# American Balanced Fund<sup>®</sup>

Class T | TABFX for the year ended December 31, 2024



This annual shareholder report contains important information about American Balanced Fund (the "fund") for the period from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. You can find additional information about the fund at <u>capitalgroup.com/mutual-fund-literature</u>. You can also request this information by contacting us at (800) 421-4225.

# What were the fund costs for the last year? (based on a hypothetical \$10,000 investment)

| Share class | Costs of a \$10,000 investment | Costs paid as a percentage of a \$10,000 investment |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Class T     | \$32                           | 0.30%   |

# Management's discussion of fund performance

The fund's Class T shares gained 15.21% for the year ended December 31, 2024. That result compares with a 15.04% gain for the 60%/40% S&P 500 Index/Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index.

### What factors influenced results

U.S. economic growth remained solid over the year, driven by strong consumer spending despite uncertainties over the presidential election, high interest rates and the labor market. In September, the U.S. Federal Reserve cut interest rates for the first time since 2020, followed by additional reductions in November and December. Short-term bond yields declined while longer term yields rose.

The fund's higher equity exposure, relative to its average over the past 10 years, positioned it to benefit from market momentum across sectors. Investments in the information technology, financials and utilities sectors, among others, saw returns that outpaced the broader portfolio. Bond portfolio returns also rose on an absolute basis, supported by curve positioning in addition to sector and security selection. Curve positioning involves selecting bonds with different maturities to take advantage of expected changes in the yield curve and optimizing the timing and structure of bond investments to seek to enhance overall returns.

On the downside, investments in energy, materials and health care sectors declined, detracting from absolute returns. In the bond portfolio, duration positioning supported results. Duration positioning refers to the strategic management of a portfolio's overall sensitivity to interest rate changes by adjusting the weighted average duration of its constituent bonds. The bond portion overall generated lower returns than the equity portion but can offer diversification from equities and the potential for lower volatility of results.

# How a hypothetical \$10,000 investment has grown

Figures reflect deduction of the maximum sales charge and assume reinvestment of dividends and capital gains.



#### Average annual total returns

|  | 1 year | 5 years | Since inception <sup>1</sup> |
|--|--------|---------|------------------------------|
| American Balanced Fund – Class T (with sales charge) <sup>2</sup>    | 12.33% | 7.86%   | 8.55%                        |
| American Balanced Fund – Class T (without sales charge) <sup>2</sup> | 15.21% | 8.40%   | 8.90%                        |
| S&P 500 Index <sup>3</sup>   | 25.02% | 14.53%  | 14.51%                       |
| 60%/40% S&P 500 Index/Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index <sup>3</sup>    | 15.04% | 8.67%   | 9.29%                        |
| Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index <sup>3</sup>                          | 1.25%  | (0.33)% | 1.20%                        |

Effective July 24, 2024, the fund's primary benchmark changed from the 60%/40% S&P 500 Index/Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index (the "Previous Primary Benchmark") to the S&P 500 Index, a broad-based index that represents the overall applicable securities market, as required by the SEC. The Previous Primary Benchmark provides a means to compare the fund's results to a benchmark that the investment adviser believes is more representative of the fund's investment universe. There is no change in the fund's investment strategies as a result of the benchmark change.

<sup>1</sup> Class T shares were first offered on April 7, 2017.

- <sup>2</sup> Investment results assume all distributions are reinvested and reflect applicable fees and expenses. When applicable, results reflect fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements, without which they would have been lower.
- <sup>3</sup> Results assume all distributions are reinvested. Any market index shown is unmanaged, and therefore, has no expenses. Investors cannot invest directly in an index. Source(s): S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC and Bloomberg Index Services Ltd.

The fund's past performance is not a predictor of its future performance. The line chart and table do not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on fund distributions or redemption of fund shares.

# **Key fund statistics**

| Fund net assets (in millions)  | \$236,070 |  |
|--|-----------|--|
| Total number of portfolio holdings                                     | 3,825     |  |
| Total advisory fees paid (in millions)                                 | \$483     |  |
| Portfolio turnover rate including<br>mortgage dollar roll transactions | 131%      |  |
| Portfolio turnover rate excluding mortgage dollar roll transactions    | 44%       |  |



# Portfolio holdings by asset type (percent of net assets)

- Common stocks 64.46%
- Mortgage-backed obligations 12.43%
- U.S. corporate bonds, notes & loans 4.27%
- Corporate bonds, notes & loans of issuers outside the U.S. 2.30%
- U.S. Treasury bonds & notes 5.80%
- Asset-backed obligations 3.13%
- Bonds & notes of governments & government agencies outside the U.S. 0.42%
- Municipals 0.27%
- Federal agency bonds & notes 0.05%
- Investment funds 2.72%
- Other securities 0.27%
- Short-term securities & other assets less liabilities 3.88%\*

\*Includes derivatives.

# Availability of additional information

Scan the QR code to view additional information about the fund, including its prospectus, financial information, holdings and information on proxy voting. Or refer to the web address included at the beginning of this report.

# Important information

To reduce fund expenses, only one copy of most shareholder documents will be mailed to shareholders with multiple accounts at the same address (householding). If you would prefer that your documents not be householded, please contact Capital Group at (800) 421-4225, or contact your financial intermediary. Your instructions will typically be effective within 30 days of receipt by Capital Group or your financial intermediary.