

Objective

The fund seeks high current income with preservation of capital as its secondary objective.

Portfolio Managers

Michael V. Salm
(industry since 1989)

Jatin Misra, Ph.D., CFA
(industry since 2004)

Morningstar category

Intermediate Government

Lipper category

General U.S. Government

Credit qualities are shown as a percentage of the fund's net assets. A bond rated BBB or higher (A-3 or higher, for short-term debt) is considered investment grade. This chart reflects the highest security rating provided by one or more of Standard & Poor's, Moody's, and Fitch. To-be-announced (TBA) mortgage commitments, if any, are included based on their issuer ratings. Ratings may vary over time. Cash, derivative instruments, and net other assets are shown in the not-rated category. Payables and receivables for TBA mortgage commitments are included in the not-rated category and may result in negative weights. **The fund itself has not been rated by an independent rating agency.**

Putnam American Government Income Fund

Pursuing income and capital preservation with a range of government bonds

High credit quality

The fund invests mainly in government bonds with the highest credit rating, AAA.

Diversified approach

By including investments in government, mortgage-backed, and asset-backed securities, the fund seeks an attractive level of income along with capital preservation.

Leading research

The fund's managers use proprietary models to evaluate mortgage-backed bonds and to manage the fund's interest rate risk.

Diversification across bond market sectors

Agency pass-through	47.3%
Agency CMO	33.2%
U.S. Treasury/agency	23.2%
Asset-backed securities (ABS)	0.3%
Net cash	13.9%

Allocations will vary over time.

Allocations may not total 100% of net assets because the table includes the notional value of derivatives (the economic value for purposes of calculating periodic payment obligations), in addition to the market value of securities.

Maturity breakdown

0 to 1 year	-5.2%
1 to 5 years	2.4%
5 to 10 years	78.9%
10 to 15 years	10.1%
Over 15 years	13.8%

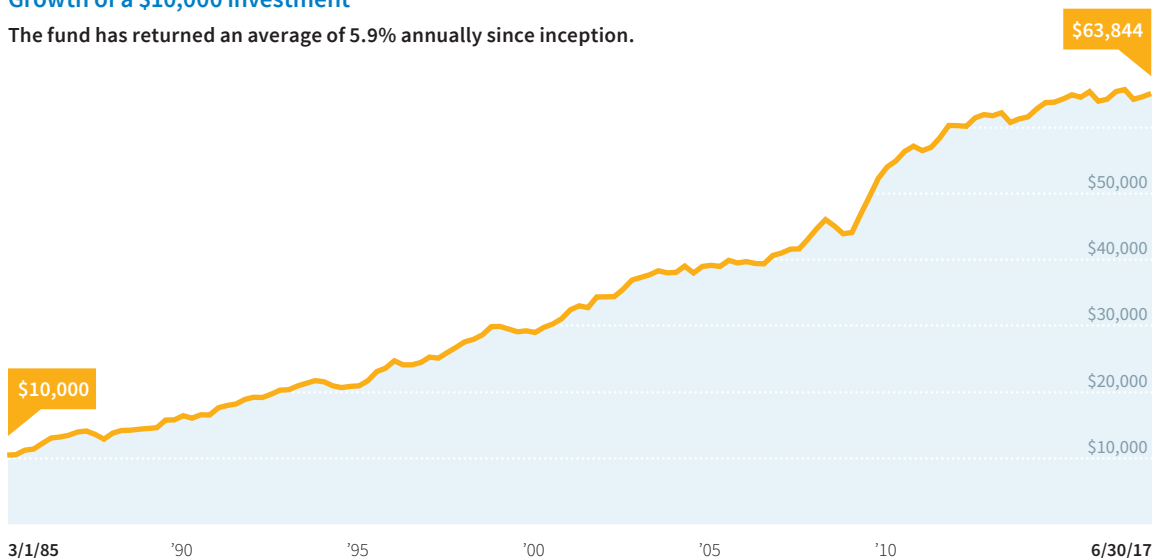
Portfolio quality

AAA	103.3%
A	14.1%
Not rated	-17.3%

Holdings represent 100% of the portfolio and will vary over time.

Growth of a \$10,000 investment

The fund has returned an average of 5.9% annually since inception.



Current performance may be lower or higher than the quoted past performance, which cannot guarantee future results. Share price, principal value, and return will vary, and you may have a gain or a loss when you sell your shares. Performance assumes reinvestment of distributions and does not account for taxes. Class Y shares, available to investors through an asset-based fee program or for institutional clients, are sold without an initial sales charge and have no CDSC. Performance for class Y shares before their inception are derived from the historical performance of class A shares (inception 3/1/85), which have not been adjusted for the lower expenses; had they, returns would have been higher. For the most recent month-end performance, please visit putnam.com.

