.89	4.83	13.39	12.60	12.60	7.36	92.25	11	N/A	0.82	5.75	21.88
13.4. CEFA BDC Monthly Income	-7.72	-8.35	-8.38	57.90	10.49	6.25	7.94	2.55	17.5	15.6	54.8	8.41	4.77	5.60	7.30	16.35	16.35	10.19	84.22	8	N/A	0.63	-3.17	1.82
14. CEFA Select Municipal	-13.31	-10.86	-6.96	10.06	4.18	2.66	4.17	0.01	12.2	8.1	36.9	1.64	1.05	5.80	-1.67	19.36	20.53	0.60	99.07	20	11.30	0.89	-1.41	-1.94
14.1. CEFA Low Duration Municipal	-13.75	-8.88	-6.91	4.82	4.18	2.65	4.14	0.04	10.2	4.6	37.4	1.44	1.16	6.26	-1.92	33.14	31.87	0.00	99.14	3	3.20	0.94	-3.44	-2.91
15. CEFA Select "Six Pack" Income	-7.28	-5.52	-3.50	31.93	9.70	7.09	7.87	1.83	32.2	9.9	28.2	2.10	2.23	11.96	6.90	63.98	60.80	48.29	49.66	35	0.81	0.65	0.05	-0.91
16. CEFA Non-Profit Foundation Diversified Income	-12.20	-12.21	-11.01	36.50	9.99	7.16	9.99	0.00	35.2	13.1	23.9	1.53	2.23	13.03	8.55	67.39	66.72	45.15	52.82	40	1.18	0.64	0.12	-4.41

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#### **CEFA Portfolio Model Info (pt 1 of 2)**



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**CEFA Portfolio Models' Investment Objectives.** Diversified models typically hold 20-40 positions and sector models hold 5-15. All CEFA models start with our asset allocation and market outlook. Then, we select funds that meet or exceed our Trifecta analysis for discount direction, dividend sustainability and manager or NAV performance, blending our fundamental and data driven investment resources.

- 1. International Opportunity: Diversified portfolio of non-US and global sector of closed-end funds. We seek to blend our global market outlook with the ability to buy funds, often at significant discounts to NAV while having the opportunity for discount narrowing over time. Yield is a byproduct of the model as many CEFs pay at least annual or semi-annual distributions. We expect the model to be 60%-80% Equity exposure and 55% to 85% Non US holdings at the fund level. We seek duration of the portfolio on a "cash weighted" basis under 2 and a Beta to the S&P 500 between 0.75 and 0.90.
- **2. Diversified Equity:** Diversified portfolio seeking primarily equity exposure. The Beta to the S&P 500 is expected to be 0.85 to 1.15.
- 3. Diversified Growth: Diversified portfolio focusing on the sectors and funds where we see the best risk-adjusted growth potential. Yield is a byproduct of the model as many CEFs pay at least annual or semi-annual distributions. We expect the model to be 65% to 90% equity exposure based on the fund's reported holdings and seeking to have duration of the portfolio on a "cash weighted" basis around 1 and a Beta to the S&P 500 between 0.70 and 1.0.
- **4. Hybrid (High) Income:** Diversified portfolio seeking 50/50 allocation to equity and debt at the fund level; focusing on the highest sustainable dividend levels possible in the current environment with at least 75% of funds paying monthly. Historically 8%-9% is our target income level. We seek to have duration of the portfolio on a "cash weighted" basis under 2 and a Beta to the S&P 500 between 0.75 and 0.95. We offer a 100% monthly paying version of this model (#4.2) for investors that seek this feature to their investment needs and a Tax-Advantaged version of this model (#4.1).
- **5. Discount Opportunity**: Diversified portfolio seeking 50/50 allocations to equity and debt at the fund level. Researching funds that both have a larger than average absolute discount to NAV as well as wider than normal Comp Discount (vs. peer-group average) without a significantly worse NAV total return performance vs. their peer funds. This model can work well for contrarian investors
- **6. Alternative Income:** Diversified portfolio seeking 40/60 allocation to equity and debt at the fund level; focusing on less "plain vanilla" or core sectors and managers that could offer a more "hedge fund" like experience and a diversifier to traditional equity and bond allocations. We seek 2% a quarter in distributions at roughly half the Beta to the S&P 500 during normal market conditions with "cash weighted" duration under 2. We offer a Taxadvantaged version of this model (#6.1).
- 7. **Foundation/Balanced:** Diversified model based on a 60% equity / 40% debt allocation at the fund level. We believe this model is a "medium risk portfolio" for a typical retired investor. Historically 7%-8% is our target income level. We seek to have duration of the portfolio on a "cash weighted" basis under 2.5 and a Beta to the S&P 500 between 0.60 and 0.85. We offer a "Tax Advantaged" version of this model (#7.1), that could reduce the after-tax friction by 65%-75% for a typical investor in a taxable environment. We also offer more conservative portfolio (Conservative Diversified), comprised of 2/3 the F/B model and 1/3 invested in non-traditional asset classes using ETFs and open-end funds to reduce the expected volatility over time.

