

# The North American Income Trust plc

# Seeking resilient growth and rising income from North American equities

Performance Data and Analytics to 30 June 2024

# Change of Investment Manager

On 9th May 2024, the Board of The North American Income Trust plc (the "Company") announced that the Company had agreed heads of terms to appoint Janus Henderson Fund Management UK Limited as its new AIFM and Investment Manager. The appointment is effective from 1st August 2024.

# Investment objective

To provide investors with above average dividend income and long term capital growth through active management of a portfolio consisting predominantly of S&P 500 US equities.

## Reference benchmark

Russell Value 1000 Index.

# Cumulative performance (%)

	as at 30/06/24	1 month	3 months	6 months	1 year	3 years	5 years
Share Price	300.0p	2.7	3.4	4.8	14.5	20.1	20.8
NAV <sup>A</sup>	338.0p	1.0	(0.7)	6.2	12.2	25.1	34.8
Russell 1000 Value		(0.2)	(2.2)	7.5	13.7	28.4	55.0

## Discrete performance (%)

	30/06/24	30/06/23	30/06/22	30/06/21	30/06/20
Share Price	14.5	(0.2)	5.1	23.1	(18.3)
NAV <sup>A</sup>	12.2	2.8	8.5	19.8	(10.1)
Russell 1000 Value	13.7	6.5	6.0	28.5	(6.1)

# Five year dividend table (p)

Financial year <sup>c</sup>	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total dividend (p)	11.70	11.00	10.30	10.00	9.50

Total return; NAV cum income, with net income reinvested, GBP. Share price total return is on a mid-to-mid basis Dividend calculations are to reinvest as at the ex-dividend date. NAV returns based on NAVs with debt valued at fair value. Source: abrdn Investments Limited, Lipper and Morningstar.

## Past performance is not a guide to future results.

### Morningstar Rating™



#### <sup>B</sup> Morningstar Rating<sup>™</sup> for Funds

Morningstar rates funds from one to five stars based on how well they've performed (after adjusting for risk and accounting for all sales charges) in comparison

### Ten largest equity holdings (%)

Merck	4.1
Medtronic	3.9
MetLife	3.8
Gaming & Leisure Properties	3.7
Citigroup	3.6
Baker Hughes	3.5
Air Products and Chemicals	3.4
Philip Morris	3.3
L3Harris	3.3
BROADCOM	3.2
Total	35.8

## Sector allocation (%)

Financials	19.9
Health Care	17.2
Industrials	10.1
Consumer Staples	9.2
Energy	8.4
Information Technology	7.6
Real Estate	6.7
Utilities	6.0
Communication Services	5.2
Materials	5.0
Consumer Discretionary	4.7
Total	100.0

All sources (unless indicated): abrdn: 30 June 2024.









A Including current year revenue.

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MethodologyDocuments/AnalystRatingforFundsMethodology,pdf The Morningstar Analyst Rating for Funds is a forward-looking analysis of a fund. Morningstar has identified five key areas crucial to predicting the future success of a fund: People, Parent, Process, Performance, and Price. The pillars are used in determining the Morningstar Analyst Pating for a fund Morningstar Analyst Pating for a fund Morningstar Analyst. Rating for a fund. Morningstar Analyst Ratings are assigned on a five-tier scale running from Gold to Negative. The top three ratings, Gold, Silver, and Bronze, all indicate that our analysts think highly of a fund; the difference between them corresponds to differences in the level of analyst conviction in a fund's ability to outperform its benchmark and peers through time, within the context of the level of risk taken over the long term. Neutral represents funds in which our analysts don't have a strong positive or negative conviction over the long term and Negative represents funds that possess at least one flaw that our analysts believe is likely to significantly hamper future performance over the long term. Long term is defined as a full market cycle or at least five years. Past performance of a security may or may not be sustained in future and is no indication of future performance. For detailed information about the Morningstar Analyst Rating for Funds, please visit http://global.morningstar.com/managerdisclosures.  $^{\circ}$  Financial year ends in January of the following year.

# The North American Income Trust plc





# 1 Year Premium/Discount Chart (%)



# Fund managers' report

The Trust generated a net asset value total return ahead of the benchmark Russell 1000 Value Index's total return in sterling terms. The share price total return also outperformed the index in the month.