**Not FDIC insured
May lose value
No bank guarantee**



The fund received a 4-star Overall Morningstar Rating™ as of 6/30/17 among 244 funds in the Intermediate Government category (Y shares, based on risk-adjusted returns)

Fund symbols

Class A	PAGVX
Class B	PAMBX
Class C	PAMIX
Class M	PAMMX
Class R	PAMRX
Class Y	PATYX

Lipper rankings

(Y shares, based on total return)

1 year	9% (9/99)
3 years	77% (73/95)
5 years	38% (34/90)
10 years	7% (5/77)

Total expense ratio

(Y shares)
0.69%

Number of holdings

539

Net assets

\$405.83M

Dividend frequency

Monthly

Average effective duration

5.99

30-day SEC yield

2.42%

Annual performance at net asset value (all distributions reinvested)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017 YTD
Y shares	9.1%	-1.3%	22.6%	4.6%	6.7%	2.5%	-0.3%	4.4%	-0.5%	0.4%	1.4%
BBG Barclays Government Bond Index	8.7	12.4	-2.2	5.5	9.0	2.0	-2.6	4.9	0.9	1.1	1.9

Annualized total return performance

Inception 7/2/01	Class Y shares	BBG Barclays Government Bond Index
1 year	-0.44%	-2.18%
3 years	0.72	1.99
5 years	1.18	1.30
10 years	4.60	3.93
Life of fund	5.90	6.63

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Highlights of five-year performance periods (3/1/85–6/30/17)*

Best 5-year return	Best period end date	Worst 5-year return	Worst period end date	Average 5-year return	% of 5-year periods with positive returns	Number of positive 5-year periods	Number of negative 5-year periods
9.71%	9/30/92	1.18%	6/30/17	5.86%	100%	110	0

* Based on annualized returns for quarterly rolling periods.

The Bloomberg (BBG) Barclays Government Bond Index is an unmanaged index of U.S. Treasury and agency securities. You cannot invest directly in an index.

Lipper rankings for class Y shares are based on total return without sales charge relative to all share classes of funds with similar objectives as determined by Lipper. **Average effective duration** provides a measure of a fund's interest-rate sensitivity. The longer a fund's duration, the more sensitive the fund is to shifts in interest rates.

The Morningstar Rating™ for funds, or "star rating," is calculated for managed products (including mutual funds, variable annuity and variable life subaccounts, exchange-traded funds, closed-end funds, and separate accounts) with at least a three-year history. Exchange-traded funds and open-ended mutual funds are considered a single population for comparative purposes. It is calculated based on a Morningstar Risk-Adjusted Return measure that accounts for variation in a managed product's monthly excess performance, placing more emphasis on downward variations and rewarding consistent performance. The top 10% of products in each product category receive 5 stars, the next 22.5% receive 4 stars, the next 35% receive 3 stars, the next 22.5% receive 2 stars, and the bottom 10% receive 1 star. The Overall Morningstar Rating for a managed product is derived from a weighted average of the performance figures associated with its three-, five-, and 10-year (if applicable) Morningstar Rating metrics. The weights are: 100% three-year rating for 36-59 months of total returns, 60% five-year rating/40% three-year rating for 60-119 months of total returns, and 50% 10-year rating/30% five-year rating/20% three-year rating for 120 or more months of total returns. While the 10-year overall star rating formula seems to give the most weight to the 10-year period, the most recent three-year period actually has the greatest impact because it is included in all three rating periods. Putnam American Government Income Fund received 2, 3, and 5 stars for the 3-, 5-, and 10-year periods among 244, 232, and 173 Intermediate Government funds, respectively.

Not all share classes available on all platforms.

Consider these risks before investing: Funds that invest in government securities are not guaranteed. Mortgage-backed securities are subject to prepayment risk and the risk that they may increase in value when interest rates decline and decline in value when interest rates rise. Bond investments are subject to interest-rate risk (the risk of bond prices falling if interest rates rise) and credit risk (the risk of an issuer defaulting on interest or principal payments). Interest-rate risk is greater for longer-term bonds, and credit risk is greater for below-investment-grade bonds. Risks associated with derivatives include increased investment exposure (which may be considered leverage) and, in the case of over-the-counter instruments, the potential inability to terminate or sell derivatives positions and the potential failure of the other party to the instrument to meet its obligations. Unlike bonds, funds that invest in bonds have fees and expenses. Bond prices may fall or fail to rise over time for several reasons, including general financial market conditions, changing market perceptions (including perceptions about the risk of default, and expectations about monetary policy or interest rates), changes in government intervention in the financial markets, and factors related to a specific issuer or industry. These and other factors may lead to periods of high volatility and reduced liquidity in the fund's portfolio holdings. You can lose money by investing in the fund.

Request a prospectus or a summary prospectus, if available, from your financial representative or by calling Putnam at 1-800-225-1581. These prospectuses include investment objectives, risks, fees, expenses, and other information that you should read and consider carefully before investing.