#### **CEFA Portfolio Model Info (pt 2 of 2)**



- **8. Taxable Bond and BDC:** Diversified portfolio focused on the taxable bond and debt-focused business development company (BDC) sectors. This income focused model historically targets a 7%-8% income level. It seeks "cash weighted" duration under 4 and a Beta to the S&P 500 from 0.35-0.50.
- **9. Dividend Confidence Model:** Diversified portfolio of roughly 50% equity and bond funds where we see above average dividend coverage as the primary factor after our Trifecta analysis. Historically 6.25% 7.5% is our target income level and we expect durations under 2.5 and a beta under 0.80.
- **10. Diversified Low Beta:** Diversified portfolio seeking 50/50 allocations to equity and debt at the fund level focusing on a lower Beta for to the S&P 500 in the sector when selecting funds. We seek to have duration of the portfolio on a "cash weighted" basis under 1.75 and a Beta to the S&P 500 between 0.40 and 0.60.
- **11. Low Correlation**: Diversified portfolio seeking roughly 50/50 allocations to equity and debt at the fund level. Focusing on exposure to the CEF sectors we find have the lowest long-term NAV correlations to each other. Historically 6%-7% is our target income level. We seek to have duration of the portfolio on a "cash weighted" basis under 3.25 and a Beta to the S&P 500 between 0.50 and 0.70. We offer an "IRA" version of this model that replaces Build America Bond (BABs) exposure for the municipal bond exposure.
- **12. Diversified Tax-Sensitive Income:** Designed to maximize after-tax yield for high income investors seeking little-to-no tax friction. Equal weight exposure to three CEF sectors who historically have low correlation: municipal bonds, master limited partnerships and tax-advantage equity funds. Muni's, the most common tax-avoidance sector for many investors has a 39% 10 Year NAV correlation to MLPs and 33% correlation to Covered Call Funds. Covered Call funds have only a 70% correlation to MLP funds. We seek a Beta to the S&P 500 of 0.55 to 0.70 and an after-tax yield of 6% to 7%. Duration is expected to be under 4. We offer a Municipal bond overweight version of this model (#12.1) where 50% of the portfolio is Muni bond CEFs.
- 13. Business Development Company Select: Diversified portfolio of BDCs with strong fundamental research on each BDC's portfolio and management. Seeking BDCs exposure with above average dividend sustainability, NAV performance, variable and senior secured loan exposure as well as low non-accruals (defaults). We look for sector and geographic diversity. We expect a Beta to the S&P 500 of 0.6 to 0.8 and historically yield levels of 8.5% to 9.5% are common. BDCs have low 10-year correlation to most asset classes; including 15% to municipal bond, 13% to preferred equity and 27% to REITs and only a 40%-43% correlation to high yield and Sr. loans. We offer a "100% monthly paying only" (#13.1), "low Beta" (#13.2) and Premium BDC version of this model (#13.3).
- **14. Municipal Bond Select**: A focused portfolio managed for 100% tax-free municipal bond exposure. We seek to build and manage the portfolio for better than average: discount to NAV, NAV total return performance, distribution levels, duration exposure, dividend coverage and other criteria we believe can give investors a better experience when looking to allocate funds into this sector. We also offer this model with lower duration (and yield) exposure (#14.1).
- **15. CEFA Select "Six Pack" Income:** This is a Diversified portfolio of fund in the following six sectors: Business Development Companies, Covered Call Funds, Loan Participation Funds, Preferred Equity Funds, REIT/ Real Asset Funds and Utility / Infrastructure Funds. They are expected to be weighted with a min allocation of 10% and Maximum allocation of 20% per sector. Exposure should be at a minimum of 40% for both equity and fixed-income holdings for the underlying funds. We anticipate the yield being about 1% higher than the 15 Major Sector Index under normal market conditions.

### Speaker's Biography





#### John Cole Scott, CFS

#### **EXPERIENCE**

President & CIO of a Registered Investment Advisory Firm Focused on CEFs, BDCs & Interval Funds

#### **EDUCATION**

College of William & Mary
Bachelor of Science in Psychology

#### John Cole Scott, CFS

President & Chief Investment Officer Closed-End Fund Advisors, Inc.

Mr. Scott has worked at Closed-End Fund Advisors, a 1989 RIA firm, since 2001. CEF Advisors primarily offers high net worth investors highly customized income focused portfolios optimized for risk and taxes amongst other factors through separate account management. He holds the FINRA 66 License and the Certified Fund Specialist designation (CFS).

He is a graduate of The College of William and Mary and has been quoted and interviewed widely in the financial press and presented at conferences and for investment groups on more than 75 occasions. In 2008 John founded CEFData.com, a data service now covering all US listed and non-listed closed-end funds (CEFs), business development companies (BDCs) and Interval Funds. Currently supported by an internal 10-member analyst / programmer team covering the 765+ ticker, \$727 billion universe of closed-ended management companies.

CEF Advisors regularly does consulting and projects for CEF/BDC Sponsors, Hedge Funds and Institutional Investors. In 2016 John developed 35 CEF/BDC based benchmark indexes. He has worked with a fund sponsor on a BDC focused fund that has raised \$500MM in deposits. John is also the Founder & Executive Chairman of Active Investment Company Alliance (AICA). He is a past board member of The Richmond Association for Business Economics (RABE) and serves as Treasurer and on the Investment Committee for The New York State Society of The Cincinnati. He is past Treasurer & Chair F&I Committee for the William & Mary National Alumni Board.





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Schedule a 15-minute phone call with John by clicking:

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