The Russell 1000 Value Index ended lower in June. The domestic economy, particularly the labour market, has continued to prove resilient and robust despite slowing. Consequently, annual consumer price inflation was higher than expected over the first three months of this year before meeting expectations in April, although it came in lower than forecast in May. Meanwhile, heightened tensions in the Middle East have brought additional inflationary risks due to the potential effect on crude supplies and shipping costs. At its June meeting, the US Federal Reserve (Fed) kept the target range for its fed funds rate at a 23-year high of 5.25-5.50%, marking the seventh consecutive time it has left rates unchanged. The latest 'dot plot' from the Fed's committee members forecast just one rate cut in 2024 - whereas three had been predicted back in March - with further easing likely in 2025 and 2026. However, after steadily falling over the course of last year, the Fed's targeted inflation measure – the annual core Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) Price Index - has only slightly declined in the first five months of 2024. Against this backdrop, Fed Chair Jerome Powell reiterated at the June meeting that the central bank requires more evidence of core PCE inflation sustainably moving towards the 2% target before considering policy easing. Therefore, the Fed aims to maintain a restrictive policy stance, proceeding cautiously with a data-dependent approach as it seeks greater clarity on underlying economic trends. As a result, investors now anticipate only one or two rate cuts in 2024, starting in the autumn at the earliest. Previously, investors had been factoring in as many as six or seven cuts from June onwards. Moreover, some Fed officials are in favour of further tightening to keep stubborn inflation at bay. However, Fed Chair Jerome Powell has stated that the central bank's next move is unlikely to be a rate hike, which has reassured investors somewhat.

In terms of economic data, according to the final estimate, the US economy expanded at an annualised rate of 1.4% in the first quarter of 2024. This marked

#### Fund managers' report continues overleaf

#### Geographic breakdown (%)

Total	100.0
Canada	6.1
USA	93.9

#### Total number of investments

Total number of fixed income investments 8	
T. I. (C. II	2
Total number of equity investments 4	0

## Key information Calendar

Year end	January
Accounts published	April
Annual General Meeting	June
Dividend paid	February, June, August, October
Established	1902
Ongoing charges <sup>D</sup>	0.99%
Annual management fee	0.75% of net assets up to £250m; 0.6% of net assets between £250m; and £500m; 0.5% of net assets above £500m
Premium/(Discount)	(11.3)%
Yield <sup>E</sup>	3.9%
Net cash/(gearing) - including collateral cash <sup>F</sup>	(5.9)%
Net cash/(gearing) - excluding collateral cash <sup>G</sup>	(5.9)%
Active share <sup>H</sup>	85.7%

### **AIFMD Leverage Limits**

Gross Notional	2.5x
Commitment	2x

## Assets/Debt (£m)

Gross	482.6
Debt	39.5
Cash & cash equivalents	13.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>D</sup> Expressed as a percentage of average daily net assets for the year ended 31 January 2024. The Ongoing Charges Figure (OCF) is the overall cost shown as a percentage of the value of the assets of the Company. It is made up of the Annual Management Fee and other charges. It does not include any costs associated with buying shares in the Company or the cost of buying and selling stocks within the Company. The OCF can help you compare the annual operating expresses of different Companies.

operating expenses of different Companies.

<sup>E</sup> Calculated using the Company's historic net dividends and month end share price.

F Net gearing is defined as a percentage, with net debt (total debt less cash/cash equivalents) divided by shareholders' funds.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Excludes cash being used as collateral against open option positions from cash/cash equivalents.

<sup>H</sup> The 'Active Share' percentage is a measure used to describe what proportion of the Company's holdings differ from

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>H</sup> The 'Active Share' percentage is a measure used to describe what proportion of the Company's holdings differ from the benchmark index holdings.

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# Fund managers' report - continued

a decrease from the 3.4% growth rate reported in the final quarter of 2023. Meanwhile, annual consumer price inflation fell from 3.4% in April to a lowerthan-expected 3.3% in May. The annual core rate, which excludes volatile food and energy prices, eased from 3.6% to 3.4%, also below expectations. Over the same period, the Fed's preferred measure of inflation - the core Personal Consumption Expenditures Price Index – fell from an annual rate of 2.8% to 2.6%, as expected, but remained above the Fed's 2% target. According to a preliminary estimate, the S&P Global Composite US Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) edged up from 54.5 in May to 54.6 in June, which was above expectations (with a reading above 50 indicative of an expansion in business activity). Within that, the manufacturing PMI rose from 51.3 to a higher-thanexpected 51.7, while the services PMI increased from 54.8 to a better-thanexpected 55.1. Following the Fed's monetary tightening campaign, the US labour market has remained robust. In particular, the US economy added 272,000 non-farm jobs in May, which was well above expectations and up from a downwardly revised 165,000 jobs in April. Moreover, annual average earnings growth increased from an upwardly revised 4.0% in April to a higherthan-expected 4.1% in May. However, the unemployment rate unexpectedly increased from 3.9% to 4.0% over the same period. Additionally, retail sales edged up by a lower-than-expected 0.1% month on month in May after a downwardly revised decrease of 0.2% in April, as consumer spending remained subdued. Furthermore, the University of Michigan's consumer confidence barometer fell from 69.1 in May to a lower-than-expected 68.2 in June. The main drivers of the decline were rising inflation expectations and increased economic uncertainty due to the forthcoming election. Lastly, given the decline in longer-dated US Treasury yields that occurred in June, the average rate for a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage decreased to around 6.9% over the month but remained elevated by historical standards.

In portfolio-related corporate news, investor enthusiasm for generative artificial intelligence (GenAl) drove the shares of semiconductor and software vendor Broadcom higher. The company reported strong quarterly results and increased its full-year guidance as customers demanded more Al-related chips. Oracle Corporation, an enterprise software developer and cloud service provider, reported robust bookings for its Oracle Cloud Infrastructure cloud offering, driven in large part by GenAl, and announced new partnerships with Google and OpenAl.

UnitedHealth Group was the only Trust holding with a notable dividend increase in June. The company increased its quarterly dividend by 11.7% to a current yield of 1.6%, building upon its established track record of dividend growth.

There was no portfolio activity during the month.

#### Outlook

US economic growth has been resilient, but the pace has moderated as a result of slower consumer spending and subdued investments driven by higher interest rates. In line with this, inflation has also slowed in recent months, which we expect to continue with ongoing easing in the labour market, wage growth, and housing inflation. Despite these signs of cooling inflation, the Fed remains cautious in its approach to cutting rates, signalling only one cut for this year.

Effective 1 August 2024, the management of the company will move to Janus Henderson Investors.

The risks outlined overleaf relating to exchange rate movements is particularly relevant to this trust, but should be read in conjunction with all warnings and comments given.

Important information overleaf

#### Assets

	%	£m
Equities	98.3	462.2
Fixed Income	1.7	7.8
Total	100.0	470.0

### **Options**

Number of open options positions	0
Equity sleeve optionised <sup>1</sup>	0.0%

#### Capital structure

Ordinary shares 132,253
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# Allocation of management fees and finance costs

Capital	70%	
Revenue	30%	

#### Trading details

Reuters/Epic/ Bloomberg code	NAIT
ISIN code	GB00BJ00Z303
Sedol code	BJ00Z30
Stockbrokers	WINS Investment Trusts
Market makers	SETSmm



#### **Factsheet**

Receive the factsheet by email as soon as it is available by registering at www.abrdn.com/trustupdates

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Calculated as notional principal of outstanding divided by gross equity assets.

## Important information

## Risk factors you should consider prior to investing:

- The value of investments, and the income from them, can go down as well as up and investors may get back less than the amount invested.
- Past performance is not a guide to future results.
- · Investment in the Company may not be appropriate for investors who plan to withdraw their money within 5 years.
- The Company may borrow to finance further investment (gearing). The use of gearing is likely to lead to volatility in the Net Asset Value (NAV) meaning that any movement in the value of the company's assets will result in a magnified movement in the NAV.
- The Company may accumulate investment positions which represent more than normal trading volumes which may make it difficult to realise investments and may lead to volatility in the market price of the Company's shares.
- The Company may charge expenses to capital which may erode the capital value of the investment.
- Derivatives may be used, subject to restrictions set out for the Company, in order to manage risk and generate income. The market in derivatives can be volatile and there is a higher than average risk of loss.
- · Movements in exchange rates will impact on both the level of income received and the capital value of your investment.
- There is no guarantee that the market price of the Company's shares will fully reflect their underlying Net Asset Value.
- As with all stock exchange investments the value of the Company's shares purchased will immediately fall by the difference between the buying and selling prices, the bid-offer spread. If trading volumes fall, the bid-offer spread can widen.
- Certain trusts may seek to invest in higher yielding securities such as bonds, which are subject to credit risk, market price risk and interest rate risk. Unlike income from a single bond, the level of income from an investment trust is not fixed and may fluctuate.
- Yields are estimated figures and may fluctuate, there are no guarantees that future dividends will match or exceed historic dividends and certain investors may be subject to further tax on dividends.

#### Other important information:

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